

Vuk'uzenzele



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Africa's queen of the skies



Major Mfeka has taken Africa by storm and is breaking the chains of gender stereotypes.

Dale Hes

Major Mandisa Nomcebo Mfeka has been reaching for the skies since the age of five, when she watched her first airshow. Today, she is Africa's first female fighter jet pilot, flying for the South African Air Force (SAAF) during the nation's most prestigious events, including the recent

inauguration of President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Born in Ntuzuma, Kwa-Zulu-Natal, Major Mfeka became fascinated with aviation when her mother first took her to an airshow at the Virginia Airport in Durban. At that stage, she had no idea that she would one day take to the skies herself.

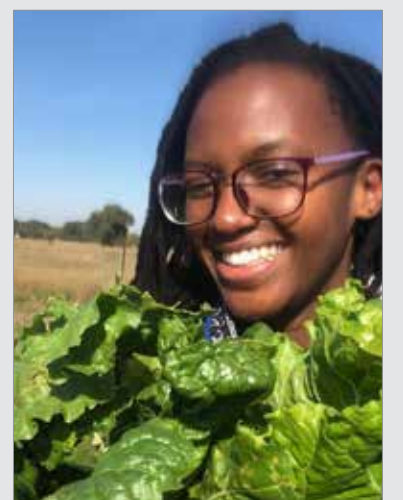
When she was 16, however, her life changed forever.

● **Cont. page 2**



Teen joins the fight against crime

Page 2



Young farmer sows seed for the future

Page 7



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Bašwa ba ikamanya le ntwakgatlhano le bosenyi



■ Mokomišenare yo mo Potlana wa Sepodisi sa Naga, Felistas Hamba, o batla go lwantshana le bosenyi go ralala le dikolo tsa ka fa nageng.

Silusapho Nyanda

Tumelo ya mose-tsana yo a tsenang sekolo kwa Pretoria ya gore go lwantshana le bosenyi ke maikarabelo a bašwa le bagolo e tla mo rotloetsa fa a tla bo a

goga kwa pele lenaane le le botlhokwa la Tirelo ya Sepodisi sa Aforika Borwa (SAPS) la bašwa la go thibela bosenyi.

Mo kgwedding ya Tlhakole, Felistas Hamba (15) mmogo le Bakomišenare ba ba Potlana ba Diporo-

fense ba tsere karolo mo dingangisanong le mo dipuisanong tsa phatlalatsa tse di neng di ikae-gile ka maitsholo a maswe kwa dikolong.

Tiragatso e ntle ya ga Hamba e mo dirile gore a diriwe Mokomišenare yo mo Potlana wa Sepodisi sa Naga ya Aforika Borwa.

Setlhopha sa ga Hamba se akaretsa batlatsabakomišenare ba sepodisi sa naga ba le bane, go tswa kwa Bokone Bophirima, Kapa Botlhaba, Limpopo le KwaZulu-Natal.

E tla nna maikarabelo a bona go netefatsa gore bašwa ba tsaya karolo mo go netefatseng gore dikolo tse ba di tsenang mmogo le metse eo ba nna kwa go yona e babalesegile.

“Bosenyi bo ama matshelo a rona rotlhe. Fa o bona mongwe a tloa molao mme a dira bosenyi, bega seno ka gangwe,” o

ne a ikuela mo balekaneng ba gagwe.

“Gore dikolo tsa rona e nne mafelo a a babalesegileng, go tlhokega gore le wena o nne le seabe.”

Go tla elwa tlhoko tiriso ya dikgoka, go thibelwe bosenyi, digongwana le go tlhapaolwa mo inthaneteng.

Hamba o ne a tsaya tshwetso ya gore o batla go tsaya karolo mo lenaaneng leno morago ga go elelwa gore bontsi jwa balekane ba gagwe ga ba na kitso ya gore ba tla samagana jang le ditiragalo tsa bosenyi tse di ba amang.

“Jaaka mošwa, ke batla go nna sekai gore ba tle ba nne badiradiphetogo ba kamoso,” o buile jalo.

Morutwana yono wa Mophato wa bo 10 yo a tsenang sekolo kwa DC Marivate Senior Secondary School se se leng kwa

Soshanguve o tlhalositse gore bašwa ba tlhoka tsela e ntšhwa ya go leba dilo go fokotsa bosenyi mo metseng e ba nnang kwa go yona le kwa dikolong tse ba di tsenang.

“Fa bašwa mo nageng eno ba sa di goge kwa pele, naga eno ga go ko e tlo yang,” Hamba o ne a lemosa balekane ka ene.

Rraagwe Hamba ke lepodisi mme seno ke toro ya gagwe go gata fa tlhako ya pele e gatileng gone.

Mogokgo wa sekolo sa Hamba, John Mangezi, a re seabe sa mosetsanyana yono se tsweletse go rotloetsa ba bangwe kwa sekolong.

“Go botlhokwa thata gore sekolo sa rona se nne le morutwana yo o jaaka ene ka ntlha ya gore barutwana ba bangwe ba batla go tshwana le ene,” Mangezi o tlhalositse jalo. ■



● From page 1

“I was researching careers in maths and science and saw a SAAF advert, outlining the requirements to be a pilot or navigator. I realised that I could potentially have a career in aviation and was so excited that I couldn't sleep,” said Major Mfeka, who is now 29 years old.

Straight after graduating from high school, she joined the air force in 2008 as an airman. She officially achieved her SAAF wings in 2011, and progressed quickly through the ranks to become a qualified pilot and then captain. Today, she holds the esteemed rank of major and flies the British-made Hawk Mk120 from the Airforce Base Makhado in Limpopo.

Flying above gender and race barriers

Major Mfeka is humble about the incredible achievement of being the first female black African fighter jet pilot.

“I know I am representing a lot of people, but I have achieved this because this is the direction I wanted to go. At the SAAF, I have been surrounded by people who are professionals, people who are ambitious and want to be the best, so I wanted to embody that and be an expert in my career,” she said.

Major Mfeka added that she hasn't felt intimidated by the male-dominated nature of the field.

“I just had to be more assertive and grow a thicker skin

emotionally. But the SAAF strives for professionalism at all times, so they view men and women as equals,” she said, adding that she sometimes outperformed the men in training or on the academic front.

Career highlights and soaring higher

Major Mfeka has flown jets at some of South Africa's most prestigious events. A few years after getting her wings, she was tasked with flying at the funeral of former President Nelson Mandela.

She also fondly remembers being part of a flying formation for Freedom Day in Port Elizabeth, which was led by one of her idols.

“The lead plane was flown

by Colonel Musa Mbhokota, who was the SAAF's first black fighter jet pilot. He is somebody I look up to very much and I draw such inspiration from him, so it was an honour flying in formation with him.”

Mfeka's biggest dream is to become the commander of a Gripen jet, the SAAF's premier fighter jet.

“When I see myself flying that jet, I get extremely excited. I would be so honoured if I could reach that milestone – it would be a dream come true.”

Major Mfeka's message for Youth Month

Major Mfeka said that the youth should never let their circumstances stand in the



way of becoming a success.

“Your dreams and passions are an indication of what you can achieve and what you can become. Your potential is not determined by your background. Some people from very impoverished areas have achieved really great things; they did not let their circumstances dictate to them what their life was going to be like.” ■



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"JAANONG KE NAKO YA GORE RE DIRE MMOGO,
GO TLOTLA NELSON MANDELA, GO AGA AFORIKA
BORWA E NTŠHWA, E E BOTOKA YA BOTLHE."

MOPORESITENTE CYRIL RAMAPHOSA

#SendMe

RE GO AGELA BOKAMOSO JO BO BOTOKA
RE ITHUTA GO TSWA MO DITIRONG TSA GA MADIBA



Go agela bašwa ba rona bokamoso jo bo botoka

Kgwedi ya Bašwa e ketekiwa ngwaga le ngwaga ka kgwedi ya Seetebosigo go supa tlotlo ya mewa ya bašwa ba Aforika Borwa ba ba neng ba dira ditshupetso ka la bo 16 Seetebosigo 1976 go lwantsha tshwetso ya go gapelediwa go dira dithuto tsotlhe ka puo ya Afrikaans kwa dikolong tsa rona.

Ke na le tumelo e e tse-tseng gore mowa oo o santse o le teng le mo bašweng ba gompiano, ba ga jaanong ba lwelang go fedisa lehuma, botlhokatiro le tlhokotekatekano.

Bašwa bano ba ba nang le diphisegelo tse dikgolo tsa botshelo jo bo botoka, ba itshupile boganka jwa bona fa ba ne ba tshwaragana go lwela thuto e kgolwana e e sa duelelweng.

Go nna le Aforika Borwa e e tsetsepetseng e bile e atlegile e e nang le ikonimi e e akaretsang batho botlhe ke sengwe se se kwa godimo mo lenaneong la puso ya rona go netefatsa gore botlhe ba nna le botshelo jo bo botoka.

Re ntse re tswelotse e bile re tla tswelotse go oketsa matsapa a rona a go tlhabolola le go matlafatsa bašwa gore re kgone go nna le seabe mo kgolong ya ikonimi ya naga ya rona.

Le fa e le bona ba bantsi mo palong yotlhe ya Aforika Borwa, bašwa ba tswelotse



go sotlakiwa ke botlhokatiro, lehuma le tlhokotekatekano.

Ke bona bogolosegolo ba ba sotlakiwang ke malwetse, bosenyi jo bo akaretsang tiriso ya dikgoka, tirisobotlhaswa ya diritibatsi le go se tlhabololwe.

Jaaka naga e e nang le tlhokomelo, re tshwere ka natla go netefatsa gore bašwa ba iponela bokgoni le maitemogelo, mmogo le go ka iponela tshegetso e e tlhokegang go ka tsenela maphata a boitshimololedikgwebo gore e nne bona ba ba tlholang ditiro go na le go ka nna basenkatiro.

Mo ngwageng yo o fetileng ke thankgolotse Letsholo la Ditirelo tsa go Thapiwa ga Bašwa (YES), maitlhommo a lona ke go baakanyetsa bašwa ditiro le go ba tlamela ka bokgoni jwa setegeniki jo bo tlhokegang go ka lopana le ikonimi e e itshegeditseng ka diintaseteri.

Letsholo leno la YES ke le le tshwaraganetsweng ke puso, mekgatlo ya badiri le ya dikgwebo go ka tlamela

ka maitemogelo a ditiro tse di duelang bašwa ba le milione ba maAforika Borwa mo dingwageng tse di tlang di le tharo. Go ya ka dipatlisiso, mo baaging ba le 15.5 milione batho ba ba magareng ga dingwaga di le 18 le di le 34 mo nageng ya Aforika Borwa, 5.8 milione ya bona ga e na ditiro.

Ka bontsi jwa ditlamo tse dikgolo tse di tsayang karolo, mo letsholong la YES, go fitlha ga jaana le setse le tlhomi-le diphatlhatiro di le 17 000 tsa bašwa ba ba senang ditiro.

Bašwa ba ba nang le phisegelo ya go ka itlhamela dikgwebo, puso e tlhomile Setheo sa Naga sa Tlhabololo ya Bašwa (NYDA), se se tlamelang ka katiso ya bokgoni, thuto ka matlole a tlhabololo, katiso, tshegetso le go golaganngwa le dimaraka.

Ditlamo tse di supogang di feta 2 500 di setse di tlame-tswa ka matlole, mme di setse di tlhodile ditiro di feta 10 000 mo ikonoming.

Fa e le gore re batla gore tiro

eno e e tshwaraganetsweng ke puso le lekala la poraefete e re tswelotse go netefatsa gore bašwa ba maAforika Borwa ba tlamelwa ka bokgoni jo bo tlhokagalang go ka nna le seabe mo makaleng otlhe a ikonimi. Ke ka ntlha ya fao re beeletsang mo thutong ya bašwa.

Re totobetse mo ntlheng ya go netefatsa gore bana botlhe, go sa kgathalesege gore ba tswa mo maamong a a ntse-ning jang, ga ba ganediwe go ka iponela thuto ya boleng.

Seno se tlhotlhelediwa ke maiteko a rona a go tokafatsa boleng jwa go ruta le go ithuto kwa dikolong tsa rona le kwa ditheong tsa thuto e kgolwane.

Go sa le gale monongwaga, Lefapha la Thuto le Katiso e Kgolwane le tsibositse madi a tuelo ya dithuto tsa baithuti ba ba neng ba kolota a kanaka R967 milione go ka phimola dikoloto.

Madi ano a tla thusa baithuti ba ba neng ba kolota mo ngwageng yo o fetileng ka go netefatsa gore sekoloto sa bona ga se ba kgoreletse go ya sekolong.

Ka dipeeletso tsotlhe tse di dirilweng ke puso go ka ba matlafatsa, bašwa le bona ba tshwanetse go tshameka karolo ya bona mo go godiseng Aforika Borwa. Ba tshwanetse go nna ba farafarwe ke ditiro tse di nang le seabe mo

go tokafatseng naga le mo go e direng gore e nne lefelo le le babalesegileng mo go botlhe ba ba nnang mo go yona. Ba bangwe ba bašwa ba rona ba samagane le diporojeke tse di rotloetsang, dikgwebopotlana le temothuo mo metseng e ba nnang kwa go yona.

Ba tsere dikgato tsa boitshimololeledi mo go nneng le seabe se se botlhokwa mo go tswelotse pele naga le mo go godiseng ikonimi.

Re tshwanetse go rotloetsa bašwa ba bantsi go lebelela ka fao ba ka dirisang dineo tsa bona le bokgoni jwa bona go ka simolola dikgwebo tsa bona le go ka tlhama ditiro.

Maikarabelo a mothale oo a tsenyeletsa go se nwe bojalwa le go se dirise diritibatsi, mmogo le go se nne le seabe mo bosenyeng le mo bonweenweeng.

Se se botlhokwa le go feta, bašwa ba tshwanetse go ipabalela kgalthanong le HIV le malwetse a mangwe a thobalano ka go dirisa mosomelwana, go tshamekela kgalala le thobalano ka ba sa le bannye le go itekola madi kgafetsa kgafetsa.

Bokamoso jwa Aforika Borwa bo mo diatleng tsa bašwa ba ba ikaeletseng go aga setšhaba se se farologaneng le seo bašwa ba 1976 ba tswang mo go sona. Tla re direng mmogo go agela bašwa ba rona bokamoso jo bo botoka. **V**



ROMA NNA

GO AGA MZANSI O KE O FISEGELANG

MMOGO RE TSWELE TSA PELE AFORIKA BORWA

#SendMe #ThumaMina





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NSFAS le UIF di direla bašwa ba ba alogileng diphathatiro

SEKEMA SE SENTŠHWA sa matlafatso se tla bulela dialogane ditiro go nolofatsa ditšhono tsa bona tsa go ka iponela ditiro tsa leruri.

More Matshediso

Fa botlhokatiro mo bašweng e tswelitse go nna tlhobaboroko mo nageng ya Aforika Borwa, Sekema sa Bosetšhaba sa Thuso ya Ditšhelete ya Baithuti (NSFAS) se tshwarisane le Letlole la go Kgaolwa kwa Tirong (UIF) go ka thusa go mekamekana le kgwetlho eno.

Ditheo tseno ka bobedi go sa le gale di thankgotse lenaale leno ka maitlhommo a go ka thapa dialogane di le 50 tse di sa direng go ka iponela maitemogelo mo dikgaolong tse di farologaneng seba-

ka sa dikgwedi di le 12.

Badiradikopo bao ba atlegileng ba tsentshitsuwe mo dikantorong tsa NSFAS tse di leng kwa Kapa Bophirima.

Motsamaisi wa NSFAS, Ngaka Randall Carolissen, a re maitlhommo a letsholo leno ke go samagana le dikgwetlho tsa botlhokatiro tse di tobaneng le bašwa mo nageng, bogologolo bao ba thusitsweng ke sekema seno.

“Jaaka NSFAS, ke rona ba re di gogang kwa pele mo go mekamekaneng le tšhakgalo ya baithuti e bile ke rona gape ba ntlha go bona tshotlakako e botlhokatiro bo nang le yona bo dialoganeng tse di-

ntsi,” o tlhalositse jalo.

Yo mongwe wa dialogane di le 50 ke Luchulumanco Nanto (24), yo a konoseditseng dithuto tsa gagwe tsa National Diploma ya Accounting kwa Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) ka 2018.

A re o utlwetse ka lenaale leno mo setlhopheng sa mafaratlhatlha a tlhaletsano ya loago seo a leng mo go sona kwa khamphasing, mo ene mmogo le dialoganemmo go nae ba abelanang ditšhono tsa ditiro gone.

“Ke tla kgoboketsa maitemogelo a tiro ya seo ke ithutetseng sona mme seno se tla mpakanyetsa

go tsema mo lefelotirelong,” ga rialo Nanto, yo ga jaanong a ithutelang dithuto tsa B-Tech ya Taxation kwa CPUT.

Nanto le bana ba kwa gaabo ba le bane ba godisitswe ke mme wa bona yo a neng a sena madi a go ka mo duelela dithuto tsa gagwe tsa kwa yunibesiti. “Rre wa me o thutse botala ka tlhogo ke na fela le dingwaga di le 10,” ga rialo Nanto, yo a tswang kwa King William’s Town kwa Kapa Botlhaba.

Ka lesego, o ne a neelwa basari ke Setheo sa Puso sa Thekenoloji ya Tshedimotsetso (SITA).

Nanto o rotloetsa bašwa go konosetsa le go aloga mo dithutong tsa bona pele ba ka simolola go dira dikopo tsa diphathati-

ro tsa leruri ka ntlha ya fa seno se tla matlafatsa bokgoni jwa bona le maitsholo a bona kwa tirong ntle le go nna ka fa tlase ga kgatalelo fa ba tswelitse go keteka maitemogelo a go dira kwa tirong. **V**



Luchulumanco Nanto.

ooo

Eastern Cape school better equipped to teach

THE STATE-OF-THE-ART COMPUTERS donated to a small school in Mama Albertina Sisulu's home village will open up a world of opportunity for the learners.

Silusapho Nyanda

Pupils of a rural school in the Eastern Cape rejoiced when their school was given a facelift and received computers.

The 213 pupils of Albertina Sisulu Senior Primary School in Xolobe village in Tsomo, will benefit from the donation of 30 computers, refurbishments and safer classes, thanks to the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) and the Eastern Cape Department of Education.

“The pupils had to share the old computers we had but now they will be able to work on their own and easily become computer literate,” said the school’s principal, Nomfuneko Somlotha.

She said the pupils will be better able to access information for their school work and for research, whereas before they relied only on textbooks.

“Visual learning is important because it is easier to remember something that you have seen,” Somlotha told *Vuk'uzenzele*.

She said the equipment would also help speed up teaching because pupils could be referred to websites as another mode of learning.

The school was also given added security and furniture upgrades.

Somlotha said the school will use the donated equipment to develop pupils’ knowledge beyond the classroom and to open their eyes to the many career paths available to them. **V**



Computers donated by the Eastern Cape Department of Education and the Industrial Development Corporation to the Albertina Sisulu Primary School in Tsomo in the Eastern Cape.