

BOFESETE HAILS POLICE FOR BRAVERY

By Justin C. Hunyepa

Botswana Federation of Secondary School Teachers (BOFESETE) congratulates the retiring Commissioner of Police, Mr Norman Moleboge for the sterling performance he and the Botswana Police have demonstrated in maintaining law and public order in the country.

The Botswana Police has executed breathtaking operations in many different occasions where hardened criminals had pulled off well-planned illegal acts reminiscent of Hollywood movies. The police, under Mr Moleboge had either foiled most of these sophisticated crimes or arrested the suspects in a short space of time. The police must be stretching themselves really thin to thwart such criminal activities, especially with the limited resources they have.

BOFESETE further observes that the Botswana Police has the most effective public relations office as compared to other departments. The general public is always receiving updates and reports about public security, road safety, crime rate and so on. We salute the police for mounting such aggressive public education strategies through the radios, TV, newspapers and other means.

We hope the new Commissioner, Mr Edwin Batshu will uphold and continue to improve the services that the police are giving to the public. BOFESETE wishes that the new Commissioner will also strive to improve the poor working and living conditions that have been raised by his juniors. The former commissioner publicly expressed his frustrations about government's failure to improve the salaries of his subordinates, especially the aborted proposed scales following the Tsa Badiri Consultancy recommendations.

BOFESETE is aware that the police will not be enjoying the fruits of the new labour dispensation where public officers will now be able to form or join trade unions. Where issues of common interest affect both police and teachers, BOFESETE will not hesitate to take up such with relevant offices for the benefit of all cadres.

All in all, we unreservedly applaud the retiring commissioner and his officers for the excellent services they have been rendering to the public and call upon the government to seriously consider increasing the budget for the police. The police are yet to have an air fleet, patrol vehicles and other state of the art equipment to combat the ever sophisticated and increasing crime. We further call upon the general public to also support the police in their endeavour to maintain law and order.

BOFESETE Publicity Secretary