

Hunting rifle, cartridges apparently found at 'prospective rhino poachers'

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Five Namibian men were arrested last week in connection with rhino poaching or horn smuggling or attempts to do so.

According to the weekly wildlife crime report from 10 to 16 August by the Namibian police and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Messrs. Peter John and David Ruben were arrested at Okahao last Thursday.

They are accused of conspiring to poach a rhino, as well as violating the Firearms and Ammunition Act. Police seized one .303 hunting rifle, ten cartridges and a vehicle.

In connection with an old rhino poaching case from 2015 at Orupembe, Messrs. Zaaruka and Vaandako Tjambiru were arrested last Tuesday.

Mr. Uevisiano Muzuma was re-arrested last Wednesday in connection with an old case of rhino horn smuggling at Otjondeka.

A live maggot was apparently found in the room of the 29-year-old Mr. Nghidinihamba Fanuel Haufiku found in the Wanaheda neighborhood in the capital.

According to the crime report, Namibian police received a tip from community members and Haufiku was arrested in the Ogulumbashe settlement around 11pm.

"The live ietermagô has been handed over to the Ministry of the Environment, Forestry and Tourism who will release it back into the wild after evaluation," the report reads.