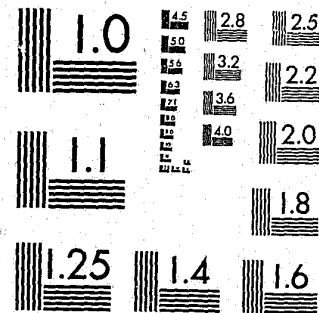


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VICTORIA POLICE

ANNUAL REPORT 1979

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice 80635

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VICTORIA POLICE

ANNUAL REPORT 1979

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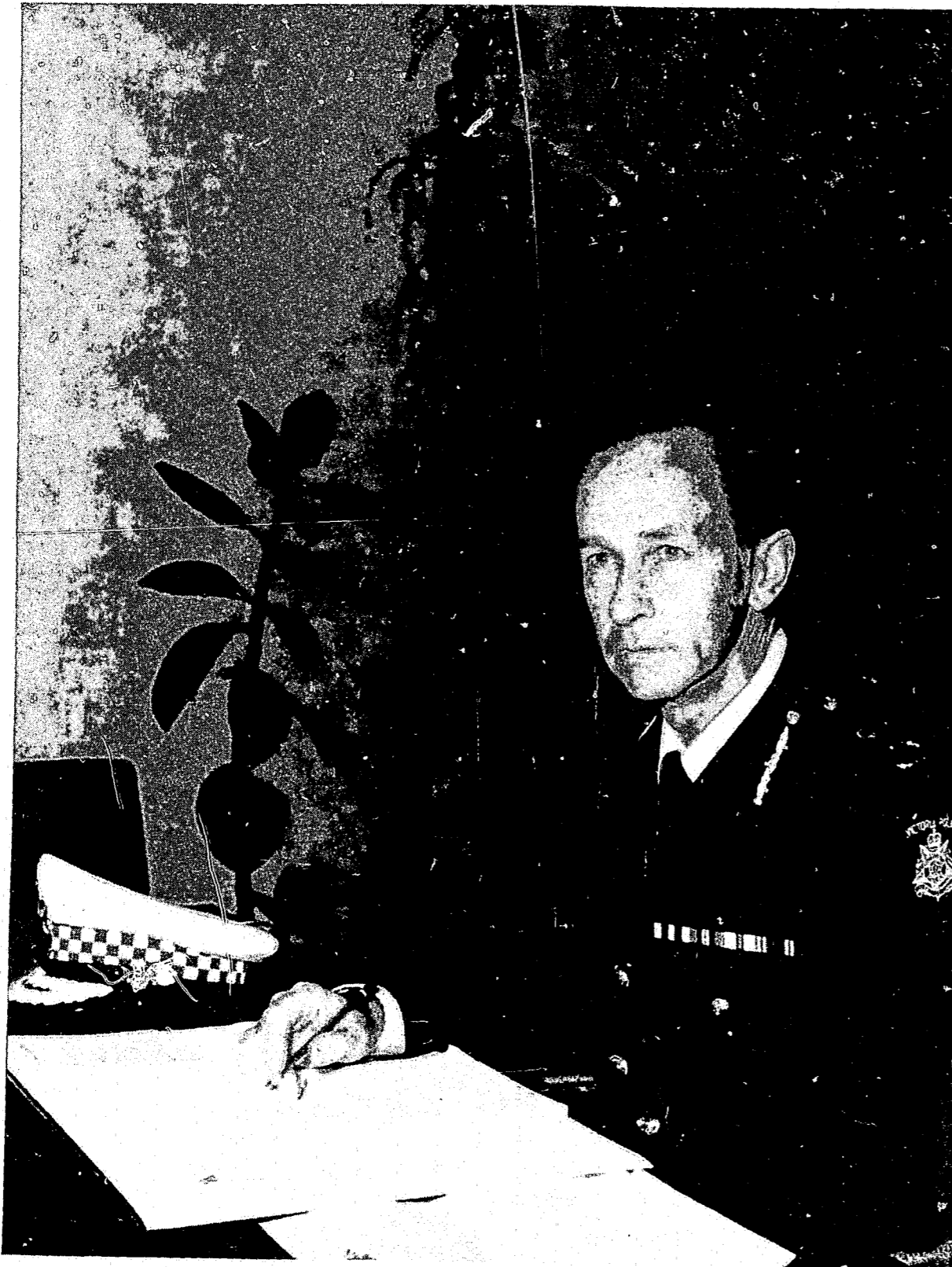


VICTORIA POLICE FORCE
ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1979

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
His Excellency's command

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iii.



*The Hon. L.H.S. Thompson, C.M.G., M.P.,
Minister for Police and Emergency Services,
Parliament House,
MELBOURNE 3002.*

Dear Minister,

*I have pleasure in submitting to you, for the information of Parliament,
the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st
December, 1979.*

*The Report provides explanatory information and statistical data
regarding performance and achievements for the year.*

*I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to all members of
the Victoria Police Force and the Public Service for their continued co-
operation and service to the community throughout 1979.*

Yours sincerely,

(S.I. Miller)
CHIEF COMMISSIONER

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

- S. I. MILLER, S.B.St.J., Q.P.M.
Chief Commissioner
- J.R.G. SALISBURY, Q.P.M., J.P.
Deputy Commissioner (Administration)
- A. W. CONN, Q.P.M.
Deputy Commissioner (Operations)
- D. J. SWANSON, Q.P.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Services)
- R. A. KELLETT, Q.P.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Operations)
- J. R. HALL
Assistant Commissioner (Crime)
- E. T. MILLAR, J.P., Dip. Crim., M.A.I.E.S.
Assistant Commissioner (Personnel)
- J. D. DARLEY, Q.P.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Traffic)
- A. T. RUNDLE, J.P.
Director of Administration

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GENERAL REVIEW

The Past Decade

Before presenting a report of the Force's performance during the year 1979, I would like to take the opportunity to comment on some of the developments in policing over the past decade. It seems an appropriate time to take stock and to consider our triumphs and our tribulations in order to determine the best strategy for future development.

The Force remains under optimum strength — a fact I have made clear on a number of occasions. When Force growth over the past ten years is studied, we see that on the 1st of January, 1970, 4,722 police served 3.4 million Victorians on the basis of a police to population ratio of 1:725. Today 7,569 police serve a population of 3.9 million with a police to population ratio of about 1:510. Although this is a significant improvement, in comparison to other States, Victoria has only moved from having the lowest police to population ratio to having fourth best. Further improvement on the present planned growth rate is necessary if we are to have sufficient manpower to provide the community with effective police service in the future.

Resources

Manpower increases necessitate corresponding increases in mobility, communications, equipment and accommodation.

Our vehicle fleet is a significant example. In 1970, the Force fleet comprised 799 cars and motor cycles. In 1973 there were still 112 members using private cars (without radio equipment) for police purposes. Today, the vehicle fleet numbers 1,541 and the number of pri-

vately used cars, without radio communications, has fallen to fifty-three. Again, when compared with other States, Victoria has the lowest vehicle to police ratio of all Australian Forces.

On a more optimistic note, there have been many improvements in the communications field, including the abolition of interstate morse code transmissions (1974), introduction of a five channel radio network for the metropolitan area (1975) and, more recently, re-location of the communications centre and Telecom's allocation of 50 U.H.F. channels for police use. Administrative changes in this area included the introduction of Officers as duty controllers for each shift (1971), thereby enabling operational police immediate access to an experienced supervisor, training of radio operators (1974) and the commencement of a new radio dispatch and receive system, known as Team Operations (1974). Twenty-two portable radios were purchased in 1972 and today there are more than 400 available for use.

Another notable change in a related field was the introduction of the computer. Planning commenced in 1971 for a police computer system and resulted in the first phase being implemented in 1975. The operational advantages were immediately obvious when visual display units were installed at D24 to assist with stolen vehicle checks. These reduced response times for radio queries about suspect vehicles from an average five minute delay to less than three seconds. Detailed planning for the second phase commenced in 1977 but, although the available services are extremely effective, they are not first class in terms of world standards.

Helicopters were first tested for police use in 1973 and this year, the Force

acquired its own twin engined Dauphin II Aerospatiale. This is the most sophisticated and serviceable police helicopter in Australia. The M.V. "Reginald Jackson" was purchased in 1973 for marine search and rescue work and, in the same year, a specially equipped eighteen foot caravan was acquired for use as a mobile command post. In 1977, the traditional role of Russell Street as the Police Headquarters lapsed with the acquisition of a new Headquarters at 380 William Street, Melbourne.

Enquiries

Throughout this period, the Force was the subject of two major police enquiries. Although in the long term, these enquiries must be of benefit to the Force, their short term effect on morale was damaging. However, such enquiries remain an essential part of the democratic process. In 1970, Mr. Justice Kaye investigated allegations of an illegal abortion racket, involving a small number of police and members of the medical profession, which resulted in the imprisonment of two senior policemen.

During 1975-76, an enquiry was conducted by Mr. B.W. Beach, Q.C. into allegations of abuse of police powers by some members of the Force. It is of more than passing interest that a number of matters commented on by the Board were already the subject of adverse comment by the Force, well before the Enquiry. Subsequent police comment has still not brought relief to police men and women frustrated by outmoded legal requirements and having to cope with ineffective powers.

It is a regrettable fact of police life that allegations of corruption or impropriety, whether substantiated or not, have an adverse effect on the morale and efficiency of the entire Force. It must be remembered that, with few exceptions, the police are dedicated men and women doing a difficult job in difficult circumstances.

Reorganisation

An enquiry of a different nature, which brought both immediate and long term

benefits to the Force, was undertaken by Colonel Sir Eric St. Johnston, formerly H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for England and Wales, who was appointed to inspect the Force in October 1970. His recommendations were the catalyst for accelerated growth and an improved Force image. The St. Johnston recommendations covered every aspect of policing from total administrative reorganisation to changes in rank structure, pay, allowances, recruiting buildings, equipment and operational procedures.

The most immediate and visible effects of this survey were seen in the division of the Force into six functional Departments, increased manpower and an increase in the number of police districts.

The processes of reorganisation and modernisation continued throughout the seventies. In 1976, the Crime Department remodelled and separated its operational and administrative functions and, in 1978, the Traffic Department combined the twelve country police districts into five regions which enabled a more effective administration of Traffic personnel.

By far the most significant result of these processes was the realisation of the need to engage in detailed medium-range forward planning. Steps to accomplish this were taken in 1978 with the formation of a planning committee representing each of the Force departments. The Committee has produced a comprehensive five year forward projection, covering all aspects of policing; it is revised annually to meet changing demands, needs and priorities.

Important Changes

One very pleasing change during the seventies has been the declining road toll, although the improvement is still far short of the ideal. Road deaths fell from a peak of 1,084 in 1970 to a low of 805 in 1974; the total for 1979 was 843. Over the same time, licensed drivers rose from 1.5 million to 2.2 million and the number of registered vehicles increased from 1.6 million to 2.3 million. In view of the rises in these two areas, the falling death rate is a good result. Much of the credit for this

must go to legislators, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, road engineers, road safety organisations and the mass media, in addition to the efforts of police.

In 1973, the Police Training Academy moved from its long established position in St. Kilda Road to the newly acquired Corpus Christi College at Glen Waverley where a purpose built residential training complex is slowly coming to fruition. In 1976, the quality of police training was considerably improved by the introduction of a twelve week course of practical training after graduation. All probationary constables now receive this training under supervision on selected police stations in both metropolitan and country areas.

A major improvement during the seventies was the revision of methods for handling complaints against police. Existing procedures were substantially changed in 1971 and, in 1975, the Bureau of Internal Investigation was introduced. In the same year an Audio Maintenance Section was established to maintain and process the tape recorders and tapes being increasingly used by police. That year attention focused on the need for local level crime intelligence and Divisional Crime Collators were established. These were followed by the Traffic Accident Coordinator system which removed much of the tedium from accident reports for operational police. Increasingly too, the concept of Divisional policing was developed as an alternative to the more parochial sub-district policing.

Operation "Crime Beat" was introduced in 1973 to increase the visible police presence and to reduce patrol preventable crimes. These objectives were achieved by placing members equipped with portable radios on foot patrols in major shopping areas with the aim of making themselves known to both shopkeepers and residents. This was followed by Operation "Salamander" in 1974 which aimed to provide maximum police service on land, sea and air on the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsulas during the summer holidays. In the same year, the Independent Patrol Group was

formed to provide a well trained group able to serve in any part of the State at short notice.

Other notable changes included the formation of the Bureau of Criminal Intelligence (1976), the reformation of the Dog Squad and the occupation of offices at Essendon aerodrome by the Police Air Wing. Closed circuit television security monitors were installed at the City Watchhouse (1978) and a Miracode Criminal Identification and Retrieval Unit was obtained. The most comprehensive analysis of police patrol strategies ever undertaken in Australia was commenced in Prahran in 1978 — a research project that was to extend over two years. Over the same period, liaison with social agencies in the community was more fully developed and many formal and informal lines of communication were established.

Research

The seventies were significant for the quality and extent of empirical research conducted into Force procedures and strategies. A number of submissions were prepared for both Federal and state Law Reform bodies. The number of police obtaining tertiary qualifications has increased considerably in recent years and where possible, the skills of these members are used to best advantage.

Crime Trends

In terms of reported or detected offences per 100,000 people, the crime rate rose from 3,100 in 1970 to 4,000 in 1979. However the rise has not been steady and in some years the rate actually fell. Individual crime categories, such as serious assaults, which rose from 18 per 100,000 to 50, show more extreme variation. The incidence of rape has risen steadily, though it too has been subject to annual fluctuation. Homicides have been reasonably static over this period but 1979 has proved to be the worst year on record for murder.

Burglary and theft have shown a steady rise of 10% per annum since 1974, and motor vehicle thefts have risen by an annual 11% since 1975. Prior to that, motor car thefts had been consistently falling.

There has been a substantial and alarming increase in detected drug offences which have risen by 24% per annum since 1970. In the same period wilful damage has risen at a rate of about 9% per annum and serious assaults by 12% per annum.

One method found to assist in the rehabilitation of young offenders is the Police Cautioning Program. Conducted under Standing Order 311, successive improvements to this scheme have seen the rate of cautioned children rise from 20% to 57% of all child offenders.

Among some of the major unsolved crimes of the decade are the Easey Street murders of Collingwood, the murders of Mrs. Elmer Crawford and her family whose bodies were found at Port Campbell, the Victorian Club book-makers' robbery and the Manchester Unity murders. The disappearance of Eloise Worledge from her home in Beaumaris still remains a mystery. Some of the more notable crimes solved were the Faraday and Wooreen school kidnappings, the detection of the conspiracy involving counterfeit American \$20 notes with a face value of \$11 million and the Royal School-Regal Vista racehorse conspiracy.

Social Changes

The early seventies were fervent times and a good deal of energy found expression through mass rallies and demonstrations. Issues concerning Vietnam, nuclear proliferation and the environment exposed police to the relatively new experience of coping with huge purposeful crowds.

Violence occurred during some of the 1971 protests and, at a meeting between police and representatives of protest groups, convened by the Under Secretary in 1972, suitable guidelines for appropriate standards of conduct at demonstrations were drafted. By 1973 the protests had begun to abate and, except for a few industrial disputes and a series of demonstrations in 1976 about freeways, had all but disappeared from the local scene by 1978.

Proclamation of the Equal Opportunity Act hastened the integration of women in the Force and policewomen have now moved into a wider range of duties and squads. Overall the proportion of women in the Force has risen from 2.6% in 1970 to 6.9% by the end of 1979.

Police public relations assumed a new dimension with the introduction of the Blue Light Discos. These were established and are maintained through the independent efforts of individual police in their own time. Forty discos are now operating throughout the State and their success seems to stem from the knowledge by parents that their children are at a dance supervised by police. For their part, young people can enjoy the social amenity of a disco in a properly supervised environment.

Throughout the past ten years, community attitudes towards police have consistently improved. A 1979 nationwide Gallup poll showed that 56.6% of those polled rated police in Victoria fourth by occupation (behind bank managers, doctors and dentists) for honesty and ethical standards. The same poll also placed Victorian police above other State Forces. Such attitudes augur well for policing in the eighties.

1979

A most significant event for policing this year was the creation of a Ministry for Police and Emergency Services, a move which is viewed as both progressive and essential. Whilst it is yet too early to assess the full effect of this development, it should prove to be of substantial benefit to both police and the community.

For the first time, police were required to prepare a submission to the Commonwealth Grants Commission, an exercise that occupied much time but which complemented existing forward planning strategies.

From media reports of acute police industrial unrest, an impression may be formed that irreconcilable differences exist between the Police Association and the Force Administration. This is not so.

There have been many innovations in the Force which, understandably, have had an unsettling effect. Change inevitably produces uncertainty and concern for the future. Financial constraints produce a sense of frustration on the part of a heavily committed workforce which perceives manpower and resource shortages as factors inhibiting development. Because of these problems, initiatives have been taken to minimise misunderstanding and to improve rapport between the Administration and the Police Association.

Some disturbing revelations have emerged from investigations into the murders of Douglas and Isobel Wilson, whose bodies were found at Rye. These include evidence of a highly organised drug syndicate operating throughout Australia and other countries. The Federal Government appointed a joint State investigative team headed by Victoria's Assistant Commissioner for Crime, Mr. J.R. Hall, assisted by police from Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Federal Police.

Two Major Crime Index offences which registered significant increases were reported rapes, up by more than 40%, and homicide, up by 30%.

Research concluded in August into the incidence of assaults on police and the results have been passed back into training areas. The study found that the overall ratio of assaults on police was the same for metropolitan and country districts and that the activity most likely to result in an assault was effecting an arrest for a street offence or attending a domestic dispute. The latter exposed police to the greatest risk of assault with a weapon. It was significant that more than half the offenders were affected by liquor and that nearly 60% of all offenders had criminal histories of violence against the person. Approximately 1,700 assaults on police occurred during 1979. This involves about 22% of the total Force or about 29% of operational police.

The Integrated Community Policing experiment at Prahran concluded and analysis of results is well advanced. The

findings are likely to have a significant impact on future policing strategies and should provide an important reference point for all patrol developments.

Contingency plans for the proposed Royal Tour and Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference in October, 1981, are well advanced. Security and safety for the Royal Party and distinguished visitors are of paramount importance, but preliminary estimates of manpower requirements indicate that 3,100 police will be needed on a daily basis. Such a huge demand leaves only minimal police cover for all remaining daily needs of the State. The combined effects of a reduced recruit intake, natural wastage and the demands of special events in the 1981 calendar have potentially serious consequences for the community in terms of desirable levels of policing.

Police History

The preparation of a concise history of the Victoria Police was commenced and many police and members of the public provided valuable information; the staff of the Latrobe Library were particularly helpful. This history is by no means a definitive work, but it should answer many questions concerning our historical development. Work on the history was almost complete by December and the book should be available by mid 1980.

Road Toll

Whilst it is gratifying to report a further reduction in the road toll, there can be no room for complacency. With 843 fatalities on Victorian roads, the prohibitive cost in terms of death, injury and property damage is both unwanted and unnecessary. All road users must exercise proper care and responsibility towards themselves and others.

Force Developments

Purchase of the Dauphin twin-engined helicopter was a significant event. It is a most adaptable aircraft in terms of load capacity and is capable of full instrument flight under adverse weather conditions.

The Force strength increased by 326 to a total of 7,569 members and the authorised strength was fixed at 8,000. Regrettably, recruit intake was restricted in the last half of the year and this, together with the deferred building program at the Training Academy, will delay the projected goal of 1,000 trained recruits per year.

Based on current information, and considered with the recommendations of the St. Johnston report, a formula has been devised for assessing the optimum strength of the Force. Expressed as a police to population ratio this is 1:350 for metropolitan communities of more than 20,000; 1:530 for urban communities of 6,000 to 20,000 and 1:1000 for rural communities below 6,000. Reference was made to this formula in the planning projections for 1978-82, and also in the Preliminary Report to the Commonwealth Grants Commission.

A number of innovations were introduced by the Information Bureau which will benefit operational police. These include implementation of the Miracode criminal identification and retrieval system, revised criminal history processing methods and a centralised collation and analysis of rape statistics.

Legal Issues

In the 1978 Annual Report, attention was drawn to a number of areas of the law in need of reform. In a similar way comment is made about some aspects of drink driving legislation. The matters mentioned last year still need to be considered, as I believe that action is needed to restore the balance between the interests of the individual and those of the community. For, without that balance, as Justice Sir Reginald Sholl once noted "... it is indeed an empty freedom, a vain individual liberty, which is accompanied by a significantly increased risk to oneself or one's family of being the victim of crime".

The subject of rights often raises ques-

tions about police policy concerning the release of criminal history information. This policy is defined for the information of all police and, because it was revised recently, is here restated. Criminal history information is made available to nominated officers of other Police Forces and Government agencies responsible for taking action against breaches of law administered by those agencies. Such information must be essential to their respective functions. Government departments or private organisations needing security among employees may, with written authority from the person being checked, be given information from police records about that person. This policy applies only to adult criminal histories. Information concerning Children's Court convictions or child criminal histories cannot be released outside the Force under any circumstances.

Unlawful Shootings

Two events which occurred this year drew attention to the stark realities of policing. Both were unnecessary and held grave consequences for two policemen and their families. In the first, Senior Constable Ray Koch was shot at Heathcote by one of the notorious "After-Dark Bandits". In the second, Detective Senior Constable Robert Lane of Swan Hill C.I.B. was murdered. Robert Lane is the third policeman since World War II to have been murdered while performing his duty. Others, like Ray Koch, have been grievously wounded and recovered. Many other members have faced grave personal danger but fortunately most have escaped physical harm. These incidents underscore the seriousness of community protection and also highlight the qualities of personal courage and dedication displayed by police performing that task. The reaction of the public was well stated by the Bendigo Advertiser which wrote:-

"... shooting policemen is ... a further dimension of criminality which cannot be tolerated if the community is to have any kind of protection."

OPERATIONS

In retrospect, 1979 proved a challenging year for the Operations Department. Substantial demands were made on all its resources to provide not only the basic, functional police requirements, but to assist with demonstrations, fun-runs and other special events. That these demands could be met is a tribute to the diligence, professionalism and tenacity of the 5,123 uniformed members throughout the State.

The twin aims of consolidation and innovation remained major policies. Annual operations such as Salamander (land, sea and air patrols of the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsulas) and Crime Beat (maintenance of a highly visible police presence in shopping areas) were continued while other strategies were reviewed and still others introduced. District inspections, whilst a monitor of police operations, also provided a forum for communications between operational police and Force Administrators, thus allowing recent policies and procedures to be explained and grievances to be aired. Five country inspections were undertaken this year.

Two changes arising from realignment of district boundaries were the relocation of the Victoria Dock police and the Government House Security and Shrine Guard with the Support Groups. This has enabled all operational support units to be consolidated under one administration.

Innovations

On the 10th October, a French Dauphin II SA 365 CI helicopter was purchased for the Force, thus introducing a new image and a new dimension to policing in this State. The aircraft has a 24 hour operational capacity and is fully instrumented for adverse weather flying. Loading

capacity is very flexible and permits two pilots and twelve passengers with baggage, in standard configuration, or two pilots, four stretcher cases and two attendants. At maximum allowable weight at sea level, the Dauphin has a top speed of 150 knots (280 km/h) and a cruising speed of 125 knots (230 km/h). Patrol speed is usually about 75 knots (140 km/h). Although the primary aim of the helicopter is to provide air support to ground units, the versatility of the aircraft will make it available for a wide range of other duties.

To improve existing levels of service in Melbourne's western suburbs the police Districts of Avondale Heights, Melbourne Ports, Melbourne, Prahran, Malvern, Nunawading and Central Highlands have been restructured. This has substantially reduced service problems associated with crossing the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers, but the main effect has been the creation of a new Police Division in the Avondale Heights District by combining the police sub-districts of Bacchus Marsh (formerly in the Ballarat District), Melton and Sunbury. The Melton police station was upgraded to provide twenty-four hour service and the Division is similarly served by a Divisional Van.

A further change was the transfer of Melbourne Ports District headquarters from Montague to Altona North and the District's renaming as Altona District. The cumulative effect of these changes on the other mentioned police Districts has been to produce a more cohesive alignment of police Divisions through a system of excision and relocation; for example, by moving the Number 4 Division of Prahran District to become the No. 3 Division of Malvern District.

In October, a public service administrative officer was appointed to the Head-

quarters support staff of the Assistant Commissioner. His principal tasks are to provide administrative assistance to the Assistant Commissioner and his Commanders, and to act as Budget Officer for the Department.

The Probationary Constable Extended Training Scheme was expanded by including various country Police Stations as training stations and by extending training time from three months to six months.

The State Disaster Plan is currently being revised and a committee comprised of representatives from Government departments and voluntary organisations is proposed to co-ordinate all welfare aspects of major disasters.

Support Groups

There are many specialist groups within the Operations Department whose role, apart from self generated activity, is to provide assistance to other sections of the Force whenever required. Support groups may be used to provide additional numbers in particular Districts for important events such as carnivals, V.I.P. visits or sporting events, or to help with saturation policing for special operations. V.I.P.

visits always require careful policing and the Special Operations Group provided escorts on thirty-three occasions expending 1,668 man hours.

Police Air Wing — The highlight for 1979, as already mentioned, was the acquisition of the Dauphin II helicopter which hopefully, will have considerable impact on the activities of certain types of criminals as well as contributing substantially to search and rescue operations and by providing an air command/observation post at demonstrations and similar incidents.

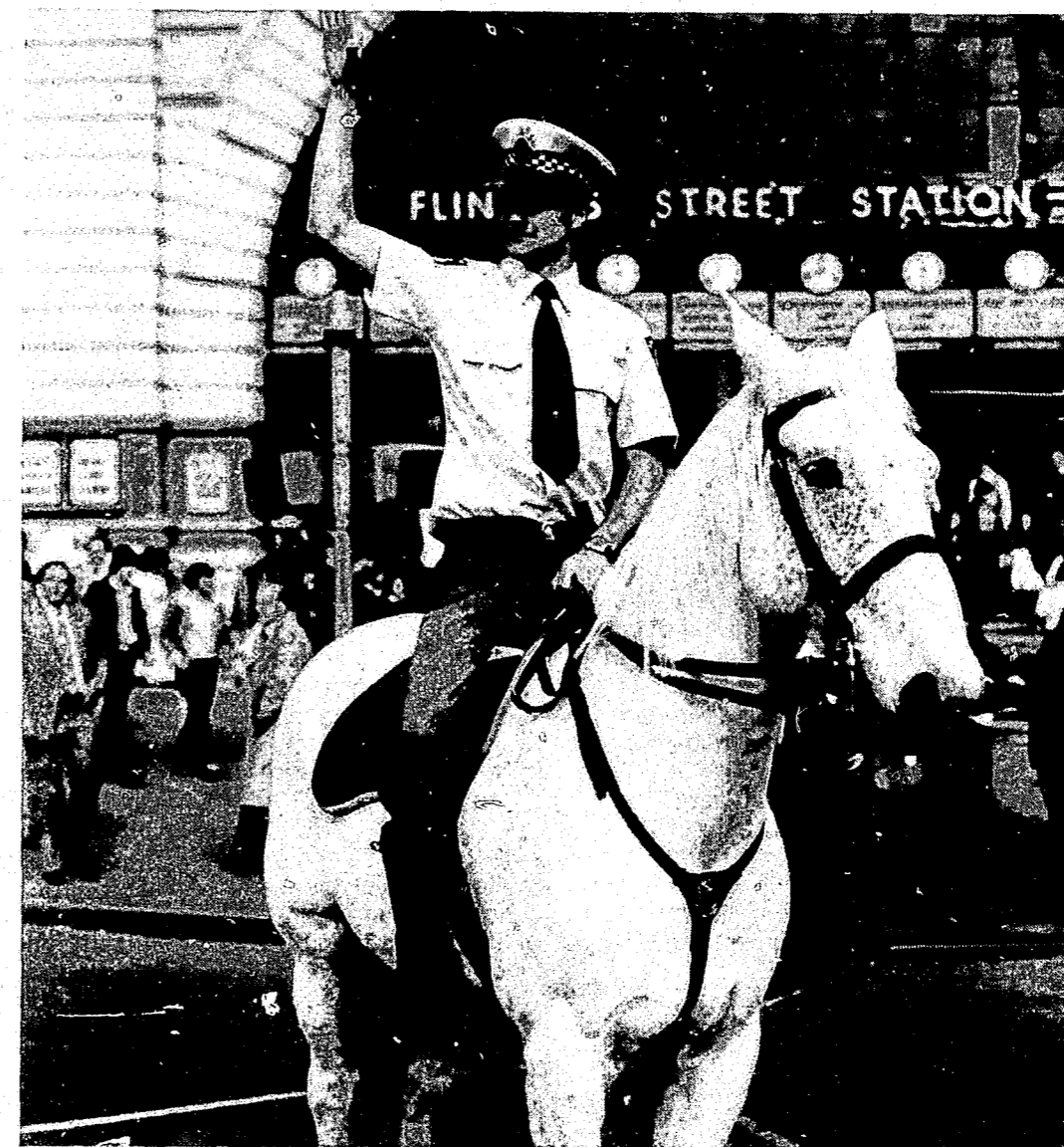
The lease of a five passenger Aero-commander Shrike 550s and a nine passenger Piper Navajo Chieftain PA 31-350 has enabled the Air Wing to provide state-wide transport and maintain effective support to ground operations. A total of 2,362 hours were flown (a 42% increase over 1978) representing a cost saving of \$86,792 or 12,379 man hours (a rise of 106% over 1978). A vehicle-aircraft comparison reveals 1,510 vehicle days saved (a 91% increase) to the value of \$108,004. Six hundred and six special operations were conducted whilst 371 transport flights carried 4,087 passengers; an average passenger loading of 81%.



The Dauphin II, Aerospatiale on preventive patrol.

Mounted Branch — A program of basic riding skills was introduced for new police troopers which complements the normal Mounted Branch Training Course. The result has been a smooth integration of new riders with minimal disruption to the established training course. Total horse strength at the end of the year was eighty-two and although the current breeding program is expected to overcome

deficiencies, it is presently very difficult to provide enough trained troop horses to meet formal and operational demands. Twenty-two horses are regularly available for operational duty. Excluding time spent on daily maintenance, the greatest proportion of duties were spent at pedestrian crossings for the blind (22.5%), mounted patrols (14.7%) and football matches (13.6%).



Point duty at Flinders Street.

Motor Boating Squad — The transfer to adapted premises at St. Kilda greatly increased the operational efficiency of this Squad by reducing travelling time, thereby enabling increased patrol time. A total of 14,697 boats were checked resulting in the detection of 2,314 offences, a 19% increase over 1979.

Search and Rescue Squad — This squad engaged in 187 operations which included: ninety-nine diving operations; thirty-nine searches for people missing in remote bush areas; twenty-six searches in built-up areas and twenty-three miscellaneous operations. Members of the squad received training in field leadership, climbing, handling four wheel drive vehicles, skiing, roping and search co-ordination as well as providing training for police army units.

Dog Squad — Crime prevention and detection and pro-active policing fully occupied this squad throughout the year. The Squad is available on a twenty-four hour basis and dogs were used on 1,168 separate occasions for tracking, searching, street disorders and narcotics exercises. From the 151 narcotics searches conducted with dogs, ninety-two arrests resulted. A further 242 arrests were the direct result of suspect detection by dogs. A change of policy this year resulted in dogs no longer being used in the control of large scale street disorders. This change was necessary because the position of dog handlers whose dogs bite someone in the course of duty is unclear at law and, whilst it continues to be obscure, the policy will remain. Squad activities included more than 3,800 school patrols and a similar number of Railway Station patrols. In addition, approximately 1,700 vehicles were checked and 1,902 suspects spoken to. There are 20 trained dogs in the Squad and two more nearing completion of training. Adequate, good quality kennelling has now become an important consideration for this group.

Independent Patrol Group — Requests throughout the Force for assistance from this group rose by 28% during 1979, with the Operations Department making greatest use of their expertise. Their diverse

duties require comprehensive and continuous training which is achieved on three levels: physical, operational and theoretical.

The group has found that on some occasions current portable radios have been too limited in range and power to effectively achieve operational objectives. The problem has been accentuated by the Group's requirement to perform throughout the State in varying topographical conditions with the serious implication of potentially dangerous consequences for an operation involving the personal safety of both police and civilians.

Victoria Dock — These members are responsible for 27.5 km² in and around the Port of Melbourne. In addition to the major Force objectives of preventing, detecting and controlling crime, their duties include checks of people and vehicles leaving cargo exit-gates, dealing with physical disputes among crew members on board moored vessels, enquiring about stowaways and deserters and attending to various enquiries for shipping companies. Construction of new shipping berths and the commencement of the World Trade Centre are clear indicators that, in the near future, this area will require increased police services.

Women Police — Of the 530 Women Police in the Force, 212 are permanently engaged on general duties and the number of women in this area has expanded rapidly since the introduction of the Equal Opportunity Act. There was an increase in the transfer rate of women to general duties after the Act was proclaimed but this stabilized by the end of the year with the exception of applications for some specialist areas.

Special Events

Most notable of these was the capture of the so called "After Dark Bandit" and his shooting of Senior Constable Raymond George Koch of Heathcote. The shooting generated an intensive manhunt involving police, civilians and Army personnel, and culminated in the arrest of



Police dogs — invaluable aid in tracking.

Peter Kay Morgan by Senior Constable Rick Hasty of Bendigo. The "After Dark Bandit", who commenced activity in May 1977, was so named because of his preference for robbing mainly T.A.B. agencies soon after dark. With Morgan's apprehension the "Bandit" was found to be two people; Peter Morgan and his twin brother Douglas Morgan, both of whom had deliberately set out to confuse police by creating the impression that just one, highly mobile person was involved in all robberies. Both men subsequently pleaded guilty to armed robberies committed on four banks, seventeen T.A.B. agencies and a number of other offences.

A disturbing event was the riot at Frankston involving many young people between the ages of 16-25. This was unusual because of the degree of violence expressed towards police, the large number of young participants, the extent to which liquor was involved and the mere fact that it occurred.

Demonstrations resulting in the occupation of city offices, protests about conditions within and without Australia, supervision of sporting events and other activities all required substantial planning, commitment and the comprehensive organisation and mobilisation of resources. Most of these events were accomplished smoothly and with considerable equanimity between the police and the public.

Committal Courts

A total of 1,308 briefs of evidence were received at the Prosecutor's Office at Prahran (648) and Preston (660) Committal Courts. Of the briefs processed, 837 resulted in committals for trial, thirty-eight were discharged or dismissed, 149 were dealt with summarily and 109 are pending. Fifteen were referred for opinion. A number of the cases dealt with were matters carried over from 1978.

The Criminal Investigation Branch contributed 62% of the briefs received by Committals Courts and uniformed police 22%. The remainder came from Crime Car and Specialist Squads. Some 71% of all cases dealt with were defended, a figure which has been reasonably constant since the Courts commenced in 1976.

Prosecutors at the Committals Courts have strongly emphasised the need to use hand-up briefs for all appropriate cases and the need to ensure correct procedures. Approximately 92% of all committals proceedings are dealt with by this method. Compilation requires a good deal more time and effort by informants however, police, witnesses and court staff are saved considerably more time and expense at the actual hearing. The "After Dark Bandit" case provides a good illustration. Committal proceedings were booked into the Melbourne Magistrates' Court with an estimated hearing time of three and a half weeks and involved 142 witnesses and numerous exhibits. Preparation alone occupied the prosecutor for thirty hours.

However, under the hand-up brief procedure, committal proceedings lasted only two and a half hours with just the two informants called for cross-examination.

It was made abundantly clear this year that the police position concerning many aspects of court security needs to be clarified, particularly in relation to powers to search accused persons appearing at committals and also members of the public wanting to observe these proceedings. The murder of Raymond Bennett at the Melbourne Magistrates' Court provides good reason to remove any doubt and confusion surrounding these matters. It should not be forgotten that the "Beach" Enquiry was highly critical of police for using "bluff and trickery" where the law and police powers were obscure. Responsibility for the removal of such anomalies rests with the legislature.

CRIME

Final crime statistics for 1979 are not yet available, but preliminary figures show that the total number of reported major crimes was approximately 159,000, an increase of 10% on the previous year's total.

As in past years, the great bulk of these crimes are thefts and burglaries. However, the most disturbing feature of this year's crime picture is the increase in homicides and rapes. These serious crimes are naturally the subject of much public concern. A rise of approximately 30% in offences of deception can be attributed largely to the misuse of stolen credit cards. The number of offences of this type has been increasing rapidly over the past few years. Detailed crime statistics will be published in the Department's official Statistical Review of Crime later in 1980.

The impact of the Rape Proceedings legislation, together with generally more sensitive community attitudes towards rape victims, probably accounts for the significant rise in reported rapes this year. Moreover, it is likely that further modification of some judicial and bureaucratic procedures will reduce even more the trauma associated with the official reporting process and thereby encourage a greater notification rate. This should help remove some of the guesswork about the extent of this particular crime and facilitate better data interpretation and the development of efficient anti-rape strategies. In general terms, whilst the number of reported rapes fluctuate yearly, overall, reported offences show a steady increase.

Homicide statistics, which include attempted murder and manslaughter, have always fluctuated erratically, and between 1972 and 1977 a declining homicide rate was evident. That decline has ceased and 1979 was the highest year

on record for murder. One particularly unsavoury aspect to some of the killings is the nexus between increasing violence and illicit drugs. Five of the eighty-eight known murders have been directly linked to the unlawful drug trade.

The great sadness about illicit drug use is that it challenges not only the validity of law enforcement, but also adversely affects the entire community fabric. The huge profits associated with this activity have an amazing capacity to corrupt and to erode integrity. Associated problems, such as addiction, death and the willingness of addicts to commit serious offences to sustain their habit, have potentially serious consequences for the community.

Armed Robbery

October was the month of greatest activity for armed robbery and Fridays and Saturdays, of any month, were the days most likely for the offence to occur. Statistics show that 44% of these offences occurred between 6 p.m. and midnight and stolen cash and property amounted to more than \$2.1 million.

Reported armed robberies increased during 1979 and the trend observed last year for these offences to be concentrated upon private dwellings, milk bars and service stations, continued. Reported offences on service stations rose by 84%. This may reflect the growing number of self-serve premises controlled electronically by a single employee. The respite from armed robberies experienced by T.A.B. Agencies during 1978 ceased and offences against these premises rose again. Reported offences against pharmacies dropped by 56%. This may result from heightened security consciousness among chemists, coupled with



Fingerprint classification — an exacting task.

their practice of retaining only minimal quantities of drugs on the premises.

Table 1 presents a comparison of the years 1977-1979 showing variations in selected targets.

TABLE 1
ARMED ROBBERY OFFENCES

	1977	1978	1979
Pharmacies	35	67	39
Shops/Milk Bars	94	132	139
Dwellings	29	41	49
Banks	54	35	33
Totalizator Agencies	35	18	39
Garage/Serv. Stations	50	39	72

Consorting

The Consorting Squad is responsible for assisting in the acquisition of criminal intelligence and for investigating all escapes from legal custody. From the 118 escapes reported to police, by the end of the year only 19 escapers remained at large.

Strong liaison between States is an important aspect of the squad's activities and during the racing season, seven interstate Detectives performed interchange duty. Victoria's consorting detectives assisted interstate police with sixty-eight enquiries. Thirty-five people were arrested and extradited to other States and ten others were charged with consorting offences.

Liaison Officers

The Court Liaison Officer reports that 688 County Court cases were prepared and awaiting trial at the end of 1979, an increase of 119 over 1978. Delays are due partially to the statutory requirement that rape cases be disposed of in three months, as well as increased numbers of defended cases which invariably lengthen proceedings. It is of interest to note that over the last eight years the average monthly disposal rate for trials has fallen by 37% from 162 to 101. Among the outstanding cases, twenty-two are more than two years old, an 86% reduction for equivalent cases last year. Committals rose from 1,086 to 1,237. Of the 1,202 cases dealt with, 1,074 were completed, 128 were mistrials, agreements or involved absconders.

In addition to providing a point of contact between police and penal authorities, the Prison Liaison Officer is required to investigate or arrange for the investigation of serious crimes committed in prison. During the year, sixteen people were charged by the Liaison Officers with offences ranging from attempted murder to breaches of the Community Welfare Services Act.

Special Branch

Formed in 1931 and now staffed by 23 members, the Special Branch concerns itself with:-

"... those areas of crime or breaches of the peace committed by, or likely to be committed by individuals or groups of individuals whose activities are directed towards subversion of democratic government or its processes, thereby endangering the safety of persons or security."

In accordance with this charter the Branch appointed an intelligence officer to liaise with other organisations in regard to counter terrorism and explosives.

For the first time, comprehensive guidelines about the activities of Special Branch were made available to the public.

These should help dispel some of the fears held by some people of a secret police body operating within their midst. Guidelines 33-35 deal specifically with secrecy and, in brief, advise that secrecy should attach only to those matters which by their nature require secrecy; for example, the identity of informers, covert sources of information and covert information gathering operations. Information received from other organisations is accorded the same level of confidentiality given to it by the provider.

Other important aspects of the guidelines include a requirement for Branch records to be annually culled of irrelevant or redundant information, regular inspection by the Assistant Commissioner (Crime) and additional oversighting by a retired Supreme Court Judge.

Drugs

As previously mentioned, violence associated with the illicit "drug trade" continued. Five murders were directly linked to drug trafficking and many armed robberies were committed specifically to obtain cash for drug purchases. One offender detected by the Dealers Squad is known to have committed over 200 burglaries merely to support his "habit". Drug users and low level traffickers were again the targets of exploitation and violence for other hardened criminals, and disturbing evidence has begun to emerge of a strong correlation between trafficking offences and the possession of concealable weapons. Massage parlours have also been connected with the drug trade. A "safe house" associated with one parlour was raided and yielded stolen property, a pistol, 3 rifles, heroin and \$37,000 cash. Three people were charged.

Enquiries into the drug murders indicate that strong and well organised groups are running highly profitable, albeit illicit, businesses based on drugs. National and State boundaries pose no problems to these groups whose main contacts for drug importation appear to be overseas based. Private and commercial aircraft are frequently used by couriers.

The difficulty of assessing the true extent of the drug problem may be gauged from the fact that undercover operations continually disclose activities which previously have been unknown. Drug Squad work tends to be highly self generative and indicates a need for even more police activity in this field.

The number of drug offences detected throughout the State, and shown in Table 2, fell by 518. Unfortunately this has not been due to containment, but reflects a shift of emphasis from the detection of users to traffickers, crop-growing and associated manufacturing offences, as well as staff shortages. The Squad is presently staffed by eighteen C.I.B. and four seconded uniform personnel.

TABLE 2
DRUG OFFENCES 1977-1979

DRUG TYPE	1977	1978	1979
Indian Hemp	3316	2918	2563
Heroin	341	803	580
Morphine	23	25	17
Cocaine	18	17	3
Hallucinogens	22	37	38
Miscellaneous*	52	232	308
TOTAL:	3772	4032	3514

*Includes offences relating to synthetic drugs of addiction and restricted substances.



Table 3 shows the proportion of offenders by age and clearly indicates those most prone to drug problems are the 16-25 age group.

TABLE 3
PROPORTION OF OFFENDERS BY AGE

AGE	Number of Offenders		% Offenders	
	1978	1979	1978	1979
Over 25	676	722	30.9	39.7
16-25	1478	1085	67.5	59.6
Under 16	35	13	1.6	0.7
TOTAL	2189	1820	100.0	100.0

Exhibits from a drug raid.



Homicides

Of the eighty-eight murders committed during the year seventy-seven have been solved. One of the nine outstanding cases from 1978 was solved.

The most frequently used weapons were firearms, and the circumstances most likely to result in murder were "domestic conflicts".

Enquiries in connection with drug related murders took Victorian detectives to New Zealand, Singapore and the United Kingdom and the investigations are continuing.

Fraud

The Fraud Squad received 508 new complaints taking their total workload to 692 complaints; 184 were brought forward from 1978. By the end of the year, investigation of 153 of the total 692 complaints had yet to be commenced. There is little doubt that the number of outstanding matters would have been greater had it not been for staff increases and strict adherence to guidelines designed to inhibit general police access to the Squad's expertise. On average, each complaint represents slightly more than eight offences.

The introduction of Bankcard has resulted in the reporting of 3,600 Bankcard offences which has significantly raised the work level of the Bank Section.

Whilst monetary value is no real guide to the scale of an enquiry, it is of interest to note that frauds exceeding \$8 million were reported over the past year.

The following table shows the breakdown and result of enquiries handled by the Squad.

Forensic Science Laboratory

While the Spring Street premises remain inadequate for the nature, standard and amount of work required of the

TABLE 4
FRAUD SQUAD WORKLOAD 1979

	Economic Crime Reports*	Bank Section Reports	Total
Enquiries on hand 1.1.79	115	69	184
Received during 1979	154	354	508
Finalised during 1979	172	367	539
Enquiries on hand 31.12.79	97	56	153

*Frauds other than cheque or Bankcard.

staff, their high level of personal efficiency continues unabated. An overall staff increase of eight during the year brings total Laboratory staff to eighty-four. Forty police and forty-four public service officers, twenty-seven of whom are qualified Scientific Officers.

With two gas chromatographs now "on line", and a third planned for inclusion, the installation during the year of an Analytical Systems control computer has proved a substantial advantage.

The Laboratory's Firearms Section was heavily committed to an ammunition reloading program this year and more than 100,000 cartridges were produced at a cost of \$50 per 1,000 cases. Compared with factory reloading prices of \$168 per 1,000 cases, this represents considerable cost saving to the Force.

Table 5 provides an indication of Forensic Science Laboratory workload. Greatest increases occurred in the Biology, Drug, and Document Examination Sections. The rise in drug work reflects increased police activity in the trafficking area. Improved procedures developed by chemists have been responsible for good progress upon the eight months backlog of cases.

General

Other sections of the Crime Department include the Breaking, Arson, Dealers and Livestock Squads. The Crime

TABLE 5
F.S.L. CASELOAD 1977 - 1979

	1977	1978	1979
Total Investigations (excluding photographic)	18,964	21,305	22,179
Exhibits received:			
Biology Section	2,284	2,642	3,761
Applied Science Unit	609	787	977
Drug Unit	3,018	2,223	4,320
Alcohol Unit*			
Screening Samples	13,414	16,021	16,733
Driver Samples	2,677	2,883	2,605
Document Examination	2,099	4,143	8,420
Firearms Section**	—	1,269	764
Assignments:			
Field Investigations	503	522	453
Photographic Section	4,057	4,696	5,567
Negatives	67,136	82,350	92,407
Prints	250,547	296,316	317,790

*Samples taken in response to Section 80DA Motor Car Act.

**New recording system introduced 1977.

Prevention Bureau, Detective Training School, Bureau of Criminal Intelligence and the VicRail Criminal Investigation Branch. Although the spotlight is often focussed upon the Specialist Squads, the Divisional detectives stationed throughout the state and who are responsible for clearing up significant amounts of reported crime, are of equal importance.

Reports to police of "suspicious" fires totalled 1,021. The Arson Squad investigated 113 of these, and no cause could be established for 263. During 1979 a Standing Committee on Arson was formed to assemble information for the purpose of identifying trends and patterns emerging in respect to fires or suspected arsonists. Members of the committee include representatives of the Police Force, the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, Country Fire Authority, Insurance Council of Australia, Loss Adjusters and other interested bodies.

The combined effects of spiralling gold prices, repeal of the Gold Buyers Act and amendments to the Labour and Industry Act have produced a substantial problem in regard to the unrestricted trading of wrought gold between dealers at trash and treasure markets. The Dealers

Squad, which has a special interest in recovering stolen goods, asserts that Labour and Industry Act amendments have effectively weakened controls imposed by the Second Hand Dealers Act on those markets. The amendments have removed the requirement for second hand dealers to trade at their premises as well as the onus on dealers to keep proper records of goods bought and sold, to produce licences on demand, and to carry identification indicating their trade as a secondhand dealer. Over all, the amendments have facilitated an easy and relatively safe means of exchanging or selling stolen goods.

The Detective Training School (D.T.S.) assumed responsibility for planning and conducting the Sexual Offences Investigation Course and, for the first time, males were among those receiving instruction. Other courses run at D.T.S., apart from detective training, include an advanced course for Sub-officers wanting to return to the C.I.B. and a new type of refresher course for detective Sub-officers of long standing. Seventy members attended the former course of four weeks duration, whilst the latter, of two weeks duration, was attended by sixty-nine members.

Some 15,926 motor vehicles were reported stolen. 657 more than for 1978. This figure includes 1,033 motor cycles. Many of the 15,361 vehicles recovered during the year were stolen prior to 1979 and of those stolen this year, 1,355 have yet to be recovered.

Crime Publications

The Crimes Publication Section produced 5,476,000 items during 1979 and assumed responsibility for publication of the Fortnightly Photo Supplement. Previously, this publication was produced by the Government Printer and the change has resulted in a saving of more than \$10,000 p.a. to the Police Gazette allocation.

Information Bureau

Forming a major part of the Crime Department and intrinsic to the effectiveness of all operational sections of the Force, the Information Bureau is comprised of an Administrative Section, Records Section, Fingerprint Bureau, Missing Persons Bureau and Children's Court Assistants. Altogether, the Information Bureau is staffed by 156 police and seventy-five public servants.

Despite problems caused by insufficient space and rapid staff turnover, the Bureau has been both productive and progressive. Miracode became operational and revised procedures for processing criminal histories were introduced. Streamlined correspondence handling methods for insurance files were developed, classification codes for weekly crime statistics were revised and a limited facility for checking criminal records by computer became available. Additionally, centralised collation and analysis of information about rapes commenced.

The Fingerprint Bureau raised their print-identification rate by 68% from 916 (1978) to 1,546 and attended 11,567 scenes of crime. A new policy was adopted to minimize pressures caused by insufficient experts whereby qualified

experts become eligible for promotion to Sergeant or Senior Sergeant rank whilst they remain with the Bureau. In the past nine years seventeen members have qualified as experts and fifteen have left; currently there are nineteen experts among a staff of seventy-two, a ratio which by the world recognised standard of 1:1, is grossly inadequate.

Progress has been made on a computer program which will allow rapid searching of filed warrants, but some aspects of the program are still being studied by both the Law and Auditor General's Departments, and implementation has been delayed. The importance of accelerating warrant handling cannot be over-emphasized. More than 43,800 warrants were received by the Bureau during 1979, an increase of 8.3% from 1978. The number of warrants executed totalled 20,918, a rise of 52%.

Child Offenders

There was a 4.6% decrease in the number of young offenders either cautioned or appearing before courts. However, they continue to pose a serious community problem. In the past twelve months, 13,422 girls and boys under seventeen years were proceeded against by police. Of these, 7,664 (57.1% overall) were cautioned by Officers of police in accordance with Standing Order 311, and 5,758 were prosecuted. An additional 1,019 were the subject of Care Applications made to the Children's Court. On a proportional basis, 79.3% of female offenders were cautioned compared with 53.3% of males. Statistics of offences committed by children are shown in Appendix "A". Note that the figures for 1979, are not strictly comparable to those of previous years, as offence definitions and counting rules have been revised to accord with those in the Force's other statistical publications.

Representation by free Legal Aid at Children's Courts continues to grow rapidly. In 1978, 20.3% of all cases were represented while in 1979 this figure had increased to 66%. Current trends indicate

that the extent of legal representation could again increase during 1980.

The following Table indicates, on the basis of sex and principal offence, the

number of children under 17 years of age who appeared before Children's Courts or were cautioned under the provisions of Standing Order 311.

TABLE 6
PRINCIPAL OFFENCE CATEGORY OF PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED CHILDREN
(n = 13,422)

OFFENCE	MALE			FEMALE		
	Before Court	Cautioned	Total	Before Court	Cautioned	Total
Serious Assault	69	18	87	18	3	21
Robbery	40	6	46	1	1	2
Sexual Offences	9	—	9	—	—	—
Burglary	1353	1366	2719	81	53	134
Theft	1906	2701	4607	186	1304	1490
Other Indictable	66	87	153	14	16	30
Firearm (inc. air rifles)	59	139	198	—	2	2
Traffic	701	813	1514	20	26	46
Street Offences	442	215	657	46	29	75
Wilful/Malicious Damage	237	281	518	11	26	37
Other Summary Offences	478	512	990	21	66	87
TOTAL:	5360	6138	11498	398	1526	1924
Care Applications			247			772

Missing Persons.

Staffed by thirteen police, the Missing Persons Bureau records escapers and all persons reported missing including reports from interstate and overseas. Arising from the Beach Enquiry a "Person in Custody Register", containing brief details of all persons detained in police custody within the metropolitan area, was maintained from May 1979. After a six months trial period, the Register is to

continue indefinitely. Only 691 (2.05%) enquiries were made concerning the 33,684 people (28,045 males, 5,639 females) detained by police in that time. Friends or relatives made 665 enquiries and lawyers the other 26; less than 1% (306) of the people enquired for were actually found to be in police custody at the time of the enquiry.

Table 7 indicates the nature and number of missing persons reports.

TABLE 7
MISSING PERSONS

CLASSIFICATION	1978		1979	
	Reported	Located	Reported	Located
Missing Persons	5773	5691	5643	5583
Absconders:				
Community Welfare Services	1456	1423	1596	1573
Mental Institutions	787	736	706	693
Interstate/Overseas Enquiries	79	10	141	21
Consulate Enquiries for Nationals	39	1	11	2
TOTAL:	8134	7861	8097	7872

TRAFFIC

The annual road toll is one of the most persistent and serious problems facing the police and, in all its aspects, must be described as an ongoing national disaster. The continuing incidence of death, injury and destruction on our roads can only partly be solved by enforcement of the law. A far more potent weapon in effecting improvement to this grim situation would be a greater degree of individual driver responsibility, a responsibility which must be directed to all aspects of road safety and not merely the survival of the individual driver. Care and concern must be directed towards other road users, for example pedestrians, who constitute approximately 22% of total road fatalities.

During the period June — August, 1979, police initiated and implemented "Operation Argus", a Force wide operation designed to protect pedestrian road users by advice, warnings and prosecution. Motorists were firmly reminded of the need for greater care on the roads and a proper regard for pedestrian safety. The operation was successful and pedestrian fatalities were substantially reduced during and after this policing effort.

By far the greatest contributors to the road toll are the occupants of vehicles which run off roads and strike fixed objects. These single vehicle accidents account for 27% of fatal accidents. In most cases the driver is totally accountable, but unfortunately, few of them survive to learn from their mistakes.

Education programmes with a significant emphasis on defensive driving practices will be commenced during 1980. Most accidents can be prevented through proper driver responsibility — the aim of these programmes will be to promote this.

The best means of achieving optimum police performance in road accident reduction is through co-ordinated and determined efforts. The professional skill and endeavour of the police during 1979 has been of a high standard.

Drink Driving Legislation

Legislation remains a strong deterrent against irrational road behaviour for the average and "thinking" motorist. Yet, despite the efforts of police and the mass media, people continue to over-estimate their driving ability and under-estimate the potency of alcohol. Of the 13,378 blood alcohol samples collected from "alleged drivers" under the provisions of Section 80DA of the Motor Car Act, 2,714 (20%) produced a positive blood alcohol reading. Of these, 744 (28%) have resulted in police briefs and 1,940 matters have yet to be finalised.

The problem of alcohol-related road deaths is extensive and official records do not reveal the whole picture. Inadequate legislative provisions allow a number of alcohol affected drivers to escape detection. For example, an injured driver who provides a blood sample under Section 80DA of the Motor Car Act commits no offence if he gives a false name to hospital staff or if he conceals or wrongly identifies his true status as driver. Additionally, there is no onus upon hospitals not registered under the Health Commission to take blood samples. Procedural difficulties hinder the accurate estimation of accident times which must be known if the blood alcohol tests are to be taken within the legally required time limit. Although there are decided cases which allow the admission of evidence concerning blood alcohol readings taken outside the two hour limit, acceptance of such evidence is by no means a uniform practice. Whilst it

cannot be said, with any certainty, that exploitation of these legislative gaps is extensive, it is suggested they help conceal the true extent of the problem. Such ambiguities complicate the police function and are unnecessary.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, preliminary Breath Testing Stations were set up at 2,020 locations and some 79,000 tests were conducted. Whilst only 1.5% of these were positive, the deterrent value of the random breath test concept is considered quite substantial.

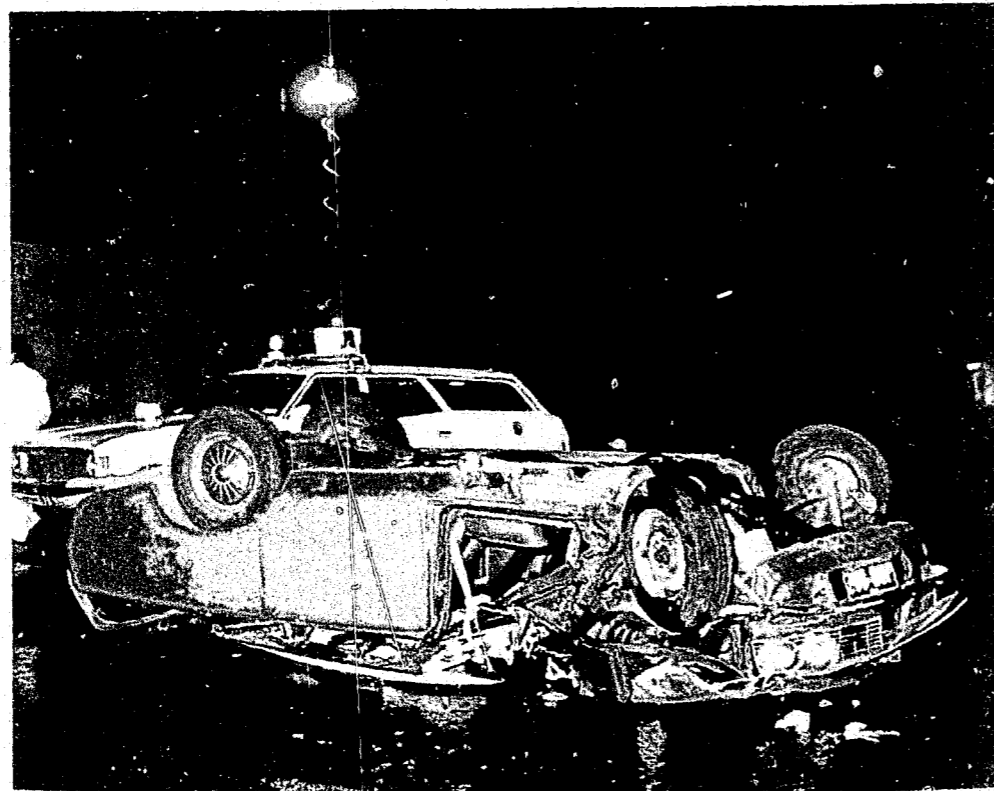
Table 8 shows the number and nature of tests conducted under the various drink-driving provisions.

Road Traffic Collisions

During 1979 there were 763 fewer reported collisions than 1978 and 1,036 fewer than 1977. This reduction was accompanied by a slight reduction in the

number of fatalities and injuries. Whilst these events may reflect improved road traffic engineering and car design, coupled with vigorous and supportive mass media campaigns and effective law enforcement, there is no real cause for optimism. The number of deaths is excessive by any standard and indicative of a general complacency towards responsible road behaviour. It is a problem which cannot be beaten without the widest possible support from the community, the courts and the legislature.

Table 9 provides details of collisions, categories of persons killed and other comparative statistics. In accordance with our policy, this Table does not include people who died more than thirty days after the collision. The main reason for this is the difficulty of establishing a positive cause-effect relationship between the incident and the death, a factor which raises doubts about the accuracy of the statistics.



Death never takes a holiday.

TABLE 8
TESTS CONDUCTED UNDER DRINK-DRIVING LEGISLATION
(n = 128,309)

Blood Samples Collected	13,378	Preliminary Breath Testing Stations	79,027
Positive	2,714 (20.3%)	Positive	1,204 (1.5%)
Negative	10,664 (79.7%)	Negative	77,817 (98.4%)
		Refusals	6 (.0075%)
Breathalyser Tests	16,435	Other Alcotests	16,114
Metropolitan	8,758	Positive	6,526 (40.5%)
Country	7,677	Negative	9,500 (58.9%)
		Refusals	88 (.55%)

*These figures relate to "alleged drivers" only, total samples taken numbered 16,733.

TABLE 9
ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

	Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Fatal Collisions	Injury Collisions	Non-Injury Collisions	Total Collisions
Metropolitan	365	10,558	334	8,119	15,881	24,334
Country	499	10,015	430	6,559	9,885	16,874
TOTALS: 1978	864*	20,573	764	14,678	25,766	41,208
Metropolitan	446	13,159	407	10,077	18,913	29,397
Country	397	6,909	334	4,510	6,204	11,018
TOTALS: 1979	843	20,068	741	14,587	25,117	40,415

*Total adjusted to include people who died within 30 days of 31.12.78 from injuries received during the month of December.

CATEGORIES OF PERSONS KILLED

Year	Motor Cars		Motor Cycles		Pedal Cyclists	Pedestrians	Total Killed
	Drivers	Passengers	Drivers	Passengers			
1978	315	238	76	6	27	202	864
1979	297	233	77	4	44	188	843

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

EVENT	YEAR			
	1976	1977	1978	1979
Population	3,646,981	3,781,500	3,818,700	3,853,300
No. of Motor Vehicles	2,141,683	2,199,374	2,303,640	2,312,767
No. of Accidents	41,738	41,481	41,208	40,445
No. of Casualties*	20,660	20,552	21,433	20,911
Ratio - casualties per capita	1:176	1:183	1:178	1:184
- casualty per m/vehicle	1:103.6	1:107	1:107.5	1:110.6
- accidents per capita	1:87.3	1:91.2	1:92.6	1:95.3
- accidents per m/vehicle	1:51.3	1:53	1:55.9	1:57.2

*Includes deaths.

In addition to the road fatalities, 211 deaths from other accidental causes were reported to police. Table 10 shows the nature of these accidents.

TABLE 10
ACCIDENTAL DEATHS
(n = 211)

Shootings	5	Falls	22
Tractors	13	Burns	11
Railway	29	Electrocution	13
Drownings	41	Others	77

Regrettably, during 1979 there was a 14.5% rise in the number of collisions involving police vehicles. Four of these resulted in death. All police collisions, no matter how minor, are rigorously monitored and appropriate action taken against offending drivers, police or civilian. Table 11 shows the nature and disposition of collisions involving police vehicles.

TABLE 11
COLLISIONS INVOLVING POLICE VEHICLES

	1978	1979
Number of fatal collisions	4	4
Casualties:		
Killed: police	1	1
civilians	5	5
Injured: police	131	132
civilians	49	72
Action taken:		
Briefs submitted against police	20	21
Approved	8*	3
Not Approved	12	13
Pending	—	5
Police — Counselling	141	142
— Admonished	4	1
— Reprimanded	5	2
— To attend Motor Driving School	20	11
Prosecutions:		
Police	5	3
Civilians	242	156
Accident Investigation Committee Hearings	8	8
Total collisions	688	788

*Adjusted to include 3 matters not settled until 1979.

Traffic Offences

Detected traffic offences rose by 6.8% over 1978 and totalled 455,973. A detailed breakdown of these offences is shown in Appendix "B". A total of 936 drivers attended the Motorists' Education Hour in lieu of prosecution. Details of licences suspended under the Points Demerit System as a result of offences committed are shown in Appendix "C".

Traffic Operations Group

This group comprises the major component of the Traffic Department and, in addition to uniformed patrol police, is composed of a number of specialist sections. Among these are the Instrument Development and Maintenance Section, Traffic Research Section, Special Duties Solo Section and the Accident Investigation Section.

The Instrument Development and Maintenance Section is responsible for the regular servicing, maintenance and



Traffic Operations Group.

certification of portable speed measuring devices used throughout the State. New equipment devised and produced by this Section includes an electronic siren and public address system, an electronic Traffic Analyser capable of recording traffic flow as well as indicating the number of vehicles travelling in excess of a programmed speed and an emergency lighting system for use on police cars.

A new Section, known as the Traffic Research Section, was formed to identify problem traffic areas, classify the problems and evaluate the effects of selective traffic enforcement. The major aim of this work is to develop effective traffic enforcement strategies designed to reduce the road toll. To this end, close liaison is maintained with the Road Safety and Traffic Authority, Country Roads Board and local Councils.

The Special Duties Solo Section, staffed by ten members, engages in saturation patrol techniques providing a highly visible police presence in selected areas of high density traffic flow. Although based at Brunswick, the section patrols throughout both metropolitan and country areas. They work closely with the Traffic Research Section.

During 1979 the Accident Investigation Section attended a total of 494 major

collisions involving death or serious injury. Twenty of these were "hit-run" collisions. More than 1,440 charges were laid by the Section arising from matters investigated. These ranged from culpable driving to careless driving. Approximately 11.3% of these charges involved alcohol affected drivers.

Penalties Payment Office

This section was reviewed by members of both the Public Service Board Management Systems Division and the Traffic Department. The most important recommendation arising from the review entails extensive computerisation enabling:-

- wider use of Traffic Infringement Notices through an increased range of offences;
- centralised processing of Parking Infringement Notices;
- preparation of all briefs and summons arising from unpaid Traffic and Parking Infringement Notices;
- development and maintenance of comprehensive statistics concerning Traffic and Parking Infringement Notices.

PERSONNEL

Restrictions on recruiting in the last half of the year coupled with the unusually long wage claim hearing by the Police Service Board had an inhibiting effect in some areas of the Personnel Department. This effect is likely to continue into the early part of 1980. The impact of recruiting restrictions may have serious long term consequences for the community.

At the beginning of 1979, the authorised strength of the Force was 7,500 members. This figure was attained on 16.7.79. A new authorised strength of 8,000 members was approved on 14.8.79 but, subject to budgetary restrictions, recruit intake was held to a maximum of 500 appointees between 1.7.79 and 30.6.80. With normal Force wastage through retirements, resignations and discharges, it is probable that the 500 recruits will be inducted without nearing the authorised strength. In fact, between 1.6.79 and 31.12.79, the net gain in terms of manpower was only sixty-nine members from an intake of 264 sworn recruits.

Restrictions also stipulated that if the Force strength reached 7,700 during that particular period, there were to be no more inductions regardless of the number of recruits yet to be appointed.

Actual Force strength increased by 332 during 1979 with 658 appointments and 326 discharges.

Training District

Problems associated with fragmentation of training venues continue to cause difficulties in terms of the most effective training for police personnel. The introduction of new syllabi and training methods, whilst of value, failed to compensate for these problems. It is unfortunate that reduced intake levels forced

the Police Academy to operate below capacity during the year.

Recruiting

Of the 3,191 applications for appointment to the Force, 2,607 were from males, including 1,049 Cadet applications, and 584 from females. Even though there were fifty-two fewer applications than for 1978, there were actually seventy-one more applicants for adult recruit entry. Of the 1,791 applicants called for examination, 1,448 presented themselves and 479 were provisionally accepted for appointment. Uncertainty about Budget recruiting allocations halted recruit intakes between mid July and September.

Police Academy

Insufficient accommodation and classroom space at the Waverley Academy placed strains upon both staff and trainees. The completion of two residential blocks in April increased accommodation by ninety-six, but the building of the planned Residential and Education Block has been deferred. Until this block is completed, problems will exist in both living and classroom accommodation and trainees will be forced to share rooms designed for one person.

Retention Course

The reduction of recruits in training allowed three additional Retention Courses to be held at the Police Academy. A total of twelve courses were run for 639 probationary constables. Of these, thirty-two members failed the final examination; however, twenty-four later succeeded in passing a supplementary examination. Three others were scheduled to sit for supplementary examinations

early in 1980 and five members later resigned.

Sub-Officers' Course

Five courses of eight weeks duration were conducted to reduce the backlog of sergeants who had not attended sub-officer training. Altogether, 189 police and four prison officers attended.

It is desirable that students of this course be senior constables qualified for promotion. With this in mind it is pleasing to note that in 1980, the majority of attending students will be senior constables and only a minority will be newly promoted sergeants.

Officers' College

Four courses of twelve weeks duration were held at "Airlie" for a total of sixty-nine students, four of whom were from other police forces.

As with the Sub-Officers' Course, emphasis is placed on training members qualified, but not promoted to higher

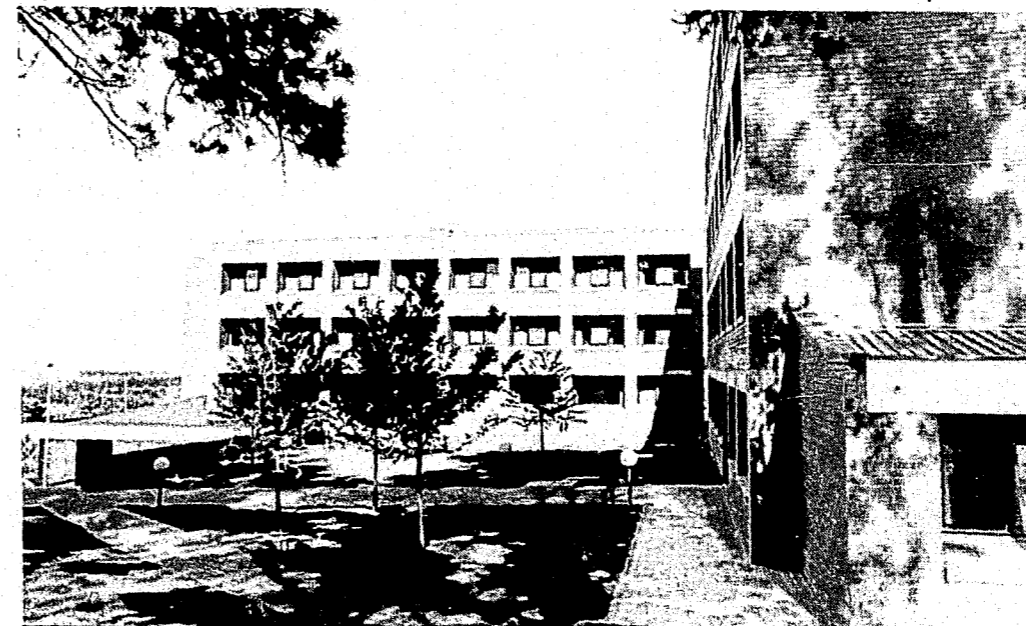
rank. By the end of the year almost all students were of Senior Sergeant rank.

The Course syllabus has been revised to place more emphasis on administrative studies and in 1980, courses will be extended to fourteen weeks.

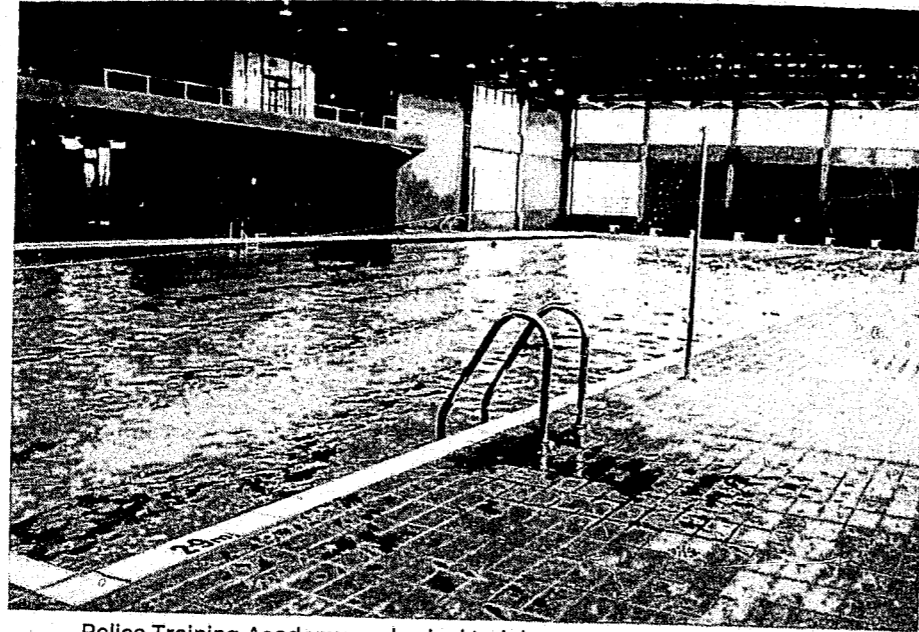
Cadet Academy

Cadet training has continued to emphasise physical, academic and vocational aspects. Cadets worked a total of 7,090 days assisting police in normal police duties and performed duty at many special events such as the Police Exhibition, Moomba Festival and an Air Disaster Exercise. Requests by operational police for cadet assistance still greatly exceed cadet availability.

The continuing liaison between Academy staff and cadets' parents has a good influence on training and allows effective remedial action when cadets experience problems. Remedial classes in English and spelling have become necessary because of deficiencies in previous schooling and to date have proved very



New accommodation block — Police Training Academy.



Police Training Academy — physical training complex swimming pool.

successful. Study tours to New Zealand, Tasmania and Central Australia have proved beneficial and will be continued.

On 1st January, 172 cadets were in training and on 5th February, 1979, they were joined by 235 new appointees. A total of 205 cadets transferred to the Police Academy for recruit training, leaving 166 cadets in training at the end of the year. Cadet wastage (11.3% at both Academies) was due mainly to inability to reach required standards.

Research, Co-ordination and Development Section

The Research, Co-ordination and Development Section, which commenced on 23rd April, has the important task of co-ordinating and developing all aspects of in-service training programmes including syllabi, materials, aids and methods. The need to compress the various programmes within the Force, to a comprehensive and planned whole, has been recognised for a long time. Already the Section has commenced a major survey within operational areas to determine both Force and members' training needs, and existing training programs will be modified where necessary to satisfy perceived requirements. Publication of a Monthly Bulletin, covering changes in

legal and other matters of police interest, has also been part of their work. First published in August, it is widely distributed and much sought after throughout the Force.

Police Education Scheme

The Police Education Scheme published notes and test papers for the 1,700 promotional exam candidates and worked closely with Force District Training Officers to improve the level of knowledge and operational expertise of police generally.

Promotional Examinations

Of the 1,151 members who sat for the various promotional examinations this year, 757 were successful. Pass rates for the various law examinations were as follows: Theory Law (both parts) 74%; Theory Law (1 part) 94%; Sergeant 68%; Senior Sergeant 28%; Officer 64%. All pass rates indicated increased application by examinees and substantial improvement on the 1978 results. To help members identify areas of weakness in their knowledge, it is proposed to publish (for the first time) early in 1980, detailed comments by examiners about each question.

Personnel and Amenities Division

This Division comprises those areas within the Force concerned with the health and well-being of police generally and the activities of the Police Bands.

Welfare Office — The role of the Welfare Officer is extremely important as the incidence of job stress among police increases. Findings of the Police Service Board confirm beyond doubt that policing is a highly stressful occupation, and the need for adequate counselling and comfort is essential. This task is performed with great interest and compassion by members of the Welfare Office. In the past year, they assisted both serving and retired police and their families, and specifically helped 114 members during their appearance before the Government Medical Officer for retirement on the grounds of ill health. Altogether 107 members retired on medical grounds.

Police Chaplains, whilst not part of the Welfare Office, liaise with this Office and contribute substantially to police welfare.

The Police Provident Fund provided welfare loans totalling \$197,500 for 222 members.

Police Hospital — Construction of the new Hospital is proceeding on schedule and is expected to be ready for occupation by the end of May 1980.

The Police Medical Officer treated 2,184 out-patients during the year, whilst some 7,400 treatments for minor injuries were dispensed by nursing staff at the Hospital and both Academies. A total of 431 police received in-patient treatment at the Hospital and twenty-four major and fifty-four minor operations were performed there.

Police Bands — The Brass and Highland Pipe Bands continued to entertain with high quality public performances, mainly for charitable purposes, as well as attending police parades and Graduation ceremonies. Both bands suffered personnel shortages and on occasions had to

refuse requests to perform. These shortages are not likely to ease in 1980 until amendments to Police Regulations allow specialised recruitment of bandsmen.

The Brass Band paraded on 102 occasions and gave forty-eight public performances, while the Highland Pipe Band attended 120 parades and gave fifty-one public performances. Both Bands performed at the Melbourne Military Tattoo.

Amenities Section and Gymnasium, Russell Street — The facilities of the Library, Billiard Room and Reading Room continued to be well patronised, mainly by members living in quarters. The Billiard Room was re-decorated and facilities upgraded for leisure use.

Facilities at the Police Gymnasium were also upgraded by the installation of a sixteen station exerciser.

Personnel Assessment Division

The co-operation of raters in forwarding ratings earlier than in past years (96% of all ratings were received by November) allowed the finalisation of ratings and transmission of assessments to all ratees by the end of November, 1979. A total of 4,402 assessments were prepared and forwarded from which 419 objections were received; each of these necessitated an assessment review. Some 750 probationary constable files were also commenced.

Police Service Board

Apart from the hearing of two short claims, the pay claim heard by the Police Service Board precluded disposal of any other appeals or claims. These problems would be resolved if a second division of the Board could convene to hear appeals when the present Board was in session. The long delay in hearing appeals resulted in many appellants withdrawing their applications. At the end of the year, eighty-six appeals and sixteen claims awaited hearing. These should commence in early February, 1980.

SERVICES

This Department is responsible for Force logistics and is staffed by 349 members (4.6% of the Force). Communications, transport, buildings, land and equipment are their special responsibility.

Much was achieved during the year in terms of building purchases and renovations. However, the non-completion of the physical training complex at the Police Academy was disappointing. It is also disappointing that Victoria continues to have the worst vehicle to police ratio of all states and, presently, there are fifty-three police stations without police vehicles. The significance of this is that members at these stations are without radio communication, a most unsatisfactory situation in terms of police and public safety.

Communications

The authorised police strength of the D.24 communications complex increased from 131 to 188 during 1979 and, even though forty-three positions remained unfilled at the end of the year, an overall gain of thirty-nine members was directly responsible for a reduction of more than 30,000 hours overtime. The appointment of additional telephonists has enabled the switchboard at the Russell Street complex to be manned by public servants on a twenty-four hourly basis, thereby releasing more police for operational duty.

D.24 radio traffic increased by 17.5% overall. However, an increase in service calls reduced available "air time" for computer operated stolen vehicle checks which fell by 11% to 328,365. Even so, the more discriminate checking of suspect vehicles produced a 26% increase in the number of positive vehicle identifications and resulted in an overall computer aided recovery of 10,070 stolen motor vehicles.

Telex machines play an important part in Police communications and there are now thirty-six telex and sixty-four slave telex machines operating throughout country and metropolitan areas. A total of 94,135 telex messages were either sent or received during 1979, a 24.6% increase over 1978. It is anticipated that 1980 will see the telex centre relocated in the new Communications Complex in Russell Street. Microfiche storage units are presently under evaluation by the Public Works Department for use in the new Centre. Research into the feasibility of interfacing telex/teleprinter/computer facilities indicates that such a facility would be of great advantage to policing; progress to date has shown the proposal to be cost effective.

Although neither Ballarat nor Geelong Communications Centres are fully operational, most of the new equipment has been delivered and Ballarat has already begun to use what is available. The anticipated cut-over for Geelong is February 1980.

There are some 400 portable radios now in use but they are insufficient for present needs and supply cannot meet demand. Preliminary results of the Prahran Integrated Community Policing experiment clearly demonstrate that portable radios, far from being a luxury, are functional and essential equipment for both mobile and foot police patrols. Moreover, it is the public who would benefit most by their greater availability.

On forty-eight separate occasions, the Mobile communications command post, V.K.C. 2, was used for a total of eighty-four days. Special operations using the command post, such as "Operation Zeta", an intensive drug blitz which ran in St. Kilda for five days during May, also need properly trained communications staff,

and, on no less than forty-seven of the special operations, staff was supplied by the Communications Section.

Forward Planning

With a requirement as extensive, complex and costly as communications, a high degree of forward planning is essential.

Among the necessary and achievable objectives planned for, as far ahead as 1987 are:

- completion of the D.24 control room and a start on design work for U.H.F. and bearer networks.
- planning of District communications control centres.
- commencement of computer aid despatch.
- interstate linkage of bearer systems.
- installation of a country bearer network.

Among previously planned objectives the following were achieved this year:-

- Telecom approval for fifty U.H.F. frequencies to be issued to police, forty-two of which are immediately available for use.
- the issue of equipment specifications for the new Communications Complex.
- Telecom approval for installation of an exclusive microwave bearer network for the metropolitan area.
- successful contractual negotiations with A.W.A. for a new P.A.B.X. system at Russell Street.
- formation of a Tendering Committee involving P.W.D., D.24, Technical Section and R.E.D. staff.

The Communications Section has commenced major planning for the 1981 Commonwealth Head of Government Conference. Meeting the requirements of this Conference will entail training 100 additional operators to man sophisticated



Visual display units at D.24

consoles in the new D.24 complex. Although the need to draw these members from the general workforce is only temporary, it will undoubtedly have a significant, and possibly detrimental effect, upon day to day policing requirements.

Computers

The Computer Systems Division provides a fast and effective, but limited, administrative and operational service to many areas of the Force.

Since acceptance of the "Patrol Two" concept in 1978, essential links between the police computer and the State Electronic Data Processing centre (E.D.P.) have been established. However, one of the major intended aims of that linkage still remains unattainable, namely, accurate computer access to Motor Registration Branch (M.R.B.) records. The present system of updating the M.R.B. data base annually makes it too unreliable for operational police use. There is an urgent need for data base updating to be carried out with the same frequency as manual records in order to provide patrolling police with rapid and reliable information.

The State E.D.P. Centre is completing arrangements to provide a seven day a week twenty-four hour service which should commence early in 1980.

Other aspects of the "Patrol Two" program have become operational in varying degrees. Whilst the store and forward message switching facility is available on a limited scale, the Vehicle-of-Interest file is fully operational and incorporates an extended recall system to retrieve vehicle enquiries made during the previous twenty-four hours. A limited Persons-of Interest file has been introduced but in its present form is only a "stop-gap" designed to meet the needs of both the Missing Persons Bureau and Bureau of Criminal Intelligence. A Persons-of-Interest working committee has been established with the task of ensuring that maximum usable information is available to all operational police.

Police computer power, memory and storage capacity were effectively upgraded at a cost of \$115,920 by the installation of a Sperry Univac. It is anticipated that the currently installed computer equipment will reach full capacity in 1981.

Communications Engineering

This section which is in its third year of operation assesses new equipment and communication systems.

Separate tests have been conducted with a locally made ten channel one watt on ground portable transceiver and a personal portable radio aligned to the aeronautical frequency allocated to all police forces in Australia. Results are not yet available.

The Telex Centre at Russell Street, Police Headquarters at William Street and the Prahran police station were used to test facsimile machines compatible with those in Tasmania, Northern Territory, South Australia, New Zealand and New South Wales. The test revealed that "copies" of original documents were insufficiently clear for accurate facsimile transmission. This is a serious flaw if original documents are unavailable. However, there is ample potential for this system to be used in the transmission of copy documents needed at courts or other selected locations.

Direct interstate communications between Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Canberra via High Frequency radio was improved by the purchase of a new transceiver.

Radio Electronics Division

For the second year in succession a number of radios, both portable and mobile, were stolen, however all were recovered. The remote Mt. St. Leonard site was again broken into but the erection of a new and more secure building with an alarm system should deter future offenders.

Industrial action disrupted telex services between Sydney and Melbourne in



Police technician at the Radio Electronics Division.

June for a short period, but the intra-State High Frequency Service was able to cope with the increased traffic. Telecom has provisionally allocated fifty Ultra High Frequency channels and agreement, in principle, has been reached for police to operate an exclusive microwave radio system to control the planned U.H.F. network.

Five additional remote radio sites were also secured — one in the City area and the remainder at Arthurs Seat, Kangaroo Ground, Altona North and Sunbury. New installations were completed at Minyip and Mallacoota, and facilities were upgraded at Heathcote, Cohuna, Maryborough, Donald, Port Fairy, Horsham and Orbost.

Audio Visual Section

Organisational responsibility for this section was directly assumed by the Assistant Commissioner (Services) and duties were expanded to include responsibility for all video recording and ancillary equipment in the Force. One member of the Section completed a Video Technicians' Course at R.M.I.T. and three

others recently commenced technical courses in video production.

Approval was granted for construction of a typist transcription room in the Russell Street Police Complex which will accommodate up to five audio typists working in ideal sound-proof conditions.

Sixteen new tape recording installations were completed during the year, eight at metropolitan stations and eight in country areas. Other new equipment obtained included four Sony transcription units, a lighting system and remote control video cassette recorder, monitor, camera and ancillary equipment, frequency shifter and a monitor amplifier.

There are presently forty-three locations awaiting the installation of tape recorders and an overall total of 343 recording devices, including video, indexed at the audio visual section. National Panasonic voice recorders are being modified to tape at half speed in order to extend their recording time. The newer Superscope recorders are already manufactured with this facility.

The reliability of taped evidence has caused a substantial rise in workload, es-

pecially through demands for perfectly typed tape transcriptions. Since 1976, when 142 tapes were processed and thirty tapes transcribed, there has been a 226% workload increase in the number of tapes processed and a 223% workload increase in the number of tapes transcribed. The provision of adequate experienced staff in this area will be of utmost importance in the future.

Technical Section

The primary responsibility of this section is to ensure the logical and co-ordinated purchase of buildings and land for police purposes, as well as arranging comprehensive maintenance for all police premises. In discharging these objectives a total of \$8,031,037 was expended during 1979.

The most dominant building project remains the Police Academy. Delayed supply of building materials prevented completion of the physical training complex during 1979. It is now anticipated to be ready for use during 1980. Two new residential blocks were completed at a cost of \$1.9 million and occupied early in the year.

Other major works completed include new District Headquarters and twenty-four hour stations at Altona North and Horsham. The leasing of new office accommodation for the Moonee Ponds Police District Headquarters will enable a move from inadequate premises at Flemington to some which are more suitable at Mt. Alexander Road, Essendon. New "one man" police stations were completed and occupied at Tungamah, Mallacoota and Pyalong.

Alterations are nearly complete at the Dandenong Motor Registration Branch and Licence Testing Station which, when finished, will be located in leased premises at 40 Bennett Street, Dandenong. The No. 4 Division Traffic Operations Group moved into newly leased premises in St. Kilda allowing the Motor Boating and Search and Rescue Squads to move out of Dawson Street, Brunswick into the vacated premises.

The Force entered a new era, in terms of premises, with the use of "relocatable" buildings at Melton and Moonee Ponds. These provide good quality accommodation quickly and at reasonable cost. Renovations involving extensions have been undertaken at the Russell Street Property Office and at Ringwood, whilst the only building site purchased during the year was at St. Albans for a proposed new Divisional Headquarters and twenty-four hour police station.

New buildings or work started, but not yet completed, include the Dookie and Nagambie Police Stations. Residences were purchased during the year at Maryborough, Stawell, Swan Hill and Bairnsdale. South Yarra police station was closed and the Toorak and Altona police stations reduced to sub-station classification.

An important government decision this year solved the dilemma facing the Police Mounted Branch concerning the location of its stables. These will remain permanently sited in St. Kilda Road in the grounds of the old Police Depot.

Police Transport

The actual number of police vehicles on hand at 31.12.79 was 1,541; 1,383 cars and 158 motor cycles. The national average ratio of police vehicles to police is now 1:3.6, Victoria's ratio of 1:4.8 is worst of all States. Of the 270 additional vehicles required and requested for policing purposes during 1979, only thirty four-cylinder cars were approved. Some 821 vehicles were replaced, but this was seventy-eight fewer than the previous year.

Police vehicles travelled some 53,982,652 kilometres during 1979 using 9,489,006 litres of petrol. Maintenance costs amounted to \$4,382,917.

A trailer constructed in the police workshops for the recovery of damaged police cars, resulted in a saving of \$20,000 in towing fees.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Service Staff

During the year the authorised establishment of the Public Service personnel increased from 2,116 to 2,183. As shown in Table 12 the increase was spread throughout various Police areas, central administration and the Motor Registration Branch.

Significant new positions created included that of Deputy Director of Administration, the Commissioners' Secretariat, and two classified administrative positions in the Crime and Operations Departments respectively.

Unfortunately, staff ceiling limits continued from previous years and these account for differences between actual and authorised strengths in the areas shown.

Motor Registration Branch

A significant factor emerging from business conducted by the Branch this

year was the minimal increase in motor vehicle transactions which tends to reflect a definite downturn in the motor vehicle market. Details are set out in Appendix "F", which also shows that collections for the year increased by approximately \$10 million to more than \$410 million.

Programming activity is continuing at the Government Computer Centre for the development of an on-line data base computer system for motor vehicles. Vehicle registration payment data is captured on magnetic tape and transmitted to the computer vehicles file from the Branch's accounting system. This avoids previous duplicated effort incurred through separate information entry by data terminals.

A mini computer system has been installed with visual display and printer terminals enabling document changes to be automatically added to the vehicle data base by direct communication with the Government Computer Centre.

TABLE 12
PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF

	As at 31st December	
	1978	1979
Chief Commissioners Office		
Actual strength	211	223
Authorized strength	221	240
District Offices and Police Stations		
Actual strength	963	1012
Authorized strength	977	1024
Forensic Science Laboratory		
Actual strength	43	42
Authorized strength	44	45
Motor Registration Branch		
Actual strength	852	861
Authorized strength	874	874
Total Actual Strength	2069	2138
Total Authorized Strength	2116	2183

Central Correspondence Bureau

The Central Correspondence Bureau Registry processes and records correspondence received by the Chief Commissioner's Office. The mail room sorts and distributes about 10,000 items daily. Approximately 150,000 files move through the Registry each year. About 33,000 new files are created annually. It is vital, therefore, that an efficient correspondence recording system is used.

A team of Systems Analysts from the Public Service Board's Management Systems Division, together with the Department's Training and Methods Officer, was formed to examine correspondence processing and related activities with particular emphasis on the Central Correspondence Bureau.

A Steering Committee was formed with representatives from the Police Force, the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services and the Public Service Board's Staffing and Classification Section and Staff Development Section. The Committee advised and assisted in the planning and coordination of the Review and assisted with the implementation of recommendations.

Approximately 120 recommendations were made covering all facets of the Registry's operations including areas outside the Registry. The recommendations are far-reaching, involving computerisation, some decentralization of file control, disposal and storage of papers, streamlining of systems and general reorganization of the Registry Section.

Many recommendations have already been implemented resulting in considerable improvement to the file processing time.

Police Surgeons

Progressive development of the Police Surgeons' service to the Victoria Police saw the appointment of five part time Police Surgeons for the metropolitan

area. Regrettably, one has resigned due to pressure of practice work.

The additional doctors have assisted in a more rational and reasonable distribution of work. This includes examination of victims of assaults and sexual assaults (children and adults), persons of disturbed behaviour, sick prisoners and offenders in custody, attending at sudden deaths, identification of human remains, court appearances and lectures as well as providing a medico-legal information service are also a part of their work. Further increases will result in the availability of seven part-time Surgeons.

Dr. Barry Loughnan, of Geelong, has held the appointment of Part-time Police Surgeon for many years and other appointments have been made at Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Cowes, Mildura and Toora.

Items of Interest

- (i) The Departmental pay roll continues to increase as a result of National Wage movements and the appointment of additional Police and Public Service personnel. The total pay roll amounted to \$131,389,765 compared with \$118,483,717 for 1978.

The hearing of a claim before the Police Service Board for increased Police salaries, based on a work value study, was completed towards the end of the year and resulted in Determination No. 308, which was effective from 15th November.

- (ii) Details of expenditure for the financial year 1978/79 together with comparative figures for the previous year are contained in Appendix "G".
- (iii) 70,000 new Shooter's Licences and Permits were issued, 23,000 of which were issued in the month prior to the opening of the duck season.

CONCLUSION

In commencing this report with a review of the seventies, it can be seen that the past decade has witnessed substantial change in terms of police resources, strategies and problems. Generally, these have also been consistent with increased efficiency, improved public service and better police conditions. In concluding my report, I nominate four matters, in particular, which I believe will substantially preoccupy police in the eighties.

The first of these is computerisation. By world standards, we are far behind other Forces in terms of computer capability. The majority of our record systems are manually maintained and searched. This is a redundant method in the computer age and one which is expensive in terms of manpower and time as well as being prone to error. Furthermore, manually operated record systems do not readily lend themselves to providing the type of data necessary for a total crime prevention strategy.

Some areas of police-oriented computerisation in need of exploration are fingerprint records, voice identification, disputed tape recordings, crime records and statistical analysis and the coding of criminal histories. Already, experiments have been conducted with "Landsat" to identify cannabis crops, but more of this type of experimentation is needed. Some overseas countries have developed computer signatures to rapidly determine drug or poison levels in human organs and rapid scanning techniques have been devised for identifying human, botanical, mineral and chemical substances. But, in addition to these types of facilities there is an urgent need to quickly provide operational police with accurate information relevant to their general patrol work. There is also a need for extensive understanding of the illicit use of computers for crime. We know that frauds of enormous

magnitude can be perpetrated with the aid of computers. Therefore, to properly cope with these problems it is essential that we have access to the most up-to-date computer technology and training.

The second matter concerns illicit drugs. It is clear from the enormous rise in detected and reported drug offences over the past decade that we are faced with a substantial problem. In the light of overseas experience there appear to be two main methods of attack. Firstly, the system of "decriminalisation", in which possession of some drugs constitutes no offence and where "registered" addicts may be lawfully supplied by medics. We do not yet know whether such systems reduce the incidence of addiction, or drug related crime in Victoria. The English system of "registered addicts" is presently under review in an endeavour to answer such questions.

The second method involves increased police powers, more refined detection strategies and stiffer sanctions. Undoubtedly, this proposal will draw protest from some sections of the community, but given the extent of Australia's coastline and the opportunity for undetected unlawful drug importation, together with increased drug exploitation and the present high unemployment levels, there is more than sufficient reason for this concept to be given due consideration. However, we are under no illusion that increased police powers will provide a panacea. The drug problem, as Mr. Justice Woodward has said, must be viewed in the context of "... education, social welfare, treatment, rehabilitation and punishment alternatives".

The third matter involves young offenders. Current economic conditions and unemployment levels are not con-

ductive to low crime rates. It is, therefore, imperative that we make a determined effort to reach young people with positive crime prevention strategies which will imbue them with a lasting sense of responsibility. Such strategies should progress in a logical sequence with increasing sophistication throughout the entire school career. A program of this nature, which is intended to involve most police, is presently in planning. It will be centralised to reduce unnecessary duplication and to ensure consistency of aims and objectives. In line with our firm belief that policing is a community responsibility, we would expect support from many quarters when the program is introduced in 1980.

The final matter is terrorism. The effects of political terrorism and criminal terrorism are the same, in that both forms involve the commission of serious criminal offences. The term "political" does nothing to dignify or justify the terrorism which results.

So far, our geographical location has operated to save us from a high risk of political terrorism. This happy situation cannot be expected to continue indefinitely. The State of Victoria has a remarkable ethnic mixture in its population. Almost 25% of our population was born overseas and 15% were born in non-

English speaking countries. Activists in some ethnic groups perpetuate national animosities. This can provide a fertile ground for political terrorism and though not directed at the host country, affects it nevertheless.

Criminal terrorism, in the form of kidnapping, abduction and extortion, can be expected to develop into a serious problem, if we follow overseas crime trends. There is no reason to believe we will not.

Strategy plans have, therefore, been developed and specialist units trained and equipped to provide a response capability in both areas. Combined Commonwealth/State plans have been prepared to cope with political terrorism.

Such is the changing face of crime and our projection of the future.

I look forward to the next decade being as challenging, as progressive and as innovative as the last. No doubt, there will be many other issues claiming public attention throughout the coming years, but I believe the four matters mentioned above will be of particular importance. Each will affect, to a considerable extent, the overall level of police service, which ultimately, must be contingent upon adequate manpower and resources.

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Children Cautioned by an Officer of Police in presence of parents or Independent Person.

APPENDIX A

Year	Male	Female	Total	%Offenders Cautioned
1976	3,794	1,407	5,201	42.0
1977	5,111	1,285	6,396	50.2
1978	6,566	1,810	8,376	59.5
1979	6,138	1,526	7,664	57.1

Children Under 17 Years who appeared on Protection/Care Applications.*

January/July

Cause of Application

Cause of Application	1979		
	Male	Female	Total
Likely to lapse into a career of vice or crime	73	25	98
Exposed to moral danger	43	265	308
Parental Neglect	10	20	30
Other	80	115	195
August/December			
Ill treated	2	9	11
Inadequate supervision/control	16	55	71
Jeopardised development	19	29	48
Abandoned	1	3	4
Other	3	4	7
	247	525	772

* Offence categories changed as a result of amendment to Section 31 of the Community Welfare Services Act.

CHILD OFFENDERS*

Offences committed by Children Under 17 Years who appeared before the Childrens Court or were cautioned by an Officer

	Male		Female		Total	
	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979
Serious Assault	543	154	55	22	598	176
Robbery	86	78	10	3	96	81
Sexual Offences	332	14	3	-	335	14
Burglary	4,508	5,631	263	258	4,771	5,889
Theft	9,531	11,416	2,401	2,296	11,932	13,712
Other Indictable	1,467	479	118	69	1,585	548
Firearm (including air rifle)	543	414	10	3	553	417
Traffic Offences	4,216	5,803	85	125	4,301	5,928
Street Offences	617	1,537	51	168	668	1,705
Wilful/Malicious Damage	1,005	1,240	34	77	1,039	1,317
Other Summary Offences	1,181	2,364	137	142	1,318	2,506
TOTAL:	24,029	29,130	3,167	3,163	27,196	32,293

*Note: 1978 and 1979 figures are not strictly comparable. See "Child Offenders" paragraph in the Crime Department section of this report.

TRAFFIC OFFENCES*

APPENDIX B

	1978	1979
Drive against automatic traffic control signal	19,010	21,662
Disobey traffic sign	21,247	23,089
Drive over double lines	4,642	5,029
Drive under influence of liquor	1,415	1,040
Drive under influence of drugs	151	104
Drive with B.A.C. exceeding .05%	17,824	15,225
Drunk in charge of motor vehicle	192	183
Drive carelessly	7,438	7,075
Drive manner dangerous	2,314	2,362
Exceed 60/75 and 90 kmh	109,315	117,096
Exceed 10 kmh absolute speed	27,937	32,341
Drive whilst licence cancelled, suspended, etc.	2,368	1,990
Unlicensed driving	11,348	10,049
Unregistered vehicles	8,066	8,034
Drive without prescribed lights	12,118	12,333
Fail to give stop, turn or diverge signal	11,887	11,847
Fail to stop after accident	3,000	2,726
Fail to keep left	3,591	3,265
Incorrect right hand turn	6,702	7,553
School Pedestrian Crossing offences	630	597
Number plates obscured or damaged, etc.	9,166	7,059
Parking offences	38,174	43,273
Other offences not specified	108,303	122,041
TOTAL:	426,838	455,973

*This table includes 249,414 Traffic Infringement Notices.

APPENDIX "C"

DEMERIT POINTS DATA

	YEAR 1978	YEAR 1979
Total number of Licence Suspensions	691	616
6 month suspension	24	13
3 month suspension	667	603
Number warned	9,843	10,401
Traffic Infringement Notices Processed	144,044	181,381
Convictions Processed	17,865	20,183
Surcharge imposed	986	913
Surcharge paid	1,287	767

APPENDIX "D"

VICTORIA POLICE FORCE ACTUAL STRENGTH BY DEPARTMENT AT 31.12.79 (SWORN PERSONNEL)

	Operations		Crime		Traffic		Services		Personnel*		S.D.L.		C.C.P. List		Total By Sex		G. Total	Rank	Group
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female			
COMMISSIONER	1		1		1		1		1				3		8		8		.11
COMMANDER	2																		
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT	15	1	1		1		2						1		3		3		.04
SUPERINTENDENT	19	4	3		2		4						1		21		21		.28
CHIEF INSPECTOR	57	1	27		4		2		4				2		34		34		.45
INSPECTOR	128	2	31		12		13		12		4		3		103	1	104		1.37
SENIOR SERGEANT	250	12	90		32		23		16		1		3		203	2	205		2.71
SERGEANT	899	19	239	5	89		92		49		8		8		415	12	427		5.64
SENIOR CONSTABLE	1272	50	510	32	306	10	90	2	24	1		1	11		1384	74	1408		18.60
CONSTABLE	2094	302	134	17	167	25	116	7	136	36	2		10	4	2213	96	2309		30.51
TOTALS BY SEX	4737	386	1037	54	615	35	340	9	248	37	15	1	51	4	2659	391	3050		40.30
TOTALS	5123		1091		650		349		285		16		55		7043	526	7569		
ACTUAL %	67.68%		14.41%		8.59%		4.61%		3.77%		.21%		.73%		100%				

Victoria's population - June 1979: 3,853,300
 Police to population ratio as at 30.6.79: 1:516
 *Includes 122 male and 34 female Constables in training.

FORCE PERSONNEL WASTAGE

1979	Chief Comm.	Deputy Comm.	Commdrs.	Chief Supts.	Supts.	Chief Insp.	Insp.	Senior Sgts.	Sgts.	Senior Consts.	Consts.	Total
Died						2			1	5	2	10
Superannuated - Retiring Age			1	5	1		5	3	8	19		42
Ill-health						2	2	7	31	52	13	107
Resigned								3	17	26	107	153
Dismissals												
Termination of Appointment											14	14
TOTALS			1	5	1	4	7	13	57	102	136	326

APPENDIX "E"

AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS

GEORGE MEDAL

Sergeant Brendan William Bannan for bravery and gallantry displayed in relation to an armed hold-up committed on a supermarket in Reservoir on 3rd February, 1978 during which shots were exchanged in the apprehension of two offenders.

THE QUEEN'S GALLANTRY MEDAL

Senior Constable Francis Joseph Mills, Q.G.M., for gallantry displayed in connection with the rescue of two elderly persons from a burning house in Prahran on 25th February, 1978.

Constable Mark Henry Boyle, Q.G.M., for gallantry displayed in connection with the rescue of two elderly persons from a burning house in Prahran on 25th February, 1978.

Reservist Raymond John Mulder, Q.G.M., for bravery and gallantry displayed in relation to an armed hold-up committed on a supermarket in Reservoir on 3rd February, 1978 during which shots were exchanged in the apprehension of two offenders.

QUEEN'S POLICE MEDALS

The following members were awarded the Queen's Police Medal for outstanding Police Service:-

January, 1979

Chief Superintendent R.J. Martin
 Chief Superintendent L.K. Plattfuss, V.A.,
 Superintendent P.N.D. Ball
 Inspector W.J. Brand
 Senior Sergeant C.R. Hodder
 Senior Sergeant A.O. Hann

June, 1979

Deputy Commissioner A.W. Conn
 Chief Superintendent M.J. Fisher
 Chief Superintendent O.B. Robinson
 Superintendent F.W. Russell
 Chief Inspector A.E. Scott
 Sergeant J.P. Barritt

POLICE VALOUR AWARDS

- | | | | |
|----------|--|------------|--|
| 9.4.1979 | Constable G.B. Paterson, No. 18415 received the Award for courage, initiative and perseverance displayed in effecting the arrest of an armed and violent offender who had wounded him with a knife. | 14.12.1979 | Sergeant R.S. Wilson, No. 16013 received the Award for displaying outstanding courage, initiative, leadership and cool management in a situation when confronted by a mentally disturbed and distressed person armed with a loaded firearm. |
| 4.7.1979 | Senior Constable A.M. Zalewska, No. 18013 received the Award for outstanding courage, initiative and restraint exhibited on 4th June, 1978, at Bundoora, in the arrest of a deranged and dangerous offender who was armed with a loaded rifle. | 17.12.1979 | Senior Constable G.G. Falkiner, No. 16429 received the Award for bravery and fearless determination when confronted by an intoxicated man armed firstly with a loaded shot gun and a belt of cartridges and secondly with an axe, who was eventually overpowered after a violent struggle. |

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S CERTIFICATES

Certificates were awarded for devotion to duty and marked efficiency to the following:

Chief Inspector K.S. Robertson, Q.P.M.
 Chief Inspector D.A. Boisen
 Chief Inspector J.F. Maxwell
 Senior Sergeant Bell, No. 11604
 Senior Sergeant Mildren, No. 11584
 Senior Constable Mengler, No. 9817
 Senior Constable O'Neill, No. 17260
 Senior Constable Grigg, No. 17363
 Constable Jenkin, No. 19769
 Constable Roddick, No. 20546
 Reservist W.A. Bruce, No. R.389

Mrs. Valma M. Collins

COMMENDATIONS

Two hundred and fifty-four members of the Force received commendations for meritorious service.

APPENDIX "F"

MOTOR REGISTRATION BRANCH STATISTICS

VEHICLES REGISTERED	1978	1979
Motor Cars		
Private	1,690,259	1,708,657
Commercial and Hire	158,010	156,740
Primary Producer	88,322	86,595
Motor Cycles	47,744	49,077
Trailers	318,732	310,136
Total	<u>2,303,067</u>	<u>2,312,105</u>
NEW REGISTRATIONS (New and second-hand vehicles)		
Motor Cars	214,651	212,475
Motor Cycles	12,162	14,252
	226,813	226,727
RECREATION VEHICLES Registered	1,396	1,254
DRIVER'S LICENCES		
Licence Permits issued	124,377	130,474
Driver's Licences issued	2,040,463	2,097,585
REVENUE		
Excluding Third Party Insurance	\$213,743,701	\$220,999,232
Third Party Insurance	\$187,952,293	\$190,732,168
FINANCIAL YEAR RECEIPTS	\$205,213,145	\$219,609,806

FINANCE

APPENDIX "G"

	Financial Year	
	1977/78 \$	1978/79 \$
Revenue – Police	21,383,828	24,278,178
Expenditure – Police		
Salaries and allowances – Police	94,909,948	106,024,378
Public Service Staff	19,074,945	20,436,242
Overtime and penalty rates	2,997,850	3,505,431
Payments in lieu of long service leave, retiring gratuities	1,500,970	1,423,714
Travelling and subsistence	1,522,554	1,679,941
Office requisites, printing and stationery	903,680	1,196,274
Books and publications	189,277	255,994
Postal and telephone expenses	2,296,926	2,614,274
Motor vehicles – purchase and running expenses	5,293,499	6,390,096
Fuel, light, power and water	897,747	1,066,960
Electronic Data Processing – expenses	90,945	90,497
Incidental Expenses	624,681	771,940
Personal equipment, uniforms, clothing and bedding	680,361	804,495
Radio, photographic, scientific and training equipment and materials	1,016,746	1,167,750
Contributions to Central Fingerprint Bureau, Sydney	170,669	187,687
Transport of prisoners, search parties and traffic school – travelling expenses etc.	112,607	124,526
Burials	12,018	9,938
Provisions for Police Hospital	11,325	11,981
Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medals	1,900	1,500
Pay-roll Tax	5,759,259	6,692,495
Contribution to Police Pensions Fund	3,941,000	4,350,000
	<u>142,008,907</u>	<u>158,806,113</u>
Police Service Board – Salaries and allowances – Public Service Staff	22,596	24,010
Postal and telephone expenses	500	500
	24,510	23,096
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>142,032,003</u>	<u>158,830,623</u>

Erratum: Page 48 Appendix "G". Finance.
Police Service Board—Postal and telephone
expenses should read 1977/78 \$23,096,
1978/79 \$24,510.

COMPLAINT FILES RECEIVED 1979

APPENDIX "H"

Type of Complaint	Source:	Individuals	Business Solicitors (on behalf of Clients)	Organizations	Embudsman	Minister	Victoria Police	Total	
UNJUSTIFIED ARREST		21		—	—	1	—	22	
UNJUSTIFIED ADMISSION TO INST.		2		—	—	1	—	3	
UNJUSTIFIED SEARCH/SEIZURE		21	5	—	1	2	—	29	
UNJUSTIFIED PIN OR TIN		29	—	—	—	4	—	33	
UNNECESSARY QUESTIONING		7	1	—	—	3	—	11	
HARASSMENT		43	1	6	—	1	8	59	
RUDENESS		62	6	1	—	—	5	74	
FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION		44	1	1	2	13	6	67	
UNSATISFACTORY PERF. OF DUTY		119	2	15	—	7	8	154	
OTHER DISCIPLINE BREACHES		16	3	1	1	—	32	53	
ASSAULT		164	23	—	—	10	2	199	
OTHER M.C.I. OFFENCES		2	—	—	—	—	2	4	
PERJURY		7	1	—	—	—	1	9	
CORRUPTION		7	1	—	—	—	—	8	
TRAFFIC OFFENCES		1	—	—	—	—	18	19	
OTHER OFFENCES		1	—	—	—	—	10	11	
CIVIL DISPUTES		6	—	—	—	—	—	6	
OTHER COMPLAINTS		54	2	11	2	23	11	105	
TOTAL		606	6	73	6	46	59	70	866

COMPLAINT FILES DETERMINED 1979*

Type of Complaint	Result:	Unfounded	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Sustained	Lesser Charge Sustained	Misconduct not Alleged in Original Complaint	Total
UNJUSTIFIED ARREST		2		17		1		20
UNJUSTIFIED ADMISSION TO INST.		1		1				2
UNJUSTIFIED SEARCH/SEIZURE		2	1	17	3			23
UNJUSTIFIED PIN OR TIN				25	6			31
UNNECESSARY QUESTIONING		3		4				7
HARASSMENT		9		30	4	1		44
RUDENESS		4	2	43	9	1		59
FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION		4	3	37	10	1	1	56
UNSATISFACTORY PERF. OF DUTY		20	6	69	14	3		112
OTHER DISCIPLINE BREACHES		2		6	32			40
ASSAULT		19	2	104	6			131
OTHER M.C.I. OFFENCES**				1	3			4
PERJURY		3		4	1			8
CORRUPTION		2		3				5
TRAFFIC OFFENCES				2	17			19
OTHER OFFENCES				2	7			9
CIVIL DISPUTES				2			2	4
OTHER COMPLAINTS		14	7	41	8		17	87
TOTAL		85	21	408	120	7	20	661

* 229 ongoing enquiries incomplete
** M.C.I. – Major Crime Index

SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON MEMBERS

Type of Complaint	Sanction:	Counselling or Reprimand	Transfer	Resignation or Retirement	Discipline Board	Open Court	Total
UNJUSTIFIED ARREST		3					3
UNJUSTIFIED ADMISSION TO INST.							
UNJUSTIFIED SEARCH/SEIZURE		2					2
UNJUSTIFIED PIN OR TIN		4					4
UNNECESSARY QUESTIONING		8					8
HARASSMENT		19					19
RUDENESS		26					26
FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION		25			1		26
UNSATISFACTORY PERF. OF DUTY		17	2	1			20
OTHER DISCIPLINE BREACHES		23	4	6	25		58
ASSAULT		1	4	1	1	2	9
OTHER M.C.I. OFFENCES*				1		1	2
PERJURY						2	2
CORRUPTION							
TRAFFIC OFFENCES		2				16	18
OTHER OFFENCES			1	2		6	9
CIVIL DISPUTES							
OTHER COMPLAINTS		16					16
TOTAL		146	11	11	27	27	222

*M.C.I. — Major Crime Index

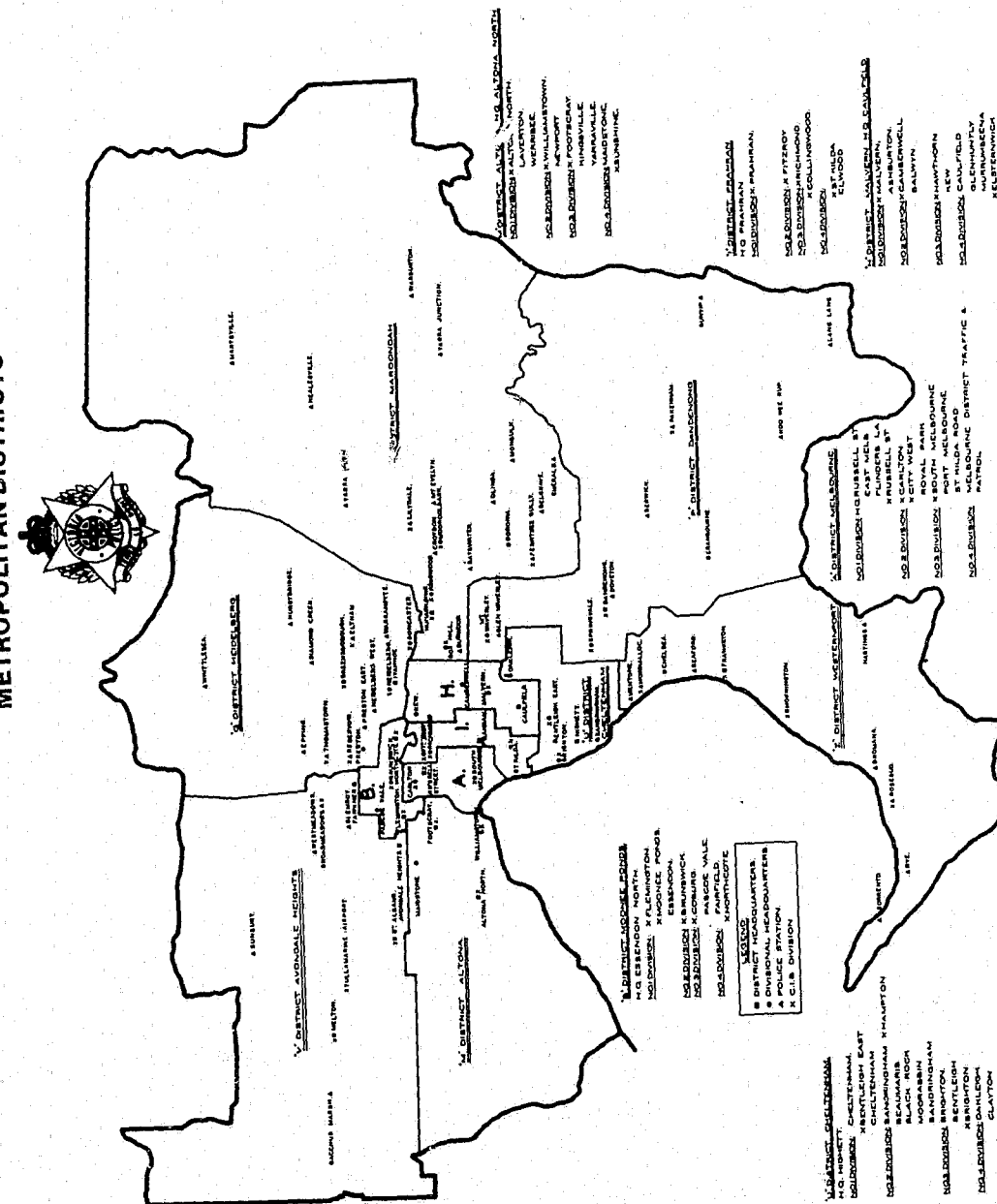
NOTE: A single complaint file may involve more than one member; each member is counted separately in this table.

DISCIPLINE

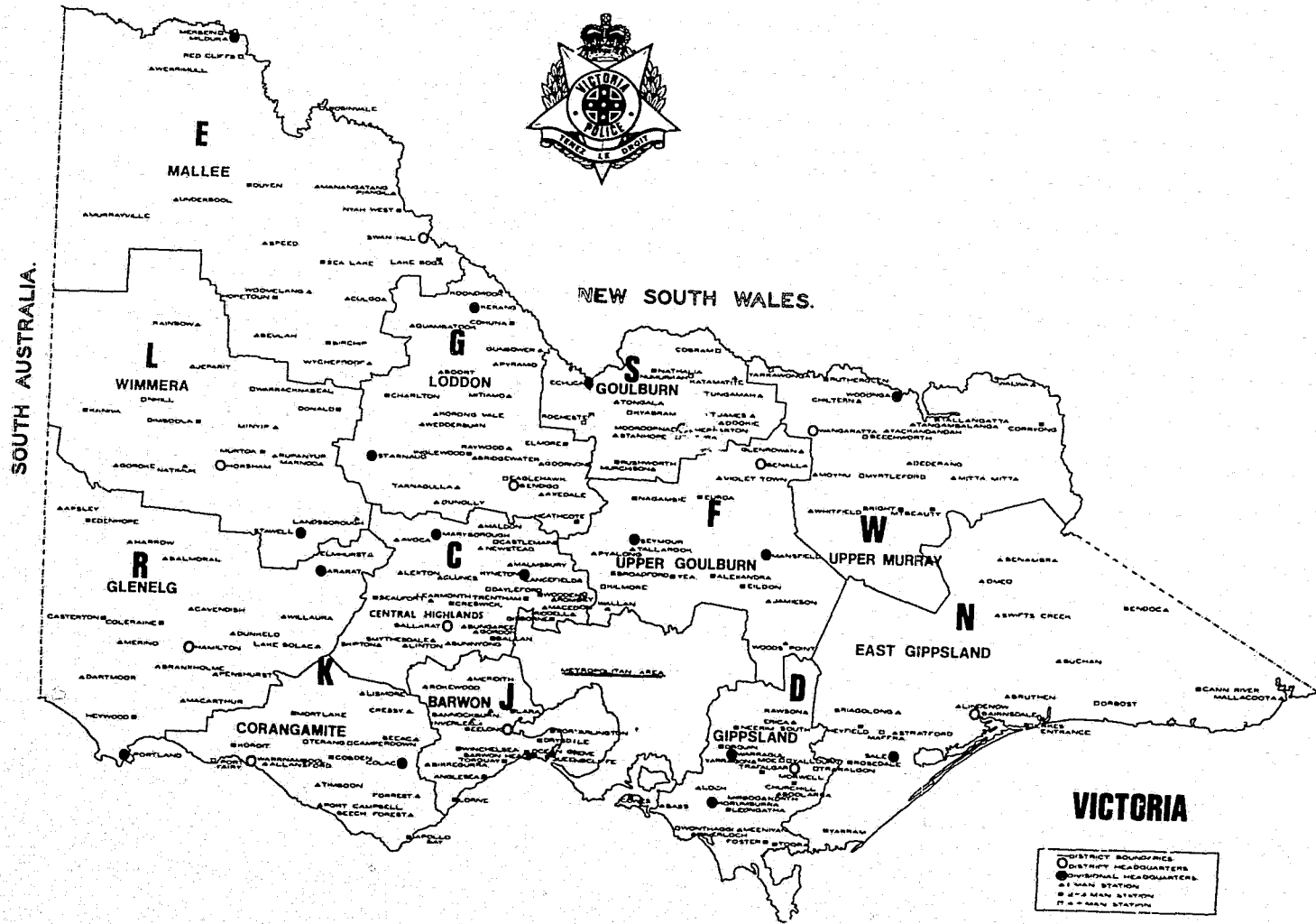
	Members Charged	Charges Preferred	Not Proceeded with	Dismissed	Reprimanded	Fined	Reduced in Rank	Dismissed from Force	Adjourned
Chief Commissioner Summarily 1978	2	6	—	—	1	3	—	—	2
Chief Commissioner Summarily 1979	1	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—

"APPENDIX I"

METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS

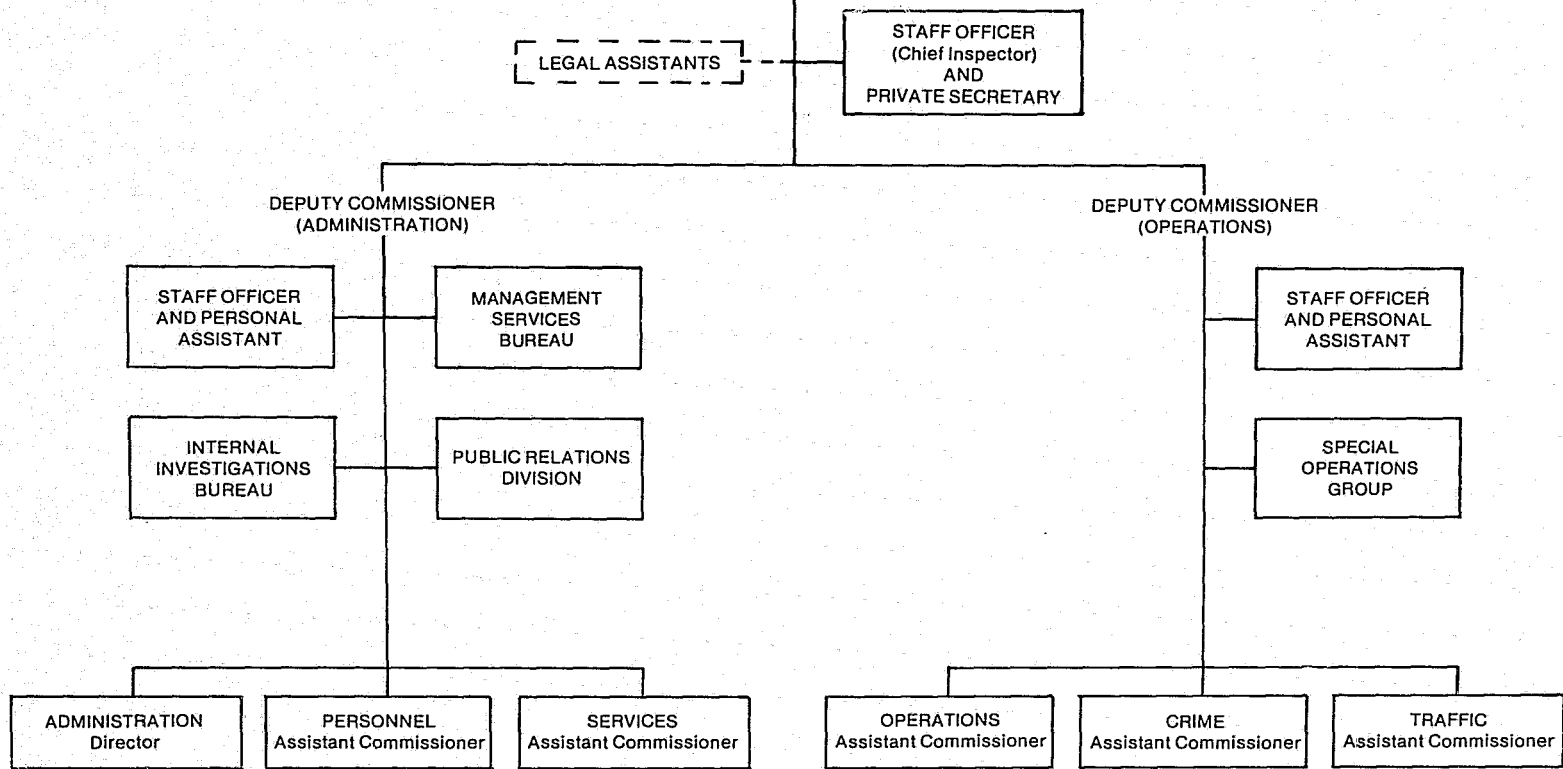


COUNTRY DISTRICTS

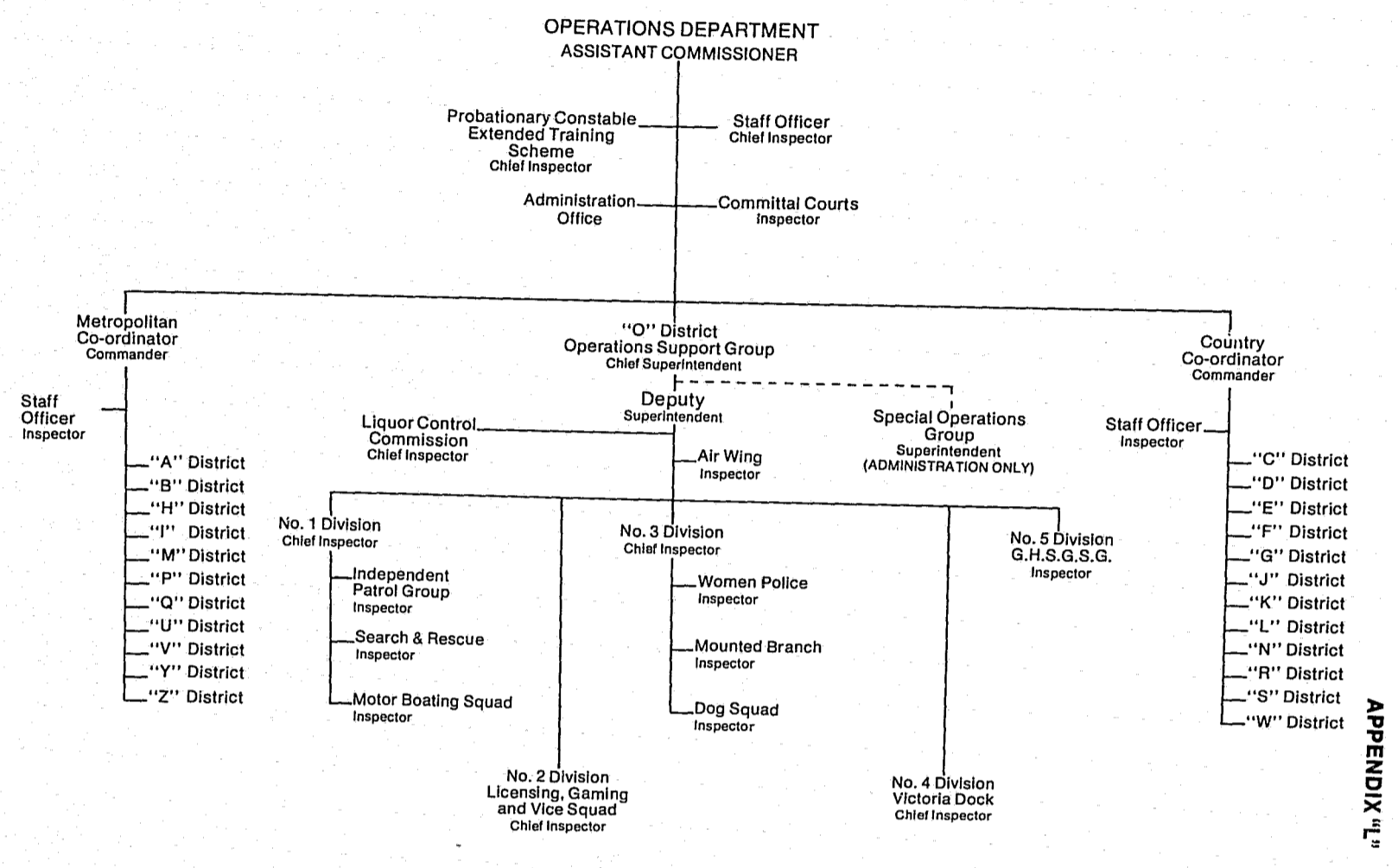


"APPENDIX J"

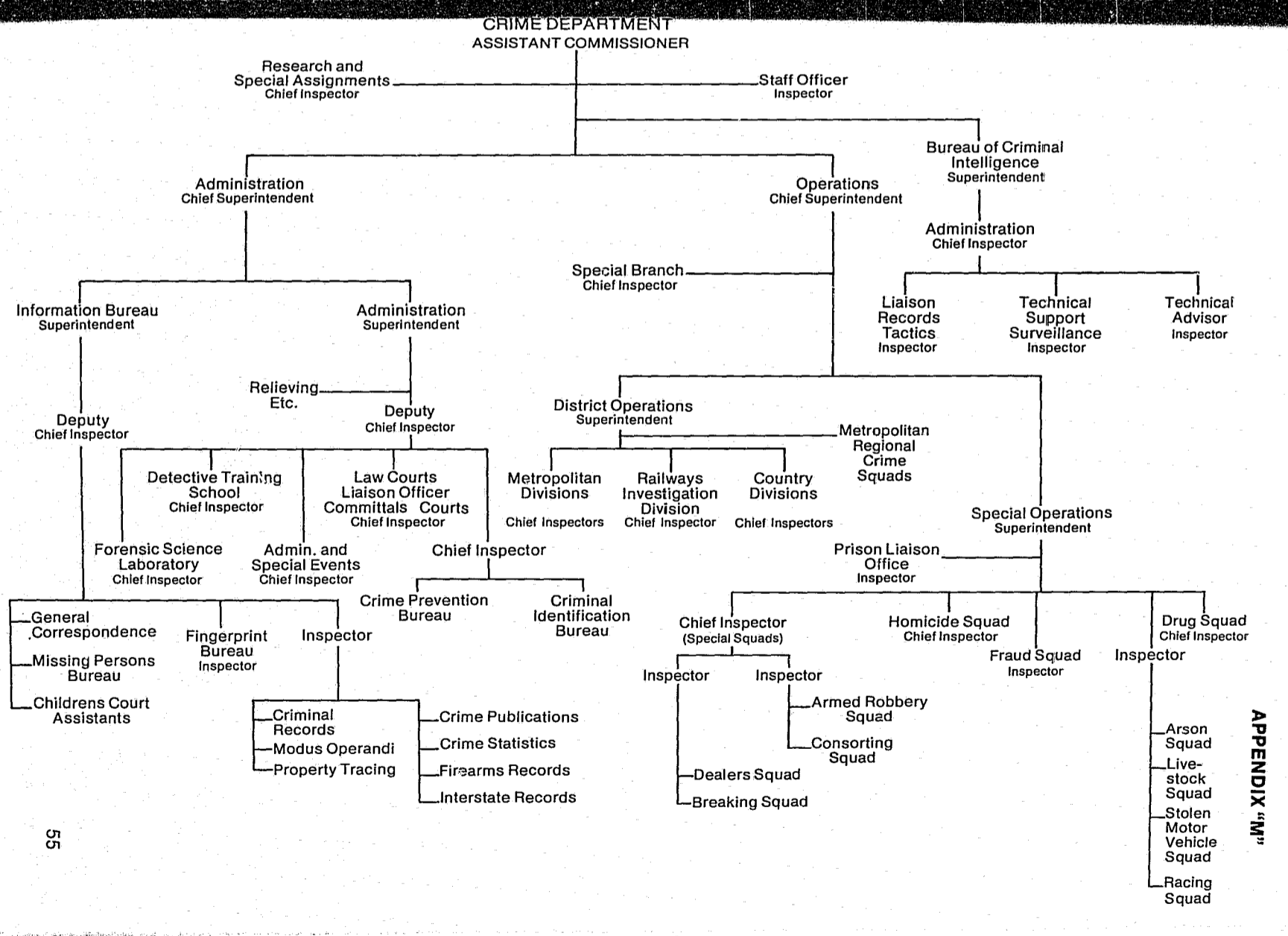
CHIEF COMMISSIONER



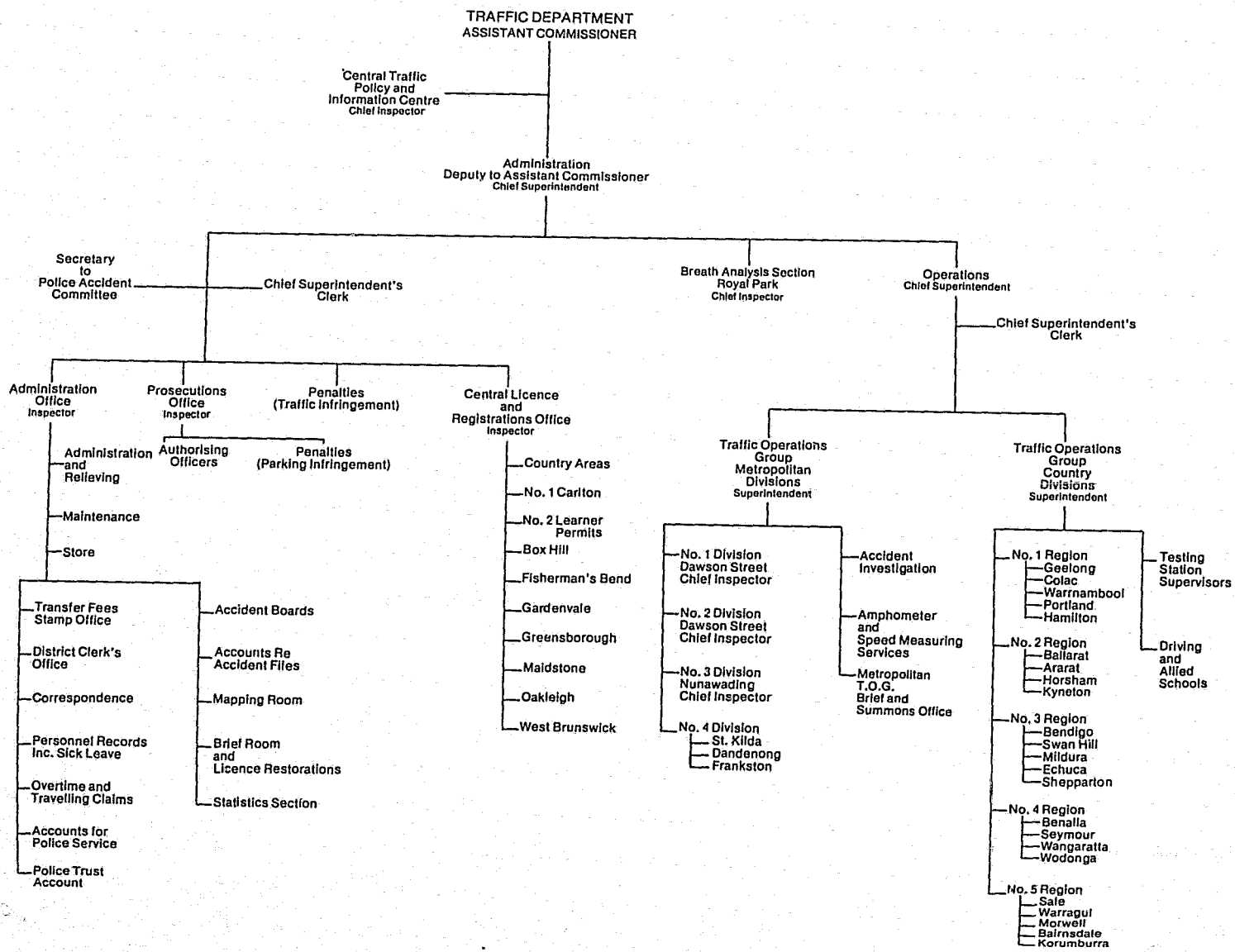
APPENDIX "K"



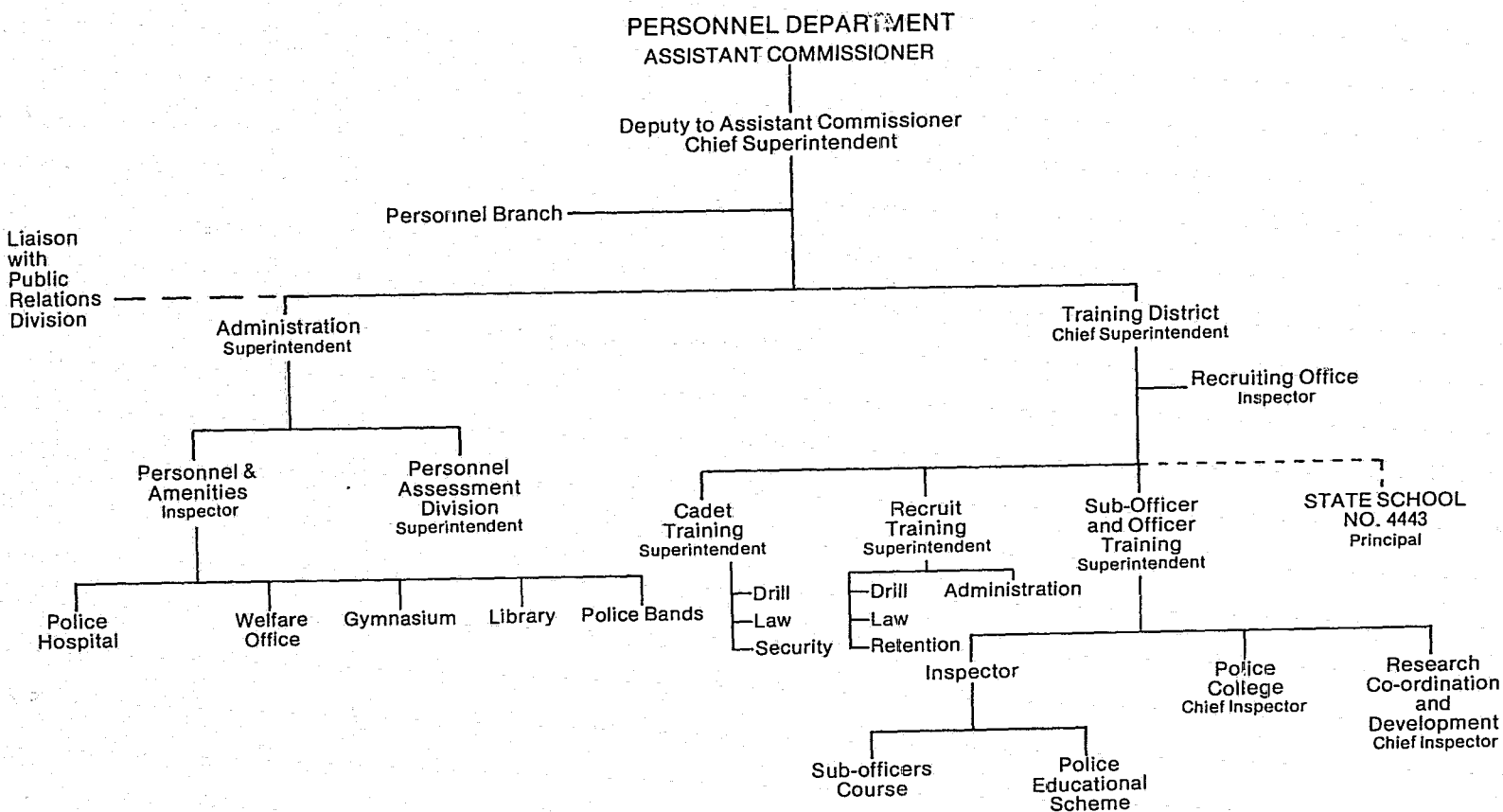
APPENDIX "L"



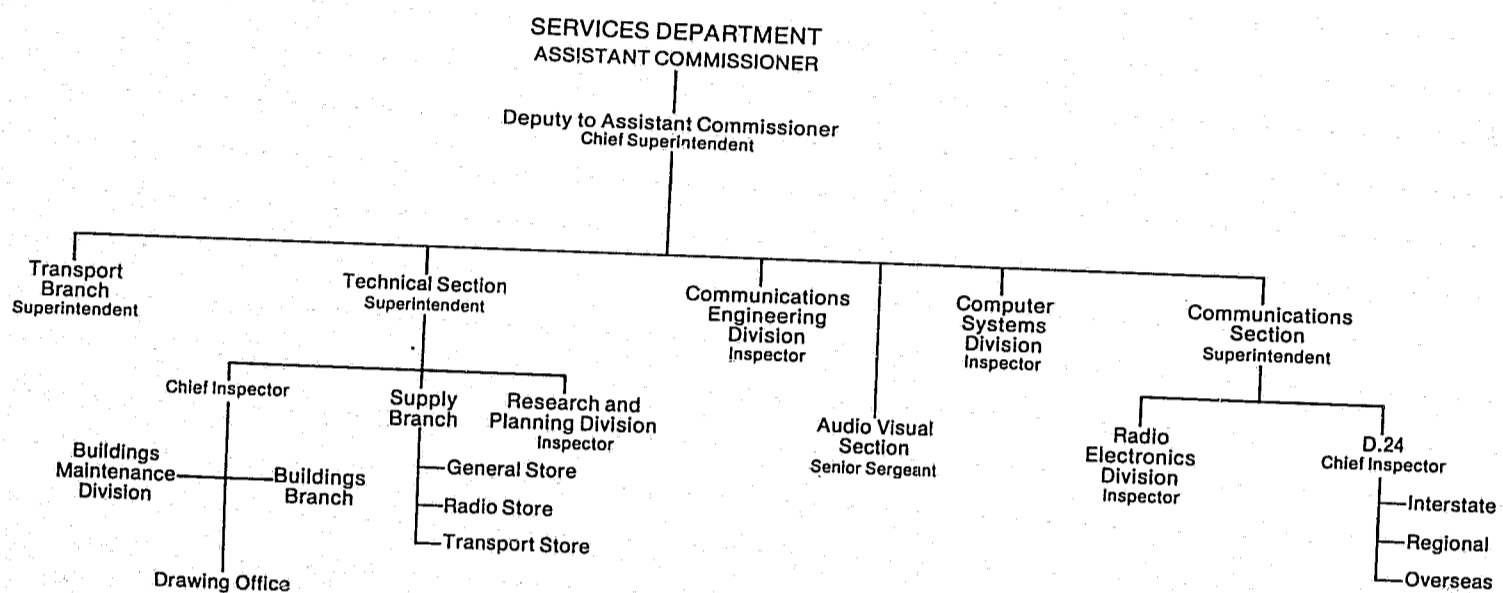
APPENDIX "M"



APPENDIX "N"

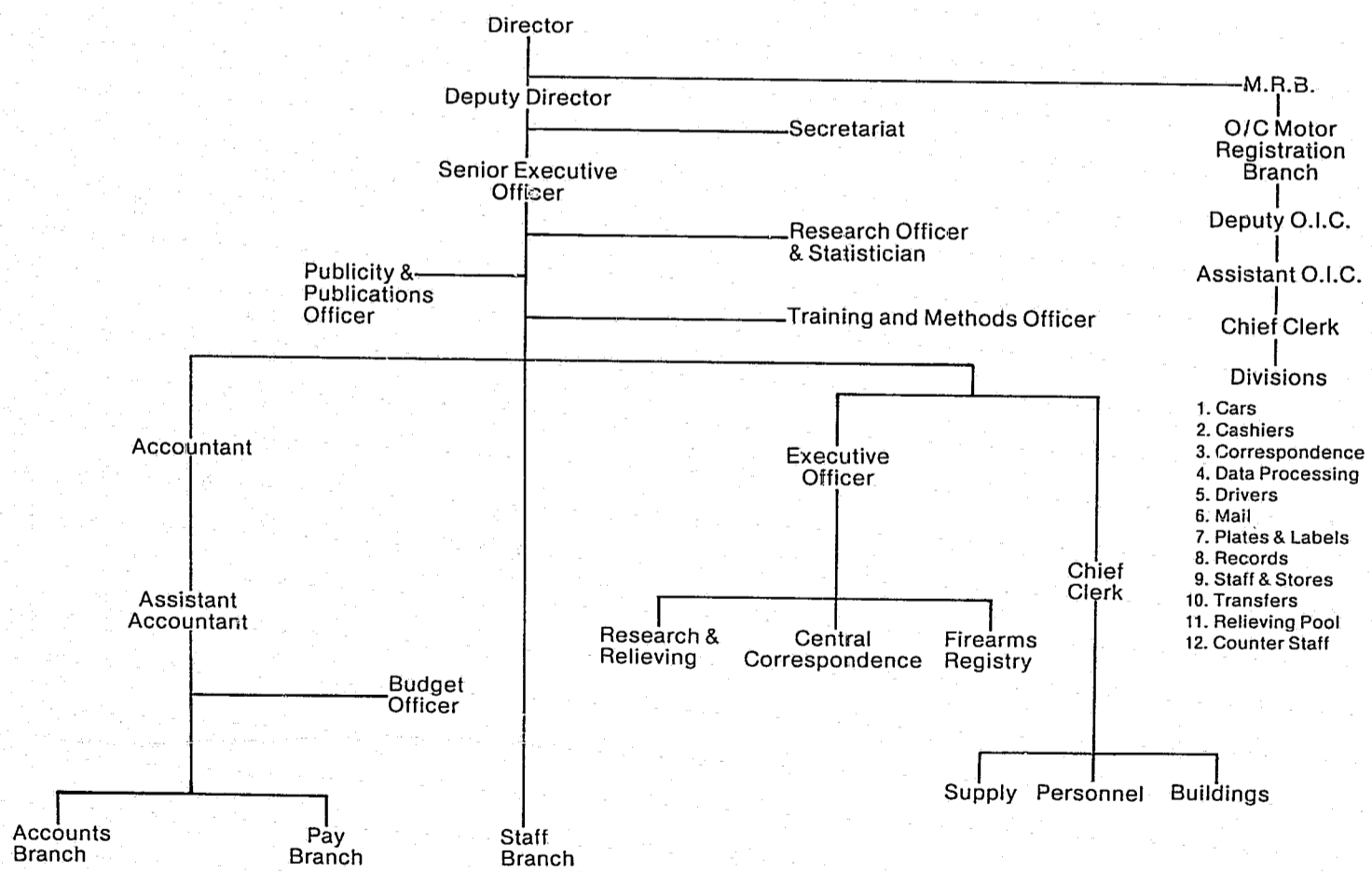


APPENDIX "O"



APPENDIX "P"

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT



APPENDIX "Q"

APPENDIX "R"

EXTRANEOUS POSITIONS

Two hundred and ninety-six members of the Force held six hundred extraneous appointments divided as follows:-

Sheriff's Bailiff	61
Prosecuting Officer	229
County Court Bailiff	236
Wharf Manager	39
Coast Watcher	13
Commissioner of Supreme Court	18
Inspector of Nuisances	3
Collector of Dues for Shipway	1

APPENDIX "S"

NEW AND AMENDING LEGISLATION

The following is a summary of some of the more important new and amending legislation which affected work of the Victoria Police Force in 1979.

MOTOR CAR (BREATH TESTING STATIONS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 9258, 1979

Breath Testing Stations - Section 3 of the Motor Car (Breath Testing Stations) Act, 8865, has been repealed.

The original intention was to review this Act every twelve months but the present amendment eliminates this requirement.

MOTOR CAR (AMENDMENT) ACT 9243

Probationary Licence Holder - Restriction on Motor Cycle - Section 22B, of the Motor Car Act, has been amended and prohibits the holder of a probationary motor cycle licence from riding a motor cycle which has an engine capacity greater than 260cc within the first twelve months.

Licence Testing Officers acting in the course of their duty and persons who held motor cycle learners permits on the first day of January 1979, and who owned a motor cycle of a capacity greater than

260cc, are not included.

Driving a Motor Car Whilst Disqualified - Section 28 of the Motor Car Act now permits a court to order the forfeiture of number plates of a motor car when the offender has been detected driving during a period when his licence has been cancelled or suspended, or when he is under disqualification. There is a similar power regarding any motor car owned by the offender.

Cancellation of Licence for Specific Period - It is now obligatory for a court to cancel the motor car driving licence of a person for a period of not less than twelve months, when that person has been convicted in the preceding two years of being in charge of a motor car under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug.

Adjourning of Information - Section 89A forbids adjourning an information (under the provisions of Section 80 of the Magistrates (Summary Proceedings) Act) for offences of driving, or being in charge of a motor car under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug, where the blood alcohol level is in excess of .05% and there is a previous conviction for exceeding .05%, or when the blood alcohol content is at least .1%. If, on the first occasion, the blood alcohol level is between .05% and .1% it seems the court could adjourn the information and not record a conviction.

COMMUNITY WELFARE SERVICES ACT, 9248

This Act alters the title of the Social Welfare Act, 8089, which is still deemed to be the Principal Act, and amends certain sections of that Act.

Guardian and Parent Defined - Section 4 of the new Act introduces two new definitions into Section 3, namely, "Guardian" and "Parent". The definition of "Parent" is extremely wide.

Ill-Treatment of Children or Young Persons - An amendment to Section 31, sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of the Community Welfare Service Act, eliminates the problem of rendering a person liable for damages or legal proceedings if they report cases of ill-treatment.

Section 31 has been repealed by Section 19 of Act 9248 and Act 9266. The content of the repealed section has changed markedly.

Admission to Department - Section 31, sub-section (2), allows a child or young person to be admitted to the care of the Department if the Director-General is satisfied that it is in the best interests of the child or young person.

Consultation with Director-General - Section 81 has been amended by Act 9248 Section 29, by the addition of sub-section 1A to the section.

The amendment now requires the Director-General of Community Welfare Services to be consulted before any proceedings can be taken against a person who has committed an offence against Section 81(1) of the Act. An important omission from this amendment is a definition of the term "consultation."

CRIMES (CRIMINAL DAMAGE) ACT, 9228

Malicious Injuries to Property - Division three of Part one of the Crimes Act has been amended and alters the law relative to Malicious injuries to Property,

however, not every section in the Division has been repealed. Property is now defined and it encompasses a variety of matters. Many aspects not previously catered for have been affected.

Impeding Apprehension - Section 200 of the Crimes Act creates an offence, under certain circumstances, if a person does any act to impede the apprehension, prosecution, conviction or punishment of a principal offender where an offence against Section 197, 198 or 199, is involved.

Summary Jurisdiction - Section 69 of the Magistrates Court Act has been altered to allow charges against Sections 197(1), 198(a), 199(a) and 200(1) to be dealt with summarily. Certain portions of these sections cannot be dealt with summarily.

Aiding and Abetting - Section 200(4) makes it an offence for persons to Aid and Abet others to commit offences against Section 197, 198 and 199. These sections are classified as "Indictable" offences and therefore Section 333 of the Crimes Act, which deals with Aiding and Abetting for misdemeanours, is inapplicable.

False Statements - Section 246F, of the Crimes Act, has been repealed and replaced by Section 247, which is identical with the repealed section. The section relates to "False Statements" and could be considered, in certain circumstances, with Section 53 of the Summary Offences Act.

Common Law Arson - The amending legislation abolishes the offence of Common Law Arson.

CRIMES

COMPETENCE AND COMPELLABILITY OF SPOUSE, WITNESSES ACT 9230

Competency and Compellability - The substitute section for Section 399 of the Crimes Act makes a former wife or former husband, a competent and compellable witness for the defence when his or her previous wife or previous husband has been charged with an offence. The

provisions extend to any other person charged with the husband or wife, or former husband or former wife.

Section 400 of the Crimes Act, has been substituted and the section states that every person is a competent and compellable witness for the prosecution in any proceedings, including matters relative to Bail. The only exception to this rule is where the court is satisfied that the interests of the community in obtaining this evidence is outweighed by the damage likely to be caused to the relationship between a wife, husband, father, mother or child, if either were compelled to give evidence. The harshness involved in compelling this evidence to be given is also to be considered. Evidence Act — Sections 24 and 26 of the Evidence Act have been amended to include former wives and former husbands.

Section 27 of the same Act, relates to privilege extended to communications between a husband and wife during their marriage, however, the new amendment over-rides this privilege where any criminal proceedings or matters relative to Bail are concerned. The court still has the power to consider Section 400 of the Crimes Act and whether they will compel the husband or wife to give evidence.

Former husbands or former wives are not exempted from giving evidence.

LIQUOR CONTROL ACT (AMENDMENT 9200)

R.S.L. Sub-Branch — The Liquor Control Act has been amended and a Sub-Branch of the Returned Servicemens League of Australia is now classified as a Club for the purposes of the Act. Should a Sub-Branch desire to sell or dispose of liquor a licence must be obtained from the Liquor Commission.

If the Club does not desire to sell or dispose of liquor but requires permission to have it on their premises, a member of the committee can apply for a yearly permit or a special occasion permit under the provisions of Section 45 of the Liquor Control Act.

Other amendments concern a Convention Facility Licence (Section 38C) and Club membership (Section 51(a)).

RACING (RESTRICTED TROTTING MEETINGS) ACT, No. 9269, 1979

Definition of Restricted Trotting Meeting — Section 3 of the Racing Act now includes a definition of "Restricted trotting meeting" which is a race-meeting conducted under the rules of the Trotting Control Board. Total prize money or trophies must not exceed \$1000 and each race prize must not exceed \$100. There is no restriction as to the number of races that can be held at the meeting.

Betting Prohibited — Section 4 of the Racing Act, has been amended by the inclusion of paragraph 1A which forbids betting taking place at a restricted trotting meeting.

REGULATIONS

MOTOR CAR (LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS) REGULATIONS 1979

Gas Powered Motor Cars — Compliance with Standard Rules — Statutory Rule 238 of 1979 has introduced paragraph 139BG into the Motor Car Regulations 1966. The new amendment relates to motor cars which are powered by liquefied petroleum gas.

Chief Commissioner may Vary Rules — The Chief Commissioner of Police may, from time to time, approve variations to the Rules.

Carrying Fuel Container on Roof — On or after the 1st July 1980, no person shall drive, use or cause to be driven or used on any highway any motor car with a fuel system container used for the storing of liquefied petroleum gas mounted on its roof.

Offences — Any breach of the Regulations is an offence against paragraph 206(a), the penalty of which can be found in Section 89 of the Motor Car Act 6325.

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