

VICTORIA POLICE

ANNUAL REPORT 1978



1979
VICTORIA

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ANNUAL REPORT 1978

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

76686

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VICTORIA POLICE FORCE
ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1978

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



The Hon. L. H. S. Thompson, C.M.G., M.P.,
Minister for Police and Emergency Services,
Parliament House,
MELBOURNE 3000.

Dear Mr. 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, 1978.

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

I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to all personnel
within the Victoria Police Force for their continued co-operation and
dedication to the community throughout 1978.

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,
Deputy Commissioner (Operations)
(Appointed 1.10.78)

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
Assistant Commissioner (Personnel)

J. D. DARLEY
Assistant Commissioner (Traffic)
(Appointed 10.10.78)

A. T. RUNDLE, J.P.
Director of Administration

L. J. NEWELL, S.B.St.J., Q.P.M., E.D., J.P., F.A.I.M.
(Resigned 30.9.78)

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GENERAL REVIEW

Introduction

Preparation of the Annual Report provides the opportunity for the Administration to take a look at the total organisation, to reflect upon past performance and to consider future development. The year 1978 has seen the completion of my first year in office and that of the new administration. We are far from satisfied with our achievements in protecting the community from the depredations of the criminally disposed, but we believe we have held the line. Our planning and preparations for the future recognise the singular importance of the police organisation among other government agencies working towards a society based upon a firm commitment to the rule of law and public order.

Following the resignation of Deputy Commissioner L. J. Newell to become Chairman of the Country Fire Authority, Assistant Commissioner A. W. Conn was appointed to the position of Deputy Commissioner (Operations), Mr J. R. G. Salisbury retaining the position of Deputy Commissioner (Administration). Mr J. D. Darley was appointed to the position of Assistant Commissioner (Traffic) and Assistant Commissioners Mr R. Kellett, Q.P.M. (Operations), Mr J. R. Hall (Crime), Mr E. T. Millar (Personnel) and Mr D. J. Swanson, Q.P.M. (Services) retained their positions and were supported by public service staff under the direction of Mr A. T. Rundle, J.P., Director of Administration.

The new Police Headquarters at 380 William Street, Melbourne, were officially

opened on 2nd March, 1978. Occupancy of the new building afforded the opportunity to physically separate the operational and administrative areas of the Force and, in particular, to provide much needed space at Russell Street for expansion of such services as the Communications Section.

The Assistant Commissioners Operations, Traffic, Personnel and Services and the Director of Administration, together with their support staff, occupy offices at the new Headquarters. The Assistant Commissioner (Crime) remains at the Russell Street complex.

Objectives

The basic responsibility of the police is to protect the community. Simply stated our objectives are:—

- preservation of the peace
- protection of life and property
- prevention and detection of crime.

These objectives are just as relevant today as when first expressed for Sir Robert Peel's New London Police in 1829. Translated into the needs of contemporary society, they relate to tasks of crime, traffic, public order and community welfare.

The primary police function is patrol and experience has shown us the value of emphasizing the visible police presence as a preventive technique. This strategy also provides the community with a sense of security. Greater conspicuity does not mean that we should continue to maintain

small, uneconomical police stations in places where modern communications systems and greatly improved mobility would enable us to provide a superior service through better management and the skilled deployment of resources.

The Force establishment has continued to expand and, although still well below a desirable strength, the rate of growth is encouraging. During the year, 566 recruits graduated from the Police Academy giving the Force a net gain of 350. Wastage from all causes remained at about 5% of total strength which is consistent with previous years.

The potential of the Police Training Academy to produce up to 1,000 graduates per annum is approaching realisation and should ensure that the Force has adequate manpower to meet the challenge of the next decade.

Support for operational police has been enhanced by the use of both fixed and rotary wing aircraft by the Police Air Wing. Police dogs are also playing an increasingly important role, not only for tracking purposes, but also for drug and explosives detection.

Efforts to prevent trafficking in illicit drugs have not diminished. Detection techniques have included the secondment of selected uniformed members for duty at the Drug Bureau for limited periods. The advantage of this technique is that members returning to their stations have a greater expertise in drug detection and a more qualified understanding of a serious community problem.

The steady reduction in the number of road deaths is a heartening sign. Earlier it seemed as though the community was prepared to accept the increasing rate of death, injury and destruction as some form of irreversible behaviour. That attitude now appears to be changing. Motorists seem more aware of the fact that irrespon-

sible human behaviour is the cause of the road toll and that it is courting fate to drink and drive. The outstanding efforts of all uniformed police, combined with very positive drink-driving and vehicle safety legislation has played an important part in stemming the tide. At no other time was this more evident than in the latter part of the year. It would, however, be most remiss not to acknowledge the vital contribution by many sections of the media in supporting the campaign to reduce the road toll.

The Victoria Police Force is proud of its contribution to the field of community welfare and its ability to provide around-the-clock assistance to those in need. Although there is a greater awareness of the need to provide assistance to people with problems, we do not foresee any diminution of police activity in this field.

Some of the services we now perform fall into the category of "extraneous duties". I cannot unduly emphasise the fact that many of these duties reduce effective police performance by detracting from the true police role.

No other Police Force in Australia collects revenue on the same scale as the Victoria Police Force. For example, during 1978, three police stations in the Melbourne Metropolitan area each handled in excess of \$3 million. The performance of such duties as licence testing, motor vehicle registration, bailiff and other duties is largely an accident of history. The time is long overdue when mechanisms outside the Police Force should be attending to these tasks.

Metropolitan Districts

The greater proportion of police personnel and resources are concentrated in the inner suburbs, making it increasingly difficult to provide adequate police services in the outer suburban and semi-rural areas

surrounding Melbourne. Accelerated growth in these areas has occurred at a rate greater than the Force can match with personnel, buildings and equipment. The continuing re-organisation of Metropolitan Police Districts (commenced in 1972) is aimed at remedying this problem by providing services to the outer suburban areas equivalent to those received by areas closer to the city. Arrangements based upon a new police complex at Altona North are currently in train to re-organise police district boundaries in northern and western areas of the metropolis. The proposed changes should meet the future needs of western suburbs for many years to come.

Equal Opportunity Act

When the Equal Opportunity Act was proclaimed on 3rd April, 1978, the total number of female members was 355; by the end of 1978 there were 417 female members. Although the Victoria Police had more policewomen than any other Police Force in Australia and had optimised the role of police-women to a greater extent than other Australian Forces, proclamation of the Act brought about a number of changes to previous policies. Among these were the promulgation of a combined male and female seniority list, cessation of dual promotion systems and changes to the recruiting criteria for women which involved recruitment on the basis of ability to perform the total police function, rather than the traditional welfare role.

Major research was also commenced to identify every separate position held by members of the Force to enable formulation of comprehensive "Position Descriptions". These will allow determination of sex-specific police duties to facilitate the appointment of the most suitable members to vacant positions. We are fully complying with the spirit of the legislation and will continue to select recruits on the basis of their suitability to perform police

service without regard to their sex or marital status.

The principal difficulty is in endeavouring to equate policemen and policewomen in terms of height/weight ratios, having regard to the physical demands of police work.

Chief Commissioner's Essay Competition

This new venture for the Victoria Police is expected to stimulate interest among members of the Force and those members of the Public Service who, by reason of their association with the Victoria Police, are eligible to compete. The subject for this competition was: "Improving the Police Image." The winner, Senior Constable Haldane of Bairnsdale C.I.B., has had his winning entry published in both "Police Life" and the "Australian Police Journal."

Planning, Communication And Co-ordination

This past year has seen the development of a concerted planning exercise on a scale not previously attempted. In an effort to meet the policing needs of Victoria for the next five years, a projection of future trends and developments has been conceived at a series of planning conferences involving all departments of the Force. Whilst the final document is not yet complete, its development has already had the desirable effect of appraising each department of total Force problems, thereby producing improved co-ordination and organisational homogeneity. The final product will provide a blue-print for future planning, of this nature, for many years to come.

Since taking office I have insisted that a policy of reciprocal communication with all areas of the Force be developed and main-

tained. Pursuant to this policy, I now include the Police Association secretary at weekly Commissioners' Conferences and the quarterly combined Superintendents' Conferences. These avenues of communication have been further expanded by the successful introduction of a single sheet newsletter (Police News) which conveys information from the highest level of the Force directly to the members in the field.

During 1978, the Victoria Police Force was able to disseminate its views on a number of topics by participation at seminars and conferences as well as through written submissions to Government and other enquiries. Liaison committees with external organisations, such as lawyers, ethnic and welfare groups, do much to break down barriers and to establish understanding and communication in addition to enhancing our reputation for openness. Increasingly, academics are realising that law enforcement has much valuable research material to offer concerning some of the wider social issues such as poverty and homelessness. We have a strong liaison with the Melbourne University Department of Criminology and the Australian Institute of Criminology.

The Law And Practice

Frustrations are still being experienced by police having to comply with anachronistic legal practices. For example, there are few occasions when a suspected person is legally obliged to give his name and address to police, nor are there statutory means enabling police to obtain fingerprints, photographs or other physiological samples. Whilst a

greater awareness of public rights and freedoms is to be applauded there is a clear responsibility for legislators to ensure that police can operate within a clear and unambiguous legal framework.

Changes also seem to be required within the court system. In our submission to the Norris Committee we seriously questioned the practice of permitting unsworn statements from the dock and the so called "right to silence". We maintain firm opposition to practices permitting the introduction of imaginative defences which can never be challenged by cross examination. We also believe that this State could benefit from the introduction of majority jury verdicts. We believe that the victims of crime deserve at least the same consideration as the perpetrators and that the legal system should not be pre-occupied with proof at the expense of truth.

Public Accountability

I re-affirm my belief in the policy of public accountability and have directed my administration to maintain frank and open dealings with the community. I also re-affirm my belief in the "warts and all" philosophy. When we make a mistake, we must accept the blame. We must not allow ourselves to be accused of self-deception.

I am satisfied that the policies and practices of the Victoria Police Force are equal to any other and far exceed the standards set by the Fifth United Nations Congress in Geneva, 1975, which dealt with "Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders". Individual and organisational performance is generally of the high standard expected by the public of Victoria.

OPERATIONS

The Operations Department is the largest department of the Force and provides the most publicly visible segment. At the end of December, 1978, 4,727 members manned the State's 358 Police Stations, Divisional Vans and Crime Cars and staffed a number of increasingly professional support groups. It is not an unreasonable assumption that members of this department are largely responsible for the public perception of police performance and are, therefore, always subject to close public scrutiny. Throughout the year they have continued to provide sustained and dedicated community service in many and varied situations and sometimes under very adverse conditions.

The past year has seen the twin aims of innovation and consolidation occurring in this department. Programmes like the Probationary Constables Extended Training Scheme were reviewed and expanded and Crime Collators established throughout all country districts. Special operations such as "Crime Beat", now in its sixth year, and "Salamander", in its fourth year, have been reappraised, refined and continued. District boundaries were altered in some cases to facilitate better management and a number of District Inspections undertaken to assess police procedures and methods.

Innovations

Most publicised of these was the inception of Integrated Community Policing which commenced at the new Prahran

Police Complex during April. This experiment necessitated reduction in staff at Toorak and South Yarra Police Stations and their re-location at Prahran. Toorak and South Yarra now provide a 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. weekday service. The principal aims of the project are, firstly, to get police out of cars and on foot, thereby providing individual policemen with a greater potential for communication with the public and, secondly, to attempt to identify local police with the local community. In addition to regular foot patrols, mobile patrol crews equipped with portable radios are expected to patrol on foot for a minimum period of one hour during each shift.

Early results are encouraging and indicate that the increased patrol activity has been accompanied by a decrease in a number of categories of reported crime. Indicators of community opinion show a consistently high level of satisfaction.

Other schemes include the placement of country and metropolitan uniformed members with the Drug Squad for three monthly periods. This effectively increases the Squad's performance and at the same time provides these temporary members with a degree of training and skill they might otherwise not obtain. This type of training not only increases personal performance but also raises the potential for increased overall effectiveness in a particularly troublesome area of crime.

Changes to in-service training at District level occurred in two areas — firearms and

the Police Education Scheme. Range Masters have been appointed to each District to conduct firearms training and, on a Divisional basis, local police supervisors presented lectures in order to prepare members for promotional exams. This departs from the old system whereby prepared notes were forwarded to all members and formal lectures were given only to members in the metropolitan area.

Support Groups

Operations Department Support Groups comprise the Independent Patrol Group, Police Air Wing, Licensing Gaming and Vice Squad, Mounted Branch and Dog Squad. Their tasks are to provide specialised assistance to any area requiring support whenever and wherever requested. The performance of all groups has been excellent and it is unnecessary to expand on those groups whose activities are a matter of record. Activities of some of the newer groups require elaboration.

Independent Patrol Group — Comprised of men and women, and now in its fourth year of operation, this squad provides rapid support for problem areas at the request of Officers in Charge of Districts, Divisions or Stations. The Group has been particularly active in pursuing offenders in remote or inaccessible places by trail bike and during the year, replaced their eight Yamaha 500 cycles with Honda 250 machines. Bush searches, drug plantation raids, bomb incidents and four wheel drive assistance indicate the variety of the 384 operations on which this squad expended 3,623 man days supporting all areas of the Force.

Police Air Wing — With an overall strength of eleven, this group experienced a year of mixed fortune. Funding difficulties affected the leasing of aircraft and curtailed air transport operations until the latter part of the year, but on the other hand, the announcement to purchase an Aerospatiale S.A. Dauphin II twin engined helicopter introduces a new era to policing

and may make Victoria Police the first police organisation in Australia to have its own all purpose, all weather helicopter.

The leasing of a twin engine Partenavia aircraft and a Hughes 500D helicopter towards the end of the year greatly assisted maintenance of Air Support to Routine Operations (A.S.T.R.O.) patrols over the metropolitan area and afforded the opportunity to assess the use of helicopters as night time illumination platforms. The Partenavia was extensively used for crime team flights to country areas thus extending metropolitan facilities such as botanists, fingerprint experts, photographers and scenes of crime technicians to those areas.

In spite of funding problems, service to the two scheduled air routes and other regional centres was maintained. Interstate flights to Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania were undertaken for extradition and apprehension purposes.

Primary aircraft operated during the year included a twin engine Aerocommander Shrike 500S, twin engine Partenavia P68B Victor, single engine Cessna 182, twin engine Piper Navajo Chieftain PA31-350 and a Hughes 500D helicopter. These aircraft were mainly hired on an hourly basis with full time availability until 30th June, 1978. The helicopter, Partenavia and Piper Navajo were not available for use until late in the year.

Secondary fleet aircraft, flown on an hourly basis subject to availability, included an Aerocommander Shrike, Piper Navajo Chieftain, Cessna 414, Beechcraft Baron, Cessna 182 and 210 and Bell Jetranger and Hughes 500C helicopter.

During the year a total of 1,661 hours were flown representing a cost saving of \$39,638 or 6,007 man hours. A vehicle/aircraft comparison reveals 736 vehicle days saved to the additional value of \$40,332. Four hundred and seventy one special operations were conducted and 33 trans-



port flights carried 1,118 passengers: an average passenger loading of 80.6%.

Dog Squad — This Squad is commanded by an Inspector and has a strength of 14. Six additional members are seconded to assist with training. Overall, the squad possesses thirteen trained dogs and another five are close to completing full training. The death of one dog during a police operation this year attracted wide publicity to the squad's operations.

Calls for squad assistance increased over last year and from the 3,917 calls received, squad members and their dogs effected 238 arrests and assisted with 236 others. Of the 192 narcotics searches conducted, 111 resulted in arrests. Schools and railway stations were among the areas selected by the squad for special attention in an effort to reduce offences of arson, theft and wilful damage.

Special Events — Among the major operations involving large numbers of police, detailed planning and the need for close interaction between police, the public and other Government departments were the Gippsland fires and floods, Barwon District floods, an air crash at Essendon, a helicopter crash at Bright and a shipwreck in Gippsland. Many of these occurrences resulted in a tragic loss of life, but one sounding a most significant warning was the Essendon air crash where six people in one house were killed. Events like these stimulate awareness about problems far beyond the level of police responsibility and focus on air safety procedures, town planning strategies and engineering techniques. Major disasters such as fires and floods demonstrate the need for careful planning and comprehensive emergency procedures which are capable of smooth implementation.

Demonstrations again were prominent and required police attendance on 187 occasions. Almost all demonstrations were held in the Bourke Street Mall. Major demonstrations were against uranium min-

ing and exporting policies, visits by nuclear powered ships and construction of the Omega navigational station in South Gippsland.

The detection of large scale illicit drug activities in the Sunraysia District involved many police from all departments in an extensive operation aimed at the arrest of growers, pushers, couriers and users. Thirty-two people were arrested and 50,000 marijuana plants seized and destroyed along with prepared substances and seed. It seems very likely that the activity of police in the New South Wales Riverina District was responsible for a transfer of illegal marijuana growing activities to Sunraysia.

Operation "Speak-up" commenced in the Broadmeadows area in September. This New Zealand scheme was conceived by police and Lions International as a means of increasing public awareness about the need to report suspicious incidents to police. Press, television, radio, car stickers and posters were employed to urge responsible citizens to telephone a particular police number about the occurrence of suspicious events. Evaluation of the Broadmeadows experiment will determine whether or not it is to be extended to other areas. Crimes particularly emphasised for reporting include child molestation, burglary, car theft and street violence. The initial response has been encouraging.

An unusual event this year was the Police Commemorative Service conducted at Mansfield. This service was held in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the deaths of Sergeant Kennedy and Mounted Constables Lonigan and Scanlon who were murdered by the Kelly Gang at Stringybark Creek in October 1878. About 3,000 people attended to observe the service conducted by the Police Chaplain, the Rev. David Sivewright, together with police representatives from the Shrine Guard, Mounted Branch, Police Bands, Cadets and local police.

CRIME

Reports of major crime increased during 1978 and totalled 144,613 an increase of 12% (15,449) over the previous year. (A breakdown of reported crime is contained in Appendix "A"). The number of reported burglaries increased by 20%, and the number of reported thefts 10%. Whilst these crimes continue to account for the major portion of the workload of criminal investigators, the most dramatic increases have occurred in serious assaults, armed robberies and drug related offences. In 1978, the number of reported serious assaults rose by 29% and armed robberies reported to police numbered 473, an increase of 41 (9.5%) above 1977. When compared to the 83 armed robberies committed 10 years ago, this is a staggering increase.

Although crimes of violence such as assaults, rapes and homicides form less than 5% of major crimes reported, they are the types of crimes which provoke sensational reporting and cause most public disquiet. While there was cause for concern about the increased role of violence, even more perturbing is the incidence of unnecessary violence accompanying the commission of these crimes. The most infamous of such crimes during 1978 was the Manchester Unity Building jewellery robbery where three men were callously murdered. Similar violent crimes included the sexual assault and murder of a housewife at Armadale and a 12 year old girl at Wallan. These offences remain unsolved.

A disturbing side effect of the swing away from bank and T.A.B. robberies has

been a trend to focus upon "softer" targets such as pharmacies, shops and milk bars. This is known as the displacement effect. Some offenders in these situations have fired shots and caused deaths.

In an effort to secure stability and to reduce excessively rapid turnover of detectives within the Criminal Investigation Branch, Executive Instruction 97 was promulgated in September, 1977, but implementation was deferred until 1st March, 1978. The objective was to ensure that C.I.B. appointees provided at least three years service before promotion to the rank of Sergeant. This objective is now being achieved in most cases.

Armed Robbery

Of the 473 reported armed robberies, 177 were solved. Five killings resulted from the commission of armed hold-ups during the year and in each case the victims were shot. Many of the armed robberies were committed in shops and dwellings. One bandit was charged with 26 offences while two others were jointly charged with 22 offences. Some offenders were arrested and, after being admitted to bail, committed further offences before absconding interstate.

A total of \$1,402,690 was stolen during armed hold-ups committed in 1978, which is \$500,000 less than 1977. The apparent trend mentioned previously for the selection of "softer" targets is indicated by the following Table.

TABLE 1
ARMED ROBBERY — OFFENCES

	1977	1978	% ±
Pharmacies	35	67	+ 48%
Shops/Milk Bars	94	132	+ 29%
Dwellings	29	41	+ 29%
Banks	54	35	- 35%
Totalizator Agencies	35	18	- 48%
Garage/Serv. Stations	50	39	- 22%

Illicit Drugs

The Drug Bureau focus their attention upon drug traffickers and rely heavily on support from operational police for the apprehension of drug users. The activities have included a number of arrests for robberies committed by persons demanding drugs or money for the purchase of drugs. A total of 65 drug traffickers were arrested on 95 charges, 30 which related to heroin trafficking. The number of heroin users detected has doubled in the past 12 months. Robberies committed on doctors' surgeries and pharmacies have increased and seem to confirm the increase in hard drug usage.

The Drug Bureau charged 261 persons with 628 offences (including traffickers already mentioned) and throughout the State 2,189 persons were charged with a variety of drug related offences. The largest proportion of detected drug offenders (68%), were in the 17-24 age group.

TABLE 2

DRUG OFFENCES 1974-1978

TYPE OF DRUG	DRUG OFFENCES				
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Indian Hemp	1636	2011	3206	3316	2918
Heroin	67	83	335	341	803
Morphine	145	148	38	23	25
Cocaine	18	16	23	18	17
Hallucinogens	30	57	46	22	37
*Miscellaneous	55	52	33	52	232
TOTAL:	1951	2367	3681	3772	4032

*Miscellaneous — relates to synthetic drugs of addiction and restricted substances, such as palfium, which are obtained by false representation to medical practitioners.

The escalation of drug trafficking has introduced a new element of violence to robbery. Relatively passive drug users who are traffickers are being subjected to increasing violence, including robbery and murder, by criminals who realise their prey are reluctant to report their plight. This particular area of crime provides fertile ground for the development of organised crime and therefore receives close attention.

Homicides

Of the fifty-one murders reported during 1978, nine remain unsolved. This represents a clearance rate of 82%, the lowest since 1943. Murders committed in the course of robbery comprise the bulk of the unsolved cases. Shootings account for almost half the murders. In addition to homicide investigations, several suspicious deaths were investigated and two arrests were made for offences committed in 1975 and 1977. The Squad also co-operated with interstate police in respect to murders at Mt. Isa and Jerilderie, and provided assistance to West German Police investigating a murder committed in Frankfurt.

Frauds

Responsibility for the prosecution of those described as "White Collar Criminals" rests with the Fraud Squad. Investigations are invariably lengthy and entail sifting through voluminous files and business records. Several investigations involved losses in excess of \$4 million. In many instances it is difficult to determine the point where ineptitude and recklessness merge into criminal intent. During 1978, ninety-seven persons were arrested by Squad members and 139 cases were finalized. 115 cases were still pending investigation at the commencement of 1979.

The Squad is now using a computerised Fraud Index and has revamped the Bank Section. A Fraud Task Force is being developed for the purpose of early in-



vestigation of suspicious activities such as "get-rich-quick" schemes.

Burglary

The Breaking Squad is responsible for co-ordinating enquiries into major burglaries and, in particular, safe breakings. Squad members arrested 146 persons for 479 offences. Extensive enquiries are continuing into the activities of the "magnetic drill gang", so named because of their use of a precision drill press which attaches to a safe by means of a powerful electromagnet. This gang has attracted interest from interstate and overseas police, but efforts to apprehend them have been unsuccessful. The "pub gang" were not so lucky and several persons responsible for burglaries committed upon many hotels in northern and western Victoria were arrested.

Arson

Fire Brigades attended over 23,000 fires throughout the State and damage has been estimated at \$50 million. The six detectives attached to the Arson Squad attended 1,027 fires; of these 842 are believed to have been deliberately lit. As the result of police investigations, 159 arsonists were charged.

The Insurance Council of Australia is co-operating with police and other interested

bodies to produce a computerised Loss Data Bank with the object of recording information relating to arson.

Other areas of specialist activity within the Crime Department include consorting, livestock, crime prevention, recovery of stolen property (Dealers Squad), and stolen motor vehicles. It is of interest that thefts of livestock seem to increase in proportion to rising stock market prices and that some 5,900 beasts were reported stolen in the past year.

The Crime Prevention Bureau, in addition to providing advice about personal and building security, also conduct the Sexual Offences Investigation Course for women police. The backlog of policewomen untrained in this field has almost been eliminated and it may be possible during 1979 to begin including policemen on the course.

Computerised records of stolen motor vehicles (including motor cycles) have been maintained since August 1978, and the total number of vehicles stolen for the year was 15,269, an increase of 372 over 1977. Some 97% of stolen cars were recovered while only 58% of stolen motor cycles were recovered. This pattern is consistent with previous years.

Liaison Officers

Two areas which exemplify the advantage of maintaining liaison with other Government departments are the courts and correctional institutions. The Crime Department maintains two offices in these areas.

Court Liaison Officer

The function of this Detective Chief Inspector is to provide security within the Supreme and County Courts and, in particular, for the Judge's Chambers, as well as ensuring communication lines between members of the Law Department and police. The latter has been successfully achieved through prompt handling of enquiries, ensuring the speedy presentation of police cases and a consequent reduction in the cases backlog. The latter is particularly important in view of the fact that at the end of 1978 there were still some 160 unlisted County Court cases more than two years old. This is frequently unfair to the accused and just as unreasonable for Crown witnesses who are expected to give detailed evidence in regard to matters which may have occurred three years earlier.

Prison Liaison Officer

This position is now staffed by a Detective Inspector and Detective Sergeant and provides an important link between police and the Correctional Services Division of the Community Welfare Services Department.

The Officer also investigates offences occurring inside prisons and ten persons were charged with 23 offences during 1978.

Child Offenders

During the year 14,082 children and young persons appeared before the Children's Court for offences or were cautioned by a police officer. A further 1,000 were brought before Children's Courts on Protection Applications. The total number

of children dealt with by police during 1978 rose by 9% over 1977. The Police Cautioning Program was used for 59% of child offenders, an increase over 1977, when 50% were cautioned. The actual number of court appearances (including Protection Applications) decreased from 7,439 in 1977 to 6,706 in 1978, i.e. by 10% whilst the number of children cautioned increased from 6,373 to 8,376, i.e. by 31%.

The free legal aid available at Metropolitan Children's Courts is being increasingly used and more than one third of child offenders appearing were represented by counsel.

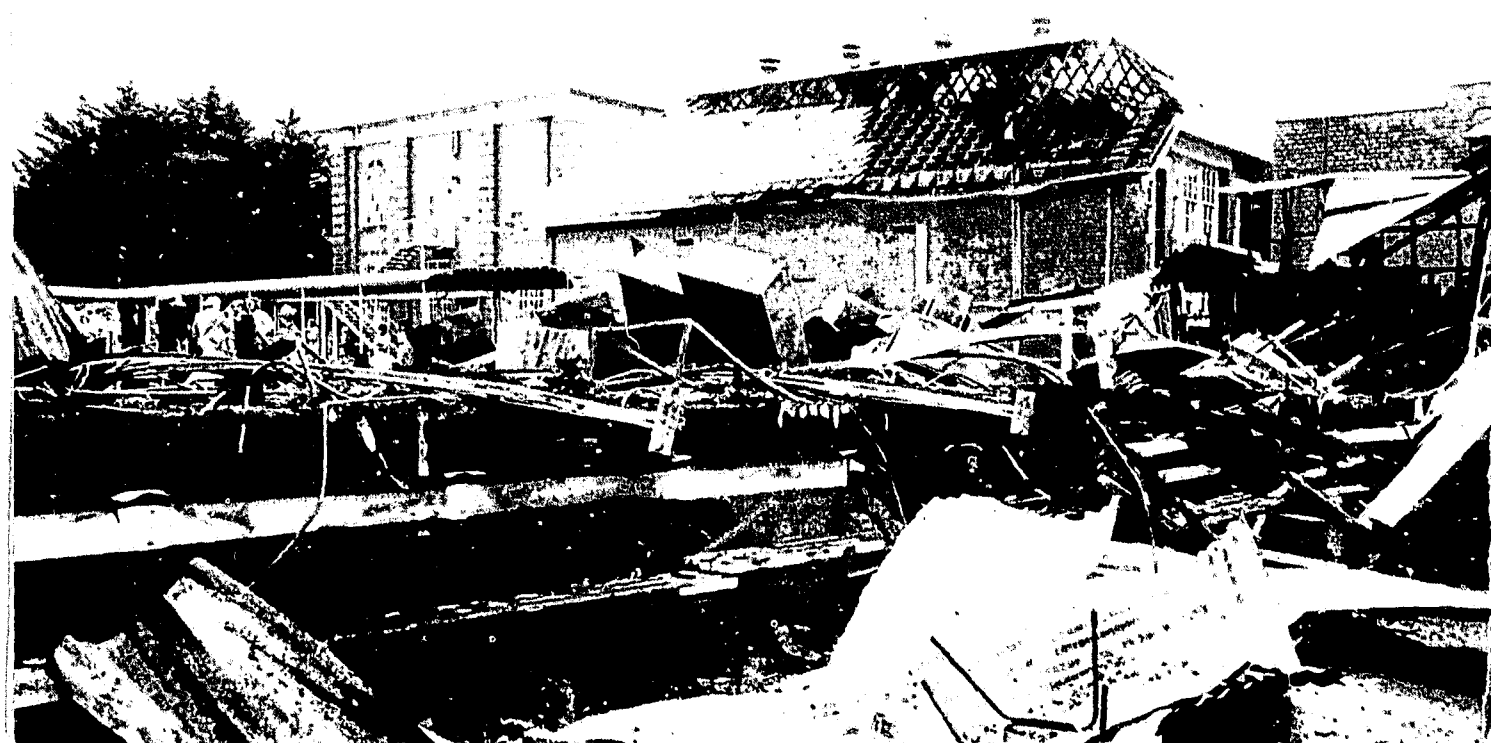
The following Table indicates types of offences and number of children appearing before the Children's Court or cautioned by an Officer of Police. Other statistics concerning child offenders are contained in Appendix "B".

TABLE 3

Children under 17 years who appeared before the Children's Court or were Cautioned by an Officer of Police. (Standing Order 311)*

	1977	1978
Homicide	8	—
Serious Assault	407	290
Robbery	112	57
Sexual Offences	180	181
Burglary	2,549	2,270
Theft	5,727	6,539
Other Indictable	350	945
Firearm (Including Air Rifle)	386	336
Traffic Offences	1,600	1,608
Street Offences	435	325
Wilful/Malicious Damage	478	668
Other Summary Offences	510	863
	12,742	14,082
Protection Applications	1,093	1,000

*Different appearances by a child on unrelated matters appear separately.



Forensic Science Laboratory

No modern police service can operate effectively without the support of an efficient forensic team. However, financial constraints and limited accommodation have reduced the potential of the Forensic Science Laboratory so that neither the Force nor the community is receiving the optimum benefit from this facility. Despite this, members there have maintained the highest efficiency within their limited circumstances and have coped with a substantially increased workload.

Forty-three Public Service Officers (27 of whom are qualified Scientific Officers) are responsible to the Director of the Forensic Science Laboratory.

Police staff consist of one police Inspector, three Senior Sergeants, ten Sergeants and eighteen Senior Constables or Constables.

The following Table illustrates the case load for 1978:—

Information Bureau

The Information Bureau is that part of the Crime Department which is responsible for the provision of records and other essential data necessary for the success of police operations. The Bureau includes a Records Section which enables identification of criminals from a card index system and a Docket Room containing criminal records for the assistance of investigating officers. Maintaining this recording system is a mammoth task which can readily be appreciated when it is considered that a total of 71,037 people were charged with criminal offences in 1978 — an increase of 19.13% over the previous year.

Bureau service goes beyond recording information regarding criminals and includes the recording of the identities of victims of crime. Criminal offence reports totalled 350,091 during 1978, which represents an increase of 12.2% over the previous year. From these reports details of ownership and property are obtained.

The Information Bureau is particularly labor-intensive and many personnel problems emanate from the need to maintain

the antiquated manual recording system around the clock. The whole recording system is long overdue for computerisation.

Earlier shortages of trained personnel at the Fingerprint Bureau have been eased but police at this section remain under considerable pressure.

Fingerprint experts visited 833 scenes of crime (an increase of 26% over 1977), and were able to identify 916 offenders from fingerprints on exhibits. It interesting to note that:—

50,321 fingerprints were examined;
27,839 fingerprint sets were identified as already on record;
21,355 new fingerprint sets were placed on record; and
446,248 fingerprint sets are on file.

Information circulars providing advice concerning crimes, offenders or possible suspects, remain the life blood of the Force and rapid dissemination of this information is vital to effective policing. The Crimes Publication Section is responsible

for the collation and distribution of printed information regarding crimes and criminals. The Section has recently obtained new printing machinery which greatly assisted the preparation of more than 5,547,000 circulars.

The Warrants Section continues to manually process warrants and show cause summonses issued in Victoria and also serves as a central location for interstate warrants requiring execution in this State. Workload increased by 3% over the previous year and 40,418 warrants were received. Warrants executed increased by 3% and cash received for warrants filed at the section was \$1,162,832. It is anticipated that Warrants Section records will be entered on a "Persons of Interest" computer file. This will provide operational police with rapid access to data indicating that a person is wanted for non-payment of monetary penalties.

The Missing Persons Bureau is a central recording index for all persons reported missing. Reports emanate from a variety of sources including local and overseas residents, as well as Government departments and institutions.

TABLE 4
F.S.L. CASE LOAD 1976-1978.

	1976	1977	1978	% ± 1977	% ± 1976
Total investigations (excluding photographic)	4,803	18,964	21,305	+12.3%	+343.5%
Exhibits received (Biology)	1,725	2,284	2,642	+15.6%	+53.1%
* Exhibits by Chemical Section Drugs	3,427	3,018	2,223	-26.4%	-35.1%
Applied Science Unit	514	609	787	+29.2%	+53.1%
Alcohol Units — Screening		13,414	16,021	+19.4%	
Driver Samples	1,956	2,677	2,883	+7.6%	+47.3%
Document Section	1,964	2,099	4,143	+97.3%	+110.9%
Firearm Section (New System)	403	490	1,269	—	
Assignments — Field Investigations	382	503	522	+3.7%	+36.6%
Photographic Assignments	3,342	4,057	4,696	+15.7%	+40.5%
Photographic Negatives	61,489	67,136	82,350	+22.6%	+34.0%
Photographic Prints	222,855	250,547	296,316	+18.2%	+32.8%

*The apparent reduction in Chemical Section analyses is due to the fact that over 1,000 (Indian Hemp) cases have been referred to the National Herbarium for identification botanically. This process is more expeditious than the chemical analysis provided by the Forensic Science Laboratory.

TABLE 5
MISSING PERSONS

CLASSIFICATION	YEAR			
	1977		1978	
	Reported	Located	Reported	Located
Missing Persons	5699	5607	5773	5691
Absconders (Community Welfare Services)	1606	1573	1456	1423
Absconders (Mental Institutions)	720	709	787	736
Interstate and Overseas Enquiries	122	11	79	10
Consulate Enquiries for Nationals	21	—	39	1
TOTAL	8168	7900	8134	7861

TRAFFIC

The emphasis of Traffic Department activities for 1978 has been to reduce the number of deaths and injuries on Victoria's highways. With this in mind all personnel within the Traffic Operations Group (T.O.G.) recognise it as their special responsibility to:—

- prevent vehicular collisions;
- facilitate the flow of traffic;
- enforce the traffic laws.

The cost of death, injury and property damage as the consequence of vehicular collisions is incalculable. The Force's highest priority is to achieve a reduction in the road toll and strategies have included maximising T.O.G. visibility on highways, special enforcement efforts directed to problem areas and saturation techniques in selected locations for Random Breath Testing Stations.

Traffic Operations Group

This group of 588 men and women form the operational arm of the Traffic Department. It consists of four geographical Divisions and a number of offices throughout the metropolitan area. The twelve country Police Districts have been divided into five Regions. Regionalisation of traffic operations is a means of ensuring that command and administration of all traffic personnel rests with the regional Inspectors who are responsible to the Superintendent, Traffic Operations Group (Country Regions), and are required to effect regular liaison with District commanders within the Region.

The aim is to ensure that District and Regional personnel are effectively deployed to give complete attention to all problems and traffic requirements.

Proposed increases to the T.O.G. personnel establishment will result in the overall proportion of Traffic Department personnel increasing from 7½% to 10% of the total Force establishment. This has provided an opportunity to extend the traffic patrol force to all major highways in the State.

In an effort to improve the efficiency of Traffic Operations personnel, one hundred and sixty members attended the Advanced Studies Course which includes not only motor car law, but the procedures to be adopted for such events as aerodrome emergencies, bulk chemical and gas transportation accidents, fatal accident investigations, patrol techniques and drug detection.

The Traffic Command Caravan continues to be regularly used for large scale police operations, such as concentrated enforcement programmes and random breath testing stations. The use and presence of breath testing stations has never been more evident than in the weeks prior to and including Christmas, 1978.

Apart from the primary responsibilities of accident prevention and traffic law enforcement, Traffic Operations personnel were responsible for such diverse activities as 106 "V.I.P." escorts and 27,066 "wide load" escorts.

Road Traffic Collisions

Although there were 273 less collisions reported to police, and a decrease of 95 persons killed, there was, regrettably, a substantial increase in the number of persons injured. A Table providing details of vehicular collisions follows:—

TABLE 6
ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

Year	Fatal Collisions	Persons Killed	Injury Collisions	Persons Injured	Non-inj. Collisions	Total Collisions
METROPOLITAN						
1977	360	393	7943	10335	16343	24646
1978	334	362	8119	10558	15881	24334
COUNTRY						
1977	471	562	6421	9262	9943	16835
1978	430	498	6559	10015	9885	16874

ACCIDENT STATISTICS

Year	Vehicular Collisions	Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Accidents Other than Vehicular*	Total Accidents
1977	41481	955	19597	616	42097
1978	41208	860	20573	568	41776

* Includes fatal accidents shown in Table 7 and 358 others, e.g. industrial accidents, cave-ins, etc.

CATEGORY OF THOSE KILLED IN ROAD COLLISIONS

Drivers	Passengers	Motor Cyclists	Pillion Passengers	Pedal Cyclists	Pedestrians	Total
312	238	76	6	27	201	860

COLLISION COMPARISONS

Year	Population	Motor Vehicles	Collisions	Casualties
1977	3,781,500	2,199,374	41,481	20,552*
1978	3,825,800	2,303,640	41,208	21,433*

*includes persons killed

In addition to the 860 persons killed in road collisions, police records also show 210 persons died from other types of accidents:-

TABLE 7

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

Drownings	40
Shootings	7
Tractors	13
Railways	23
Falls	39
Burns	9
Electrocution	9
Others	70
TOTAL	210

Accident Investigation Section

This section consists of specialists who investigated 325 serious fatal collisions and conducted 232 full mechanical inspections of vehicles. Members of the section charged fifty persons with culpable driving.

The following Table provides an insight into the collisions investigated by the section and the nature of the charges.

TABLE 8

COLLISIONS AND RESULTING CHARGES

	1977	1978
Collisions investigated	400	325
Deaths resulted from	451	319
Injuries resulted from	458	453
Offences Detected		
Culpable Driving	63	50
Grievous Bodily Injury	10	19
Drive Under the Influence	19	25
Manner Dangerous	71	117
Exceed .05%	79	105
Careless Driving	86	133
Hit-run Collisions	21	24
Miscellaneous	714	972
TOTAL:	1,063	1,445

Collisions Involving Police Vehicles

Every collision involving a police vehicle is subjected to a thorough investigation. Police personnel may be prosecuted before the courts or at internal hearings for breaches of Force regulations.

The following Tables provide a summary of collisions involving police units and drivers charged.

TABLE 9

POLICE COLLISIONS

	1977	1978
Total number of collisions	755	688
Total number of Accident Investigation Committee hearings	27	8
Total number of police charged before Courts	17	5
Total number of civilians charged following police collision	234	242
Fatal collisions involving police vehicles	2	4
Deaths — Police	1	1
— Civilian	1	5

As a matter of policy the Force administration places high priority on the need to educate police drivers to drive responsibly. Force instructions detail the degree of care which must be taken when using police units as emergency vehicles.

Table 10 indicates the annual average number of kilometers travelled for each police accident recorded.

Drink Driving Legislation

There is little doubt that the increasing effectiveness of breath and blood analysis legislation is having an effect upon the attitudes of many motorists. There are eighty operational breathalyser instruments on issue to the Force. In addition to the primary function of the Breath Analysis Section, members are also com-

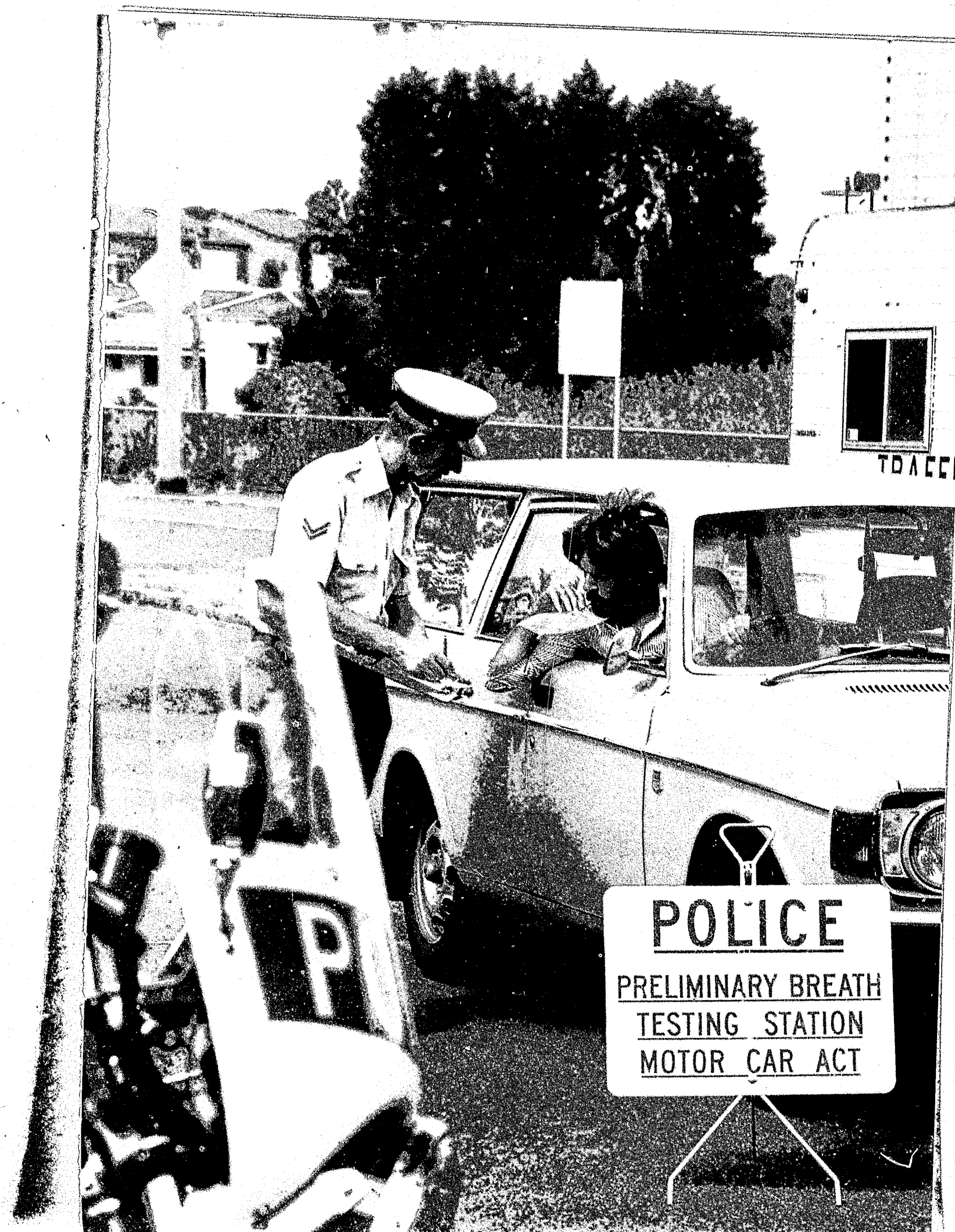


TABLE 10
POLICE COLLISIONS PER KILOMETRE

Year	Number of Collisions	Total Kilometres Travelled For Year	Average Kilometres Travelled Per Collision
1975	685	41,687,495	60,857
1976	793	43,945,644	55,416
1977	755	47,384,502	62,760
1978	688	50,609,876	73,560

mitted to public education programmes and through the year have lectured to 90 organisations and participated at "drink driver" seminars. Their duties also included performance at summer sea-side resorts and special "blitzes". The total number of persons charged with "exceeding .05 blood alcohol content" was 17,824.

There is equally little doubt that the introduction of "preliminary breath testing devices" has been a drink driving deterrent. Over thirty-nine thousand drivers were tested under the provisions of the random breath test legislation and although 97.76% indicated negative readings the deterrent effect is immeasurable.

There were 16,096 compulsory blood samples collected under the provisions of Section 80DA of the Motor Car Act and

2,963 were positive samples taken from alleged drivers. Dispositions are detailed in Table 11.

Traffic Offences

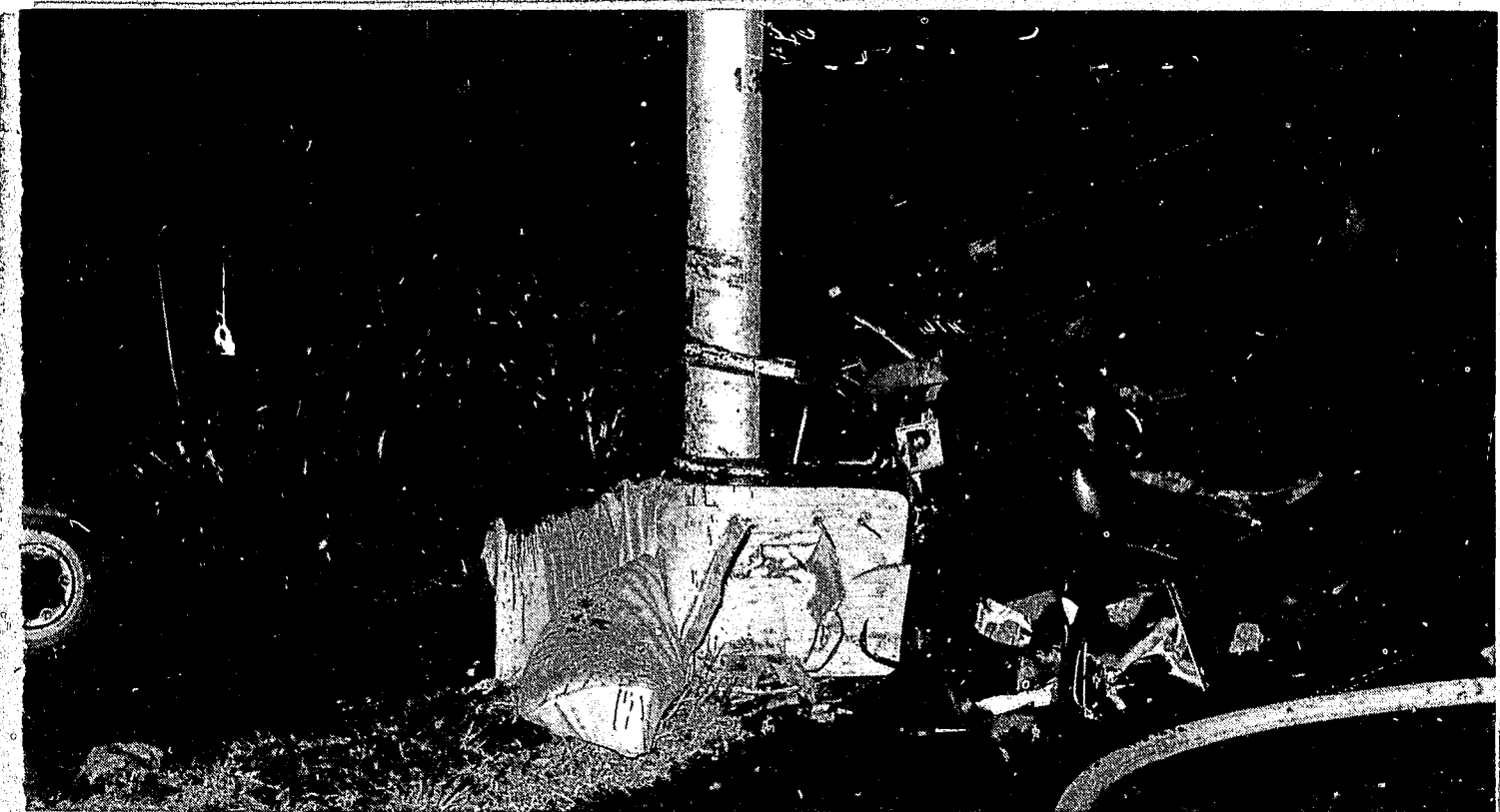
There were a total of 426,838 traffic offences detected by all operational police during 1978 compared to 367,324 in 1977. Appendix "C" lists the more serious types of traffic offences.

There are many other areas of the Traffic Department which provide ancillary support services to operational police. The Motor Driving School trains police who are required to drive pursuit vehicles and test police and public servants required to drive police vehicles. Over 2,000 driving tests were conducted throughout the year. The Vehicles Safety Testing School conducts theoretical and practical courses of instruction in methods and procedures for

TABLE 11
DISPOSITION OF BLOOD SAMPLE BRIEFS
(Total Briefs 1259)

Approved (736)		Not Approved (523)	
Convicted	299	Sample taken outside 2 hours	337
Awaiting court hearing	269	Low reading	88
Unable to locate offender	106*	No fixed time of accident	42
Dismissed	39	Schedule — 6 defective	35
Adjourned	14	Unable to prove identity	11
Deceased since brief	7	Times or dates incorrect	4
Withdrawn	2	Drink after accident	3
		Other	3

*It is no offence for a person providing a compulsory blood sample to state an incorrect name or address at the hospital. This means that drivers with a positive blood alcohol reading may avoid identification.



vehicle roadworthiness tests. Students conducted 5,612 roadworthy inspections resulting in the issue of 4,795 "Notices of Repair". Testing Station Supervisors process applications for roadworthiness Testing Station Licences. During the year they dealt with 424 applications and investigated 348 complaints from the public concerning testing stations. Supervisors also visited 1,436 garage premises.

Prosecutions Officer And Traffic Brief Reference Room

Prosecutions staff ensure that the appropriate charges for T.O.G. prosecutions are approved and examined 52,324 briefs in 1978. They also check unpaid Traffic Infringement and Parking Infringement Notices and decide whether or not they shall be dealt with at Court.

Penalties Payment Office

This Office processed 213,186 Traffic Infringement Notices and revenue collected amounted to \$6,291,970 (\$1,455,711 more than 1977). Office space where these duties are performed is cramped and accounting procedures are cumbersome.

The introduction of a more sophisticated accounting system has been recommended.

Comparative figures indicating the number and nature of Traffic Infringement Notices are detailed in Appendix "D".

Points Demerit System

There has been a substantial increase in the number of Motor Car Drivers Licences suspended under the Points Demerit System. There were 691 drivers licences suspended during 1978 compared to 409 in 1977. Appendix "E" provides further data in regard to the offence or classes of offence processed on the Points Demerit System.

Stamp Duty and Transfer Section

This section is responsible for the recovery of unpaid transfer fees and Stamp Duty, as well as Notices of Acquisition and Disposal Notices as required by Section 21B of the Motor Car Act. During 1978, 18,500 files were forwarded by the Motor Registration Branch for the attention by operational police who are responsible for fee collection and prosecution of people not complying with the Act.

PERSONNEL

The responsibilities of the Personnel Department include recruiting, training, transfers, promotions, welfare and the systematic recording of all of these personnel matters. Within the Department a number of divisions have been created to facilitate effective management. These include: Training District, Personnel and Amenities Section and the Personnel Assessment Division.

Training District

This is an area of police activity which requires extensive consolidation. Although facilities at Waverley continue to improve, the presently fragmented nature of police training venues present a number of difficulties. This District was staffed by 111 police and 34 education instructors. Table

12 presents information concerning applications for entry to the Force.

During 1978, 736 recruits, comprising 638 males (including 4 Shrine Guards and 193 former Cadets) and 98 females commenced training at the Police Academy, Glen Waverley. Of these, 566 Probational Constables graduated; 517 males and 49 policewomen.

In addition to basic training, courses were held at the Police Academy for Law Instructors, Drill Instructors, Firearms Instructors and R.S.P.C.A. Inspectors.

The Police Academy's new accommodation complex is expected to be completed by April, 1979, and plans are in train for a new wing that will provide accommodation, administration and instructional facilities. Work on the Physical Training complex is also proceeding.

TABLE 12
RECRUITING AND SELECTION 1978

	Recruits		Cadets	Total
	Male	Female	Male	
Applications Received	1,642	429	1,172	3,243
Applicants —				
Called for Examination	1,481	442*	215	2,838
Attended Examination	1,255	361	814	2,430
Failed				
Under Height	52	21	50	123
Education	450	87	384	321
Medical	108	34	26	238
Selection Board	140	82	58	280
Withdrew	3	—	14	17
Tentatively Accepted	502	137	212	851

*13 applications on hand from 1977.

In-Service Training

Retention — Nine courses were attended by 533 Probationary Constables.

Sub-Officers' — Seven courses each of six weeks duration trained 269 members, four Prison Officers and one member from the Australia Post Investigation Division. It is anticipated that this course will be extended to 8 weeks during 1979.

Officers' College — Four ten week courses were attended by seventy-two members, two of whom were from Tasmania and two from New Zealand. The ten week course is a change from the normal 20 week course and became necessary when additional promotional opportunities substantially increased the Force Officer content.

Promotional Examinations — Two members were engaged full time in preparing and updating instructional material for use by members undertaking promotional examinations through the Police Educational Scheme. Approximately 1,700 members availed themselves of the opportunity to sit for the examinations. Pass rates for the various ranks reflect the high standard of ability required for success. Officer — 43%, Senior Sergeant — 23%, Sergeant — 43% and Senior Constable — 65%.

Cadet Training

This program continues to provide a useful and necessary supplement to adult police recruiting. One hundred and twenty-seven cadets were in training at the start of 1978 and another 274 were inducted during January.

During the 12 months, 193 cadets transferred to recruit training and 34 (8.4%) resigned. At the end of the year, 174 cadets were in training.

A modular training programme was commenced which enables those nearing

adult recruit age (18½) to undertake the first six weeks of formal police recruit training. When resignations occur at the Police Training Academy the loss is replaced by transferring cadets engaged in modular training.

The activities of cadets continue to be broad based and include an Adventure Camp at Portsea, skipping and aikido demonstrations, assisting at searches, sporting features and other public events (Moomba) and the very useful exercise of updating after-hours contacts for metropolitan business addresses. Thirty-one cadets successfully completed Fifth Form and 23 obtained their Higher School Certificate.

Personnel and Amenities

This Division has a number of separate responsibilities which includes both Police Bands, the library and reading room, billiard room, auditorium, gymnasium, welfare services and the Police Hospital.

Police Hospital — After twenty-two years distinguished service, the Police Medical Officer, Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris retired because of ill health. His replacement, Mr. A. Beech, is assisted by Mr. H. Robertson. Matron Dugan retired after twenty-four years service and was replaced by Matron Kay.

TABLE 13
POLICE MEDICAL TREATMENTS

Outpatient Visits	3,007
Inpatients (Number admitted)	319
Inpatients (Total days admitted)	1,618
Major Operations	14
Minor Operations	38
Anti Tetanus Consultations	820
Police Academy Dispensary Treatments	4,000
Cadet Academy Dispensary Treatments	2,000



Welfare Services — This section provides a wide ranging service to police and administers the Victoria Police Provident Fund, police holiday flats and the Victoria Police Amateur Sports and Welfare Society. One of its most important functions is to help members, retired police and police widows with general welfare problems. During 1978 it assisted 87 members with the presentation of their ill-health cases before the Government Medical Officer. Of these, 83 were found unfit for further police duty, 1 returned to work and decisions on 3 are pending. (See Appendix "F" for details of Force establishment and wastage) The Police Chaplain, Rev. D. Sivewright, completed a tour of the United States of America and New Zealand to study the effects of stress and alcoholism and the Chaplains' role in their combat.

Police Bands — Both bands were active during 1978 with the Brass Band giving 104 public performances. Staff shortages in the Brass Band have been acute and necessitated application for the employment of musicians from outside the Force. It is anticipated that an amendment to

Police Regulations during 1979 will allow the specific recruitment of bandsmen.

Personnel Assessment Division

Established in 1972 to provide a system for assessing the potential of police for higher duties, as well as commenting on performance, this system replaced an unsatisfactory rating system abandoned in 1967.

During 1978 the system was reviewed by the Inspectorate and Future Plans, and a number of recommendations are being examined. A member of this Division also represents the Chief Commissioner before the Police Service Board.

The substantial increase in appeals together with a slow down in the activity of the Police Service Board, caused by a lengthy pay claim lodged by the Police Association, has brought about a backlog of 370 unheard appeals. This has drawn attention to a deficiency in the Regulations controlling and regulating the functions of the Board in that there is no provision to convene a second division of the Board. Representation has been made to change this situation.

TABLE 14

PERSONNEL ASSESSMENT DIVISION SUMMARY

Individual Assessments	4,097	Police Service Board Appearances	
Assessments objected to and reviewed	296	Appeals — promotional non-selection	72
Probationary Constable files commenced	669	— vacancy non-selection	491
		Claims	29

SERVICES

The Services Department is responsible for the provision of such buildings, transport, communications and equipment as are necessary to ensure the effective functioning of all facets of the Service. During 1978 several highly functional police buildings of unprecedented quality were completed.

One of the highlights of the year was the extent of planning undertaken to obtain the equipment necessary for development of a statewide communication system sufficient to satisfy the needs of the Force until the end of this century. The formation of the Communications Planning Group, documentation of the Five Year Projection, and support from the Public Works Department who engaged a consultant to assist with costing and design, provide grounds for an optimistic future.

The police communications system continues to be a most important means of responding to a variety of community problems. The increasing volume of communications traffic within the Communications Section is an indication of the growing demand for police service. Modernisation of the communications system has received constant attention throughout the year. Improvements to the ageing telephone systems within the D.24 control room have been limited to repair and maintenance, and communications traffic was handled as effectively as the present system would allow.

Buildings

Considerable progress was made in the sphere of building construction and com-

pletion of custom designed police stations.

The Police Academy remains the largest Force building project. Work on two residential blocks is continuing and the estimated cost for completion is \$2 million. The physical education block is progressing satisfactorily and is estimated to cost almost \$3 million. This block will provide recruits with essential training facilities such as a swimming pool, gymnasium and pistol range. Approval has been obtained for a residential and educational complex which is estimated to cost \$11 million. This is in the documentation stage and will go to tender in 1979. Completion of this project will coincide with completion of the first stage of a proposed two stage kitchen and amenities block. The total estimated cost of projects at the Academy over the next 5 years is at least \$22 million.

Extensive alterations to the Russell Street Police complex are underway and include renovated offices for the accommodation of the Detective Training School and an improved communications centre.

New police stations were completed and occupied at Prahran, Doncaster, Port Fairy, Colac and Drouin. Police stations under construction include the \$1.2 million Headquarters at Horsham and a police station at Mallacoota to be completed in early 1979. A new \$1 million Altona North District Headquarters is due to be constructed and completed in mid-1979.

Residences were purchased at Bright, Edenhope, Hastings and Hopetoun. A site



for a future District Headquarters was purchased at Broadmeadows. The Geelong Police District Headquarters and ancillary offices were re-located at the State Government Offices creating more space for other local police services in need of additional room. Communications equipment worth \$65,000 has been purchased and is ready for installation.

The historic Ballarat Police Station has been carefully renovated and accommodates the C.I.B. and the Special Duties Squad. It is also intended to accommodate the new Regional Communications Centre. The renovations have not detracted from the appearance of the building which has a National Trust classification.

Plans for a new \$1.6 million Police Hospital have been approved and a new building within the environs of Prince Henry's Hospital, will replace the present Police Hospital site to be taken over by the College of the Arts.

The re-location of the Mounted Branch from the Police Depot site in St. Kilda Road, was examined by a Working Committee set up by the Government, but as yet no decision has been reached.

No building sites were purchased during the year. Land is being sought at Wallace and Grovedale and also at St. Albans to permit re-location of the St. Albans Police Station.

Communications Section

The position of Officer in Charge of Force Communications was upgraded to Superintendent and the number of personnel at the Section was increased. Transmissions through the Metropolitan Control Room have continued to rise and service calls increased by over 500% in the past five years. For example, in 1978 there was a daily average of 289 "000" Emergency Calls of which 65% were considered to be "urgent". The dramatic rise in the number of service calls has been the consequence of a gradual improvement to the communications system and an increase in the number of radio channels.

Acute staff shortages during the year resulted in the recall from Districts of personnel with previous communications experience to work at D.24 on their "Rest Days". Altogether, forty thousand hours overtime (an increase of 27.3% over 1977) was worked at the Communications Section.

Computer Terminal Enquiries for Stolen Car Checks totalled 368,662, an increase of 26,588 over 1977. The Telex Network was expanded by an additional eight machines which were installed at selected country stations. A new computerised switchboard is being designed by Telecom for matching the police metropolitan two-way Telex machines into the police computer.

Telex traffic flow and regional radio use has increased steadily by 17% over 1977.

New communication control rooms at Geelong and Ballarat should be completed and operational during 1979.

Future Communication Development

The Public Works Department was requested to provide an estimate of the cost of updating the Police communication net-

work. The resulting staged development programme, involving an estimated \$20 million expenditure over the next seven years, was submitted and accepted by the Force administration.

A submission is being prepared for the Treasurer requesting funds to be made available for this scheme in the 1979/80 Works and Services Programme.

Members attached to the Radio Electronics Division have been involved in a survey of field signal strengths as part of their planning for an improved communications network. Negotiations have been underway with Telecom officials, and they include the siting of new radio bases.

The Communications Engineering Division has been testing locally made portable transceivers and considering the use of facsimile machines. The need to transfer telephone messages arriving at unmanned police stations has also been examined. The use of facsimile machines and telephone diverting devices has also been undertaken by other Australian Police Services.

Computer Systems Division

In 1977 the Force completed contractual negotiations for the design and implementation of the Police computer based "PATROL" system ("Police Access to Records on Line") Stage Two. The completed design was accepted by the Force administration on 6th October, 1978, and has been designed to provide the following facilities on line:—

- (a) linkage of the "PATROL" system to the Motor Registration Branch data base through the State Electronic Data Processing (E.D.P.) computer. This will permit Police "PATROL" terminals access to vehicle registration particulars;
- (b) extension of the Vehicle-of-Interest file to permit enquiries by registra-

tion, engine and chassis numbers and stolen vehicle serial number;

- (c) a Persons-of-Interest file which is capable of providing information on Missing Persons, escapees, persons wanted on warrant and for other reasons, e.g. wanted for interview;
- (d) a Forward Store and Message Switching capability. (A system whereby any visual display unit (VDU) on the "PATROL" System can forward messages to any other VDU terminal on the network.) The "PATROL" computer logs times and records all messages.

Implementation of the "PATROL" Two System (particularly the Persons-of-Interest file), necessitated the purchase of further computer storage equipment. Equipment supply difficulties have caused a considerable delay in the introduction of the Persons-of-Interest file and it is now anticipated that this facility will not be released for operational use until late 1979 or early 1980. Despite this, the computer software design has been completed and will form the basis of much larger files.

Although the link between the "PATROL" System and the State E.D.P. Centre will eventually provide all vehicle registration particulars, police cannot access computerised registration particulars until the M.R.B. data-base is updated and the E.D.P. Centre provides twenty-four hour service. Negotiations have commenced in an effort to solve both problems. It is anticipated that this subsystem will become operational in February, 1980. "PATROL" Two is still providing a twenty-four hour service in relation to the Vehicle-of-Interest file. Access to this computer can now be made by using engine, chassis and serial number as well as the registration number.

A computerised message switching system has been introduced and is now

available for use between V.D.U.'s on the police computer network which has been expanded to provide sixteen terminals.

Visual Display Units

A firm order has been placed with computer suppliers for a further ten V.D.U.'s. The "PATROL" system will then be providing stolen car particulars to twenty-six Victoria Police V.D.U. terminals and twenty-seven telex machines together with seventy-six Interstate Police telex machines.

Transport Branch

Police motor vehicles numbered 1,342 motor cars and 158 motor cycles, including 79 new vehicles purchased in 1978. Eight hundred and ninety-one vehicles were replaced. The gradual increase of vehicle requirements is still insufficient to meet the needs of the Service. The vehicle to police personnel ratio in Victoria is 1:5, which equates with the Queensland vehicle to police ratio. A comparison between other States reveals the following vehicle to police ratio:—

New South Wales	1:3
South Australia	1:3
Northern Territory	1:3
Australian Capital Territory	1:3
Tasmania	1:3
Western Australia	1:4

During 1978 the Services Department entered a new phase of development and emphasis was placed on unified Force planning and the re-assessment of funding procedures. Although a major proportion of Police works and services funds have been committed to the Police Academy and communications development, the benefits will have long term advantages that outweigh the short term effect of changed priorities for other projects.

ADMINISTRATION

The authorised establishment for Public Service personnel is 2,116 consisting of 221 officers in the Chief Commissioner's Office, 977 in District Offices and police stations, 874 in the Motor Registration Branch and 44 in the Forensic Science Laboratory.

The Hon. the Premier announced in the Budget that funds would be provided for the creation of 60 additional Public Servant positions and action is in hand to arrange for the appointment of administrative staff, stenographers, typists, radio technicians and motor mechanics. These appointments are expected to occur in 1979 and will ease the many demands for administrative and other support arising from steady expansion and changes within the Force.

The following items are of interest:

- (a) At 31st December, 1978, there were 7,599 members (including recruits, cadets and reservists) on the Police Force Payroll and 2,101 Officers and employees on the Public Service Payroll.
- (b) The Payroll for the year was \$118,483,713.
- (c) 692 members of the Police Force were authorised to use their private motor vehicles for official purposes. The distance travelled on duty totalled 777,863 kilometers at a cost of \$155,313.
- (d) The cost of Police protection per head of population (calculated by

deducting Police Department revenue from expenditure) is \$31.65 per annum and represents an increase of \$6.03 per head per annum over 1976/77. Most of this increase is due to the additional salaries and allowances paid during 1977/78 and the inclusion of a new pay-roll tax.

- (e) Arrangements have been made for a team of consultants from the Public Service Board Management Services Division to conduct a full scale review of the handling and processing of correspondence within the Force.
- (f) Reviews which have been completed during the year are:
 - (i) Traffic Department District Office which resulted in changes to the method of handling the procedures for restoration of driver's licences;
 - (ii) The processes employed in the passing of accounts for payment.
- (g) A number of items of office equipment were inspected and tested and the following were purchased:
 - (i) 26 calculators for use in Police Stations and Motor Registration Branch Offices.
 - (ii) Microfiche readers for use by payroll staff.

- (iii) Laminating equipment for applying protective coatings to maps, plans, and other documents.
- (iv) A number of paper shredders.
- (v) 2 IBM "golfball" typewriters.
- (vii) Enquiries were made in relation to word processing equipment on the market, because this type of electronic equipment could be used to great advantage in the future.

- (h) Induction meetings were conducted for newly appointed "E" Class Officers.
- (i) 70,000 Shooter's Licences were issued in 1978. The total number of persons holding permits or licences is approximately 337,000. Since the introduction of the system on 1st January, 1973, more than 640,000 licences and permits have been issued.

Motor Registration Branch

The number of licensed drivers and motor vehicle transactions continued to increase and collections for the year exceeded \$400,000,000 a 6½% increase on 1977. Motor Registration Branch Statistics are detailed in Appendix "E".

The issue of reflectorised number plates, which commenced in late 1977, continued throughout the year. Approximately 250,000 pairs of these plates, which display the "Garden State" slogan and carry green letters and figures on a white background, have been issued.

Development of an on-line computer system for motor vehicles is continuing and records are being transferred to the E.D.P. Computer Centre.

A mini-computer system with visual display and printer terminals has been installed at the Branch. When programming of the equipment is completed, it will enable documents requiring changes to be automatically retyped and the changes added to the data base by direct communication with the E.D.P. Centre.

Police Surgeons

During the year the Assistant Police Surgeon, Dr. P. Day, resigned and was replaced by Dr. J. MacLeod who joined Dr. Peter Bush on the medical staff.

Further improvements in the management and care of sexual assault victims were introduced at Queen Victoria Hospital Medical Centre. Reception in the Casualty Department and counselling by Social Workers attached to the Department of Family Psychiatry, significantly improved support to these victims.

CONCLUSION

At the beginning of this report I intimated that part of the purpose of an Annual Report was to provide some indication of the future of the organisation. What follows is by no means exhaustive or absolute, but does provide some indication of what I perceive to be future Force development.

Most importantly, I see a continuing need for detailed planning involving all facets of this organisation. This view is based on the conscious awareness that today's decisions will have considerable impact on future Force structure and philosophy. As an example, it might be necessary that some future appointments to the Force should be made on an ability to carry out highly specialised work in computers, forensic science or radio electronics rather than on the basis of performing police duties. The use of computers alone holds enormous potential for policing, both in the provision of rapid information for operational police and as a management tool for the Force Administration.

Changes will continue to be made to the geographical boundaries of police districts to ensure more effective policing so that the community can enjoy the peace and security it has the right to expect. For the same reason, minor crime is likely to become a major facet of uniformed police work and to be of diminishing importance for detectives.

Significant and substantial changes in police training are also likely so that police throughout the State are not only fully con-

versant with their task, but also have access to instruction concerning recent legislation or new police procedures, as well as sociological changes in the community.

Expansion of the integrated community policing experiment can be expected to be introduced throughout the metropolitan area. This will create a demand for additional radio equipment and has already provoked assessment of U.H.F. frequencies because of the unavailability of additional V.H.F. channels. More extensive use and expansion of the Air Wing is anticipated as a new dimension in policing. The excision of a number of extraneous duties will be sought, particularly in the tasks involved with the licensing of motor car drivers and with the provision of Court Orderlies.

There is no doubt that some of the policies envisaged will be criticised by the public. For example, a number of small inner suburban stations and some of the one-man country stations are historical anachronisms and cannot be justified in terms of cost-effectiveness. The reluctance of any community to lose its local policemen is understandable, but when the complete tableau is assessed, often against competing interests, the closure and consolidation of these stations will result in a better overall service.

These are just some of the areas where we can foresee the need for change. We intend to be prepared to meet the challenge of the future in providing the community with our customary high standard of service.

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APPENDIX "A"

MAJOR CRIME INDEX AND OTHER OFFENCES

Offence Type	Reported			Cleared		
	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978
Homicide	108	103	110	104	94	98
Serious Assaults	1,299	1,362	1,763	1,013	1,016	1,323
Robbery	897	1,018	1,148	356	332	361
Rape	341	312	235	277	237	180
Burglary	36,075	40,954	49,150	9,687	8,414	9,101
Theft	54,313	60,918	67,259	19,754	18,578	18,946
Motor Vehicle Theft	11,814	14,897	15,268	4,527	4,092	3,848
Fraud, etc.	11,291	9,600	9,680	10,013	8,151	8,108
Total Major Crimes	116,138	129,164	144,613	45,731	40,914	41,965
Other Offences	48,807	47,076	55,118	31,303	32,596	32,117
Grand Total	164,945	176,240	199,731	77,034	74,561	74,082

APPENDIX "B"

CHILD OFFENDERS

Offences committed by children under 17 years who appeared before the Children's Court or were Cautioned by an Officer

	Male	Female	Total
Serious Assault	543	55	598
Robbery	86	10	96
Sexual Offences	332	3	335
Burglary	4,508	263	4,771
Theft	9,531	2,401	11,932
Other Indictable	1,467	118	1,585
Firearm (Including Air Rifle)	543	10	553
Traffic Offences	4,216	85	4,301
Street Offences	617	51	668
Wilful/Malicious Damage	1,005	34	1,039
Other Summary Offences	1,181	137	1,318
	24,029	3,167	27,196

APPENDIX "B"

Principal offence category of Prosecuted and Cautioned children.

	M A L E			F E M A L E		
	Before Court	Cautioned	% Cautioned	Before Court	Cautioned	% Cautioned
Serious Assault	193	70	26.6	20	7	25.9
Robbery	49	6	10.9	2	—	—
Sexual Offences	105	73	41.0	3	—	—
Burglary	1,051	1,076	50.6	46	97	67.8
Theft	1,725	3,131	64.5	138	1,545	91.8
Other Indictable	501	369	42.4	30	45	60.0
Firearm (Including Air Rifles)	126	204	61.8	2	4	66.7
Traffic Offences	820	752	47.8	15	21	58.3
Street Offences	191	100	34.4	25	9	26.5
Wilful/Malicious Damage	266	377	58.6	6	19	76.0
Other Summary Offences	359	408	53.2	33	63	65.6
	5,386	6,566		320	1,810	

Children Cautioned by an Officer of Police in presence of Parents

Year	Male	Female	Total	% 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

Children under 17 Years who Appeared on Protection Application

Cause for Application	1977			1978		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Likely to lapse into career of vice or crime	154	69	223	115	68	183
Exposed to moral danger	63	280	343	60	366	426
Parental neglect	95	99	194	60	96	156
Other	147	186	133	96	139	235
TOTALS	459	634	1,093	331	669	1,000

APPENDIX "C"

SERIOUS OR PREVALENT TRAFFIC OFFENCES

OFFENCE	YEAR 1977	YEAR 1978
Drive against Automatic Traffic Control Signal	15,159	19,010
Disobey traffic sign	19,263	21,247
Drive over double line	4,686	4,642
Drive under influence of liquor	1,259	1,415
Drive under influence of drugs	—	151
Drive with B.A.C. exceeding .05%	13,766	17,824
Drunk in charge of motor vehicle	155	192
Drive carelessly	6,137	7,438
Drive manner dangerous (note below)	2,417	2,314
Exceed 60/75 and 90 km/h	85,157	109,315
Exceed 100 km/h absolute speed limit	23,891	27,937
Drive whilst licence cancelled or suspended, etc.	1,933	2,368
Drive without licence	10,281	11,348
Drive unregistered vehicle	7,572	8,066
Drive without prescribed lamps being lit	10,550	12,118
Fail to give stop, turn or diverge signal	10,971	11,887
Fail to stop after accident, etc.	2,561	3,000
Fail to keep left of carriageway	3,043	3,591
Incorrect right turn	6,505	6,702
School/Pedestrian Crossing offences	766	630
Number plates obscured or damaged, etc.	8,154	9,166
Parking offences	32,490	38,174
Other	100,608	108,303
TOTAL	<u>367,324</u>	<u>426,838</u>

Please note that offences of a similar nature have been included under a single heading, e.g. Reckless Driving, speed dangerous and manner dangerous are shown under the heading "Drive Manner Dangerous".

APPENDIX "D"

TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

NUMBER DETECTED

	YEAR 1977	YEAR 1978
1. Driving over double lines	3,462	3,297
2. Fail to give way at intersection	2,525	1,872
3. Exceed speed limit by more than 15 km/h but less than 25 km/h	47,938	60,940
4. Disobey any traffic control signal	13,340	16,874
5. Passing stationary tram car	55	61
6. Use unroadworthy motor vehicle or trailer	1,329	1,470
7. Unlawfully turning right or left	5,157	4,766
8. Exceed speed limit by not more than 15 km/h	38,687	48,760
9. Failing to keep left	1,388	1,538
10. Failing to dip headlights	861	908
11. Failing to give signals	7,328	7,872
12. Disobey traffic sign	22,724	24,971
13. Fail to have prescribed lights	7,804	8,918
14. No number plate, obscured number plate or number plate not easily distinguishable	6,049	6,605
15. Having no rear vision mirror or having ineffective rear vision mirror	1,730	1,346
16. Throw down or drop little from motor car on highway	326	373
17. Failing to wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt	15,695	19,683
*18. No identifying number displayed on vehicle, etc	—	526
*19. No registration label	—	2,334
*20. No general identification mark displayed, etc.	—	72
TOTAL	<u>176,398</u>	<u>213,186</u>

*New Series "E" including these three (3) new offences came into operation as from 1/7/1978.

APPENDIX "E"

DEMERIT POINTS DATA Driver Licence Suspensions

	Year 1977	Year 1978
Total number of driving licence suspensions	409	691
6 month suspensions	12	24
3 month suspensions	397	667
Number warned	9,031	9,843
Traffic Infringement Notices processed	132,521	144,044
Convictions processed	19,961	17,865
Surcharge imposed on demerit points	1,152	986
Surcharge paid	1,219	1,287

Act or Regulation	Offence or class of offence for which demerit points deducted		
Motor Car Act 1958	Careless driving	6,137	7,438
		766	630
Road Traffic Regulations	Fail to give way at pedestrian or school crossing	15,159	19,010
	Disobey Traffic Control signal	119,298	137,252
	Exceed speed limit	19,263	21,247
	Fail to obey Stop Sign	10,550	12,118
	Drive unlit vehicles between sunset and sunrise	4,686	4,642
	Fail to keep left of double lines	10,971	11,887
	Fail to give stop or turn signals	409	691
	Licence suspended under demerit system		

APPENDIX "F"

ACTUAL STRENGTH BY DEPARTMENTS OF VICTORIA POLICE FORCE AS AT 31/12/78 (SWORN PERSONNEL)

	OPERATIONS		CRIME		TRAFFIC		PERSONNEL		SERVICES		S. D. LIST		COP OFFICE		TOTAL BY SEX		GRAND TOTAL	RANK	GROUP
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		%	%
COMMISSIONER													8		8		8	0.11%	
COMMANDER	2										1				3		3	0.04%	
CH. SUPERINTENDENT	18		2		2		2		1		1				26		26	0.36%	5. %
SUPERINTENDENT	17		5		2		5		3		1		1		34		34	0.47%	
CHIEF INSPECTOR	55	1	25		6		2		1		5		5		99	1	100	1.38%	
INSPECTOR	123	1	30		12		5		11		13		5		199	1	200	2.75%	
SENIOR SERGEANT	246	12	85		30		11		22		10		3		407	12	419	5.79%	23.4%
SERGEANT	789	21	249	2	81		24		66		37	2	7		1253	25	1278	17.66%	
SENIOR CONSTABLE	1291	34	480	21	298	8	22	1	83	2	3	2	10	1	2187	69	2256	31.17%	71.4%
CONSTABLE	1918	189	82	23	169	22	*201	61	119	11	73		43	3	2605	309	2914	40.27%	
TOTALS BY SEX	4459	258	958	46	600	30	272	62	306	13	144	4	82	4	6821	417	7238		
TOTALS	4717		1004		630		334		319		148		86		7238				
ACTUAL %	65.2%		13.8%		8.7%		4.4%		4.6%		2.0%		1.2%						

Victoria's estimated population — September, 1978, 3,825,800
Police to population ratio — 1 : 529 (528.64)

*The Personnel Department total includes 195 male Constables and 60 female Constables in training.

FORCE PERSONNEL WASTAGE

	Chief Comm.	Deputy Comm.	Commdrs.	Chief Supts.	Supts.	Chief Insp.	Insp.	Senior Sgts.	Sgts.	Senior Consts.	Consts.	Total
Died									2	4	2	8
Superannuated — Retiring Age			2	4	2	1	1	8	9	15	—	42
Ill-health					1	1	4	10	29	36	5	86
Resigned		1					1	2	13	25	115	157
Dismissals											1	1
Termination of Appointment											4	4
TOTALS		1	2	4	3	2	6	20	53	80	127	298

APPENDIX "G"

GEORGE CROSS

Constable Michael Kenneth Pratt displayed exceptional valour in confronting three men he knew to be armed and in the process of committing a bank robbery. His courage and devotion to duty were quite outstanding in a situation where he faced, single-handed, almost overwhelming odds in endeavoring to arrest the offenders.

The exceptional valour displayed by Constable Pratt was outstanding in the annals of the Victoria Police Force and consistent with the best traditions of the service.

QUEEN'S POLICE MEDALS

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

January, 1978

Assistant Commissioner D. J. Swanson
Superintendent B. J. Crimmins
Chief Inspector D. W. Bateman, S.B.St.J.,
Chief Inspector C. G. Ainley
Chief Inspector K. P. Thompson
Chief Inspector P. R. Schmidt
Inspector K. S. Robertson

June, 1978

Chief Superintendent P. F. Walsh
Chief Superintendent J. Murtagh
Superintendent C. L. Keating
Inspector K. J. Snodgrass
Senior Sergeant H. Morrison
Sergeant R. W. Hornbuckle

APPENDIX "G"

POLICE VALOUR AWARDS

31.1.1978 Senior Sergeant B. Cole, No. 13698 received the Award for great personal courage, patience and devotion to duty in going to the assistance of a woman who was being held as a hostage in her own house by an armed offender who had previously fired upon Police and civilians and had wounded three persons.

house in which a mentally deranged person armed with a loaded rifle had threatened to shoot his family.

14.7.1978 Senior Constable L. W. Evans, No. 16731 received the Award for cool and courageous action displayed when he was confronted by a man armed with a loaded rifle.

31.1.1978 Sergeant B. P. Nevill, No. 15527 received the Award for great personal courage, patience and devotion to duty in going to the assistance of a woman who was being held as a hostage in her own house by an armed offender who had previously fired upon Police and civilians and had wounded three persons.

14.7.1978 Constable J. A. Miller, No. 17782 received the Award for bravery, coolness and confidence displayed which led to the disarming of a person armed with a shotgun, whose history was one of violence and who had already fired shots and injured two members of his own family.

7.7.1978 Constable R. J. Hennig, No. 19450 received the Award for exemplary bravery and dedication to duty in disarming a violent person who was armed with a loaded firearm, threatened to kill a woman and who threatened the member with the firearm.

18.8.1978 Constable E. I. Krauklis, No. 18044 received the Award for exceptional bravery and resourcefulness when detaining an escaped criminal who had resorted to the use of a firearm in an endeavour to thwart arrest.

14.7.1978 Senior Constable G. R. Woodman, No. 15177 received the Award for a most courageous act which called for coolness, self-discipline and sustained bravery, where he entered a

18.8.1978 Constable P. R. Mullett, No. 18425 received the Award for exceptional bravery and resourcefulness when detaining an escaped criminal who had resorted to the use of a firearm in an endeavour to thwart arrest.

APPENDIX "G"

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S
CERTIFICATES

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

Superintendent P. Kelly	Sergeant Murdoch, No. 14029
Inspector B. T. Kelly	Sergeant Beever, No. 14126
Inspector D. R. Walker	Sergeant Garrett, No. 13449
Senior Sergeant Paffett, No. 13346	Sergeant Ray, No. 14897
Senior Sergeant Henderson, No. 10031	Senior Constable Rumsey, No. 17177
Senior Sergeant Gaffney, No. 11662	Senior Constable Wallace, No. 9413
Senior Sergeant Simpson, No. 11598	Senior Constable Gray, No. 10851
Senior Sergeant Coates, No. 11414	Senior Constable Gardiner, No. 13457
Senior Sergeant Rogerson, No. 12219	Senior Constable Sharp, No. 17367
Senior Sergeant Jeans, No. 13278	Senior Constable Ryan, No. 17220
Senior Sergeant Jones, No. 12317	Senior Constable Keogh, No. 17790
Sergeant Blanks, No. 12585	Constable Walsh, No. 17950
Sergeant Griffin, No. 9698	Constable Chandler, No. 18235
Sergeant Jones, No. 11780	Constable Williams, No. 20295
Constable Boyle, No. 18922	

COMMENDATIONS

Three hundred and five members of the
Force received commendations for
meritorious service.

APPENDIX "H"

MOTOR REGISTRATION BRANCH STATISTICS

VEHICLES REGISTERED	at 31/12/77	at 31/12/78
Motor Cars —		
Private	1,615,869	1,690,832
Commercial and Hire	153,569	158,010
Primary Producer	85,049	88,322
Motor Cycles	46,095	47,744
Trailers	298,792	318,732
Total	2,199,374	2,303,640
NEW REGISTRATIONS (New and second-hand vehicles)		
Motor Cars	205,528	214,651
Motor Cycles	12,868	12,162
	218,396	226,813
RECREATION VEHICLES	1,625	1,396
DRIVER'S LICENCES		
Licence Permits issued	126,575	124,377
Driver's Licences issued	1,987,497	2,040,463
REVENUE		
Excluding Third Party Insurance	\$196,240,429	\$213,743,701
Third Party Insurance	\$179,625,270	\$187,952,293
FINANCIAL YEAR RECEIPTS	\$173,228,956	\$205,213,145

APPENDIX "I"

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	Financial Year	
	1976/77	1977/78
	\$	\$
Revenue —		
Police	19,250,374	21,383,828
Expenditure —		
Police		
Salaries and allowances —		
Police	83,580,344	94,909,948
Public Service Staff	17,054,821	19,074,945
Overtime and penalty rates	2,344,535	2,997,850
Payments in lieu of long service leave, retiring gratuities	1,422,009	1,500,970
Travelling and subsistence	1,467,705	1,522,554
Office requisites, printing and stationery	934,803	903,680
Books and publications	176,720	189,277
Postal and telephone expenses	2,042,391	2,296,926
Motor vehicles — purchase and running expenses	4,166,781	5,293,499
Fuel, light, power and water	710,488	897,747
Electronic Data Processing — Expenses	68,959	90,945
Incidental Expenses	593,743	624,681
Personal equipment, uniforms, clothing and bedding	579,949	680,361
Radio, photographic, scientific and training equipment and materials	688,669	1,016,746
Contributions to Central Fingerprint Bureau, Sydney	155,467	170,669
Transport of prisoners, search parties and traffic school, (travelling expenses, etc.)	102,534	112,607
Burials	12,053	12,018
Provisions for Police Hospital	11,765	11,325
Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medals	1,600	1,900
Pay-roll Tax	5,041,430	5,759,259*
Contribution to Police Pensions Fund	1,986,100	3,941,000
	<u>123,142,866</u>	<u>142,008,907</u>
Police Service Board —		
Salaries and allowances —		
Public Service Staff	20,968	22,596
Postal and telephone expenses	500	500
	<u>21,468</u>	<u>23,096</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>123,164,334</u>	<u>142,032,003</u>

*Due to a change in Treasury policy, certain expenditure figures set out in the above statement will not agree with the figures shown in the 1977 Annual Report. This is due to pay-roll tax not being included previously and the omission of a payment of \$1,986,100 to the Police Pensions Fund.

APPENDIX "J"

TABLE OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

TYPE OF COMPLAINT	SOURCE	INDIVIDUALS	BUSINESS	SOLICITORS (ON BEHALF OF CLIENTS)	ORGANIZATIONS	OMBUDSMAN	CHIEF SECRETARY	VICTORIA POLICE	TOTAL
UNJUSTIFIED ARREST		29		1	1		4		35
UNJUSTIFIED ADMISSION TO INSTITUTION						1			1
UNJUSTIFIED SEARCH/SEIZURE		19		3			1		23
UNJUSTIFIED INFRINGEMENT NOTICE		38	1		1		2		42
UNNECESSARY QUESTIONING		2					1		3
HARASSMENT		52	1	1	3	4	5		66
RUDENESS		59	1	2			2		64
FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION		62	1	9	1	16	8		97
UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE OF DUTY		81	1	9		5	1	6	103
OTHER DISCIPLINE BREACHES		25	1		1	1	1	27	56
ASSAULT		175		9			2	3	189
OTHER M.C.I. OFFENCES*							3	5	8
PERJURY		2			1			1	4
CORRUPTION		8	1					4	13
TRAFFIC OFFENCES			1					9	10
OTHER OFFENCES		1						9	10
CIVIL DISPUTES		8	1					1	10
OTHER COMPLAINTS		37	1	3	1	9	3	4	58
TOTAL		598	10	37	9	36	33	69	792

* M.C.I. — Major Crime Index

TABLE OF COMPLAINTS DETERMINED

TYPE OF COMPLAINT	RESULT:	UNFOUNDED	EXONERATED	NOT SUSTAINED	SUSTAINED	LESSER CHARGE SUSTAINED	MISCONDUCT NOT ALLEGED IN ORIGINAL COMPLAINT	TOTAL
UNJUSTIFIED ARREST		12	2	13	1			28
UNJUSTIFIED ADMISSION TO INSTITUTION								
UNJUSTIFIED SEARCH/SEIZURE		5	2	11	1	3		22
UNJUSTIFIED INFRINGEMENT NOTICE		9	3	19	3	1		35
UNNECESSARY QUESTIONING			1	7	3			11
HARASSMENT		25	4	26	3	1		59
RUDENESS		9	4	38	8	4		63
FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION		29	3	31	21			84
UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE OF DUTY		22	8	37	13			80
OTHER DISCIPLINE BREACHES		5	4	9	19			37
ASSAULT		56	8	101	6	3	2	178
OTHER M.C.I. OFFENCES*		2		8	3	1		14
PERJURY		5		1		1		7
CORRUPTION		4		3	1			8
TRAFFIC OFFENCES					4			4
OTHER OFFENCES		1	2	2			1	6
CIVIL DISPUTES			3	2			1	6
OTHER COMPLAINTS		7	3	13	9		8	40
TOTAL		191	47	321	97	14	12	682

* M.C.I. — Major Crime Index

APPENDIX "J"

TABLE OF DISPOSITIONS

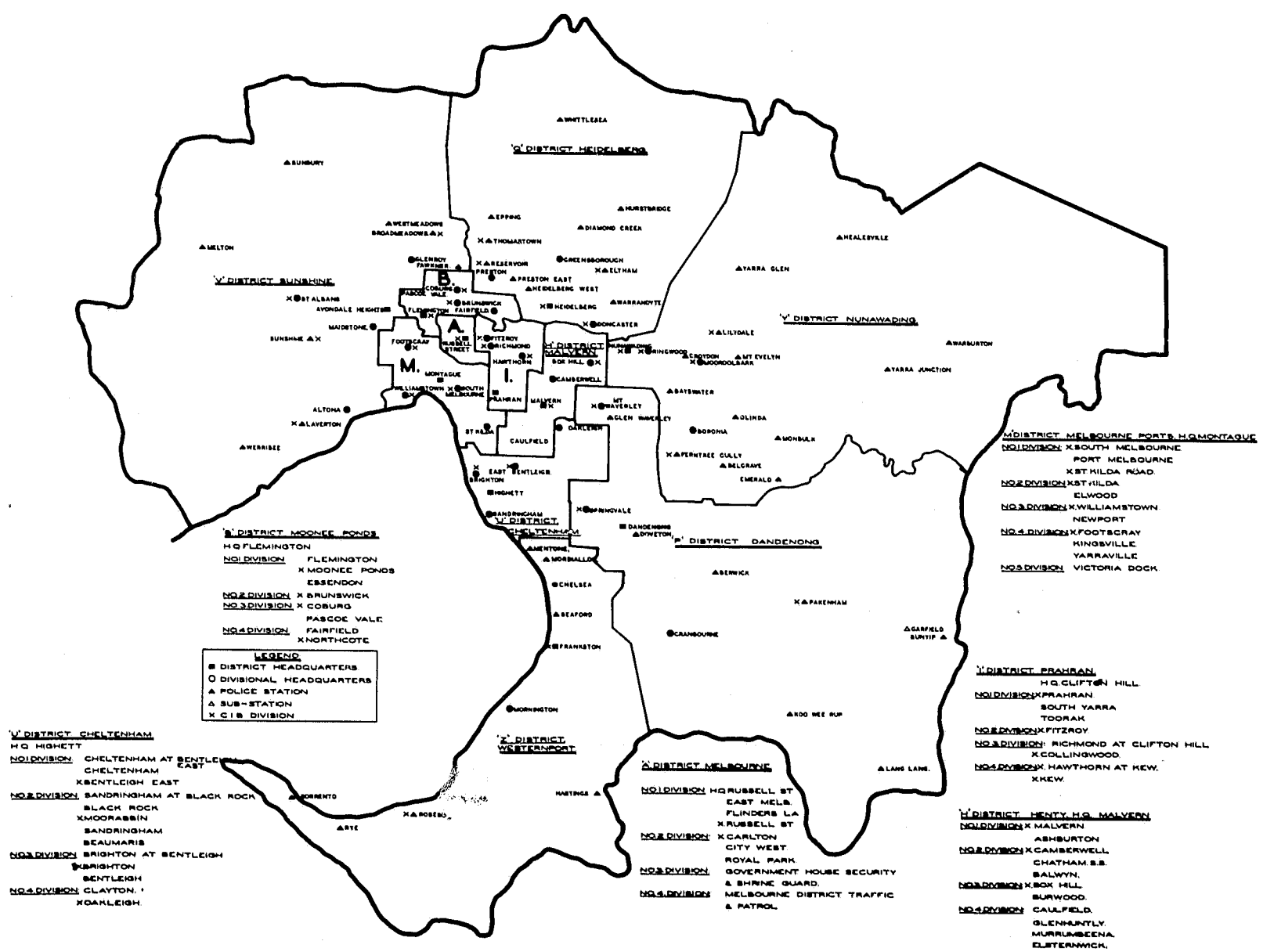
TYPE OF COMPLAINT	SANCTION	COUNSELLING OR REPRIMAND	TRANSFER	RESIGNATION OR RETIREMENT	DISCIPLINE BOARD	OPEN COURT	TOTAL
JUSTIFIED ARREST		2					2
JUSTIFIED ADMISSION TO INSTITUTION							
JUSTIFIED SEARCH/SEIZURE		1					1
JUSTIFIED INFRINGEMENT NOTICE		6					6
NECESSARY QUESTIONING							
ASSAULT		5					5
OBSCENITY		9			1		10
REFUSAL TO TAKE ACTION		19			2		21
DISSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE OF DUTY		18	3				21
OTHER DISCIPLINE BREACHES		15	7	5	17	3	47
ASSAULT		10		1	1	2	14
OTHER M.C.I. OFFENCES *				6		3	9
OBSCENITY							
OBSCENITY		1				2	3
TRAFFIC OFFENCES		1		2		8	11
OTHER OFFENCES		2		1	1	3	7
CIVIL DISPUTES		3					3
OTHER COMPLAINTS		6					6
TOTAL		98	10	15	22	21	166

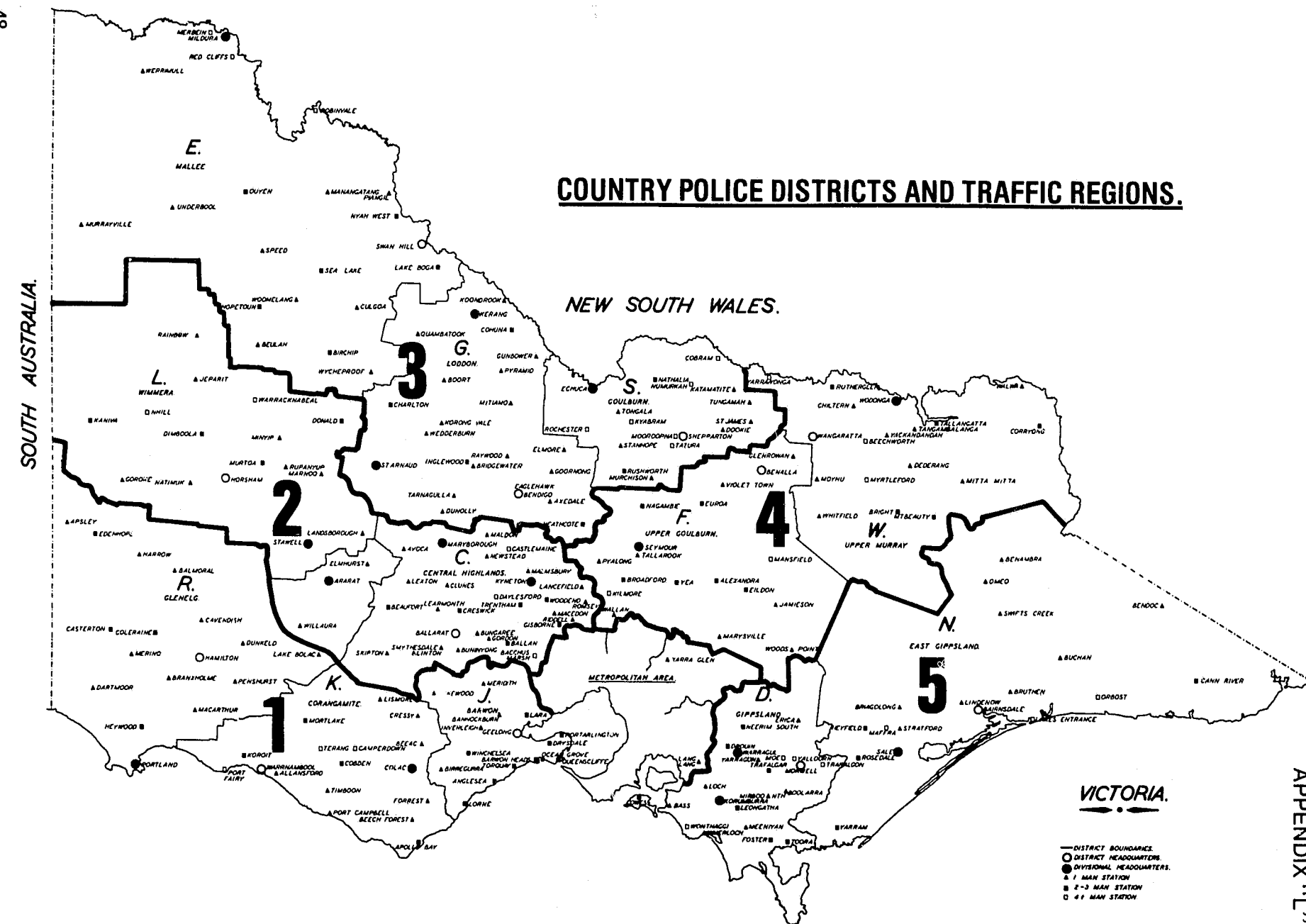
M.C.I. — Major Crime Index

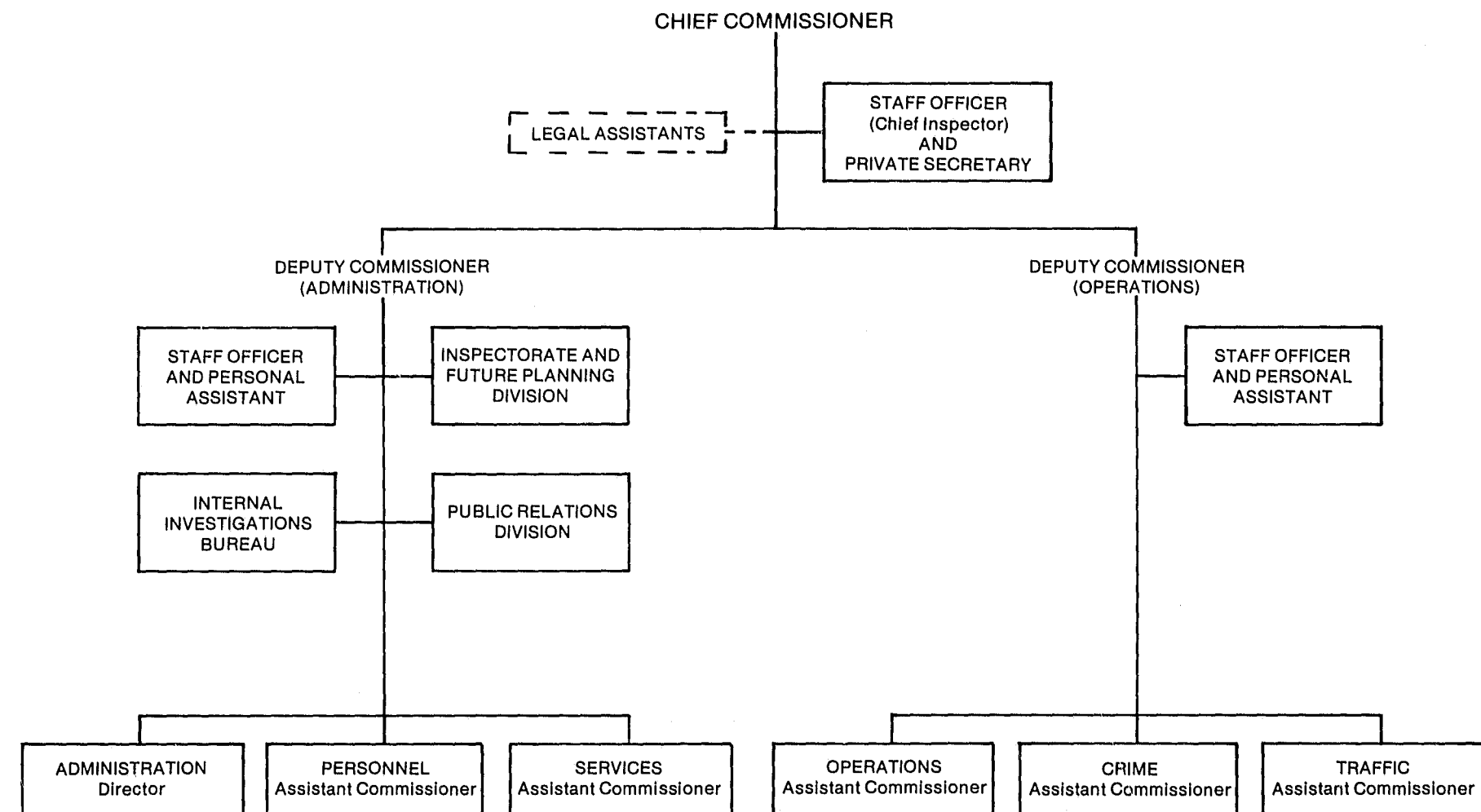
DISCIPLINE

	Members Charged	Charges Preferred	Not Proceeded with	Dismissed	Reprimanded	Fined	Reduced In Rank	Dismissed from Force	Adjourned
Chief Commissioner Summarily 1978	7	12	—	—	2	1	—	—	9
Chief Commissioner Summarily 1978	2	6	—	—	1	3	—	—	2

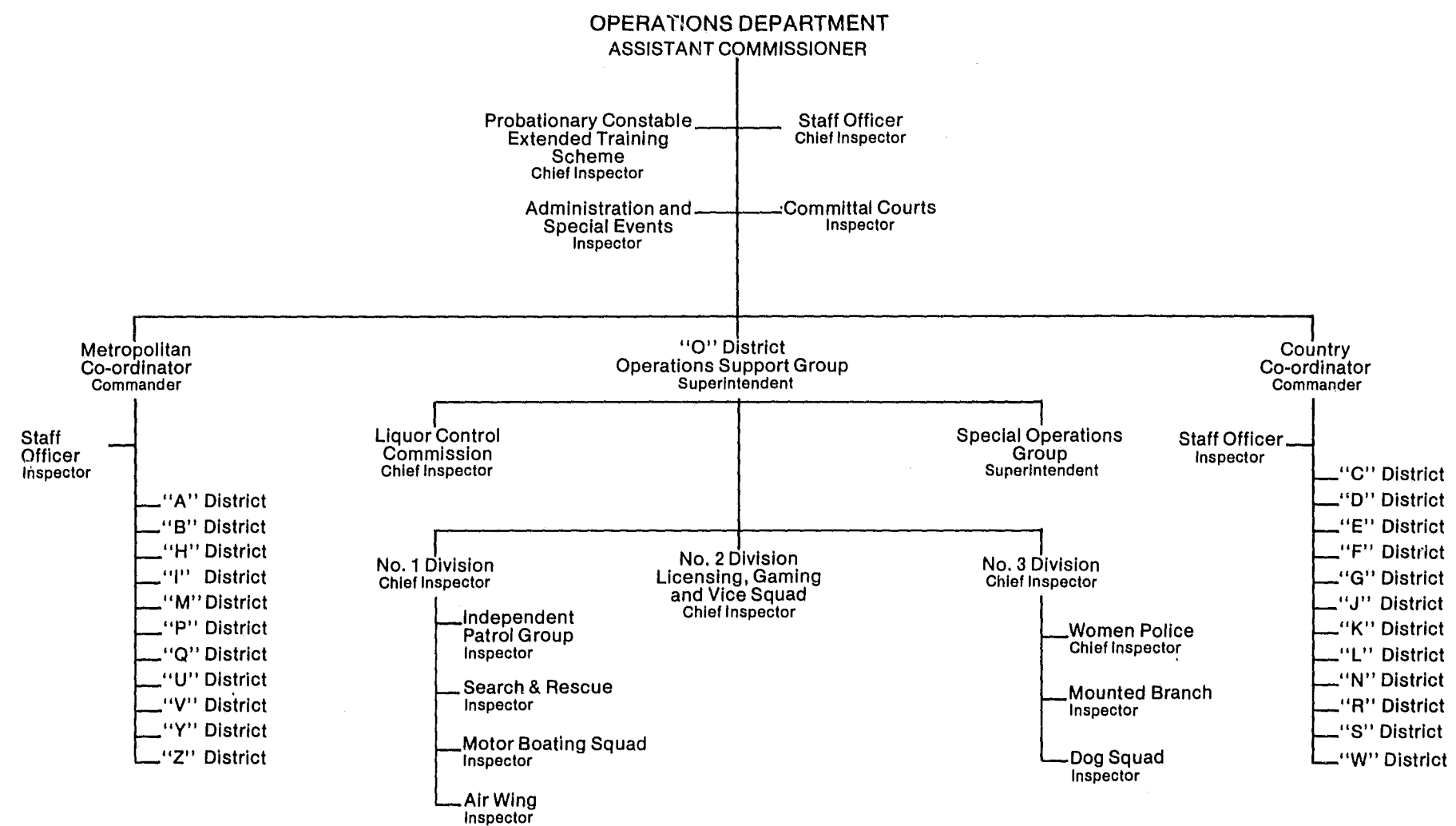
METROPOLITAN POLICE DISTRICTS

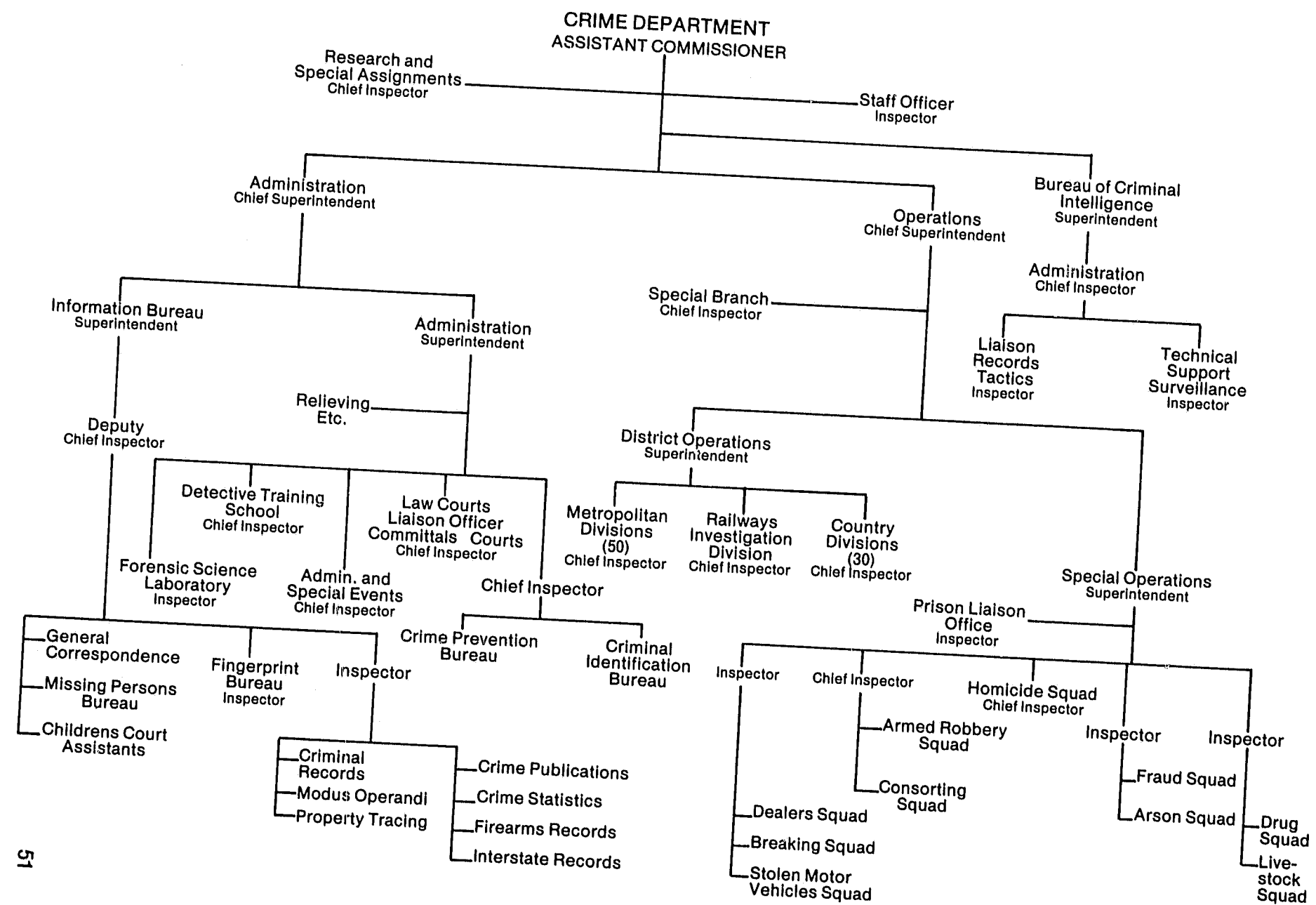




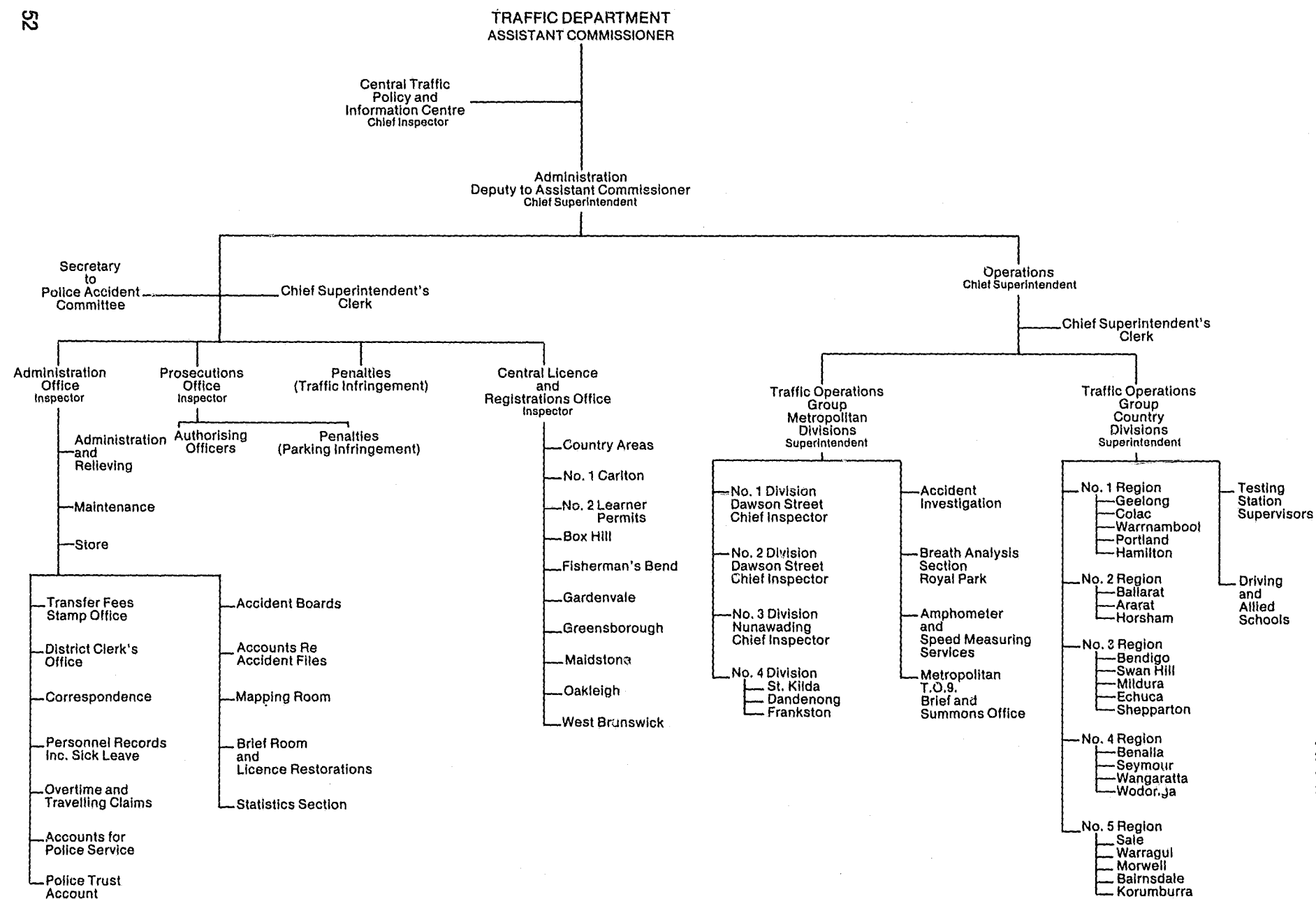


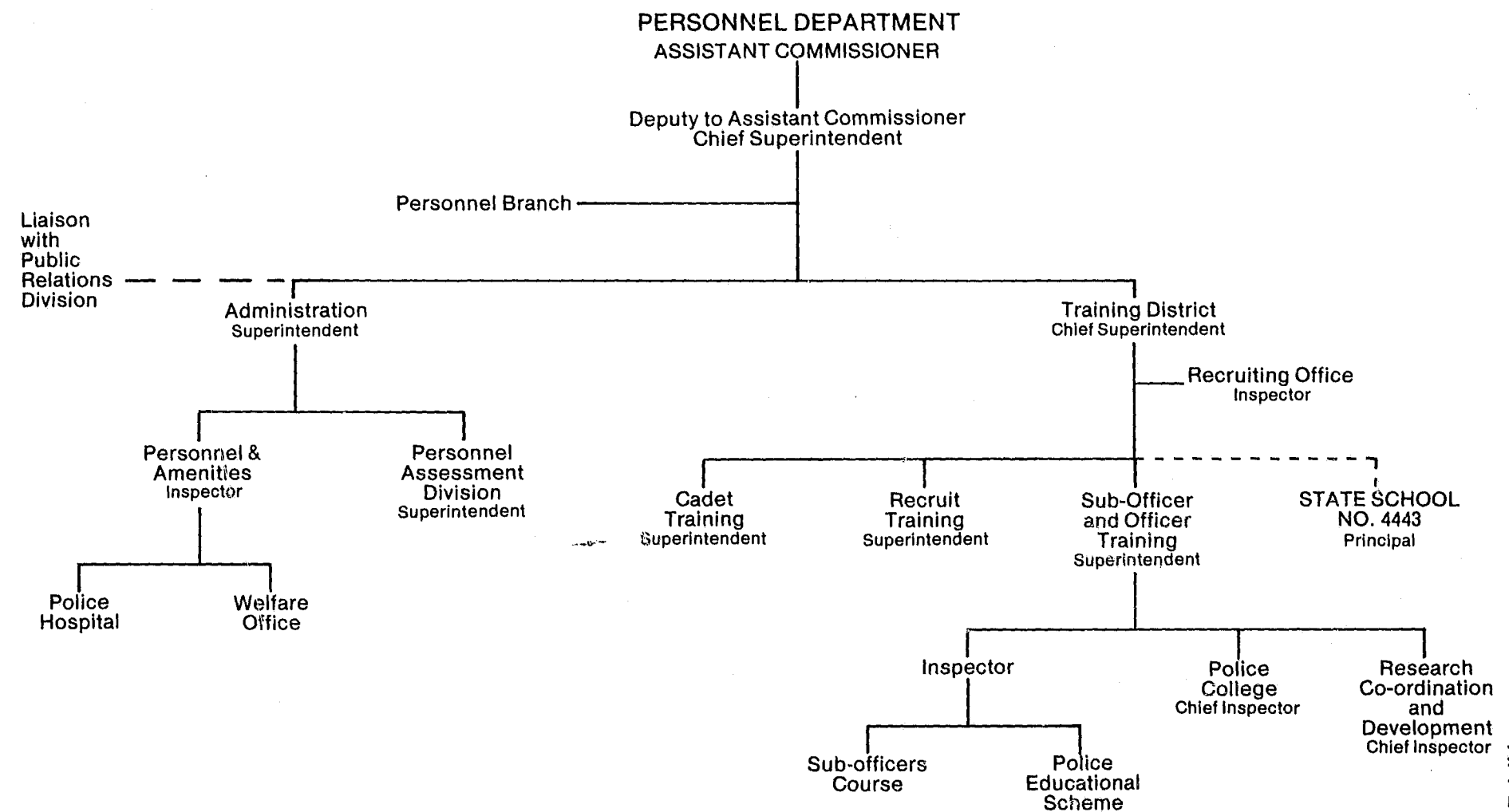
APPENDIX "M"

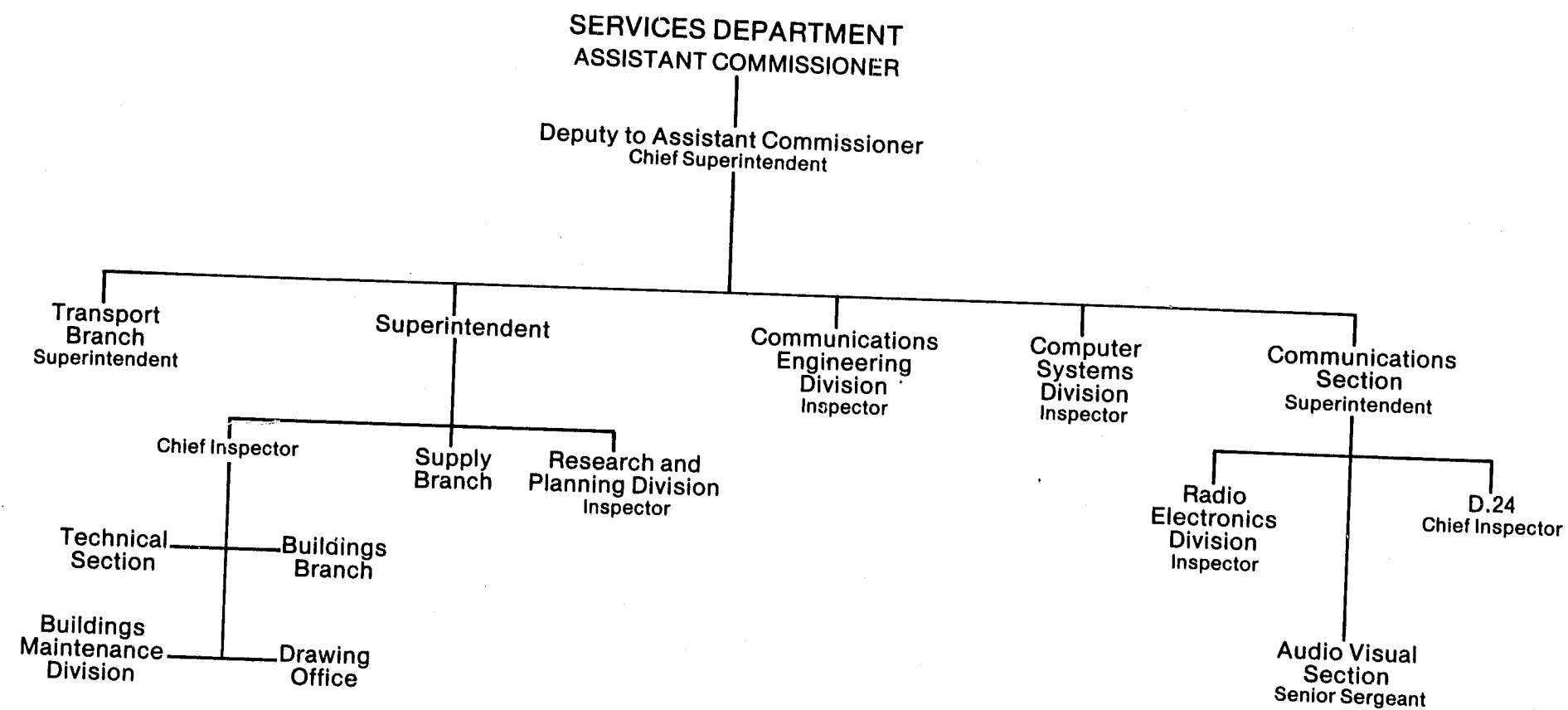




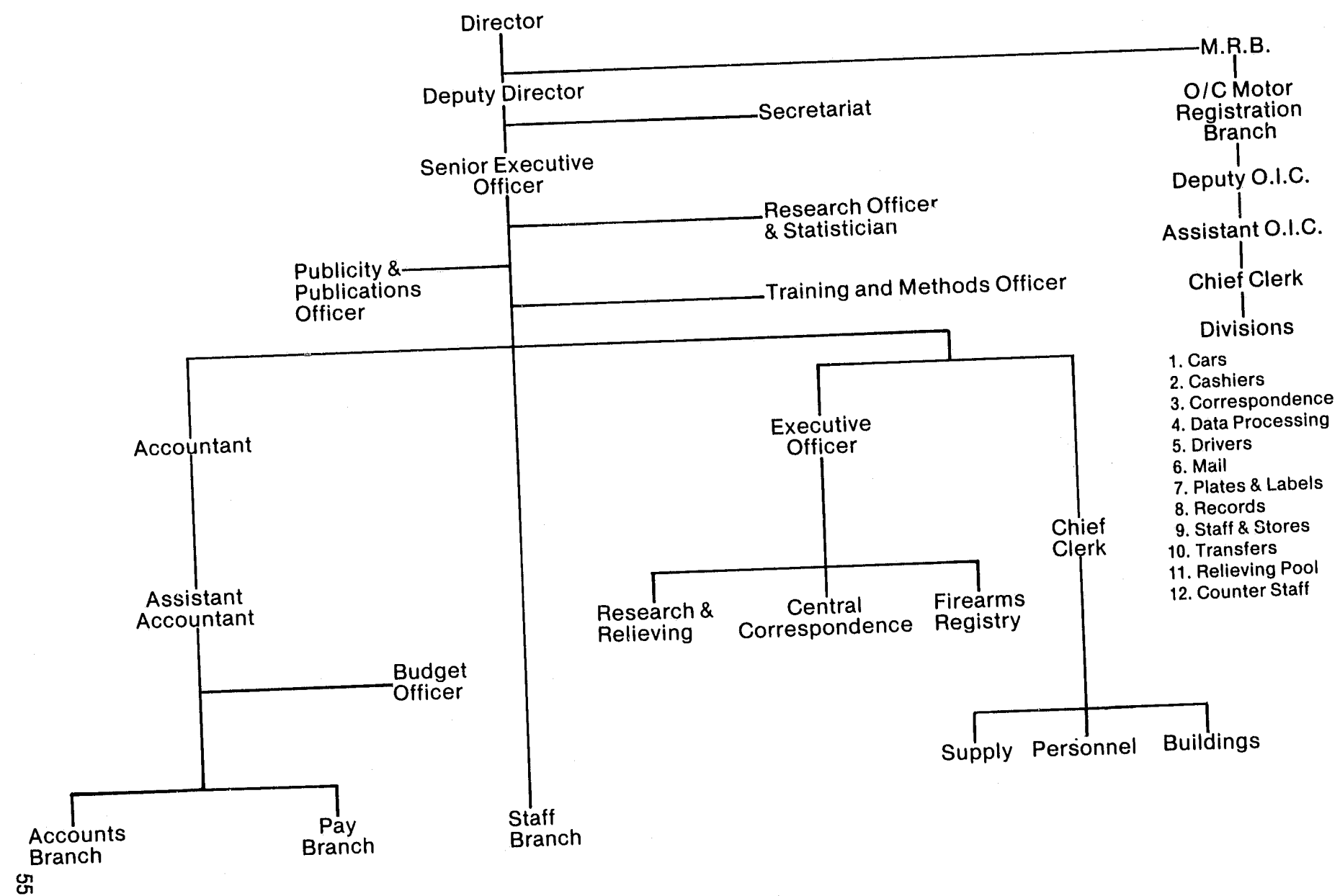
APPENDIX "O"







ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT



APPENDIX "S"

APPENDIX "T"

EXTRANEOUS POSITIONS

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

Sherriff's Bailiff.....	62
Prosecuting Officer.....	233
County Court Bailiff.....	235
Wharf Manager.....	37
Coast Watcher.....	12
Commissioner of Supreme Court.....	17
Summoning Officer.....	1
Inspector of Nuisances.....	2

APPENDIX "U"

NEW AND AMENDING LEGISLATION

The following is a summary of new and amending legislation which affected the work of the Victoria Police Force in 1978.

MOTOR CAR (AMENDMENT) ACT No. 9137 — Extended the use of random breath testing legislation for a further 12 months.

MAGISTRATES COURT (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 9154 — Inserted new section in reference to interstate enforcement.

CRIMES (HIJACKINGS AND OTHER OFFENCES) No. 9155 — Introduces two new sections in relation to threatening injury to prevent, and hinder lawful apprehension. It also includes an offence of making false statements in regard to hijacking.

LIQUOR CONTROL (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 9200 — Introduces a new section in relation to convention facilities.

MOTOR CAR (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 9243 — Provides for holder of Probationary Motor Cycle Licences to operate motor cycles of 260 cc or less, during the first twelve months as a licence holder. It also provides for a limitation on the granting of adjournments for .05. blood alcohol content driving offences.

The **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ACT, No. 9025** commenced operation on 3rd. April 1978 and effectively disbarred discrimination on the grounds of sex or marital status in determining conditions of employment and who will be employed. The Victoria Police Force sought and obtained the following periods of exemption from the Act:

Six months from 12th May, 1978 to:

- (i) allow completion of a new accommodation block at the Training Academy — this enabled selection of persons required to live outside the Academy during training to be continued on the basis of sex;
- (ii) continue the two pronged structure of the Policewomen's Division and the rest of the Force.

Three months from 12th May, 1978 to:

- (i) allow the continuing restriction on the number of females appointed to the Force.

Two year exemptions have been granted from 15th December, 1978 to:

- (i) allow the continuation of the existing Women Police Division;

- (ii) allow one member stations to continue to be staffed by males only;
- (iii) allow stations with a Sergeant in Charge and a staff of not more than five to continue being staffed by males only;
- (iv) allow the position of Prison Liaison Officer to continue being staffed by males only;

- (v) to continue the present system of staffing the Police Welfare Section with male and female members.

A three year exemption (the maximum period) from 15th December, 1978, to allow the Government House and Shrine of Remembrance Group to continue being staffed by males only.

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END