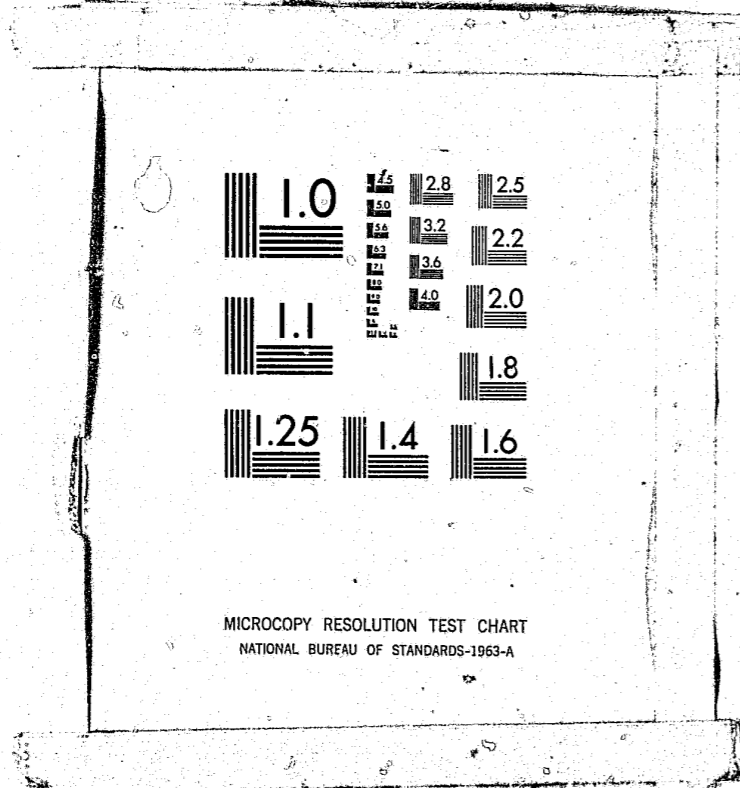


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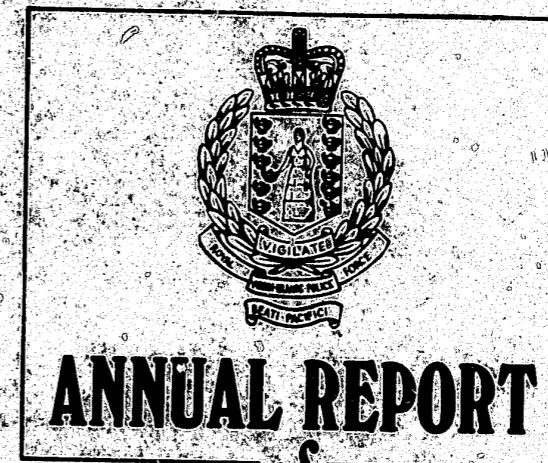
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ANNUAL REPORT of The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force

1980

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ACQUISITION

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE ROYAL VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE FORCE
FOR THE YEAR 1980

INTRODUCTION

General Report

1. There was an overall decrease in reported crime in comparison with the previous year. This decrease could reflect the effects of the arrests in July and December, 1979 of escaped convicts and other armed criminals who may have been responsible for an upsurge in criminal offences in that year. There was no External Security threat and likewise no Internal Security threat to or civil disturbance in the Territory during the year.

Visits + Distinguished Visitors

2. Courtesy visits were made by vessels of the Royal Navy and the French and American Navies. Force Headquarters received the following distinguished visitors:-

Mr. M.H. Baugh, Regional Police Adviser, Barbados

Mr. H.H. Elackman, Commandant, Regional Police Training Centre

Mr. Joseph H. Bolton, Chief Superintendent, Metropolitan Police,
London, U.K.

Mr. M.O'Hare, Canadian High Commission - Trinidad.

Inspection of the Force

3. Mr. R.G.W. Lamb, Acting Inspector General of Colonial and Dependent Territories Police, inspected the Force between 29th March and 4th April, 1980.

Buildings

4. There was little in the way of maintenance work carried out on Police Buildings despite deterioration of appearance in exteriors and interiors. A recreation room was built at Police Headquarters on a "self help" basis.

Establishment/Strength

5. There was no change in the authorised establishment of 62 all ranks. Four recruits of British Virgin Islands origin were appointed on the Permanent and Pensionsable Establishment whilst five expatriate recruits were appointed on a contract basis.

By the end of the year, the establishment of 62 was up to strength, with twenty five (25) members being of "belonger" status.

ORGANIZATION

6. The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force was established on 26th February, 1967 following Constitutional changes in the Leewards Islands. The Police Act Cap 142, Laws of the Virgin Islands, provides for the establishment of the Force and sets out the main duties of the Force as being "the prevention and detection of crime and the repression of internal disturbance", and "defending the Territory in the event of external aggression". The Police Act is, in general, very out dated and in need of urgent revision.

Command

7. The Force was organized as follows to discharge these and other Statutory duties:-

(a) Command

The Force was under the command of
Mr. P.M. Grant, O.B.E. LL. B.

(b) Force Headquarters Division

Located in Road Town Police Station and consisting of:-

- (i) Administration and Finance Section
- (ii) Transport Section
- (iii) Marine Section
- (iv) Quartermaster Section
- (v) Traffic Section

(c) Criminal Investigation Division

Located in Road Town Police Station consisting of:

- (i) Investigation Section
- (ii) Criminal Records Section
- (iii) Special Branch

(d) Western Division

Divisional Headquarters located at Road Town Police Station with East End Sub-division at Long Look Police Station and West End Sub-division at West End Station.

(e) Eastern Division

Divisional Headquarters located at Valley Police Station Virgin Gorda.

Establishment and Strength (1976-1980)

8. <u>Ranks</u>	<u>31-12-76</u>		<u>31-12-77</u>		<u>31-12-78</u>		<u>31-12-79</u>		<u>31-12-80</u>	
	<u>Est</u>	<u>Str</u>	<u>Est</u>	<u>Str</u>	<u>Est</u>	<u>Str</u>	<u>Est</u>	<u>Str</u>	<u>Est</u>	<u>Str</u>
Chief of Police	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
D/Chief of Police	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Inspectors	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	3
Sergeants	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4
Corporals	11	11	11	11	12	11	11	10	11	11
Constables	40	38	40	35	42	35	42	26	42	42
W/Constables	2	2	2	2						
Total	61	58	61	56	62	54	62	55	62	62

Distribution of Establishment

9.	<u>C.P</u>	<u>DCP</u>	<u>INSP</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>M/CPL</u>	<u>W/CPL</u>	<u>CONST</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Administration	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
C.I.D.			1	-	2	1	4	8
S.B.					1			1
Traffic				1	1		3	5
Transport					1		3	4
Quartermaster				1				1
Marine				1			1	2
Road Town			1		3		10	14
West Tortola					1		2	3
East Tortola				1			4	5
Virgin Gorda			1		1		4	6
Leave and Courses							11	11
Total	1	1	3	4	10	1	42	62

Sickness: And Other Casualties

10. A total of 336 days were left through sickness arising from a total of 41 all ranks reporting sick. One Corporal and two Constables completed their contracts whilst one constable resigned.

Discipline

11. 41 Disciplinary charges, resulting in Orderly Room proceedings, were laid and fines to a total of \$437.00 were imposed on convictions.

Ethnic Composition of the Force (as at 31-12-80)

12.	<u>C.P</u>	<u>DCP</u>	<u>INSP</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>CPL</u>	<u>CONST</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
United Kingdom	1						1
Antigua		1	1	2	1	2	7
British Virgin Islands			1	-	2	22	25
Barbados					1	5	6
Dominica			1	1	1	2	5
Grenada				1	3	3	7
Montserrat					1	3	4
St. Vincent						2	2
Trinidad					2		2
St. Kitts						1	1
Nevis						2	2
Total	1	1	3	4	11	42	62

Condition of Service

13. There were no changes in the conditions of service.

Length of service

14.	<u>G.O.</u>	<u>INSP</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>CPL</u>	<u>CONST</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Less than 2 years	-	-	-	-	18	18
From 2 to 5 years	-	-	-	1	12	13
From 5 to 10 years	-	-	1	2	12	15
From 10 to 15 years	-	1	-	7	-	8
From 15 to 20 years	-	1	3	1	-	5
Over 20 years	2	1	-	-	-	3
	2	3	4	11	42	62

Housing

15. Free Barrack Room accommodation is provided for single men. At present, Married Officers and Women Police have to provide their own accommodation. Subsidised accommodation was provided by Government for the Chief of Police.

Clerical Staff

16. Two Civilian Clerks are included in the Establishment of the Force.

Finance

17.	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Personal Emoluments	275,764	288,151	317,315.10	305,228.18	426,764.00
Other Charges	86,968	71,624	59,874.86	59,044.17	84,350.00

Training

18. One Constable attended a Fingerprint and Photography Course and another Constable attended a C.I.D. Course, each in the United Kingdom.

19. One Sergeant attended a course at the Regional Police Training Centre in Barbados.

CRIME

Statistics

20. The total number of crime reports investigated during 1980 amounted to 467 of which 395 were accepted as true. This shows a satisfying overall decrease of 21.2% against the 1979 figure of 593. Comparisons under the various categories with the 1979 statistics are as follows:-

Offence

- (a) Against Public Order:-
No change
- (b) Against Lawful Authority :-
Decrease - 50%

- (c) Injurious to the public in general:-
Decrease - 8%
- (d) Against Public morality:-
Decrease 71.4%
- (e) Against the persons:-
Decrease 18.3%
- (f) Against property:-
Decrease - 14.4%
- (g) Against Local Laws:-
Decrease - 3%

21. Comparative figures for the main categories of crime for the period 1976-1980 are set out below:-

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Cat. 1 <u>Offences Against Public Order</u>					
True	8	2	2	-	2
Convicted	7	-	2	-	2
Acquitted	1	-	-	-	-
Withdrawn	-	-	-	-	-
Undetected	-	-	-	-	-
Pending	-	2	-	-	-
Cat. 2 <u>Offences against Lawful Authority</u>					
True	8	8	10	12	6
Convicted	7	4	4	7	3
Acquitted	-	1	2	-	-
Withdrawn	-	-	1	2	1
Undetected	-	-	-	-	-
Pending	1	3	3	3	2

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Cat. 3 <u>Offences Injurious to the Public</u>					
True	82	56	81	63	58
Convicted	55	24	41	38	33
Acquitted	5	13	8	6	2
Withdrawn	6	4	5	6	9
Undetected	1	-	-	-	-
Pending	15	15	27	13	14
Cat. 4 <u>Offences Against Public Morality</u>					
True	-	4	6	7	2
Convicted	-	1	-	1	-
Acquitted	-	-	3	2	-
Withdrawn	-	2	2	1	-
Undetected	-	-	-	2	-
Pending	-	1	1	1	2
Cat. 5 <u>Offences Against the Person</u>					
True	73	81	63	60	49
Convicted	35	20	25	26	20
Acquitted	10	18	13	12	5
Withdrawn	10	3	5	4	2
Undetected	-	-	-	1	-
Pending	18	40	20	17	22
Cat. 6 <u>Offences Against Property</u>					
True	229	178	195	325	278
Convicted	42	30	24	24	20
Acquitted	6	7	2	6	3
Withdrawn	5	6	10	6	3
Undetected	125	90	106	210	159
Pending	51	45	53	79	93

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Cat. 7 Local Laws					
True	363	244	260	195	189
Convicted	280	117	162	134	96
Acquitted	26	55	24	14	5
Withdrawn	25	5	19	9	7
Undetected	-	1	3	10	32
Pending	32	66	52	28	49

22. Comparative figures of true reports of offences against local laws for the period 1976 - 1980 are as follows:-

Vehicles and Road Traffic	332	211	247	170	171
Firearms	6	4	2	9	1
Dangerous Drugs	24	25	11	16	14
Treasury	-	-	-	-	-
Protection of Animals	-	-	-	-	-
Immigration and Passport	-	2	-	-	3
Unspecified	1	2	-	-	-

23. Juvenile Delinquency

Eleven juveniles were convicted for offences during 1980, as compared with five in 1979. This is a disturbing increase and the situation in respect of juvenile delinquency carefully monitored. The offences were as follows:-

Simple Larceny	-	(2 males and 1 female)
House Breaking	-	(6 males)
Ag. Prop-Others	-	(2 males)

24. No established probation service or approved school exists in the Territory. The Social Welfare Department assists whenever possible.

25. Criminal Investigation

Breakings offences decreased from 143 in 1979 to 90 in 1980 -37.06% decrease. There was an overall decrease of 15.89% in the following offences as compared with 1979 (321).

	<u>1979</u>		<u>1980</u>	
	<u>True Reports</u>	<u>Convictions</u>	<u>True Reports</u>	<u>Convictions</u>
Simple Larcencies	164	14	166	6
Robberies	10	1	7	2
Breakings	143	4	90	4
Frauds	-	-	3	1
Receiving & Unlawful possessions	4	4	4	3
	<u>321</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>16</u>

26. Comparative figures of crimes involving dishonesty in 1980 are as follows:-

	<u>1979</u>		<u>1980</u>	
	<u>True Reports</u>	<u>Case to Courts</u>	<u>True Reports</u>	<u>Case to Court</u>
Simple Larcencies	164	19	166	10
Robberies	10	3	7	3
Breakings	143	9	90	7
Frauds	-	-	3	1
Receivings and Unlawful possessions	4	4	4	3
	<u>321</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>24</u>

27. The total of 166 true reports of Simple Larceny was made up of the following types of theft:-

From Persons	2
Dwelling House	38
Shop	12
Hotel	26
Other Buildings	8
Car	35
Boat	22
Beach	16
Other	7
	<u>166</u>

28. This was an increase of 1.21% on the 1979 total.

29. Breakings showed a 37.06% decrease in 1980 as compared with 1979. 7.7% of all true reports resulted in court action. The types of property affected were as follows:

Dwelling House	42
Shop	11
Store	8
Office	8
Hotel	5
Others	<u>16</u>
	<u>90</u>

Fingerprint Bureau

30. One detective corporal and one detective constable carry out basic classifications. The Force maintains its own Bureau and scenes of crime section. Lack of sophisticated fingerprint equipment hampered the progress of this important section in the past but the position has improved considerably as excellent equipment has been taken on charge. There are 510 sets of fingerprints filed.

Photographic Section

31. The photographic section is now fully operational and is being used for criminal investigations and other assignments.

The darkroom is in regular use but studio facilities have had to be converted to other uses.

Modus Operandi Index

32. No such index is maintained or considered necessary at the present time, but plans are in hand to establish one in the future.

Criminal Records Office

33. A centralised system of traffic and criminal statistics is now in existence.

Forensic Aids

34. No facilities are available in the Territory for chemical analysis or other forensic science examinations. However, the United States Virgin Islands has allowed the Force to make use of their Crime Laboratory on payment of fees and it is proper once again to record our appreciation of the assistance given by the Director, John A. Richards Jr. Appreciation is also due to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to the St. Thomas Police Department Detective Division.

Courts

35. The West Indies Associated States Court sat at Road Town in its original and civil jurisdiction in March and October, 1980.

36. The Territory's only subordinate court is that of the Magistrate and, in the police view, the powers of the magistrate are still grossly inadequate.

Police Supervision

37. There were 2 cases requiring police supervision during 1980.

Law Enforcement Organization - U.S. Virgin Islands

38. The Law Enforcement Organization of the Virgin Islands, an organization which fosters co-operation between the police, customs and other regulatory bodies was active during 1980.

39. Meetings were held at St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. and Tortola and Virgin Gorda, B.V.I. The fact that L.E.O. was again functioning is encouraging news and augurs well for local co-operation between B.V.I. and U.S.V.I. and now Puerto Rico.

TRAFFIC

40. Registration and Licensing of Motor Vehicles

At the end of 1980 a total of 2735 motor vehicles were registered and licensed for use on the public roads of the Territory. This showed an increase of 455 on the 1980 figure. Figures for 1976-1980 are as follows:-

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
	2,036	2,127	2,126	2,280	2,735

41. Road Accidents

41. A total of 183 road accidents occurred in 1980. There were one fatality and 50 persons were injured. Thus, there was an decrease of death and increase of injured.

42. A five year statistical comparison is:-

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Accidents	170	169	178	155	183
Deaths	2	-	1	3	1
Injured	63	58	44	37	50

43. Causes of road accidents during 1980 were as follows:

Dangerous driving	3
Careless driving	106
Speeding	3
Pedestrians Heedless to Traffic	5
Skidding	3
Straying Animals	3
Mechanical Failure	17
Cause not established	<u>43</u>
	<u>183</u>

Traffic Offences

44. 188 reports of traffic violations were dealt with during 1980, these are classified as follows:-

Dangerous Careless or Reckless Driving	17
Take Vehicle without owner's consent	38
Drive without Drivers Licence	22
Drive without Insurance	36
Drive without lights	3
Drive with Defective Tyre	1
Drive without Crash Helmet	2
Parking Offences	19
Leave motor vehicle with engine running	1
Obstruction	3
Drive under the influence of drink or drug	1
Noisy vehicle	7
Drive unlicensed vehicle	26
Fail to comply with traffic signs	1
Permit use of unregistered vehicle	2
Drive of unregistered vehicle	1
Permit use of vehicle when not the holder of a Driver's Licence	1
Permit use of uninsured vehicle	2
Drive without identification plate	2
Fail to produce Drivers Licence	1
Fail to stop at Stop Sign	<u>1</u>
	<u>188</u>

45. 92 of these reports resulted in court action, 78 convictions were obtained and 14 charges were dismissed. 96 of these reports were withdrawn before court action taken.

Driving Tests

46. Police are responsible for the testing of drivers and 359 persons were tested during 1980. Comparative figures for 1976 to 1980 are as follows:-

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Drivers Passed	101	113	140	107	185
Drivers Failed	193	94	172	229	174
	294	207	312	336	359

Examination of Motor Vehicles

47. The police specialist corporal examines motor vehicles to ensure roadworthiness. This examination is done annually at the time the vehicles are re-licensed.

48. However, due to the number of vehicles and other duty commitments of the Corporal, these examinations were often carried out by untrained traffic policemen and, consequently, the standard of vehicles on the road has deteriorated.

49. Plans to establish a completely new licensing section have been submitted to the Government.

OTHER SPECIALISED BRANCHES

50. Fire Brigade

The Force has continued to be responsible for fire fighting throughout the Territory with the exception of the Beef Islands Airport Fire appliances are stationed at Road Town and Virgin Gorda. One other appliance is under repair and will be allocated to East End.

51. At the end of 1980 police had the following operational fire appliances:-

Road Town	1 Bedford 700 gallon fire tender
Virgin Gorda	1 Land Rover Fire Tender

52. In 1980 the Fire Brigade answered a total of 31 calls out of which eight were false. There were no deaths and no injuries as a result of the fires.

Special Branch

53. A small Special Branch and registry is maintained in Police Headquarters.

Emergency Response Unit

54. A unit of an inspector and six men was formed in August of the year to deal with two dangerous criminals who were at large. Most of these men were trained during the two Regional Field Training Courses.

55. The Unit proved its value by apprehending the criminals concerned, but the small size of this Force prohibits the maintenance of a permanent unit. It is preferable to have all personnel trained in these duties.

Women Police

56. One Women Police Corporal and three women Police Constables were on strength at the end of 1980. The Corporal is in charge of the Juvenile and Female Welfare Section of the C.I.D., and three constables did general duties.

Auxiliary Forces

57. At the end of 1980 there were 17 local Constables in the Territory. During the year four of them appeared at one training parade, but otherwise they were not involved in any police activity.

58. During the year, a number of Special Constables were attested or reattested. These men are enthusiastic but untrained. They supplied much needed man power during the Festival and in two emergency situations. They have been issued with uniform and have done some basic training. At the end of the year there were ten Special Constables in the Force.

Baughers Bay	1
East End, Tortola	2
Frenchman's Cay	1
Brewer's Bay	1
Jost Van Dyke	2
Chalwell	1
Salt Island	1
Anegada	1
Virgin Gorda	4
Carrot Bay	1
Road Town	<u>2</u>
	<u>17</u>

Telecommunications

59. H.F. Transreceivers were located at Police Headquarters and on the launch. However, the launch set has been so damaged by salt water that it is unlikely that it will ever be used again.

60. The H.F. Eastern Caribbean Police Network is now practically defunct. Some signals were sent and received during Hurricane David, but otherwise the network has not been used again.

61. Equipment for an internal FM/VHF system was made available by Cable and Wireless (W.I.) Ltd. Tests have been carried out on an internal police boat wireless system using U.H.F. Walkie Talkies sets, and these were very successful. Approval in principle has been obtained from the Government to establish the system.

Transport

62. At the end of 1980, Police had the following vehicles at their disposal:-

Road Town	1 Car
	1 Jeep
	1 Bedford Truck
	3 Gurgels
East End	1 Gurgel
West End	1 LWB Land Rover
Virgin Gorda	1 LWB Land Rover

63. One jeep was damaged beyond repair in an accident, and one Land Rover became beyond local repair. In replacement the Force was supplied with two Gurgels.

Welfare and Recreation

64. Police Canteen

The Police Canteen and Recreation Room continued to be popular. The Annual Police Ball in December was attended by H.E. The Governor, the Chief Minister and other distinguished guests. It was a great success being regarded as the social event of the year. It was held at Police Headquarters.

Police Welfare Association

65. The Police Welfare Association was not active during the year. No one was willing to accept office in the organization. Police Welfare matters were dealt with by the Chief of Police.

Sport and Games

66. The Police Football and Cricket teams participated in local league contests with great success. The Football Team won the B.V.I. Football Shield for the third year in succession. The Cricket Team also performed well, but the league ended prematurely.

OTHER POLICE DUTIES

Revenue Collection

67. Police remained responsible for sale of Driving, Motor Vehicle and Firearms Licences. Revenue collected during 1980 were as follows:-

Drivers Licences	15,345.00
Motor Vehicle Licences	77,722.93
Temporary Drivers Licences	21,874.50
Police Services	2,822.50
Other Fees and Licences	<u>5,176.20</u>
	<u>122,941.13</u>

Film Censorship and Public Transport Commission

68. The Chief of Police is an ex-Officio member of the Board of Film Censors appointed by the Governor under the provisions of Section 4 of the Cinematography Ordinance Cap 211, and is a member of the Public Transport Commission under the provisions of Section 3 (1) vehicles and Road Traffic Ordinance Cap 198.

Control of Firearms

69. Permits to keep and carry firearms are issued by the Police, after approval by the Governor. At the end of 1980 the firearms licensed in the Territory were as follows:-

Rifles	23
Shotguns	53
Pistols	<u>9</u>
	<u>85</u>

Membership of Public Organization

70. The Police hold membership in the Mental Health Association.

Period 1980

DISPOSAL OF CASES

Statutory Offences	REPORTS MADE DURING PERIOD TO STATIONS					TOTAL REPORTS INVESTIGATED				TOTAL INVESTIGATED	REPORTS REJECTED				TOTAL TRUE REPORTS	DISPOSAL OF TRUE REPORTS				RESULTS OF COURT CASES				TOTAL PERSONS BEFORE COURT	
	Road Town	Virgin Gorda	East Tortola	West Tortola		Total made during period	Investigations b/f	Pending trial b/f	Inquiries re-opened		Withdrawn by complainant	False report	Mistake of law or fact	Refused or warned		Closed undetected	Accused not located	Investigations c/f	To court	Convicted	Acquitted	Withdrawn	Pending trial b/f		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Motor Vehicle and Road Traffic	163	9	14	3			189				189				18	171	32		46	93	81	5	5	2	58
Dangerous Drugs	11	3	-	-			14				14					14			1	13	11		2		13
Immigration and Passport	3	1	-	-			4				4				1	3				3	3				5
Firearm Ordinance	-	1	-	-			1				1					1				1	1				1
Total:	177	14	14	3			208				208				19	189	32		47	110	96	5	7	2	77

Period ...1970.....

DISPOSAL OF PERSONS

Statutory Offences	TOTAL PERSONS BEFORE COURT	DISPOSAL OF PERSONS BEFORE COURT - SENTENCES																				AGE GROUPS OF PERSONS CONVICTED										TOTAL PERSONS CONVICTED		
		Acquitted	Withdrawn	Pending trial c/i	Convicted	Death		Imprisonment				Corporal punishment				Fines				Other penalties				Males by age groups (years)					Females by age groups (years)					
						Adult		Adult		Juvenile		Adult		Juvenile		Adult		Juvenile		Adult		Juvenile		7 to 13	14 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 30	30 & over	7 to 13	14 to 15	16 to 20		21 to 30	30 & over
						M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F											
1	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
Motor Vehicle and Road Traffic	58	3	2	2	51											41	6			3	1					4	19	21			1	3	3	51
Dangerous Drugs	13	-	2	-	11			3								4				3		1			1	2	7	1						11
Immigration and Passport	5	-	-	-	5			3												2					2	3								5
Firearm Ordinance	1				1											1									1									1
TOTAL	77	3	4	2	68			6								46	6			8	1	1			1	8	30	22			1	3	3	68

END