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Report

OF

THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

OF THE

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

1981

83800

REPORT
OF
THE CHIEF CONSTABLE
OF THE
WEST MIDLANDS POLICE
FOR THE
YEAR 1981

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice
83800

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Lloyd House
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WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

MEMBERS OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY

Chairman: Councillor E T Shore (*Birmingham, Saltley*)

Vice-Chairman: Councillor T J Savage (*Birmingham, Erdington*)

Local Authority Representatives

Magistrate Members

Ward

Councillor D M Ablett	(<i>Dudley, No. 6</i>)	JD Baker Esq JP FCA
Councillor D Benny JP	(<i>Birmingham, Sandwell</i>)	K H Barker Esq
Councillor E I Bentley	(<i>Meriden, No. 1</i>)	OBE DL JP FRICS
Councillor D Fysh	(<i>Wolverhampton No. 4</i>)	Captain J E Heydon
Councillor J Hunte	(<i>Birmingham, Handsworth</i>)	ERD JP
Councillor K R Ison	(<i>Stourbridge, No. 1</i>)	J B Pendle Esq JP
Councillor I A Lane	(<i>Birmingham, Northfield</i>)	Mrs K E Piddock JP
BA Dip ED LCP		R J Smith Esq JP
Councillor G Law	(<i>West Bromwich, No. 3</i>)	C I Teeling Esq JP
Councillor Mrs I Lovekin	(<i>Birmingham, Stockland Green</i>).	
Councillor P J Macmanomy	(<i>Walsall No. 1</i>)	
Councillor G S Sidhu	(<i>West Bromwich, No. 4</i>)	
Councillor Mrs M E Stoneman	(<i>Coventry, No. 2</i>)	
BA Cert ED LRAM		
Councillor Mrs C Thorneycroft	(<i>Coventry, No. 2</i>)	
Councillor R A Wootton	(<i>Sutton Coldfield, No. 2</i>)	

Police Headquarters

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Birmingham B4 6NQ

Telephone No. 021-236 5000
Telex 337321

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Deputy Chief Constable

Assistant Chief Constables

Administration and Supplies
Crime
Operations
Organisation & Development
Personnel & Training
Staff Support

Sir Philip Knights CBE QPM
Mr R Broome

Mr L Sharp LL.B
Mr D H Gerty LL.B.
Mr K J Evans
Mr G E Coles B Jur
Mr J B Glynn
Mr T Meffen

Criminal Investigation Department

Chief Superintendent C W Powell (*Operations*)
Chief Superintendent T Light (*Support Services*)

Chief Administrative Officer

Chief Superintendent P C J Price MA (Oxon)

Personnel Department

Chief Superintendent R P Snee

Traffic Department

Chief Superintendent D M Knight LL.B

Discipline and Complaints Department

W/Chief Superintendent E M Unett QPM

Management Services

Chief Superintendent J A G Smith

Training Department

Chief Superintendent A M McDowall

Operations Co-ordinator

Chief Superintendent G B Kirton

Communications

Chief Superintendent L P Coates

'B' Division

Bournville Lane Birmingham Telephone No 021 - 476 3141
Chief Superintendent C Leneban

'C' Division

Walsall Road Birmingham Telephone No 021 - 356 0431
Chief Superintendent D C Wilson

'D' Division

Queens Road Birmingham Telephone No 021 - 327 6551
Chief Superintendent J Bagnall

'E' Division

Sheldon Heath Road Birmingham Telephone No 021 - 706 8111
Chief Superintendent D J O'Dowd

'F' Division

Steelhouse Lane Birmingham Telephone No 021 - 236 5000
Chief Superintendent N T Jones

'G' Division

Alfred Squires Road Wolverhampton . Telephone No Wolverhampton 27851
Chief Superintendent R Massey

'H' Division

Green Lane Walsall Telephone No Walsall 38111
Chief Superintendent R J Meller

'J' Division

New Street Dudley Telephone No Dudley 56900
Chief Superintendent J J Tonkinson

'K' Division

New Street West Bromwich Telephone No 021 - 553 2971
Chief Superintendent G C Fieldhouse

'L' Division

Homer Road Solihull Telephone No 021 - 705 7611
Chief Superintendent P D Hancox

'M' Division

Little Park Street Coventry Telephone No. Coventry 555333
Chief Superintendent S M Hammond

ANNUAL REPORT 1981

Chief Constable's Office
Administration Department

POPULATION AND ACREAGE STATISTICS

Force Area in acres	222,400.4
Population	2,644,634
Acreage per Officer	33.27
Population per Officer	395.67
Rateable Value	£398,900,000

Authorised Establishment of the Force

Regular Force	6684
Cadets	375
Civilians	1904
Traffic Wardens	688

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

Police Headquarters
Lloyd House
Colmore Circus Queensway
Birmingham B4 6NQ

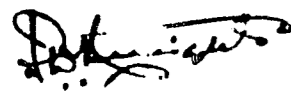
To: **The Chairman and Members of the
West Midlands Police Authority**

MR CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I have the honour to present my report on the policing of West Midlands during the year 1981.

I have the honour to be,
Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen

Your Obedient Servant



Chief Constable

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Section 12 of the Police Act 1964, provides that the Chief Constable shall submit to the Police Authority, as soon as possible after the end of each calendar year, a general Report in writing of the policing during that year of the area for which his Force is maintained. It is an essential part of the arrangements made to ensure that the Police are "accountable" to the communities that they police.

1981 was an eventful year for the West Midlands Police. For the first time in its history, indeed in the history of policing in the Midlands over the years, it achieved its authorised establishment of police officers, and this at a time when the demands being made upon the Force, particularly in the field of crime and public order, continued to markedly increase. It saw the large-scale public disturbances which swept the country in the summer, but, at the same time, it saw a continuing strengthening of the links between the Force and the communities which it polices. All these matters, and many others, are reported on the following pages.

Transfers of Senior Officers

Deputy Chief Constable M Buck OBE QPM transferred on 10 March 1981 to Northampton Police on promotion to Chief Constable of that Force. We take this opportunity of congratulating Mr Buck on his promotion and thanking him for his loyal service and positive contribution to the efficiency of this Force, particularly in developing our relationship with the community. We wish him and Mrs Buck every happiness in their new surroundings.

Chief Superintendent J P Bensley transferred on 4 October 1981 to the Cleveland Constabulary on his promotion to Assistant Chief Constable. We take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Bensley on his promotion and to thank him for his unstinting efforts to maintain and improve the efficiency of the divisions which he commanded. To him and Mrs Bensley also we extend our good wishes for the future.

Administration and Development

During 1981 considerable emphasis has been placed on examining the means by which the Force can best use its available resources to give greater efficiency and cost effectiveness. To this end monitored experiments have been carried out on selected Sub-Divisions in various aspects of operational policing in close co-operation with the two Staff Associations. These experiments have now been concluded and the Management Services Department is in the process of analysing the results.

The introduction of a Centralised Process Department in Birmingham has replaced Divisional Process Sections of the five Central Divisions. A great deal of progress has already been made towards centralising many of the administrative functions connected with prosecutions and thus relieving operational police officers of a considerable burden of work. Arrangements have been made to further mechanise the new Department thus ensuring additional savings in operational police time.

A combined team of police and County Council O & M officers is currently examining the divisional and sub-divisional administration functions and it is hoped that their findings will be available for consideration during 1982.

A new Systeme 6400 computer system has been installed in the Management Services Department to serve as a data base for the production of a daily list of persons appearing before Birmingham Magistrates' Court after arrest and to provide a test-bed for other computer applications which may be beneficial to the Force. Close co-operation on this project has been maintained with the West Midlands County Council Computer Section. As from December 1981 the Force Crime and Traffic Accident Statistics have been stored in their computer.

One of the most important achievements of 1981 has been the completion of a computerised Street Index as an enhancement to the Force Command and Control System. We have been able to offer this index to other computer users within the West Midlands County Council.

Manpower

In February the authorised establishment of the Force was increased by 175, giving a new figure of 6,684 officers.

During the year we recruited 383 officers into the Force. After taking into account wastage, our manning level was improved by 142, so that at 31 December 1981, we had reached the new establishment level. It should also be noted that 121 officers were seconded to special duties. Just over 26% of our recruits were women, a slight decrease on the 1980 figures.

At the present time the police service is undoubtedly seen as an attractive career. Throughout the year there has been a waiting list of accepted regular officer candidates, and due to the healthy recruitment situation no direct advertising for regular officers has been necessary. Established contacts with schools, colleges, universities and armed forces establishments were maintained however.

There is still no shortage of well-qualified applicants for the Cadet Corps. During 1981, 87 persons were enrolled bringing the strength of the Corps to 188. Male cadets now account for 65% of the Corps.

During the year we only achieved an increase of 15 non-manual and two manual staff, due to the restriction on manning levels caused by the present economic climate. I wish to thank all civilian staff for their continued loyal support which has once again played an important part in our ability to police West Midlands.

Public Order

The nationwide public disorders of July 1981 placed heavy demands upon the manpower resources of the Force and it was necessary to call upon other forces for mutual aid support. At various times officers from the Avon and Somerset, Durham, Dyfed Powys, Gwent, Hampshire, Kent, South Wales, Sussex, Thames Valley, Wiltshire and West Mercia Constabularies were deployed in the Force area. The manner in which those officers carried out their duties merited the highest praise and I am indebted to them and to the chief officers of the forces concerned for the assistance so readily given. The problems associated with the accommodation and feeding of up to 400 additional officers in such circumstances thoroughly tested the Force Contingency Plan. Whilst a number of important lessons were learned, I am pleased to say that the Force was able to ensure that the needs of the visiting officers were met. A full report on these events has been submitted separately to you.

Notification of intention to march was received from four National or New National Front groups during the year. Three such marches took place whilst the fourth was the subject of an order prohibiting public processions. Marches took place at Wolverhampton, West Bromwich and Birmingham and in each case there was only minor disorder with a small number of arrests being made.

Notice of intention to march at Wolverhampton was given by the New National Front in March 1981. After careful consideration of the latest information available I considered that should this march take place there was every likelihood of serious public disorder, and made application for an order prohibiting public processions in the Wolverhampton district. The order was granted. On the date in question a number of New National Front sympathisers travelled into the Force area and a march subsequently took place at Burton-on-Trent which passed without incident.

There were four other major marches during the year. In April members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament marched through the area without incident.

In May the "Peoples March for Jobs 1981" crossed the Force area and although only 300 people completed the full march, this number was greatly increased by local support. In September the Labour Party gave notice of their intention to hold a national march and rally in Birmingham. An estimated 5,000 marchers completed the route and the later rally was attended by a number of prominent politicians. On none of these three occasions was there major disorder and in general the marches passed off in a very good natured manner. On 23 May 1981, the Coventry Committee against Racism held a march and rally in Coventry City Centre. It was necessary on this occasion to deploy some 962 officers as information that had been received indicated a strong likelihood of counter demonstrations and opposition to the march by rival factions. An estimated 7,000 participants marched and in the Cathedral Square there were incidents of disorder involving both marchers and opposing groups. Over 70 arrests were made during the afternoon.

On four occasions assistance was requested by other forces. In April the Warwickshire Constabulary requested assistance in connection with a march and rally at Rugby. The Force supplied 100 officers but there were no incidents of disorder relating to the event. In July assistance was requested by both the Merseyside and Leicestershire Forces and the Force supplied 140 and 35 officers respectively. Although the officers were operationally deployed on both occasions in connection with public disorders, no officers were injured. The officers visiting Merseyside returned to the Force area due to the likelihood of disorder within West Midlands. In August, again at the request of the Chief Constable of Merseyside, 140 officers were provided to assist in policing a march and demonstration in Liverpool. Both during and after the march there were outbreaks of violent disorder and several West Midlands officers were injured.

The possibility of terrorist activity continues to give cause for concern and contingency plans have been prepared to deal with any terrorist incidents which might occur within the Force area. Our plans are inter-related with those prepared by other agencies, Central Government, the Security Services and military to counter any attack. Two exercises were carried out in co-operation and co-ordination with other agencies to test those plans. The lessons learned from the exercises will prove invaluable should we have to face a real situation.

Industrial action by prison officers continued from 1980 into early 1981 necessitating prisoners who should have been detained in prison being delivered into police custody. The dispute was resolved in late January but there was a further recurrence in May when, for a period of 10 days, prisoners from Magistrates' Courts were detained in police cells. These occasions created heavy demands for the Force, not least of which was the drain on manpower.

The four full marathon runs which were held during the year in Chelmsley Wood, Coventry, Sandwell and Birmingham posed a number of problems. It is impossible to have these events on the public highway without disruption of traffic flow and inconvenience being caused to the general public. There is no power to ban such events and therefore we have a responsibility to ensure that risks to other road users are minimised by some form of police control. An evaluation is currently taking place of our policing response to such events and the problem is also being considered nationally by the Association of Chief Police Officers.

There were 16 visits made by members of the Royal Family and it was a particular pleasure to have Her Majesty the Queen visit the Force area on two occasions. The large crowds which turned out on both occasions reflected the welcome and admiration felt for Her Majesty. I am pleased to be able to say that all visits passed without incident.

Crime

The upward trend in recorded crime experienced in 1980 continued throughout 1981. The year started with an overall increase of 2,725 crimes in January, and apart from two slight lulls in February and December, this increased momentum was maintained throughout the year. The increase in recorded crime over the previous year amounted to 22,199 crimes, representing an average monthly increase of 1,850 crimes.

The lesser increase in crime in February and December can be accounted for by the particularly bad weather conditions prevailing during those months.

A total of 188,230 crimes were recorded during the year, of which 59,543 were detected, representing a clearance of 31.6%. This percentage clearance is slightly down on 1980's figure of 32.5% but with the increased incidence of crime the figure represents an increase in the number of clearances overall: in fact 5,501 more crimes were cleared than during 1980.

Crimes of violence resulted in 42 deaths, a decrease of six over the previous year. Of these 30 offences were classified as murder and 12 as manslaughter with all but one offence of murder being cleared. Six thousand five hundred and seventy two offences of wounding were recorded during the year, an increase of 678 (11.5%) over the previous year's figure of 5,894.

A detection rate of 54.6% was achieved in 1981, compared with 68% in 1980 for all classes of wounding.

Crimes of arson and criminal damage increased by 2,105 over the previous year: a similar increase was experienced in 1980 over 1979.

One of the more disturbing increases in crime relates to the offence of burglary both in dwelling houses and other buildings. With regard to the former, 27,728 such offences were recorded representing an increase of 4,676 (20%). With regard to burglary other buildings, 29,671 such offences were recorded, an increase of 3,048 (11.4%) over 1980. The overall detection rate for this type of offence was 27.6% compared with 27.2% the previous year.

Possibly the most serious crime incidence in the year relates to the prevalence of street robberies, better known as muggings. The figures for robberies and assaults with intent to rob total 1,552, an increase of 284 (22.4%) over the previous year. What is more disturbing is that this increase is additional to the 230 (18%) increase in numbers experienced in 1980. Particular attention is being paid to this problem and measures have been introduced which it is hoped will bring about an increase in the number of persons arrested with a corresponding reduction in the number of offences committed.

Many attempts have been made over the years to analyse the reasons for this continual rise in crime. Most of them have been of little real help in stemming the tide. I remain convinced that the reduced moral standards prevailing within the community today, affording a greater tolerance of anti-social behaviour, remain the major reason, and that crime will continue to rise until society as a whole decides to do something about it.

Traffic and Road Safety

Road traffic accidents within the County claimed the lives of 179 persons during the year.

In my 1978 Report I referred to the deaths for the years 1976 - 1978, which ranged from 239 to 242, and I predicted that there would be at least 240 deaths in 1979. Happily, that forecast was too pessimistic and since 1978 the annual number of fatalities has steadily reduced. It is gratifying that a decrease of 63 deaths, which represents 26%, has been achieved in the space of three years. That is a far higher percentage decrease than in other categories of road accidents.

There are several reasons for the reduction and I am not suggesting that we can claim all the credit. Factors such as the high cost of fuel and motorists' awareness of the savings to be gained from moderate driving, traffic volume and road improvements have all played a part in helping to produce a reduction in the loss of life which occurs all too often on our roads.

Excess speed is frequently a factor in serious accidents and so we have continued to actively enforce the speed limits. I make no apology for all those motorists

caught speeding; better that they were caught and, hopefully, deterred from going so fast, than that they were involved in an accident. A total of 21,844 persons was detected speeding in 1981. That was 4,018 less than in 1980. Perhaps a growing awareness of the overt methods employed by the police contributed towards the reduction. Others, no doubt, were influenced by the cost of fuel.

In any event, the objective was achieved as less people were killed or seriously injured. To make the roads safer is the primary objective of speed limit enforcement. We shall continue our efforts towards reducing the road accidents in West Midlands. Drivers cannot know all the risks on a road and they require information which will help towards decision making in their driving. A speed limit is one such piece of information and, because of its importance, it is one which it is an offence to ignore. Speed limits must, however, be seen to be realistic. They should reflect improvements in road layout and construction, vehicle design and safety, and improved driving skills. I have, therefore, supported the County Council in its efforts to increase many of the speed limits, especially on dual carriageways where they are often unrealistically set at 30 mph.

Police Buildings

The capital expenditure restrictions imposed by the Home Office have continued. The proposed Traffic and Transportation Complex at Aston in Birmingham is the only scheme with a commencement date. Tenders have been invited and work on site will commence in early 1982 as programmed.

Two other major capital projects, a new Sub-Divisional Headquarters at Woodbridge Road, Moseley, and a replacement combined Divisional and Sub-Divisional Headquarters at Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton, remain priority projects for the Force. The Home Office was unable to authorise financial provisions for inclusion in the Building Programme.

Negotiations are in hand to acquire a suitable site for a combined Divisional and Sub-Divisional station in the Harborne area of Birmingham. This site is for a third Sub-Divisional station on the existing 'C' Division and to accommodate the Divisional Administration presently located at Walsall Road Police Station on the far eastern edge of the Division.

The continuing need for financial constraint and the effect of having to reintroduce items deferred from 1980 resulted in fewer projects of an alteration or improvement nature being completed. It must be realised that these cuts cannot go on forever — there must come eventually a day of reckoning.

Training

The main efforts of the Training Department have again been directed towards well-established courses for both uniformed and CID Officers. New courses held for the first time during 1981 included an Inspectors' Development Course of six-weeks duration and a two-week Inspectors' Refresher Course. The former is attended by officers from the Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia Constabularies as well as from West Midlands. The course, which is nationally designed, is directed by a team of three Chief Inspectors drawn from the constituent forces in the Region.

Legislation requiring the fitting of tachograph instruments to certain classes of motor vehicles comes into force on 1 January 1982. In preparation for this, training was given to officers attending a special one-day course at the Force Driving School and a number of officers also attended a Tachograph Calibration Course held by the firm of Lucas Kienzle in Birmingham.

The continued use of 'Continuous Flow' training at the Driving School has produced an improved pass rate and an increase in the throughput of students on Advanced Training.

During the month of July, all training, with the exception of some Driving Courses, was suspended for two weeks in order that personnel could be utilised in coping with public order disturbances. The Training School at TallyHo! was used to accommodate officers from other forces who were deployed in West Midlands. This led to the curtailment or cancellation of some courses, but extra places were made available on subsequent courses and some additional courses were run later in the year to compensate.

The reduction in the number of officers being recruited into the West Midlands Police was beginning to become noticeable towards the end of 1981. This should lead in future years to a reduction of the Department's considerable commitment in terms of manpower resources devoted to Probationary Training. The large numbers of recruits who came forward prior to 1981, means that there will be an increasing demand for Constables' Refresher Courses in the near future. Thus, it is not anticipated that the demands placed upon the resources of the Department will decrease in the foreseeable future, indeed, the growing pressure on current resources has resulted in the need to seek accommodation at a local University to cater for Traffic Management training. In the light of expected new demands following the Scarman Report, the need for a new Force Training complex becomes pressing.

Relations with the Community

The activities of the Public Liaison Department, Attendance Centres, Crime Prevention, Press Relations and Social Liaison Departments are covered in the Chapter dealing with Preventive Policing. The events of the year have clearly indicated that there are two lessons to be learned in respect of community relations. The first is that there is no room for complacency; whatever initiatives may be attempted to improve good relations between the police and the community, there can be no guarantee that situations will not still occur that undermine all the good intentions. The second, if it was not already apparent, is the extent to which good police/public relations can help to repair the damage resulting from community disorder. The wisdom of our community relations programme was clearly indicated during the year in that our liaison structures were tried and tested and found not to be wanting; the potential unrest sparked off elsewhere by the summer riots was minimal in West Midlands and I am sure this was largely due to the policy which we have been pursuing for so long in this County of close involvement with the community. It must be acknowledged, yet again, that to maintain an efficient police response the co-operation of the community is essential.

Nevertheless, whilst the year may have indicated that we are very much on the right lines with our community relations programme, it must still be recognised that there are sections of the community, particularly amongst its younger members, where much further effort is still needed. At the end of the year there was published the Scarman Report into the Brixton Disorders, and one of our major tasks for 1982 will be to see to what extent we can push forward here the recommendations in the Report dealing with the recruitment of officers from the ethnic minorities, training, supervision and monitoring, methods of policing and, more importantly, consultation and accountability. Work has already started on this, both nationally and locally. In particular the Police Authority has set up a Sub-Committee to examine the extent to which the Force already consults with community groups and how our present activities in this field might be strengthened, particularly at the District Council level.

Acknowledgements

The efficiency of the Force depends not only on the efforts of its members but also on the support which it gets from so many people within West Midlands County. In particular our thanks are extended to the members and officers of the Police Authority. Following the Local Government elections an almost entirely new Committee was appointed and from the outset it has been at pains to provide the Force with the resources which it needs, both in terms of manpower and equipment. At a time of financial stringency this has not been easy.

Many of the Services with which the Police must co-operate are provided, of course, by the District Councils, and our thanks are extended to them, once more, for the way in which they have worked with us to overcome the problems which face us jointly.

The support we have received from the Press, Radio and Television is also very much appreciated, as they can do much to help us to communicate with the communities and, in turn, to alert us to their anxieties.

Finally, my thanks are due to the Deputy and Assistant Chief Constables and to representatives from the Staff Associations, the Superintendents' Association, the Police Federation and the Trade Unions representing the Civilian Staff, all of whom have co-operated in facing up to the demands made of us. Everyone, individual police officers, civilian staff, cadets, traffic wardens and special constables have all continued to give loyal and conscientious service, often in very dangerous and difficult circumstances. Successful policing, however, depends on much more than the efforts of the members of the Force; it is also dependent in large measure on the extent to which co-operation can be developed between the Force and the community. I am confident that this co-operation is well advanced in the County of West Midlands and that the coming year will see it continue to develop even further.

Chapter II

Administration and Organisation

ORGANISATION OF THE FORCE

The West Midlands Police Force covers the Country of West Midlands. It is divided into 11 territorial divisions, six of which, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull and Coventry, conform to a District Council area. The remaining five divisions are within the Birmingham District.

All divisions are divided into three sub-divisions with the exception of Solihull and one of the Birmingham divisions, which have two sub-divisions each. A Traffic Division covers the whole Force area and is divided into four sub-divisions, one of which is responsible for policing the motorways within the County.

Each division is under the control of a Chief Superintendent and a Superintendent has operational responsibility for each of the sub-divisions.

ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH — REGULAR FORCE

In February approval was given for the authorised establishment to be increased by one Chief Superintendent, two Superintendents, four Inspectors, 17 Sergeants and 151 Constables. The authorised establishment and actual strength of the Force as at 31 December 1981, excluding seconded staff is set out below:-

Rank	Authorised	Actual	Vacancies
Chief Constable	1	1	
Deputy Chief Constable	1	1	
Assistant Chief Constable	6	6	
Chief Superintendent	21	22	+ 1
Superintendent	81	82	+ 1
Chief Inspector	116	113	- 3
Inspector	363	361	- 2
Sergeant	1058	1027	- 31
Constable	5037	5076	+ 39
TOTAL	6684	6689	+ 5

SUPERNUMARY AND SECONDED STAFF — 1981

At 31 December 1981 the following officers were supernumary to the authorised establishment of the Force:-

Independent Commission Against Corruption — Hong Kong	1 Inspector 1 Sergeant
Seconded to Royal Turks and Caicos Island Police	1 Inspector
No. 4 Regional Crime Squad	2 Chief Inspectors 1 Inspector 22 Sergeants 25 Constables
Midland Regional Fingerprint Bureau	1 Chief Inspector 1 Inspector 3 Sergeants 13 Constables
Regional Crime Intelligence Office	1 Superintendent 1 Inspector 2 Sergeants 2 Constables
Home Office Forensic Science Laboratory	1 Chief Inspector 3 Sergeants
Driver Vehicle Licensing Centre, Swansea	1 T/Superintendent
Police Staff College	2 Superintendents 1 Chief Inspector
Police Training Centre — Ryton-on-Dunsmore	1 T/Superintendent 4 Inspectors 11 Sergeants 1 Constable
Police Training Centre — Ashford, Kent	1 Chief Inspector
Police Dog Training Centre — Stafford	1 Sergeant
Crime Prevention Centre — Stafford	1 T/Sergeant

DISTRIBUTION

At 31 December the distribution of the Force was as follows. (Figures in brackets denote authorised establishment where it differs from actual strength).

DEPARTMENT	CC	DCC	ACC	Ch. Supt.	Supt.	Ch. Insp.	Insp.	Sgt.	PC	TOTAL
Administration	1	1	6	2 ⁽¹⁾	1	3 ⁽²⁾	3 ⁽⁴⁾	6 ⁽⁷⁾	11 ⁽²²⁾	34 ⁽⁴⁶⁾
CID				2	5	11	23 ⁽²²⁾	72 ⁽⁷⁴⁾	200 ⁽²⁰²⁾	313 ⁽³¹⁶⁾
Drug Squad						1	3	11 ⁽¹²⁾	18 ⁽²¹⁾	33 ⁽³⁷⁾
Firearms						1	1	3	8 ⁽¹⁰⁾	13 ⁽¹⁵⁾
Coroners						1	1	3	6	11
Uniform Operations				1	1		1	1	1 ⁽⁰⁾	5 ⁽⁴⁾
Central Lock-Up						1	4 ⁽⁵⁾	7 ⁽⁸⁾	29 ⁽⁴⁰⁾	41 ⁽⁵⁴⁾
Special Plain Clothes							1	4	13	18
S P G						1	3 ⁽⁴⁾	9 ⁽¹⁵⁾	68 ⁽¹²⁴⁾	81 ⁽¹⁴⁴⁾
Mounted						1	1	4	33 ⁽³⁷⁾	39 ⁽⁴³⁾
Dogs						1	1	2	2	6
Summons & Warrant						1	4 ⁽³⁾	5 ⁽³⁾	33 ⁽³²⁾	43 ⁽³⁹⁾
Communications				1	2	5 ⁽⁶⁾	6	9 ⁽¹⁰⁾	29 ⁽³⁰⁾	52 ⁽⁵⁵⁾
Management Services				1	2 ⁽¹⁾	3 ⁽²⁾	9 ⁽⁵⁾		1 ⁽⁰⁾	16 ⁽⁹⁾
Personnel/Recruiting				1	1	2	3	3	1 ⁽⁰⁾	11 ⁽¹⁰⁾
Training				1	2	4 ⁽⁶⁾	14 ⁽¹⁷⁾	36 ⁽⁴⁵⁾	37 ⁽²³⁾	94 ⁽⁹⁴⁾
Public Liaison					1					1 ⁽²⁾
Home Defence					1 ⁽⁰⁾	1 ⁽¹⁾	1 ⁽⁰⁾	1		3 ⁽²⁾
Complaints				1	5	1	11	3		21
Court Security									1 ⁽¹⁾	1 ⁽¹⁾
Total Headquarters	1	1	6	10 ⁽⁹⁾	21 ⁽¹⁹⁾	37 ⁽³⁹⁾	90	179 ⁽¹⁹⁹⁾	490 ⁽⁵⁷⁸⁾	835 ⁽⁹⁴²⁾
Recruits in training Posts under Review									115 ⁽⁵²⁾	115 ⁽⁷²⁾
DIVISIONS										
'B'				1	5	6	20 ⁽¹⁹⁾	71 ⁽⁶⁹⁾	402 ⁽³⁸⁹⁾	505 ⁽⁴⁸⁹⁾
'C'				1	3 ⁽⁴⁾	5 ⁽⁴⁾	16 ⁽¹⁵⁾	62 ⁽⁶¹⁾	381 ⁽³⁶³⁾	468 ⁽⁴⁴⁸⁾
'D'				1	5	6	20	69 ⁽⁶⁸⁾	371 ⁽³⁵⁷⁾	472 ⁽⁴⁵⁷⁾
'E'				1	5	6	22 ⁽²⁰⁾	78 ⁽⁷⁶⁾	441 ⁽⁴²¹⁾	553 ⁽⁵²⁹⁾
'F'				1	5	6	25	65 ⁽⁶⁴⁾	401 ⁽³⁸³⁾	503 ⁽⁴⁸⁴⁾
'G'				1	6	7	24 ⁽²⁵⁾	87	368 ⁽³⁵²⁾	493 ⁽⁴⁷⁸⁾
'H'				1	5	6	23 ⁽²⁴⁾	69	323 ⁽³¹⁶⁾	427 ⁽⁴²¹⁾
'J'				1	5	6	24	72 ⁽⁷⁴⁾	305 ⁽²⁹⁶⁾	413 ⁽⁴⁰⁶⁾
'K'				1	6	8	25	79 ⁽⁷⁸⁾	424 ⁽⁴¹¹⁾	543 ⁽⁵²⁹⁾
'L'				1	4	6	19 ⁽¹⁸⁾	52 ⁽⁴⁹⁾	237 ⁽²²⁵⁾	319 ⁽³⁰³⁾
'M'				1	6	8	26 ⁽²⁷⁾	86 ⁽⁸⁷⁾	472 ⁽⁴⁴²⁾	599 ⁽⁵⁷¹⁾
'T'				1	6	6	27 ⁽²⁹⁾	58 ⁽⁶¹⁾	346 ⁽⁴⁵²⁾	444 ⁽⁵⁵⁵⁾
Divisional Total				12	61 ⁽⁶²⁾	76 ⁽⁷⁵⁾	271	848 ⁽⁸⁴³⁾	4471 ⁽⁴⁴⁰⁷⁾	5739 ⁽⁵⁶⁷⁰⁾
Force Total	1	1	6	22 ⁽²¹⁾	82 ⁽⁸¹⁾	113 ⁽¹¹⁶⁾	361 ⁽³⁶³⁾	1027 ⁽¹⁰⁵⁸⁾	5076 ⁽⁵⁰³⁷⁾	6689 ⁽⁶⁶⁸⁴⁾

CIVILIAN AND MANUAL STAFF

The Authorised Establishment and Actual Strength of civilian staff and manual workers as at 31 December is as detailed below:-

SECTION/ DEPARTMENT	Senior Officers & A.P.		Clerks		Typists		Miscellaneous		Technical		Total		Manual		Grand Total	
	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.
HEADQUARTERS																
Administration	6	5	11	10	9	6	11	5	-	-	37	28	-	-	37	26
Personnel/Training/Recruiting	8	6	19	18	10	8	11	6	1	-	49	38	32	29	81	67
Sports/Welfare	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	6	6	3	3	9	9
Special Constabulary	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	3	2
Management Services	18	16	15	14	6	6	-	-	-	-	39	36	-	-	39	36
Complaints	-	-	2	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	7	5
Press/Publicity	4	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	5	4
Public Liaison	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1
Surveyors	8	7	6	6	-	-	-	-	15	14	29	27	8	7	37	34
Supplies/Print/Stationery	5	5	4	4	1	1	16	14	-	-	26	24	9	8	35	32
Central Property	2	2	2	2	-	-	10	9	-	-	14	13	-	-	14	13
Coroners	-	-	1	1	4	4	1	1	-	-	6	6	-	-	6	6
Summons and Warrant	-	-	9	8	-	-	14	8	-	-	23	16	-	-	23	16
Lock-Up	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	7	-	-	8	7	7	5	15	12
Mounted Branch	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	3	5	4
Dog Section	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	2	7	6	9	8
Special Patrol Group	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	3
Special Plain Clothes	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	2	2
Welfare Funds	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
C.I.D.	12	11	65	64	18	18	1	1	44	42	140	136	-	-	140	136
Traffic Division including Motorway	5	4	33	30	12	12	-	-	-	-	50	46	16	10	66	56
Garages	6	6	5	5	-	-	7	7	9	7	27	25	125	111	152	136
Central Ticket Office	2	1	47	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	25	-	-	49	25
Communications	1	1	3	3	1	-	142	119	-	-	147	123	-	-	147	123
	85	74	225	194	74	65	223	179	69	63	677	575	211	182	888	757
DIVISIONS																
'B'	2	-	9	8	19	19	1	1	1	-	32	28	64	57	96	85
'C'	2	-	8	5	17	16	-	-	1	-	28	21	35	30	63	51
'D'	2	-	15	13	15	15	-	-	1	-	33	28	42	40	75	68
'E'	2	-	12	9	18	17	1	1	1	-	34	27	51	47	85	74
'F'	2	-	18	13	15	13	-	-	1	-	34	26	43	38	77	62
'G'	2	-	18	13	30	28	-	-	-	-	50	41	57	48	107	89
'H'	3	1	20	15	29	21	-	-	-	-	52	37	44	42	96	79
'J'	3	1	13	12	31	25	-	-	-	-	47	38	57	48	104	86
'K'	3	1	18	10	37	32	-	-	-	-	58	43	56	50	114	93
'L'	2	-	23	17	13	12	-	-	-	-	38	29	39	34	77	63
'M'	4	2	27	21	27	26	3	3	-	-	61	52	61	56	122	108
	27	5	179	136	251	224	5	5	5	-	467	370	549	488	1016	858
SECONDED																
No. 4 R.C.S.	-	-	1	1	7	7	4	4	-	-	12	12	2	2	14	14
Grand Total	112	79	405	331	332	296	232	188	74	63	1156	957	762	672	1918	1629

Sponsored University Scholarships

3 Chief Inspectors
11 Inspectors
1 Sergeant

Police Research Department - London

1 T/Superintendent

SERVICE OF MEMBERS OF THE FORCE

(Including seconded officers)

	Under 5 years		5-9 years		10-14 years		15-19 years		20-24 years		25-29 years		Over 30 years	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	Chief Constable													1
Deputy Chief Constable									2		4			
Ass/Ch. Constables									6		9		6	1
Ch. Superintendents											40	1	10	
Superintendents					2		7		28		23		11	
Ch. Inspectors					3		27	3	54	1	71	1	11	1
Inspectors			5		43	1	118	3	125	2	113	2	12	
Sergeants	1		111		332	13	505	7	170	2	113	2	12	
Constables	1527	607	1152	183	681	41	438	12	256	8	198	2	12	
Grand Total	1528	607	1268	187	1061	55	895	25	641	13	459	6	63	2

RECRUITING

The year commenced with a waiting list of candidates accepted for the Regular Force which numbered 118. In February approval was given by the Home Office to the establishment of the Force being increased by 175 to a total of 6,684 officers.

Applications processed during the year consisted mainly of those already under consideration at the end of 1980, but also included certain outstanding candidates who made application during 1981. From these and cadets transferring to the Regular Force on attaining 18½ years of age, a total of 383 persons was enrolled and at the end of the year no vacancies existed in the Force for Regular Officers. Twenty-eight persons were awaiting enrolment and a further 15 were under consideration.

Due to the healthy recruitment situation there was no direct advertising for Regular Officers and, consequently, the number of applications during the year was considerably reduced. Even so, 3,111 unsolicited applications were received.

Although enrolments to the Regular Force were reduced by 44% over the previous year, male officers formed 73.4% of the total, which is a marginal increase over the 1980 figures of all enrolments for Regular Officers, 38% possessed five or more GCE 'O' levels, almost 16% two or more GCE 'A' levels and 9.6% a University Degree.

The following table analyses applications for appointment and their subsequent disposal.

	1 January 1981 - 31 December 1981		
	Men	Women	Total
Total number of applications	2150 (5126)	961 (1910)	3111 (7036)
Applications not pursued and deferrals	2005 (3062)	886 (1108)	2891 (4170)
<u>Rejected before final interview and withdrawals</u>			
1981 applications	33	7	146 (1534)
1980 applications	85 (1073)	21 (461)	
Being processed 31 December 1981	10 (320)	5 (86)	15 (406)
<u>Attended for final interview</u>	337	128	465
1981 applications	102	63	465 (926)
1980 applications	235 (671)	65 (255)	
<u>Rejections after final interview</u>			
Medical	4 (16)	2 (14)	6 (30)
Force Selection Board	119 (118)	42 (49)	161 (167)
Withdrawn after acceptance	3 (9)	84 (191)	298 (719)
Accepted	214 (528)	84 (191)	298 (719)
<u>Enrolments</u>			
Recruits	174 (405)	44 (117)	218 (522)
Police Cadets	90 (75)	54 (67)	144 (142)
Re-appointment as Constables	14 (17)	2 (4)	16 (21)
Transfers	3 (8)	2 (1)	5 (9)
Total	281 (505)	102 (189)	383 (694)
Pending enrolment 31 December 1980	93 *70	25 *23	118 *93
Pending enrolment 31 December 1981	23 (93)	5 (25)	28 (118)

Figures in brackets indicate 1980 totals.

* Indicates 1979 figures

From April onwards the conditions of entry for Regular Officers were altered significantly. The minimum height requirement for both sexes was raised by four cms, perfect eyesight is now required and all applicants must possess a minimum of three GCE 'O' levels or equivalent. At the same time the format of Recruitment Selection Boards was altered and in order to provide and maintain continuity each is now chaired by an Assistant Chief Constable. The increased number of applicants and the higher standards being demanded by Selection Boards has caused the percentage rejection of persons called for interview to increase 16% on the 1980 figures, to 35%. Medical rejections showed a slight reduction.

Wastage declined even further than in previous years and a final figure of 241 officers represented the lowest total since the Force was formed. In a year that has seen general rising unemployment and uncertainty in the economic climate, the present pay scales for officers have assisted in stemming wastage. There was a net gain of 142 officers in the year.

The following table shows educational qualifications of recruits joining in 1981:-

	Ex-Cadets		Direct Entrants	
	M	F	M	F
Graduates	—	—	26 (22)	11 (7)
Attended University but did not complete course	—	—	5 (—)	— (—)
2 or more 'A' levels	—	—	14 (40)	5 (10)
5 or more 'O' levels	15 (14)	13 (16)	42 (118)	16 (44)
Less than 5 'O' levels	75 (61)	41 (51)	104 (250)	16 (61)
Total	90 (75)	54 (67)	191 (430)	48 (122)
Total Recruits: 281 (505) Male, 102 (189) Female		Figures in brackets indicate 1980 figures.		

Publicity

Although use of the Recruitment Advertising Agency, Austin Knight Limited, in comparison to levels in previous years, was reduced, continuity by advertising for cadets and the future by way of school magazines and Armed Forces newspapers was maintained. A new West Midlands Police brochure is currently under preparation as are projects designed to inform young people at school as to the requirements of officers in the future. Whilst the project is not designed to produce immediate recruitment, it is envisaged that by these means enthusiasm will be engendered and young people will be able to formulate their academic options well in advance of leaving school and eventually high quality recruits will result. In addition briefings were given to Armed Forces personnel in Northern Ireland and at Army Re-settlement Centres, and the Force acted as host in staging a Police exhibition at the "Careers for the 1980's" exhibition held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham in November 1981. This exhibition was a huge success, with some 40,000 persons, mostly of school age, viewing the attractive police stand provided by the Home Office and staffed by officers from all over the Country.

Although during the year there was a reduction in recruitment to the Regular Force, established contacts with Schools, Colleges, Universities and Armed Forces establishments were maintained. Careers Conventions were attended, lectures given and suitable advice proffered. This policy will continue and wherever opportunity presents itself it will be seized upon to show the advantages of a police career in the most professional and favourable manner.

Graduate Entry Scheme

During 1981, 64 Graduates/Undergraduates, including 11 serving police officers, applied for entry under this scheme. Fifty of these were subsequently interviewed. Of these, four eventually were successful. This figure includes one serving police officer.

Of the original 64 applicants, 14 were rejected either by the Force Board or as being medically unfit. Excluding the serving officers, 28 were deemed fit for enrolment. These have subsequently joined and are included in the overall figure of 37 Graduates who joined the Force in 1981.

WASTAGE DURING THE YEAR

The following table shows losses due to retirement, resignations, etc.

	Ch. Cons.	DCC	ACC	Ch. Supt.	Supt.	Ch. Insp.	Insp.	Sgt.	Cons.	Total
Pension on completion of service	—	—	—	—	11	2	10	28	29	80
Pension - Ill Health	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	6
Resigned	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	132	134
Dismissed or required to resign	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4
Transfers to other Police Forces	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	4	7
Died	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	7
Services Dispensed with - (Regulation 17)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	—	1	—	1	11	2	11	34	181	241

POLICE CADETS

Due to the healthy recruiting situation and the reduced wastage, in order to obviate what would eventually have become an unacceptable ratio of

cadet/direct entrants into the Regular Force, the average manning level of the Cadet Corps was reduced. The number of Police Cadets joining the Regular Force amounted to 144 and this formed 37.5% of all enrolments. A total of 87 persons were enrolled into the Cadet Corps bringing the strength of the Corps at the 31 December 1981 to 188. Male Cadets now account for almost 65% of the total Corps strength.

A reduction in advertising meant a lower number of initial applications for the Corps and although 91 fewer cadets than in the previous year were eventually enrolled, the standards imposed by the Cadet Selection Boards reflected those adopted by Regular Recruiting Boards. Only persons with the highest qualifications both physically and academically were deemed suitable for service.

	1 January 1981 - 31 December 1981					
	Boys		Girls		Total	
Total number of applications	1406	(1838)	1277	(1815)	2683	(3653)
Enrolled into Cadets	59	(110)	28	(68)	87	(178)
Joined Regular Force	90	(75)	54	(67)	144	(142)
Resignations	15	(26)	15	(34)	30	(60)
Dismissed	1	—	1	(2)	2	(2)
Strength at 31 December 1981	122	(169)	66	(108)	188	(277)

Figures in brackets indicate 1980 totals.

CIVILIAN RECRUITING

There has been a continuation of the trend which became apparent in the closing months of 1980, whereby the number of applications for employment steadily increased. Unfortunately due to the resignation or retirement of 65 non-manual and 98 manual staff it has not been possible to take full advantage of this and the increases in strength of 15, from 942 to 957 non-manual and two from 670 to 672 manual employees is a disappointing result for the hard work carried out by the staff of the Civilian Personnel Office. Over 5,000 applications for advertised non-manual posts; 3,000 for manual posts and over 1,000 for Traffic Wardens (despite there being no recruitment) were processed.

In addition to making the 180 appointments necessary to attain the present strengths involving the interviewing of approximately 1,200 applicants the Personnel Staff have also dealt with 59 internal promotions and transfers.

Post Entry Training has been undertaken by 168 non-manual and 38 manual staff who have attended educational and vocational training in a variety of

subjects ranging from basic office practice to senior management and professional qualification courses and craft courses for apprentices and other manual staff.

Work experience placements were arranged in conjunction with the County Personnel Department, for 11 non-manual, and eight manual unemployed school leavers.

PROMOTIONS

The following substantive promotions were made during the year:-

	Male	Female
To Chief Superintendent	1	—
To Superintendent	16	—
To Chief Inspector	20	1
To Inspector	28	—
To Sergeant	71	1
Total	136	2

In addition to the above, the following senior officers gained appointments on transfer to other Forces:-

Mr M Buck OBE QPM Deputy Chief Constable, was appointed Chief Constable of Northamptonshire Police on 22 March 1981.

Chief Superintendent J P Bensley was appointed Assistant Chief Constable in the Cleveland Constabulary on 5 October 1981.

PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS

	Officers Examined	Qualified
Examination in April 1981 to Inspector	220	67
Examination in November 1981 to Sergeant	638	Results not yet known

At 31 December 1981 the number of officers qualified by examination for promotion was:-

Sergeants qualified for promotion to Inspector
Male 422 Female 12

Constables qualified for promotion to Inspector

Male 43

Female 1

Constables qualified for promotion to Sergeant

Male 279

Female 20

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

During 1981 a total of 84 Promotion Assessment Boards and Interview Panels was held.

Six hundred and one candidates appeared before these boards.

HONOURS, COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

Queens Commendation

WPC 2862 E A Shackell

PC 4340 A Bickley

PC 7224 M J Irving

Rhodesia Medal

Twenty-nine officers received the Rhodesia Medal

Three officers received framed certificates awarded by the Society for the Protection of Life from Fire.

Eight officers received awards from the Royal Humane Society. Two officers received Force Suggestion Scheme Commendations. Two officers received Force Suggestion Scheme Awards. One officer received a Force Suggestion Scheme Award of Merit. Two officers received a Book Prize from the Police Authority.

Forty-three officers were commended for exemplary police work as detailed below:-

By the Police Committee	16
By the Chief Constable	27

In addition 793 officers received Chief Superintendents' Commendations.

POLICE LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

During the year 135 officers became eligible for the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

DEGREE AWARDS

The following officers of the Force were awarded degrees during the year.

Master of Science

Inspector A J Wilkes

Sergeant M J Stocker

Bachelor of Law

Chief Inspector T W E Baldwin

Inspector A J Conyers

Inspector J R Peake

Sergeant R Robinson

Bachelor of Arts

Inspector J D Hogg

Constable R J Bevan

Inspector B Simpson

Sergeant I R Talbot

Sergeant K G Brown

Inspector J C Butler

Bachelor of Arts — Open University

Inspector D A Jeavons

Inspector P G Scriven

Inspector J A Thomas

Inspector D E Waight

Inspector T W Heaton

Sergeant D A Evans

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

During the year 1,217 letters were received from persons wishing to express their appreciation of the service, advice or assistance given by members of the Force.

DISCIPLINE

There was a decrease during the year in the number of disciplinary charges preferred against police officers. Proceedings were taken against 50 officers (a decrease of nine) in respect of 80 charges (a decrease of six).

There were 24 charges for criminal conduct, 23 charges for neglect of duty, 14 for falsehood, five for disobedience to orders, three for abuse of authority,

two for discreditable conduct, two for drinking on duty, two for entering licenced premises, one for drunkenness, one for damage to police property, one for being an accessory to a discipline offence and two for improper disclosure of information. In respect of these charges, 66 were admitted and 14 denied. Of the 50 officers subject of proceedings, eight cases (involving 12 charges) arose from Section 49 complaints. The remaining 42 cases (involving 68 charges) were initiated following internal investigations.

The decision of the disciplinary authority were two officers dismissed, two officers required to resign, one officer reduced in rank and nine officers reduced in pay. The remainder were dealt with by fine, reprimand or caution with two cases not proceeded with and three findings of not guilty.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS Section 49, Police Act 1964

A total of 1,940 complaints was received from 1,095 members of the public resulting in 1,009 investigations. The outcome of the investigations was that 23 complaints were found to be substantiated and 569 not substantiated with 1,348 complaints still under investigation at the end of the year. There were 366 complaints withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainant. Sixteen officers appeared before Disciplinary Hearings as a result of complaints from members of the public. This is an 18.8% increase when compared with the previous year.

The substantiated complaints comprised three related to incivility, five related to neglect of duty, one related to mishandling of property, one related to an irregularity in procedure, one related to a traffic irregularity and the remaining 12 related to miscellaneous matters.

There were 2,287 complaints completed during the year. This total comprises all complaints irrespective of the year in which the complaint was originally received and recorded. The complaints had been made by 1,113 members of the public and resulted in 964 investigations. Substantiated complaints totalled 130, with 1,332 complaints not substantiated and 825 complaints withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainant.

There were 41 substantiated complaints related to neglect of duty, 18 to incivility, 16 to assaults, seven to irregularities in police procedure, two to oppressive behaviour/harassment, four to mishandling of property with 42 related to other matters.

Following the investigation of these complaints, nine complainants made formal representation expressing their dissatisfaction with the findings.

At the request of the Deputy Chief Constable, five investigations were conducted by officers from other police forces.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Of the complaints completed during 1981 a total of 797 were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions. Of these, 763 related to alleged criminal matters and 34 to alleged traffic offences.

The Director recommended prosecution for three offences of Section 47, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, involving three officers. All three were found 'Not Guilty'. Additionally, the Director recommended that proceedings be instituted against two officers (including one officer referred to above) for offences of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice and false imprisonment. They were found 'Not Guilty'.

A further 193 allegations of a criminal nature were not referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions, where in each case the complaint was withdrawn and there was no evidence to indicate that any criminal offence had been committed by any police officer. Consequently there was no necessity to refer these matters to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

POLICE COMPLAINTS BOARD

The Police Complaints Board is an independent body established by the Police Act 1976, with responsibility to examine the papers which relate to complaints recorded within the provisions of Section 49, Police Act 1964, and to decide whether to accept the decision of the Deputy Chief Constable as to the further action, if any, to be taken.

There is no doubt that the role of the Police Complaints Board is not understood by the community, particularly in relation to its powers regarding the institution of disciplinary charges against police officers. During the year the Force has continued to uphold its reputation with the Police Complaints Board for the thoroughness of its complaint investigations, the high standard of presentation of files and fairness in the recommendations made by the Deputy Chief Constable.

Of the 2,287 investigations completed during 1981 a total of 1,465 was referred to the Police Complaints Board and on no occasion did the Board find reason to disagree with the decision of the Deputy Chief Constable.

Other Alleged Offences by Police Officers

Complaints alleging the commission of offences by police officers received from other sources, usually internal, totalled 281. Of these 40 related to criminal matters and 241 to traffic offences. This figure represented a decrease of 99 such complaints compared with 1980.

Of those complaints which were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his advice, proceedings were recommended in respect of four criminal 47 traffic matters, with 10 replies still awaited at the end of the year. In subsequent court proceedings against 41 serving officers, four were convicted of criminal offences and 37 of traffic offences. One officer was allowed to resign before criminal proceedings were instituted.

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE DEPARTMENT

There is a Chief Superintendent in overall command of this Department with a Superintendent as deputy. The operational investigation section comprises four Superintendents and eight Inspectors.

The Department completed 205 investigations recorded under Section 49 of the Police Act 1964. This figure represents 20.3% of the total number of investigations for the year with the remainder being carried out by operational divisional Superintendents or Chief Superintendents. The investigating section also completed 138 discipline enquiries and 325 miscellaneous enquiries. This represents an increase of 15.6% in the number of enquiries completed compared with 1980.

DOG BRANCH

The work of the Dog Branch is co-ordinated by a central staff of one Chief Inspector, one Inspector, two Sergeant Instructors and two Constables based at the Dog Training School, Harborne, Birmingham.

Initial dog training is carried out at the Regional Police Dog Training School, Stafford and 12 officers together with their dogs attended 13 week initial dog handling courses and a further four experienced handlers with partly trained dogs attended the last six weeks of a course. Seventeen refresher training courses each of two weeks duration were held at our own training school at Harborne and were attended by 78 handlers and their dogs.

There were 103 dogs in service at the end of the year. Each Division has a Sergeant Dog Handler and there are 84 Divisional Constable Dog Handlers deployed throughout the Force area. The handlers make regular foot and mobile patrols as well as attending incidents as and when their specialist services are called upon.

There was a rise in the number of incidents attended by dog handlers during the year of some 2,317 incidents to a total of 31,110 which resulted in the arrest of 3,108 persons for various offences. A total of 263 items of property eventually identified as being connected with various crimes was recovered. These items varied from stolen property discarded by persons responsible for committing crimes to implements and/or weapons used in the commission of offences.

Nearly every police force in the country has found it necessary to train dogs in specialised scent exercises. The two dogs trained to locate the drugs Cannabis and Heroin together with their handlers were involved in a total of 182 searches which resulted in 123 persons being charged with drug offences. Additionally, the 10 dogs specially trained to locate firearms and explosives carried out 50 searches of premises as well as several searches involving vehicles.

The standard of dogs accepted for training continues to be very high. Dogs offered by members of the public during the year totalled 262 of which 28 were accepted for training after a 14 day assessment period. The majority of these dogs are given free of charge.

The Handler of the Year was PC Copland ('D' Division) with his dog 'Kane'. Together they attended 451 incidents and arrested 56 persons for criminal offences. They also assisted in 42 other arrests and recovered valuable property on three occasions. PC Copland received the inscribed trophy presented by Handsworth Rugby Union Football Club.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

1981 has seen the acceptance of the Management Services Department as an integral part of the management function at all levels. Although a number of staff changes have taken place it has been possible to attract both police and civilian replacements of a very high calibre. There has been no shortage of suitable applicants.

The Command and Control System has been enhanced by the introduction of a Street Index which is referred to elsewhere in this report.

The Management Information System is now completed and provides valuable operational and statistical information upon request whilst the Accountant's Creditors record continues to give satisfactory service.

The PDP-11 mini computer has now been replaced with a Systime 6400 computer system which is intended to provide administrative support for the Central Lock-Up and be a test-bed for future computerised projects. This is already being used to analyse the results of resource experiments being carried out on selected sub-divisions. Work on a computerised Crime Information System to replace the manual crime recording system and related crime indices is being carried out and a team of police officers and civilian members of the Computer Group have now produced a feasibility study which will hopefully lead to the preparation of a detailed operational requirement.

The wide range of projects undertaken by the staff has sought to combine efficiency with cost effectiveness. The projects have ranged from the use of operational manpower on sub-divisions to the removal of essential users allowance for private vehicles in favour of casual users allowance and a mileage allocation for these vehicles, managed at departmental/divisional level.

The year has seen the phased introduction of a centralised Process Department for the five Birmingham Divisions and initial work towards the decentralisation of the Birmingham Warrants Section. The objective behind these moves is to ensure greater flexibility in the use of resources, the achievement of manpower saving, particularly in court time, and the streamlining of procedures. Other projects completed during the year included:-

- Review of Printing Services
- Cautioning of Juveniles
- Police Use of Helicopters
- Statements of Fact — Speed Detecting Devices
- Body Scanning Equipment.

The Organisation and Methods Section which now consists of one Operations Analyst and two O & M Assistants has been engaged particularly in the review of divisional and sub-divisional administrations, the introduction of the Central Process Department for Birmingham and has also analysed and advised on the requirements for Force-wide dictation equipment.

Together with the Computer Group they have been engaged in the examination of word processing systems and as a matter of urgency have examined the various paperwork systems to try and reduce the dependence upon paper by operational policemen.

The Establishment Review Team has continued its programme of the examination of departments within the Force and this has led to the release of 40 police officers from administrative posts for operational duties. The 40 officers saved are 29 sub-divisional administration clerks, six PNC operators, three traffic administration officers, one community liaison officer, and one graphics officer. Departments reviewed have included:-

- Transport Department
- Coventry Telephone Operators
- 'L' Division Court Lock-Up
- Police Stores
- Central Plain Clothes
- Communications Department
- Special Patrol Group
- Central Ticket Office
- Headquarters Security

The Force Suggestion Scheme continues to provide a steady flow of useful ideas and of the 77 suggestions submitted during the year, 10 have been adopted and another 50 are still under consideration. Awards have been granted to five officers for the quality of their recommendations.

MOUNTED BRANCH

The establishment of the Mounted Branch is one Chief Inspector, one Inspector, six Sergeants, 41 Constables and six civilians with 34 horses. At the end of the year the actual establishment was two Sergeants and four Constables below these figures and although five re-mounts were purchased the number of horses in actual service was 29.

Daily uniform patrols have been carried out from each of our stables and mounted officers have performed crowd control duties in connection with marches, demonstrations, football matches and similar events where large numbers of people have been assembled. Mounted officers have also rendered mutual aid to the Derbyshire Constabulary for football matches, assisted the Lincolnshire Force at the Spalding Flower Festival and the Warwickshire Constabulary on the occasion of the Royal Show at Stoneleigh.

Members of the Mounted Branch were able to attend a number of competitions and the high standards they achieved are reflected in the number of awards gained; nine first prizes were won at the 13 shows attended. Similarly, whenever operational commitments have permitted, the Mounted Branch has responded to requests for displays and demonstrations, attending local schools, fetes, carnivals and galas as well as larger events such as the Birmingham Show and the Birmingham International Horse Show.

POLICE STORES

The clothing needs of all uniform members of the Force and members of the civilian staff are met from the clothing at Bournville. Two mobile stores vehicles visit divisions on a regular basis to provide an issue and exchange of uniform service. The use of these vehicles reduces considerably the costs to the Force of officers exchanging uniforms.

The system of issuing uniform clothing on an exchange basis upon condemnation as opposed to a general annual issue to all uniform staff continues to prove both economic and effective. The degree of wear of uniform clothing varies among individuals according to their respective duties, and an exchange of garment only takes place when it becomes necessary.

The Uniform and Equipment Committee of the Joint Negotiating and Consultative Committee continues to evaluate items of uniform in current use and also new products.

The present economic climate together with an inability to locate a suitable site, central in the Force area, continues to prevent the amalgamation of the clothing stores at Bournville and the bulk uniform stores at Brockmoor into one building. This remains a long term objective.

SPECIAL PATROL GROUP

The Special Patrol Group fulfills a particular need in a large conurbation such as West Midlands where the ability to respond to incidents at short notice with units of highly trained men is an integral part of our overall policing strategy. Support is given to all territorial divisions with both uniform and plain clothes patrols, missing person searches, raids on premises for drugs and to detect licensing and gaming offences, assistance in dealing with marches and demonstrations, enquiries into serious crimes, and in many other smaller ways which are seldom published.

Of the 1,505 prisoners arrested by officers of the Special Patrol Group during 1981 over 25% were for committing criminal offences.

A new formalised training programme has been introduced to prepare officers to deal with major disasters, large scale searches and terrorist situations. The programme is designed to better train officers to assist territorial divisions and a number of the lectures given involve speakers from outside the police service. Training in dealing with public disorder situations continues.

The operational strength of the Special Patrol Group is one Chief Inspector, three Inspectors, nine Sergeants and 68 Constables.

UNDERWATER SEARCH UNIT

The West Midlands Police Underwater Search Unit carried out a total of 106 operational searches. Included in this figure are 15 searches for West Mercia Constabulary, four searches for Warwickshire Constabulary and four searches for Staffordshire Police.

In July the Diving Operations at Work Regulations 1981 came into force. The purpose of the regulations is to standardise the training methods, medical fitness, and the safety requirements of all diving operations throughout the United Kingdom. The regulations apply to all diving operations in which any diver taking part is at work as an employee or self-employed person within the meaning of Section 53 of the Act. The necessary steps were taken to ensure we comply with these Regulations.

The unit was involved in the recovery of 10 bodies, which is an increase on the 1980 figure as well as being instrumental in the recovery of a vast array of property during the year. The items included, shot-guns, handguns, two bags of commemorative coins, £3,000 worth of nickel anodes, 700 shotgun cartridges, lawn mowers, passports, silver, not to mention the recovery of 17 motor cars.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

This is a division of the County Treasury based at Lloyd House which provides a full payroll, financial accounting and budgeting service to the Chief Constable and his staff.

The division has a nominal strength of 45 persons headed by the Police Accountant, Mr B G Tipton IPFA. It is divided into three units - accounting, exchequer and pensions, and payroll respectively. The annual budget of the Police Authority is approximately £105 million of which nearly 90% represents pay and pensions.

The division prepares payrolls for some 10,000 police officers, traffic wardens, cadets, school crossing patrols, police civilian staff and 2,500 police pensioners. In consultation with various departments of the Force, the division prepares and monitors the annual budget, pays all bills and expenses and prepares the final accounts of the Police Authority and the No. 4 Regional Crime Squad.

HOME DEFENCE DEPARTMENT

The Home Defence Department is under the control of a Superintendent who is also the Staff Officer to the Chief Constable in his capacity as Regional Police Commander (Designate). He is assisted by a staff of one Inspector, one Sergeant and a Civilian Typist.

Training

Training in Home Defence matters has been given by means of lectures and films to Sergeants and Constables on a regular basis across the Force. Two Regional War Duties Courses for Chief Inspectors and Inspectors have been held at the Training Centre, Tally Ho!; full details are given in the Chapter headed "Training".

Five Chief Superintendents, six Superintendents and three Chief Inspectors attended senior officers' courses at the Home Defence College, Easingwold. Eleven Sergeants attended a Home Defence Instructors' Course at the Tally Ho! Training Centre and qualified as Home Defence Instructors.

Three officers of the rank of Inspector attended Air Reconnaissance Training which is provided annually by the University of Birmingham Air Squadron.

Warning and Monitoring

There are 289 air raid sirens and 230 carrier broadcast receivers situated within the Force area. These are controlled from five Carrier Control Points which also serve 165 similar installations in the neighbouring areas of Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia.

Testing of the siren network has been carried out by the department staff quarterly and on the carrier receivers half yearly. One national exercise was held to test both the equipment and operating procedures.

For various reasons the department has had to resite a number of sirens during the year and in addition to this several new sirens have been installed in the County to improve cover in areas where the population has increased.

Liaison

Liaison has continued with other agencies throughout the County including the Post Office, Electricity Boards, Local Authorities, and all sections of the community including the public, industrial and private sectors where early warning equipment is installed.

SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

1981 saw the 150th Anniversary of the Special Constabulary and the celebrations in connection with the event are referred to later, but it is true to say that the year was the most successful for the Special Constabulary

since the formation of the West Midlands Police. For the first time, enrolments increased and resignations decreased, and at the end of the year the Special Constabulary had gained 77 members.

The establishment and strength of the Special Constabulary at 31 December is set out below:-

	Establishment	Strength
Chief Commandant	1	1
Divisional Commandants	11	11
Sub-Divisional Officers	31	30
Section Officers	124	71
Special Constables	1240	608
Total	1407	721

On 31 December 1980 there were 50 outstanding recruiting applications, of these, 32 (7) were accepted and 18 (4) were rejected. During the year 405 applications for membership were received, an increase of 116 from 1980.

Of the 405 applications received this year, 172 have been accepted, 158 rejected and 75 are still outstanding. Interview Boards at sub-divisional level continue to demand a high standard from applicants and this is the main reason for the large number of rejections.

During the year 126 (33) members resigned from the Force, a decrease of 70 from 1980 and the lowest number of resignations in any year since the Force began. This was a continuance of the slowing down in the rate of resignations which was apparent in the last six months of 1980.

In July 1981, the second report of the Home Office Working Party on the Special Constabulary was issued. Many of the recommendations contained therein had already been implemented in West Midlands, but it has been necessary to re-organise the Training Programme both at recruit and continuation level.

Divisional Commandant R B Voyce, 'B' Division, sat as a member of this Working Party and we are grateful to him for the time and effort he gave on behalf of the Special Constabulary.

The 150th Anniversary of the passing of the Special Constables Act of 1831 was celebrated in November, but throughout the year, various functions were held to support the event. On 21 July, six members of the Special Constabulary

attended a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, and on 18 October, four members of the Special Constabulary attended a Commemorative Service in Westminster Abbey to mark the passing of the Act.

On Sunday 25 October, some 300 Special Constables paraded in Victoria Square, Birmingham. They were drawn from each Division of the Force, and paraded by divisions under the command of their Divisional Commandants. After an inspection by the Chief Constable, the parade marched past and attended Commemorative Service at Birmingham Cathedral.

JOINT NEGOTIATING AND CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The recommendations of the Edmund-Davies Committee of Enquiry with regard to consultation with staff associations were implemented, the former Joint Advisory Committee being superseded by a Joint Negotiating and Consultative Committee, with a new constitution in line with the findings of the Committee of Enquiry.

Monthly meetings have been held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Chief Constable and representatives of the Superintendents' Association and the Joint Branch Board of the Police Federation have attended. The Committee has considered matters relating to the implementation of local and regional agreements in so far as they affect working conditions, welfare and training, as well as other general conditions affecting the efficient operation of the Force.

Health and Safety at Work, Books and Forms, Catering, and Uniform and Equipment are all considered by Sub-Committees which report to the Joint Negotiating and Consultative Board.

ANNUAL INSPECTION

The Annual Inspection of the Force was carried out on 16, 17, 21, 22, 23 and 28 July 1981, by Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary, R H Anning Esq CBE QPM.

Chapter III

Training

Training takes place at a number of locations within the Force area. Formal courses are conducted for all ranks at Tally Ho! which also houses the CID School and Cadet Training, and at Walsall Training Wing. Probationary Constables' Courses are held at Walsall and at 'B' Division Headquarters, Bournville Lane. Communications training also takes place at the latter venue. Firearms training is carried out mainly at 'D' Division Headquarters, Queens Road, where the Force firing range is situated.

The Force Driving School is located at Halesowen Police Station, with car training wings at Bournville Lane and Chelmsley Wood Police Stations and a motor cycle training wing at Stourbridge Police Station.

Consequent upon the termination of the Inspectors' Course at the Police Staff College, Bramshill, responsibility for this training now rests with Police Regions. During 1981 the West Midlands Police continued to host the Inspectors' Post Promotion Courses for No. 3 Region, this training being undertaken at Tally Ho! An important addition to the training of Inspectors during the year was the Inspectors' Development Course. Staff to run Inspectors' Post Promotion and Development Courses is drawn from all forces in the Region; currently one Chief Inspector from Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia are seconded to Tally Ho! for this purpose. An Inspectors' Refresher Course was also introduced.

The West Midlands Police plays host to officers from other forces who attend a number of courses. Regional Home Defence Courses are held at Tally Ho! CID Courses are attended by officers from forces throughout the country and from overseas. Officers from Warwickshire Constabulary attend Sergeants' Post Promotion and Pre-Retirement Courses. Senior officer training during the year included courses in operational use of firearms and television interview techniques.

During the large-scale public order disturbances in July 1981, Tally Ho! was used to accommodate officers from other areas who were assigned to duty in the West Midlands. All training, other than some driver training courses, was suspended for two weeks, leading to the postponement or cancellation of a number of courses. Since then, by the scheduling of extra courses and finding extra places on programmed courses, the effects of this suspension of training activities have been overcome.

Staff

The authorised establishment of the Training Department is as follows:-

Chief Superintendent	1
Superintendents	2
Chief Inspectors	6
Inspectors	17
Sergeants	45
Constables	23
Total	94

The Establishment Review Team are currently examining the authorised establishment of the Training Department

INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

One Inspector and 20 Sergeants attended Student Instructors' Courses at Central Planning and Instructor Training Unit, with a view to becoming Instructors. With the exception of one Sergeant, all successfully qualified as Police Duty Instructors.

In addition, three Constables attended Specialist Instructors' Courses in order to qualify to instruct Cadets. Two Constables qualified as Physical Training/Self Defence Instructors whilst the third qualified as a Drill/First Aid Lay Instructor.

LAW RESEARCH

The Law Research Unit continues to provide a service which is used by an ever increasing number of officers engaged in both training and operational police duty. Apart from answering queries on new legislation and case law, the staff give assistance to officers of various ranks who are preparing research projects. Students attending both CID and Inspectors' Courses make extensive use of the facilities provided.

The monthly Law Conspectus gives all officers the opportunity to keep up-to-date with changes in the law that are brought about as a consequence of decided cases. The number of enquiries from other forces on points of law and procedure continues to rise.

PROBATIONER TRAINING

Induction Course

This course is conducted at Bournville Training Wing in the week preceding a recruit's attendance at the District Training Centre for the Initial Training Course. Documentation, swearing-in, issue of uniform and other administrative matters are dealt with during the five days of the course.

Ten courses were conducted and 384 recruits attended.

Local Procedure Course

Immediately after completing the Initial Training Course at the District Training Centre, all Probationary Constables attend a two-week course, during which they receive instruction on matters of a purely local character.

Three hundred and ninety-nine Constables attended the 18 courses during the year.

Junior Training Course

This course is of one-week duration with Probationary Constables attending in their ninth month of service. The purpose of the course is to reinforce and consolidate instruction received on the Initial Training Course.

Five hundred and ninety-eight Constables attended the 29 courses held during the year.

Intermediate Training Course

The Intermediate Training Course is held in the fourteenth month of training and is concerned mainly with Traffic Law.

Five hundred and ninety-four Constables attended the 27 courses held during the year.

Senior Training Course

This is a course of one-week duration held immediately prior to Probationary Constables attending a Continuation Course at the District Training Centre.

Twenty-seven courses were held during the year and 527 officers attended.

Basic Crime Course

This course is of one-week duration and is held towards the end of the Constables' probationary period. It is designed to instruct officers in the practice and procedures of crime investigation.

The 25 courses held were attended by 501 Constables.

Indecency Course

This short but important course takes place some six weeks after the completion of the Local Procedure Course. All officers receive two days' instruction in the skills necessary to deal with indecency and sexual offences. Women officers receive an additional day's instruction on problems associated with female complainants and the care and custody of women prisoners.

The 35 courses held were attended by 461 Constables.

REFRESHER COURSES

Constables

This course is of two-weeks duration and attended by Constables at five-yearly intervals. The course is intended to up-date Constables on law and procedure and also affords them the opportunity to listen and discuss with speakers from outside organisations topical subjects with which police officers may come into contact in the normal course of their duties.

The 21 courses held were attended by 334 Constables.

Sergeants

A Sergeant attends this three-week course after four years service in that rank and at four-yearly intervals thereafter. The course is designed to refresh and up-date the Sergeants' knowledge of management principles, law and police procedures relevant to the rank.

The three courses held were attended by 68 Sergeants.

Inspectors

This course of two-weeks duration was introduced in 1981 to cater for the training needs of Inspectors who, having held that rank for a number of years, had

not attended a training course during the previous five years. The course is intended to refresh and up-date the Inspector's knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of the management of personnel, law and practice and to improve certain of the skills which need to be exercised in relation to duties in that rank.

Two courses were held during the year and 29 Inspectors attended.

POST PROMOTION COURSES

Sergeants

This is a three-week, nationally designed course, intended to equip newly promoted Sergeants with the basic skills necessary to perform the duties of their new rank. The main emphasis is placed upon the Sergeant's management function.

Sixty-one West Midlands Sergeants, together with 15 Sergeants from Warwickshire Constabulary, attended the six courses held at Tally Ho!

Inspectors

This is a course of four-weeks duration, again nationally designed, and intended to acquaint newly promoted Inspectors with their duties. A large proportion of the subject matter is directly related to the management and supervision of personnel.

Three courses were held, attended by 23 West Midlands Inspectors and 25 from Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia Constabularies.

Inspectors' Development Course

To build upon the basic knowledge gained, this course is of six-weeks duration and programmed to take place nine months after the initial post-promotion course above. It is designed to expand an Inspector's knowledge in such fields as management techniques, local government, police finance and modern technology, as well as general policing matters. Speakers for the course are drawn from a wide area and include lecturers from the Universities of Aston, Birmingham and Bradford and the Police Staff College, Bramshill.

The Region has also incorporated into the course the examination for the Diploma in Supervisory Management awarded by the National Examinations Board in Supervisory Studies. This initiative is now being considered nationally. During the year four courses were held, attended by 44 West Midlands Inspectors and 28 from Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia Constabularies. Of these 72 officers, 66 were successful in gaining the Diploma in Supervisory Management.

SPECIALISED COURSES

Aston University Course

This course is organised by the University for the West Midlands Police and leads to a part-Diploma in Business Administration. The course lasts for 10 weeks and those officers selected attend on a full-time basis.

The two courses held were attended by 18 officers.

Firearms Seminars for Senior Officers

To discuss effective means of deploying officers trained in the use of firearms in operational situations, two-day seminars for officers of the rank of Chief Inspector and above are held at Tally Ho!

The five seminars held were attended by 40 officers.

Firearms Training

The time devoted to training officers in the use of firearms, on both Initial and Refresher Training, amounted in total of 2,459 man-days.

Home Defence - Home Defence College

Courses held at the Home Defence College, Easingwold, during the year were attended by five Chief Superintendents, six Superintendents and three Chief Inspectors from this Force.

Home Defence — Regional

The two one-week Regional Home Defence courses held at Tally Ho! were attended by 24 West Midlands Police Inspectors, together with one Chief Inspector and 30 Inspectors from the Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia Constabularies. The courses are residential. A Home Defence Instructors' Course was also held, attended by 11 Sergeants from this Force, together with one Inspector, 10 Sergeants and two Constables from the other three forces in the Region. Eleven of the officers who attended the Instructors' Course also received a week's instruction in public speaking on a Public Speaking Course which was held in conjunction with the Instructors' Course.

National Examination Board in Supervisory Studies

The facilities offered at Hall Green Technical College for officers to undertake the part-time course for a full academic year, lead to the award of the Board's Certificate in Supervisory Studies for successful students. In 1981 one Inspector, 16 Sergeants and two Constables successfully completed the course and gained certificates.

In September 1981, 15 officers enrolled for the 1981/1982 academic year.

Pre-Retirement Course

This course is of four-days duration and designed to give advice to police officers approaching retirement of the facilities available to them in civilian life and of the financial and medical aspects of retirement. The three courses held were attended by 55 West Midlands officers, together with nine officers from the Warwickshire Constabulary.

Promotion Examinations

The Training Department continued to have responsibility for the administration of the two promotion examinations held during the year.

Promotion Examination Classes

Evening classes are held from November to February for officers studying for the Promotion Examination to the rank of Inspector held in April, and a further series is held from April to August for Constables taking the Examination to the rank of Sergeant in November.

Prior to November 1981, classes were held twice weekly at three venues, but with the publication and issue of the new Promotion Examinations Manual containing all the material an officer is required to study, the opportunity has been taken to restructure classes. In the latest series, only one class has been held each week, with greater emphasis being placed upon revision of complex subject matter and practicing answering and examination techniques, rather than on pure lecturing. An examination is held towards the end of each series of classes, to determine which officers attend Special Study Courses.

Public Speaking Course

A number of police officers, in all ranks, are called upon in the course of their regular duties to give talks either to members of the public, or to groups of police

officers. This course is designed to assist these officers in acquiring a reasonable standard of expertise in public speaking and to make beneficial use of the visual aids available.

The six courses held were attended by 51 officers.

Public Order Training

A series of half-day exercises to give training in crowd control techniques were conducted with the aid of officers of the Special Patrol Group and the Mounted Department. These exercises were attended by six Superintendents, 13 Chief Inspectors, 19 Inspectors, 40 Sergeants and 385 Constables.

Permanent Beat Officers' Course

During the year 95 Constables attended the eight one-week courses which were held to instruct them in the particular duties of a Permanent Beat Officer.

Special Constables

Special Constables attended an initial training course consisting of a series of three evening classes, at Tally Ho! or Walsall, followed by one full-day of instruction and practical exercises at Tally Ho!

Two hundred and three Special Constables recruited during 1981 underwent this training.

Special Study Courses

Immediately prior to the Promotion Examinations in April and November a series of two-week courses was held to assist candidates. Five courses were held prior to the Promotion Examination to Inspector in April, attended by 65 Sergeants. One hundred and thirty six Constables attended the six courses held prior to the Promotion Examination to Sergeant in November.

Station Officers' Course

This course is of one-week duration and is to enable Constables and Sergeants to receive training in Station Office duties.

The eight courses held were attended by 123 officers.

Television Interview Techniques Seminar

Police officers particularly of senior rank, are frequently interviewed on television either in relation to a serious crime which has occurred, or covering some other matter of public concern or interest. Small groups of officers, of the ranks of Chief Inspector and above, attended half-day seminars to receive instruction and practice in the television interview situation. The Closed Circuit television equipment available at Tally Ho! was utilised and the seminars were conducted by Mr Bob Warman of ATV.

The 10 seminars held were attended by 29 officers.

Tutor Constables Courses

This two-day course is intended to instruct Constables in the duties of a Tutor Constable, who is responsible for giving guidance to a Probationary Constable, particularly in the period immediately following the Local Procedure Course.

The 13 courses held were attended by 158 Constables.

Undergraduate Visit

Once again, Tally Ho! was one of the centres offering facilities, on behalf of the Home Office, for undergraduates considering the Police Service as a career. Thirteen undergraduates spent three days in January being shown a range of police activities and listening to talks by police speakers.

COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING

Command and Control Operators' Course

Twenty-two courses, each of five-days duration, were held and attended by a total of three Inspectors, 82 Sergeants, 22 Constables and one civilian operator.

Management information System/Street Index Training

Following the implementation of the Management Information System, which is dependent upon the Command and Control System and upon the introduction of the Street Index as an operational facility, members of the Communications Training Staff paid regular visits to Sub-Divisions to give instruction on the new systems to controllers. Arrangements are being made to extend this instruction to officers trained as controllers who are not currently employed on controller duties.

Police National Computer Terminal Operators' Course

Formerly a four-day course, this was extended during the year to five days to allow for additional instruction on the Disqualified Drivers' Index and for greater use of practical exercises. The 39 courses were attended by one Inspector, 86 Sergeants, 112 Constables and six Civilian Operators.

Teleprinter Message Switching System Course

This four-day course is intended to instruct police officers and civilian operators in the use of the computer-linked teleprinter message switching system. The 40 courses held during the year catered for 38 Sergeants, 136 Constables and two Civilian Operators.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT TRAINING

During the year the following courses were held at the Detective Training School, Tally Ho!:-

4 Junior Courses	10 weeks
4 Advanced Courses	6 weeks
3 Refresher Courses	3 weeks
1 Fraud Investigation Course	3 weeks

The majority of forces in England and Wales were represented on the above courses, together with members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, British Transport Police and Ministry of Defence Police. One officer from the Bermuda Police Force also attended.

In all a total of 221 officers attended, of whom 37 were West Midlands Police officers.

DRIVING SCHOOL

The extension of 'continuous flow' training to Standard 'B' Courses has produced a marked increase in the number of officers qualifying. Advanced training has been running to capacity throughout the year with a 33 1/3% increase in the throughput of students. Tachograph training has been provided for all advanced drivers.

The following courses have been held:-

Type of Course	No. of Courses	Students	Number Qualified	
Standard 'A' (continuous flow)	17	418	343 (Grade 4)	
Standard 'B' (continuous flow)	23	431	295 (Grade 3)	120 (Retained Grade 4)
Advanced Car (4 week)	15	198	57 (Grade 1)	84 (Grade 2)
Advanced Car Refresher (2 week)	2	6	3 (Grade 1)	3 (Grade 2)
Heavy Goods Vehicle (3 week)	5	10	8 (Class 1)	2 (Class 3)
Traffic Patrol Officers (5 week)	2	20	20 (Pass)	
Instructors' Courses (6 week)	2	6	5 (Pass)	
Standard motor cycle (3 week)	19	69	52 (Grade 4)	10 (D of E)
Conversion motor cycle (3 week)	11	31	21 (Grade 3)	10 (Retained Grade 4)
Advanced motor cycle (3 week)	8	23	10 (Grade 1)	7 (Grade 2)
Advanced motor cycle Refresher (2 week)	3	9	5 (Grade 1)	2 (Grade 2)
Casual tests (including motor cycle and civilian)		248		
Re-tests after accident		52		
Tachograph training (1 day)		748		
Weighing course (1 day)	2	16		

Other courses were attended as follows:-

AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT PROCEDURE COURSE

Teeside Airport

1 Superintendent
1 Chief Inspector
6 Inspectors

AIR RECONNAISSANCE COURSE

R A F Cosford

3 Inspectors

CID COURSES

Detective Training Courses — Bristol

Junior Course	3 Detective Constables
Advanced Course	2 Detective Sergeants

Detective Training Course — Liverpool

Junior Course	5 Detective Constables
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Detective Training Course — Hendon

Junior Course	3 Detective Constables
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Detective Training Courses — Preston

Junior Course	4 Detective Constables
Advanced Course	1 Detective Sergeant

Detective Training Courses — Wakefield

Junior Course	4 Detective Constables
Advanced Course	4 Detective Sergeants

Drugs Courses

Liverpool	2 Detective Constables
Preston	1 Detective Inspector
	3 Detective Constables

Fingerprint Courses

Hendon	5 Detective Constables
Durham	2 Civilians

Fraud Course

Manchester	1 Detective Constable
	1 Detective Sergeant

Scenes of Crime Courses — Hendon

Forensic Course	2 Detective Constables
	1 Civilian
Photographic Course	1 Detective Constable
	1 Civilian
Refresher Course	1 Detective Constable

CIVIL SERVICE STAFF INSPECTION COURSE

Bournemouth	1 Chief Inspector
	1 Inspector

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS' COURSE

Durham	1 Superintendent
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COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Derby (Newly appointed Community Relations Officers)	2 Sergeants
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Derby (Race Relations Course)	3 Inspectors
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Holly Royde (Police & Community Relations)	2 Chief Superintendents
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Wakefield (Public Relations Course)	1 Sergeant
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CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Birmingham	1 Superintendent
	5 Sergeants
	5 Constables

DIVING COURSE — NORTHUMBRIA

Basic Course	3 Constables
Supervision Course	1 Sergeant

DOG TRAINING COURSES – STAFFORD

Initial Course 17 Constables
Instructors' Course 1 Sergeant

FIREARMS COURSES

Exeter VIP Protection 1 Constable
Preston Firearms Instructors 1 Constable
Wakefield Firearms Instructors 1 Sergeant

GAMING COURSE

Manchester 2 Sergeants

HAZCHEM SYMPOSIUM

Cleveland 1 Chief Inspector

INSPECTORS' COURSE

Hutton Hall, Lancashire 8 Inspectors

INSPECTORS' COURSE – DIRECTING STAFF COURSE

Central Planning Unit 2 Chief Inspectors

MANAGEMENT COURSE

Honiley Hall 1 Inspector

POLICE NATIONAL COMPUTER MANAGER/SUPERVISORS' COURSE

Durham 1 Inspector
1 Detective Sergeant

POLICE STAFF COLLEGE COURSES

Special Course 1 T/Sergeant
Junior Command Course 14 Insp & Ch Insp
Intermediate Command Course 6 Superintendents
Senior Command Course 1 Superintendent

ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS – R.O.S.P.A. NATIONAL COURSE

Basic Course 1 Sergeant
2 Constables

SENIOR OFFICER COURSE

Lincoln 2 Superintendents

SPECIAL BRANCH COURSES

Initial Course 7 Detective Constables
Advanced Course 1 Detective Chief Inspector
1 Detective Inspector
Ports Course 2 Detective Constables

SPECIAL BRAKES COURSE

Banbury 28 Constables

TACHOGRAPH CALIBRATION COURSE

Birmingham 1 Superintendent
5 Sergeants
5 Constables

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLES COURSE

Hendon 2 Detective Constables

FIRST AID

Cadets normally receive the Initial Course in First Aid as part of their training. With the exception of ex-Cadets who are already qualified, recruits to the Force undertake the Initial First Aid Course at the Training Centre. During the year, 504 officers attended Local Courses of instruction to re-qualify in First Aid and all were successful in the examination at the first or second attempt.

NATIONAL FIRST AID COMPETITIONS

Regional Eliminating Contests for the National First Aid Competitions - (the Pym Trophy) were held at the District Training Centre, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, in January 1981. In the men's contest the team was placed third. Policewomen have a separate competition and were similarly placed.

The Cadet team in the Police Cadet National First Aid Competition was placed second.

OPEN FIRST AID COMPETITIONS

Police and Cadet teams were entered in a number of competitions throughout the year. A regional eliminator at Cheltenham for a Casualties Union Competition was won by the West Midlands team whilst another team recorded a similar success in a separate regional eliminator held at Leicester. In the St. John Ambulance High Grade Competition, a Policewomen's team was placed second. A mixed team won the Thoresby Colliery Open Competition.

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY AWARDS

The following awards were gained by members of the Force:-

Elementary Award	309
Intermediate Award	193
Bronze Medallion	189
Bar to Bronze Medallion	1

POLICE CADETS

On enrolment Cadets must be at least 16 years of age and if their progress is satisfactory they join the Regular Force at 18½ years. Their training programme is dependent upon their age on entry into the Corps.

Induction Courses

Induction courses are designed to train young people enrolled into the Cadet Corps to a high standard of smartness and self discipline, to make them aware of their role as Police Cadets and bring them to a level of physical fitness comparable with Cadets already in the Corps.

In January, 19 Cadets of an older age group were enrolled and underwent a four-week training course at Tally Ho! and on completion dispersed for senior Departmental training.

In August, 68 Cadets were enrolled and due to the numbers involved, facilities at Birmingham University were again utilised. One boy resigned during training and the remainder on completion of their course enrolled at Matthew Boulton Technical College to continue their education.

Academic Training

The facilities at the Matthew Boulton Technical College are utilised for Cadets to continue their education. Because of the comprehensive training programme

designed for Cadets and the limited time for which they serve in the Corps, it is only possible for them to study subjects requiring involvement for less than two academic years. The subjects studied by Cadets are the same as the previous year with no major programme changes.

Cadets with less than four GCE 'O' levels were enrolled for the BEC General Certificate (three term course) consisting of People and Communication, Business Calculations, The Role of the Police in the Community and Community Studies. Cadets possessing four GCE 'O' levels or more commenced a four term course for the BEC National Certificate of eight modules namely, People and Communication, Numeracy and Accounting, Organisation in its Environment I and II, Introduction to Public Administration I and II and the Developing Social Structure of Modern Britain and its Social Services.

The above courses were designed for Police Cadets with representatives from Matthew Boulton Technical College and senior Police Officers and, with BEC approval, have provided Cadets with the opportunity of gaining a nationally recognised qualification. Of the 70 Cadets studying for the BEC General Award 56 obtained the BEC Diploma including four with credit passes. The remainder of the time available was devoted to selected GCE 'O', 'O/A' and/or 'A' level subjects depending on the ability of the Cadet.

Departmental Training

During the senior stage of training, depending on their age, cadets complete the following:-

- A three month attachment to a Division
- A two month attachment to Community Service
- One month to a Control Room
- One month Adventure Training (see later)
- Three months Beat Patrol
- Any remaining time to H.Q. Departments

Cadets attending educational establishments take normal school vacations, except Cadets taking the BEC National Certificate who undertake community work during the summer vacation. During the year assistance was given to 37 organisations (as opposed to 25 last year) who were running holidays for mentally and physically handicapped people of all age groups, including play schemes and camps for children from deprived backgrounds.

Adventure Training

A four-day basic introductory adventure training course at North Wales is undertaken by all new boy and girl cadets. The programme is designed to teach them

the elementary rules of camp craft, safety on the mountains, orienteering and hill navigation and acclimatize them to the sort of environment and dangers they are likely to encounter whilst engaged in adventure training.

The West Midlands Cadet Adventure Training Camp situated at Elan Valley continues to be very popular with the majority of cadets attending in the summer months. The instructional programme covers all aspects of adventure training including climbing, canoeing and mountaineering, with the emphasis on team work. It is a demanding and testing time for the Cadets and proves to be a very successful venture. Account is taken of the physical capabilities of the girl cadets and the rigorous training programme modified accordingly. Any cadets not attending camp attend courses organised by the Outward Bound Association and the Sail Training Association. In all, eight cadets went to various Outward Bound Schools and three cadets on various ships for sail training experience. Also one cadet attended the Derbyshire Constabulary Adventure Training School at Ripley.

Two teams of cadets, one male and one female, took part in the annual walk on Dartmoor known as the Ten Tors Expedition. The expedition involved navigating a set route on the moors over a two day period. The weather conditions on this occasion were atrocious but both teams finished the competition. At the conclusion they received presentation medals. A male team of cadets entered a new competition called the 'Pacesetter Challenge', this being a two day expedition covering 36 miles and involving hill navigation, mountain safety and first aid situations. The cadet team completed the course in record time and won the "Best New Team Award".

First Aid

Instructional classes were held at Tally Ho! which covered the new intake of cadets both from January and August. A total of 89 cadets qualified for awards.

Voluntary Activities

During the year cadets assisted with the Remembrance Day Parade at Walsall and Birmingham, the Birmingham Lord Mayor's Procession and the Birmingham Students' Carnival. There was also involvement during the year in two large public events, one in June at the Birmingham Alexander Sports Stadium on the occasion of the visit of HRH Prince of Wales to the National Mentally Handicapped Children Sports when over 60 cadets assisted at this venture. In November a National Careers Exhibition was held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham and our cadets were able to make a large contribution to the success of this venture.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

In October, 72 cadets were enrolled in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme proceeding towards their gold award. Two girl cadets obtained their gold award and arrangements are in hand for them to attend a presentation ceremony at Buckingham Palace. There are twice as many cadets involved in the scheme than there were 18 months ago.

SPORT

The Cadet Corps has continued to maintain an interest in a wide variety of sporting activities. Cadets have participated in the following:-

Association Football

During the 1980/1981 season the cadet football team were entered in Division Six of the Birmingham Works League. They won this Division and were awarded the Lucas Sports Trophy. The highlight of the year was the National Police Cadet Competition. The final was held in Lancashire, when the West Midlands Police Cadets defeated Lancashire by two goals to one - a very fine performance.

Rugby Football

This sport has continued to play an important part in the cadet sporting calendar and a full fixture list is arranged against other police cadet teams, service teams, college and civilian teams. Six cadets were selected to play for Greater Birmingham Colts XV whilst two cadets represented the British Police Cadets.

Athletics

It has proved to be one of the better years for the Cadet Athletic team. The Regional Championships were held in Birmingham at the Alexander Sports Stadium where our cadets capitalised on these fine facilities and took six first places out of eight events winning the Chief Constable's Trophy by a clear 19 points. In the National Police Cadet Track and Field Championships, Cadet Murphy won the javelin event setting a new national record of 56.97 metres and also took first place in the shot-put competition. In the mens' long jump event Cadet Scott took first place and in the girls' 4 x 100 metres relay, the team took first place in a new championship record time.

Cross Country

The cross country season proved to be very successful and in the Regional Championships which were held at Warwick Police Headquarters, both the male and female teams took first places. Several of the Cadets represented the Force throughout the season and monopolized the cadets section in the Midland Police Cross Country League.

Swimming and Life Saving

Swimming instruction is given to all cadets as part of their training programme and once they reach the required standard of proficiency they progress towards life saving training. In 1981, 72 cadets passed the Royal Life Saving Society's Bronze Medallion Award and 25 gained the intermediate award. All those cadets who were unable to swim on joining were taught to do so.

In the Regional Male Cadet Life Saving Championships which were held at Walsall the boys 'A' team finished first. In the National Alington Cup Competition the West Midlands Police girls' team won the event and in the National West Riding Cup Competition the West Midlands Police Cadets boys' 'A' and 'B' teams finished first and second respectively. In the individual events Girl Cadet Watterson won the girls trophy and Boy Cadet Mavroidi won the boys trophy - very creditable performances.

The seventh National Cadet Swimming Championships were staged by the Metropolitan Police at the Peel Centre, Hendon. Cadets from this Force were entered into 13 events. In the finals we had four first and five second places. The Annual Cadet Swimming Gala was held at Westhill College in November where teams from Dudley, Anstey, Westhill and Newman Colleges were invited to participate. The hosts on this occasion were Newman College. In a total of 16 events the cadets recorded 12 wins and four seconds.

Cricket

The cadet team took an active part in the Force Inter-Division Cricket League. Unfortunately, due to training commitments in the summer it is not always possible to field our strongest side although the competition remains as keen as ever.

Hockey

The cadet team continued to train regularly during the winter season. Several matches have been played against schools, colleges and ladies hockey teams. There has also been mixed hockey matches against other Police Cadet Corps. In this season the girls' hockey team has not been beaten and this includes a 4 - 0 victory over the Metropolitan Police in November.

Other Sports

Cadets have continued to show an interest in other sports including badminton and judo. They have been provided with the facilities to pursue these sports on a Wednesday afternoon and given instruction and encouragement.

Chapter IV

Crime

Actual strength and disposition on 31 December 1981

Headquarters Staff – Specialist Departments

	Chief Superintendents	Superintendents	Chief Inspectors	Inspectors	Sergeants	Constables	Civilians	TOTALS
Operations	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Serious Crime Squad	—	1	1	1	10	16	3	32
Anti-Terrorist Squad	—	—	1	2	9	28	—	40
Special Support Unit	—	—	—	1	4	19	—	24
Commercial Branch	—	1	1	3	7	14	4	30
Drug Squad	—	—	1	3	11	18	2	35
Stolen Vehicle Squad	—	—	1	2	4	13	2	22
Support Services	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	3
Central Information Unit	—	—	1	1	3	11	29	45
Antecedents Department	—	—	1	1	4	12	9	27
Scenes of Crime	—	—	1	1	11	26	7	46
H M Coroners	—	—	1	1	3	6	6	17
Crime Intelligence	—	—	—	1	4	13	1	19
Explosives and Firearms	—	—	1	1	3	8	6	19
Crime Prevention	—	—	1	2	—	2	2	7
Technical Support Unit	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3
Special Branch	—	1	3	6	16	46	16	88
Regional Crime Squad	—	—	2	1	22	25	16	66
Regional Criminal Intelligence Office	—	1	—	1	2	2	8	14
Regional Fingerprint Bureau	—	—	1	1	3	13	32	50
Photographic Department	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	15
Social Liaison Department	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	2	6	17	32	116	274	158	605

RECORDED CRIME

During the year 188230 crimes were left recorded and Table 'A' shows the incidence of crime on each of the territorial divisions.

The detection rate for all crime for the year is 31.6% which is a decrease of 0.9% over 1980.

A total of 59543 crimes was detected.

25.5% of detected crime was committed by Juveniles.

The main variations in recorded crime during 1981, as compared with the previous year were as follows:-

Increases

Wounding Sec. 18	119	21%
Wounding Sec. 20/47	404	7%
Burglary Dwelling	4542	20%
Burglary Other Buildings	3048	11%
Robbery	284	22%
Theft from the Person	203	12%
Theft from Motor Vehicles	6658	34%
Theft and Taking of Motor Vehicles .	2034	8%
Arson and Criminal Damage	2123	17%

Decreases

Murder	6	17%
Buggery	6	18%
Indecency with Males	34	30%
Rape	13	14%
Indecent Assault Female	69	8%
U S I Girl 13 - 16 years	110	44%
Theft by Employee	258	22%

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES COMMITTED

Homicide

During 1981 there were 35 cases reported. Of these, 30 were recorded as Murder and five Manslaughter, 34 cases were detected.

Wounding

There were 6572 cases of Wounding during the year, 4457 being detected, this represents a figure of 68%.

Sexual Offences

During 1981, 1266 Sexual Offences were recorded, 741 of these being detected. This gives a detection rate of 59%. Sexual offences decreased by 194 or 13% compared with 1980.

Offences against Property (Burglaries)

Offences in this category totalled 57399 of which 15844 were detected, this represents a figure of 27.6%. Burglary offences increased by 7590 or 15% during 1981.

Robbery

During 1981 there were 1552 offences recorded under this heading, and 409 cases were cleared up (26%).

Thefts and Fraud

The table shows the various types of theft and fraud committed on each Division together with the number of offences detected.

Theft and Unauthorised Taking of Vehicles

There were 28256 offences recorded during 1981 and 7650 were detected (27%).

CRIMINAL STATISTICS

TABLE 'A'

NATURE OF CRIME	'K' Division Population: 307,389		'L' Division Population: 198,287		'M' Division Population: 314,124	
	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.
Offences against the Person						
Murder	2	2	—	—	4	4
Attempt Murder	—	—	—	—	3	3
Threats to Murder	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manslaughter	1	1	—	—	1	1
Death by Reckless Driving	—	—	—	—	—	1
Wounding Sec. 18	53	47	8	9	67	51
Wounding Sec. 20/47	610	444	257	188	769	538
Endangering Railway Passengers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Child Stealing	—	—	—	—	1	1
Buggery	2	2	2	2	1	1
Indecent Assault Male	20	13	4	3	12	9
Indecency with Males	12	13	—	—	1	1
Rape	7	5	1	2	8	4
Indecent Assault Female	83	37	33	16	90	53
U S I — Girl under 13 years	2	2	—	—	1	1
U S I — Girl 13 - 16 years	10	15	8	9	19	17
Incest	—	—	2	2	5	4
Procuration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abduction	—	—	2	2	—	—
Bigamy	—	—	—	—	—	—
Concealment of Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offences against Property — Burglaries etc.						
Burglary Dwelling	2003	695	1102	402	3396	1071
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	7	3	2	2	6	2
Burglary Other Buildings	3342	1349	1016	297	3675	1518
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	2	—	—	—	2	3
Going Equipped for Stealing	14	14	4	4	18	21
Robbery	116	51	31	10	135	37
Assault with intent to rob	1	—	1	1	10	5
Blackmail	1	1	—	—	4	—
Kidnapping	1	1	2	2	1	1
Offences against Property — Thefts etc.						
Theft from the Person	139	22	25	6	148	28
Theft in a Dwelling	227	97	131	46	345	136
Theft by Employee	114	110	55	53	85	73
Theft of Mailbags	4	—	1	—	3	2
Theft of Pedal Cycle	516	85	466	77	1247	200
Theft from Vehicles	2147	626	1438	209	3229	866
Theft Shops and Stalls	949	841	566	470	2177	1746
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	134	54	73	36	228	92
Theft of Electricity	80	71	2	2	74	74
Theft & Unauthorised Taking of M/Vehicle	2122	868	1173	410	4000	1672
Other Thefts	2078	624	1078	199	2843	541
False Accounting	4	2	2	2	2	—
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	370	212	147	84	465	286
Handling Stolen Property	224	226	67	67	181	178
Criminal Damage						
Arson	89	26	35	9	116	42
Criminal Damage	1352	330	676	163	1778	401
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	60	60	11	11	31	28
Other Offences						
Affray	1	1	1	1	5	5
Perjury and False Statement	2	1	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	5	5	1	1	5	5
GRAND TOTALS	16906	6956	8423	2797	25191	9722
DETECTION RATE	41.1	33.2	38.6			
Totals — 1980	15652	6571	7415	2820	22637	8604
Detection Rate — 1980	42.0	38.0	38.0			
TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION	55.0	22.6	42.5	14.1	80.2	30.9

CRIME — ALL DIVISIONS

TABLE 'B'

Nature of Crime	Population: 2,044,634	
	Crimes Committed	Crimes Detected
Offences against the Person		
Murder	30	29
Attempt Murder	9	9
Threats to Murder	11	11
Manslaughter	5	5
Death by Reckless Driving	7	8
Wounding Sec. 18	695	520
Wounding Sec. 20/47	5877	3937
Endangering Railway Passengers	3	1
Child Stealing	1	1
Buggery	27	25
Indecent Assault Male	144	99
Indecency with Males	81	75
Rape	83	43
Indecent Assault Female	749	338
U S I — Girl under 13 years	12	10
U S I — 13 - 16 years	138	127
Incest	16	16
Procuration	1	—
Abduction	9	5
Bigamy	6	4
Concealment of Birth	1	1
Offences against Property — Burglaries etc.		
Burglary Dwelling	27644	7326
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	84	43
Burglary Other Buildings	29658	8467
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	13	8
Going Equipped for Stealing	211	210
Robbery	1459	394
Assault with intent to rob	93	15
Blackmail	29	21
Kidnapping	11	11
Offences against Property — Thefts etc.		
Theft from the Person	1878	260
Theft in a Dwelling	2300	874
Theft by Employee	908	821
Theft of Mailbags	36	8
Theft of Pedal Cycle	6270	916
Theft from Vehicles	25971	4564
Theft Shops and Stalls	12820	10378
Theft Automatic Machine and Meters	1510	586
Theft of Electricity	437	389
Theft and Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicle	28256	7650
Other Thefts	20136	4353
False Accounting	33	27
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	4421	2158
Handling Stolen Property	1439	1427
Criminal Damage		
Arson	855	223
Criminal Damage	13433	2800
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	343	282
Other Offences		
Affray	35	35
Perjury and False Statements	7	5
Miscellaneous	35	29
GRAND TOTALS	188230	59543
DETECTION RATE	31.6	
Totals — 1980	166031	54042
Detection Rate — 1980	32.5	
TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION	71.2	22.5

VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED DURING THE YEAR

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF OFFENCES IN EACH VALUE GROUP								TOTAL VALUE ALL OFFENCES	
	Nil	Under £5	£5 and under £25	£25 and under £100	£100 and under £500	£500 and under £1,000	£1,000 and over	Number of Offences	STOLEN £	RE-COVERED £
Burglary (Dwelling)	6812	966	3675	5520	6810	2222	1639	27644	7602786	286947
Aggravated Burglary (Dwelling)	34	—	12	11	12	—	15	84	55875	6048
Burglary (Other Buildings)	8857	1449	4753	5794	6038	1389	1378	29658	6668101	653170
Aggravated Burglary (Other Buildings)	2	—	2	4	3	1	1	13	3882	180
TOTAL	15705	2415	8442	11329	12863	3612	3033	57399	14330644	946345
Robbery and Attempts	265	189	357	374	218	49	100	1552	897302	70829
Theft and Unlawful Taking Vehicles	730	13	55	566	15925	6274	4693	28256	19715111	15043786
								£5 AND OVER		
Theft from Person	94	192	737	652	164	17	22	1592	123121	7955
Theft in Dwelling	7	405	577	719	474	78	40	1888	280217	34736
Theft by Employee	14	124	211	195	221	68	75	770	365776	119208
Theft of/from Mailbags	1	21	10	3	1	—	—	14	350	58
Abstracting Electricity	31	19	221	67	83	13	3	387	36071	239
Theft of Pedal Cycle	9	7	689	3931	1625	8	1	6254	449467	26557
Theft from Vehicles	741	3575	5917	9208	5799	517	214	21655	2557449	169021
Theft from Shops and Stalls	74	5653	4755	1588	599	118	33	7093	425041	114840
Theft from Auto Machines and Meters	95	234	640	420	116	3	2	1181	52293	1671
Other Thefts	328	2692	6443	6486	3242	521	424	17116	2447437	193016
TOTAL	1394	12922	20200	23269	12324	1343	814	57950	6737222	667301
								TOTALS	41680279	16728261

Juvenile Crime

Of the 59543 crimes detected during 1981, Juveniles were known to have been responsible for committing 15189 or 25.5%, compared with 1980 when the respective figures were 15755 (29.2%).

The main classifications of detected crime for which juveniles were known to have been responsible are as follows:-

Indecent Assault Female	38%
Burglary	27%
Theft from Person	40%
Robbery	28%
Theft Pedal Cycle	50%
Theft from Shops	40%
Arson	48%
Theft from Vehicles	17%
Theft and Taking Vehicles	17%

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT

CID Operations

The operational aspect of criminal investigation is under the direction of a Detective Chief Superintendent who has a Detective Superintendent as his deputy. Their area of supervision extends to detective officers on the 11 territorial divisions in addition to the direct control of the following specialist departments:-

Serious Crime Squad	Drugs Squad
Stolen Vehicle Squad	Commercial Branch
Social Liaison Department	Special Support Unit

The senior detective officer on each territorial division is a Superintendent and, under the Divisional Chief Superintendent, he is responsible for the day to day investigation of crime within his division.

CID Support Services

The Support Services to the Criminal Investigation Department are commanded by a Detective Chief Superintendent with a Detective Superintendent as the deputy. The services thus provided contribute to the efficient management of the Criminal Investigation Department and, additionally, provide specialised assistance from a central source. It includes the following departments:-

Antecedent History Department	H M Coroners Department
Central Information Unit	Photographic Department
Criminal Intelligence Department	Scenes of Crime Department
Crime Prevention Department	Technical Support Unit
Explosives and Firearms Department	

Central Information Unit

The Central Information Unit comprises the CID Headquarters Administration, the Convictions Record Office, the Missing Persons Bureau, the Police National Computer Bureau and the Criminal Intelligence Department.

A total of 8,265 enquiries was received and forwarded to Divisions and Departments. This represents an increase of 1,065 over the previous year. The file destruction policy has continued and it is anticipated that all the older CID files will shortly have been placed on microfilm. All Force Standing Orders for which CID have a responsibility have been reviewed and updated to represent current Force policy.

The National Computer Bureau has the responsibility for updating all aspects of the Persons Wanted/Missing Indices and also processing stolen vehicle documentation. The full implications of the Disqualified Drivers Index has been appreciated with a total of 10,810 updates being recorded (a weekly average of 205).

Criminal Intelligence Department

The Criminal Intelligence Department is situated at Lloyd House and forms an integral part of the Central Information Unit. It is staffed by one Inspector and three Detective Sergeants. Additionally, there are 11 Divisional Field Intelligence Officers each operating on a division of the Force. The Department is responsible for collating, evaluating and disseminating information/intelligence relating to criminals and other persons suspected of being actively engaged in criminal activities who reside in, or frequent the West Midlands.

The 11 Field Officers are supervised initially by the staff from Headquarters with overall supervision by the Chief Superintendent CID Support Services. A conference is held monthly to assess current crime trends/patterns and to discuss the activities of West Midlands criminals. Members of the department have also attended Regional Intelligence Conferences and those held by adjoining forces to discuss common problems and travelling criminals.

The problem of street offences of robbery and theft from the person has continued to increase and therefore a detailed analysis has been made with a view to assisting divisions to combat this type of offence which gives rise for concern amongst members of the public. The Photographic Index showed photographs to some 2,150 witnesses and obtained 128 positive and 721 possible identifications for a variety of offences.

Liaison is maintained with the 31 sub-divisional collators' offices throughout the Force area and meetings are held from time to time to co-ordinate their activities, exchange information and to stimulate the flow of information and intelligence.

Commercial Branch

This branch conducts enquiries into various types of fraud allegedly committed by persons connected with business and public bodies. Many of the enquiries are protracted and require several months of investigation to bring them to a successful conclusion. The Department is centralised at Lloyd House and personnel are divided into teams each headed by a Detective Inspector. The number and the scale of enquiries undertaken continues to increase as does the ingenuity of persons who commit fraud.

During the year 46 enquiries were received from various sources including the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Department of Trade, various local authorities and from the general public. All these enquiries were completed to a stage where persons were either committed for trial or a decision was to be taken concerning process. In a further 14 cases no further action was taken.

A total of 373 company searches was requested and 21 requests for statements made. These 21 statements involved 31 companies. Sixty-seven persons were proceeded against during the year and a substantial amount of property recovered.

Antecedent History Department

The central office of the Antecedent History Department acting in concert with branch offices at Coventry and Brierley Hill has continued to provide support and assistance to officers during a year in which the number of persons committed for trial has shown a sharp increase. Assistance is given not only by representation at Crown Court but also on the many varied matters relating to Crown Court proceedings in order that the time operational officers spend at Court is minimised.

The documentation procedures in the Force were reduced leading to an improvement in the standard of information being made available to the Department which has resulted in the reports presented at Court being greatly improved. In the central area a modified daily list procedure was adopted to provide essential case listing information earlier than previously. It was necessary during the early part of the year to transfer a number of Birmingham cases to other courts particularly Leicester, but the opening of additional Crown Courts in Birmingham bringing the total to 10 has alleviated this problem.

The number of persons dealt with at Crown Court was 8,174, an increase of 1,382 over the previous year. Papers were prepared for 6,034 committals for trial, 1,089 committals for sentence and 1,051 appeals.

Special Support Unit

The Special Support Unit comprises one Inspector, four Sergeants and 19 Constables and its purpose is to provide support for other operational departments when required.

The Unit provided assistance on 56 occasions during the year which resulted in 50 persons being arrested for criminal offences of a serious nature.

Photographic Department

The Photographic Department is manned entirely by civilians and provides a 24-hour service to the Force under the direction of the Principal Photographer.

In January the Department opened offices on 'G', 'H', 'J', 'K' and 'L' Divisions. Photography on these Divisions was previously undertaken by Scenes of Crime officers. The offices at Little Park Street and West Bromwich are supervised by an area photographer whilst central Divisions are under the control of the senior area photographer based at Lloyd House. A senior technician has been appointed to take charge of the laboratory at Lloyd House and provide a processing and printing service for staff based at both Headquarters and the other offices.

The department continues to produce the majority of its work in colour and attended 7,748 incidents (an increase of 104% on the previous year) which resulted in 124,666 colour prints being produced (an increase of 60.51% on 1980). Six thousand six hundred and sixty-two black and white photographs were produced of persons missing from home, photo-fits and other miscellaneous topics. A total of 31,234 prisoners' photographs was received for copying and filing. At the request of the Prosecuting Solicitor's Office a further 31,330 photographs were produced for Court use. The income to the Department during the year as a result of charges for photographs was £55,395.

Trials are currently being undertaken to replace the existing system of prisoners' photographs using Polaroid cameras and film with a 35 mm film system. The trials are being adopted following the recommendations made by an ACPO Working Party in 1979 concerning national standards for photographing prisoners. If the trials are successful the new system will result in considerable financial savings.

Drug Squad

The Drug Squad is under the charge of a Chief Inspector and the three branch offices are each operated by a Detective Inspector. In order to combat the remoteness of some Divisions from the branch offices sub-offices were opened during the year at Shirley and at Sutton Coldfield. The experiment of having officers based in these areas has proved successful.

Close liaison is maintained with Divisions and departments as well as other agencies outside the Force that have any dealings with drugs and the problems caused by them. This liaison resulted in the arrest of 734 persons in connection with drug offences with a further 14 persons cautioned. This represents an increase of 97 persons over the previous year.

There were sharp increases in the number of persons arrested for offences in connection with heroin (from 51 to 68), morphine (from 18 to 45) and opium (from 8 to 20). A large proportion of the additional offences involved the supply and importation of these drugs. The use of the drug cannabis continues to spread and recent research indicates that the number of users in this country is over two million. Offences involving possession of cannabis increased by 116 to 486 but half of this increase is accounted for by a single operation which took place during August and October. There was also an increase of 22 (from 49 to 71) in the number of persons charged for cultivating cannabis.

There were 635 visits made to retail chemists for the purpose of inspecting registers and supervising the destruction of controlled drugs. Following a Home Office directive in August a single officer from each of the branch offices has been employed inspecting registers rather than the work being spread amongst a number of officers. The inspections resulted in proceedings for unlawful supplying of drugs against one chemist and three general practitioners being advised by the Home Office as to their conduct in prescribing drugs. There were 144 attacks on chemists premises of which 43 offences were detected. This is the first decrease in such offences for a number of years and follows successful liaison between Drug Squad officers and Crime Prevention officers to persuade chemists to install secure floor safes in which to keep controlled drugs. There were 42 burglaries at doctors' surgeries of which 19 offences were detected. Only 17 of the offences, however, involved controlled drugs.

The sniffing of glue and other solvents has increased during the year. This is a national problem which has attracted a great deal of attention from the media. Whilst the actual abuse is not an offence, it is the effects which concern the Police, particularly if criminal offences follow the abuse. All cases which come to the notice of the Force are referred to Social Services and to the newly formed Central Co-ordinating Agency for the central Divisions where an index is maintained. Each branch office is charged with maintaining a liaison with other local bodies who also have an interest in this problem, particularly those such as the Drugs Advisory Committee who are concerned in trying to educate the young as to the dangers of solvent abuse.

Members of the Drug Squad continue to give talks on drugs and drug abuse both to police officers in training and to outside bodies. It has, however, been necessary to curtail the number of talks to outside bodies due to operational commitments.

Scenes of Crime

The Scenes of Crime Department staff comprises both police officers and civilians trained in specialist techniques for searching for and lifting fingerprints at scenes of crime and searching for and preserving forensic evidence for evaluation by scientists at the Forensic Science Laboratory.

The re-organisation early in the year which saw photographers employed throughout the Force involved some re-deployment of scenes of crime staff who were no longer required to undertake photographic duties. A total of 47,552 scenes of crime, motor vehicles involving crime and cheque cases were examined during the year. This represents an increase of almost 50%. Finger and palm impressions were found in 7,188 cases, an increase of 11.51%. Exhibits were

submitted to the Forensic Science Laboratory by officers from the Department in 624 cases, a decrease of 30% on the previous year. This, however, was due to the Laboratory being much more discriminatory about the work they were prepared to accept. Finger impressions were submitted to the Midland Regional Fingerprint Bureau in 4,846 cases, an increase of 9.51% and this resulted in 1,407 identifications being made, an increase of almost 28%. Photo-fit composites were completed by members of the Department in 216 cases, this again reflecting an increase of over 13%.

Serious Crime Squad

The Serious Crime Squad consists of two sections, the Serious Crime Squad and the Anti-Terrorist Squad. The Serious Crime Squad concentrates on the detection and apprehension of persons involved in the commission of very serious crimes. It also provides a pool of experienced detective officers who are able to go to the support of Divisional detectives involved in major enquiries as well as undertaking enquiries within the Force area concerning very serious offences committed elsewhere. The dedication of the officers on the Squad resulted in 225 persons being arrested for criminal offences. Whilst this represents a decrease on the previous year, the total number of offences detected showed a substantial increase and an additional 124 persons were arrested for offences in other force areas. The total value of property recovered in the West Midlands was £213,402 with a further £51,700 being recovered on behalf of other forces. It is, however, accurate to say that the decrease in the number of prisoners is offset by the quality of the arrests made. Professional criminals continue to be harder to apprehend, totally unamenable during all stages of enquiries and make consistent and persistent efforts to avoid conviction. The success achieved by members of the Serious Crime Squad reflects highly their professional ability.

The Anti-Terrorist Squad continues to be involved whenever terrorist activities are suspected.

Stolen Vehicle Squad

The function of the Stolen Vehicle Squad is to assist Divisional officers with major enquiries concerning motor vehicles, to enquire into thefts and complicated frauds relating to motor vehicles and documents and to examine motor vehicles on behalf of the Police, the Taxation Department, the Department of the Environment and the various local authorities.

There is a central office at Bournville, Birmingham with branch offices at Coventry and Wolverhampton each under the control of a Detective Sergeant with overall supervision by a Detective Chief Inspector.

During the year 207 persons were arrested by officers of the Department resulting in the recovery of 109 vehicles to a total value of £219,481. Examinations carried out on behalf of other police forces totalled 858 with a further 820 vehicles being examined at the request of the Public Works Department. As a result of these examinations a further 254 vehicles to the value of £227,457 were identified and recovered. The 2,684 enquiries received from the DVLC, Swansea, and local vehicle licensing offices resulted in another 900 vehicles being examined.

Thefts of older type vehicles, no doubt for their spare parts value, continue to increase following a national trend. There is also a marked increase in thefts of motor vehicle component parts from manufacturers and wholesalers. This has resulted in a number of enquiries being undertaken by the Department and further property to the value of £109,525 being recovered. The large scale thefts and frauds involving motor vehicles continue to be practiced and at the end of the year two separate enquiries involving some 25 persons were being undertaken.

Scientific Aid

Exhibits were submitted to the Home Office Forensic Science Laboratory for analysis as follows:-

Criminal Investigation	3616
Drugs	588
Traffic Matters	4228
Other Analysis	177
Total	8609

The Director of the West Midlands Forensic Science Laboratory and his staff have given invaluable assistance during the year and I am grateful for all their help.

Midland Regional Fingerprint Bureau

The Bureau occupies offices at Force Headquarters and 18 officers are detached for duty with that office, their distribution by rank being as follows:-

1 Chief Inspector
1 Inspector
3 Sergeants
13 Constables

Regional Crime Squad

The Regional Crime Squad has offices within the Force area at Bilston, Birmingham and Coventry and its major task is the investigation and curtailment of organised crime in the Midlands. To achieve these ends it liaises closely with Force Crime Squads and other Regional Crime Squads throughout the country. The number of officers seconded from the Force for duty with the Squad was, at the end of the year, 50, their distribution by rank being:-

2 Chief Inspectors
1 Inspector
22 Sergeants
25 Constables

Special Branch

Special Branch officers are engaged on normal police duties connected with security of the State, preservation of public order, protection of members of the Royal Family, Heads of Government, foreign heads of State and other vulnerable terrorist targets visiting the Force area. Their duties include the prevention of criminal offences against the security of the State, the investigation of terrorist and subversive organisations, surveillance duties at Birmingham Airport, the investigation of aliens and immigration offences, deportation and assisting the territorial divisions in the maintenance of public order. The majority of officers are employed at the Airport and in connection with aliens and immigration enquiries.

The Special Branch is not interested in any way in legitimate political or industrial activities. Subversive organisations of interest are those which fall within the generally accepted definition: "activities which threaten the safety or well-being of the State and which are intended to undermine or over-throw parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means".

Technical Support Unit

The Technical Support Unit is a regional support unit which is sited at Lloyd House and staffed by the Force. There are three officers attached for duty with the Unit, they comprise:-

1 Inspector
2 Constables

There is also a professional and technical officer on secondment from the Scientific Development and Research Branch, Sandridge.

During the year a total of 914 requests was received from all the contributors to this Department, leading to the issue of 2,366 items of equipment; out of these the West Midlands Police made 636 requests for 1,567 items of equipment.

Chapter V Proceedings

PROCEEDINGS

During the year proceedings were initiated against 128,597 persons in respect of offences committed.

ANALYSIS OF OFFENCES

The number of persons prosecuted was as follows:-

OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR "EITHER WAY"	30,780
DRUNKENNESS OFFENCES	5,509
OTHER OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY	16,348
MOTORING OFFENCES	75,960
TOTAL	128,597

OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR "EITHER WAY"

Details of persons prosecuted are set out in Table 'A'.

In addition to those prosecuted, 6069 persons, including 4,932 juveniles, were cautioned for offences triable on indictment or "either way" during the year.

OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY

Details are set out in Table 'B'.

In addition to those prosecuted 2,222 persons, including 844 juveniles, were cautioned for offences triable summarily only during the year.

MOTORING OFFENCES

Details are set out in Table 'C'

In addition to those prosecuted, 14,300 persons, including 486 juveniles, were cautioned for motoring offences during the year.

PERSONS PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES

TRIALABLE ON INDICTMENT OR EITHER WAY. TABLE 'A'

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Murder	44	45	—	—
Attempt Murder	4	10	—	—
Threats to Murder	10	11	1	1
Manslaughter	2	2	—	—
Death by Reckless Driving	6	7	—	—
Wounding Sec. 18	386	532	2	2
Wounding Sec. 20/47	3344	4298	205	207
Possess Offensive Weapon	611	857	8	9
Buggery	19	33	3	7
Indecent Assault Male	27	54	6	6
Indecency with Males	91	117	14	22
Rape	54	67	—	—
Indecent Assault Female	176	261	57	57
U S I — Girl under 13 years	2	4	2	2
U S I — Girl 13 - 16 years	33	49	73	76
Incest	5	16	—	—
Bigamy	1	1	2	2
Other Offences against the person	229	343	6	6
Burglary Dwelling	1756	3235	138	171
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	31	56	—	—
Burglary Other Buildings	3740	6265	709	852
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	11	14	—	—
Going Equipped for Stealing	309	723	25	25
Robbery	387	629	15	15
Assault with Intent to Rob	25	34	1	1
Blackmail	31	41	1	1
Kidnapping	18	57	—	—
Theft from the Person	13	38	18	21
Theft in a Dwelling	25	40	77	83
Theft by Employee	690	1195	30	31
Theft of Mailbags	8	16	1	1
Theft of Electricity	383	443	31	34
Theft of Pedal Cycle	198	376	118	125
Theft from Vehicles	682	1249	206	308
Theft Shops and Stalls	4630	6411	2980	4961
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	184	269	43	44
Theft of Motor Vehicles	341	678	48	51
Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicles	2630	4666	139	145
Other Thefts	4075	6566	786	933
False Accounting	40	165	3	3
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	1283	2655	84	93
Handling Stolen Property	1326	2263	104	162
Arson	156	243	35	41
Criminal Damage	565	1361	68	99
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	173	723	10	11
Affray	140	199	—	—
Indecency with Children	14	32	—	2
Misuse of Drugs	427	805	15	15
Firearms Offences	62	125	—	—
Other Offences not shown separately	1383	3659	5	8
TOTALS	30780	51938	6069	8633

PERSONS PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR

OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY TABLE 'B'

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Adulteration of Food, Drugs etc.	59	71	—	—
Assaulting a Police Officer	406	528	—	—
Obstructing a Police Officer	214	252	6	6
Other Assaults	67	75	—	—
Betting, Gaming and Lotteries	16	22	12	17
Brothel Keeping	26	37	—	—
Cruelty to Animals	35	45	3	4
Cruelty to or Neglect of Children	—	1	—	—
Offences in Relation to Dogs	65	103	370	440
Education Acts	231	286	—	—
Firearms Acts	233	305	70	83
Highways Acts	349	443	190	199
Pedal Cycle Offences	213	315	358	479
Indecent Exposure	94	126	7	7
Simple Drunkenness	1772	1904	5	5
Drunk and Disorderly	3737	4005	4	4
Offences by Licensed Persons	97	408	12	13
Other Offences Relating to Licensing Laws	201	697	16	21
Labour Laws	10	32	—	—
Criminal Damage (under £200)	2832	3006	446	454
Social Security Offences	1302	2796	—	—
Naval, Military and Air Force Laws	31	32	—	—
Disorderly Behaviour	250	289	22	23
Prostitution	706	1194	405	434
Public Health Acts	438	1554	14	14
Railway Offences	534	601	—	—
Revenue Laws	2468	3680	101	227
Stage Carriage and Public Service Vehicles	327	478	19	26
Offences in Relation to Shops	14	21	—	—
Vagrancy Acts	203	221	10	10
Weights and Measures Acts	19	116	—	—
Immigration Act	24	24	—	—
Vehicle Interference	54	63	2	2
Public Order Offences	2702	2973	26	26
Other offences not shown separately	2128	2441	124	141
TOTALS	21857	29144	2222	2635

**PERSONS PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR
MOTORING OFFENCES**

TABLE 'C'

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Unfit to Drive Through Drink or Drugs	3136	3956	5	6
Dangerous Driving	247	400	—	—
Speeding	21968	23045	307	309
Motorway Offences	476	586	73	91
Careless Driving	6671	8407	883	941
Prohibited Driving	602	868	397	433
Neglect of Traffic Directions	5866	7824	1774	1832
Obstruction, Waiting and Parking Place Offences	4319	5843	588	670
Lighting Offences	1434	6496	3331	4606
Dangerous Condition	4423	8081	708	865
Defective Condition	359	2041	276	601
Trailer Offences	8	37	10	17
Motor Cycle Offences	226	716	116	200
Load Offences	1692	2732	254	342
Noise Offences	254	702	156	191
Driving Licence Offences	6169	20607	2236	3115
Operators' Licence Offences	88	186	30	52
Insurance Offences	8002	15557	468	1308
Registration and Licensing Offences	4766	10519	1183	1471
Work Record and Employment Offences	578	1758	398	640
Accident Offences	481	3001	87	148
Vehicle Testing Offences	1674	10217	945	1856
Racing on Highway Offences	2	2	—	—
Miscellaneous Offences	2519	4492	75	121
TOTALS	75960	138073	14300	19815

**Offences in Connection with Drink/Driving
—Road Traffic Act 1972**

A total of 3,136 persons committed 3,956 offences in connection with drink and driving in 1981 as follows:-

	Persons		Offences	
	1981	1980	1981	1980
Driving a motor vehicle with excess alcohol in the body	2744	3018	2954	3179
Failing or refusing to provide a specimen	337	327	934	1087
In charge of a motor vehicle whilst having excess alcohol in the body	55	68	68	84

DRUNKENNESS AND KINDRED OFFENCES

A total of 5,509 persons committed 5,909 offences of drunkenness during the year, and in 262 of those cases the offenders were under the age of 18 years. In the same period 119 persons under the age of 18 were proceeded against for consuming or purchasing intoxicating liquor.

Conduct of Licensed Premises

A total of 97 licensees or their servants was prosecuted for 408 offences for breaches of licensing laws during the year.

ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS

There was a decrease of two in the total number of police officers who were assaulted on duty from 1,104 in 1980 to 1,102 in 1981. The number of serious assaults rose from 558 to 574 and included 79 assaults on women police officers.

Serious Assaults

A breakdown of the 574 serious assaults is given below:-

Wounding Section 18	
Wounding Section 20	37
Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm	64
Assault with intent to resist arrest	445
Possess firearm with intent to resist arrest	14
Others	2
	12

Assaults — Section 51, Police Act 1964

Persons who were prosecuted under the provisions of Section 51 Police Act 1964 for the 528 less serious assaults on police officers were dealt with as follows:-

Disposal	
Fined	Persons
Committed to Prison	195
Withdrawn or dismissed	34
Probation Order	121
Conditional Discharge	17
Borstal Training	29
Suspended Sentence	5
Otherwise dealt with	27
Pending	95
	5

JUVENILE OFFENDERS

In 1981, 6,141 juveniles were prosecuted for Offences Triable on Indictment or "Either Way", 1,583 for Offences Triable Summarily Only, and 1,165 for Motoring Offences.

During the year 4,932 juveniles were cautioned for Offences Triable in Indictment or "Either Way", 844 for Offences Triable Summarily Only, and 486 for Motoring Offences.

Tables 'D', 'E' and 'F' give details of the offences committed.

Offences Triable on Indictment or "Either Way"

	1980	1981	Increase/Decrease	
Offences	10173	10832	+ 659	(6.5%)
Juveniles Prosecuted	5810	6141	+ 331	(5.7%)
Juveniles Cautioned	5156	4932	- 224	(4.3%)

Offences Triable Summarily Only

	1980	1981	Increase/Decrease	
Offences	1949	1921	- 28	(1.4%)
Juveniles Prosecuted	1554	1583	+ 29	(1.9%)
Juveniles Cautioned	747	844	+ 97	(13.0%)

Motoring Offences

	1980	1981	Increase/Decrease	
Offences	2633	2932	+ 299	(11.4%)
Juveniles Prosecuted	1083	1165	+ 82	(7.6%)
Juveniles Cautioned	548	486	- 62	(11.3%)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROSECUTING SOLICITOR

By far the most significant development in 1981 was the acceptance and implementation by the County Council of a report recommending a substantial increase in both the professional officer and support strengths of the Prosecuting Solicitor Service. The report resulted from the first objective appraisal carried

JUVENILES PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR EITHER WAY TABLE 'D'

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Murder	2	2	-	-
Wounding Sec. 18	23	39	2	2
Wounding Sec. 20/47	475	601	153	153
Possess Offensive Weapon	92	133	6	7
Buggery	-	3	3	7
Indecent Assault Male	2	3	4	4
Indecency with Males	1	2	4	12
Rape	3	7	-	-
Indecent Assault Female	51	63	43	43
U S I - Girl under 13 years	-	-	1	1
U S I - Girl 13 - 16 years	6	7	20	21
Other Offences against the person	11	22	1	1
Burglary Dwelling	586	1124	131	155
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	4	8	-	-
Burglary Other Buildings	1394	2516	678	815
Going Equipped for Stealing	69	131	20	20
Robbery	91	151	13	13
Assault with intent to Rob	13	18	1	1
Blackmail	15	23	1	1
Theft from the person	2	5	17	20
Theft in a Dwelling	8	10	64	70
Theft by Employee	6	9	12	13
Theft of Mailbags	-	-	1	1
Theft of Electricity	4	8	4	7
Theft of Pedal Cycle	120	227	115	122
Theft from Vehicles	92	216	183	270
Theft Shops and Stalls	733	1234	2335	4228
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	33	45	30	30
Theft of Motor Vehicles	73	143	46	49
Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicles	699	1247	118	124
Other Thefts	900	1601	674	815
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	73	135	50	59
Handling Stolen Property	277	479	96	149
Arson	70	105	32	38
Criminal Damage	127	312	66	97
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	10	52	1	2
Affray	30	35	-	-
Indecency with Children	-	-	-	1
Misuse of Drugs	6	13	7	7
Firearms Offences	6	8	-	-
Other Offences not shown separately	34	95	-	-
TOTALS	6141	10832	4932	7358

JUVENILES PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY **TABLE 'E'**

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Assaulting a Police Officer	31	47	—	—
Obstructing a Police Officer	12	18	4	4
Other Assaults	5	5	—	—
Cruelty to Animals	—	—	2	2
Offences in Relation to Dogs	—	1	3	4
Firearms Acts	80	125	48	59
Highways Acts	19	36	85	91
Pedal Cycle Offences	64	103	210	300
Indecent Exposure	6	7	3	3
Simple Drunkenness	19	20	4	4
Drunk and Disorderly	73	80	3	3
Other Offences Relating to Licensing Laws	33	60	6	6
Criminal Damage (under £200)	619	637	389	395
Social Security Offences	1	1	—	—
Disorderly Behaviour	20	26	6	6
Prostitution	18	32	19	20
Railway Offences	50	60	—	—
Revenue Laws	2	40	5	15
Stage Carriage and Public Service Vehicles	10	15	2	2
Vagrancy Acts	39	42	9	9
Vehicle Interference	5	8	1	1
Public Order Offences	436	493	20	20
Other Offences not shown separately	41	65	25	29
TOTALS	1583	1921	844	973

JUVENILES PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR MOTORING OFFENCES **TABLE 'F'**

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Unfit to Drive Through Drink and Drugs	12	14	—	—
Reckless Driving	11	30	—	—
Speeding	6	8	3	5
Motorway Offences	1	2	3	7
Careless Driving	38	94	12	15
Prohibited Driving	36	63	90	100
Neglect of Traffic Directions	30	53	18	22
Obstruction, Waiting and Parking Place Offences	1	1	2	4
Lighting Offences	9	96	38	82
Dangerous Condition	29	85	11	27
Defective Condition	3	35	1	16
Motor Cycle Offences	23	152	36	84
Load Offences	1	2	1	1
Noise Offences	3	13	5	7
Driving Licence Offences	515	1011	241	345
Insurance Offences	415	911	13	81
Registration and Licensing Offences	6	116	8	42
Accident Offences	5	51	1	1
Vehicle Testing Offences	13	169	2	41
Miscellaneous Offences	8	26	1	2
TOTALS	1165	2932	486	882

out since the service came into being in March 1974, that appraisal being under the direction of the County Personnel Officer and carried out by a team representing the Service, the Personnel Department and the Police. The approved establishment is now for 73 professional officers and 81 support staff. The new establishment, when all posts are filled, should permit the officers of the Service not only to provide to the Chief Constable comprehensive legal advice on all criminal and quasi-criminal matters but also to undertake the prosecution of all West Midlands Police instituted cases in the Magistrates' Courts throughout the County, with the exception of those courts exclusively hearing "statement of facts" cases. Recruitment is to be phased over 1982 but it is not anticipated that all posts will be filled within that year due to the difficulty in attracting suitable applicants to West Midlands.

In terms of savings in police manpower and in the cost of engaging solicitors in private practice and/or barristers in Magistrates' Courts, the result of the new establishment will be substantial. For example, in the 10 months from January to October inclusive, there were 12,213 morning and all day sittings of Magistrates. In 248, private practitioners prosecuted, barristers prosecuted in 1,255 and police officers in 797 courts, (35 per week) although a substantial number of the latter were courts hearing only statement of facts cases.

Achieving the efficient and most economic use of prosecuting solicitors as advocates depends to a marked extent upon lists in petty sessional courts containing substantial work requiring the presence of a solicitor and the avoidance of, for example, one short serious or contested matter in a single court with the whole of the remainder of the list being statement of facts cases. In this context, the fact that solicitors from the Service prosecuted some 18,300 persons in statement of facts' cases, (30.5% of all such cases) in the 10 months from January to October, all those cases being in courts other than purely statement of facts cases, is a matter for some concern.

At the end of 1981 the number of professional officers in post was 55, but four resignations had been received, three of whom were experienced and of senior rank; all four solicitors are going into private practice. The administrative systems of the Birmingham office underwent a further drastic revision at the end of the year both to take account of the coming into existence of the police Birmingham Process Department and the need to have more effective controls both over complex systems and also the huge volume of paper, both in relation to files and correspondence.

The new system appears to be working well and there is no good reason to doubt that it will continue to do so. 1981 also saw the bringing in of Service pro-forma advice forms, the prime object of which was to ensure that all cases sent into

any of the area offices receive at the least a hand-written advice, whether the case is submitted initially for advice or only after process has been decided. There has been a resultant improvement in the content of prosecution files and in the standard of the presentation of those files at court.

In 1982 internal training will be increased. Service directions and instructions with regard to all aspects of practice and procedure will be wholly revised in the early part of the year. In the same period it is hoped to commence what can be called "Divisional surgeries", whereby a Senior Prosecuting Solicitor will, initially periodically, and later at least once a week, go out on to the police Division for which that solicitor will have direct responsibility and there advise the Chief Superintendent and his officers on such criminal legal matters of immediate concern as the Chief Superintendent wishes to bring to his or her notice. Manpower will not permit the Divisional surgery to be undertaken on a more regular basis than once a week, although the advantages of such a practice are obvious. The involvement of senior solicitors lecturing to the police at Divisional level will be encouraged and it is hoped that many opportunities for this effectively to be done will be created during the coming year and increasingly so once full establishment has been reached.

There will be substantial areas of difficulty for the Service in the future not least in terms of the handling of constantly increasing criminal work, absorbing the ever growing volume of new law and in the struggle to contain and hopefully to reduce the backlog of cases for hearing. It will be a fair test of the Service to see how it accepts and responds to these challenges in 1982, a year made more difficult by the need to absorb increased staff smoothly and efficiently over the whole year and perhaps on into 1983.

PROSECUTIONS DEPARTMENT

There are 12 petty sessional areas within the Force at Aldridge, Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Halesowen, Solihull, Stourbridge, Sutton Coldfield, Walsall, Warley, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton. Prosecutions Departments are established on each territorial division covering these areas apart from the Birmingham Divisions.

Following upon the organisation and methods review of the Summons and Warrant Department in July the five Divisional Process Offices in the Birmingham area were amalgamated to form a centralised department known as the Birmingham Process Department. It is based at office premises in Snow Hill Queensway, Birmingham. The personnel involved, both police and civilian, have integrated well and no particular problems other than the normal "teething troubles" to be expected in any new department have been experienced. The task of taking on all aspects of process and the attendant functions forms part of a programme which will be completed in early 1982.

This new Birmingham Process Department has already built up a good liaison with the office of the Prosecuting Solicitor and the local Magistrates' Clerks Department.

SERVICE OF SUMMONS

A total of 178,623 summonses has been served within the Force area during the year, compared with 153,481 in 1980.

EXECUTION OF WARRANTS

A total of 54,547 warrants has been executed during the year which includes 8,553 warrants executed on behalf of other police forces. The monies collected in respect of these warrants totalled £907,369.35. The comparable figures for 1980 were 49,469 (8,670 for other forces), £899,934.79 being collected.

H M CORONERS DEPARTMENT

There are nine Coroners situated throughout the Force area. The Coroner for Birmingham is a full-time appointment whereas the remainder are employed on a part-time basis.

There were 9,763 reported deaths during the year. Post mortem examinations in 6,879 cases and 1,148 inquests were held distributed as shown hereunder:-

Division	Deaths Reported	Post Mortems	Inquests
B	1164	689	154
C	802	452	99
D	848	497	104
E	1049	613	129
F	509	312	87
G	859	578	99
H	895	875	94
J	1091	870	145
K	906	698	69
L	373	352	68
M	1263	943	100

CONTINUED

1 OF 2

Chapter VI

Traffic

TRAFFIC DIVISION

The Traffic Division comprises four Sub-Divisions – Western, Eastern, Central and Motorway. Its resources are controlled centrally from the Force Traffic Control Room at Perry Barr which is linked with the Central Control Room at Bournville.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Administration for the Division is undertaken centrally at Headquarters with small, but mainly civilian, administrative units on each Sub-Division.

Mileage and Roads

There is a total of 3,972 miles of road within the Force area which includes 42 miles of Motorway, 52 miles of Trunk Road and 350 miles of Principal Roads.

Deployment of Traffic Patrols

In addition to fulfilling its specialised role, the Traffic Division continues to provide support to Territorial Divisions on such occasions as demonstrations and marches, the July disorders, major sporting events and Motor Cycle Action Group demonstrations.

Sixteen double crewed cars are normally deployed throughout the Force area throughout each 24 hour period. In addition two motor cycles are allocated to each car patrol area between the hours of 7.00 am and 11.00 pm. The Motorways are patrolled by seven double crewed patrol vehicles during the day with a reduced number on duty at night. Inspectors and Sergeants are available on patrol in additional vehicles on all Sub-Divisions throughout the 24 hours. Specialist vehicles to deal with accident investigations, vehicle examination and vehicle removal, also operate on a 24 hour basis.

A relatively new phenomenon which emerged during the year was the so called 'Fun Runs' or 'People's Marathons' of which there were four involving in total, several thousand runners. Although the policing of such events made a pleasant change from protest marches and demonstrations they do pose new escort problems as large numbers of runners and other road users are inter-mingled over long distances on public roads. Runs involving even more runners are planned by various organisers for the coming year.

Traffic Division officers dealt specifically with the following matters:-

Arrests	
Crime	684
Drink/Driving	1341
Others	442
Total	2467
Accidents	4472
Offences	
Sections 1, 2, 3, Road Traffic Act 1972	2377
Construction and Use Regulations	10638
Motorway Regulations	1124
Others (Lighting, Pedestrian Crossing, Obstruction etc)	35244
Speed - VASCAR	1346
Radar (PETA)	48
Radar (Kustom Hand-Held)	9897
Truvelo	4054
Speedometer Checks	6499
Parking on Footway	59
Total	71286
Fixed Penalty Tickets (Not included in totals)	6178

Specialist Training

The role of the Traffic Patrol Officer is such that not only must he be an advanced grade driver or motor cyclist but he must also be trained in specialist and technical subjects. During the year officers attended specialist courses as follows:-

	No. of Students
Traffic Patrol Officers Course	20
City & Guilds Vehicles Examiners Course (Basic)	40
City & Guilds Vehicles Examiners Course (Advanced)	37
Brakes Course	24
Accident Investigation (Standard)	41
Accident Investigation (Advanced)	19
Tachograph Level 2	362
Tachograph Level 3	10
Vascar	40
Hand Held Radar	79
Truvelo	112
Weighbridge Operators Course	21
Weighing of Vehicles Course	44

Motorways

The approximate daily traffic flows on our 42 miles of Motorway during busy periods of the year are:-

M6	M5	M42	A38(M)
100,000+	70,000+	18,000+	75,000+

Major maintenance took place on M6 Motorway between junctions 9 and 10 and lasted from May to October. A unique design of traffic cross-over was introduced in connection with this work, using one long cross-over rather than the conventional two separate short cross-overs. The results of the experiment have yet to be fully analysed by the Department of Transport but the initial indication is that this lay-out could well give a lead in terms of traffic management in such Motorway situations.

There was a slight increase in the number of road accidents on the Motorway network and there were six fatalities during the year. The worst accident was one where the driver of a motor car died from a heart attack and his vehicle crossed the carriageway and collided with vehicles travelling the other way, resulting in the death of the passenger in his car and of two persons in another car.

For the second year in succession there was a reduction in the number of calls for assistance from motorists from 19,300 to 18,360 in 1981. This is an average of 50 calls per day. The average accident figure is two per day and each breakdown is viewed as a potential accident; the need to ensure that a vehicle is suitably prepared for a motorway journey cannot be over emphasised. Many of the breakdowns were avoidable, for example, in 1,657 cases vehicles ran out of fuel. The low accident rate and high traffic volume confirms the fact that motorways are our safest roads.

SPEED DETECTION DEVICES

Traffic Division officers continued to operate a number of different methods of detecting vehicles being driven in excess of speed limits.

PETA Road-side Radar

These devices which were first introduced for police use more than 20 years ago, were withdrawn by the Home Office during the early part of the year. Although now superseded by more sophisticated equipment, they have given consistent and reliable service to this and other forces.

Truvelo

It was the second year of operation of Truvelo timing devices and a total of 4,054 offenders was detected by this equipment.

Kustom HR4 Hand Held Radar

Four additional Kustom HR4 Hand Held Radar speed detectors were purchased bringing our total of such devices to 18 with six being allocated to each Traffic Sub-Division except the Motorway. Since these devices were introduced in West Midlands in September 1979, a total of 26,423 offenders has been detected by this method. Early in the year the accuracy and method of operation of another type of hand held radar was called into question in a much publicised appeal at a Crown Court in Wales. Although we were satisfied that our procedures were adequate, additional nationally recommended safeguards have since been included in our operating instructions.

Nevertheless, later in the year there were several contested cases in our courts which necessitated the calling of an independent expert witness who was able to testify as to the accuracy and reliability of the devices in use in the Force.

The opportunity was also taken to further demonstrate and explain the use of speed devices to Magistrates and Solicitors. By this means it is hoped that the doubts associated with these devices will be removed.

VASCAR

Forty operators were trained during the year and a minor technical difficulty overcome which enabled a much greater use to be made of the cars equipped with these devices. One thousand three hundred and forty six offenders were detected, an increase of 526 on the previous year.

Calibrated Speedometers

The numbers of offenders detected by means of a following police vehicle over a measured distance fell by 1,351. The high number of persons detected by this traditional method was mentioned in last year's Report and my comments regarding drivers' lack of awareness received some press publicity. Despite the reduction it is still apparent that thousands of motorists are paying insufficient attention to what is going on around them on our busy roads.

ANCILLARY ASSISTANCE

Specific instances where Traffic Division have provided specialised assistance include:-

Department of Environment road checks	145
Stolen Vehicles Recovered	1796
Broken down Vehicles removed from roads	651
Local Removals	661
Motorway Removals	48
Vehicles Impounded	197
Liaison Visits to Schools and Fetes etc.	223

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

A close relationship has long been enjoyed with the Department of Transport and the County and District Councils in matters concerning highways and traffic management. The filling of the newly created post at Headquarters of a Chief Inspector Traffic Management has enabled us to make a start on developing and co-ordinating our involvement in these areas.

We have also begun to investigate research techniques in relation to patterns of driver behaviour. It is hoped to measure both the initial and residual effects on drivers of police activities in order to make the optimum use of manpower resources.

ABNORMAL LOADS

During the year, 27,308 notifications of abnormal loads movements were processed by the Routeing Office, which is a 10% increase on the 1980 figure. However, this is still well below the 41,252 total of three years ago. In the case of 3,000 loads the dimensions were such that a police escort was necessary. Some of these loads exceeded 250 tonnes in weight and 170 feet in length. The routes taken for such loads have to be very carefully planned by Police, Highways Authorities and Hauliers and clearances are often measured in inches. Such loads sometimes take over eight hours to cross the County during which time they may have been escorted by as many as 20 motor cyclists working in relays.

ROYAL VISITS

There were 16 visits by members of the Royal Family. All required proposed routes to be checked and timed and the official party to be escorted on the day. Some visits involved a number of venues in different parts of the County which required split second timing to ensure that everyone arrived at the right place at the right time.

MOTOR RALLIES, CYCLING RACES, SPONSORED EVENTS

Details of 11 motor rallies, 50 cycling time trials, 15 cycle races and 117 sponsored events were notified during the year. These ranged from international events such as the RAC Rally and the Milk Race to local club events. All of them involve the use of public roads and our objective is to see that as little inconvenience as possible is caused to the public at large while ensuring that the various events themselves are successful.

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Headquarters Accident Investigation Unit, consisting of an Inspector, Sergeant and two Constables, continued to assist Sub-Divisions at accident scenes and a total of 110 road accidents were reconstructed and papers prepared for presentation at both Magistrates' and Coroners' Courts. In addition to providing this evidence, the Unit is able to collate figures from similar accidents, or accidents occurring regularly at the same location. If findings point to weaknesses in vehicle design or road layout then the information is passed to the appropriate authority for action to be taken.

As the newly formed Accident Investigation Units on the three Traffic Sub-Divisions gain more experience it is envisaged that the Headquarters Unit will be able to spend more time on its advisory and training role.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

The Force Fleet of 1,011 vehicles is made up as follows:-

Area Cars	67
Unit Beat Cars	210
Traffic Patrol Cars	30
Traffic Patrol Cycles	98
Traffic Patrol Land Rovers	5
Recovery Land Rovers	3
Motorway Patrol Vehicles	16
Radar Cars	6
Staff Cars	8
Driving Instruction Vehicles	72
Divisional General Purpose Vehicles	60
Divisional Dog Vehicles	36
Divisional Personnel Carriers	33
Divisional Enquiries — Motor Cycles	55
CID Operational Vehicles	80

Force Crime Squad Vehicles	15
Force Support Unit Vehicles	15
CID HQ Department Vehicles	3
Stolen Car Squad Vehicles	5
Scenes of Crime Vans	23
Photographic Department Vehicles	6
Explosives Department Vehicles	3
Mounted Department Vehicles	5
Force Training Department Vehicles	7
Special Patrol Group Vehicles	12
Vice Squad/Drug Squad Vehicles	6
Prison Vans	9
Clothing Store Vehicles	3
Found Property Vans	2
Traffic Wardens Department Vans	4
Summons and Warrant Department Vehicles	5
Underwater Search Van	1
Catering Department Van	1
Accident Investigation Department Vehicles	4
Garage Reserve Vehicles	58
Airport Vehicles	2
Regional Crime Squad Vehicles	39
Technical Support Unit Vehicles	3
Force Communication Vehicle	1

The total mileage incurred by the vehicles was 15,960,000.

Administration of the Department is carried out from Lloyd House where the Transport Manager and Staff comprising of an Administration Officer and a Clerk/Typist are based together with one Clerk.

There are three main workshops, with three smaller units where routine maintenance and repairs are carried out.

Replacement of Vehicles

Vehicles are replaced on the recommendation of the Chief Engineers based at the main garages. This is decided according to age, mileage and condition and is in accordance with Home Office recommendations. The system adopted to obtain tenders to supply replacement vehicles is as directed in West Midlands Police Authority Standing Orders.

ACCIDENT RECORDS DEPARTMENT

In addition to its main role of administering and collating the details of all accidents reported to the police, the Department continued to supply interested parties such as Solicitors and Insurance Companies with information to assist them in civil cases or in settling insurance claims. Six thousand two hundred and fifty six abstracts of accident reports were supplied, 77 interviews with police officers arranged and 79 sets of photographs supplied. The charges made for these services produced an income to the Force of £119,620.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS

The police have continued to administer, supervise, recruit and train school crossing patrols, although the County Surveyor is still responsible for authorisation of the sites. The number of patrols authorised remains at 1,054 with a recruitment ceiling of 1,010. At the end of the year there was a total of 1,002 patrols employed. The recruitment ceiling has not been reached due to the high turnover in personnel and the difficulty experienced in some areas in recruiting suitable persons to act as school crossing patrols. Police officers and Traffic Wardens, whenever possible, have been utilised to man the busier points in the temporary absence of the patrol.

ROAD SAFETY

Police Road Safety Officers are employed on each Territorial Division to work in liaison with County and District Council Road Safety Officers.

Road Safety in schools has mainly been directed towards younger children, to ensure that they are aware of the importance of road safety. The following visits were made to schools during the year:-

Pre-School and Play Groups	107
Infants Schools	479
Junior and Middle Schools	898
Senior Schools	234

Road Safety Officers visited 246 youth organisations and 125 adult groups, mainly for senior citizens.

Assistance was also given by Police Road Safety Officers in Cycling Proficiency, Duke of Edinburgh Award Schemes, Road Safety Quizzes and Road Safety Exhibitions.

We continued to hold 'Bikers Evenings' during the year and four courses were held throughout the County attracting good attendances by young motor cyclists.

ACCIDENTS INVOLVING POLICE VEHICLES

There was a slight increase in the number of accidents involving police vehicles from 1,305 to 1,318. The number of accidents in which police drivers were deemed to be blameworthy, however, fell from 333 to 252 of which 155 were on roads. The miles travelled per blameworthy accident on roads was 102,967 compared with 82,502 in 1980.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO POLICE VEHICLES

The figure of 187 cases of criminal damage to police vehicles is almost double that of the previous year. Sixty nine cases, the major part of the increase, were committed during July and can be associated with the street disturbances that occurred at that time. Forty three persons were arrested during the year and dealt with for offences relating to criminal damage to police vehicles.

TRAFFIC WARDENS

The authorised establishment of the Traffic Wardens' Department is 688. At the end of the year the actual strength was 216, which is a decrease of 13 on the previous year.

FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

The number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued was 131,820 and they were dealt with as follows:-

Paid within 21 days	31,746
Paid later	25,450
Cautioned	4,108
Not paid	
Diplomatic Privilege	5
Visitors to UK	73
Traffic Wardens resigned	26
Error on Ticket	296
Limitations of Proceedings	4,475
Cancelled for other reasons	5,337
Process instituted	1,834
Enquiries outstanding at end of year	58,470
Total	131,820

The number of Excess Charge Notices issued was 28,474.

Paid	27,721
Process instituted	398
Enquiries outstanding at end of year	355
Total	28,474

The number of parking meters in use in Birmingham and Wolverhampton is as follows:-

Birmingham Central Zone	222
Birmingham Inner Zone	1,022
Birmingham Outer Zone	1,963
Wolverhampton	553

ROAD ACCIDENTS

During the year there were 32,354 accidents reported to the Police. This was an increase of 761 (+ 2.3%) over the previous year. Nine thousand eight hundred and eight accidents involved some form of personal injury, a decrease of 487 (- 4.7%). The number of damage only accidents rose by 993 from 18,736 to 19,729 (+ 5%). The number of accidents where dogs were injured totalled 2,817, an increase of 255 (9%).

The number of persons killed in road accidents fell from 193 to 179 (- 7.2%) and this trend was continued in respect of serious and slight injury accidents which fell by 4.6% and 2% respectively. The total number of casualties in road accidents was 12,567, a decrease of 368 (-2.8%) on the previous year's figures.

Injury Accidents: By Severity and Police Division 1981

TABLE 'A'

Division	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	Total
Fatal	24	15	19	5	4	16	18	14	17	16	21	169
Serious	299	182	302	288	98	257	213	273	295	223	472	2902
Slight	770	543	675	816	401	598	655	677	692	360	550	6737
Totals	1093	740	996	1109	503	871	886	964	1004	599	1043	9808

Casualties: By Severity of Injury and Police Division 1981

TABLE 'B'

Division	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	Total
Fatal	24	15	23	5	4	16	20	14	17	16	25	179
Serious	362	210	352	317	111	297	256	320	341	282	587	3435
Slight	1005	705	918	1007	540	818	915	904	923	517	701	8953
Totals	1391	930	1293	1329	655	1131	1191	1238	1281	815	1313	12567

Classes of vehicles involved (not necessarily to blame) in injury and fatal accidents during the year.

TABLE 'C'

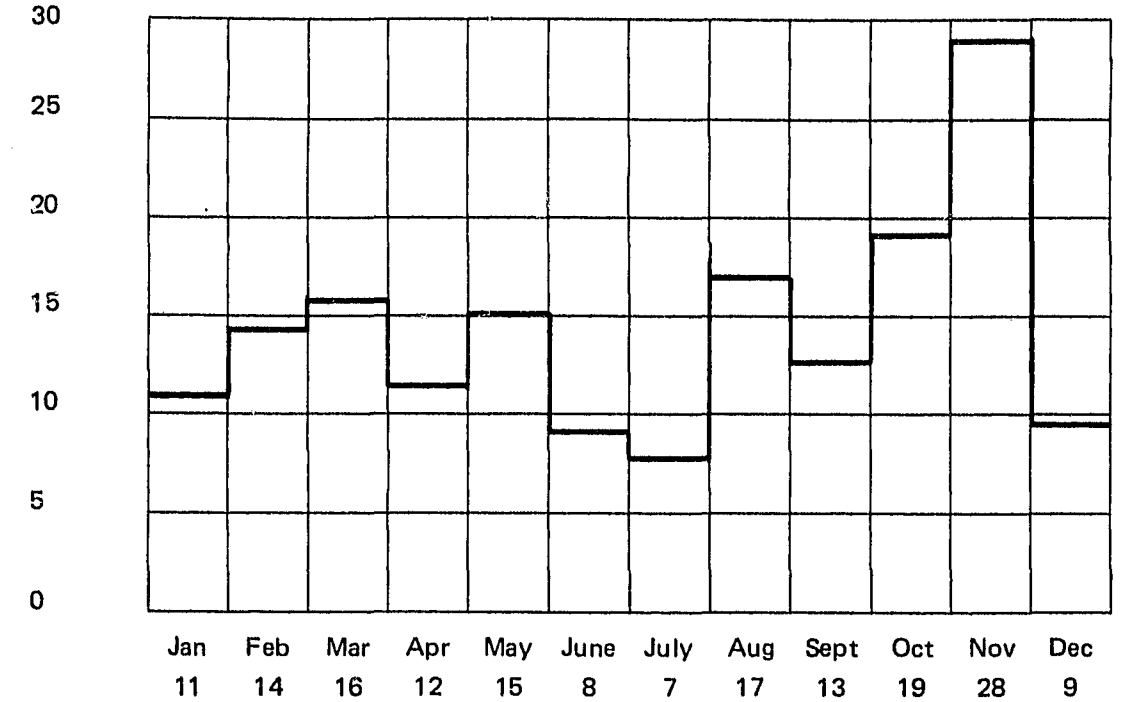
TYPE OF VEHICLE	FATAL	INJURY		TOTAL
		SERIOUS	SLIGHT	
Pedal Cycles	7	204	664	875
Mopeds	2	80	202	284
Motor Scooters	1	39	98	138
Motor Cycles	30	677	1115	1822
Cars and Taxis	132	3029	7044	10205
Public Service Vehicles	11	85	429	525
Goods vehicles under 1½ tons u.w.	19	286	707	1012
Goods vehicles over 1½ tons u.w.	16	156	301	473
* Other Motor Vehicles	6	86	289	381
Other Non-Motor Vehicles	0	2	5	7
TOTALS	224	4644	10854	15722

* Includes unknown vehicles.

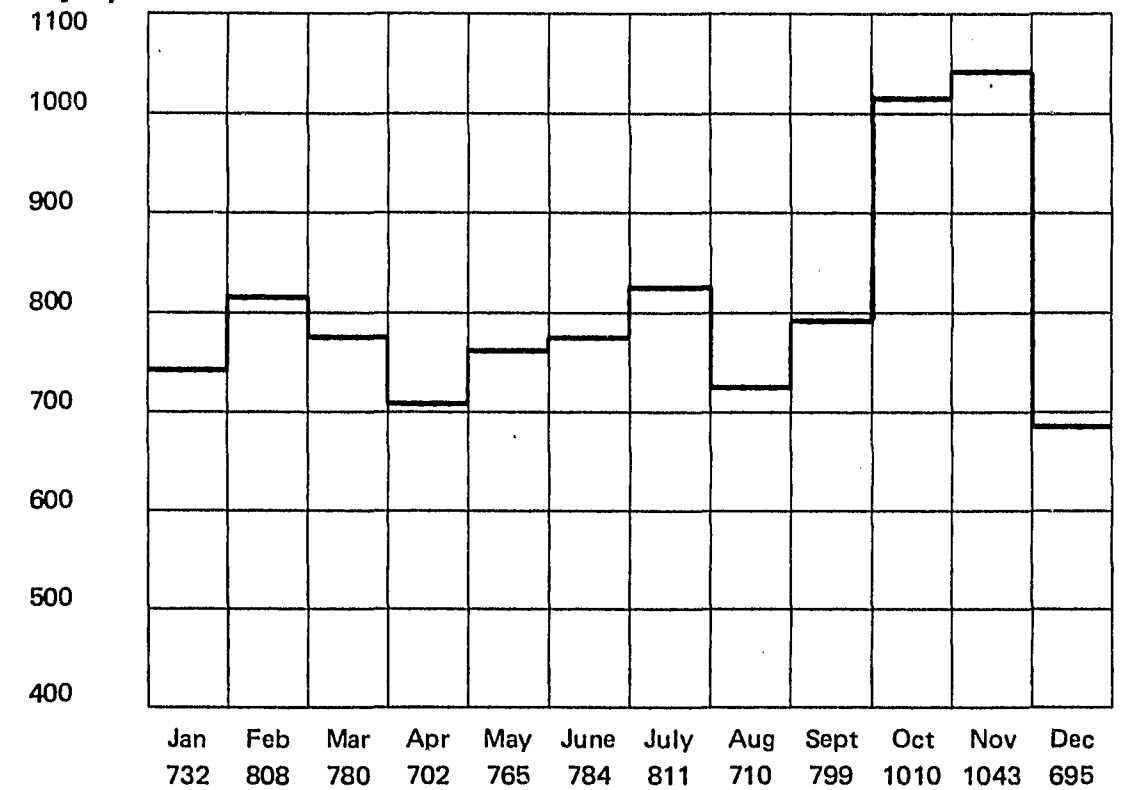
TABLE 'D'

Incidence of accidents month by month for the year 1981.

Fatal



Injury



Times in one hour periods when fatal and injury accidents occurred.

TABLE 'E'

HOURS	FATAL	INJURY		TOTAL
		SERIOUS	SLIGHT	
0000 to 0100	10	90	109	209
0100 to 0200	4	42	70	116
0200 to 0300	2	57	60	119
0300 to 0400	2	17	28	47
0400 to 0500	0	6	16	22
0500 to 0600	1	14	27	42
0600 to 0700	1	22	50	73
0700 to 0800	4	81	228	313
0800 to 0900	5	131	442	578
0900 to 1000	7	77	261	345
1000 to 1100	7	93	257	357
1100 to 1200	9	106	292	407
1200 to 1300	6	171	448	625
1300 to 1400	9	143	423	575
1400 to 1500	14	161	422	597
1500 to 1600	6	211	517	734
1600 to 1700	14	260	711	985
1700 to 1800	11	241	583	835
1800 to 1900	7	178	378	563
1900 to 2000	11	160	346	517
2000 to 2100	3	146	258	407
2100 to 2200	6	113	228	347
2200 to 2300	9	137	230	376
2300 to 2400	21	245	353	619
Totals	169	2902	6737	9808

Chapter VII

Communications

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The establishment of the Communications Department is one Chief Superintendent, two Superintendents, six Chief Inspectors, six Inspectors, 10 Sergeants and 30 Constables. In addition, there are 156 civilians who are employed as Control Room Operators, PNC Operators, Radio Operators and Telephone Operators as well as on a variety of administrative and clerical duties.

Command and Control System

1981 saw the implementation of the Street Index on the Command and Control computer. This database contains location information in the form of Sub-Division, beat and map grid reference of each street, junction and notable feature or landmark (e.g. churches, football grounds, public houses etc.). In addition, there is a list of public telephone kiosks, indexed by telephone number showing their exact locations.

The computer refers to the Street Index automatically to route details of emergency calls received to the appropriate Sub-Divisional Controller for action, or can be interrogated directly from any VDU terminal linked to the Command and Control computer. The future accuracy of the system will be assured via a system of monthly submissions from all Permanent Beat Officers indicating street or landmark changes in their respective areas. The facility to interrogate the computer was implemented in May. The automatic routing of emergency call details was implemented in July.

Many other enhancements were added to the Command and Control computer system. More elaborate resource availability displays were provided to assist Operators, and the storage of historical incident logs on magnetic tape was altered to greatly speed up the retrieval of such information.

Force Control Room

The Force Control Room has been operational for nearly three years during which time its basic functions have not changed.

The number of '999' calls received in the Control Room as well as calls received from the Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service and other sources showed an increase over the previous year. The Command and Control Computer showed a 'down-time' of 0.51%, which is an excellent record.

A number of distinguished people visited the Control Room during the year, thus continuing the practice of demonstrating the facilities available.

The Control Room continues to have the responsibility of providing staff to man the Headquarters Command Post when the occasion demands. Staff are also provided to set up and man the Mobile Communications System.

Police National Computer

After lengthy discussion with the Police National Computer Unit, an agreement has been reached concerning the distribution of PNC Terminals within the Force. The general agreement was for the Force to retain its Divisional Dedicated PNC Terminals. The PNCU, in common with all Home Office departments, has reviewed its running costs. The Force has taken the advice of the PNCU in this matter and all standby lines except those to the Force Control Room have been ceased.

No new major applications have been introduced this year but there have been many small enhancements. The latest enhancement is to the Vehicle Owners File, which now displays the Chassis and Engine numbers of the vehicle involved. This should be of considerable assistance to operational officers investigating thefts of motor vehicles.

Radio

The VHF and UHF radio schemes continue to operate to an acceptable standard and the assistance, advice and maintenance support given to the Force by the Home Office Directorate of Telecommunications continues to all levels of staff. Problems raised by the protective legislation relating to Health and Safety at Work are gradually being solved.

Telephones

The two electronic Plessey PDX exchanges mentioned in last year's report situated at Lloyd House and Bournville Lane Police Station have proved satisfactory in both performance and reliability. A third such exchange made by GEC Limited has been installed in the 'M' Divisional Headquarters at Coventry, giving them a vastly improved service with desk-to-desk dialling. There is little doubt that electronic exchanges hold the answer for the future because of the facilities offered and the ease with which changes can be made. Additionally, the older electro-mechanical exchanges are becoming obsolete with certain parts difficult to obtain.

Teleprinters

The Force teleprinter network integrated as it is with the Command and Control Computer continues to work satisfactorily. Since they are relatively slow by modern electronic printing machine standards, the Management Services Department are examining the problem in conjunction with the development of a Crime Information System and it may be that the next few years will see developments leading to fast printers serving both needs.

Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre

All urgent enquiries for the Force are now carried out through the Force Liaison Officer and a successful liaison with the DVLC at Swansea is enjoyed. This greatly assists DVLC as many queries received require advice only, which is now given locally. The DVLC suffered very badly from the Civil Servants' industrial dispute early in the year, and as a result the DVLC computers had to be switched off. After several weeks, work restarted but with a backlog of over 15 million transactions. This backlog has now been cleared and DVLC is working normally.

Casualty Bureau

Exercises involving Casualty Bureau Personnel have been carried out. These have included teams from Lloyd House and Special Constables. To assist the personnel in the Bureau, a Command and Control VDU monitor has now been installed.

Enquiries are being made into the use of a Telex and Teleprinter Link Machine. The telex machine will be extremely useful when dealing with air crashes and we have to liaise with Emergency Centre at Heathrow Airport.

Following a joint operation carried out in 1981, the surrounding forces have decided to adopt the West Midlands procedure for recording casualties and also the type of Casualty Book issued to hospitals.

Chapter VIII

Welfare

POLICE BUILDINGS

The Police Surveyor's Department is responsible for repairs, maintenance, alterations and improvements to Police property, liaison with architects, quantity surveyors and building services engineers in connection with major capital projects; and involvement in general property management.

Future Building Programme

No easing of restrictions on capital expenditure is anticipated so far as new projects are concerned.

The architectural division of the County Planning Department, in conjunction with the mechanical and electrical services engineers, have reached the tendering stage for the new Traffic and Transportation Complex at Aston in Birmingham. Work on site is to commence early 1982 as originally programmed.

The proposed sub-divisional headquarters in Woodbridge Road, Moseley, and the combined divisional and sub-divisional headquarters at Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton, have not proceeded any further. The Home Office have not been able to include either of these projects in the starts programme for police buildings. A suitable site for a new combined divisional and sub-divisional headquarters on the 'C' Division has been located in the Harborne area of Birmingham and negotiations are proceeding. In anticipation of securing the site, outline planning permission has been applied for.

Disused Police Buildings

During 1981, only one building remained unused and alternative users are being considered. A decision will be made early 1982 as to its future.

Alterations and Improvements

The alterations and improvements programme continues to be limited, as an increasing proportion of the finance available has to be channelled to meet essential planned and day-to-day maintenance and repairs. Work has been completed at Little Park Street Divisional Headquarters in forming new sub-divisional and controllers offices in an area formerly occupied by the Force Eastern Control Room.

Alterations were also carried out at this station to accommodate a new automatic telephone exchange.

Cell improvement works started the previous year, were completed at Sparkhill Police Station, Holyhead Road Police Station, Aldridge Sub-Divisional Headquarters and Digbeth Sub-Divisional Headquarters. At Digbeth, additional work was carried out to provide a surgeon's room.

The single officers' quarters adjoining Erdington Sub-Divisional Police Station have been completely refurbished including the installation of a new electrical and heating system. The building offers complete accommodation for 13 officers.

Improvements to a number of sub-divisional controller's offices across the Force were carried out as part of a programme to improve general and environmental conditions.

Adaption works have been carried out in an office block adjoining Police Headquarters, Lloyd House, to provide accommodation for the Central Process Department, Central District Surveyors Office and the Central Ticket Office. The latter office will be moving during 1982/3. The premises total some 6,000 square feet (560 square metres) in area.

Energy Conservation and Plant Maintenance

A number of the more inefficient heating plants have been replaced and improvements to controls and insulation continue. Removal of asbestos based compounds during these works is often necessary and appropriate precautions have been taken in all cases. Monitoring of energy consumption of all forms continues in liaison with the County Surveyor's energy team. Several buildings have been converted to gas fired heating plants during the year.

Cleaning of Police Buildings

During 1981 the long vacant post of Cleaning Officer was filled. A review of cleaning methods and control of some 380 cleaning/portering staff is underway. It is foreseen that additional expert assistance will be required and this will also enable a bonus scheme to be implemented which has been planned for some time. It is projected that in 1982 standards will improve through training and economies will be effected through better working arrangements and control by the Cleaning Officer over purchasing of supplies.

Housing

The housing stock at the end of 1981 numbered 1,187 units. The demand for housing diminished during the year compared with 1980 and this is reflected in the number of vacant properties and the increasing number of properties being declared surplus to requirements - in total some 142 properties.

Sales of properties previously approved for disposal numbered 74, fifteen of these in the early part of the year being sold to sitting tenants.

The standard of police housing is now only improving very slowly; financial constraints resulted in only 29 houses being provided with central heating.

FORCE WELFARE STAFF

The Force Welfare staff, consisting of one Welfare Officer and one assistant, has continued to give advice and assistance, as required, to regular police officers, police cadets, traffic wardens, civilian staff, police pensioners and widows.

The overall work-load has increased, particularly in relation to police pensioners and widows. The introduction of the visiting scheme for those over seventy years of age has resulted in a number of requests for assistance and advice. To date some 1,200 visits have been made under the scheme, almost 400 of which have been in other Force areas. As a result of these visits, in excess of 120 cases came to light where advice and assistance was needed, some of them involving prolonged and time consuming research to achieve satisfactory results. Many have been assisted financially from the Force Benevolent Fund and others have been referred to appropriate organisations or have been advised on necessary action.

Eighty such cases are still outstanding, together with a number of requests from other Forces to assist with their pensioners and widows residing within the Force area. The scheme is considered to be very worthwhile.

High priority continues to be given to those who have suffered a bereavement, and, during the year, 30 widows and their families were assisted with applications for Probate or Letters of Administration following the deaths of six serving officers, six civilian members and 18 police pensioners. A further 19 widows were assisted with applications for pensions and immediate income tax problems. Education grants totalling £550.00 were received from the National Police Fund in response to applications on behalf of the children of two serving officers and two police widows.

The Police Dependents' Trust, as ever, is mindful of the needs of officers injured on duty and dependants of officers killed on duty or who have died as a result of such injuries. Applications to the Trust during the year resulted in twelve widows sharing a total of £5,532.50 by way of grants to assist in the main with repairs and maintenance to their homes. Three retired officers also received grants in total amounting to £1,325.00. Holiday grants totalling £752.00 were paid to assist five widows and one retired officer. The amount saved by members of the Force and civilian staff in 1981 again showed an increase and a total of £128,605 was paid out resulting in the sum of £8,627.63 by way of interest being paid to the Force Benevolent Fund.

Lectures at Training Centres throughout the Force were given to both Constables and Sergeants courses.

The lectures are well received, and proving the most successful method of publicising all aspects of the welfare organisation and advising on Wills, Insurance, Mortgages and similar subjects.

SICKNESS

During the year the loss of working days due to normal sickness was recorded as:-

Male Officers	57,112	(1980 - 51,098)
Female Officers	13,230	(1980 - 11,254)

Additionally the loss of working days due to injuries sustained whilst on duty was:-

Male Officers	8,074	(1980 - 5,759)
Female Officers	596	(1980 - 1,353)

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that I have to report the death of seven members of the Force during the year:-

19 February 1981	Constable Tony LONG 'K' Division Aged 36 years
5 April 1981	Constable Anthony Eric HULL 'H' Division 23 years

30 April 1981	Constable Paul Kenneth WORTH 'T' Division Aged 34 years
14 September 1981	Sergeant Robert Derek WHITEHEAD 'L' Division Aged 48 years
14 September 1981	Constable Alan John WITHALL 'H' Division Aged 26 years
24 October 1981	Constable Roger MEACHAM 'M' Division Aged 33 years
3 November 1981	Constable James Charles SAINT-CLAIR 'E' Division Aged 34 years

COMPASSIONATE LEAVE

During 1981, 57 officers were granted a total of 148 days compassionate leave.

POLICE FEDERATION

The West Midlands Police Joint Branch Board has been given facilities to hold statutory meetings during the year, and I have held regular meetings with representatives.

Officers for 1981 are:-

Chairman	Sergeant G MEREDITH GM
Secretary	Constable A G QUINN
Treasurer	Inspector P PERKINS
Deputy Chairman	Chief Inspector C PITTAWAY
Deputy Secretary	Constable D MORGAN
Deputy Treasurer	Sergeant D MATTHEWS

Sergeant G Meredith, GM, Chairman of the West Midlands Police Joint Branch Board was re-elected Secretary of the Sergeants' Central Committee. He is also a Staff Side representative on the Police Negotiating Board. Constable D Morgan was also re-elected on to the Management Committee of the Police Convalescent Home at Hove.

During the year the Claims Department at the Federation Offices submitted 225 claims to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, 38 claims to their Solicitors for civil action.

CONVALESCENT HOME — HOVE — 1981

The Convalescent Police Seaside Home at Hove continues to provide facilities for rest and recuperation for serving police officers and pensioners following periods of illness. During the year 76 serving officers and eight pensioners attended the Home, all expenses being paid by the Benevolent Fund.

POLICE PENSIONERS

At the end of the year there were 1,837 retired police officers in receipt of police pensions. Pensions were also being paid to 767 widows of police officers or ex-officers.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

Progress in respect of Health and Safety at Work has continued and much has been achieved. The machinery set up, which consists of two Health and Safety Committees, 83 Police Safety Representatives and 36 Civilian Trade Union Safety Representatives, continues to work well. Close liaison is maintained and common problems are shared in discussion.

The Police Health and Safety Committee has met five times, and the Civilian Staff Health and Safety Committee six times. The Police Health and Safety Committee visited and inspected 14 Police premises. The Civilian Staff Health and Safety Committee visited and inspected 21 Police premises. These Committee inspections are proving to be very valuable. Where problems have been identified, the recommendations made have caused hazards to be eliminated. The visits also assist in showing that interest is taken in the health, safety and welfare of police officers, cadets, traffic wardens, and civilian staff which increases the credibility of the Committee.

The Health and Safety Officer and his deputy have carried out 101 inspections in Police premises during the year. In most cases where hazards were identified, immediate action was taken, however, some situations require considerable expenditure, planning and time to correct. In addition 49 complaints about a variety of matters such as hygiene, lighting, hazardous fittings, equipment, materials and fumes were investigated, and action taken to remove the cause where necessary.

On 33 occasions talks have been given to cleaning staff on Health and Safety at Work as it can effect them and the part they are individually required to play. This is part of a general programme and it is intended to produce clean and hygienic premises which are safe and without risk to health.

The following table shows the number of reports received of police officers injured on duty:-

	1981	1980
Assaulted	793	529
Accidentally injured whilst effecting arrest	17	82
Injured in road traffic accidents	91	115
Bitten by dogs	23	30
Accidentally injured at football matches/demonstrations	18	21
Accidentally injured during training	23	32
Accidentally injured in police premises	41	101
Slips/trips etc.	118	146
Other miscellaneous injuries	146	127
	1270	1183

It was necessary to investigate 80 accidents during the year. In appropriate cases recommendations were made to avoid recurrence.

Talks on Health and Safety at Work have continued at the Force Training Centres.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

The Force and Divisional Sports Clubs continue to play an important role in the life of the Force by providing healthy sport and recreation together with social facilities at the Force Social Club, Tally Ho! Additional social facilities are available at the various Divisional and Sub-Divisional stations which have social club facilities.

The Sports Club had been able to add to its facilities by purchasing a mini bus which has been much used by both Force teams and Divisional sections. The 15 seater coach also owned by the Sports Club provides the major transport facility for sporting occasions.

A number of variety shows were organised at Tally Ho! during the year, they were well received and included an excellent Black Country Night Out. Theatre visits were arranged to the newly modernised Birmingham Hippodrome for two shows - Jesus Christ Super Star and the Christmas pantomime starring Danny La Rue as the Widow Twankey in Aladdin. The response to both of these activities was extremely good.

The Sports Office at Lloyd House continues to be the focal point for both sporting activities and for the sale of goods bearing the Force Crest.

Mr J D Carmichael, the Sports and Social Officer, retired on 31 December 1981. He had held that position since 1970 having had previous service as a police officer with Birmingham City Police since 1938. The progress achieved by the Force Sports Club over the last few years has been in no small way due to the efforts of Mr Carmichael and I would take this opportunity of wishing both him and his wife a long and happy retirement.

Association Football

The Force football team has again played in the Midland Football Combination Division One. This is one of the senior leagues in the Midlands area with many well known semi professional teams participating. A middle of the table position was achieved at the end of the 1980/81 season. In the present season at the end of the year the team were well placed towards the top of the table following a run of 15 matches without defeat. For the first time ever the team reached the last 32 in the Football Association Challenge Vase (formerly the Amateur Cup).

In 1981 the team regained possession of the PAA Football Cup, defeating Cleveland Police who had reached the final for the first time, by two goals to one in a keenly contested match at the Hawthorns, kindly loaned for the occasion by West Bromwich Albion FC.

Athletics

The Athletics Section had a good year.

At the Number 3 Region Track and Field Championships which were held at Alexander Stadium, Perry Barr, Birmingham, the Force men's and the cadets' teams achieved runaway victories over the other competing teams.

In the PAA National Track and Field Championships which were staged by Merseyside Police, WPC Bissell retained the individual titles at both the 400 and 800 metres despite a very strong entry from other forces. In the West Midlands Track and Field League, the Force competed throughout the Summer months and again finished top of the League in both male and female competitions.

Basket Ball

The Basket Ball Team are currently enjoying a good run of success with both teams. There is one team in the Birmingham area. The best players from both teams form the Force team which competes in a local League.

Chess

Since reforming, the Chess Section has expanded and currently has a very active membership of 20 players who form a total of five teams. One team plays in the Worcestershire League whilst there are two teams in each of the Wolverhampton and Dudley Leagues. As well as playing regular League matches, the teams also compete in Chess Tournaments.

Dance Orchestra

The West Midlands Police Dance Orchestra under the name "Smokey Bear's Big Band" has fulfilled a variety of engagements at charity functions and police dances over a wide area. It has been noticeable that a number of regular engagements have been lost this year due to economic conditions. However, a number of new venues have been found and the Band has continued to entertain and make new friends.

Flying

The Flying Section were the hosts for the second year in succession to the National Police Air Rally, at Baginton Airport, Coventry, in May 1981.

The Rally was the 11th National Event and was attended by a record number of crews, 36, representing 15 police forces from England and Wales.

Guest of Honour was Squadron Leader S Johnson, the Deputy Team Leader of the "Red Arrows", the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team.

Officers from the West Midlands as organisers were disqualified from entering the competitions, but nevertheless have been congratulated for setting a standard of organisation that will be very difficult for other forces to follow in future years.

Hockey

The men's Hockey Team has gone from strength to strength during the year. This was no mean achievement considering the team was only reformed the previous year. A full fixture list has been completed against Police, Army and civilian clubs with a high rate of success.

Horticultural Society

Membership for 1981 remains steady at about 130 members but encouragingly, more support and interest has been coming from members of the Force, outside of 'M' Division.

Successful trips were arranged to the Chelsea Flower Show and Shrewsbury Flower Show both being well supported.

The Annual Flower Show held in September resulted in more entries this year than last and the quality was improved. A Show Committee has been formed within the Society for this event.

Indoor Games

The West Midlands did exceedingly well at the Number 3 Region PAA Indoor Games Competition which, this year, was held at Kenilworth. The men's Darts Singles was won by DC Ledbrook whilst PCs Berry and Powell won the Men's Doubles. WPC Summers won the Ladies' Singles Darts Championship. DC Middleton won the individual Snooker Championship.

Judo

Judo continues to be increasingly popular and regular meetings are held at Tally Ho! where instruction is given. Displays are also given to outside organisations and to clubs.

In the National PAA Judo Championships held at Exeter, WPC Cook won the Silver Medal in the Police Women's under 66 kilo class.

Male Voice Choir

The Choir has continued to give performances of a very high standard to various charitable groups. Twenty-five such concerts have been given during the 12 months, with the highlight being the annual event at Birmingham Town Hall with the Band of HM Grenadier Guards in October.

The Kent Police Brass Band joined the Choir to give two highly successful concerts in Birmingham and Maidstone. In October, the Choir assisted at a service at Birmingham Cathedral commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Special Constabulary, and also in the same month were placed second by only one point for their test piece performance at Brownhills Music Festival.

Motor Club

The West Midlands Police Motor Club had a particularly busy year as these very active motor enthusiasts, largely at their own expense, took part in a number of auto tests and small events in various parts of the country.

In May assistance was given to the Institute of Advanced Motorists in organising a safety rally for the Disabled Drivers' Association. The successful team went forward to the National Finals at Silverstone Race Circuit.

A number of social events were organised and at one £300 was raised which the wife of the late Mike Hailwood presented to the League of Friends of Birmingham Accident Hospital.

Pipe Band

The West Midlands Police Pipe Band had a very busy year taking part in more than 30 functions of various descriptions including a Festival of Remembrance in November.

In October the Band travelled to Frankfurt, West Germany, as guests of the City of Frankfurt Police.

Rugby Football

The Force Rugby Section is composed of three teams, two being based in Birmingham and one at Coventry. Competition is on a "friendly" basis with matches against a range of police, service, college and civilian teams.

In the Police Athletic Association Knock-Out Competition an early exit was suffered at the hands of South Wales Constabulary, the current champions, but the 1st XV has fared better in the North Midlands Rugby Football Union Knock-Out Competition, currently having reached the semi-final stage for the second time in three years.

Sailing

Sailing remains a popular sport with several new members joining the section during the year. The section has two dinghies, an Enterprise and a Laser, both of which are currently based at Earlswood Lakes, although the section are in process of negotiating a move to Bartley Green Reservoir.

The Force was well represented at many Open Meetings throughout the year attaining good results. The highlight of the year was the Force Open Meeting held at Chasewater which attracted an entry of 38 boats from forces throughout the country.

Sea Angling

The Sea Angling Section was very active throughout the year visiting venues at Bridlington, Plymouth and Brixham. Two teams entered the PAA Championships at Bridlington, but catches were light.

The Sports Club are members of the Endeavour Deep Sea Group at Aberystwyth where a fidelity bond is held in respect of up to two boats to be hired at any one time by members of the Force Club.

Shooting

Shooting continues to be a popular Force activity with members taking part in a number of competitions both locally and nationally.

Three teams were entered in the PAA National Small-Bore Pistol League and each came top of its respective Division. A number of shooters were invited to compete with the British Police Team during the year.

One of the outstanding performances was the winning of the Full-Bore Pistol Challenge Trophy at the Greater Manchester Shoot for the second year in succession in the face of some very stiff opposition.

Table Tennis

Three Table Tennis Teams are entered in the Business Houses and Works League with the 'A' Team winning the Division One Championship.

In the Regional Championships which were held at Kenilworth, PC McCabe won the Singles Championship, Inspector Dawson won the Veterans Championship and the two teamed up to take the Doubles title.

Tenpin Bowling

A great deal of interest continues to be shown in Tenpin Bowling and the Force entered teams in National Police Tournaments as well as playing in various other competitions in the Midlands.

Tug-of-War

The Tug-of-War team were able to reform during the year. It was apparent during the early months that the team were inexperienced but there was a noticeable improvement towards the Autumn.

Good sport was enjoyed by team members at various fairs, fetes and other competitions throughout the Midlands area.

Water Polo

The Water Polo Section have enjoyed what is perhaps their most successful season ever, culminating in winning the Division One Championships in the Birmingham and District League. The Force Team have also been privileged in playing in the Midland League against teams that play in the National Water Polo League and there have been a number of fine performances. It is noticeable that there are a number of relative newcomers to the sport now pressing hard for 1st Team places.

West Midlands Police Brass Band

The West Midlands Police Brass Band which was re-formed late in 1980, fulfilled 34 engagements during the year, performing at charitable functions, concerts and other occasions within and without the Force area. In June the Band was invited to play on the occasion of the opening of the Mountbatten Home at Studley, Warwickshire.

In addition to playing regularly at concerts, the Band continued to develop their parade ground techniques and have now assembled a corps of 12 drummers in addition to the 25 musicians which constitute the Band.

Chapter IX

Licensing

Licensed Premises

The following table shows details of Justices Licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor which were in force at the end of the year.

AREAS	Publicans	Beer/Cider Wine On	Full Off	Beer/Cider Wine Off	Restaurant/Residential	Restaurant	Residential	Licensed Clubs	TOTAL
Aldridge	74	—	38	1	1	7	—	1	122
Birmingham	718	13	529	4	16	127	19	12	1438
Coventry	266	1	182	36	11	46	—	14	556
Dudley	324	—	121	—	—	14	—	10	469
Halesowen	53	—	33	—	—	4	—	1	91
Solihull	116	—	82	3	3	25	3	5	237
Stourbridge	82	—	36	—	—	6	—	—	130
Sutton Coldfield	47	—	47	—	4	18	—	3	117
Walsall	254	—	112	—	4	19	—	7	396
Warley	184	1	134	1	—	15	1	9	345
West Bromwich	234	1	77	1	1	16	1	20	351
Wolverhampton	306	—	252	—	2	44	7	27	638
TOTALS	2664	16	1643	46	42	339	31	109	4890

Licences Granted during the Year

The following table shows details of licences granted within the Force area during the year.

AREAS	Publicans	Full Off	Restaurant	Licensed Clubs	Beer/Cider Wine	Residential	TOTAL
Aldridge	4	3	3	—	—	—	10
Birmingham	7	15	10	—	—	6	38
Coventry	4	9	5	1	2	—	21
Dudley	2	3	1	1	1	—	8
Halesowen	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Solihull	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Stourbridge	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Sutton Coldfield	—	4	2	—	—	—	6
Walsall	5	8	2	—	—	—	15
Warley	—	4	3	1	—	—	8
West Bromwich	—	3	3	5	2	1	14
Wolverhampton	5	20	2	4	—	1	32
TOTALS	27	75	32	12	5	8	159

Registered Clubs

At the end of the year there were 1,297 clubs registered within the Force area.

Theatres and Cinemas

There were 31 theatre licences and 48 cinematograph licences in existence at 31 December 1981.

Visits to Licensed Premises

To ensure the prevention and detection of offences against various Acts of Parliament, police officers have made the following visits to licensed premises.

Places of Public Entertainment	807
Premises licensed under the Licensing Act	25,183
Betting Offices	3,031

Licensed premises have been generally well conducted.

Betting and Gaming

Details of the Betting Office Licences and Bookmakers Permits in force at the end of the year are as follows:-

AREAS	Betting Office Licence			Bookmakers Licence		
	Issued	Surrendered	In Force	Issued	Surrendered	In Force
Aldridge	3	—	17	2	—	15
Birmingham	1	8	321	—	4	186
Coventry	7	3	63	6	4	47
Dudley	5	5	46	5	3	37
Halesowen	1	2	8	2	1	13
Solihull	—	—	20	2	—	31
Stourbridge	—	1	6	1	2	6
Sutton Coldfield	1	1	7	2	4	8
Walsall	6	—	54	—	—	27
Warley	1	—	49	1	—	25
West Bromwich	—	—	44	—	—	30
Wolverhampton	1	3	71	2	—	48
TOTALS	26	23	706	23	18	473

Chapter X

Preventive Policing

PREVENTIVE POLICING

Contained within this chapter are details of the work of the Crime Prevention Department, the Public Liaison Department, Attendance Centres, the Social Liaison Department and Press Relations. Divisional community initiatives are discussed where appropriate.

I have reported previously on the difficulties in seeking to assess the success of our attempts to further Preventive Policing. Indeed it is usually in times of conflict that we tend to measure our efforts in terms of community co-operation or when our liaison structures are tried and tested. The police, in their position in society, only too often reap the effects of the ills of society by having to maintain peace and order in the face of frustration and resentment. The civil disturbances which occurred nationally during the year also affected the West Midlands County; they called into question the level of co-operation we enjoy from the community and whether our liaison structures are strong enough to withstand considerable conflict. I am pleased to report that the spontaneous goodwill and co-operation we enjoy with the community emerged as the troubles escalated. Liaison with the various groups and associations became stronger as the challenge to public order increased. The West Midlands did have disorder, but the scale was minimal compared with other areas of the country. I am convinced that the community policing philosophy is the right course to follow and is a major factor in prevention.

CRIME PREVENTION

The Crime Prevention Department is located at Lloyd House and is responsible for co-ordinating all aspects of crime prevention in the Force area, giving advice on Force policy and promoting liaison between outside bodies including Crime Prevention Panels in each of the seven district council areas.

The seven Adult Crime Prevention Panels (and also the Junior Panel at Walsall) continue to work well reflecting public concern and interest in crime trends and possible prevention measures. The Chief Constable's Special Award was made to six young persons whose actions had contributed to the prevention or detection of crime. It is, however, sad that the parents of many recipients of the Award declined any sort of publicity, possibly for fear of reprisals.

The Crime Prevention Caravan is a popular feature at school open days, fetes, exhibitions and similar functions. To maintain its impact there has been a re-appraisal of the internal layout to make it more attractive to members of the public. The longer exhibitions where the caravan was used included two Ideal Home Exhibitions held at the National Exhibition Centre and Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

A total of 4,072 surveys was carried out, ranging from dwelling houses and business premises to our own police premises. There has also been involvement in the planning of the new traffic complex in Aston, Birmingham. The public awareness of this free service resulted in an increase of 17% in the number of surveys.

At the end of 1981 there were 13,471 silent alarm systems on record, an increase of 775 on the previous year. There were also 8,086 bell only systems in place. Of the remote signalling type of alarm the 13,471 systems generated 31,865 calls of which 93.48% were false. This does not represent a great improvement as a close scrutiny of the figures reveals that the number of genuine alarm calls almost doubled, from 1,106 to 2,075. Arrests were made in 543 cases - a success rate of 26.17% which is a marginal improvement on the previous year.

The Force policy on intruder alarms is to reduce the number of false alarms. Following the introduction of the policy in 1977 the number of false alarms dropped dramatically. There has since been a gradual increase. Improved technology has not improved this situation. False alarms represent not only a waste of resources at a time when the Force is striving to increase its efficiency, but also tend to affect performance when officers attend what later transpires to be genuine alarms.

The success rate of just over 26% of genuine alarm calls is fairly constant from year to year and given that the average number of false calls per system during the year was 2.21, these figures compare favourably with other police forces in the country.

The Home Office Crime Prevention Centre at Stafford organised three four-day seminars all of which were attended by officers from this Force.

Involvement with the news media at local level has seen the continuation of the long established "Heart of the Nation" broadcasts and there have been more approaches from BRMB, a local independent radio station, for contributions on particular themes of public interest. The excellent relationship between crime prevention officers and local journalists has been maintained with advice being given through featured articles and by comment on news items on a regular basis.

PUBLIC LIAISON DEPARTMENT

The specialist expertise that has developed over the years in the Public Liaison Department has enabled that Department to provide an operational support service. The dialogue that has been established by its members with the various community groups has been an important factor in the way Divisional officers have been received and community initiatives accepted. The Community Policing approach has provided a basis for Divisions to organise strategies to meet the needs of specific areas. The West Midlands County represents one of the most complex kaleidoscopes of ethnic and cultural differences to be found anywhere in the country. Although it is important for officers of the Public Liaison Department to maintain an on-going dialogue with the groups, it is equally important, if the rest of the Force is to be involved in good community relations, that the expertise contained within Public Liaison should be shared with other members of the Force.

To this end, Public Liaison officers are closely involved in all aspects of community relations training, both at Force and Sub-Divisional level. Members of the Department lecture at Local and District Training Centres, and the head of the Department lectures at other police establishments at National level.

A good relationship is maintained with High Commissions, Embassies and Diplomatic Missions and a considerable amount of support has been forthcoming from these Delegations.

The County Level Police Liaison Committee, representing members of the six Councils for Community Relations, Senior Police Officers and the Commission for Racial Equality has met regularly and discussed many issues of mutual interest and concern. The County Level Liaison Committee held a successful one day Seminar for community representatives and police officers, where the whole idea of community policing and its relevance in the West Midlands was discussed.

Divisionally, there is involvement between Police and Local Councils for Community Relations, and in some of those Councils, Police Liaison Committees operate. It has been possible to extend our formal liaison structures down to 'Neighbourhood' level involving residents and local beat officers. There are five such Police Liaison Committees operating, and it is hoped that during the forthcoming year this will be extended.

The 'Voluntary Friend Scheme' experiment whereby a number of community volunteers are available to attend police stations at the request of police or Persons in Custody, has been reviewed. The Scheme is now an accepted part of policing on the Birmingham Divisions and consideration will be given to its extension to other areas within the Force.

During the year there were many visitors from other forces who wished to examine our approach to liaison with the community. Although we do not pursue a policy of advertising our methods, it is encouraging to note the interest that is shown by other forces.

LOZELLS PROJECT

The "Lozells Project" in Birmingham provides a valuable community resource in the form of the Wallace Lawler Centre. It has developed into a regular meeting place for many local community groups. The 'Citizen 80' Scheme, which operates during school holidays, has enabled many children from socially deprived backgrounds to enjoy a holiday, in many cases for the first time. The police input at the Holte Comprehensive School continues to play an important role in local police/community liaison. Involvement in the "Lozells Project" has given both police officers and local young persons from many ethnic groups the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with a view to giving all concerned a better understanding of particular social and other pressures which exist within any inner city area.

DIVISIONAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

The need for a specialised Liaison Department is accepted, but their role must be supportive of Divisional activity. Every member of the Force has a vested interest in good community relations and the various community initiatives, in the main, are built around the Permanent Beat Officer. His role is of particular importance whether it is in the schools programme, holding surgeries with members of his community or being involved in the more formalised community policing schemes. The value of the Permanent Beat Officer was demonstrated once again during the year by the award of the 'Cobra Cup' to a Permanent Beat Sergeant, Sergeant Billson of Wolverhampton. The annual award is made to an officer who has demonstrated a particularly useful piece of community involvement; in the case of Sergeant Billson, he successfully organised five-a-side football matches for young people and involved his colleagues in a sponsored cycle marathon.

Towards the end of the year plans were made to arrange liaison meetings between elected representatives and senior Sub-Divisional officers. It is hoped that in the forthcoming year this liaison facility will be added to our existing structures.

Community liaison must be a two way relationship and unless the community responds, whatever we attempt would have little value. I am happy to report that we enjoy considerable goodwill and co-operation from the community. We should not, however, become complacent. If liaison is to continue to be meaningful we must constantly be examining our policies and practices if we are to meet fully the challenge of today's policing.

SOCIAL LIAISON

During the year close liaison continued with Departments of Social Services and other agencies particularly concerning matters affecting women and children.

There was a considerable increase in enquiries relating to the fostering and adoption of children, and during the course of the year 3,070 matters were dealt with. This increase of 1,199 enquiries over the previous year may be connected with a trend to encourage the fostering of children in care.

Violence within the family is a source of concern to all agencies. During the year 304 cases of domestic violence were recorded, which included nine deaths, 31 serious woundings and 262 less serious assaults. In the area of child abuse, 88 offences were investigated including two deaths, nine serious woundings and 77 less serious assaults.

Two Rape Crisis Centres now operate within the Force area and liaison is maintained with the Centres in Birmingham and Coventry. The procedures agreed provide for a rape victim to have the support of a member of the Rape Crisis Centre when she is interviewed.

There are now seven Victim Support Schemes within the Force area, each affiliated to the National Association. They vary in size and make-up from a small sub-divisional scheme managed by voluntary community leaders to the Coventry scheme which operates throughout that City. There is, in addition, a scheme at the Wolverhampton Crypt with a co-ordinator paid under an arrangement with the Manpower Services Commission.

In all schemes there is an active police involvement by sub-divisional collators who have the responsibility for referring victims, and divisional liaison officers who have a non-executive role on Management Committees. A Detective Superintendent at Headquarters is responsible for Force liaison.

An experimental Home Office approved Medical Treatment Centre for Alcoholics was opened at Camp Hill, Birmingham, in July. The aim of the Centre is to provide an alternative method of dealing with persons who are arrested by the police for an offence of 'drunkenness' other than by prosecution in a Magistrates' Court. Such persons when arrested are taken directly to the Centre where they are treated and given advice by trained civilian staff. The catchment area is confined to the part of Birmingham contained within the outer circle omnibus route. Male persons only are catered for at the Centre and admissions are accepted at any time.

A total of 301 persons was dealt with in this way and only one person was refused admission because of his disruptive behaviour on previous occasions.

PRESS RELATIONS

It is essential that if good police community relations are to be maintained, every opportunity is taken to keep the community informed of events. What people see, read and hear from the media can influence attitudes and a liaison with the media is important.

The demands for information continue to increase and, during the year, Press Office Staff handled more than 15,000 telephone calls from the media compared with about 10,000 in 1980.

Despite these demands, every opportunity was taken to publicise the activities of the Force and more than 100 written and verbal Press releases were issued. In addition, 493 live broadcasts on BRMB Radio were made from the Press Office. The response from the public to these broadcasts was most encouraging.

The use of the Press Office within the Force as an operational back-up service continued to increase and, during the year, the office was able to help in many major investigations and operations.

Once again, Press Office Staff played an important part in seeking to ensure responsible reporting by the media prior to major public order situations and the setting up of special press desks to handle the many local, national and international media enquiries on the day has generally ensured fair and accurate reporting.

The Force newspaper 'Beacon' continued to be produced by the Press Office. The monthly newspaper is written, sub-edited and designed within the Department before going to an outside organisation to be printed.

Press Office Staff spent a considerable amount of time lecturing to officers of all ranks, including visits to the Police Staff College, Bramshill, and the Home Office Crime Prevention Centre, Stafford.

During the year, a successful publicity campaign was run in conjunction with the Home Office from the police stand at the 'Careers for the 80's' Exhibition at Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

Generally, relations with the media have been very good indeed and this was reflected in the favourable publicity the Force received during the year.

ATTENDANCE CENTRES

The work of the five Attendance Centres continues to provide a useful facility for Courts in dealing with Juvenile Offenders. Following a request by the Home Office, arrangements are in hand to open a Senior Attendance Centre in the New Year for young adult offenders.

During the year 1,446 juveniles and 151 older boys (subject of a Home Office experiment) were ordered by the various Courts to attend the Centres. These figures indicate an increase in orders being made, 1,439 and 104 older boys representing 1980.

The following Orders were made in respect of the five Centres:-

Birmingham 'A'	488 Juveniles	80 Adults
Birmingham 'B'	279 Juveniles	* *
Bilston	208 Juveniles	23 Adults
Coventry	216 Juveniles	29 Adults
Smethwick	255 Juveniles	19 Adults

* * not included in the Older Age Range experiment.

Chapter XI

Miscellaneous

IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY DEPARTMENT

At 31 December there were 3,703 registered aliens within the Force area, 2,641 males and 1,062 females. They originated from 82 countries and a breakdown of distribution by continent is shown below:-

Continent of Origin	Male	Female	Total
Africa	390	132	522
The Americas	255	217	472
Asia	1450	398	1848
Europe	447	247	694
Others	99	68	167
TOTALS	2641	1062	3703

During the year 1,007 Aliens Registration Certificates and 71 EEC Residence Permits were issued. There were 501 prosecutions against aliens, 29 deportations and two supervised deportations. Nationalisation papers were obtained by 814 persons.

The accommodation of the Department was extended in August 1981 to include No 9, Snow Hill, as offices, for the operational staff who were formerly housed in the Aliens Registration Office at 3 - 5 Snow Hill.

PEDLARS CERTIFICATES

A total of 302 Pedlars Certificates was issued during the year and 40 applications were refused.

LOST AND FOUND PROPERTY

The Central Property Office, Digbeth, Birmingham, is responsible for the disposal of all unclaimed property handed in to police stations within the Force area.

There were 16,590 items of property reported as lost, a decrease of 3,400 items on the previous year, with 13,694 items being reported as found. This resulted in 6,495 items subsequently being identified and restored to the losers. The value of these items was £170,267.

The number of pedal cycles found was 610 with some 15% being subsequently restored to the owners.

There were 12 sales of unclaimed property held during the year and two sales of scrap metal. A total of 375 abandoned vehicles was sold in 12 lots.

The total amount realised by all these sales was £36,758 an increase of £2,876 over the previous year.

EXPLOSIVES AND FIREARMS DEPARTMENT

The Explosives and Firearms Department operates from Police Headquarters with district offices situated at Brierley Hill and Coventry for the Western and Eastern areas respectively. It is responsible for the processing of applications for, and renewals of, explosives certificates and licences, firearm and shotgun certificates and Firearms Dealers Registration Certificates. Additionally, the Department has a responsibility to provide an emergency call-out service for suspect objects or incidents involving firearms, the receipt and subsequent disposal of firearms and ammunition coming into Police possession as a result of Court orders or voluntary surrender, and the supervision of firearms dealers and rifle and pistol clubs. The authorised establishment of the Department is one Chief Inspector, one Inspector, three Sergeants, 10 Constables and six civilian clerk/typists.

There were 239 new issues of firearms certificates bringing the number of certificates held by persons in the Force area to 2,659. Four applications were refused and two revoked. A total of 992 shotgun certificates was issued and 4,991 were renewed. At the end of the year there were 14,483 shotgun certificates held within the Force area. Twenty-eight certificates were revoked and 27 refused. Overall there was a slight decrease in the number of firearms certificates held and a small increase in the number of shotgun certificates held. This does not indicate any significant trend. The number of registered firearms dealers has fallen to 104. The amount realised by way of fees received for the issue of firearms certificates, dealers registrations and shotgun certificates was £43,917, an increase of £7,140 over the previous year.

Certificates issued under the Explosives Acts totalled 78 with a further 328 licences for gunpowder and safety fuse being issued under the Control of Explosives Order 1953. Officers of the Department made 380 visits to registered firearms dealers and a further 95 visits to explosives stores and sites.

Process through the Courts was taken against 44 persons for offences contrary to the explosives and firearms legislation.

VICE

The Special Plain Clothes Department is based at Lloyd House but has a Force-wide responsibility. It specialises in dealing with pornography, vice, gaming and intelligence gathering as well as maintaining a close liaison with the more routine matters connected with vice.

Protracted enquiries involving commercial vice, pornography and gaming often require not only long-term surveillance but also close co-operation with other forces, the Gaming Board and the Customs and Excise. The effectiveness of this liaison can be judged by the results achieved. In one such case co-operation between the various agencies resulted in the detection of a VAT fraud involving sums in excess of £100,000. Two other such operations concerned the illegal importation of pornography from the continent.

A greater commitment during the year, both by the Special Plain Clothes Department and the Divisional Officers, to the problems associated with prostitution resulted in 1,133 prostitutes being arrested with a further 584 cautioned. Twenty-four offenders were dealt with in connection with running brothels, sauna or escort agencies with a further 10 men convicted of living on immoral earnings. There were 21 convictions for offences contrary to the Gaming Act whilst prosecutions involving obscene publications involved a further 74 persons.

MISSING PERSONS

A central index of persons reported missing throughout the Force area is maintained by the Central Information Unit at Headquarters, whilst the overall responsibilities for enquiries in respect of missing persons rests with the territorial division concerned.

During the year a total of 11,834 persons was reported as missing comprising 5,834 men and 5,244 women. This represents an increase of 633 compared with 1980. Of these totals 66 men and 50 women had not been traced at the end of the year.

The radio programme "Contact" broadcast in conjunction with BRMB Radio provides a useful service for persons anxious to trace missing persons.

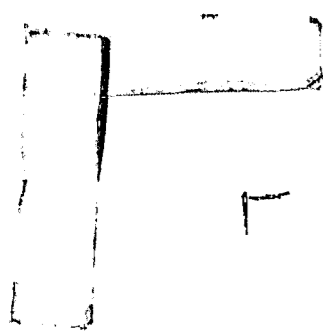
HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTIONS

One hundred and seventy-four certificates of exemption were issued for house to house collections and 809 street collections were authorised by Local Authorities.

STRAY DOGS

The Dogs Act 1906 places upon the Police the responsibility of feeding and retaining stray dogs. These dogs are kept at police stations for the minimum period possible and if not claimed by the owner from the police station, are conveyed to one of a number of animal welfare agencies throughout the Force area which are contracted to care for animals on an agency basis. In 1981 7,162 dogs were reported lost whilst 11,753 were found and either retained by the finder on certificate or handed to the Police.

The total cost to the Police Authority of discharging the responsibility placed on the Force by the Dogs Act during the financial year 1980/81 was £79,556.



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