

86657

VICTORIA POLICE

ANNUAL REPORT

1981



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VICTORIA

Report and Financial Statement

of the

VICTORIA POLICE FORCE

for the

Year ended 31 December 1981

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed

NCJRS

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*The Hon. C.R.T. Mathews, M.P.,
Minister for Police and Emergency Services,
Parliament House,
MELBOURNE*

Dear Minister,

I have pleasure in submitting to you, for the information of Parliament, the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1981.

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

I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to all members of the Victoria Police Force and the Public Service for their continued co-operation and service to the community throughout 1981.

Yours sincerely,

S. I. Miller

*(S.I. Miller)
CHIEF COMMISSIONER*

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

- S.I. MILLER, M.V.O., O.St.J., Q.P.M.
Chief Commissioner
- A.W. CONN, Q.P.M.
Deputy Commissioner (Operations)
- J.R. HALL, Q.P.M.
Deputy Commissioner (Administration)
- E.T. MILLAR, Dip.Crim., M.A.I.E.S., J.P.
Assistant Commissioner (Operations)
- R.C. KNIGHT, B.Juris., A.F.A.I.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Services)
- E.A. MUDGE, B.A., A.A.S.A., J.P.
Assistant Commissioner (Personnel)
- R.J. MARTIN, Q.P.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Traffic)
(Appointed 7.4.1981)
- P.N.D. BALL, Q.P.M., Dip.Crim., A.F.A.I.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Research and Development)
(Appointed 16.6.1981)
- P. DELIANIS, Q.P.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Crime)
(Appointed 17.7.1981)
- A.T. RUNDLE, J.P.
Director of Administration
- D.J. SWANSON, Q.P.M.
Deputy Commissioner (Administration)
(Retired 16.7.1981)
- J.D. DARLEY, Q.P.M.
Assistant Commissioner (Traffic)
(Retired 6.4.1981)

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OBJECTIVES AND ORGANISATION OF THE VICTORIA POLICE FORCE

Objectives

In a parliamentary democracy, which believes in the rule of law, it is the function of the police to uphold the law in the interests of society as a whole.

Each and every member of the Victoria Police Force has the responsibilities and privileges vested in the office of Constable. This is an ancient and honourable office dating from the development of peace, order and good government in England.

Every member of the Victoria Police Force is subject to an oath of office which requires the discharge of all duties and responsibilities without favour or affection, malice or ill-will and to the best of his or her skill and ability. The community has a right to expect members of the police force to display loyalty, integrity, courage, zeal and efficiency in the discharge of their duties.

Police objectives are aimed at preservation of the peace, protection of life and property and the prevention and detection of crime. Translated into the needs of contemporary society, these objectives relate to tasks of crime, traffic, public order and social welfare.

In providing a wide range of services to the community, it must be remembered that the police and the community are one and the police act for, and on behalf of, society in the discharge of these duties. In the process, it is imperative that the police should earn the confidence, co-operation and support of the community.

Our service to the community is aimed at ensuring that individual citizens have a sense of safety and security, in their homes and on the streets. To these ends, it is essential that we discharge our duties in the public interest and in accordance with society's wishes. This philosophy is inherent in the principle of policing by consent. Without it, the rule of law could not prevail.

Organisational Philosophy

The foundations of modern police forces in the English speaking world were laid by Rowan and Mayne, joint Commissioners of Sir Robert Peel's New Police in London in 1829. At that time, they expressed the objectives of the new police service. Simply stated, those objectives were:—

- Preservation of the peace
- Protection of life and property
- Prevention and detection of crime

Those objectives still provide an effective statement of organisational aims for modern police forces. When adapted to contemporary society, they mean that we seek to provide an effective, professional police service to the people of Victoria.

To achieve these aims, it is essential that management goals and specific tasks conform with the organisational strategy or overall plan. Therefore, every member of the police force must think strategically to ensure that individual efforts, at the various levels within the force, are consistent with these aims.

The organisational strategy indicates what we are trying to do and the organisational philosophy indicates how we are trying to do it.

The purpose of the organisational philosophy is to indicate the means by which we seek to achieve our objectives and to ensure that individual tasks are goal orientated.

The organisational philosophy is, therefore, expressed in the policies and practices adopted by an organisation in an effort to achieve its aims. The following are examples of the organisational philosophy of the Victoria Police Force:—

Professionalism through a total commitment to unconditional police service.

Optimisation of existing resources by ensuring the most advantageous utilisation of manpower, mobility, communications and equipment.

Emphasis of the visible police presence by patrol strategies involving maximisation of foot patrols and conspicuous, marked police vehicles to inspire public confidence.

Improvement of existing performance or maintenance of superior performance through in-service training and self-development.

Police involvement in community affairs, ranging from participation in local government to involvement in ethnic community interests and conducting local dances.

Innovation in operational and administrative practices, designed to simplify police problems and to promote organisational effectiveness.

Planned development in the short term and long term through the development of 5 year plans progressively updated annually.

Involvement of every member of the force in practical public relations by projecting a professional image at all times.

Sensitivity to public opinion and responsiveness to change in providing the service which the community needs.

Willingness to accept public accountability for our actions and performance.

Recognition of the sense of security of the public — in their homes and on the streets — as the true measure of police effectiveness.

Organisation

In order to facilitate the effective discharge of our functions, the Force is divided into seven Departments, each with aims consistent with Force objectives. Their specific aims are:—

The Administration Department is the public service echelon which provides administrative and clerical assistance to the Force. Under the Director of Administration, it administers the 1,170 Public Service Officers attached to the various Departments of the Force.

The Crime Department has the objectives of reducing crime and detecting and apprehending offenders.

The Operations Department is charged with all policing responsibilities and carries the major share of the total responsibility for maintaining a State-wide visible police presence.

The Personnel Department provides properly selected and suitably trained personnel, in sufficient numbers, to fulfil the requirements of all sections of the Force.

The Services Department provides efficient and effective communications, mobility, equipment and accommodation to support the operational and administrative requirements of the Force.

The Traffic Department has the objectives of reducing the number and severity of vehicle collisions, facilitating the flow of traffic and enforcing the traffic laws.

The Research and Development Department aims to co-ordinate and consolidate Force forward planning, to ensure the most efficient and effective use of resources and to develop initiatives to combat major social problems requiring a police response.

Priorities

Because of the breadth of tasks and the nature of modern society, the organisational philosophy of the Force recognises the need to allot priorities. Within these objectives and principles the more urgent matters will be given attention before those less pressing and the resources of the Force will be deployed in a manner reflecting these priorities.

Conclusion

Because of its objectives and principles, the Force provides a visible, State-wide presence, around the clock, offering assistance to citizens in need of help, whatever the cause. This is consistent with our responsibility to provide an effective, professional service to the people of Victoria, in the fields of crime, traffic, public order and social welfare.

Indicators of our efficiency will be the absence of crime and disorder, the general safety of citizens within Victoria and the degree to which they feel secure against the criminal acts of others.

OVERVIEW

The year under review was one of mixed fortunes for the Victoria Police. Operationally, the Force attained its highest peak during the Royal Tour/Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) which was held over ten days in September-October. The security operation, which passed without untoward incident, was the culmination of more than two years of detailed planning. Police forces in the past have tended to react to crises as they occur. CHOGM was an object lesson in the value of dedicated preparation.

The creation of the Research and Development Department under the command of an Assistant Commissioner, reflects my concern that the Force's planning needs are properly met.

Unfortunately, not all Force objectives were met. The road toll increased. The number of major crime index offences, particularly rape and burglary, continued to rise while the clearance rate decreased.

The total inadequacy of police powers which I mentioned in last year's Annual Report was highlighted during 1981 by decisions of the Court of Criminal Appeal in two cases involving identification.

Stress related ill-health requirements reached their highest level during the year under review.

Community Policing

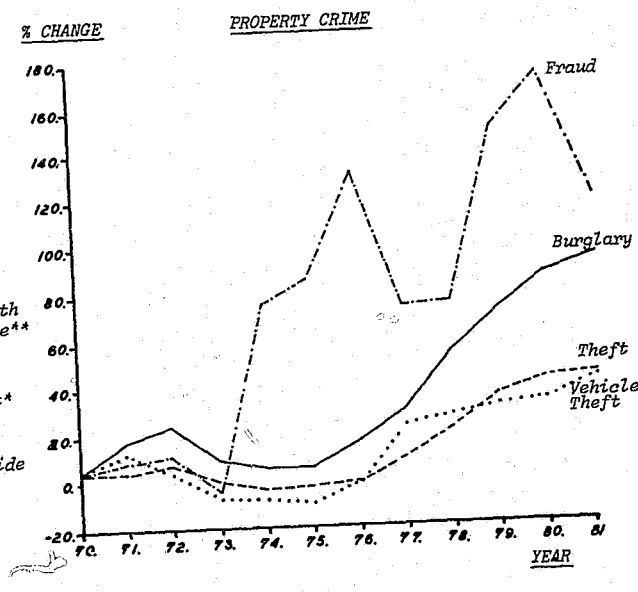
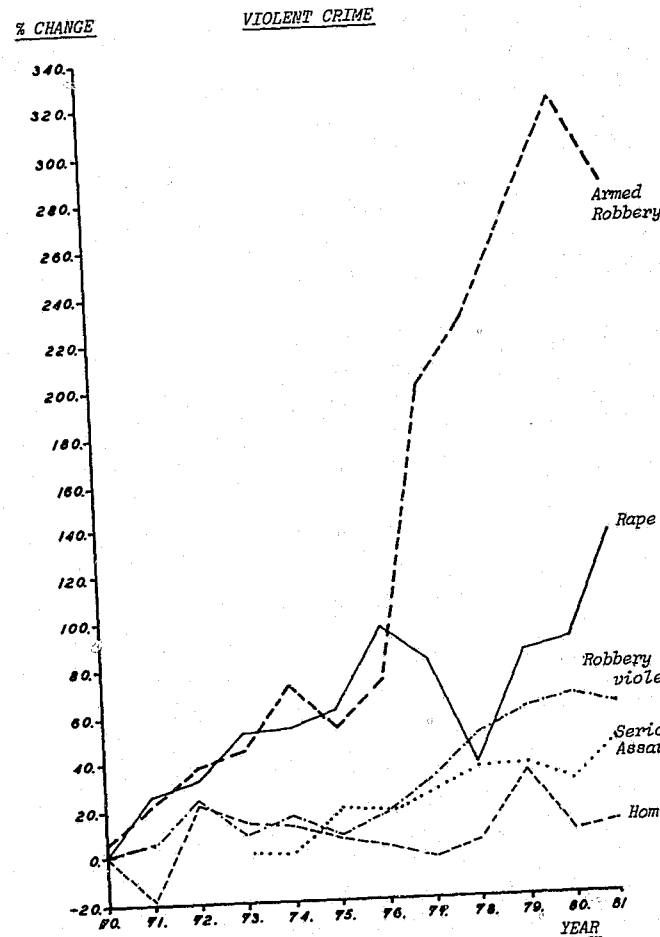
A most important initiative during 1981 was the continued development of community policing strategies, particularly the pilot Police/Community Involvement Programme at Frankston. Community policing entails more closely working with local people to identify and combat crime inducing situations and conditions. Young people have been a major focus for the 13 members at the Frankston Programme who have been working closely with local schools. The police also have been involved in the Safety House scheme, a community initiative which aims at educating children in stranger awareness and identifying occupied houses on routes children take going to and from school. Community policing is the way of the future. Its principles were firmly endorsed by Lord Scarman's inquiry into the Brixton rioting in England.

Crime

Although overall crime increased during 1981, there were some encouraging trends (Figure One). Compared with the previous year, the number of armed robbery offences decreased by 8.1%, the first drop for eight years. The clearance of violent crimes increased by nearly 5% so that on average an offender for homicide, serious assault, robbery or rape had about six chances in ten of being prosecuted. A burglar or thief, however, had less than three in ten chances. Overall, the gap between the clearance rate and the crime rate continued to increase (Figure Two).

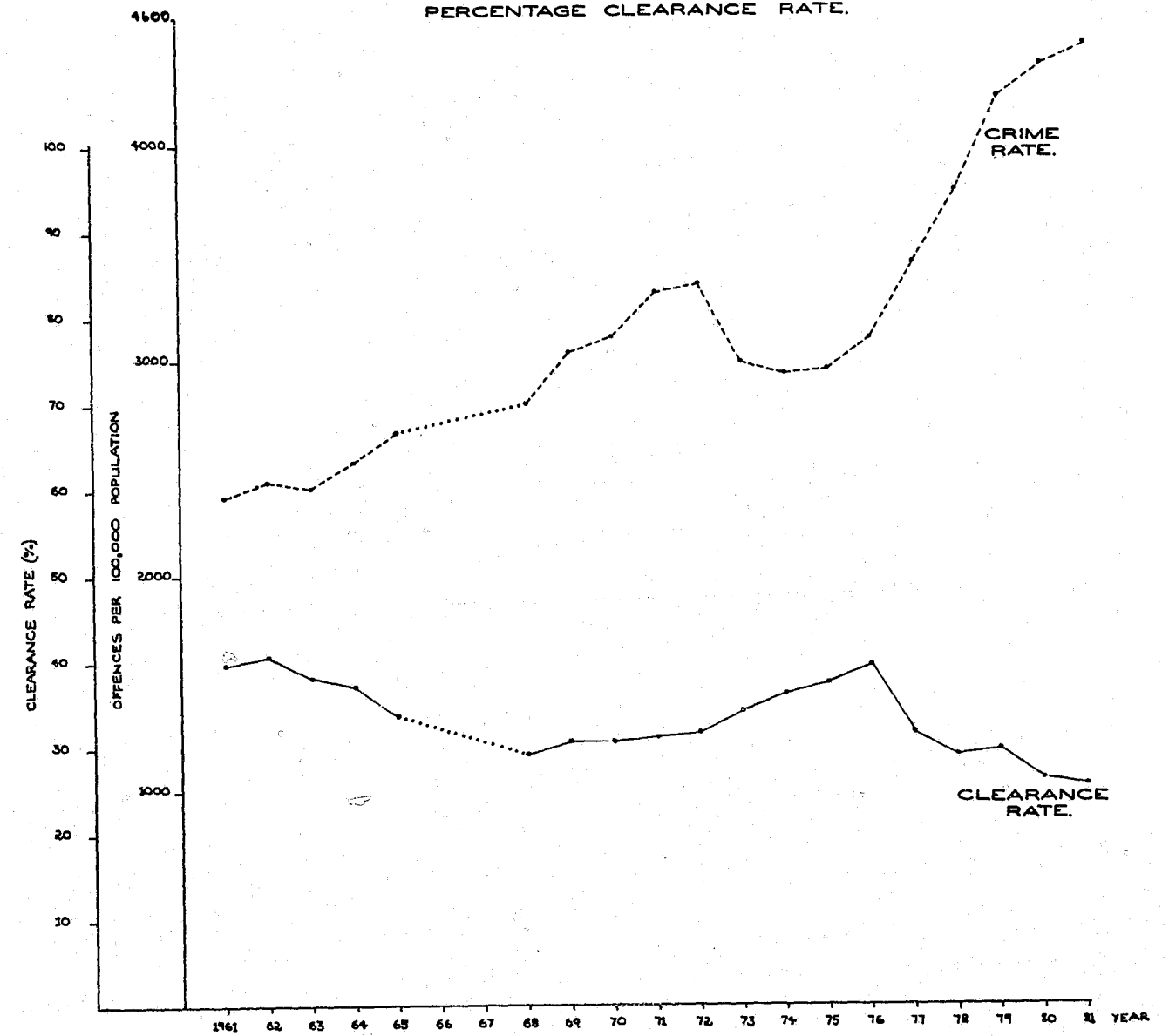
FIGURE ONE
MAJOR CRIME INDEX OFFENCES
IN VICTORIA 1970-1981

	NUMBER OF OFFENCES	
	1970	1981
Armed Robbery	144	558
Rape	172	410
Robbery with Violence	773	1245
Serious Assault	1325 (1973)	1967
Homicide	107	117
Fraud	5505	12120
Burglary	31752	61360
Theft	55568	80749
Vehicle Theft	12109	17550



* figures not available 1970-72
 ** includes Armed Robbery

FIGURE TWO
CRIME RATE PER UNIT OF POPULATION
AND
PERCENTAGE CLEARANCE RATE.



The incidence of rape offences increased by over 25% during 1981. This was an alarming increase, partly attributable to changes in reporting but also an indication of the attitude to this offence by many people in the community. Many offences were marked by either sadistic cruelty or humiliating acts of deviance.

Traffic

The number of road fatalities increased by 108 (16.3%) during 1981, still a relatively low toll but a clear warning that further efforts must be exerted if we are to maintain the reduction achieved in 1980 when the figure was 663.

Many traffic police were committed to CHOGM and involved in lengthy training. The lower enforcement level, as indicated in figures of prosecutions, may be indirectly responsible for some of the increase. A reduction in the road toll is achievable and the Force is committed to this.

The Road Trauma Committee of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons recently wrote:—

"The enormous drop in deaths on Victorian roads is the highlight of the period 1970 to 1980. It shows what can be done. . . Had all Australian States and Territories done as well as Victoria in reducing road deaths, there would have been 921 fewer killed on Australian roads in 1980." ("Road Trauma", p.7).

Personnel

The strength of the Force continued to increase. During 1981, a net increase of 236 (3.0%) was achieved, however the Force is still well under-strength. Planning projections indicate that, at the present rate, the appropriate police strength will not be achieved until 1988. During 1981, 136 members, 14 more than the previous year, left the Force prematurely having been found to be medically unfit. Many suffered from illnesses which have been frequently associated with stress. The loss of trained personnel in this way is a particularly worrying phenomenon which will be addressed during 1982.

Legislation

The inadequacy of basic police powers continues to frustrate police and make law enforcement against professional and career criminals extremely difficult and largely ineffective. The combination of a highly educated public and a community emphasis on civil liberties has placed the police officer on the street in the invidious position of being expected to perform a task without the appropriate tools to do so. This is a luxury that a community which had 175,518 major crimes reported during 1981 cannot afford.

The report of a committee of experienced police Officers which examined these issues during the year concluded that police officers should have power to—

- require certain persons to identify themselves
- require a suspect to take part in an identification parade
- detain a suspect for a limited period to enable investigatory procedures to be carried out

- fingerprint and photograph persons in custody and, if a warrant is obtained, suspects for offences
- take samples and specimens from persons in custody
- search persons in custody and, in urgent circumstances, suspects
- search property and seize evidence under certain circumstances
- in limited circumstances, intercept telephone conversations.

The Committee did not examine the effects of some of the archaic procedures in the adversary process which can have such an inhibiting effect on the attainment of justice not only for the accused but also for the community. The accused's right to make an unsworn statement without being subject to cross-examination and the so-called "right to silence" are two of these. The increased number of Royal Commissions and judicial inquiries is a clear indication of the shortcomings of the adversary system and the need for a standing Crimes Commission.

Clerical and Typing Support

Ceilings on the number of public service personnel have meant that the Force's typing, clerical and administrative support have not kept pace with the growth in sworn members, or the workload. Inevitably, some members have had to be deployed to these support duties which are better and more cost-effectively performed by public servants. Many examples can be found in the report on the Operations Department, but it is deplorable in an age when police paperwork, rightly or wrongly, is burgeoning, that 10 metropolitan police stations with staffs of more than 10 sworn personnel have no typists. Many more have no clerical assistance.

Internal Investigations Bureau

The 13 member Internal Investigations Bureau (B.11) is responsible for ensuring that public complaints are properly investigated and that disciplinary matters are correctly handled.

In December, 1981, the Bureau was assisted by two typists but urgently required clerical support to collate the statistics necessary for a thorough analysis of these sensitive areas. Two members seconded to Operation Zebra, a team investigating the improprieties associated with illegal gaming, were replaced temporarily by two Inspectors. Two sub-officers, a Senior Sergeant and a Sergeant were assigned to investigations. The sub-officers also have increased the general acceptance of the Bureau and additional appointments are likely in the future. Members also addressed a large number of training courses to motivate personnel, particularly supervisors, in the need for accountability and to indicate the Bureau's positive role in the professional management of the Force.

In August, following an extensive review, the complaint procedures were modified. In the past, the time consuming nature of inquiries into some minor complaints effectively prevented their early resolution. A pilot scheme to overcome this delay and encourage almost immediate mediation at the local level has been commenced. This year's complaint statistics have been influenced by both this change and also a separation of public complaints from internal disciplinary matters.

During 1981, there were 1,067 separate public complaints against the police, an increase of 190 (21.7%) over the previous year. Of these, 233 (21.8%) were

minor matters mediated at the local level. Further information on minor complaints will be included in next year's Annual Report but were not available in 1981. The sources of serious complaints were similar to those in 1980. Most (76%) came from individuals although one in ten involved solicitors acting on behalf of their clients. A further 55 (6.6%) came from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Only 44 originated at the Ombudsman's Office (Appendix "B").

Slightly more than half (51.1%) of the serious complaints alleged either assault (27.6%) or that the police performed their duty unsatisfactorily (23.5%). A considerable proportion (12.8%) complained of rudeness or harassment. Six complainants alleged corrupt practices. The Force has aimed internal preventive strategies at these identified areas.

A total of 602 serious public complaints were determined during the year. Slightly more than half (57%) were not proven, that is, the truth of the matter could not be established. This was considerably fewer than the 66% in this category during the previous year. In 112 cases (18.6%) the complaint was determined to be unfounded or unjustified. In 33 cases (5.5%) the complaint was found to be proven, but the police action warranted in the circumstances. In 107 cases (17.7%) the complaint was found to be wholly or partly justified, a similar proportion to the previous year (Appendix "C").

During the year, 189 members were sanctioned as a result of investigations into public complaints, 19 more than in the previous year. The great majority (79%) were counselled or reprimanded, although 21 members (11.1%) faced open court hearings (Appendix "D"). The aim of the investigatory system is not so much to impose severe punishment but rather to identify functional weaknesses and work towards their elimination.

The Bureau also investigates or monitors the investigation of disciplinary matters within the Force. The investigation of 71 such matters resulted in 89 members being sanctioned including 31 who were counselled or reprimanded, 23 who appeared or were to appear before the Discipline Board and 22, mainly traffic offenders, who were charged in open court.

During the year, 37 members received counter summonses. In most cases (33) these alleged assault. That this process is almost always a defence tactic is reflected in the fact that 30 cases were subsequently dismissed and 7 were pending. The technique however does place members under considerable personal stress.

The reception, investigation and adjudication of complaints against the police are critical areas of police accountability. The statistics in this Report provide a comprehensive return of Force activity in this area. Public complaints are not only investigated by the Force, but the completed files are over-sighted by the Ombudsman's staff to independently confirm that the complaint has been thoroughly investigated.

Because of the enormous commitment of police resources to the investigation of complaints, I am convinced that the entire process must be rationalised in terms of cost-effectiveness, the effect upon police morale and public credibility. Much of a Divisional Officer's time is absorbed in internal investigations, distorting his role as a police leader and identifying him as an inquisitor. I consider that, either the Internal Investigations Bureau should be dramatically increased in strength, so that a complement of officers are engaged in internal investigations exclusively, or that complaints investigation should be handed over to an agency outside the police force.

The latter suggestion is probably not tenable in the case of investigation of allegations of criminal offences. In view of the forensic services accessible to police and police expertise in investigation, it might well be impossible for non-police investigators to investigate criminal matters.

It is significant that the Police Federation in Britain is actively campaigning for non-criminal complaints to be investigated by an external body.

CHOGM

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), Melbourne, 1981, was the largest security undertaking ever required in this country. The Heads of 41 nations representing a quarter of the world's population gathered together from 30th September to 7th October to discuss matters relating to the Commonwealth of Nations. At the same time, Her Majesty The Queen was present in Melbourne for a Royal Visit timed to coincide with, although not a formal part of, CHOGM.

The holding of the meeting and its conclusion without incident, was a tribute not only to the law enforcement officers who had responsibility for security, but also to the law abiding nature of the Australian public.

On a personal level, to a large degree the success of the police operation was due to the outstanding leadership of the Operations Commander, Deputy Commissioner (Operations) A.W. Conn and the efforts of the Planning Group led by the Executive Officer, Assistant Commissioner (Services) R.C. Knight. The co-operation of personnel from many Federal and State Government Departments, the Defence Forces and the Australian Federal Police made their task considerably less difficult.

The Force also acknowledges the forbearance and co-operation of the Melbourne people who willingly accepted certain restrictions on their movements, increased traffic congestion and on occasions, the sound of hovering helicopters.

The conference itself commenced on September 30th, 1981, but planning commenced two years earlier on October 4th, 1979, when the Federal Government formally advised Victoria that Melbourne was to be the venue for the 1981 conference and a Royal visit.

The Victoria Police planning group, formally established on 11th December 1979, immediately began detailed preparation for the operation. During the next two years they were to orchestrate the acquisition and deployment of personnel, equipment, communications and transport at unprecedented levels. These included the:—

- (a) design and engineering for a twenty channel radio communication system;
- (b) design and development of a new operations command and control centre utilising modern communication facilities;
- (c) security preparations at three main accommodation venues, the conference centre at the Royal Exhibition Buildings, Station Pier for H.M.R.Y. Britannia and other locations;

- (d) siting and installation of closed circuit television cameras at 25 critical locations and the training of necessary personnel;
- (e) selection and training of personal security officers for V.I.P. security, including that of 18 spouses of delegation heads;
- (f) development of traffic control strategies and consequent training of Traffic Operations Group and Melbourne District Traffic and Patrol Division personnel;
- (g) training of detectives, security groups, media liaison and other support units (a total of 1,327 members underwent special training courses);
- (h) conduct of nine separate major rehearsals between August and September, 1981;
- (i) assistance in the development and implementation of a scheme for identifying accredited people at the various sites; and
- (j) budgeting and financial costing.

The size of the operation can be gauged from the fact that throughout the State all leave and rest days were cancelled and training courses were suspended during the fourteen day period. A total of 3,522 members (including 165 from Australian Federal Police), were involved in the operation while the remainder maintained normal policing requirements. Prior to CHOGM some concern was expressed that Victoria would be deprived of police protection during the meeting. In fact, when compared with the week previous to CHOGM, reported crime decreased by 25% in the Central Business District, 11% in adjoining Districts, 3% in other metropolitan districts and 14% in the country.

The conference finished on October the seventh. In terms of security it was an outstanding success. Not only was protection achieved, but the written comments of many of the over-1,200 media representatives from around the world indicated that the needs of security and those of the public were adequately balanced. Comments were also received from many other law enforcement agencies and from the Delegations themselves which strongly supported the fact that the success was due in no small measure to the standard of security achieved prior to and during the meeting. It was most pleasing therefore to read the words of Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser who on 8th October, 1981, in a message to the Victoria Police Force wrote "You can all hold your heads high with the best police forces of the world. There may be some as good, there is none better".

We intend to maintain that standard.

The Future

The development of strategy plans for the future is continuing. The establishment of the Research and Development Department promises to simplify co-ordination of Force planning for future operational and administrative commitments.

One of the problems of managing a police organisation as large and as complex, as the Victoria Police Force, is to ensure that organisational philosophies and policies are applied in the execution of operational and administrative practices

at all levels throughout the discrete elements of the Force. This requires a process of performance auditing. It is proposed to make this the responsibility of the Research and Development Department through an inspectorial function.

The problems of organised crime are becoming increasingly apparent. Coping with organised crime will require greater emphasis on task force operations in the future. These are expensive in terms of manpower and ancillary services but, on performance, highly effective.

The principal policing problems of the present and the future will continue to be organised crime and the road toll. A considerable increase in resources in the Crime and Traffic Departments must occur if we are to come to grips with these. However, such increases should not be at the expense of routine police operations throughout the State, which already are taxing existing manpower to the limit.

The Force needs substantial increases in manpower and materiel if we are to provide an effective service. In this regard, the cost benefits to be derived from replacement of policemen and policewomen presently performing non-operational duties, by public servants warrants consideration. This, of course, is a matter of government policy in the context of total demands for additional personnel throughout the public service system.

As far as the future is concerned, I am confident that our current community involvement initiatives will pay dividends. Crime prevention and law enforcement measures cannot be taken in isolation. Nor can we afford to ignore the social dysfunction in the community which creates an environment for lawlessness.

Police effectiveness is predicated upon public confidence in the police. Our involvement in the community becomes the measure of public confidence and police effectiveness.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Research and Development Department, the most recent of the seven Departments of the Force, commenced operations in May, 1981. Its organisational chart is contained in Appendix "X"2.

This Department is responsible for the strategic development of the Force, including the co-ordination of forward planning, the optimization of resources and the implementation of initiatives to combat crime and other major social problems requiring a police response.

Assistant Commissioner P.N.D. Ball, formerly the Superintendent in Charge of the Management Services Bureau, was appointed to command the new Department.

Historical Development

Prior to April 1971 the Research and Planning Division, part of the (now) Services Department, provided the only formal police research group working full time on police projects, in the main those involving buildings and equipment. Colonel Sir Eric St. Johnston, who inspected the Force in 1970, criticised the lack of staff support available to the Commissioners and recommended the creation of an Inspectorate and Future Plans Division to monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of the Force, to co-ordinate future planning and to ease the workload of the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner. In mid-1972, this Division was officially established with a strength of two Chief Inspectors whose first task was to implement the many proposals made by St. Johnston. The following decade witnessed a demand for high level advice and support which even St. Johnston could not have foreseen. In 1981, the Division comprising 23 police and three public servants, operated an extensive research library and coped with an increasing workload.

The Management Services Bureau was created out of the Inspectorate and Future Plans Division in September 1979. This title has been retained in the major component of the new Department, a recognition of the crucial place of planned development in the evolution of the Force.

Scope of Operation

The Research and Development Department is involved directly in Command decision making and together with the Personnel, Administration and Services Departments supports the operational Departments — Crime, Operations and Traffic, in achieving Force objectives. The new Department co-ordinates planning projections from each Department and is responsible for the development and publication of a comprehensive five year plan. Matters considered in achieving this include the organisational structure, the availability of physical resources as well as ongoing operations and funding. Cost and general efficiency are also of up-permost concern.

Administrative Planning

Administrative planning is undertaken by a unit of the Management Services Bureau. Tasks include preparation of the Annual Report, monitoring the Manual and Standing Orders, compiling Force Circular Memoranda, providing information requested by the Minister, circulating management information, advising upon proposed legislation, preparing submissions to State and Federal Law Reform Commissions and other policy matters.

The very demanding task of preparing submissions for various Commissions including law reform organizations is increasing because the Force is committed to presenting the police view in public debate. The task requires the unit to work closely with suitably qualified and experienced members from appropriate areas of the Force. A number of members of the Department hold tertiary qualifications in various disciplines. Their expertise is particularly important in these tasks.

A revised Police Manual and Standing Orders was introduced at the end of 1981 and represented the culmination of over five years work by the Manual Review Committee under the chairmanship of the Assistant Commissioner (Personnel), Mr. E.A. Mudge. The publications clarify the many instructions for police officers and will be available for public sale from the Government Printer. Continual review and amendment is the responsibility of the administrative planning unit which is also involved in the review and revision of police forms and other administrative procedures.

Operational Planning

The tasks of the operational planning unit of the Management Services Bureau include assessing needs and trends in manpower, resources and workloads and conducting research into field projects such as the police/community involvement programme, patrol deployment, driver/rider safety and training, and operational task forces. The unit is also concerned to ensure that Force efficiency, both in cost and manpower, and effectiveness remain at a high level.

Perhaps the most notable endeavour undertaken by this unit during 1981 was the establishment of the Police Community Involvement Programme at Frankston. The programme aims at closer co-operation between police and the public in the prevention of crime and disorder at the local level. Thirteen specially selected and trained police were seconded to the pilot project to develop, implement and evaluate crime prevention projects within the local community and to liaise with the local police and a wide variety of government and community agencies and organisations.

The interim report on the Programme, completed in November 1981, disclosed many positive developments and forecast a most encouraging future for police/community relations. The further development and expansion of this programme are most important steps in our future. It will provide a means by which the Force, as an integral part of the community, can work more closely with those people who have the greatest interest in ensuring that their neighbourhoods provide a positive environment conducive to the complete development of responsible citizens. An assessment of the first 12 months of the project will be released in mid-1982. The scheme has achieved considerable local publicity and been visited by a number of police and other professionals from Australia and overseas.

Other important projects undertaken during 1981 include examinations of the future development of the Women Police Divisions in the metropolitan area and



Community involvement in Frankston.

Geelong, the feasibility of selective investigation of crimes by detectives ("crime screening"), a rationalization of police procedures for handling thefts from shops and the development and monitoring of station and C.I. Branch workload returns. A number of these projects have still to reach finality.

During 1981 the Force also moved to implement some of the proposals resulting from the Integrated Community Policing experiment in Prahran outlined in the 1980 Annual Report. The Government has been requested to legislate for police to have broader powers to require a person to identify himself. The Force has asked for authority to tow away vehicles illegally parked across driveways, which the project identified as an area of misunderstanding. We have also introduced a scheme for ensuring that people involved in accidents know the results of police inquiries as soon as possible.

Operations Research

The operations research unit is under the control of the Force Statistician, Dr. Andrew Macneil. The duties of this unit include providing high level statistical support, designing computer programmes, monitoring demographic and other social statistics and maintaining a comprehensive reference library. The Statistician also gives general advice on the collection and analysis of statistical data and particularly the collection of crime statistics and their presentation in the Annual "Statistical Review of Crime".

The statistician has provided data for Police Service Board hearings. He also has given expert evidence in criminal hearings and represents the Force on a number of committees concerned with police statistics.

Industrial Relations Liaison

The Research and Development Department Chief Superintendent is responsible for industrial relations matters within the Force. The position of Industrial Relations Officer is an innovative measure to improve communication about job related issues including salaries and conditions, to establish a contact point between the Force administration and the Police Association and to provide members with an avenue at a senior level to sort out grievances. The Industrial Relations Officer can reduce some of the stress suffered by members and early indications are that the position will become an increasingly important part of the Force's grievance mechanisms.

Necessary changes within the Force must be accepted by members and this can be achieved by the maintenance of good industrial relations. The Industrial Relations Officer can facilitate change by timely advice to the Police Association and by continuously monitoring Force morale. He can advise on and resolve many matters which are unclear or in dispute without resort to the often cumbersome bureaucratic processes. His appointment is evidence that the administration of the Force is concerned in achieving the best possible conditions of service for its members.

Staffing

In recognition of the need for professionalism the Force has actively encouraged the recruitment of personnel with tertiary qualifications and the training of its own members. The Research and Development Department is an area where such qualifications can be fully utilized. The appointment of police personnel who have not only sound operational experience but also tertiary qualifications allows for a fine balance to be made between academic and practical considerations in decision making. In 1981, Sergeant R.K. Haldane of the Management Services Bureau attended the F.B.I. National Academy for 11 weeks in the course of an extensive study of police industrial relations in North America. During the year, Senior Sergeant D. Smith was awarded an Australian Police Commissioners' scholarship to study community policing trends in a number of countries.

OPERATIONS

The Operations Department is the largest and most visible component of the Force. In December 1981, its 5,288 sworn members comprised 66% of the total Force strength. Their primary responsibility is to provide a highly visible presence aimed at deterring crime and promoting public feelings of security and confidence in the police. The uniformed police officer is the most easily identified symbol of authority. To some extent he holds an ambivalent position in a democratic community where individual freedoms are held in high regard. A particularly important function of uniformed members is to maximise public understanding of the police role so as to attract the community co-operation so vital to effective policing.

During 1981, the Operations Department was under the command of Assistant Commissioner E.T. Millar. His two most senior officers moved midway through the year. Commander J. Murtagh retired after a distinguished police and military career. Commander R.J. Martin was appointed Assistant Commissioner (Traffic).

Deployment

In December 1981 3,050 members of the Department (58%) were attached to stations in the eleven police districts covering the Melbourne Metropolitan area. A further 1,432 (27%) were attached to the twelve country districts. A total of 308 (6%) performed duty in support groups while 498 comprised the Force reserve. Uniformed staff performed duty at 352 police stations, including 76 which provided a 24 hour service (27 in the country), 163 which provided less than continuous service and 113 country one-man stations (Table 1). The organisation of the Department is outlined in Appendix "X"3.

**TABLE 1
AUTHORISED STRENGTH OF
POLICE STATIONS IN VICTORIA**

SWORN PERSONNEL	Number of Stations	
	Metropolitan	Country*
2	5	27
3	9	26
4	3	20
5	9	7
6	8	5
7	3	4
8	5	2
9	1	2
10	6	—
11-20	14	3
21-30	24	19
31-40	20	4
41-50	6	1
51+	4	2
	117	122

*excluding 113 one-man stations

During 1981, Thomastown police station became a 24-hour station while an additional member was appointed to each of the one-man stations at Marysville (a Senior Constable) and Yarra Glen (a Sergeant). The one-man station at Dartmouth Dam was closed. Service in that area and at Yarragon were more efficiently provided from adjoining stations.

The large number of police stations with small staffs has resulted from the historical development of the State. Some stations were sited at such places as night stop-over points en route to the gold fields. Although many are inappropriately located by modern standards, the Force has found that even where closure is clearly justified in the interests of efficiency, it is seldom politically acceptable.

At the end of 1981, in addition to the 113 one-man stations, 74 stations were open half the day or less and a further 89 were open for about sixteen hours (Table 2). Small stations often present supervisory problems and operational difficulties in that support in an emergency may take some time to arrive. Additionally, the provision of technological resources such as visual display units to a large number of small stations will be extremely expensive and difficult to justify.

**TABLE 2
TIMES OF OPERATION OF POLICE STATIONS**

HOURS PER DAY	Metropolitan	Country*
8-12 hours	21	53
13-23 hours	47	42
24 hours	49	27
	117	122

*excluding 113 one-man stations

Police work generates a very considerable amount of correspondence, much of which has to be typed, forwarded or filed. Members have limited typing training and achieve various levels of competence according to practice; but in the interests of efficiency, the Force must maximise the amount of time police are on the streets and highways.

It is a cause of considerable concern that throughout the State 143 (60%) of stations, other than one-man stations, have no typist allocated. Forty-three of the 49 metropolitan stations with strengths of between 2 and 10 personnel (inclusive) and 7 of the 14 with staffs of between 11 and 20 (inclusive) do not have typists. Three of the 24 stations with between 21 and 30 members (Mordialloc, Lilydale and Port Melbourne) are in the same position.

In the country, 79 of the 80 stations with strengths of between 2 and 5 members and 10 of the 16 stations with between 6 and 20 members do not have typists. Kyneton, a station with 23 sworn members does not have a typist.

Most stations do not have clerical assistance in the form of either a police reservist or a public servant. Excluding one man stations, 153 (64%) have neither, 65 in the metropolitan Districts. In these Districts, 51 of the 63 stations with strengths of between 2 and 20 (inclusive) and 10 of the 24 stations with between 21 and 30 personnel have neither clerks nor reservists. These larger stations were Mount Waverley, Essendon, Sandringham, Williamstown, Caulfield, Port Melbourne, Werribee, St. Albans, Altona North and Reservoir. In the country, 71 (89%) of the 80 stations with a strength of between 2 and 5 members and 10 of the 16 with between 6 and 20 members have no clerical assistance. Six of the 23 stations with between 21 and 40 members, Hamilton, Ararat, Swan Hill, Seymour, Morwell and Warrnambool are in a similar position (Table 3).

**TABLE 3
CLERICAL ASSISTANCE AT POLICE STATIONS**

	Metropolitan (n=117)	Country* (n=122)
TYPISTS		
Nil	53	90
One	55	26
Two	8	5
Three+	1	1
RESERVISTS		
Nil	92	92
One	33	25
Two+	2	10
CLERKS		
Nil	87	118
One	21	3
Two	5	2
Three+	4	1

*excluding 113 one-man stations

GENERAL OPERATIONS

Members of the Operations Department received and conducted initial inquiries into nearly 95% of crimes which came to police notice during 1981. About 30% of these were cleared up and offenders proceeded against.

Members also took proceedings against 224,263 traffic offenders including 11,221 who exceeded 0.05% blood alcohol concentration (B.A.C.) In the metropolitan districts, only Traffic Operations Group (T.O.G.) members were authorised to operate random breath testing stations. In the country, Operations Department members administered 26,484 random preliminary breath tests resulting in the detection of 285 (1.1%) offenders. This is, of course, considerably below the proportion of drivers found to be over 0.05% B.A.C. after being intercepted by patrol police. A more satisfactory deterrent might be achieved by a repeal of the present law which requires some evidence of bad driving or an accident before police (other than at a random testing station) can require a motorist to take a breath test.

Special Operations

The cultivation, manufacture and trafficking of drugs appeared more prevalent during the year. Operations Department members proceeded against 5,085 offenders, a 32% increase over 1980 figures. Large police operations located three acres of marijuana at Macedon in January, and five other plantations near Neerim South. Other successful raids at the start of 1981 occurred around Swan Hill and in the Shepparton and Mildura areas. In most operations people were apprehended and charged with trafficking and related offences. In Shepparton, as a result of a dispute between local drug dealers, a seventeen year old youth was shot dead. Two men have been charged with murder. The drug scene breeds serious offending and a major commitment of manpower and resources is required on a national scale if any impact is to be made on these types of offences.

Other major operations included "Operation Crime Beat" conducted annually during the Easter and Christmas shopping periods. Throughout the State, eighty-four special beats in busy shopping areas were patrolled in an emphasis of the

police presence which continued to attract many favourable comments. The members made some 55,033 contacts with citizens, arrested 431 offenders, checked over 4,400 suspects and issued 1,798 parking and traffic tickets. They also located 28 stolen cars abandoned in shopping centre car parks.

Natural Disasters

Bushfires, floods and storms put particular demands on police resources during 1981. The police helicopter was invaluable in a number of these. In January large grass and scrub fires near Sunbury, the Big Desert and the Sunset Country caused considerable losses in livestock and a number of casualties with second degree burns. At Yea during March, a fire swept through 10,000 hectares destroying several thousand sheep and cattle as well as fencing and out buildings. About 1,500 men fought the blaze in an operation co-ordinated from the Yea Police Station. The State Disaster Plan is activated in such occurrences and police and other emergency services and volunteers have particular roles to play.

In August and September, the Murray, Loddon and Avoca Rivers flooded causing widespread damage. Police and members of the local Shire and of the State Emergency Services were able to accurately assess and overcome potentially dangerous situations. Other major flooding occurred in the Horsham, Dimboola, Warracknabeal and Jeparit areas. Stock and property losses were minimal and there was no loss of life. October floodwaters from the Murray and Goulburn Rivers Systems caused flooding throughout the Shepparton District resulting in the temporary closure of a number of roads.

Severe storms struck the Geelong region twice during January. On the ninth, hurricane force winds measured at 168 k/ph caused extensive damage and flooding in Geelong's Highton area. Most damage occurred at Lara where a retired people's home at St. Laurence Park was wrecked. Homes were also unroofed in Winchelsea,



Storm damage at Lara

Moolap and Leopold. injuries were few but many police were required to work long hours and assume considerable responsibility before the situation was returned to normal. During the tempest two oil tankers were blown from their moorings at Corio Quay resulting in oil and petrol spills. Police and other authorities and volunteers worked throughout the night and following day to restore some degree of order to the communities. Property damage exceeded \$500,000. Nine days later, an electrical storm caused further havoc at Geelong through widespread flooding and wind damage. One man was struck by lightning and electrocuted.

Police Districts

In most districts special efforts concentrated on a variety of local problems usually for a limited time. These included combating cattle stealing, vandalism, drug use, trafficking, consorting, gaming, street offences, offences in refreshment houses and licensed premises, theft of and from motor cars, burglaries, hooliganism on public transport, mini-bike offences, unroadworthy vehicles and bicycle offences.

During May the Crime Car Squads, a proactive uniformed patrol force of 26 members attached to each of the 11 Metropolitan Districts and in Geelong changed from providing routine patrol and responding to calls for service to work as District task forces aimed at specific problems. In the main these related to drug offences or areas in which crime reports indicated there were more frequent or more serious offences. Initial results have been very encouraging but the impact of the change will be monitored during 1982.

Combined Operations

A number of particularly serious offences requiring the urgent commitment of considerable resources occurred during 1981.

In November three armed men abducted four people, including a 20 year old woman, from Dandenong. The victims were assaulted and robbed and forced to stop a motorist who, with his pregnant wife, was also assaulted, robbed and his car stolen. While being pursued, the vehicle crashed at Willow Grove and the offenders, with the female captive, escaped into surrounding bushland. After an extensive police search, the female victim was located the following day in a distressed condition. Two suspects were arrested in the vicinity and the third arrested at Geelong after a further seven day operation involving police from many areas, the Air Wing and emergency communications vans.

During September an armed male robbed a Warrnambool bank of \$3,640 and took a hostage from the premises to the nearby Flagstaff Hill Station. The hostage was released and shortly afterwards the offender's car was pursued at high speed to Simpson where he ran to a house and held his wife and child hostage for six hours before he was arrested and the proceeds recovered.

In February, following information received by a Caulfield member, a watch was maintained on premises suspected of being used to fence jewellery stolen in a large number of house burglaries. As a result a woman was detained but a male associate escaped. Their car contained the proceeds of several burglaries. The woman did not answer bail on the following day. Surveillance of gold buyers and known drug dealers led to the arrest of the woman and her husband who were charged with 215 burglaries. A quantity of jewellery was recovered from their St. Kilda flat. Both were granted bail by the Prahran Magistrates' Court. In May, the

man was again arrested and charged with a further three counts of burglary. Bail was again granted. In July, again acting on the description of a possible suspect, the police arrested the man and charged him with three counts of burglary. Stolen jewellery in his possession was recovered. Although initially refused, bail was eventually granted in September on condition that he attend Odyssey House from which he absconded on two further occasions. He was later arrested and with his wife committed for trial each charged with 222 offences of burglary with a total property value of \$250,000. The man was finally refused bail, little comfort to the householders who unnecessarily suffered his unwelcome attention.

Public Order Incidents

Riotous behaviour by large groups of youths occurred at Mildura, Traralgon, Moe and Walhalla during the year. In April at Mildura, disruptive behaviour began when approximately 2000 people visited the city to attend a series of Easter sporting and social activities. Youthful visitors drank liquor to excess and confronted police in the streets. Reinforcements were required, and on one occasion a Justice of the Peace 'read the riot act' to a group of 1000 people whose behaviour warranted this urgent and extreme action. Police arrested 92 persons over the three day period for 101 offences and the 43 members worked 1,116 man-hours to contain the situation. New South Wales police from border stations rendered considerable assistance. Members adopted a firm approach which assisted in containing the ongoing problem minimising personal injuries and property damage. The Air Wing's ability to rush the 21 police reinforcements from Melbourne indicated just how quickly significant resources could be deployed in an emergency.

In June, a large land and air search was mounted after two shotgun blasts were discharged in the Moe Police Station foyer narrowly missing two members. The suspect, subsequently arrested and charged with two counts of attempted murder, has now been committed for trial. In September several police at Traralgon were injured by a large group of disorderly and drunken youths who later converged upon the police station after the arrest of three principal offenders. The incident was never out of control but it did attract considerable media publicity. The following month, a shotgun blast damaged the Traralgon Police Station. Fortunately nobody was injured. The offender has yet to be located.

A folk festival held at Walhalla in December attracted 3,500 people to this relatively remote mining town. Many youths behaved poorly and, while intoxicated, provoked police and abused young members on duty. Because of the lack of adequate facilities and the remoteness of additional police support, the organisers and the municipality have been discouraged from holding any similar events.

Industrial Disputes

Police maintained a low key presence at a number of industrial disputes during the year. At each, members established early liaison with management groups and with strikers, and adopted a tactful approach. There were fewer incidents of personal confrontation than in the previous year although the drawn out dispute between the Builders Labourers Federation (B.L.F.) and other unions absorbed an excessive amount of police time and resources.

A Waverley council decision to transfer the City's garbage collection service to a private contractor led to council workers being made redundant and consequent industrial action. The strike and picketing of garbage tips which commenced in

August 1980 continued into 1981 sometimes with violent confrontation between strikers, members of the public seeking access to tips, members of the Transport Workers' Union employed by the contractor and council administrators. The need to provide police at tips and council depots and the requirement for a police vehicle to follow each garbage truck for days on end placed a very considerable strain on district resources.

A demarcation dispute between the B.L.F. and the Federated Ironworkers Association (F.I.A.) concerning the erection of pylons for electricity cables led to police action against unlawful behaviour by pickets at a Clayton engineering firm. This resulted in a B.L.F. black ban against all police buildings imposed during February and not finally lifted until December. It caused significant delays in completing projects and considerable inconvenience to members at stations where police work continued among the rubble and disruption of half completed renovations.

Police in the Geelong area also had to contend with a dispute between the two unions which centred on the erection of powerline pylons designed to carry electricity to the Alcoa aluminium smelting project at Portland. Picketing in the Inverleigh and Corangamite districts required further police attention during July. The dispute also resulted in industrial action at the Omega Navigational Facility construction site at Woodside in East Gippsland which required a permanent police presence from February to May to prevent violence and property damage.

During September and October a series of confrontations occurred at the Ford Motor Company plants at Campbellfield and Norlane but serious difficulties were avoided by tact and good judgement.

Special Events

On three occasions during 1981 the Force was responsible for the personal safety of visiting Royalty. The Duke of Edinburgh's March visit was notable for the request that the Royal party was to be largely unaware of the security measures. In April, the Prince of Wales conducted a six day tour during which police provided personal security, safe escort and crowd control including that for an attendance at Monash University for a graduation ceremony. Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, visited Melbourne for seven days at the end of September and opened CHOGM. Complex security measures were undertaken at Station Pier where H.M.R.Y. Britannia was berthed. A total of 2,310 members ensured security and crowd control at various venues. During these events the aim was to balance the need for security with the clear requirement that as many people as possible should have the opportunity to see the Royal party.

The Moomba festival, V.F.L. Finals, International Concerts and Soccer Matches, the Spring Racing Carnival and the Royal Melbourne Show are annual events which require considerable police resources. In recent years the behaviour of a small number of people at Flemington Racecourse on Melbourne Cup Day has caused considerable concern. This was successfully repressed in 1981 hopefully preventing the institutionalisation of misbehaviour which might have detracted from the historic event.

The "Oktoberfest" weekend at Dandenong in the first week of November continued to require a large police operation. The 1,447 preliminary breath tests which resulted in 35 drivers being proceeded against for exceeding 0.05% B.A.C. indicates the intensity of the police effort which assisted in keeping the number of serious accidents in the district to a relatively low level.

The Geelong "Springding Festival", a week-long carnival, included events on the Barwon River which attracted 35,000 spectators and a Gala Day procession which required the attendance of 84 police. Other events which resulted in large crowds included the Stawell Easter Gift, the "King of the Mountain" festival at Wycheproof and the Maroondah Air Show. Fun Runs are particularly popular but place a considerable demand on police. Some 3,760 man-hours and 594 vehicle hours were devoted to the four major metropolitan events.

Developments

A number of significant developments during 1981 included the transfer of responsibility for vehicle registrations and licence testing to the Transport Regulation Board thus relieving some supervisory pressures. Cash receipts at some stations have been reduced by more than \$1,000,000. At the end of 1981 the transition had not been completed but already 36 members had resumed operational duties.

A total of 478 Probationary Constables passed through the Extended Training Scheme which provides for 16 weeks training after graduation from the Academy. The number of training stations increased from 55 to 73 although not every station is suitable for this task.

Systematic misbehaviour can cause serious social problems for the public and the police, particularly inexperienced members. During the year, serious and prolonged incidents occurred in and around the high-rise Housing Commission flats in Flemington, North Melbourne and Richmond. Uniformed foot patrols improved security and led to a rapport with resident teenagers but were hard to maintain in the face of other commitments.

A very serious outbreak of damage and hooliganism occurred in the Broadmeadows area involving local youths and the Victorian Railways. Passengers on late night trains were abused and police were required to act very promptly in an attempt to prevent vandalism and loutish behaviour by a persistent group of youths. In addition to traditional police reactions which had a considerable effect in the short term, plans are well advanced for a long term programme aimed at improving communication with teenagers at Broadmeadows. Police are working with several committees which include representatives from the Broadmeadows Council, VicRail and citizens' groups.

Problems associated with migrants occurred in a number of suburbs. Nearly all nationalities are represented in places like St. Albans where the diversity of cultural backgrounds and attitudes calls for particularly sensitive police work. Officers of the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs have discussed programmes with local police, visited the police stations and generally advised members. Similar meetings between community representatives and local police in Nunawading have established communication and have diffused conflict between local and Vietnamese youths. Police regularly visit all Migrant Hostels including the East Bridge Migrant Centre to assist newcomers.

CHILD OFFENDERS

There was a significant (16%) increase during 1981 in the number of children aged between 8 and 16 inclusive whose offending resulted in a police prosecution or a formal caution (Table 4). Most child offenders (61.8%) were cautioned, an increase of 2.2% on the previous year. Girls were more likely to be cautioned than

boys but this might be attributable to a number of factors such as prior cautions or court appearances. In 1981, 82.8% of girls were cautioned compared with 56.4% of boys.

The proportion of female offenders increased by 2% to 20.5% in 1981. Nearly three in four (73.2%) were detected stealing from shops. A further 203 (6%) were involved in burglary offences. Burglary continued to be the primary offence committed by boys (22.8%) and was slightly more prevalent than theft (18.4%) and theft from shops (17.4%).

A total of 784 children including 82 girls aged between 8 and 10 years came to police notice, mainly for property offences. Boys were nearly twice as likely to be detected at these younger ages than girls who were more likely to come under notice when aged between 11 and 13.

**TABLE 4
PRINCIPAL OFFENCE CATEGORY OF PROSECUTED
AND CAUTIONED CHILDREN**

(Total Number= 16306)

OFFENCE	FEMALE			MALE			Total Children
	Caution	Court	Total	Caution	Court	Total	
Serious Assault	15	29	44	60	138	198	242
Robbery	—	3	3	4	47	51	54
Rape	—	—	—	2	4	6	6
Burglary	125	78	203	1431	1532	2963	3166
Theft from Shops	2250	194	2444	1873	387	2260	4704
Other Theft	100	71	171	1398	983	2381	2552
Motor Vehicle Theft	22	35	57	366	704	1070	1127
Deception/Fraud	20	9	29	40	59	99	128
Malicious/Wilful Damage/Arson	30	10	40	279	169	448	488
Drug	7	5	12	8	17	25	37
Firearms	2	1	3	108	42	150	153
Traffic (inc. Tamper)	38	19	57	724	663	1387	1444
Street Offences	36	39	75	308	342	650	725
Other	123	78	201	716	563	1279	1480
	<u>2768</u>	<u>571</u>	<u>3339</u>	<u>7317</u>	<u>5650</u>	<u>12967</u>	<u>16306</u>

The proportion of children represented by lawyers at Melbourne Children's Court (69%) continued at a high level. One in five represented cases were contested to varying degrees. The revised Standing Orders contains a Chapter dealing with the interaction between police and children. A parent or guardian should be present at any formal interview at a police station. Where this is not possible an independent person must be present. The presence of the independent person is designed to provide moral support for the child rather than interference in the investigation. The independent person is asked to report any unfair treatment to a senior officer. Police stations have a network of responsible persons willing to be called out even in the middle of the night, but in many instances the procedure results in considerable delay in the investigation.

In 1981, children were found to be responsible for 34,612 offences, only thirty more than for 1980 (Appendix "E"). The average number of offences for each

offender was higher for males (2.3) than for females (1.5) and higher for children who went to court (2.7) compared with those who were cautioned (1.7).

Child Cautions

The police cautioning programme has developed into a particularly successful mechanism for diverting juveniles from the court process. The underlying philosophy was detailed in last year's Annual Report. Briefly, it is particularly (but not exclusively) aimed at first offenders and tries to reduce the delay, formality, stigmatisation and inefficiency associated with the court hearing.

Although some people tend to minimise the importance of the police in community well-being, during 1981 the cautioning programme received considerable support.

The Australian Law Reform Commission (*Child Welfare*) recommended a similar strategy in the A.C.T. and research by the Chairman of the Criminology Department of Melbourne University, Mr. D. Challinger, provided "definite support" for the scheme. Since 1978, the Force has been co-operating with a very detailed examination of the program aimed, among other matters, at identifying District variations in decision making which might require rectification. The study should be finalised in late 1982. The proportion of child offenders cautioned is contained in the following Table.

**TABLE 5
CHILD OFFENDERS CAUTIONED**

YEAR	%	YEAR	%
1972	22.2	1977	50.2
1973	23.5	1978	59.5
1974	28.0	1979	57.1
1975	32.0	1980	59.7
1976	42.0	1981	61.8

Care Applications

The police made 545 care applications to the Children's Court under Section 31 of the Community Welfare Services Act during 1981. This was 31 fewer than in 1980, 227 fewer than 1979 and 455 less than 1978. The reduction is due to a number of factors. Firstly, community attitudes now place admission to care as the last resort after an increasing number of other welfare alternatives. Secondly, amendments to Section 31 have replaced the more objective evidence of inadequate care by a subjective assessment of the child's development more familiar to doctors, psychologists and similar professionals. Thirdly, the Children's Protection Society, now the second authorised intervention agency in the State, have taken action in many cases which would otherwise have appeared as police applications.

The pattern of care applications generally followed those of previous years. Almost seven in ten related to girls. Nearly one in five concerned children under eight years who were below the minimum age at which they could be prosecuted for an offence (Table 6).

**TABLE 6
CARE APPLICATIONS**

CAUSE	AGE (YEARS) AND SEX								Total	
	less than 8		8-10		11-13		14-16		M	F
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Ill-Treated	16	25	12	8	26	65	22	137	76	235
Inadequate Control	6	4	—	3	4	4	10	21	20	32
Development Jeopardised	15	7	11	7	16	9	9	29	51	52
Abandoned	4	4	2	6	1	6	1	—	8	16
Not Specified	2	14	—	3	3	4	9	20	14	41
Sub Total	43	54	25	27	50	88	51	207	169	376
Total in Age Group	97		52		138		258		545	

SUPPORT GROUPS

Specialist support provided by "O" District members during the year ensured the availability of highly trained and mobile squads to assist operational police achieve Force objectives. The nature of their duties attracts considerable media coverage which almost invariably reflects favourably on the Force as a whole. Some of their efforts are outlined in the following summaries.

Search and Rescue

The Victoria Police Search and Rescue Squad has an enviable reputation for skill and professionalism especially in the search for missing persons in remote



Search and Rescue Squad.

areas. During 1981 members were involved in several hazardous rescues and also concerned with air-crash searches and mine shaft and cliff operations. These tested their training in climbing, bush and mountaineering, nordic skiing, first aid, diving and search co-ordination. Two separate rescues of climbers injured in falls on the north wall of the Mt. Buffalo Gorge, were typically successful operations. One man in a serious condition with spinal injuries was trapped on a narrow ledge some 100 metres below the cliff top. His predicament was a severe test for the squad's rock climbers. The personal courage displayed by members in the complex rescue procedure was recognized by the Royal Humane Society which awarded three members the Bronze Medal. The second rescue was from the bottom of the Gorge in a joint operation with the Police Air Wing. Squad members were winched in and out, but the actual rescue was performed by the Dauphin helicopter crew who winched the stretchered patient and escort to safety. The squad's 13 members attended a total of 195 operations, many at extremely short notice.

Motor Boat Squad

During 1981, the Motor Boat Squad members performed 215 search and rescue missions involving 400 boat hours and rescued 425 people including 50 children. This was a considerable increase on 1980 when the Squad mounted 176 missions involving 351 boat hours and rescued 349 people including 57 children. Members travelled 211,263 kilometres throughout the State and provided both an effective service to the community and regulated behaviour on Victoria's inland and coastal waters.

Throughout the year, Port Phillip Bay was patrolled for an average of 16 hours per day. Sixty-six other waterways were visited for lesser periods. A total of 2,324 offences were detected, a 41% increase on 1980 figures. Members completed advanced training in coastal navigation, radar and radio operation, outboard maintenance, endurance engineering, search co-ordination and uniform shipping laws.

Air Wing

Throughout the year the Air Wing continued to aim at co-ordinating and providing fast, reliable transport for personnel and supporting members with air surveillance, particularly supplying information which facilitated the best deployment of manpower and resources. Both fixed wing and rotary wing sections achieved a great deal of success. The fixed wing section used several aircraft in a range of sizes.

The police-owned Aerospatial SA 36SC1 "Dauphin" helicopter performed air support and search and rescue operations. The 1981/82 budget permitted an average of 25 flying hours per week for the helicopter. In December a leased Hughes 300 helicopter was brought into operation for 180 hours in an effort to reduce the road toll by detecting and identifying speeding motorists for interception by ground units.

Operational highlights with the helicopter included:—

- the successful apprehension of several burglary offenders;
- the use of the "Nitesun" searchlight on Port Phillip Bay to locate eight persons missing in a three metre boat who were found after a one and a half hour search;
- the rescue of a man who fell while cliff climbing at Mt. Buffalo;
- the night-time rescue of two injured teenagers from rocks at the base of a cliff at Beaumaris; and

- the location of a stolen truck in the Kevington area which led to the rescue of a female kidnap victim and the arrest of two suspects for offences of violence.

The helicopter was involved in a number of extensive searches including an 8 day operation in the Eildon area when a light plane with four people aboard crashed. The fact that the plane was located many weeks after the search was called off indicates the very difficult terrain in some parts of the State even for aerial searchers.

The effective development of the Air Wing in the short term requires the purchase of two fixed wing aircraft to replace existing leasing arrangements, and the purchase of a second helicopter to provide back-up facilities and extend the daily average of approximately 3½ flying hours. A summary of flying activities is contained in Appendix "F".

Licensing Gaming and Vice Squad

The Licensing Gaming and Vice Squad is required to police areas which are publicly and politically sensitive in combatting the activities of those who seek to exploit others. The squad aims to suppress and reduce the incidence of licensing, gaming and vice offences, however, legislative deficiencies do not prevent visiting prostitution services, massage parlours and a growth of the problem which the legislation was originally designed to eradicate. Staff difficulties were experienced through internal investigations, transfers and low morale. An influx of new members and altered procedures may assist more positive achievements during 1982. The use of video cassettes for pornography has become a popular medium which is difficult to control. The results of the Squad's activities are contained in the following Table.

**TABLE 7
PRIMARY PROSECUTIONS BY THE
LICENSING, GAMING AND VICE SQUAD**

	1979	1980	1981
Use premises for prostitution	683	773	449
Loiter for prostitution	253	166	114
Live off earnings of prostitution	33	38	16
Solicit female for prostitution	96	202	134
Offences relating to illegal bookmakers	92	92	53
Licensing offences	289	451	367

Mounted Branch and Stud Farm

Members of the Mounted Branch performed numerous duties during the year, including patrols of the city areas and at sporting functions and demonstrations. Notable events included the Royal Melbourne Show, the Melbourne Cup and the Military Tattoo. Favourable comment was made by the public regarding ceremonial escorts, attendance at shows in the country areas and displays. Many thousands of school and pre-school children visited the stables. The condition of the stables, however, is causing deep concern. They are in need of urgent and extensive renovation and are contributing to the low morale of members working there.

The 1980 Annual Report indicated that savings could be achieved if labourers were employed to perform cleaning duties. Unfortunately, these have not been appointed and police continue to spend approximately 30% of their time cleaning dilapidated stables.



Nitesun searchlight in operation.

The Stud Farm presently carries 31 young horses including yearlings and foals which have yet to be tried. Eleven broodmares at the farm have permitted a constant upgrading of the breeding programme.

A unique event during the year was the dedication of the mounted remains of the drum horse "Gendarme" which died during 1981 after becoming a household name throughout Victoria.

Dog Squad

Operational duties by Dog Squad members include tracking offenders, searches for wanted and missing persons, suppression of violence, especially by armed offenders, searches for narcotics and explosives and the security of Government premises. The Squad provides specialist support to operational sections and also maintains a regular patrol of the Metropolitan area by 17 teams, including two teams specifically trained for explosive detection.

The personal courage, tenacity and professionalism of members resulted in the arrest of 315 offenders including 56 for narcotics offences. In September a dog overpowered a person wanted for murder who was threatening police with a shotgun. In December a handler and dog tracked an armed and violent abductor and his hostage for 10 kilometres before arresting him and freeing the hostage. Preventive duties included the checking of 5,859 schools and railway stations, 1,333 persons and 955 vehicles. Members were involved in 463 searches for missing persons, performed 569 tracking assignments, assisted in 46 raids and attended 16 disorder situations.

Two full-time training courses were conducted during 1981 for handlers and dogs from the correctional services division of the Community Welfare Services Department. Facilities were made available to New South Wales and Queensland Police for eleven dogs to be kennelled and assessed for those forces. Members of the Squad attended most in-service training courses to demonstrate to members the expertise and assistance available. They also addressed a large number of outside organisations.

Victoria Dock Police

Prevention and detection of criminal activities in and around the Port of Melbourne is the responsibility of personnel at Victoria Dock Police Station. Their foot and vehicle patrols resulted in the detection of 1,723 offenders who accounted for 346 criminal offences, 1,703 traffic offences and 73 gaming offences. During the year members checked 7,310 suspects and 5,040 vehicles, executed 35 warrants, and initiated action for 22 breaches of the Port of Melbourne Authority Regulations. In keeping with the Force philosophy of maximising the visible police presence, in November members commenced performing duty in uniform. The containerisation of cargo has greatly reduced the level of waterfront pilferage. A review has commenced aimed at establishing whether the station strength, presently 45, is still required.

Prosecutions Division

In July a Prosecutions Division was formally established aimed at accepting the responsibility for police prosecutions in metropolitan Magistrates' Courts, Children's

and Coroner's Courts by 1983. Regional prosecuting officers complementing the Magistrates' Court Regionalization Scheme have been established at Prahran, Preston, Melbourne Children's Court, Melbourne Coroner's Court and Box Hill. An office is planned for Sandringham.

The regionalisation of Magistrates' Courts involved the closure of some suburban courts in an attempt to improve efficiency. The creation of the Prosecutions Division is designed to make the most of these changes. Members of the Division represent the Force on various committees associated with legal matters and have assisted in the preparation of draft submissions to the Law Reform Commission and similar inquiries.

A number of members of the Division have legal qualifications and the Force is determined to ensure that members' court cases receive the best possible preparation and presentation. Police prosecutors represent a considerable saving on a system in which outside lawyers are briefed to present police cases.

CRIME

The Crime Department provides the expertise and facilities in science, technology, investigations and the collation of criminal records necessary to achieve the major Force goals of the prevention and detection of crime and the prosecution of offenders. The detective's work after the commission of a crime reinforces the credibility of the legal system and, if it results in the imprisonment of professional or career criminals, can have a significant impact on the crime rate. There is no doubt that the nature of crime and the sophistication of many criminals necessitates a considerable commitment by every member of the Force. They should be supported by realistic organisational procedures and the enactment of legislation which the Force has asked for over a long period. The fact that these powers have not been forthcoming may account for part of the unrealistic workloads carried by detectives and the decreasing proportion of reported crime cleared.

In the seven years since 1975 the number of serious crimes of violence against persons has increased by 47%, and major crime index property offences have increased by 60%. In the same period the Crime Department strength increased by 34.4% from 875 to 1,176 sworn members. The benefits of even this increase have been dissipated by such factors as the complexity of many investigations, the almost doubling of the average trial time in Victoria's superior courts and procedural changes which, while aimed at protecting special interest groups within the community (notably children), have resulted in significant delays in the investigation process.

The clearance of serious crime in Victoria is as high as that in many other democratic communities. During 1981 nearly six in ten serious crimes of violence were cleared and the clearance rate in homicide offences almost invariably exceeds 90%. The 4.3% increase in the clearance rate of violent offences during 1981 was heartening, as was the 8.1% reduction in armed robberies. The 2.9% decrease in overall robberies (including armed robberies) was the first such decrease since 1975, but it cannot be assumed that the generally upward trend has been halted.

**TABLE 8
TOTAL REPORTED CRIME AND CLEARANCE¹ FOR
MAJOR CRIME INDEX OFFENCES 1975-1981**

	Violent Crime ²		Property Crime ³	
	Number	Cleared (%)	Number	Cleared (%)
1975	2540	64.0	107648	36.8
1976	2645	66.2	113493	38.8
1977	2795	60.1	126369	31.0
1978	3256	60.2	141357	28.3
1979	3512	60.3	159852	29.2
1980	3455	53.9	166589	25.7
1981	3739	58.2	171779	25.0

¹ crime cleared = offender charged or cautioned;
² homicide, serious assault, robbery, rape;
³ burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, fraud

Unfortunately, the clearance rate of property offences continued to decrease, a reflection of the escalation of burglary and theft offences where there was seldom any contact between the offenders and witnesses or victims (Table 8). The loading placed on the insurance of the contents of houses located in certain Melbourne suburbs has brought home very directly the burden that the law abiding majority must often carry for an opportunistic minority.

Overall, during 1981 major crime index offences increased by 3.3% while the 53,849 "other" offences, including arson, drug offences and street offences decreased by 1.1% on the previous year's figures. The actual number of offenders arrested for major crime index offences increased by 5.9% to 28,546 although the overall clearance rate decreased by 0.7%. A total of 44,934 M.C.I. offences were cleared in 1981. Crime increased in most categories including theft (6.2%) and burglary (3.4%). Although the burglary increase was smaller than in previous years, the 61,360 offences represent an impact on victims, especially women, the effect on whom cannot be unduly emphasised. The Force welcomes the Victims of Crime Assistance League (VOCAL) and other support services because police are in probably the best position to see the trauma of the victim. Of course, these figures relate to reported crime which, for most types of offences, understates their frequency in the community (Appendix "G").

At the end of 1981, the 1,176 members of the Crime Department, 14.6% of the Force, included 699 detectives attached to the 48 Metropolitan and 28 Country Criminal Investigation Branches throughout the State. Other detectives were assigned to specialist groups at Russell Street, the Forensic Science Laboratory, the Bureau of Criminal Intelligence and a number of administrative and training areas. The remainder of the Department performed duty in support roles in the Fingerprint Bureau, Records Section and related fields (Organisational Chart — Appendix "X"4).

Current Trends

Crime is endemic to all societies but the repression of crime within the constraints imposed by the legal process and by public opinion is a major Force objective. Society however is dynamic in nature. In 1962, the Force was concerned to increase a 40% clearance rate while twenty years later, a lower rate must be regarded as satisfactory as long as the social fabric is not threatened and fear of crime is not debilitating.

The detective is a thorough professional but, as already outlined in this report, he is fighting with antiquated legislation and an arm tied by the procedural requirements of the adversary system. The trend is clear. The gathering and presentation of scientific evidence and the extensive use of surveillance and related techniques are significant answers to organised or professional crime. Selective targetting of those who present the greatest danger either physically or socially is the way of future major investigations. These techniques often require very considerable resources and almost invariably the co-operation and mutual confidence of high level decision makers.

The year under review has already entered history as the year of the Royal Commission. Nothing indicates the impotence of the adversary system in combatting organised crime more than the fact that at various times during the year a total of six Inspectors, five Senior Sergeants, eleven Sergeants and twelve

Detectives were assisting the following eight Royal Commissions or Boards of Inquiry:—

- (a) Builders Labourers' Federation
- (b) Australian Meat Industry
- (c) Painters and Dockers
- (d) Lands Inquiry
- (e) Inquiry into the Operation of "Mr. Asia"
- (f) Richmond City Council
- (g) Melbourne City Council
- (h) Tobacco Industry Fraud

Many of these inquiries have yet to report but early disclosures indicate that their creation was more than justified. The spotlight of truth has been directed at areas that by its rules and procedures, the adversary system could not have disclosed.

Also during 1981 the need for sophisticated and dedicated surveillance, particularly in drug inquiries and corruption investigations, was amply demonstrated by a number of successful undercover investigations. This is reflected in the creation of the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence located in Canberra initially commanded by Detective Superintendent F. Silvester of the Victoria Police Crime Department.

In a similar vein, during 1981 a Commercial Crime Group accountable to the Solicitor-General and comprising police, lawyers and accountants was established to investigate complex corporate crime.

Armed Robbery

Armed robberies decreased from 607 offences to 558 (8.1%) during 1981. The number of other robberies decreased from 1,282 in 1980 to 1,245 offences, the first such drop in eight years. The effect of security systems, especially time locks and cameras in banks and totalizator agencies have made these institutions much less vulnerable targets (Table 9). Credit societies and other commercial premises should be similarly protected. The robbery of pay rolls remained fairly constant.

**TABLE 9
ARMED ROBBERY OFFENCES**

	1980	1981		1980	1981
Service Stations	94	89	Street	37	43
Pharmacies	55	32	Dwellings	28	45
Totalizator Agencies	46	20	Payroll	10	16
Banks	44	38	Credit Society/ Post Offices	4	13
Hotel/Motel	23	26	Other	106	99
Shop/Milk Bars	160	137			

The increase in robberies committed in dwellings, invariably frightening experiences, is very worrying. Armed robberies netted property valued at \$3,791,542, an increase of \$1,559,948 above the previous year. The most lucrative armed robberies, payrolls, averaged \$39,347. Overall, however, the risk of detection and a relatively severe sentence is high for robbery offenders. Some increased criminal effort was reflected in the methods employed. One armed robbery in a house netted jewellery and other property to the value of \$156,000. Another robbery

involved the hijack of a semi-trailer and the theft of cigarettes valued at \$650,000 after the driver was placed in the boot of a car. Seven men were subsequently charged and cigarettes to the value of \$300,000 were recovered. During 1981, a total of 289 offenders were proceeded against for robbery offences.

Arson

Arson Squad members principally investigate criminal damage by fire offences where the value of destruction exceeds \$100,000. During 1981, the Squad also became responsible for bomb incident inquiries. During the year, 2,120 fires were reported, an increase of 98.3%, but this may in part reflect a more efficient reporting procedure within the Force. Damage exceeding \$14.9 million resulted from 1,093 deliberately lit fires, while damage valued at \$10.6 million was attributed to unknown causes. There were also 624 accidental fires reported to the Squad, but the value of damage is not known. The Squad's structure is under review to more effectively provide expertise in the field especially at difficult investigations. It is intended that a more comprehensive examination of fire scenes will facilitate the assessment of fire causes. A change in the classification of fires increased understanding and co-operation between Fire Brigades, the Standing Committee on Arson and members of the Arson Squad. Local police and detectives are responsible for the initial investigation of most fires and call for Arson Squad assistance when required.

The increase in arson, a world-wide trend, is a particular cause for concern. The ultimate burden is carried by society in general in increased insurance premiums and, where Government property is concerned, higher taxation. The crime has been associated with a depressed business sector and is often elaborately disguised by remote control devices which, even if not destroyed, make investigation particularly difficult. In a number of cases the rapid spread of fire entrapped the arsonists causing death or severe burns. The location of fires reported during 1980 and 1981 is contained in Appendix "H".

Drugs

During 1981 police had some success against illicit drugs, a growth industry which involved the manufacture, import and sale of drugs with a street value of millions of dollars. The detection of 6,175 drug offences was a 35.9% increase on 1980 figures (Table 10). A total of 895 charges related to drug trafficking, a 42% increase reflecting the focus of police attention on the more serious offenders (Appendix "I"). There appears to be a heightened public awareness of the social harm associated with drug misuse and the Force and the public look to Government action. Law enforcement can have a significant impact in restricting the availability of drugs indirectly increasing the street price. However reports indicate that drug offenders often increase their rate of burglary and other offences to finance their habits. The cycle is complex, but the continued illegality of misuse is a clear warning to those in the drug trade that the community will not tolerate their activities.

During the year under review, a total of 3,008 offenders were charged with drug-related offences, an increase of 50.9% over the 1980 figure. Although numerically small, the more than doubling (to 51) in 12 months of children under 17 years proceeded against for drug offences is a cause of very serious concern. During 1981, the increase in the number of women coming to police notice (60%) was more than 10% higher than the increase in male offenders (Table 11).

**TABLE 10
DETECTED DRUG OFFENCES**

TYPE OF DRUG	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Indian Hemp	3,316	2,918	2,563	3,647	4,621
Heroin	341	803	580	596	717
Morphine	23	25	17	14	79
Cocaine	18	17	8	11	43
Hallucinogens	22	37	38	32	50
Amphetamine	*	*	*	80	377
Miscellaneous	52	232	308	165	288
TOTAL	3,772	4,032	3,514	4,545	6,175

*Included in Miscellaneous Offences

**TABLE 11
AGE AND SEX OF DRUG OFFENDERS**

AGE	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
8-16	—	35	13	20	51
17-24	1,862	1,478	1,085	1,155	1,762
25+	251	676	722	818	1,195
SEX					
Male	1,746	1,778	1,500	1,644	2,450
Female	367	411	320	349	558
TOTAL	2,113	2,189	1,820	1,993	3,008

The number of charges against drug traffickers continued to rise. There was a significant increase (45.6%) in charges relating to Indian hemp (marijuana), but the greatest increase (261%) concerned trafficking in amphetamine. During 1981, the largest clandestine amphetamine laboratory yet detected in Australia, a multi-million dollar operation, was located in the northern suburbs of Melbourne and its two operators arrested. The number of drug-related thefts and robberies decreased by nearly 30% (Appendix "J").

The importance of long term surveillance and other covert techniques in effectively countering organised drug dealers was well illustrated during 1981 by two prolonged international drug-related operations, code named "CAPA" and "ARIES". These relied on intelligence gathered from a number of law enforcement agencies, including the Victoria Police, the Australian Federal Police and the Customs Department. A total of 17 people were charged with importing narcotics and associated offences.

The 'Task Force' approach to investigation indicates the need for the establishment of a permanent Task Force to undertake major investigations into organised crime without depleting the established squads. Shortage of personnel and accommodation prevented this strategy from being implemented.

Bureau of Criminal Intelligence

The Bureau of Criminal Intelligence, restructured in January 1980, is an integral part of the investigation of organised crime. Its duties include:—

- (a) encouraging the submission of information about criminal activity and other matters of police interest.

- (b) maintaining and ensuring the security of criminal intelligence records,
- (c) liaising with other Australian crime intelligence units,
- (d) overtly and covertly gathering intelligence about criminal activity particularly organised crime and, where appropriate, carrying through an investigation to a conclusion including prosecution, and
- (e) analysing intelligence and disseminating it to those units able to use it to combat criminal activity.

During 1981, the Bureau was involved in a number of highly successful investigations within the terms of its charter.

Major Crime Squad

The year under review was the first full year's operation for the Major Crime Squad formed from an amalgamation of the Consorting and Breaking Squads in November 1980. Although able to be assigned to most serious offences, members of the Squad investigate burglaries with a property value of at least \$20,000 or aggravated burglaries involving explosives or firearms. A total of 205 large burglaries were investigated, an increase of 25.7% on the 1980 number.

The 257 offences involving safes was a decrease of 15% on 1980 figures. Safe cracking, particularly by explosives, has become relatively rare, the result of a number of factors including the comparative vulnerability of cash in transit and the installation of sophisticated security systems.

The Major Crime Squad is responsible for co-ordinating the search for escapees, an onerous and time-consuming duty. During 1981 there was a 58% increase in the number of escapees aged 17 years and over. A total of 2,417 escapees were reported to the Force after they escaped from prisons (37), youth training centres (588), remand centres (860) and a further 932 from hostels or while on weekend leave or home release (Table 16). Although most of these escapees were children, they accounted for a very considerable amount of crime including armed robbery, car theft and other serious offences committed while at large.

Stolen Vehicles

Stolen Motor Vehicle Squad members are responsible in the main for investigating organized vehicle thefts many of which involve the sale of parts or the vehicle itself to the repair trade. The trend in Victoria as with other Australian States is for an increase in the number of vehicles stolen (+7.9%) and a decrease in the recovery rate (90.2%). In 1978, the recovery rate was 97.1%. In some parts of the U.S.A. the recovery rate is as low as 56%. A total of 17,148 motor vehicles were reported stolen in Victoria during 1981 (Table 12).

**TABLE 12
STOLEN AND RECOVERED MOTOR VEHICLES**

	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Stolen	14,638	15,055	15,926	15,926	17,148
Recovered (%)	95.0	97.1	96.4	91.8	90.2

Only 55.9% of stolen motor cycles were recovered during the year. These are more easily taken apart and disposed of and a number were unregistered when taken. Inquiries indicated that some stolen motor cycles ended up in New Zealand and the U.S.A. A redirection of investigative techniques has resulted in the arrest of a number of "backyard" repairers dismantling stolen vehicles. During 1981, 3,808 (21.7%) of stolen motor vehicle offences were cleared. Of the 2,685 persons proceeded against, 47.5% were aged under 17 years and a further 36.7% aged between 17-20 years.

Crime Prevention Bureau

The prevention of crime is the ultimate reason for being of the Police Force and each of its members. The Crime Prevention Bureau comprises five experienced detectives with responsibility to co-ordinate some of the Force's crime prevention activities and provide resources and assistance to both police and public. The Bureau's impact is very difficult to measure, but its members are in great demand for lectures (99 during 1981), conferences (209), security surveys (591), security demonstrations and committee work. The Bureau has been particularly involved in a number of "Speak-up" campaigns sponsored by Lions International aimed at increasing public awareness and encouraging people to report suspicious events as soon as possible. The scheme has been associated with reductions in reported crime in a number of areas.

Bureau members have assisted both the Police/Community Involvement Programme at Frankston and the spread of the 'Safety House' scheme which provides security for children going to and coming from schools.

Homicide Squad

Members of the Homicide Squad are required to be thorough, methodical and uncompromising in the investigation of suspicious deaths. They work closely with crime technicians, chemists and other scientists to provide the Coroner with the fullest possible account of the matter under inquiry. During 1981, sixty-four murders were investigated, nine more than in 1980, but 24 fewer cases than in 1979. Nearly half (43%) involved family disputes. Most of the victims (70%) and nearly all those charged (94%) were males. In six cases, the offenders committed suicide. Overall, 90.6% of cases were solved. The clearance of the six unsolved murders was frustrated mainly by the absence of a positive identification of the victim or the lack of a motive. Gunshot wounds continued to be the predominant cause of death (Table 13).

**TABLE 13
PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF DEATH IN HOMICIDES**

	1980	1981
Gunshot wounds	28	23
Stabbings	7	15
Beatings	9	8
Arson	—	4
Strangulation/Asphyxiation	4	6
Other or unknown	7	8
TOTAL	55	64

Special Branch

Special Branch members continued to collect and disseminate information to assist operational police in the planning and execution of their duties, particularly in the area of V.I.P. security. The effective role of the Branch during CHOGM provided a clear indication of the value of the often mundane collection of information which characterises the day-to-day activities of Special Branch detectives.

Television reports of political situations throughout the world can result in emotional reaction in Victoria. The Branch has the responsibility for assessing these situations and predicting the likely developments so that the Force can respond logically, and not over-react, to often highly volatile situations.

The Force recognises the sensitivity of Special Branch records and maintains these under Government guidelines. The task of monitoring the records is performed by Mr. F.R. Nelson, Q.C., a former Supreme Court Justice.

Court Liaison Officer

The violence which occurred in and about Victorian Courts in 1980 was not repeated during 1981. The implementation of the Court Security Group, supported by legislation providing police with the authority to identify and, in appropriate cases, search people within the precincts of a court, appears to be operating well.

The Court Liaison Officer, a Detective Inspector, ensures that the co-operation between the police and the Law Department remains at a high level. This is particularly important for offences such as rape in which there are statutory limitations on the time in which an offender must be committed and presented for trial. The Force is concerned at the very lengthy delays, sometimes in excess of two years, before other cases are brought to trial. Witnesses, in particular, are placed in an invidious situation trying to recall events after such a period. The fact that about one in two actual trials end in acquittal is also a worrying situation deserving of research.

Racing Bureau

The Racing Bureau is responsible for investigating offences concerning the racing industry and providing advice about crime prevention measures. The Bureau's inquiries have assisted legislative changes concerning "on course" betting and the swabbing of greyhounds. The Bureau has completed a full year of activities and its future will be the subject of an ongoing review.

Fraud Squad

The 46 members of the Fraud Squad operate from Russell Street. During 1981 the position of the Officer in Charge was upgraded to Chief Inspector. During the year 12,120 fraud offences came to police notice. While representing a significant decrease (19%) on the previous year it is likely that much of this can be attributed to changed reporting policies. On 5.9.1981 Section 326(1) of the Crimes Act was proclaimed which removed the Common Law offence of misprision of a felony and created the offence of concealment of serious indictable offences (which includes most fraud offences) only where the concealer receives a benefit. The change will have a particular impact on levels of white collar offences which are already seriously under-reported.



Fraud Squad members successfully investigated 1,780 offences during 1981, a decrease of 21% on the previous year, almost entirely made up by a 47.9% decrease in the number of cheque and credit card offences cleared. The average value of these offences in 1981 was \$262 compared with \$72 in 1980, an indication that the value of the stolen property is an important consideration in decisions to report such matters to the police. The number of other fraud offences cleared increased by 52.4% (Table 14). Most (51.8%) of the 1,950 people proceeded against for fraud offences were aged over 24 (Appendix "G").

**TABLE 14
OFFENCES CLEARED BY FRAUD SQUAD INVESTIGATION**

	Cheques/Credit Cards		Other Fraud		Total	
	1980	1981	1980	1981	1980	1981
Offences	1,669	870	592	910	2,261	1,780
Arrests	79	65	83	76	162	141
Value (\$)	121,255	228,428	4,372,044	4,517,385	4,493,299	4,745,813

Dealers Squad

The eight member Dealers Squad is responsible for policing the major second-hand dealers. During 1981 they laid 953 charges against 235 persons including 18 dealers. The value of the goods stolen by these offenders was \$1,101,002 of which, property valued at \$446,408 was recovered. Ninety of the people arrested were drug addicts who had committed 134 burglaries involving property valued at \$278,830 most of which they sold to licensed second-hand dealers to support their drug habit. Almost all dealers are scrupulously honest and co-operate closely with the police by reporting suspicious persons and property.

Livestock Squad

The four member Livestock Squad is responsible for the investigation of the theft of stock and the theft of associated products such as wool. The Squad co-operates closely with the livestock and other primary industries. Their crime prevention efforts are reflected in the 22.8% decrease in reported livestock thefts, which numbered 406 in 1981. The theft of horses in the metropolitan area remains a problem. Stolen animals were disposed of through knackeries when malpractices in the meat industry created a demand for horse meat.

Divisional Detectives

The majority of detectives in Victoria are attached to the 48 Metropolitan C.I.B. divisions and the 28 country divisions. They work tirelessly and often without the public recognition associated with the more sensational crime handled by the squads at Russell Street. In 1981, over a quarter of a million crimes came to police notice and most of these required some investigation by detectives. Prior to 1981, detectives received no remuneration for being 'on call' (i.e. prepared to return to duty after their working day). This anomaly has now been rectified and satisfactory guidelines have been adopted.

Detective Training

The Detective Training School, which occupies renovated premises at Russell Street, conducts most of the training in the Crime Department. The School is highly

regarded by other government departments, many of which request student vacancies. A total of 137 personnel, including four soldiers and a member from the Communications Department, completed the 12 week basic course during 1981. A further 48 Sergeants completed the Advanced Training Course.

Detective Training School staff assisted in the training of 49 policewomen in the professional management of victims of sexual crimes. They also advised the Department on many crime related issues. Other specialised training was performed within the Fingerprint Branch, Drug Squad and Forensic Science Laboratory.

Forensic Science Laboratory

The staff of the Forensic Science Laboratory provides a wide variety of scientific support to police in the field, particularly in the investigation of crime and the preparation and presentation of evidence. During 1981 the laboratory itself received considerable support in specialist examinations from the Co-ordinator of State Laboratories (Premier's Department), the Department of Minerals and Energy, the National Herbarium, Universities and other organisations. Although evidence can be collected from suspects only with their consent, the analysis of samples from victims and crime scenes, from consenting suspects and the analysis of blood samples have imposed an unrealistic burden on Laboratory staff and, more especially, the facilities of the Laboratory itself. The document examination section is particularly short-staffed (Table 15).

**TABLE 15
FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY CASE LOAD**

	1979	1980	1981
Total investigations (including photographic)	22,179	23,621	26,021
Exhibits received:			
Biology Section			
Applied Science Unit	3,761	3,285	3,468
Drug Unit	977	1,272	1,371
Alcohol Unit*	4,320	3,684	6,461
Screening Samples			
Drivers Samples	16,733	17,552	18,977
Document Examination	2,605	3,136	3,966
Firearms Section	8,420	4,440	8,217
Assignments:	764	1,392	2,297
Field Investigations			
Photographic Section	453	547	541
Negatives	5,567	6,379	6,645
Prints	92,407	95,823	107,686
	317,790	267,950	287,139

*Samples taken under Section 80DA of Motor Car Act

Analysis for drugs increased in complexity due to experimentation by persons with a wide range of plant growth containing small amounts of drugs. The continuing development of new drugs for the medical profession requires equivalent attention to detection and quantification methods. The need to determine the drug (including alcohol) content of an increased number of blood samples from victims of sexual assaults and from car drivers meant that more time was required for complex analysis searching for specific evidence of a broad range of drugs. The analysis backlog will be relieved by the proclamation of the "Drugs Poisons and Restricted Substances Bill" which will eliminate the need for quantitative analysis of the tetrahydrocannabinol content of Indian hemp.

Happily, some positive steps at last appear to have been taken to build a new Laboratory in Macleod. This construction will take considerable time and in the meantime the workload continues to increase in size and complexity and the existing building and facilities continue to deteriorate. The situation requires urgent attention.

Geelong has been selected as the site for the first regionalised field investigation team comprising a fingerprint expert and a crime scene technician. Another innovation involved the creation of Disaster Victim Identification teams to assist at multiple fatalities where body mutilation hinders victim identification. At the end of 1981, seventy-two members from the Laboratory, the C.I.B. and the Independent Patrol Group had been trained in these techniques.

Laboratory staff are conducting research into a variety of topics including soil samples, the identification of saliva, semen and cigarette butts. The nine month delay in drug analysis was reduced to three-to-five weeks by the temporary employment of three chemists.

During 1981, Sergeant G. Le Couteur, the Laboratory's most highly qualified police officer, spent six months overseas on a Churchill Fellowship to study scientific crime scene examination.

Research

The Crime Department has worked closely with the Research and Development Department particularly concerning schemes to optimize the deployment of detectives. The most important of these involved crime screening and the workload of divisional detectives. The former would enable certain property offences to be investigated by uniform members depending upon identified solvability factors. The latter will provide a more objective and thorough computerised monitoring of the divisional detectives' tasks. The Department is also involved in a study of the relationship between drug offences and criminality, the results of which will contribute to the appraisal of enforcement and other drug control efforts.

INFORMATION BUREAU

Severe staffing problems have existed in the Information Bureau, the central repository of criminal and similar records.

The perennial problems of high staff turnover, a critical lack of floor space and labour intensive processing of a large volume of records, continue to affect staff morale and efficiency, especially that of inexperienced personnel temporarily nominated to the Bureau. A submission to the Government for an urgent increase in public service staff as an alternative to police personnel as yet has not been successful. The authorised staff of the Bureau is 164 police and 75 public servants who are attached to the Fingerprint Bureau, the Missing Persons Bureau, the Crime Publications Section and the Crime Statistics and Records Sections. In many instances, police officers trained for specific duties are employed for months at a time performing mundane tasks which could adequately be performed by public servants with considerable cost savings to the community. At the end of December, 23 vacancies for sworn personnel were unfilled. Freedom of Information legislation will impose an even greater burden on Bureau staff.

Preparations are continuing for the installation of computer terminals in 19 country police stations expected to be completed early in 1982. The system will expand

to the metropolitan area and is an important positive step to provide immediate access to the criminal records of the most active offenders, a development long awaited by operational police officers. This improvement will increase demands on the Bureau, but these will be coped with more easily and the security of the system will be assured. During 1981, existing security procedures resulted in several people being detected for the unlawful disclosure of information.

The installation of a sophisticated printing machine has increased the productivity of the Crime Publications Section, which received a Group Citation from the Chief Commissioner for dedication and efficiency.

Fingerprint Bureau

The recruitment of members for the Fingerprint Bureau to qualify for expert status is a serious problem. In 1973, 16 of the staff of 32 (50%) were experts compared with 37 (28%) of the current members, a net gain of five during that period. At the end of 1981 there were 11 vacancies at the Bureau notwithstanding that, after their five years of training, newly qualified experts are promoted to (brevet) sergeants. Offender identifications were made at one in ten crimes examined by fingerprint staff. The development and use of new techniques has assisted in obtaining latent fingerprints from difficult surfaces. Scientific evidence is encouraged by the courts and expected by juries, but unfortunately suspects and offenders are increasingly aware that the law does not require them to provide fingerprints or other samples. The fingerprints of persons who have reached eighty years of age are periodically culled from Bureau records.

Missing Persons Bureau

Missing Persons Bureau staff perform a very necessary service in taking reports of and arranging the follow-up of the more than 6,000 persons reported missing during 1981. They were also given further responsibilities including that of notifying the next of kin of terminally ill patients with overseas relatives and informing the Aboriginal Legal Aid Service about the arrest of offenders with known aboriginal ancestry. The computerisation of information about missing persons has greatly facilitated the work of the Bureau (Table 16).

TABLE 16
MISSING PERSONS BUREAU

	1980		1981	
	Reported	Located	Reported	Located
Missing Persons	6,220	6,110	6,327	6,234
Absconders and Escapees:				
Community Welfare Services ¹	2,367	2,061	2,417	2,314
Psychiatric Hospitals	644	631	664	649
Interstate/Overseas inquiries	596		587	
Notification to next of kin ²			284	
Persons in Custody (metropolitan area)	49,461		50,011	
Inquiries re persons in custody	786		1,022	
Notifications of Aboriginals ³ in custody			197	

¹ includes 37 from prisons, 588 from Youth Training Centres, and 860 from Reception Centres
² from 3.5.1981
³ from 1.2.1981

The Missing Persons Bureau is the central notification point for persons taken into custody in the metropolitan area. The procedure is designed to facilitate locating these people if they are reported as missing or inquiries are made by relatives or lawyers. The inquiry rate continued to be relatively low. During 1981, 50,011 persons were recorded, but only 1,022 inquiries were received of which 443 actually related to a person in custody (Table 16). Friends or relatives were responsible for 906 inquiries. Lawyers contacted the Bureau on 116 occasions.

Records Section

A comprehensive programme has been implemented for the computerisation of criminal records. Initially, the computer will refer a query for a manual check if the suspect is not recorded on the computer, but eventually all records will be placed on line. The increase in persons checked should result in the execution of many of the warrants currently filed at the Warrants Section. There are now 20,000 criminal records on line with 4,000 being added every month. During 1981 67,000 criminal record checks were made for approved organisations. Only 50 people requested to check their own records, the details of which were supplied. Under the principles elaborated in the 1980 Annual Report, the records of 1,749 children were destroyed, 614 sealed and 2,359 transferred to the adult criminal history files. These last were considered active offenders. The records of adults with a small number of minor convictions who do not come under notice for specified periods (usually three years) were also culled from the Section.

Access to criminal records is strictly controlled. In addition to police access, which is subject to security checks, nominated officers of appropriate Government agencies may obtain criminal history information where this is essential to the agency's function including where it has some responsibility to verify licence applicants. Checks for employment purposes are conducted for approved industries with particular security risks and then only on the signed authority of the applicant for the position. The armed services, Victorian Railways, Australian Scouting Association and Trotting Control Board do not require this specific authority because of their profession and their record of responsibility in this sensitive area.

Warrants Section

During 1981, the workload of the Warrants Section continued to increase. The 48,348 interstate and Victorian warrants received were a 9% increase on 1980 figures. A total of 24,617 warrants were executed, a 29% increase. A total of \$2,114,907 was levied, including \$1,690,536 for warrants issued in Victoria, a 33% increase in Victorian revenue and a 20% increase in revenue on interstate warrants.

The number of unexecuted warrants filed at the Section is a cause for serious concern. Not only are offenders not being penalised as directed by courts, but the community is being deprived of millions of dollars in revenue. The most difficult warrants to execute are those where the offenders' fingerprints were not taken at the time of detection, surely another reason why such legislation should be enacted. Between 1957 and 1981, 403,098 warrants were received at the Section and 211,336 (52.4%) remain unexecuted. The number of unexecuted warrants has increased by about 20,000 per year for the last four years. This matter requires examination and could be eliminated considerably if police had the basic authority to require a suspect to state his name and address and, where false information is suspected, identify himself. The creation of a Central Warrants Bureau for the collation of all warrants is under consideration.

Statistics Section

The Statistics Section has responsibility for manually extracting useful data from crime reports submitted by investigating police throughout the State. The task is tedious and painstaking but very essential. The computerisation of crime reports would provide a much more complete picture of the State's crime particularly according to Local Government area. During 1981 the Section also streamlined its collation procedures to enable the Force's annual "Statistical Review of Crime" to be produced within a record time.

The Section has also assisted in providing data for a number of special projects including some with the co-operation of the staff and students at Swinburne College and other outside researchers. Researchers' access to information of this type is strictly controlled by the Research Co-ordination Committee chaired by the Assistant Commissioner (Research and Development). A victimology study of reported rape offences between 1978 and 1980 revealed that in 42% of the cases, the parties involved were known to each other prior to the offences. A second study is examining the incidence of burglary offences between March 1981 and February 1982. Research into thefts from motor cars identified particular suburbs where offences were most prevalent and determined that 26% of vehicles were unlocked. These types of findings enable the Crime Prevention Bureau and other police to mount specific and more effective programmes.

TRAFFIC

The Traffic Department's primary objectives are to improve driver and pedestrian safety, reduce the number and severity of vehicle collisions, facilitate the traffic flow and enforce traffic laws. During 1981, men and women of the Department tackled these objectives, in particular by educating the public, whether driver, cyclist or pedestrian, in the need for responsibility on the State's roads. While the enforcement of traffic legislation is the responsibility of all police, the duties of the 586 Traffic Operations Group (T.O.G.) members is specifically aimed at the prevention and detection of the broad range of misbehaviour loosely labelled traffic offences.

There were 40,346 vehicular accidents recorded during 1981, a similar figure to that in 1980, but unfortunately there was a 3.2% increase in the number of people killed and injured. The impact of stricter rear seat belt legislation, the extension of on-the-spot Traffic Infringement Notices and the use of radar guns, all measures introduced late in 1981, will not be known until 1982.

During 1981, a restructuring of the administration of the Department divided the State into east and west regions each commanded by a Superintendent (Appendix "X"5). The Traffic Research Section conducted considerable research into the traffic problems including the "black spot" areas where fatal accidents occurred. Research of this nature permitted resources to be used for selective enforcement programmes focusing on identified hazardous locations or dangerous periods of the year.

Police played an important role in community education by supporting teachers in the implementation of a Bike-Ed programme based on a successful pilot scheme in Geelong. Vehicle spot check stations were established to examine vehicles selected at random for roadworthiness. Operation "Buckle Up", enforcing seat belt legislation for passengers in vehicles was carried out successfully. The trial installation of the "Traffiphot" red light monitor system by which drivers disregarding traffic signals were photographed, proved to be a very valuable traffic law enforcement tool.

Road Toll and Other Fatalities

The 1981 road toll of 771 people killed was an increase of 108 deaths over the 1980 figure. This result was specially disheartening for traffic police but probably reflects the particularly low toll during 1980 when 663 were killed, the smallest number for 21 years. By comparison with the years before 1980, the 1981 road toll remained relatively low. This is, of course, no consolation when we know that with a concerted community effort it can be so much lower. Some sections of the public fail to accept their responsibilities, and consequently stricter legislative controls are required. The situation may be improving. During 1980, 46.2% of drivers killed had blood-alcohol concentrations (B.A.C.) in excess of 0.05% including 29.5% who exceeded 0.15%. During 1981, 37.0% exceeded 0.05% including 22.1% who exceeded 0.15% B.A.C.

Current trends indicate that more people are purchasing smaller vehicles which afford less protection in a collision, and this factor must be considered in interpreting the fact that the road toll increased while the number of collisions remained constant and notwithstanding that fewer drivers who were killed had high B.A.C. readings. Road safety issues are often complex and they will be closely watched during 1982.

Of the 40,921 accidents reported to police, 40,346 were road collisions and 575 were non-vehicular accidents which claimed the lives of 154 people (Table 17).

**TABLE 17
ACCIDENTAL DEATHS
(Total: 154)**

Drownings	27	Falls	29	Shootings	1
Burns	3	Tractors	8	Electrocution	7
Railways	27	Others	52		

Comparative statistical data for vehicular collisions reported to the police during 1980 and 1981 indicates a relatively constant relationship between the number of accidents in the Melbourne metropolitan area when compared with those elsewhere in the State (Table 18). It should be remembered that drivers are not obliged to report most non-injury collisions to the police.

**TABLE 18
ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS**

	People Killed	People Injured	Fatal Collisions	Injury Collisions	Non-injury Collisions	Total Collisions
1980						
Metropolitan	352	13,813	324	10,787	18,914	30,025
Country	311	6,011	276	4,189	5,862	10,327
TOTALS: 1980	663*	19,824	600	14,976	24,776	40,352
1981						
Metropolitan	395	14,059	370	11,068	18,259	29,697
Country	376	6,232	312	4,383	5,954	10,649
TOTALS: 1981	771*	20,291	682	15,451	24,213	40,346

*Includes victims who died within 30 days of the month in which injuries were sustained.

The most significant change in the types of road user killed was a 36% increase in pedal cyclist fatalities and special efforts will be mounted in 1982 to contain this problem (Table 19).

**TABLE 19
CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE KILLED**

Year	MOTOR CARS		MOTOR CYCLES		Pedal Cyclists	Horse Riders	Pedestrians	Total
	Drivers	Passengers	Drivers	Passengers				
1980	239	161	59	4	30	2	168	663
1981	278	203	64	6	41	2	177	771

Drinking Drivers

Victoria is fortunate in having comprehensive drink driving legislation providing for:—

- a maximum B.A.C. of .05%;
- lengthy periods of disqualification from driving related to proven B.A.C. levels;
- compulsory blood tests for hospitalized adult victims;
- convicted persons with a B.A.C. of 0.1% or more or previous convictions having to apply to Magistrates' Courts before being relicensed;
- random breath testing;
- the imposition of surcharges on repeat offenders who are relicensed.

The Force believes these initiatives have been a deterrent to drinking drivers. Some, especially random breath testing, can inconvenience the public, but the Force has been pleased with the general response to these enforcement measures. The forebodings of some libertarians before the introduction of random testing have not been realised.

During 1981, excluding random testing, 15,480 drivers were required to submit to breathalyser tests. Of these, 369 (2.4%) refused. The tests indicated that a further 12,619 (83.5%) drivers had a B.A.C. in excess of 0.05%. A quarter of this figure (25.3%) had B.A.C. between 0.05% and less than 0.10%; 36.4% had between 0.10% and 0.145% and 38.3% had 0.15% or higher B.A.C. (Appendix "K"). The proportion (74.7%) of offending drivers with high (0.1%+) B.A.C. repeats the 1980 pattern and indicates the extent of problem drinkers detected by patrol police.

Although a considerable number of breath tests were conducted, additional staff and vehicles are required to ensure the greatest impact on this very serious social problem. Considering there are more than 2,000,000 licence holders, any driver selected at random has less than one chance in a hundred of being required to have a breath test during the year.

Drink driving is a serious community problem not only in Victoria but also in other states and countries. Victorian legislation is particularly effective in deterring the casual drinker from driving, but the heavy drinker apparently presents a different picture. The legislation requiring Magistrates to impose mandatory periods of disqualification is very effective, although the increasing practice of chemists and psychologists being called to give expert evidence aimed at reducing the B.A.C. shown by analysis is a cause of concern. The practice both undermines the clear intention of Parliament, and favours those in the community with sufficient resources to meet the not inconsiderable expense.

Breathalyser Tests

The Breath Analysis Section staffed by 38 members, carried out 8,245 (54.6%) of the breathalyser tests conducted during 1981, an increase of 461 on the 1980 figure. A further 6,866 drivers were tested by local police mainly outside the metropolitan area. Most offending drivers (95%) were charged with driving with a B.A.C. in excess of 0.05%. The Section located at Parkville, is also responsible for the issue of the Force's 99 breathalyser instruments, internal instruction, training courses for operators, statistical analysis and research relating to drink driving legislation. The section also authorises prosecutions arising from breaches of the blood test legislation. During 1981, its members addressed some 85 organisations

and functions attended by approximately 6,400 people. The Section assisted in the instruction of people attending "Young Convicted Drinking Driver's Courses" at a number of locations throughout Melbourne. This is a growing commitment because Magistrates increasingly require attendance at the course before they will approve licence restoration.

Preliminary Breath Tests

Overall, during 1981, 90,469 preliminary breath tests were conducted, 13,092 fewer than in 1980 although there was an increase of 166 in the number of random breath testing sites. The 3,049 random breath testing stations tested 69,805 drivers, of whom 1,229 (1.8%) gave a "positive" response. Only four drivers refused the test. The Force firmly believes that the number of people prosecuted does not indicate the real deterrence provided by the random breath test legislation.

The 9,220 "positive" tests during 1981 (10.2%) was an increase of 1,848 over 1980 when 7.1% were positive. A total of 4,813 (5.3%) of tests involved people in collisions compared with 2,655 (2.6%) in 1980 (Appendix "K"). The 12.6% decrease in total tests reflected the very significant impact of CHOGM on normal traffic policing. The average monthly number of tests was 7,539 but in October, the CHOGM month, this was more than halved to 3,608 tests. During the two preceding months, the figure was more than 2,000 tests below the average. The greatest number of tests occurred between January and March when the monthly average was 10,440.

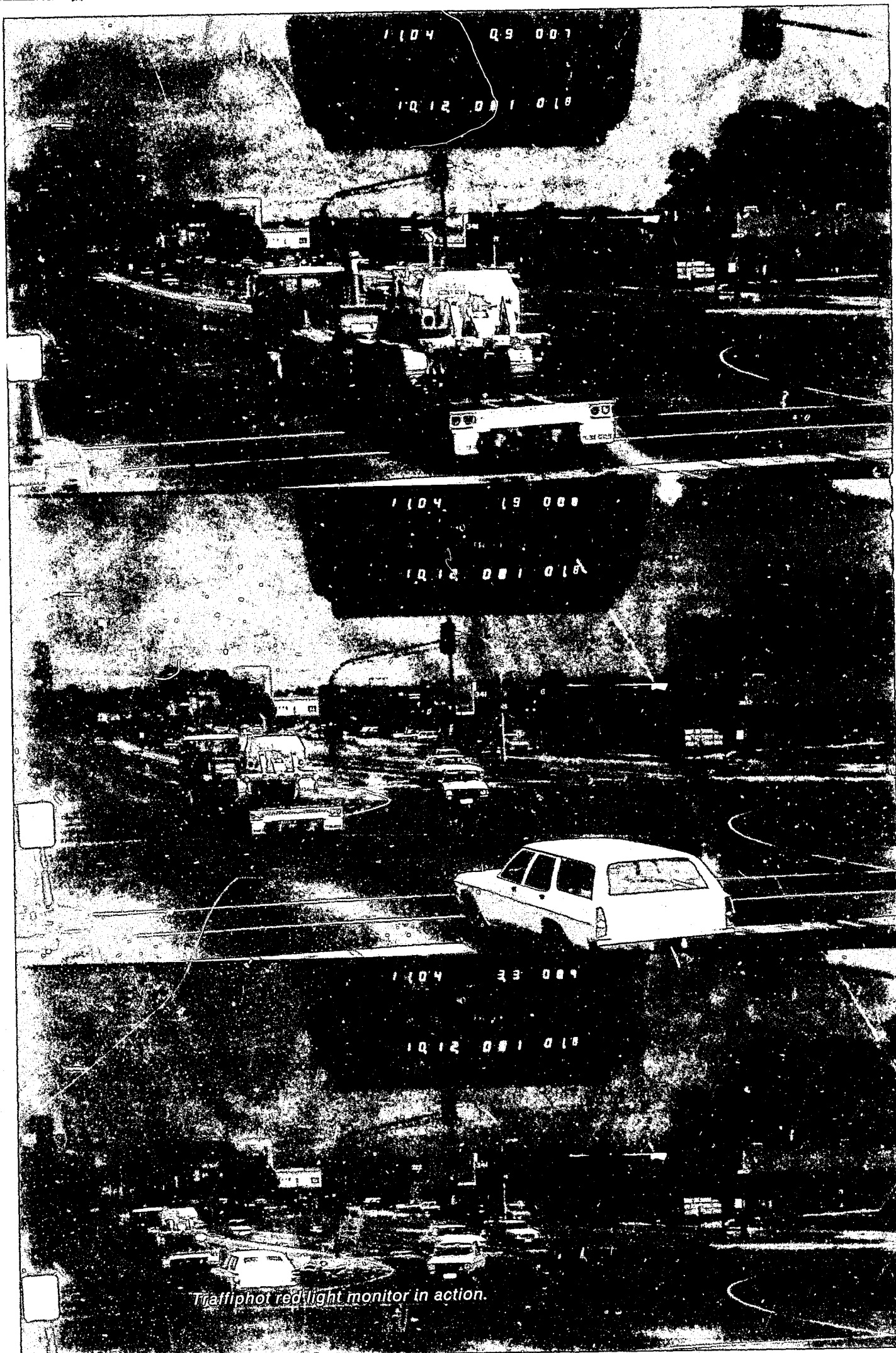
In an effort to combat the country road toll, two T.O.G. members with a truck and caravan conducted 15,696 random preliminary breath tests at 260 country locations, reinforcing the visible police presence on less frequently patrolled roads.

Blood Samples

During 1981 hospital staffs took 18,977 compulsory blood samples from road accident victims over 15 years of age admitted for medical treatment. Of these, 2,980 (15.7%) of screening samples were "positive" resulting in a more detailed analysis. Nearly 19% of the samples were taken from passengers involved in collisions (Appendix "K").

Overall, 18.2% of alleged drivers had a B.A.C. in excess of 0.05% including 8.3% who had a B.A.C. in excess of 0.15%. During 1981, 749 prosecutions for exceeding 0.05% were authorised against drivers involved in accidents. The equivalent 1980 figure was 721. A further 169 recommended prosecutions were not proceeded with due to procedural defects, insufficient evidence or the subsequent death of the driver.

A total of 509,662 traffic offences were detected throughout Victoria during 1981, 2.5% less than for the previous year (Appendix "L"). The figure included 274,566 offences for which Traffic Infringement Notices were issued, a drop of 8.8% (Appendix "M"). A significant factor in the latter was a six week delay in the printing of forms following a revision of penalties. The figures were also influenced by the commitment of many police, particularly T.O.G. members, to the CHOGM operation.



During the year, the licences of 906 drivers were suspended under the demerit point legislation. Nearly all (97.2%) incurred three month suspensions. A further 11,584 were warned that their licences were on the verge of suspension (Appendix "N").

Police Collisions

Every accident or incident involving damage to a police vehicle is thoroughly investigated. During 1981, four members were killed in accidents while performing their duties and 184 were injured, 19% less than during 1980, but 39% more than in 1979. The number of collisions involving police vehicles was reduced by eighty-six, and the collision rate per kilometre again improved substantially with one collision for every 85,734 kilometres travelled. During November and December, T.O.G. members lectured 1,070 members in 16 Districts about emergency vehicle procedures. The 76 motor cycle accidents, an 18% reduction on 1980, resulted in 50 members being injured. Seventy-five collisions involved police vehicles operating as emergency vehicles while members were performing urgent police duties. There were 147 single vehicle collisions. Twelve collisions involved police drivers or motor cycle riders undergoing training (Appendix "O").

During the year a total of 699 police vehicles (excluding motor cycles) were in accidents, 83 fewer than during the previous year. A further 52 sustained minor damage or scratches which required attention, 13 less than the 1980 figure. One hundred and forty-one police vehicles were wilfully damaged, 9 more than in 1981, with an average repair cost of \$100.00. Most offences occurred while the vehicles were parked outside hotels, discos and other places of entertainment. Others were damaged in the course of arrests.

The 84 civilian drivers prosecuted following collisions with police vehicles were convicted of a total of 195 traffic offences including 27 for dangerous driving, unlicensed driving (25), careless driving (24) and exceeding 0.05% B.A.C. (16) (Appendix "O").

Traffic Operations Group

During 1981 the 586 members of the T.O.G. continued their specialist role in traffic control, highway supervision and law enforcement. They implemented a number of special operations including Operation "Buckle Up" reinforcing legislation for the wearing of seat belts by back seat passengers. The Group also concentrated on "Black Spot" areas, which statistical analysis had identified as particularly dangerous. Many vehicles were tested for roadworthiness at random vehicle spot check stations. The Bike-Ed programme aimed at educating cyclists was also supported by T.O.G. personnel. The 279,168 offences detected by the T.O.G. represents more than half (57%) of the traffic offences detected in the State during the year.

T.O.G. personnel used a variety of innovations including radar for speed measuring and the "Traffiphot" red light monitoring system. The latter involves a relatively inexpensive camera which provides virtually indisputable evidence of the offence, although offenders must be located and interviewed. Both devices remove the need to pursue offending drivers endangering both police and public. T.O.G. personnel welcome the introduction of the most advanced technology in the prevention and detection of traffic offences.

T.O.G. members were active in establishing random breath testing stations in an effort to reduce the incidence of bad driving and the accident rate particularly after sporting events and at holiday resorts. They also assisted in community awareness programmes and addressed a large number of public functions.

Bicycle Safety

Special attention has been paid to the safety of the increasing number of bicycle riders on Victorian roads. The Geelong Bike Plan led to the development of an efficient method for processing riders detected committing offences. Under this scheme the rider receives a written caution and in the case of a child under 17 years, a copy is mailed to the parents. The collation of reports at District Headquarters allows persistent offenders to be identified and prosecuted. Between December 1980 and March 1981, 5,443 bicycle caution notices were issued.

Notwithstanding the police effort, in 1981, 41 cyclists died compared with 30 during 1980. The most likely explanation of the increase is that it reflects the greater use of bicycles and is a clear warning that much remains to be achieved. In each year, more than 1,100 cyclists were injured in collisions. Bicycle fatalities made up more than 5% of the total road toll. By comparison, there were 64 motor cyclists killed, yet motor cyclists are subject to the most stringent restrictions. If bicyclists continue to be killed at this rate, it is clear that special measures such as the wearing of helmets will have to be considered. Traffic personnel both act as consultants to the Bike-Ed programme and assist local police in its implementation. They aim to provide cyclists with an awareness of the responsibilities of road users and reduce the number of collisions involving bicycles. Under the Government sponsored Bike Plan, each police District will receive the audio-visual "Hazard Recognition Kit" including a 16 mm film "Ride for your Life", a 35 mm projector and screen and a tape recorder for specially trained members to use in spreading the message of bicycle safety.

Accident Investigation Section

Members of the Accident Investigation Section investigated or assisted in the investigation of 280 vehicle collisions including 241 fatalities. Their duties involved the detailed investigation of fatal accidents where drivers were likely to be prosecuted and/or which involved members of the Force, the preparation of briefs for inquest and prosecutions and providing expert assistance to other members investigating serious accidents. These twenty specialists, located at Brunswick, Nunawading and St. Kilda, mainly operate in the metropolitan area but may be called anywhere in the State when required. Of the 241 deaths investigated, 17 involved "hit-run" collisions. Members laid 525 charges, including 49 culpable driving offences. They also investigated three accidents which claimed the lives of four members while performing their duties.

Special Solo Section

The ten members of the Special Solo Section, based at Brunswick, specialise in concentrated policing of intersections, arterial roads and highways particularly during holiday periods. They also counter trail bike offences, a duty previously performed by the Independent Patrol Group. During 1981, members provided V.I.P. escorts and attended bike rallies, car rallies, fun runs and other special events.

County Roads Board/Transport Regulation Board

During 1981, six T.O.G. members were seconded to the County Roads Board to provide expertise in the detection and prosecution of over-dimension (height, weight and width) and related offences of particular concern to the Board. They prosecuted 950 people who were fined a total of \$171,824. Two of these members attached to the Board's Warrant Section executed 1,099 warrants amounting to \$167,292. A T.O.G. member seconded to a similar position in the Transport Regulation Board executed 260 warrants totalling \$21,201. In dealing with interstate truckers, the identification and location of convicted offenders who occasionally use a variety of aliases pose particular problems.

Traffic Research Section

The Traffic Research Section was established within the T.O.G. to analyse traffic data and propose ways of relieving problems by selective enforcement programmes, engineering design changes and other measures. Major research included the scientific identification of dangerous locations throughout the State and the investigation of public complaints about serious traffic hazards.

The Section also assists outside experts in traffic research including a two year project due for completion in 1982 which is designed to document the relationship between drugs (other than alcohol) and fatal crashes. In another study, the unique position of Victoria and Northern Ireland in having enacted random breath testing, has been capitalised upon to compare the characteristics of alcohol use by drivers.

Instrument Development and Maintenance Section

The 13 members of the Instrument Development Section are responsible for testing and maintaining a large variety of electronic devices used by a professional traffic police. The section is particularly responsible for the manufacture and maintenance of speed-measuring devices (and the training of members to use them) which were first introduced in December 1980 and have resulted in a 100% success rate with prosecutions.

The Section services a total of 154 Amphotometers, Digitectors and Electrotectors. It was responsible for the installation of the "Traffiphot" red light monitor system and maintains the Force's 924 Electronic siren/public address systems, a considerable amount of flood light equipment and a number of radar devices.

Testing Station Supervisors

This section is responsible for checking that applicants for vehicle testing licences are of a sufficiently high standard and that the State's 2,162 licensed vehicle testers comply with the legislation governing their activities. During 1981, 19,186 premises were visited, 430 applicants tested for licences, and 282 licences issued. One hundred and eighty-eight licences were surrendered. A total of 324 complaints were received, 3 licences were cancelled and 15 suspended as a result of 46 reports submitted to the Safety Inspection Advisory Committee. Twenty-one cases are pending.



Motor Driving and Allied Schools

During 1981 the 38 members of the school conducted various courses, assessments and tests for 2,390 police and other students including a number of Australian Federal Police and public servants. These included 30 standard car courses (20 days each), 19 pursuit car courses (10 days each, T.O.G. members only), and 1,545 tests for various police driving authorities. A total of 203 motor cycle courses (5 weeks) were conducted with an 81% pass rate. Two hundred and fifty-seven tests for Motor Vehicle Driving Instructors licences were conducted with an overall failure rate of 60.7%.

The 183 students at the 19 Vehicle Safety Testing Schools, ten day courses, checked 5,148 vehicles (including 311 semi-trailers) and recorded 26,162 rectifiable faults. Of the 4,216 Notices of Repair issued, 173 (4.1%) ordered the vehicle off the road immediately (Appendix "P").

Administration

The Traffic Department is commanded by Assistant Commissioner R.J. Martin from William Street Police Headquarters, but many of the routine operations are based at Dawson Street, Brunswick. The Chief Clerk's Office at Dawson Street collected \$640,551 from licence fees, Parking Infringement Notices, Motor Driving School tests and conduct money. An additional \$531,861 was received from Insurance Companies, Solicitors and Loss Assessors as a result of 20,401 enquiries to the Accident Records Section.

The Prosecutions Office and Traffic Brief Room handled 92,248 briefs involving 114,932 offences. During the year, 665 drivers were invited to attend motorist education sessions in lieu of prosecution for minor offences. The Brief Room handled 5,883 applications for licence restorations and filed 43,436 briefs. A feasibility study conducted during 1981 indicated that the work of the Department would be greatly facilitated and cost benefits would accrue from the installation of a word processor.

The Penalties Payment Office processed 274,566 Traffic Infringement Notices and collected revenue amounting to \$10,127,176. A total of 15,914 infringements (5.8%) were not paid resulting in subsequent prosecution. More than one in four (27%) drivers' licences were not produced at the time the infringements were issued. Subsequent enquiries indicated that in 2,722 of these cases (3.6%), the driver was unlicensed or disqualified from driving. The 8.8% decrease in infringements issued, as indicated earlier was due to delays in printing and CHOGM commitments. A total of 22,558 briefs (including several thousand 1980 cases) were prepared for prosecution following non-payment of penalties. Police investigated 17,802 stamp duty and transfer fee offences which resulted in 13,600 briefs submitted for prosecution.

Central Traffic Policy and Information Section

This small specialist group disseminates information on matters of traffic control, road law, and motor vehicle construction for the police, industry and the general public. They also provide the Assistant Commission (Traffic) with staff support, carry out technical and legal research, conduct lectures and liaise with the motor industry in the development of prototype vehicles and smaller fuel-efficient vehicles.

The Section is involved in the physical and legal field of L.P. Gas applications for motor and similar vehicles, representing the Force on both Government and associated industry steering committees. Members are investigating methods of sectionalised repairs of damaged motor cars in liaison with various concerned bodies with a view to implementing legislation to control methods by which sectionalised repairs are carried out. During the year, office staff inspected 518 vehicles, answered 8,000 enquiries and carried out 608 technical and legal research projects.

Registered Vehicles and Drivers

Motor Registration Branch records indicated continuing increases in virtually all categories during 1981. There were 216,460 new motor car and 21,687 new motor cycle registrations compared with 208,390 and 20,179 respectively during 1980. The 2,455,096 registered vehicles comprised 1,813,201 private registrations; 163,448 commercial and hire; 91,780 primary producers; 69,150 motor cycles and 317,517 trailers. There were also 1254 registered recreational vehicles.

A total of 2,213,860 driver's licences were issued, an increase of 65,798 on 1980. The 131,235 learner's permits issued was a similar figure to the previous year.

PERSONNEL

The Personnel Department is responsible for ensuring that a suitable number of qualified people are selected for the Force, appropriately trained, placed in suitable positions, effectively assessed and properly motivated so that they are able to carry out their duties efficiently and effectively.

During 1981, the actual strength of the force increased by 236 (3.0%) to 8,050 while the authorised strength was raised from 8,000 to 8,186 (Appendix "Q"). Although 609 people were appointed to the Force, this gross increase was reduced by a wastage of 373 (4.6%) members including 170 resignations, 121 ill-health retirements and 69 police who reached retiring age which varies between 55 and 60 years (Appendix "R").

The Force's policy of close co-operation with the Australian Federal Police continued during the year. Federal Police attended both the probationary constables' course and the Officers' Course.

Recruiting and training plans continue to be hindered by the late notification of increases in the authorised strength. The effective use of facilities and manpower requires that recruiting targets be known at least one year, preferably two years, in advance.

During the year, the computerisation of personnel records proceeded well and the information should come on line during 1982.

Recruitment

The number of applications for appointment to the Force increased slightly (2.8%) to 2,373, of which 1,814 (76%) attended the selection process and, of these, 529 (29.2%) were provisionally accepted for appointment. For various reasons, 51 of these did not take up appointment. Most of the successful applicants entered recruit training during 1981. The remainder will commence training early in 1982. The 478 applicants appointed to the Force comprised about a quarter of the men and a quarter of the women who pursued their applications during 1981. A total of 116 police cadets entered the Police Academy for recruit training.

About 2% of people appointed to the Force during 1981 held tertiary qualifications, 26.1% had completed Year 12, 47.5% had completed Year 11 and the remaining 24.4% had completed Year 10 in secondary schooling. At least 110 serving members (1.4% of the Force) possess one or more tertiary qualifications including degrees in law, commerce, and applied science and diplomas in criminology and other disciplines. Many have graduated from police studies courses conducted by the Phillip Institute of Technology (Coburg Campus) and the Chisholm Institute of Technology at Caulfield. A total of 176 (2.1%) members speak languages other than English. About 14% of appointees had at least one parent of ethnic origin; a factor which should assist in overcoming language and cultural difficulties often experienced by police in the field.

Police Careers Office

The Police Careers Office commenced a recruiting programme designed to attract tertiary graduates to the Force. Staff visited tertiary institutions and indications are that the campaign is attracting a greater number of applications from graduates than in previous years. The variety of work available within the Force and the satisfaction of performing a vital community service are emphasised at these tertiary level programmes. During 1981 recruitment advertising in the print media increased and resulted in a small gain of 'eligible' applicants (2.8%). Many applicants attracted were under age for appointment. Funding is required for radio and television advertising to provide a positive impact on the target group.

A comprehensive survey of appointees during the first two years of service has commenced in an effort to validate advertising and recruiting campaigns.

Training District

A major task of the Training District is to ensure that course content particularly in relation to the law, Force procedures and practices, keep pace with legislative changes and operational requirements. The results of a work analysis of the tasks performed by general duties constables were incorporated in the revised Probationary Constable Training Course which will begin early in 1982. A similar survey of Sub-officer duties has commenced and will contribute to improvements in Sub-officer training, including the introduction of a Station Management Course for Senior Sergeants.

The phasing out of the police cadet scheme continued during 1981 and the final 14 will enter the Academy early in 1982. The programme commenced in 1955 as the Junior Police Training Scheme. Since then 2,982 young men aged between 16 and 18 years have been appointed trainees or, later, cadets. A number have now reached Inspector rank.

Police Academy

The 591 sworn members who graduated from the Academy during 1981 comprised 92.2% of the persons who commenced the probationary constable training programme. At the commencement of the year there were 245 personnel undergoing the twenty-one week course. A further 590 commenced the course during the year. Three pilots who were inducted into the service for operational duties at the Police Air Wing were not required to commence the course. Fourteen police bandmen completed a 4 week training course designed to meet the needs of their more limited duties.

Inadequate accommodation at the Academy inhibits effective training, however the construction of a new residential and educational wing should commence in 1982. The Physical Training facilities continued to be well patronised by members, an acknowledgement that physical fitness can materially assist members to cope with the stresses of policing. Academy facilities and staff also trained some members of various organisations including the Military Police, Ambulance Service, R.S.P.C.A., and Victorian Railways. Range Controllers, Band Drum Majors and Crime Car Squad members also underwent courses designed to meet their particular needs.

In March, the inaugural Victoria Police Games held at the Academy attracted about 1,000 participants and provided invaluable experience in the organisation

of a large and varied programme. In August, the Emergency Services Marathon was held, and the money raised was donated to the Spastic Children's Society of Victoria.

Retention Course

Probationary Constables undertake a four week retention course covering a wide spectrum of practical and theoretical subjects before their appointments are confirmed. During 1981, 418 members passed and 4 members failed the course.

Sub-Officers' Course

The Sub-Officers' Course is gradually approaching its original purpose, that of an essential prerequisite for promotion to Sergeant. In the past this has been frustrated by a backlog of already promoted Sergeants requiring to be trained, but the four eight-week courses conducted during 1981 were attended mainly by qualified Senior Constables. In the future this course, which provides many students with their first introduction to management and other administrative processes, will be mandatory before promotion. A total of 130 personnel successfully completed the course during 1981.

Officers' Course

The CHOGM training requirements meant that only one 14-week Officers' Course could be conducted during 1981. This was attended by nine members of the Victoria Police, two Officers from Tasmania and five Australian Federal Police members. The course emphasises operational competence and students take part in a number of field exercises using the Air Wing and other operational units. The theory and practice of management is also stressed. College staff used the CHOGM break to bring training material up to date, revise the course and assessment procedures, assist in CHOGM training and conduct special projects.

Training Research Section

During 1981 the Training Research Section (formerly the Research, Co-ordination and Development Section) completed the revision of the Probationary Constable Training Programme, extending the basic training from an initial 37 weeks to 86 weeks in duration. The scheme, which will commence early in 1982, provides a highly structured developmental course which culminates in a retention examination. It was based on a two year analysis of the duties of a Probationer. The Section is currently involved in a similar revision of the Sub-Officers' Course.

The Section's staff of seven includes three members trained in the use of video equipment. They prepared a video film of the CHOGM police operation which is in demand not only within Victoria but also by other police services. The video team is fully occupied in meeting the various training requirements.

Monthly Bulletins produced by the Section detail changes in legislation, recent court decisions and articles of interest to police. The Bulletin is an important document for keeping members up to date in the police role in Australia and overseas.

The Section planned a Human Behaviour Course designed to assist Probationary Constables in coping professionally with a wide range of police related problems.

The course is also designed to reduce some of the stress encountered while performing police duties. The Section also provided assistance to 1,511 members preparing for promotional examinations.

Police Education Centre

The Education Centre introduced a new concept in their courses for members attempting Higher School Certificate and the Officers' Education examination. Members who were unable to attend classes received lessons recorded on cassettes. These were also used successfully by students to record answers and queries needing attention.

Promotional Examinations

In 1981 1,059 police presented for various internal promotional examinations. Of these, 811 (76.6%) were successful. Thirty-three Senior Sergeants (82.5% of candidates) passed the Officer examinations. Eighty Sergeants (71.4%) passed the Senior Sergeant examination. Two hundred and seven Senior Constables (76.4%) passed that for Sergeant and 460 Constables (76.9%) passed both parts of the Theory Law Examination for promotion to Senior Constable. A further 31 members passed one of the two parts of the latter examination. The overall success rate during 1981 was similar to that during the previous year. In all ranks above Senior Constable, ultimate qualification for higher rank depends upon the candidate's successful appearance before a promotional board chaired by a Commissioner.

Many candidates for promotional exams were tutored by District training officers, members who voluntarily take on this responsibility, often with little recognition. In 1981 the first of annual seminars of training officers was conducted over two days by the Training Research Section.

Personnel Assessment Division

The Personnel Assessment Division is responsible in the main for the central collection and analysis of the assessment of personnel from Probationary Constable to Superintendent. Officers and Sub-Officers are rated annually, other members are rated biennially until their seventh year of service.

The assessment system has been undergoing review for the past five years and 1981 saw the continuation of a committee comprising representatives from the Police Association and the Personnel Department.

The Committee has reached agreement on most matters including an opening up of the assessment process. The revised assessment system could operate late in 1982.

Of the 5,165 assessments due in 1981, 4,239 were completed in the year and it is anticipated the others will be completed early in 1982. The 335 objections (8%) represented a similar rate to that in the previous year. A total of 123 assessments disclosed weaknesses requiring particular counselling, advice and follow-up by supervisors.

In 1981 the Personnel Assessment Division was given the responsibility for representing the Chief Commissioner and assisting the Police Discipline Board in disciplinary hearings. The Board heard a total of 55 such charges against 19 members considerably fewer than during the previous year (Appendix "S").

Police Service Board

The Personnel Assessment Division also represents the Force before the Police Service Board at appeal hearings, claims and matters referred under Section 88A of the Police Regulation Act. A second division of the Board commenced in April mainly hearing appeals while the first division dealt with claims and interpretations. During the year, each division sat for 86 days and also handled some matters in Chambers. The second division has greatly reduced the delay in the hearing of appeals.

During the year, the Service Board determined 20 of the 34 claims lodged, one was withdrawn and 13 were outstanding at the end of the year. The Board also determined 40 appeals while a further 97 were withdrawn, an inevitable consequence of the fact that many members appeal to maintain their relative seniority and the result of another appeal often regularises this. Twenty-six appeals were unheard at the end of 1981 compared with 37 at the commencement of the year. The Board also enquired into and adjudicated upon two claims under the Police Regulation Act.

Police Bands

The Police Band has completed its transition from a Brass to a Military Band format. This has increased the Band's versatility and it is now capable of providing a full or small military band, a show band and a small jazz group depending upon requirements.

The nucleus of permanent bandsmen has proved very successful. The Band performed at 114 parades while the Police Highland Pipe Band paraded on 112 occasions. The Bands combined for marches and presentations on seven occasions. They also provided entertainment at official and public functions, and have contributed greatly to enhancing the police image.

Police Hospital

The year under review was memorable as the first year of the operation of the new Police Hospital adjacent to Prince Henry's Hospital. The number of members treated at the Hospital was the highest for ten years and its excellent facilities are being well utilised. The increase in both out-patients and in-patients clearly demonstrated the premier position of the Hospital and its staff, both medical and nursing, in the continued well being of members.

The 3,883 out-patients' visits constituted an increase of 1,432 (58%) over 1980, while the 562 in-patients increased the previous year's figures by 169 (43%). Nursing staff also treated a further 250 members for minor injuries. Theatre facilities at Prince Henry's were used for 113 major operations while 125 minor operations were performed by the Police Medical Officer. The dispensary at the Police Academy dealt with 3,423 visits by trainee constables and training staff for minor ailments.

In keeping with the figures for "ill-health retirements", 44 of the in-patients appeared to be suffering from the effects of stress and remained in the Hospital for a total of 494 days.

Welfare Section

Police work has been described as one of the most highly stressed environments. The last two decades have introduced many social and other factors which in their totality may have exacerbated the position, in particular by increasing the ambiguity and conflict already a feature of police duty in a democracy. Organisational influences can also place members under considerable stress.

During 1981 121 members of the Force's strength of 8,050 personnel retired because of ill-health, most (71%) primarily on account of nervous disorders which have often been associated with stressful environments (Appendix "T"). During the last twenty years, 217 serving members died, 1,081 retired because of ill-health, 2,792 resigned while only 882 reached retirement age. Changes in retirement benefits and community attitudes over the years have made ill-health retirement a less stigmatised option, however the Force is concerned that ill-health amongst members is increasingly associated with operational fatigue and stress-related factors. During the year, 136 members were found unfit for further police duties, 18 more than in 1980. Those who left the Force comprised a Superintendent, 3 Chief Inspectors, 4 Inspectors, 7 Senior Sergeants, 40 Sergeants, 55 Senior Constables and 11 Constables.

The Welfare Section workload has also increased over the years. Eleven serving members died during the year, some in tragic circumstances while performing their duties. A considerable number of members attended the Police Hospital and welfare staff were actively involved in providing assistance to members and their families. The growth and acceptance of the Police Chaplaincy service also indicates the need for welfare support. The dedication and concern provided has been gratefully received.

Welfare Office staff assisted 387 members with Police Provident Fund loans totalling \$349,964, a 54.2% increase in loans over a five year period. The funds are raised from the rental of Provident Fund holiday homes, profits from the Police Service Store and interest raised on loans.

Extraneous Positions

Two hundred and ninety-eight members of the Force held 599 extraneous appointments (mainly in country districts) during 1981. These included Sheriffs and Bailiffs (60), County Court Bailiffs (235), Coast Watchers (13), Inspectors of Nuisances (2), Wharf Managers (40), Commissioners of the Supreme Court (18), Collectors of Shipway Dues (2), and Prosecuting Officers (229).

Awards

During 1981 5 members were awarded the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service. Nine others were presented with Valour Awards for personal courage displayed while apprehending armed murderers, robbers and emotionally disturbed persons many of whom confronted them with loaded firearms (Appendix "U").



Fifty-six National Medals and six clasps to the Medal were awarded to members during 1981. The award requires 15 years of police or similar service. The clasp is awarded after a further ten years.

Twenty-one members received the Chief Commissioner's Certificate for exemplary performance of duty and 288 commendations were entered upon members' Record of Conduct and Service for notable performance of duties. In addition, 3 public servants in the Administration Department were awarded the Chief Commissioner's Certificate for the excellent service to the Force.

Public Relations Division

The aims of the Public Relations Division are to improve the image of the Force, to create public understanding of the police role and its inherent difficulties and to instil in members the need for sensitivity in their dealings with the public.

During the year, the Division developed a number of public relations programmes. Members gave 1,288 talks or lectures to school children and adult groups with a total audience of 120,000 people. Static displays were presented at the Royal Melbourne Show, schools, shopping centres and over eighty other public locations. The Media Liaison Bureau provided a 24 hours service and assisted operational police with media representatives at the scenes of 160 crimes and special events.

The "Police Life" magazine which has a wide distribution including to schools and parliamentarians, continued to be in demand. Staff produced a number of posters depicting various aspects of police life which have been well received by both police and public.

The Division represented the Force on several ongoing discussion groups including the Ethnic Affairs/Police Liaison Committee which has resulted in greater understanding in police/ethnic relations. The Projects Office assisted with the planning and co-ordination of the Blue Light Disco and a number of initiatives, including the foot patrol operation in the high-rise flats in Flemington, Kensington, North Melbourne and Richmond. The police presence has been welcomed by tenants' groups and others concerned with the social problems in these areas.

Blue Light Discos

Blue Light Disco dances continued to be largely organised and run by off-duty police during 1981. They were important in breaking down barriers between police and the youth and the rapport established has won praise from the community and parents alike. Approximately sixty discos, regularly conducted throughout the State, have attracted even international interest. The average attendance was between 300 and 500 young people between the ages of twelve and nineteen years. Each dance was supervised by about four off-duty police personnel, although larger dances with crowds in excess of 500 have had as many as 20 off-duty police attending.

The discos offer teenagers an enjoyable venue largely without the problems of alcohol, drugs and violence. They demonstrate how highly motivated many police are in supporting the community. In their turn, the members are staunchly supported by their families, friends, members of service organisations and the Force itself. The State Government also has helped the discos with finance.

During 1981 the Blue Light Disco was awarded the Victorian "Distinguished Service to Children Award" sponsored by the Parents without Partners organization. The Discos have been nominated for the National award for their value for children. An estimated 360,000 young people attended the Discos during 1981 and more than \$310,000 was donated to worthy causes. The Essendon Blue Light Disco donated \$19,000 to various community organizations and projects. Some other donations were Ferntree Gully \$11,738; Warrigal, \$14,250; Mornington, \$5,023; Eltham, \$4,720; Morwell, \$4,433. The donations averaged about \$6,600 per disco for 1981 and were disbursed to a wide variety of organisations including the mentally handicapped, spastic children, underprivileged children, Scout groups, youth groups, life saving clubs, the State Emergency Service and primary schools for scholarships, sporting equipment and bicycle education courses.

Police Legacy

Victoria Police Legacy continued to provide much needed assistance to the widows and children of deceased members of the Force, retirees and superannuated members. The 601 widows registered included 46 widows with 87 children of 16 years and under.

Police Legacy is funded by members through salary deductions. It has commenced an education assistance scheme and more than \$10,000 was distributed prior to the 1982 school commencement. Further assistance is given to meet secondary education needs.



Blue light disco.

Each child's birthday is remembered with a card and a monetary gift. Each widow is forwarded a card at Christmas and those with children receive a monetary gift in lieu of a hamper. During 1981 a Christmas party, weekend excursion and a picnic were organised for the children. An afternoon tea party was also held. Practical assistance around the home is given either through payment to tradesmen or members doing odd jobs. Advice is always available, particularly about pensions, and where necessary legal advice and financial assistance is given.

SERVICES

The Force requires modern, reliable and professional communications, mobility, equipment and accommodation if it is to efficiently and effectively achieve its objectives. These were the major responsibilities of the Services Department, the organisational structure of which is contained in Appendix "X"7. Although financial constraints lessened the degree of goal attainment during 1981, there were a number of notable achievements.

Sophisticated electronic, radio and ancillary control room equipment has been installed in a new Communications Control room at Russell Street Police Complex to provide accurate and rapid transmission of information and expeditiously handle calls for service from the public. The centre is due to commence operations in mid-1982. Other achievements during 1981 include the installation of new PABX systems at Russell Street, Geelong and Ballarat, the completion of Divisional Headquarters at Cranbourne and police station residences at Mount Beauty and Omeo.

Some delay in maintaining work and the completion of projects resulted from the disruptive tactics of the Builders Labourers' Federation, which placed "Black Bans" on police premises following the Force's successful peace-keeping role at the Omega station in Gippsland. Industrial action of this type is virtually unprecedented, and of considerable concern if the rule of law is to prevail.

The long term objectives of the Force include the provision of a marked police vehicle for each one-man station. Nine of the additional 78 vehicles approved in the 1981/82 budget were allocated to one-man police stations. Members' private vehicles are used at thirty other stations but are not equipped with police radios. The Force has 1,670 vehicles, including motor cycles, a ratio of 1 vehicle to 4.8 personnel well below the national police average estimated at 1:3.6.

Communications

The year under review was marked by a 25% increase in the average weekly workload at D.24, the result of a 51% increase in requests from patrol and other police for computerised information mainly about vehicle ownership and registration (Table 20). The increased demand clearly indicates the need for the flexibility and capacity of the new communications control room.

Communications personnel worked 36,074 hours overtime to maintain an effective service, an increase of 25.6% on 1980 overtime requirements. This was largely to provide an assistant radio operator and to replace seconded and other absent personnel. In all, 14,784 hours were lost through secondments. A total of 799,019 stolen motor vehicle and registration checks were made and 52,865 persons of interest checked. Visual display units within the D.24 Control Room proved most effective for message switching, giving situation reports and vehicle status information as well as providing "on line" information for operational police.

The rapid availability of on line information has resulted in increased activity by operational members. Members of the public, both drivers and pedestrians, are subject to much less delay and inconvenience. During 1981, the number of stolen vehicle checks increased by 48,406 (12.7%) over the 1980 figure and 30.4% above that in 1979. The number of vehicles recovered as a result of these checks increased by 1,372 although the proportion of successful checks remained constant at 2.7%. The 7.9% increase in vehicles stolen during the year has been mentioned. Some are recovered before the owners find they are stolen but the computer can still be of assistance by providing information about police checks which might have occurred before the reports were made.

Substantial annual savings amounting to \$117,226 were effected by the removal of stolen vehicle lists from Telex Station Broadcasts as from 31st May, 1981. Cost saving also resulted from country Telex Stations' access to "on line" vehicle ownership and criminal records by-passing the Telex Centre which enabled a 13.9% reduction in intrastate telex traffic and a 28.7% reduction (to 81,009) in regional radio inquiries. The installation of a Voca Dec facsimile machine able to send and receive pre-typed messages, documents and photographs to or from all states and overseas where there is a compatible machine also increased police efficiency. Interstate and overseas telex traffic increased by 4.9% to 46,510 messages, and telex and station messages increased by 82.5%. The fewer number of regional radio inquiries enabled that section to provide a more useable airspace for operational police. The number of radio service inquiries at the D.24 Metropolitan Control Room, excluding stolen vehicle checks, status calls and return to station calls are shown in the following Table.

**TABLE 20
AVERAGE WEEKLY CALLS RECEIVED AT D.24**

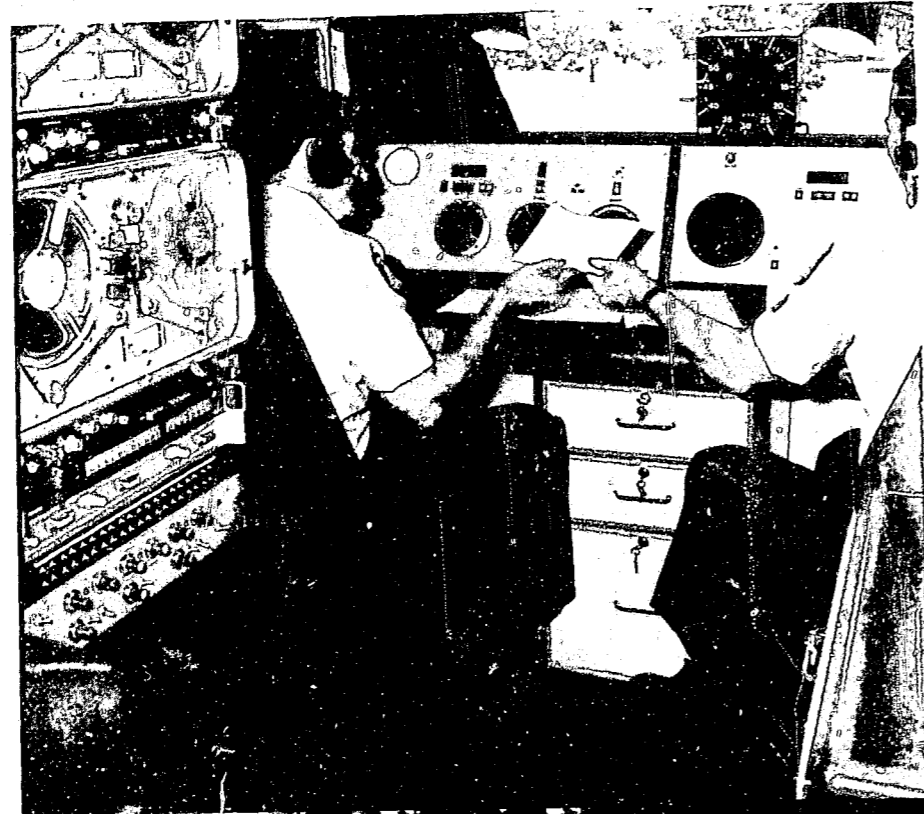
Year	Public to D.24	From Stations	Requests by Police for Service	Total	% Increase
1980	6,063	3,010	11,687	20,760	2.1
1981	5,611	2,876	17,648	26,135	25.9

Operations

During 1981, training staff moved to a more efficient training area where they provided some 7,640 hours of lectures, demonstrations and practical exercises. Seventy-two new members were trained and six telex and three field operation courses were conducted.

The demand for personnel and equipment to established field communications continued to increase. Throughout the State a large number of special operations were conducted including searches for lost hikers, missing persons, armed offenders, kidnappers, prison escapees, missing aeroplanes in heavy bushland and ships at sea.

The frequency of armed robberies and other serious crimes has necessitated a high degree of co-ordination between operational units, the air wing and the communications centre which has resulted in a number of arrests at or near the scenes of crimes. Security measures undertaken by the Education Department requiring the close co-operation of communication centre staff and expeditious response by patrol cars has resulted in the arrest of offenders and the prevention of arson and other damage to property. In 225 (42%) of the 535 reported school incidents, 497 offenders were apprehended.



The number of VHF frequencies available to the police is insufficient and frequently overloaded. Planning has commenced on their replacement by a greater number of UHF frequencies. At the station level, command and control were assisted by the installation of 22 additional radio monitors at various police stations. Personal radios are now a very necessary part of police equipment particularly for foot patrolmen and City Traffic members. With a resurgence of beat work especially around shopping complexes and high-rise flats, the 407 portable transceivers throughout the State have been insufficient to meet operational requirements.

Planning

The Force's concept of a state-wide police communications system is becoming more and more a reality as a result of the work of the Communications Project Team, comprising both police and Public Works Department personnel evaluating and developing extensive, and complex communications systems. These included the:—

- design and implementation of the new D.24 Control Room due to commence in May, 1982,
- completion in March 1981, of the new PABX system at Russell Street Police Complex, and the current installation of the second stage of an efficient and effective automatic call distribution system replacing zone lines to D.24 from various stations,
- planning for the extension of the 000 emergency number and introduction of the 11 444 Police Assistance number,
- installation of prototype base site buildings at Cann River and approval for similar communication facilities in other remote areas, and
- design and development of more flexible telephone systems in Special Operations Rooms at Geelong, Ballarat and D.24.

Radio Electronics Division

The staff at the Radio Electronics Division are required to evaluate install and maintain communication and ancillary equipment for the Force's Communication System. The equipment and experience obtained from the CHOGM operation will benefit the Force for many years.

Two field communication vehicles purchased for CHOGM are in service and since October have been successfully used in a number of operations. Nine T.A.R.A. units — telephone and radio access equipment, which link up police radio and telephone facilities provided police in the country with an efficient communication system. The installation of a low power emergency transceiver at the D.24 Regional Room to increase the efficiency of the domestic network and provide limited interstate communication is well advanced. The Division is also investigating the use of voice operated radio equipment for Search and Rescue Squad members to permit hands free operation of radio equipment during rescue work.

The Division installed a discrete radio antenna at the Supreme Court for security communications providing portable radio transmission within the building. Six large stations were provided with public address systems to increase efficiency. The design and manufacture of 30 power supplies for use with station intercommunications has resulted in considerable savings.

During the year, three members qualified at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology as radio technicians and seven others completed the first year of their course.

Computer Systems Division

Police work is being changed dramatically by the computer and the Force is determined to make the most effective use of this technology. During 1981, work continued on extending the persons of interest file, police personnel data and other management systems. Progress will accelerate with the expansion of the Force's computer visual display unit (VDU) network, based on the purchase of dual V77/800 computers to act as front end communication processors which will support 19 additional terminals at country stations and 70 terminals in the metropolitan area.

The Victoria and New South Wales Forces have established a computer link initially based on two central databases involving stolen motor vehicle information. This will allow an assessment of the feasibility of developing a National Exchange of Police Information (NEPI) system. The specifications for this system have been included in the message switching facility and will become operational in mid-1982.

The year under review was noteworthy as the first 12 months of field members having on-line access to computerised vehicle ownership details. Considerable delays had been experienced in the previous manual systems. During 1981 the average daily release of 1,584 motor vehicle registration particulars resulted in increased detection rates for unregistered and uninsured vehicles, although overall the recovery rate of stolen vehicles has tended to remain constant at about 3% of checks. Considerable delays have been reduced and operational police are able to make full use of the almost instant response often obtaining details of vehicle ownership before the interception occurs. The use of computers for message switching is also under examination by consultants contracted through the Public Works Department. The expansion of this type of technology will provide rapid communication between police centres, accurate transmission and security of information and standardised procedures with flexibility and considerable cost saving benefits.

The future provision of adequately trained and experienced systems personnel is of particular concern to the Division. Due to space and power constraints on current equipment it is envisaged that the Force will not be able to introduce electronic data processing beyond message switching, Motor Registration data and the stolen, lost and found property systems without the purchase or lease of larger computers. The Force Management Information Committee has listed other computer priorities as relating to Vehicle Fleet Management, Fraud Squad data, Fire Recording and Classification System, Criminal History information, Firearms Control, Computer Aid Despatch, message switching and property control. The extension of the computer site from 167 square metres to 572 square metres is a step in this direction.

Technical Section

The planning and supervision of building construction, co-ordinating maintenance of existing buildings, the purchase of land and residences, and the supply of replacement furniture and fittings were the major tasks performed by members of

the Technical Section with the \$9.7 million allocated in the works and services programme. The allocation represents 4.5% of total expenditure to meet the requirements of an expanding Force which expends 89.8% of its budget on salaries, payroll tax and related payments.

During 1981, the new Divisional Headquarters complex at Cranbourne (\$682,000) and Police Stations with residences at Mount Beauty (\$137,000) and Omeo (\$132,000) were completed. Police residences were purchased at Warrnambool, Seymour, Cobram and Morwell. Modular extensions to Heidelberg and Preston police stations were completed and occupied enabling urgent renovations to commence in other sections of the stations. Extensions were completed at Melton, Ararat, Traralgon and Morwell, and were commenced at Moe and Echuca Police Stations. Tenders have been let to construct residences at Chiltern, Mitiamo and Barwon Heads to replace unsatisfactory premises currently occupied by members and their families. Renovations to the Mounted Branch complex are anticipated to commence early in 1982 and negotiations are proceeding to purchase land at Nyah West, Birchip, Korong Vale, Yarra Junction, Benalla and Warragul. Requests have also been made to transfer Crown land at Minyip and Port Campbell to the Force.

Relocation of Traffic Operations Group members to leased premises in Whitehorse Road opposite the Nunawading Police Complex has provided improved facilities for the increased number of personnel. Police Headquarters staff at Wangara5tta and Morwell transferred to leased accommodation and approval has been received for similar arrangements at Bendigo and Warrnambool when accommodation is available. Although the Toorak Police Station is officially closed, the Force proposes to retain the premises for use by specialist squads or as office accommodation. South Yarra Police Station has been closed and the suburb serviced by members of the new Prahran Station.

The planning of a new Police Forensic Science Laboratory in conjunction with the Law Department and the Victorian Institute of Forensic Pathology is proceeding and conjointly co-ordinated by an interdepartmental committee. The complex is to be located at Mont Park near La Trobe University and the current estimate of cost is \$26 million.

Industrial disputes affected a number of projects which were due for completion during 1981, and further problems were encountered when funds were frozen for some six weeks from early July 1981, adversely affecting existing maintenance programmes and the commencement of other urgent renovations.

Audio Visual Division

The year under review was marked by a greatly increased workload in the Audio Visual Division which has expanded its responsibility to include involvement in hostage negotiations and related fields. Unfortunately the Division suffers an acute shortage of trained personnel, especially for tape transcription, an area of increasing demand and expectation by both police and courts. As predicted in previous Annual Reports, the increased awareness of the value of magnetic tape recordings for evidentiary and intelligence purposes resulted in 853 tapes being processed during 1981, including 143 tapes from the D.24 Dictalog Recorder, a 68% increase on 1980. The attitudes and experience of police and among members of the legal profession will ensure that the use of tape recordings continues to increase dramatically (Table 21). During 1981, 556 audio recording devices were indexed at the Division, a 16% increase on 1980 equipment which does not include the many

private tape recorders in use by operational police. A total of 139 video devices were allocated and serviced by the Division. The Force leads the world in the use of tape recorders but is implacably opposed to the rejection of otherwise admissible evidence merely because it is not tape recorded.

TABLE 21
TAPE RECORDINGS PROCESSED AND TRANSCRIBED
AT AUDIO VISUAL DIVISION

Year	Incidents when tapes processed	Tapes Transcribed
1976	142	30
1977	264	63
1978	426	54
1979	463	100
1980	506	145
1981*	759	63

*Actual number of tapes was 853, some incidents required more than one tape. Transcription reduced due to CHOGM and staff transfers. Some tapes were transcribed elsewhere.

Tape transcription is a particularly time-consuming and onerous task. An hour of interview generally takes 4-5 hours to initially transcribe, longer if it is of poor quality. The investigating member must then minutely check the transcription against the tape and make the necessary corrections, a further three hours. The initial draft must then be re-typed, a further two hours work. The total time for transcribing a one hour interview is not less than 9-10 hours, much of it involving the investigating member. The recommended procedure is for members to tape record the read-back of the interview, a structured situation which considerably reduces transcription time. If the authenticity of the tape is challenged, the validation process can require two to three weeks of examination.

The unpopularity of transcription typing has resulted in a number of positions being unfilled for some time. The ceiling on public service staff and the inability to attract police for the task have resulted in a backlog of tapes for transcription and in facilities designed for five typists being idle since August 1981.

During 1981 only one fixed tape recorder installation was completed. There were 69 installations required at C.I.B. offices (most have portable systems), 17 recorders needed to be replaced, 2 repaired and 8 relocated. Substantial cost and time savings have resulted through the purchase of Superscope portable cassette recorders to perform the functions required.

Transport Branch

The police fleet of 1,670 vehicles is inadequate (Table 22). In December, the New South Wales Police had 2,527 vehicles and a vehicle: police ratio of 1:3.7 compared with the Victorian ratio of 1:4.8 and the national police average estimated at 1:3.6. Seventy-eight additional vehicles were approved in the 1981/82 budget. Seven existing vehicles were transferred with the Motor Registration Branch to the Transport Regulation Board.

Police sources cannot be utilised effectively and efficiently without adequate transport to provide the prompt service demanded by the public. Insufficient equipment including vehicles is a major source of frustration for operational police. The

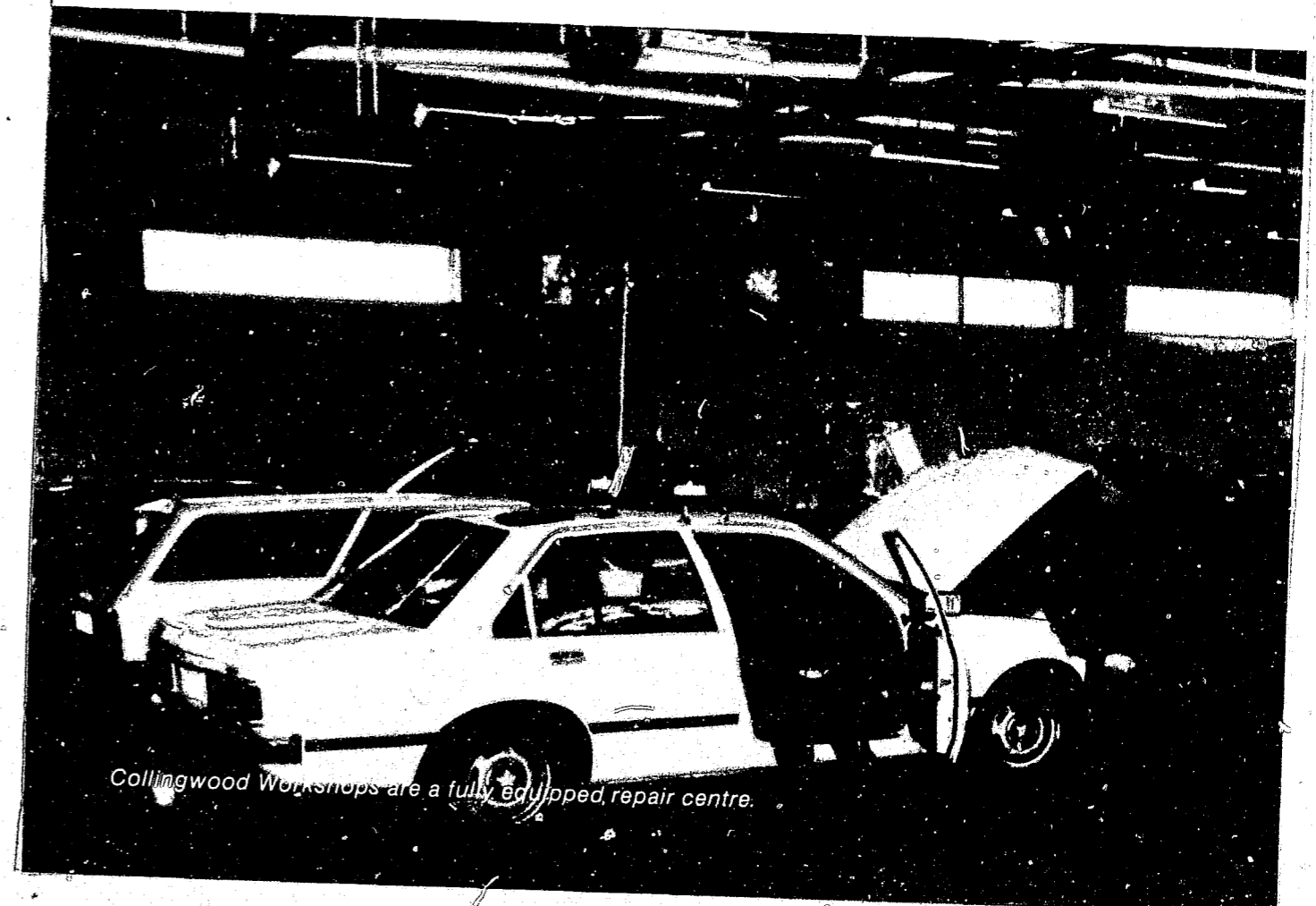
service to the public and achievement of Force objectives would be facilitated if a better vehicle-police ratio existed in Victoria.

Police vehicles travelled 61,985,747 kilometres during 1981, an increase of 3.3% on 1980 figures. Running and maintenance costs amounted to \$6,862,968, an increase of 17.7% over the previous year and included 10,325,253 litres of fuel used. An international ACCO Tilt tray truck was purchased (\$34,000) saving \$13,452 in towing fees in the first seven months of operation. The announcement that all operational vehicles will be air-conditioned by 1983 was particularly welcome.

TABLE 22
POLICE VEHICLES

Sedans — 4 cylinder	168
6 cylinder	724
8 cylinder	254
Station wagons and panel vans	132
Divisional vans	125
Trucks and utilities	27
Four wheel drive vehicles	24
Buses	20
Prison and brawler vans	12
Tractors	2
Canteens	2
Motor cycles (pursuit)	157
Motor cycles (other)	18
Delivery pending	5
	1,670*

*does not include 11 caravans, a petrol trailer and a helicopter fuel trailer.



Uniform Design and Development Division

The uniform design and development division is responsible for uniform design, field evaluations, accreditation of manufacturers and tailors, quality control, uniform availability, establishment of sealed samples and related specifications and other matters concerning uniforms and ancillary items of equipment.

A member required to keep a uniform receives an annual allowance to provide for its purchase although some items, including overcoats, are issued by the Force. The Uniform Design and Development Division was established in 1978 to introduce the revised police uniform which became obligatory in August 1980. The Division is commanded by a Chief Inspector and comprises a Senior Sergeant and a public servant, both qualified tailors, who are quality control officers and a policewoman with a Diploma in Fashion Design and Production who is particularly involved in the design and development of items of the women police uniform. The Division was transferred to the Services Department in June 1981.

The Uniform Design and Development Division combines stringent quality control procedures with the necessity to keep the Force's visual image at the highest possible level while minimising costs as far as possible. Unsuitable material or finished products have been rejected and cost benefits obtained from procedural changes, continuous monitoring and innovations in ordering. Changing the supply of overcoats to a system whereby the tailor cut, made and supplied the trimmings for material, saved the Force approximately \$52,000 per annum on the previous system. Without compromising quality, savings on the supply of protective clothing, especially alpine and mounted uniforms, amounted to approximately \$10,000 per annum. The Division is the only one of its type in Australia writing its own specifications and performing its own quality control. It has attracted very favourable comment from police and other people in related fields both interstate and overseas.

ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Department, the public service component of the Force, has experienced increasing difficulties in providing basic administrative services because of a serious lack of manpower. Staff ceilings have prevented a constant public servant/police growth ratio. Excluding Motor Registration Branch staff, the 1980 ratio of 1:6.1 police fell to 1:6.9 in 1981. Staff try to maintain the necessary service to sworn members of the Force, but executive Public Service Officers are often frustrated because they are expected to provide additional services without extra resources (Organisational chart — Appendix "X"8).

The shortfall in public service staff has resulted in a number of police being diverted from operational to administrative duties, which must always be regarded as a last resort. Many other police perform clerical and typing duties which could be done more economically by public servants thereby releasing sworn members for operational duties.

Training

The development of training programmes and system reviews continue to ensure maximum utilisation of existing resources and high staff morale. Internal training is specifically designed to assist supervisors in coping with increased responsibilities and pressures. Twenty public service officers successfully undertook external studies including both under-graduate and post-graduate courses.

Orientation courses were conducted for typists and clerical assistants to broaden their knowledge of the Department's activities and identify their roles with the policies and aims of administration. A work experience programme in which 205 young people from 140 schools were placed in police and administration areas continued during 1981.

Developments

A survey by officers of the Public Service Board has indicated that word processing equipment can assist in the provision of administrative services and a pilot system will be installed as soon as possible. This kind of modern technology is of special importance to the Force which generates a very considerable amount of paperwork. Its introduction depends upon finance being available.

During 1981, administrative procedures continued to be modernised by the computerisation of certain functions to reduce cost, increase effectiveness and achieve higher standards of efficiency. Replacement of obsolete equipment used for inventory work at the Central Stores has been approved. Unfortunately long-standing proposals for the implementation of urgent programmes to increase the efficiency of the Penalties Payment Office have been frustrated by a lack of finance. On 1st July 1981 the Motor Registration Branch formally transferred to the Transport Regulation Board, reducing the Public Service component of the police force by

some 1,020 people (Table 23). The impact of this change on the traditional police access to licence, registration and other particulars, will be closely monitored.

**TABLE 23
DEPLOYMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF**

	Chief Commissioner's Office		District Offices and Police Stations		Forensic Science Laboratory		Total	
	1980	1981	1980	1981	1980	1981	1980	1981
Authorised	240	240	1,030	904	51	54	1,321	1,198
Actual	226	228	1,013	895	45	47	1,284	1,170

Central Registry Branch

The Central Registry Branch has continued to implement changes recommended by the Public Service Board's review team in 1979. Old records have been microfilmed and other files transferred to the Public Records Office at Laverton. Correspondence processed remained at a high level, however indexing and recording changes have greatly improved the Branch's efficiency. Previous correspondence is easier to locate and delays in file transmission have been minimised.

Commissioners' Secretariat

The Commissioners' Secretariat provides effective administrative assistance to senior level conferences and task force committees of management and other services including matters under the consideration of the Australian Police Ministers' Council. As a means to facilitate co-operation and communication between the Police Association and the administration of the Force, the Secretariat has been made responsible for researching the matters raised by the Association. The Secretariat also assists the Honours and Awards Committee which was established during 1981 to provide greater uniformity in considering recommendations for Imperial and National awards and the granting of in-service awards. More than 200 cases were considered during 1981.

Police Surgeons

In December, 1981, there were two full-time police surgeons, 6 part-time surgeons in the metropolitan area and 12 surgeons in major country centres. During the year, honorary surgeons were appointed at Bendigo, Euroa and Timboon. The surgeons' workload is steadily increasing in its variety and volume reflecting the patterns of anti-social behaviour in the community. The examination of the victims of sexual attacks is a major activity and in 1981 there was a tendency for more of these to be particularly violent. The Police Surgeon, Dr. J.P. Bush, is a member of the Southern Community Drug Liaison Committee which is trying to establish a drug treatment and acute detoxification centre in the southern suburbs of Melbourne. He is the Chairman of the Melbourne Crisis Care Association which was officially constituted during the year and aims to provide support to crime victims and others in need in the metropolitan area. Dr. Bush also represents the Force on the Interdepartmental Committee established by the Minister for Community Welfare Services to investigate and report on the need for a total care intervention programme in Victoria.

Drug dependent people cause increasing concern. Their behaviour under intoxication and the effects of hallucinatory drugs often places their own welfare and that of others in jeopardy. At times the effects of physical and psychological withdrawal and the immediate care of affected persons present insoluble problems to the police officer. Eight in ten people examined by police surgeons because of disturbed behaviour required admission to a psychiatric hospital as recommended (80%) or voluntary patients (3.4%). Nearly all (85.5%) had a psychiatric history.

The metropolitan Police Surgeons examined 872 people with disturbed behaviour, 348 sexual offence victims and 91 drug offenders. They also attended 256 Court hearings and delivered lectures at universities, schools and to professional groups and service organisations.

Expert evidence was required with greater frequency in Melbourne and throughout the State in court cases relating to blood alcohol estimates, the effects of alcohol, drug dependence and glue sniffing and in appeals by people whose drivers' licences were cancelled because of physical or psychiatric disability. During the year, 1,716 drivers' licences reviews were conducted by surgeons in the metropolitan area. The surgeons collaborated with representatives of the Australian Association of Neurologists concerning changes in the granting or holding of licences by drivers suffering from epilepsy.

The Police Surgeon was involved in the medical aspects of CHOGM, monitoring stress levels particularly those of the Media Liaison Bureau of the Public Relations Division. Overall morale was never higher and health remained good.

The Assistant Police Surgeon, Dr. J.R. MacLeod gained full membership to the Australian Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis. The technique aimed at assisting witness memory recall was used in 22 cases with some encouraging results.

The second training seminar for Police Surgeons was held in September at the Glen Waverley Training Academy. During the year the Police Surgeon attended the Annual Conference of the Association of Police Surgeons of Great Britain, the Australian 7th International Symposium on Forensic Sciences in Sydney and the International Forensic Science Society Meeting in Bergen, Norway.

Central Firearms Registry

During 1981 the Central Firearms Registry moved to more efficient premises in Flinders Lane, Melbourne, and the computer records were transferred from a private agency to the Government Computing Service where the programme was extended to provide both additional and more up to date information. At the 31st December, 1981, 386,708 firearm authorities were on issue, a 3.6% increase on the 1980 figures (Table 24).

**TABLE 24
SHOOTERS' LICENCES ISSUED**

	1980	1981
Shooters' Licences	317,287	329,093
Farm Permits	34,708	35,651
Junior Permits	6,792	6,409
Pensioner Licences	14,336	15,555
	<u>373,123</u>	<u>386,708</u>

CONTINUED

1 OF 2



Administration Department.

Media Relations

A media director, Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson, was appointed in July to act on behalf of the Force in its dealings with the media, to provide professional advice to members generally, and also to assist in satisfying requests for news releases and other information at the scenes of major incidents.

Finance

The following details extend the financial statement of revenue and expenditure during the financial year (Appendix "V").

REVENUE: Actual revenue for 1980/81 collections was \$30,592,630 compared with the original estimate of \$29,091,000. The final figures reflect increased fees and charges (ranging from 10% to 12.5%) for police services which applied from 1st September, 1980.

SALARIES: Salary expenditure for the Force amounted to \$158,788,689 consisting of \$144,636,338 paid to police and \$14,152,351 to public servants, an increase of \$9,914,471 (6.6%) above the actual salary expenditure for 1979/80.

The recorded payment of \$14,152,351 for salaries in the public service area excludes \$11,700,757 paid in 1980/81 to Motor Registration Branch personnel who came under the jurisdiction of the Transport Regulation Board from 1st July, 1981. Provision was made in the 1980/81 Budget to recruit and train an additional 665 members to achieve a net increase of 340 members during the year, an authorised strength of 8,038 members at 30th June, 1981. The actual net increase was 288, an actual strength of 7,986 members at that date.

EQUIPMENT: The purchase and running costs of police motor vehicles and aircraft (\$10.9m) increased by 18.3% in comparison to a 44% rise in the previous year. Expenditure on radio, photographic, scientific and training equipment (\$2.2m)

rose by 40.2% and heating, fuel, light, power and water expenses (\$1.7m) increased by 21.3%. These items respectively represent 5.1%, 1.0%, 0.8% of the budget compared with salaries, payroll tax, travelling expenses, overtime, long service gratuities, retirement benefit and police pension fund contributions which make up 89.8% of the Force budget.

OVERTIME: Overtime and penalty rate payments increased by \$1,047,960 (29%) over the actual 1979/80 expenditure of \$3,573,873 mainly as a result of National Wage Awards and increased numbers of special operations. As in the previous year, most (86%) went to police and 14% to public servants. With a public servant/police ratio of 1:6.9 slightly more overtime per head was paid to public servants than to police members. Cost rises occurred in nearly all areas.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS: At \$362,991, books and publications cost \$99,058 (37.7%) more than in 1980. This included the cost of the printing of the *Police Gazette*, Acts of Parliament and related legislation and the printing of the revised Police Manual and Standing Orders. It also met the cost of subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals and the purchase of reference books. Legal texts, although particularly expensive, are required in many areas of the Force.

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES: The expenditure in 1980/81 (\$959,552) was \$292,429 (43.8%) above the actual expenditure in the previous financial year and included such matters as consumable stores, the needs of special operations, blood sampling kits, chaplaincy service and legal representation of members counter-summoned by defendants. It also included \$30,000 used to finance a recruit advertising campaign and \$24,712 to meet the cost of the transcript for the police salary claim.

RETIREMENT FUND: The State employees retirement benefit fund contributions amounting to \$21,992 was formerly part of the appropriation relating to funds available to the Secretary, Ministry for Police and Emergency Services. This is a Government contribution towards a retirement scheme for public servants who are not covered by the State Superannuation Acts.

CENTRAL FINGERPRINT BUREAU: The \$144,810 contribution to the Central Fingerprint Bureau Sydney is calculated from an agreed formula to assess Victoria's share of the annual operating costs of the organisation.

Summary

The Force's total expenditure of \$215,129,627 for 1980/81 is a 15.48% rise on 1979/80 expenditure. As at the 30th June 1981, the cost of police services was approximately \$54.71 per head of population per annum.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX "A"

MINISTRY FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES*

Minister for Police and Emergency Services:
The Honourable Frederick James Granter, M.L.C.
Old Treasury Building, Spring Street, Melbourne, 3000

Private Secretary: Miss Val Cormack 651 1752

ACTS ASSIGNED TO THE MINISTER

Country Fire Authority 1958
Firearms 1958
Metropolitan Fire Brigades 1958
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Superannuation 1976
Motor Boating 1961 (See also: Minister of Transport)
Motor Car 1958 (See also: Minister of Transport)
Motor Car (Compulsory Third Party Insurance) 1967
Police Assistance Compensation 1968
Police Regulation 1958 (See also: Minister of Health)
Private Agents 1966
Recreation Vehicles 1973 (See also: Minister of Transport)
Road Traffic 1958
Seaman's 1958
Sheep Owners Protection 1961
Unlawful Assemblies and Processions 1958
Volunteer Civil Defence Workers Compensation 1972

*Extract from Victorian Government Directory as at July, 1981.

SOURCES OF PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

PRIMARY COMPLAINT	INDIV- IDUALS	BUSI- NESSES	SOLICI- TORS FOR CLIENTS	ORGANI- ZATIONS	OMBUDS- MAN	MINISTER	TOTAL	
							1981	1980
Assault	195	—	28	3	—	5	231	(212)
Unsatisfactory duty	141	5	13	3	11	22	195	(192)
Unjustified arrest/brief	47	—	5	—	—	3	55	(39)
Rudeness	46	1	3	1	—	4	55	(81)
Harassment	35	2	8	—	1	6	52	(40)
Fail take action	31	3	6	1	2	5	48	(75)
Unjustified P.I.N./T.I.N.*	26	—	—	—	1	4	31	(35)
Traffic offences	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	(1)
Unjustified search/seizure	15	—	2	2	—	—	19	(27)
Unnecessary questioning	3	—	—	—	1	—	4	(1)
Perjury	7	—	1	—	1	—	9	(8)
Corruption	5	—	1	—	—	—	6	(12)
Other offences	5	—	—	—	—	2	7	(14)
Other disciplinary	18	—	4	1	2	1	26	(24)
Civil disputes	2	—	2	—	—	—	4	(8)
Other	59	2	7	2	18	2	90	(108)
Total 1981	636	13	80	13	37	55	834**	
Total 1980	(652)	(13)	(84)	(17)	(44)	(67)		(877)

* P.I.N. = Parking Infringement Notice
T.I.N. = Traffic Infringement Notice

**Excluding 233 minor complaints mediated at local level and 71 internal disciplinary investigations.

DETERMINATION OF PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

PRIMARY COMPLAINT	UNFOUNDED	EXON- ERATED	NOT PROVEN	PROVEN	LESSER CHARGE PROVEN	MIS- CONDUCT NOT ORIGIN- ALLY ALLEGED	TOTAL
Assault	27	1	90	4	9	—	131
Unsatisfactory duty	27	6	79	29	9	—	150
Unjustified arrest/brief	8	—	29	—	3	—	40
Rudeness	5	—	29	5	8	—	47
Harassment	11	—	19	1	3	—	34
Fail take action	6	1	20	12	3	—	42
Unjustified P.I.N./T.I.N.	3	—	18	2	5	—	28
Unjustified search/seizure	2	—	9	1	—	—	12
Unnecessary questioning	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Perjury	—	1	6	—	—	—	7
Corruption	1	—	2	—	1	—	4
Other offences	1	—	2	—	—	—	3
Civil disputes	—	1	2	—	—	1	4
Other	16	23	41	9	3	3	95
Total 1981*	112	33	346	63	44	4	602
Total 1980**	(85)	(7)	(408)	(83)	(17)	(14)	(614)

*Excluding 233 minor complaints mediated at local level, 32 internal disciplinary matters determined and 232 incomplete investigations
 **Adjusted to exclude 60 internal disciplinary matters

APPENDIX "C"

SANCTIONS ON MEMBERS CONSEQUENT TO PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

PRIMARY COMPLAINT	COUNSEL		RESIG- NATION/ RETIRE- MENT	DISCIP- LINE BOARD	OPEN COURT	TOTAL*	
	REPRIMAND	TRANSFER				1981	1980
Assault	15	1	2	2	6	26	(26)
Unsatisfactory duty	68	2	—	2	—	72	(57)
Unjustified arrest/brief	7	—	—	—	—	7	(7)
Rudeness	13	—	—	1	—	14	(25)
Harassment	8	—	—	1	—	9	(4)
Fail take action	19	—	—	—	—	19	(21)
Unjustified P.I.N./T.I.N.	10	—	—	—	—	10	(2)
Unjustified search/seizure	2	—	—	—	—	2	(3)
Unnecessary questioning	—	—	—	—	—	—	(4)
Perjury	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Corruption	1	—	—	—	2	3	—
Other offences	—	1	1	1	12	15	(5)
Civil disputes	—	—	1	—	—	1	(2)
Other	6	—	4	1	—	11	(14)
Total 1981	149	4	8	8	21	190	
Total 1980	(158)	(3)	(4)	—	(5)		(170)

*Excluding 233 minor complaints mediated at local level and members sanctioned for internal disciplinary matters, 89 in 1981 and 61 in 1980.

APPENDIX "E"

OFFENCES COMMITTED BY CHILDREN

OFFENCE	FEMALE		MALE		TOTAL*
	Caution	Court	Caution	Court	
Serious Assault	17	49	89	250	405
Robbery	—	3	5	55	63
Rape	—	—	2	2	4
Burglary	202	167	2,065	3,342	5,776
Theft from Shops	2,959	354	2,432	535	6,280
Other Theft	270	259	3,947	4,334	8,810
Motor Vehicle Theft	36	41	511	1,420	2,008
Deception/Fraud	47	20	74	170	311
Mal/Wilful Damage/Arson	48	19	502	506	1,075
Drug	8	10	13	27	58
Firearms	3	—	170	112	285
Traffic (including Tamper)	85	54	2,244	2,799	5,182
Street Offences	52	100	558	795	1,505
Other	184	122	1,141	1,403	2,850
	<u>3,911</u>	<u>1,198</u>	<u>13,753</u>	<u>15,750</u>	<u>34,612</u>

*See Table 4 for details of the principal offences committed by the 16,306 children responsible for these 34,612 offences.

APPENDIX "F"

VICTORIA POLICE AIR WING
FLYING ACTIVITIES (HOURS)

	1980	1981
Fixed Wing Twin Engine		
Transport	1,433.3	1,553.2
Flying Training	96.1	38.5
A.S.T.R.O.*	51.3	22.5
	<u>1,580.7</u>	<u>1,614.2</u>
Fixed Wing Single Engine		
Transport	40.2	48.4
Flying Training	34.4	14.1
A.S.T.R.O.*	145.4	125.1
	<u>220.0</u>	<u>187.6</u>
Rotary Wing Aircraft		
Transport	8.2	8.4
Flying Training	33.0	68.4
A.S.T.R.O.*	646.3	607.3
	<u>687.5</u>	<u>684.1</u>
	2,488.2	2,485.9
TOTAL		
Link Training (Simulator)		
Rating and Proficiency Tests	50.1	56.3
Operational statistics	1980	1981
Fixed Wing		
Operations	413	509
Rotary Wing		
Operations	246	309
Man hours saved	16,272	12,988
Scheduled Transport	1980	1981
Missions	87	64
Unscheduled		
Transport Missions	335	425
Vehicle days saved	1,703	1,496

*Air Support to Routine Operations (A.S.T.R.O.)

SUMMARY CRIME STATISTICS 1980-81

OFFENCES	OFFENCES REPORTED		OFFENCES CLEARED						PEOPLE PROCEEDED AGAINST								
			1980		1981		Under 17		17-20		21-24		25 and over		Total		
	1980	1981	% Change	Number	% Total	Number	% Total	1980	1981	1980	1981	1980	1981	1980	1981	1980	1981
HOMICIDE	115	117	+1.7	91	79.1	107	91.4	—	4	17	18	25	12	71	62	113	96
SERIOUS ASSAULT	1730	1967	+13.7	1119	64.7	1383	70.3	153	169	357	203	209	390	428	1062	1163	
ROBBERY	1282	1245	-2.9	358	27.9	368	29.6	84	74	128	107	69	45	81	63	362	289
RAPE	328	410	+25.8	260	79.8	318	77.6	11	14	30	50	31	21	45	76	117	161
BURGLARY	59336	61360	+ 3.4	9603	16.2	9339	15.2	3075	3154	1161	1107	573	500	689	613	5498	5374
THEFT	76012	80749	+ 6.2	17489	23.0	21239	26.3	5605	7433	2305	2609	966	1203	5845	5583	14721	16828
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	16264	17550	+ 7.9	3993	24.5	3808	21.7	1382	1275	1123	985	227	222	240	203	2972	2685
FRAUD, ETC.	14977	12120	-19.1	11788	78.7	8372	69.1	249	232	403	401	323	307	1130	1010	2105	1950
MAJOR CRIME AGAINST THE PERSON	3455	3739	+ 8.3	1828	52.9	2176	58.2	248	261	491	532	328	287	587	629	1654	1709
MAJOR CRIME AGAINST PROPERTY	166589	171779	+ 3.1	42873	25.7	42758	24.9	10311	12094	4992	5102	2089	2232	7904	7409	25296	26837
TOTAL MAJOR CRIME	170044	175518	+ 3.2	44701	26.3	44934	25.6	10559	12355	5483	5634	2417	2519	8491	8038	26950	28546
OTHER OFFENCES	54470	53849	- 1.1	28610	52.5	27484	51.0									19008	16837

APPENDIX "G"

LOCATION OF FIRES

	1980	1981
Houses — occupied	95	350
Forest, grass and scrub	62	243
Motor cars	112	242
Houses — vacant	155	209
Commercial buildings	122	154
Lock-up shops, shops and dwellings	51	134
Domestic sheds, garages, outbuildings	60	99
Flats	69	75
Stolen motor cars	51	74
Government schools	55	65
Factories	25	60
Rubbish	22	52
Hedges and fences	22	27
Railways	35	23
Cafes, restaurants, fish and chip shops	8	22
Caravans, trailers	1	18
Hay in shed	1	17
Public halls	27	17
Church schools	5	15
Churches	14	14
Haystacks	3	9
Timber yards, mills	5	6
Materials against buildings	1	5
P.M.G.	11	4
Crops	—	4
Service stations	7	4
Earth-moving equipment, tractors, farm machinery	—	3
Miscellaneous	50	175
	<u>1,069</u>	<u>2,120</u>

APPENDIX "I"

CHARGES AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS — SELLERS

DRUG TYPE	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Indian Hemp	228	234	287	410	597
Hallucinogens	3	2	3	4	14
Morphine	2	2	2	2	5
Heroin	29	83	110	165	181
Cocaine	3	4	1	2	15
Amphetamine	—	—	—	18	65
Miscellaneous	11*	20*	30*	29	18
TOTAL	276	345	433	630	895

*includes Amphetamine

APPENDIX "J"

PRINCIPAL TARGETS FOR DRUG-RELATED THEFT, ROBBERY AND SIMILAR OFFENCES

CATEGORY	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Doctors Surgeries	64	88	68	123	77
Armed Robbery	27	67	29	55	32
Doctors Cars	29	34	3	10	15
Pharmacies	163	120	147	114	62
TOTAL	283	309	247	302	186

APPENDIX "K"

TESTS CONDUCTED UNDER DRINK-DRIVING LEGISLATION

PRELIMINARY BREATH TESTS

	Random Stations		Other	
	1980	1981	1980	1981
Total Tests	82,021	69,805	21,540	20,664
Positive	1,027	1,229	6,346	7,991
Negative	80,990	68,574	15,096	12,566
Refusals	4	4	98	107
Collisions involved	—	—	2,655	4,813

BLOOD SAMPLES 1980 1981 BREATHALYSER TESTS 1980 1981

Total Collected	17,551	18,977	Total Tests Conducted	15,304	15,111
Alleged			No. interviewed	15,679	15,480
Driver Positive	3,262	2,980	No. refusals	375	369
Driver Negative	10,911	12,409	Results:		
Non Driver	3,378	3,588	.05 and under	2,284	2,492
Alleged Driver			over .05 and under .08	1,383	1,437
Metropolitan			over .08 and under .100	1,696	1,765
% Exceed .05%	17.1	16.3	over .100 and under .150	4,841	4,588
% Exceed .150%	7.9	7.1	.150 and over	5,100	4,829
Country			Prior P.B.T. administered	7,524	9,258
% Exceed .05%	24.3	22.8			
% Exceed .150%	11.3	11.2			
Alleged Non Driver					
Metropolitan					
% Exceed .05%	15.0	9.3			
% Exceed .150%	6.3	6.6			
Country					
% Exceed .05%	25.4	12.7			
% Exceed .150%	10.0	7.9			

APPENDIX "L"

TRAFFIC OFFENCES*

	1980	1981
Exceed .05%	14,379	14,079
Drive under influence	1,160	1,124
In charge under the influence	150	141
Manner dangerous, speed, reckless	2,396	2,153
Careless driving	6,813	6,852
Accident, Fail to stop, Report, etc.	2,732	2,632
Unlicensed Driver	10,960	11,252
Drive licence cancelled, suspended, disqualified	2,292	2,257
Unregistered vehicles	8,400	12,285
Exceed 60/75/90 k/mh (speed zone)	150,926	139,235
Exceed 80 km/h (Probationary)	4,201	4,000
Exceed 100 km/h	36,755	35,405
Speed trucks	4,183	4,588
Log books	2,335	2,216
Double lines	6,545	5,501
Fail keep left	3,681	3,332
Fail give stop, turn, diverge signal	12,827	11,852
Incorrect turn	7,354	5,532
Lighting offences	11,372	10,590
Number plate offences	7,097	6,376
Stop sign, give way sign	29,977	24,341
Traffic lights	24,722	22,908
Pedestrian School Crossing offences	598	469
Seat belts	27,543	35,938
Motor Cycle offences (not included above)	4,243	4,771
Bicycle offences	1,394	4,384
Litter offences	636	533
Unroadworthy vehicles (Briefs—T.I.N's)	4,165	3,972
Driver under influence of drugs	125	49
Parking offences	51,291	44,715
Other traffic offences, not specified	60,895	66,180
TOTAL	502,147	489,662

*includes Traffic Infringement Notices

APPENDIX "M"

TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

	1980	1981
Driving over double lines	5,462	4,356
Failing to give way at intersection	2,059	1,864
Exceeding any speed limit by more than 15 km/h, but less than 25 km/h	84,433	74,511
Disobeying any traffic control signal	22,666	20,254
Passing stationary tram car	74	81
Throwing down or dropping litter from a motor car on a highway	399	446
Using on highway a motor car or trailer not in good mechanical order	1,599	1,400
Unlawfully turning to right or left	4,542	3,877
Exceeding any speed limit by not more than 15 km/h	79,001	68,857
Failing to keep to the left	1,902	1,730
Failing to dip headlights	1,344	1,129
Failing to give signals	8,915	7,942
Disobeying a traffic sign	38,256	29,540
Failing to have prescribed lights	8,767	8,125
No number plates, etc.	4,452	3,730
No identifying number displayed on vehicle	1,042	980
No registration label	8,357	10,333
No general identification mark displayed, etc.	238	253
Having no rear vision mirror or having ineffective rear vision mirror	1,544	1,303
Failing to wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt	26,103	33,855
	<u>301,155</u>	<u>274,566</u>

APPENDIX "N"

DEMERIT POINT DATA

	1980	1981
Total number of suspensions	795	906
6 months suspension	33	25
3 months suspension	762	881
Number warned	16,219	11,584
Traffic Infringement Notices Processed	176,346	187,543
Convictions processed	16,696	18,771
Surcharge imposed	854	1,070

The applicable offences and number of demerit points for each offence are shown in Schedule 5 of the Motor Car Act 1958.

APPENDIX "O"

COLLISIONS INVOLVING POLICE VEHICLES

	1980*	1981
Total Collisions	809	723
Number of fatal collisions	4	4
Casualties		
Killed: Police	2	4
Civilians	2	1
Injured: Police	227	184
Civilians	90	68
Action Taken		
Briefs submitted against police	22	35
Approved (open court)	4	9
Not approved	18	20
Pending	—	6
Police		
Counselled	114	116
Reprimanded	16	10
To attend Motor Driving School	48	27
Prosecutions (convicted)		
Police	4	3
Civilians	197	84**
Prosecutions Pending		
Police	—	4
Civilians	22	65
Accident Investigation Committee Hearings	5	2

*Revised to include 1980 cases finalised during 1981

**Includes convictions for dangerous driving (27), unlicensed driving (25), careless driving (24), exceed 0.05% B.A.C. (16), speeding (8), fail to give way (19), fail to obey lights/sign (3), unsafe reversing (4), drive under the influence (2) and 67 other offences.

APPENDIX "P"

POLICE DRIVER TRAINING

COURSES	Police	
	Passed	Failed
Standard Car	150	17
Pursuit Car	69	1
Four Wheel Drive	70	9
Motor Cycle Course:		
Traffic Operations Group	58	28
Independent Patrol Group	6	7
Observation Squad	2	Nil
Refresher Training	13	1
Transport Branch	1	Nil
900cc Assessment Training	107	2
TESTS		
"B" Class Non-Pursuit Driving Authority	74	29
Traffic Operations Group Suitability	125	1
"B" Class Driving Authority Re-tests	11	Nil
Civilian Motor Driving Instructor	101	156
"C" and "D" Police Driving Authority	754	440

**VICTORIA POLICE FORCE ACTUAL STRENGTH BY
DEPARTMENT AT 31.12.81**

	Operations		Crime		Traffic		Services		Personnel		S.D.L.		C.C.P.		R & D		Total by Sex		Total	Rank	Group	Ratio
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				
COMMISSIONER	1		1		1		1		1				3	1			9		9	0.1%	4.7%	1:20 Officers to other ranks
COMMANDER	2												1				3		3	0.04%		
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT	18		2		2		2		2		1	1	1				29		29	0.4%		
SUPERINTENDENT	19		4		2		2		3		2	1					33		33	0.4%		
CHIEF INSPECTOR	60	1	30		6		4		5		3	6	2				116	1	117	1.45%		
INSPECTOR	112	1	32		11		10		12		5	1	2	1			185	2	187	2.3%		
BREVET INSPECTOR			2				2		1								5		5	0.1%		
SENIOR SERGEANT	250	12	92		29		20		12	1	7	2	3				415	13	428	5.3%	23.1%	1:13 Sub- Officers to S/Con. & Consts.
BREVET SEN. SERGEANT	1		4		3		8					2					18		18	0.2%		
SERGEANT	873	16	235	5	90		92	1	34		16	4	1	5			1349	23	1372	17.0%		
BREVET SERGEANT	12		14	2			10				1						37	2	39	0.5%		
SENIOR CONSTABLE	1547	93	587	33	312	14	115	7	31	2	25	1	14	2	1	1	2632	153	2785	34.6%	72.2%	
CONSTABLE	1995	282	117	16	190	30	111	23	154*	42*	46	8	3	5		3	2616	409	3025	37.6%		
TOTALS BY SEX	4890	405	1120	56	646	44	377	31	255	45	106	9	38	8	15	5	7447	603	8050			
TOTALS	5295		1176		690		408		300		115		46		20		8050					
ACTUAL %	65.8%		14.6%		8.6%		5.1%		3.7%		1.4%		0.6%		0.2%							

Authorised Strength: 8,166
*Includes 138 males and 38 females in training

Reservists: 129
Cadets: 14

Victoria's population -- December 1981: 3,971,000
Police to population ratio: 1:493

APPENDIX "R"

PERSONNEL WASTAGE

Rank	Resigned	Retired Ill-health	Age	Died	Dis-missed	Terminated
Deputy Commissioner			1			
Assistant Commissioner			1			
Commander			3			
Chief Superintendent		1	1			
Superintendent		3	3			
Chief Inspector		4	2			
Inspector		7	12	3		
Senior Sergeant		11	22	1	1	
Sergeant	36	55	22	2		
Senior Constable	123	11	1	5		1
Constable					1	
TOTAL	170	121	69*	11	1	1

*includes 29 members who retired before 60 years of age

APPENDIX "S"

DISCIPLINARY CHARGES

	Discipline Board		Chief Commissioner	
	1980	1981	1980	1981
Members charged	31	19	2	Nil
Total Charges	123	55	3	—
RESULT OF CHARGES				
Not proceeded	9	4	—	—
Dismissed	16	8	—	—
Adjourned	44	25	—	—
Reprimand	3	11	—	—
Fine	35	7	3	—
Reduce in Rank	16*	Nil	N/A	—
Dismissed from Force	Nil	Nil	N/A	—

*3 members

MEMBERS FOUND MEDICALLY UNFIT BY THE GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICER

RANK	1980	1981	PRIMARY REASON	1980	1981
Superintendent	1	1	Nervous Disorder	80	86
Chief Inspector	2	3	Back Problems	15	14
Inspector	5	4	Heart Problems	5	3
Senior Sergeant	11	7	Head Injuries	4	—
Sergeant	35	40	Bodily Injuries	8	23
Senior Constable/Const.	68	66	Stroke	2	2
Cadets	—	—	Meniers Disease	1	—
Pending	—	15	Eye & Ear Problems	2	2
			Others	5	6
TOTAL	122	136	TOTAL	122	136

APPENDIX "U"

AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS

QUEEN'S POLICE MEDAL

The following members were awarded the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service:—

- January, 1981: Assistant Commissioner J.R. Hall
Chief Superintendent A. Coysh
Superintendent H.V. Norton
- June, 1981: Commander P.M. Standfield
Chief Superintendent E.N. Standfield

POLICE VALOUR AWARDS

- 13.3.1981 Sergeant C.W. Pattison, 17188, and Senior Constable R.K. Fraser, 18109, for outstanding courage displayed in the pursuit and apprehension of an armed offender who had shot five people, killing three, at the Supreme Court Building, on 21st May, 1980.
- 27.4.1981 Sergeant N.T. Greig, 15538, for outstanding courage displayed in the resolution of a volatile incident involving a drunken and emotionally disturbed man armed with a firearm.
- 27.4.1981 Senior Constable H. Witkiss, 13136, for courageous conduct in the apprehension of an armed offender at Lancefield on 27th December, 1980.
- 18.5.1981 Sergeant L.W. Coath, 16199, for courage displayed at Reservoir on 20th March, 1980, in disarming an offender who was armed with a loaded revolver and threatening to use it.
- 28.5.1981 Senior Constable D.W. Boyer, 18009, for outstanding courage displayed in confronting and disarming a dangerous criminal who was subsequently convicted on five counts of armed robbery and one count of use of a firearm to prevent lawful apprehension.
- 25.6.1981 Constable D.K. McKay, 21449, and Constable K.J. Martin, 21785, for courage displayed in the sustained pursuit of three armed robbers, one of whom fired four shots at his pursuers, and the arrest of one robber.
- 19.11.1981 Senior Constable N.S. Thomas, 19252, for courage, tact and understanding displayed whilst confronting and disarming an emotionally disturbed man armed with a loaded double barrel shotgun.

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S CERTIFICATES

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

Chief Superintendent D.G. Plant
Superintendent T.M. Bishop
Chief Inspector F.C. Dempsey
Inspector M.W. Walsh
Inspector B.D. Church
Inspector N.M.C. Wilde
Senior Sergeant N. Delmenico, 10929
Senior Sergeant S.W. Baker, 11227
Senior Sergeant L.C. Milburn, 11451
Senior Sergeant A.L. Ritchie, 11717
Senior Sergeant R.W. Lock, 12889
Senior Sergeant J.K. MacDonald, V.A., 13627
Senior Sergeant A.J. Warren, 14459
Sergeant K. Lean, 10519
Sergeant R.R. Caldwell, 13869
Sergeant O'Brien, 14540
Sergeant R.L. Lowick, 17123
Senior Constable K.D. Ball, 17315
Senior Constable W.S. Fielding, 17868
Constable G.P. Milburn, 21427
Constable J.A. Vanston, 21832

Mr. E. Newman For services to Police Education
Mr P. Webb For services to Police Education
Mrs. K. Jordan For service with Northcote Police

COMMENDATIONS

Two hundred and eighty-eight members of the Force received commendations for meritorious service.

APPENDIX "V"

FINANCE	Financial Year	
	1979/80	1980/81
	\$	\$
REVENUE —		
Police	27,769,994	30,592,630
EXPENDITURE —		
Police		
Salaries and Allowances —		
Salaries	126,281,586	144,636,338
Police	22,592,632	14,152,351
Public Service Staff	148,874,218	158,788,689
	3,573,873	4,621,833
Overtime and penalty rates		
Payments in lieu of long service leave, retiring gratuities	1,641,364	2,250,240
	154,089,455	165,660,762
GENERAL EXPENSES —		
Travelling and subsistence	1,770,116	2,067,924
Office requisites, printing and stationery	1,199,352	1,223,923
Books and publications	262,933	361,991
Postal and Telephone expenses	2,794,201	3,325,769
Motor vehicles and Police Air Wing — purchase and running expenses	9,224,171	10,915,265
Fuel, light, power and water	1,389,647	1,686,158
Incidental expenses	667,123	959,552
Electronic Data Processing — expenses	113,793	174,810
Personal equipment, uniforms, clothing and bedding	804,802	707,879
Radio, photographic, scientific and training equipment and materials	1,599,999	2,243,906
Contributions to Central Fingerprint Bureau, Sydney	104,626	144,810
Transport of prisoners, search parties and traffic school travelling expenses, etc.	120,115	137,287
Burials	8,000	8,706
Provisions for Police Hospital	15,468	14,175
Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medals	1,500	1,800
Pay-Roll Tax	7,457,855	8,593,478
State Employees Retirement Benefits Fund — Contribution	—	21,992
	27,533,701	32,589,425
OTHER SERVICES —		
Contribution to Police Pensions Fund	4,650,000	5,150,000
TOTAL	186,273,156	203,400,187
POLICE SERVICE BOARD —		
Salaries of Public Service Staff	24,751	28,183
Postal and Telephone Expenses	500	500
TOTAL	25,251	28,683
Non recurring salaries on account of Motor Registration Branch		11,700,757
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	186,298,407	215,129,627

APPENDIX "W"

NEW AND AMENDING LEGISLATION

A number of the more important new and amending legislation affecting the duties of the Victoria Police Force in 1981 are:—

POLICE REGULATION (CHARGES AND APPEALS) ACT 1980, 9433

This Act amends the Police Regulation Act 6338 to create a second division of the Police Service Board and provides for a member of the public on both the Police Discipline Board and the Police Service Board when either Board deals with a matter involving the public. In those matters the Board shall be open to the public unless otherwise ordered. In regard to a complaint from a member of the public, the Act allows the Chief Commissioner to appeal to the Police Service Board where he believes the penalty should have been different.

MAGISTRATES (SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS) ACT 1981, 9520

This Act amends the Principal Act 8731 and provides for the postal service of a summons to a witness who did not attend committal proceedings and is required at the subsequent trial. The offence of non-attendance by these witnesses at committal proceedings was repealed.

SUMMARY OFFENCES (CORPORATION MEETINGS) ACT 1981, 9519

This amending Act allows a Chairman presiding over a general meeting of a corporation to preserve order if the meeting is disrupted. A person who does not obey the chairman's ruling or direction may be removed from the meeting. The chairman may direct a member of the Force to remove such person. No offence is created by this procedural section.

IMPERIAL LAW RE-ENACTMENT ACT 1980, 9407

This Act places certain Imperial Acts into the Crimes Act, 6231, and other Acts. Amendments to the Crimes Act include a list of Treasonable Offences and a new Division creating offences relating to piracy. Other new Sections deal with defamation, blasphemous libel, and seditious libel. The Act replaces the Common Law offence of rescue and extends the new offence to include a person who aids a prisoner to escape.

CRIMES (CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES) ACT 1981, 9576

This Act amends the Crimes Act and many other Acts. It abolishes the distinction between felonies and misdemeanours classifying offences as Treason, Indictable, Serious Indictable and Summary. The Common Law offences of misprision of a felony and compounding a felony are replaced with an offence of concealing an Indictable Offence for a benefit. The Act permits police to enter premises without warrant, using force if necessary, and search for a person wanted for a serious indictable offence. It also provides for the use of necessary force as is required to prevent the commission, continuance or completion of an indictable offence or to affect or assist in affecting the lawful arrest of an offender.

CRIMES (SEXUAL OFFENCES) ACT 1980, 9509

This Act extensively amends the Crimes Act 6231 in relation to sexual offences. Rape now includes acts that previously would have been called "gross indecency" or "buggery". The new legislation does not prohibit sexual penetration by consenting children over 12 years of age providing their ages do not differ by more than 2 years. It also repeals the Common Law presumption that a male person under 14 years is impotent and provides for offences of aggravated rape or aggravated indecent assault with higher penalties.

FILMS (AMENDMENT) ACT 1981, 9585

This Act amends the Films Act 1971, 8161, and provides for:—

- (a) an offence by an adult to permit, allow or accompany a person under 18 years to attend the screening of a restricted film;
- (b) permits police, the exhibitor or employee to demand certain particulars from persons suspected of committing an offence;
- (c) provides an offence to fail or refuse to give particulars or provide false particulars;
- (d) enables the exhibitor, his employees to refuse to admit, or evict any person whose presence would make the exhibitor liable to a penalty, and provides for police assistance when requested.

MOTOR CAR (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1980, 9477

Amendments to the Motor Car Act 6325 include:—

- (a) the extension of free car registration available to T.P.I. pensioners to current serving members of the Defence Forces whose state of health is similarly incapacitated;
- (b) provision for all licences or permits held by a person to be cancelled and disqualified automatically with the mandatory cancellation of a licence or permit;
- (c) empowers police to require a person to attend with them at a police station for a Breathalyser Test after he has given a positive preliminary breath test.

Amendments to the Road Traffic Regulations include:—

- (a) the removal of the requirement to have headlamps permanently dipped in built up areas;
- (b) the requirement that a vehicle entering a terminating intersection (i.e. a 'T' intersection) from a terminating carriageway must give way to all traffic on an uncontrolled intersecting carriageway.

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

CHIEF COMMISSIONER

LEGAL ASSISTANTS

STAFF OFFICER
(Chief Inspector)
and
PRIVATE SECRETARY

MEDIA DIRECTOR

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(ADMINISTRATION)

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(OPERATIONS)

STAFF OFFICER
(Chief Inspector)

STAFF OFFICER
(Chief Inspector)

PROTECTIVE SECURITY GROUPS
(Chief Superintendent)

INTERNAL
INVESTIGATIONS
BUREAU
(Commander)

- Special Operations Group
- Independent Patrol Group
- Court Security Group

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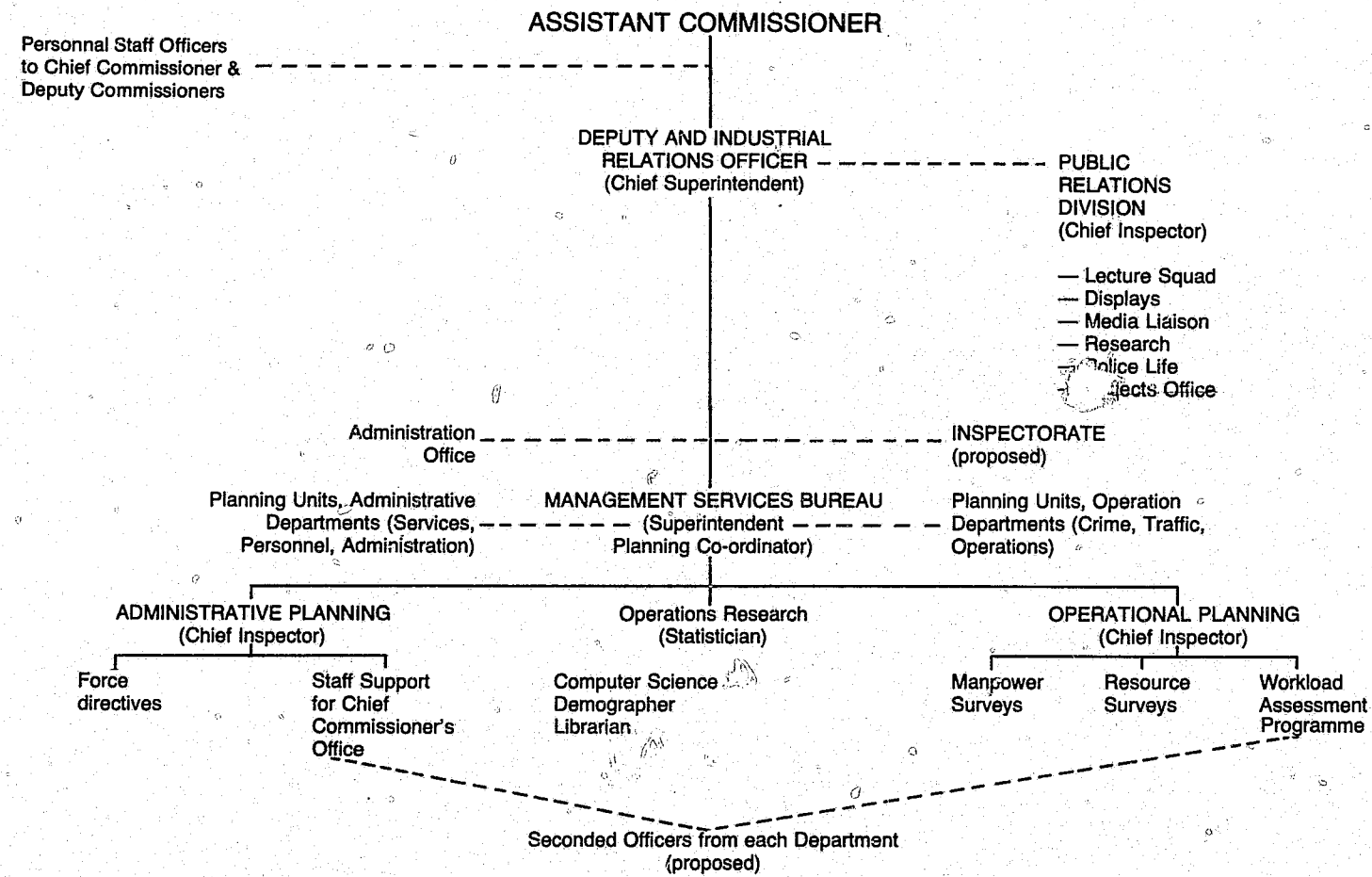
PERSONNEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS CRIME TRAFFIC

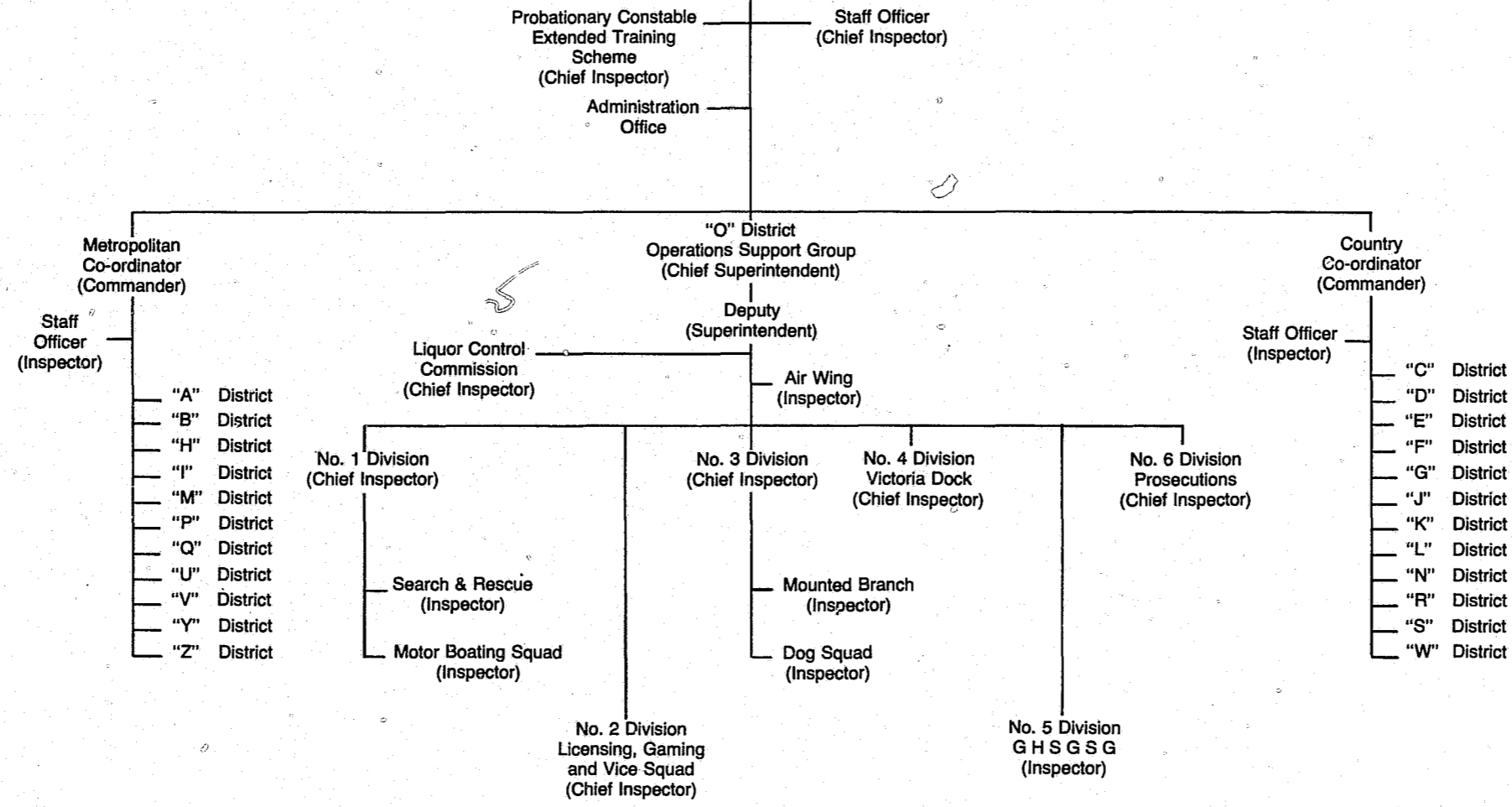
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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

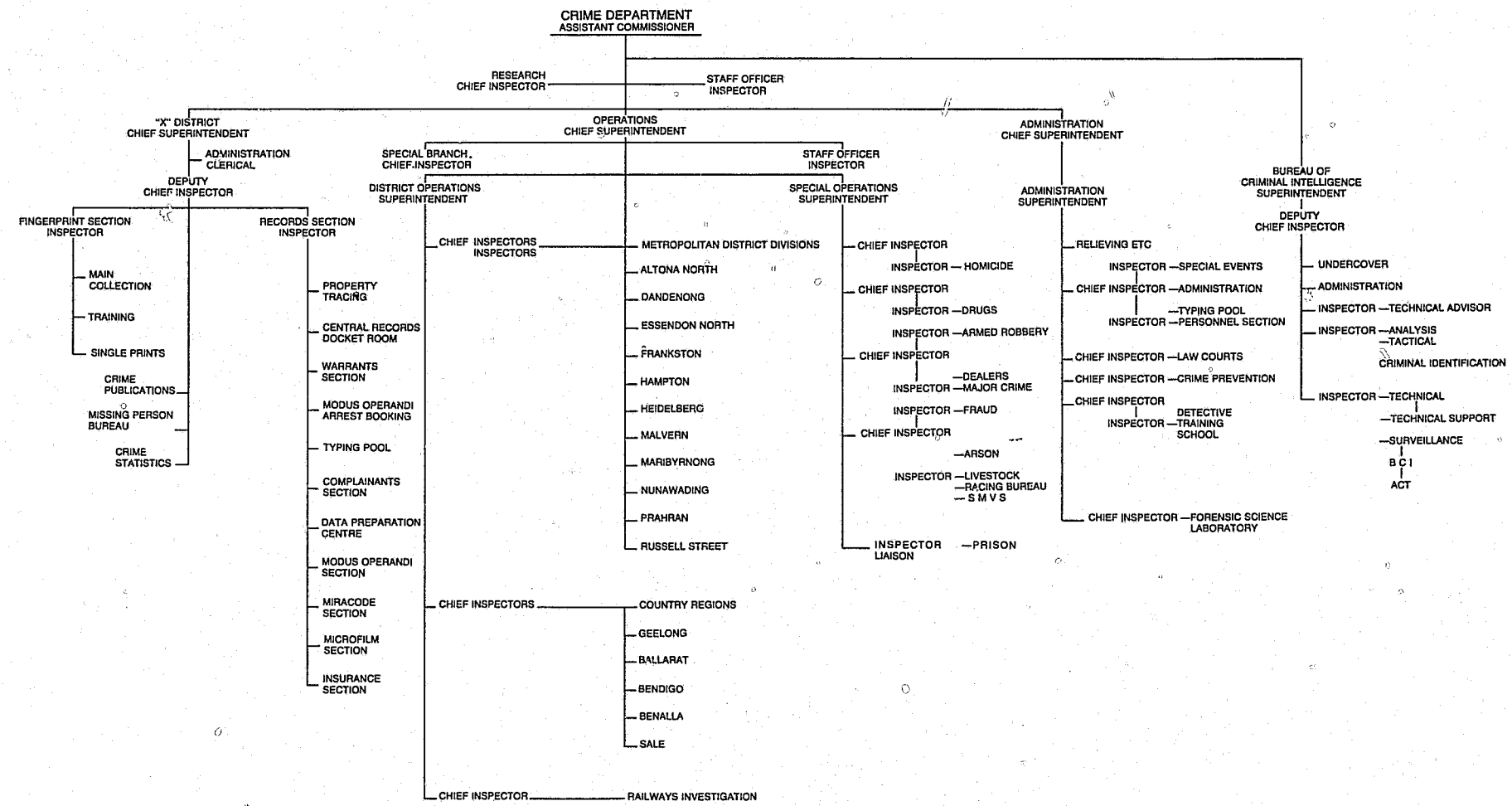


APPENDIX 'X' 12

**OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER**



APPENDIX "X" 4



TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Penalties Payment
Section

Staff Officer
(Chief Inspector)

Central Traffic Policy and Information Section
(Senior Sergeant)

Budget Officer
(Sergeant)

DEPUTY TO ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
(Chief Superintendent)

Police Accident
Investigation
Committee

Staff Clerk
(Senior Sergeant)

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS GROUP
(Chief Superintendent)

PROSECUTIONS
(Inspector)
Prosecutions Office
Brief & Summons Room
Brief Room
Statistics Section

Traffic Research
Accident Investigation Section
Special Solos
Command Caravan
Breath Analysis Section
(Chief Inspector)

WESTERN
(Superintendent)

No. 1 Division No. 1 Region
No. 2 Division No. 2 Region
 No. 3 Region

EASTERN
(Superintendent)

No. 4 Region No. 3 Division
No. 5 Region No. 4 Division

INSPECTOR
(Administration)

INSPECTOR
(Administration)

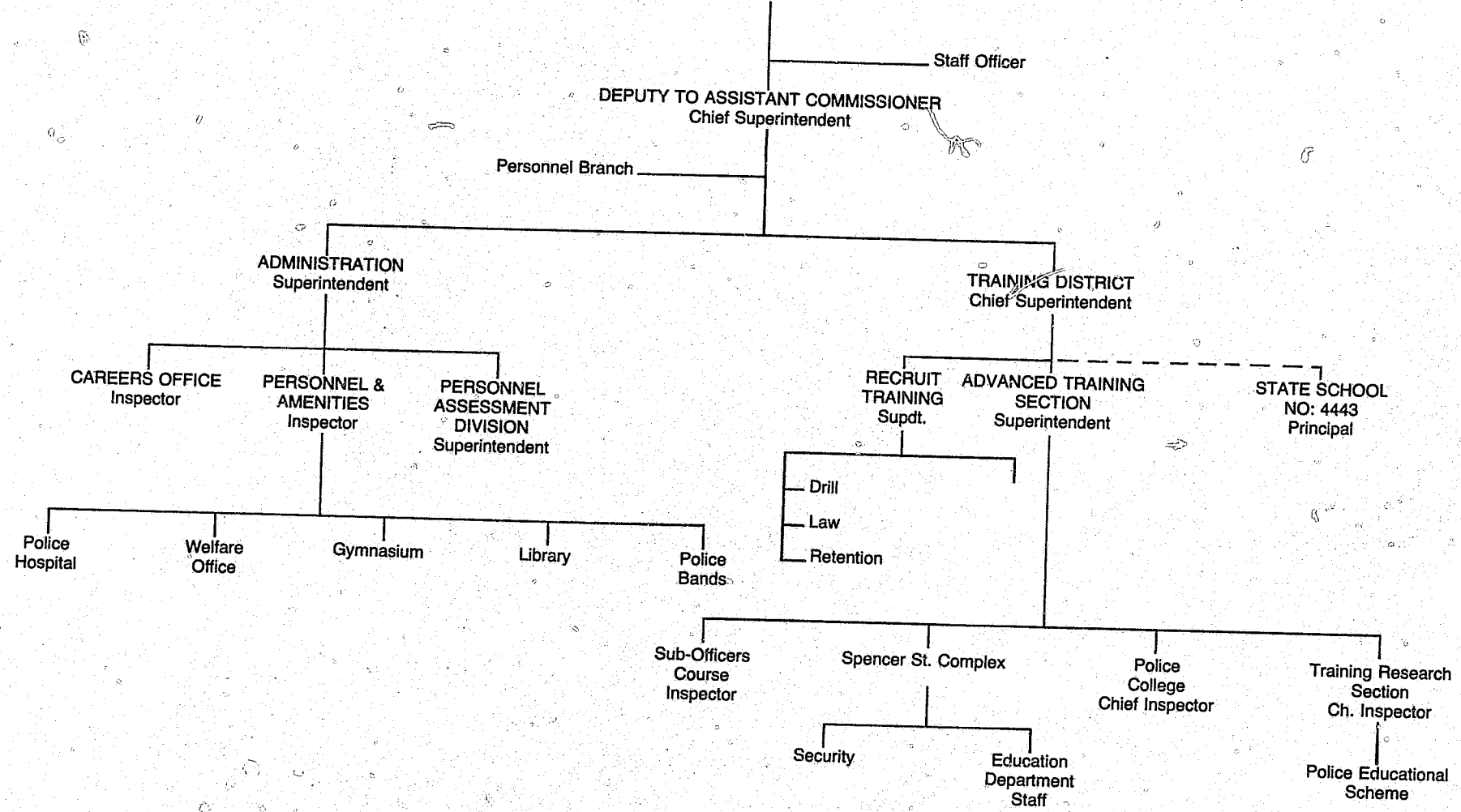
Standard Wing
Pursuit Wing
4 x 4 Wing
Vehicle Safety Testing
School
Advanced Studies
Motor Cycle Wing

(District Clerks)
Administration
Accounts
Overtime
Leave
Travelling
Records etc.
M.T.S. Stores
Personnel

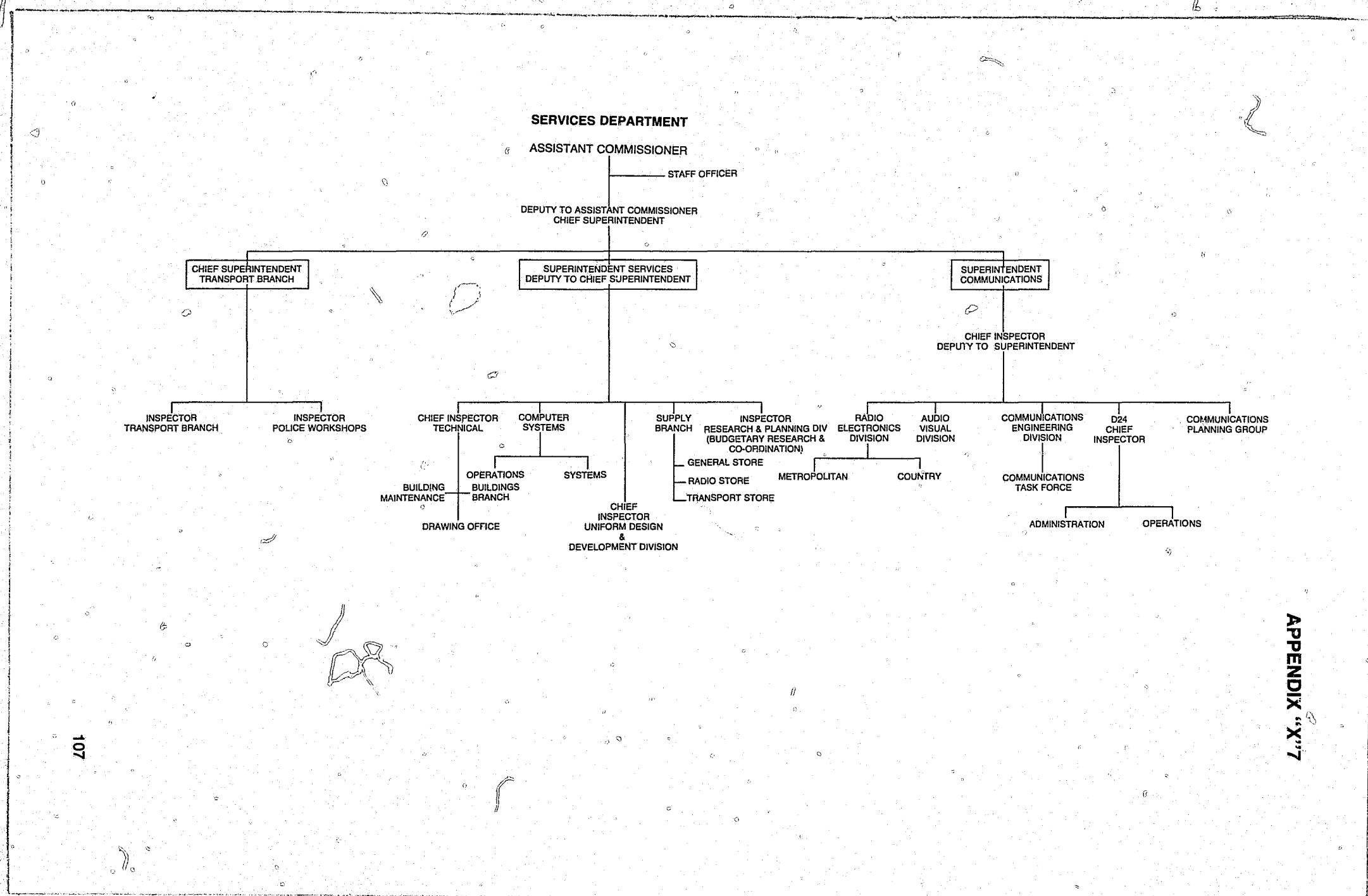
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Testing Station
Supervisors
Wide Loads

Licence Review
Instrument Development
& Maintenance Section
Accident Records
Typing Pool
Mapping Room

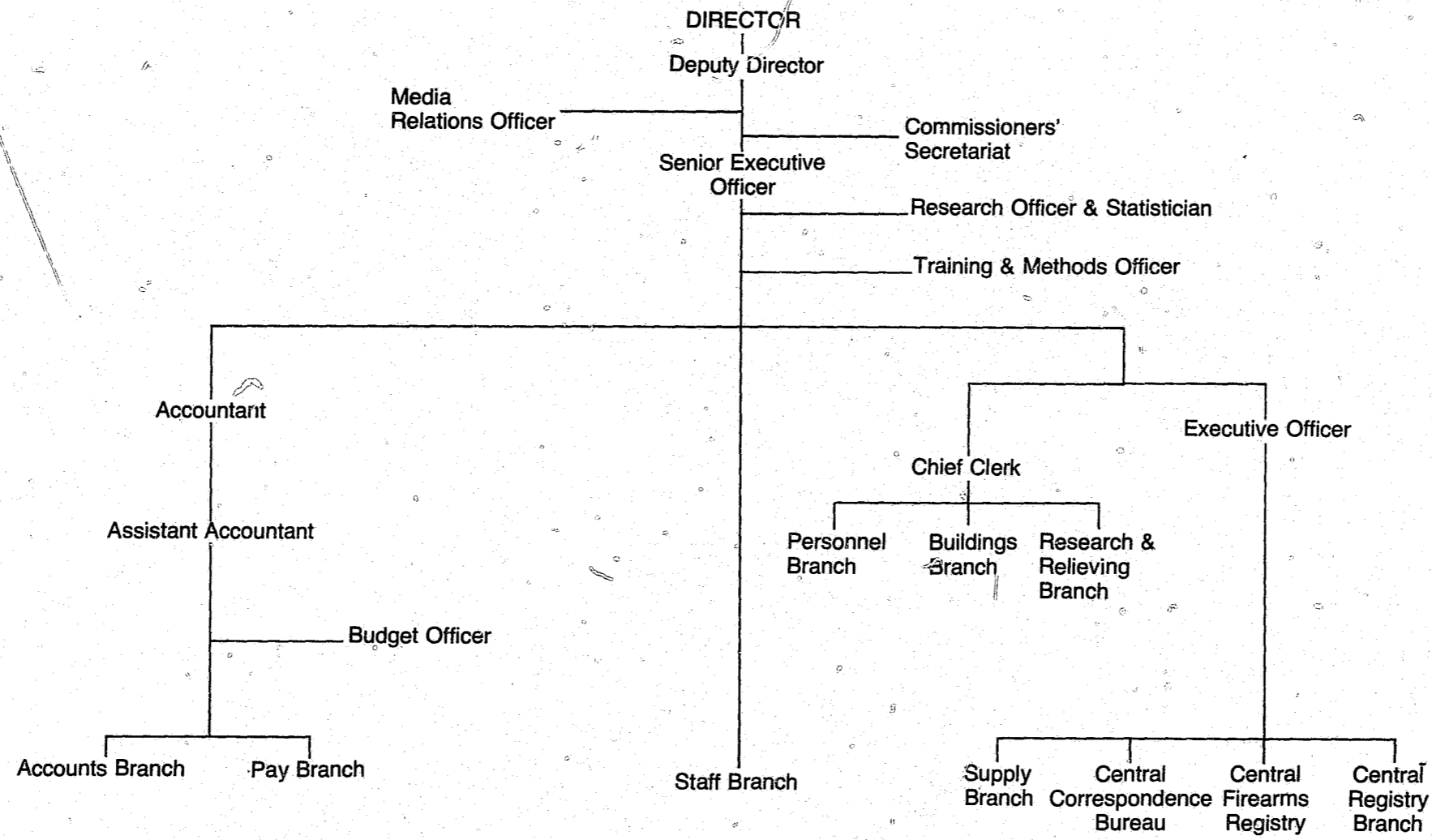
**PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER**



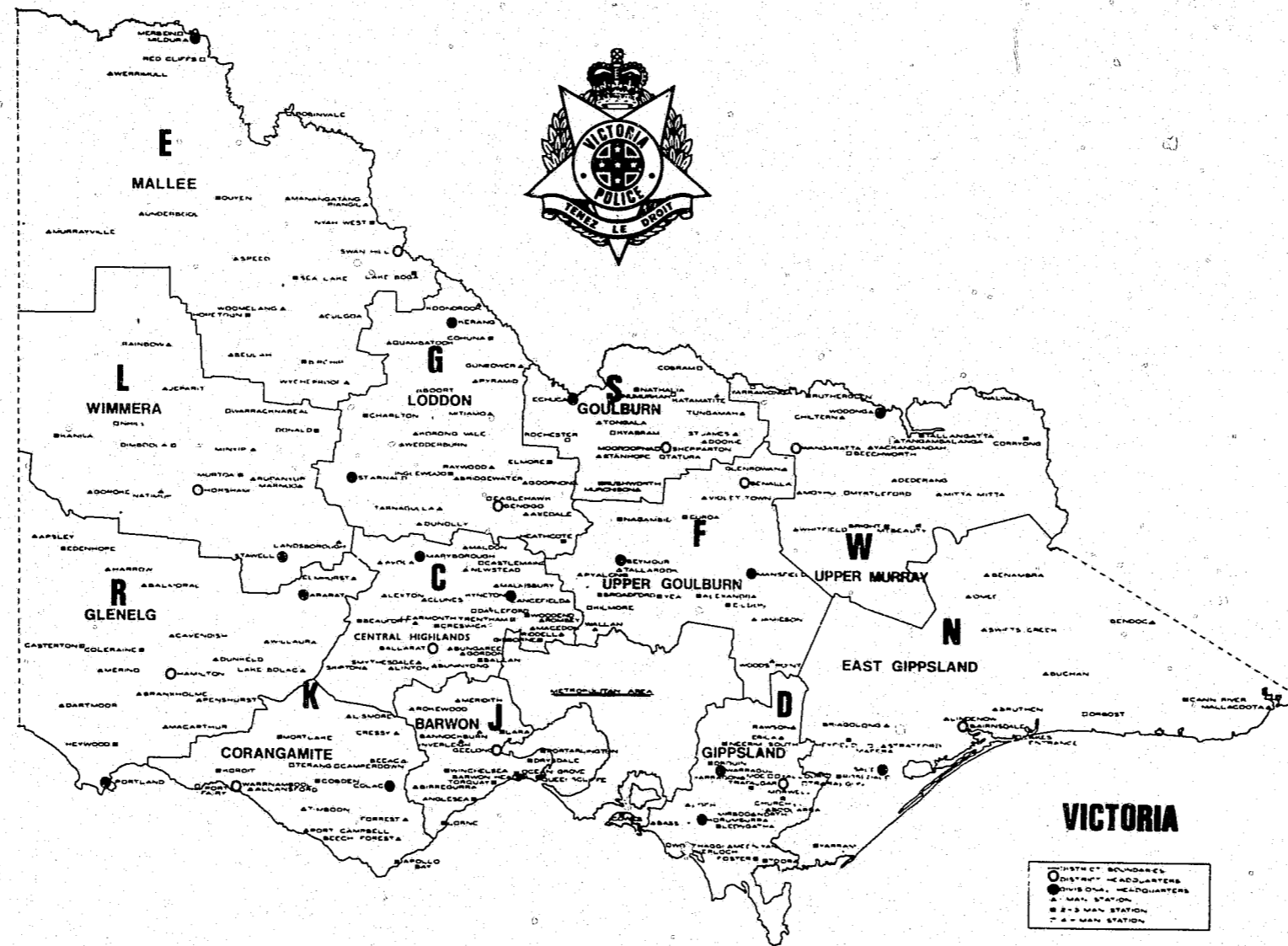
APPENDIX "X" 6



ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT



VICTORIA POLICE COUNTRY DISTRICTS



COST SAVING INITIATIVES

The Victoria Police Force is concerned that its operations be as efficient as possible. Considerable savings have resulted from an ongoing review. These were listed in the 1980 Annual Report. A number of areas in which substantial savings were gained during 1981 include:—

- The Instrument Development and Maintenance Section produced electronic devices including sirens, public address systems and speed measuring devices, saving the Force in excess of \$150,000 and achieved other savings on the maintenance of equipment during the year.
- Savings amounting to \$117,226 were effected by the removal of stolen vehicle lists from Telex Station Broadcasts as from 31.5.81.
- The Uniform Design and Development Division has reduced annual expenditure on the supply of overcoats by \$52,000 due to revised procedures with their production. A further annual saving amounting to \$10,000 has been achieved with the supply of alpine and mounted uniforms.
- The Forensic Science Laboratory Photographic section also incurred substantial savings with the purchase of rapid photographic processing equipment which produces results in a matter of seconds, compared with the previous 20 minutes to 5 hours.
- Substantial savings (to date \$100,000) have accrued from the restricted issue of the Police Manual and Standing Orders, and will result from the issue of Acts and Regulations on a Station basis rather than the current personal issue.
- Substantial savings resulted from the phasing out of the police cadet scheme in the salaries of cadets, police staff and Education Department teachers and in the provision of support services.
- A review of standards resulted in the use of prefabricated material in the construction of remote radio base site buildings which effected construction, transportation and installation savings of about \$19,000 per unit. Since 20 units will be required between 1981 and 1983, the total savings will be \$380,000.

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