

CANBERRA HAS ITS OWN TV 'COP SHOW'

by Senior Sergeant Dave Wilson of 'Police 7'

Police Forces are only now throwing off their inherent conservative attitude towards public relations.

This is particularly so in regard to the media. There is a realisation that the communication channels to the public through newspapers, radio and television are valuable weapons with which to combat crime and other community ills.

From 1967 the former A.C.T. Police Force has had police columnists writing weekly in Canberra newspapers.

Regular use is made of radio stations in Canberra and four years ago the force entered the television field with two weekly television programs, **Police 7** (on Saturday evenings) and **Junior Police 7** (on Sunday afternoons).

Both programs run for approximately seven minutes and are provided by CTC7, free of charge, as a community service.

The cost of both programs to the channel is approximately \$2000 per week. This budget covers both movie and studio cameraman, film editors, film processing and studio staff as well as air time.

Police 7 was launched after a director of CTC7 suggested the program after seeing a similar programme in the United Kingdom entitled **Police 5**.

The program is most favourably received by the community of Canberra and features high on the Channel's rating chart.

Not only does **Police 7** provide the

public with up-to-date information on crime and similar incidents, attention is also directed towards community affairs.

It is through the **Police 7** and **Junior Police 7** programs that we have become part of the Canberra community, and not apart from it.

First Constable Carol Lovegrove (compare of Junior Police 7) and the author of this article, Senior Sergeant Dave Wilson who comperes Police 7, tape a segment for what has become one of the most popular weekly shows on Canberra television.



Police broadcast multi-lingual Christmas messages

For a two week period prior to Christmas Day, Christmas messages in different languages were broadcast by Canberra's commercial television and radio stations.

The 30-second spot ads in English, Arabic, Croatian, French, German, Greek, Italian and Japanese were spoken by police and policewomen from AFP stationed in Canberra.

Besides containing festive greetings, the broadcasts urged the public to exercise care on the road, safety at the beach, house security and child safety.

Deputy Commissioner, Mr Reg Kennedy said, 'As we have a wide variety of ethnic groups within AFP's ranks, we decided to use their talents in order to spread the Christmas message as far as possible within Canberra's

multi-lingual community.

'I would like to pay tribute to CTC Channel 7 and broadcasting stations 2CA and 2CC for their splendid co-operation on this police initiative.

'It is a fine example of "giving" in the true spirit of Christmas.

'Facilities for recording and the actual air times were donated by the stations,' Mr Kennedy said.