

Jervis Bay unit gets new ocean launch



AFP members at Jervis Bay, the ACT's coastal territory, have taken delivery of a new 10.4-metre ocean-going patrol and rescue launch, the 'Argus'.

The Officer-in-Charge of the ACT Region, Assistant Commissioner Val McConaghy, recently presented the keys of the launch to Jervis Bay Officer-in-Charge, Sergeant Paul O'Sullivan.

The Jervis Bay rescue service is an important part of AFP operations.

AFP Annual Reports give an indication of its effectiveness.

"Jervis Bay's permanent population is 860. During 1982-83 there was an increase of visitors from 558,624 to 589,068 and members were involved in 64 operations at sea. 16 vessels were recovered, 48 persons rescued and the value of craft recovered was \$399,000," the 1982-83 report points out.

The latest Annual Report reveals the same number of rescues, but this time involving one more person and nine more craft with a value of \$570,000.

Great attention, planning and thought went into the launch's

• *TOP: The Argus under near maximum power in Jervis Bay. BOTTOM: Assistant Commissioner McConaghy hands over the keys, watched from left, by OIC Belconnen Police Station Inspector Max Bradley, Senior Sergeant Terry Paff and Senior Constable John Williams.*

equipment for its ocean-going role.

This equipment includes twin Volvo, turbo-charged diesel motors capable of 23 knots; a 120-watt Kodan HF radio capable of communicating with coastal radio stations, the Navy and Air Force and merchant marine; a GME VHF seaphone and a GME 27 megawatt short band radio.

Argus also is fitted with Furuno colour radar with a 72-mile range; Furuno depth sounder and radio direction finder and 50 mm pumps capable not only of pumping out the boat but also being used for fire-fighting purposes.

It has an all-fibreglass hull, a fully-enclosed wheelhouse and can carry 1,200 litres of fuel giving a range of 600 kilometres.

VIC. OFFICER SPENDS 5 MONTHS IN ACT AFP 'world leader' in digital science

The AFP's Scientific Directorate is a world leader in digital signal processing by computer, according to Victorian police forensic scientist, David Gidley.

David recently completed a five-month stay with the AFP under the Public Service Exchange Program.

In layman's terms, being able to bring such things as fingerprints or photographs down to a digital data base and then manipulate it by computer is one of the most sophisticated uses of high technology as an aid to modern policing.

"My stay with the AFP has been immensely valuable," David said.

Holder of a Bachelor of Science degree from Monash University and a Master of Business Administration from Melbourne University, David is Assistant Director (Operations) of the Victorian State Forensic Science Laboratory, in Victoria's Police and Emergency Services Ministry.

"It was quite a readjustment coming from part of a 120-man strong organisation to one of only a handful," said David.

"But the change was important at my stage of career development."

David acted as head of the directorate in the absence of Dr Malcolm Hall who was on long service leave.

"I learned a lot but I hope I was also able to contribute something to the AFP," he said.

"There is no doubt I have improved my understanding of the application of computers to forensic science. The AFP is one of only

four organisations in the world using this type of technology.

"And it enjoys a high reputation for its work among police organisations around the world."

David said the best illustration of this was the invitation from the US Secret Service for a member of the Directorate's staff, Greg Starkey, to visit them in 1985 to advise on the establishment of a similar system.

"It doesn't take much imagination to know that if the system can make clear pictures from blurred ones, and clear fingerprints from smudged ones, it has many uses to aid police investigations."

David said he was now preparing an independent, detailed review of the AFP's Scientific Services for Assistant Commissioner (Personnel) J.D. Reilly.

Promotions announced

Chief Superintendent Col Winchester, Officer-in-Charge CID, has been provisionally promoted to the new position of Assistant Commissioner (Investigations).

The promotion, which appeared in the Police Gazette on 4 October, is subject to appeal.

In other provisional moves, Chief Inspector Phil Baer and Chief Inspector John Spurling were promoted to Superintendent positions and Inspector Len Potter and Inspector Don McCulloch to Chief Inspector positions.

NT officers honour Cyprus force dead

Three Australian Federal Police officers and four from the Northern Territory Police Force recently took part in a ceremony to honour police officers who died on Cyprus, while serving with the United Nations.

The seven, led by Territory Commissioner Peter McAulay, were all veterans of the peace-keeping force.

The AFP members were Senior Constables Dennis McGuinness, Murray Geale and Trevor Sharpe.

Commissioner McAulay, who spent two years with the UN on three tours of duty, said the day was special for any officer who was attached to the combined police force.

He said three Australians died on Cyprus — two in road accidents and one when a land mine ex-

ploded as he tried to rescue civilians.

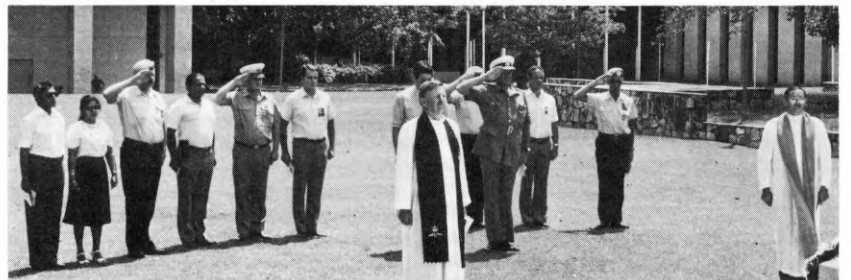
"These men died while doing their job," Mr McAulay said.

"But the UN action on Cyprus has shown that law and order, even with police officers combined in units from different nations, will work."

Under a gently waving UN flag, two wreaths of blue and white flowers were laid at Darwin's cenotaph. As the last post sounded, the uniformed officers saluted their fallen comrades.

The AFP members wore their UN blue berets for the ceremony. The RAAF provided two padres to officiate.

Australia has sent over 600 police officers to serve on Cyprus, and the day, October 26, celebrated the 20th year of our involvement.



• *Paying their respects to those who have died on duty in Cyprus.*