

Ex-Cyprus man sets sights on quiet life



Chief Inspector Jack Davis.

It's a far step from activities as a member of the Cyprus Police Force during the EOKA terrorist campaign in the late fifties to living on the tranquil Macleay Island, in Queensland's Moreton Bay.

But this is one of the contrasts that Chief Inspector Jack Davis has experienced.

Acting Superintendent Davis, at present 2IC Northern Region, has had a most colourful career.

Born in the UK in 1931, Jack served in the Royal Navy from 1949 to 1951 and then joined the Bedfordshire Constabulary, spending 15 years with the force.

It was during his period as a Constable with Bedfordshire that he was seconded to the Cyprus Police for two years.

He and his wife Sylvia migrated with their family to Australia in 1966 and he joined the Commonwealth Police in July, 1967.

From Adelaide, Jack was transferred to Darwin (in 1967) and then Port Augusta, Hobart, Queensland, Woomera, Adelaide and then back to sunny Queensland.

Jack and his wife live on Macleay Island, which is a quick trip by water taxi across Redland Bay. They bought two blocks of land on the island, built a home there and now are kept busy in their leisure hours gardening and developing the property.

Wives go on patrol

The Annual Report of the Oklahoma City Police Department for 1981 comes up with an interesting idea for the preservation of marital relations for officers. It says:

'A new Ride-Along program has been established within the department whereby the spouses or fiances of police officers will be permitted to ride with them while on duty.

The purpose of this program is to introduce officers' spouses with the duties and responsibilities faced by our officers and hopefully bring about a greater family bond through the understanding of the job function of a police officer.

It is our hope that this program will serve to benefit both the officers of our department and their spouses in bringing about better understanding of our jobs.'

Law enforcement: The challenges of tomorrow

Sound administration, improved staff training and more efficient use of resources are the key elements which will determine the on-going effectiveness of the Australian Federal Police.

That's the studied opinion of Detective Chief Superintendent R. H. (Bob) Gillespie, currently second officer in command of Eastern Region.

His views on problems facing the AFP as it gears up to meet the challenges of the 1980's, together with a formula for success, were outlined recently in a detailed speech entitled 'The Role Of The Australian Federal Police' delivered to the Royal Institute of Public Administration (Brisbane).

His views on 'tomorrow's challenges' are reproduced in part as follows:

Where are our present foes, the core of the enemy to society itself? This is contained in mainly two areas, terrorism and organised crime. In relation to terrorism, we have recently seen the attempted assassinations of the Pope and the President of the United States.

At home here in Australia, we have recently had the assassination of the Turkish Vice-Consul and his aide in Sydney and before that the Hilton Hotel bombing.

In relation to organised crime, I only need refer to the 'Mr Asia' trial in London, and its connections with massive drug smuggling and mass murders in Australia and overseas and the findings of the Costigan Royal Commission into the Painters and Dockers Union.

You may ask 'What is organised crime?' It is hard to define, like its close associates corporate crime, 'White Collar' crime and official corruption. All have always been a grey area.

One State Attorney-General opening a seminar in Canberra on white collar crime, said: 'The main reason why society has been so lenient in looking at white collar criminals is the nature of criminals themselves. They tend to be very respectable businessmen, powerful people in our com-

munity who you don't take on lightly. They have titles, many of them. They have the right school ties and they have the right connections in society'.

Whilst this comment has merit and a refreshing degree of honesty, the very pronouncement of such a class distinction is provocative to many Police officers, particularly those engaged upon the investigation of corporate crime and white collar crime.

We, the Police, and those whose job it is to track down the white collar and corporate criminal are not now simply preoccupied by perennial dishonesties such as those which occur between master and servant and modest business concerns and the public.

In fact, one of the more gruelling tasks confronting law enforcement and which will tax its resources more and more in the future is that which has been referred to as 'Gilded criminality'—the abuse of political or economic power, which can and does unsettle nations.

Bribery, corruption, tax evasion, overpricing, currency violations, the illegal export of capital, the exploitation of labour, the purposeful pollution of land, sea and air, restricted trade agreements, import/export frauds, false prospectus, diverse forms of smuggling and, the ultimate in space age trickery, the creation of illusory corporate castles fashioned by computers and complete with phantom office bearers, stock and assets are just some of the fraudulent and immensely damaging ploys available to the fertile criminal mind. This leads to the mind behind organised crime.

CONCLUSION:

Under the Australian Federal Police Act, the Commissioner of Police is accountable to the Minister for the Special Ministry of State and, through him, to the Commonwealth Government.

The AFP is also accountable to the general public because, as a Police force, its main role is to serve the public through law enforcement.



Detective Chief Superintendent Bob Gillespie tracing the historical development of the AFP.

It took an egg thrown at the then Prime Minister, Billy Hughes, at Warwick Railway Station in 1917 to assist in establishing the first Commonwealth Police Force, on 12 December 1917.

Then, after continual structural change for 60 years, it took a bomb at the Hilton Hotel, Sydney, in 1978, to create the present Australian Federal Police.

We cannot rely on eggs or bombs to build a future Federal Police force or continual changes as we have seen in the past 66 years.

I recall the quote from Petronii Arbitri Satyricon in AD 66, attributed to Gaius Petronius, an official in the Roman Court, who said:

'We trained hard—but it seemed that every time we were beginning to form up into teams, we would be reorganised. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganising, and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency and demoralisation'.

We must have an established Police force to fight organised crime and terrorism and the only way we can do this is by quickly ensuring and supporting:

- An established and efficient Police organisation.
- Sound administrative practices.
- Rigorous training.
- The maximum use of the proper human and physical resources.

Then we may be able to meet the challenges of the future.

AFP guard honours Nowra colleague

On Thursday, 3 November 1983, the funeral took place at All Saints Anglican Church, Nowra, of the late Constable Michael Ian Harrison, Eastern Region. Michael died after a long and painful illness which he had borne with great courage and determination.

At his passing, Michael was honoured by his colleagues with a Police funeral.

Michael was 20 years of age when he died but his life had been a rewarding one. He was Captain of his school, a representative football player and a musician with Nowra Town Band.

His great ambition, to become a Police Officer was realised on 12 October 1981 when he joined the Australian Federal Police.

Initially posted to Southern Region, after completing his basic training, Michael performed a variety of uniform duties in Melbourne until he was transferred to Eastern Region in May 1982.

In Sydney, he again served in various uniform roles before being attached to the Document Examination Bureau where he was working to the time of his death.

With the passing of Constable Michael Ian Harrison, the Australian Federal Police has lost a young officer of great merit and even greater potential.



A respectful salute as the flag-draped casket leaves the All Saints Anglican Church, Nowra.