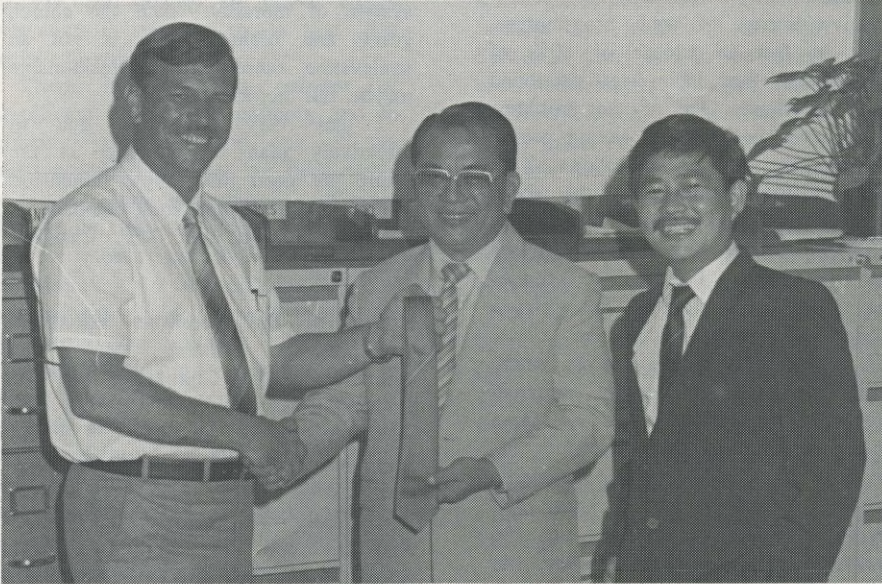


# MALAYSIAN VISITORS



Two Malaysian police officers say information gained on a recent visit to Australia could lead them to some big time Malaysian drug dealers.

Superintendent Richard Lai and Inspector Ang Ban An interviewed two Malaysian nationals sentenced in Victoria to 15 years gaol, with a 12 year non-parole, for possessing heroin.

Both officers said it appeared a fairly big ring was involved, adding that some Malaysian dealers may be seeking refuge in Australia from police pressure in their own country.

Superintendent Lai and Inspector Ang are both members of the anti-drug division of the Royal Malaysian Police Force. It was the first official visit to Australia for both of them. They were the guests of the AFP and the National Crime Authority.

Senior members of the AFP's International Division say Superintendent Lai is the force's most important contact in Malaysia.

The superintendent told 'Platypus' police forces were trying their best to stem a 'vast increase' in opiate products but they were not winning the drug war.

'Malaysia is a transit country,' he said, 'the big problem is the drug flow from the Golden Triangle - areas such as Burma and Laos.'

Inspector Lai, a 30-year police veteran, said the death penalty in Malaysia was acting as a deterrent to both local drug use and to couriers.

It was believed the rate of drug addiction in his country was fairly static following intensive prevention campaigns.

*Inspector Butler presents Superintendent Lai (centre) and Inspector Ang with AFP ties*

## Kuala Lumpur

One of the International Division officers who welcomed Superintendent Lai and Inspector Ang to Australia will soon be in Malaysia with them.

Inspector Terry Butler will go to Kuala Lumpur in July to replace Inspector Tony Bott as liaison officer. The 'K.L.' post is one of the oldest the AFP has overseas, being set up in the 1970's.

Inspector Butler said that a lot of drug couriers did not want to travel through Malaysia as a result of the death penalty but the drug problem remained.

'Couriers are moving into other areas where they don't risk the death penalty. We are finding that a lot of drugs destined for Australia are coming from the Indian continent and to some extent through the Middle East,' Inspector Butler said.

## WHY PLATYPUS ?

The Platypus has been adopted by the Australian Federal Police as a symbol representing the diverse requirements placed upon members in the execution of their duty. This unique and tenacious little Australian mammal is a survivor against increasing pressure from today's environment. It leaves no stone unturned in its daily pursuits and



*Constable Danielle Woodward*

## AFP CONSTABLE EXCELS

A constable in the AFP is now ranked in the top ten women in the world in the women's kayak event after competing recently in events in Wales and France.

Constable Danielle Woodward, who is attached to the Fraud and General Crime Branch in Southern Region, was competing with the Australian Slalom and Wildwater Canoeing Team at the International and World Championships in Wales and France.

In an international competition held in Bala, Wales, Danielle gained fourth place in the Open Ladies Kayak and second place in Open Ladies Kayak Teams.

In the World Championships held in Bourg, St. Maurice, France, she was placed 15th in Open Ladies Kayak and fifth place in Open Ladies Kayak Teams.

As a result of the Championships Danielle is ranked in the top ten women in the world and Australia is now ranked in the top five countries in the world in women's kayak.

has equipped itself with a range of features to adapt to changes over many years. It is capable of passing unnoticed, if required, yet demonstrates an unfailing dedication to explore all possibilities in an effort to maintain its special place in Australia's wildlife, at times against large and powerful opponents - a quality admired and respected by members of the Australian Federal Police.