

## First Woman for Cyprus

**T**HE AFP has sent its first female officer to Cyprus — a move which reflects the growing profile of women in the force.

Senior Constable Kathy Burdett (International Branch) is part of the AFP's 28th Cyprus contingent which joined the UN Peacekeeping Force last month.

'I will be in an administrative role,' she said, 'because the UN authorities won't agree to women doing operational work.'

'I won't be the only woman serving there — one British captain is a woman and about 10 members of the Canadian contingent are women.'

'In any case all the latest AFP contingent — bar one Tasmanian — are from Canberra,' she said.

Kathy is no stranger to Cyprus.

'I visited the contingent while travelling overseas in 1979 and learned quite a bit about the operation. I spent quite a lot of time travelling overseas in the years between 1979 and 1986, after which I confined myself to touring Australia,' she said.



(Picture by Terry Browne)

And Cyprus isn't her first 'exotic' post with the AFP — Christmas Island was Kathy's beat from 1983 to 1986 before she joined International.

'Christmas Island is a lot smaller and more isolated than Cyprus. The different nationalities on the island gave me an insight into handling various cultures

such as can be found on Cyprus,' she said.

Kathy, originally from Adelaide, joined the former Commonwealth Police in November, 1977.

'There does appear to be more of a readiness now for women to be accepted for overseas positions given the greater emphasis being placed on equal employment opportunities,' Kathy said.

The first female liaison officer to go overseas was Detective Senior Sergeant Karen Beck who went to Los Angeles in January last year.

'This was the second time I had applied for Cyprus and I know other women have been pushing for overseas posts,' Kathy said.

'Perhaps I wouldn't have been selected if it hadn't been for the efforts of my other female colleagues.'

'I expect a lot of focus on me there.'

'Postings to the Cyprus contingent are for six months with an option to stay on for another six months. I think twelve months would give me a better idea of how a woman can settle into that type of position.'

'Perhaps my next stop will be Norfolk Island — the AFP has never stationed a woman there!'

## GOLF DAY



AFP sportsmen have again demonstrated that they are among the best — this time by winning the Commonwealth Public Service Inter-Departmental Golf Trophy.

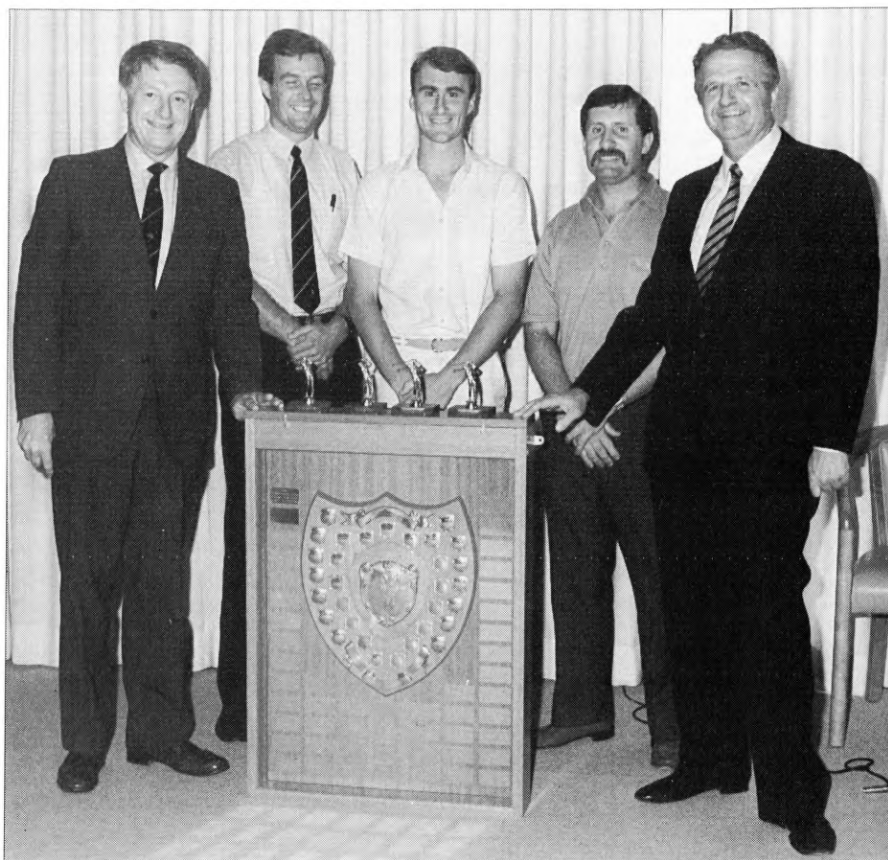
The AFP team blitzed the field at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on December 11.

Senior Constable Darrel Kildey (B.A.S) and First Constable Mark Quilter (Fraud) scored 45 stableford points. The Captain of the AFP Golf Club, First Constable Gary Buick (Canberra City Station) and Constable Ralph Schofield (B.A.S.) scored 49 stableford points.

It was the second time the AFP had won the coveted trophy in the past four years.

They competed against 85 teams from government departments.

The Commonwealth Public Service Inter-Departmental Golf Trophy was established in 1955.



Deputy Commissioner John Johnson and Mr Chris Hurford, Australian Consul-General in New York, with victorious AFP golfers, Sen. Con. Mark Quilter, Sen. Con. Wayne Buick and Sen. Sgt. Darrell Kildey. (Picture by Sen. Const. Wayne McConaghy)