



# No Place for Corruption in AFP

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NEW SOUTH WALES

**O**ne of the most senior officers in the Australian Federal Police has attacked police corruption in the light of the findings of the Fitzgerald Inquiry.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (Administration) John Johnson said he believed the AFP to have a good record on corruption, but he urged new members graduating at the AFP College, Barton, on July 5, not to be afraid to help root out any dishonesty.

"Although you must be loyal to the AFP," he said, "your main loyalty is to the people of Australia.

"If you find corruption come forward; it is in the best interests of us all to be rid of it as soon as possible.

"We don't want what happened with policing in Queensland to happen to the AFP. There is no place in this organisation for people without honour and lacking integrity and who are not scrupulously honest," he said.

Deputy Commissioner Johnson also stressed the graduates' duties under the law.

"Even the most violent and distasteful criminals are entitled to their rights under the law.

"You will find yourselves dealing with all levels of society; you are here to serve that society and must treat all its members with equal courtesy and respect."

The 45 new members were the first to graduate under a new training system designed to meet the AFP's growing investigative needs, and in line with the AFP slogan, "A Career to Investigate".

The traditional parade in uniform at the AFP's centre at Weston is no longer a feature of graduation. Instead, the new members gathered in plain-clothes at the College and were presented with their warrant cards.

Their comprehensive course ran for 80 teaching days compared with 65 teaching days under the previous system.

Subjects in the course included behavioural studies, computer systems and investigative techniques.

In another development, new members assigned to the AFP's regional commands throughout Aus-



*Mr Johnson addresses the graduates at Barton.*

tralia will be trained for 12 months in fraud and general crime or drug investigation under the "buddy" system, by being assigned to work with more experienced officers.

The 13 new members who have gone to the ACT Region will be deployed in uniform and undertake a further seven weeks' local procedures course before going out on the street.

Deputy Commissioner Johnson told the AFP's newest officers that he empathised with them because in July 32 years ago he had graduated and he remembered the event as if it were yesterday.

He said they would find big changes.

"When I joined the police all promotions were based on seniority. That has changed; you will be able to apply for transfer to any position in the AFP or for any promotion — including my job. Positions go to the most qualified person.

"I urge you all to enrol wherever possible in the great range of training programmes the AFP offers to improve your level of expertise for police work. Training opportunities are also provided in outside institutions."

Deputy Commissioner Johnson also urged the new members eventually to take their turn at being College instructors.

"Your instructors have gained great personal satisfaction from seeing you all pass out successfully and you also have a contribution to make — and satisfaction to gain — in this area."

He predicted that the new members would make great friends — both inside and outside the force.

"Some of the best friends I have had all my life resulted from contacts made while helping people who had crimes committed against them," Deputy Commissioner Johnson said.