



Intelligence Move



Mr Jack L'Epagniol.

The Director of the Intelligence Services Branch of the AFP's Bureau of Criminal Intelligence, Mr Jack L'Epagniol, has moved to the Independent Commission Against Corruption in New South Wales.

He is on loan to the Commission — recently formed by the State Government — for two years.

At this stage, Mr L'Epagniol is the Commission's only analyst. "I am working with a team for the first six months to ascertain what needs to be done and what support staff are needed to do it," he said.

"The Commission is looking at allegations of corruption in the State's framework. In my experience fraud is one of the major growth areas in crime and fraud goes hand in hand with corruption."

Mr L'Epagniol started at the BCI as an analyst about four and a half years ago after a career in Australian Army intelligence.

The Independent Commission Against Corruption has another officer well-known in AFP circles. The Assistant Commissioner is Mr Vic Anderson, the former Director of the Canberra-based Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence.

The ICAC is headed by Mr Ian Temby, QC, the former Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mr L'Epagniol started work with the Commission on July 24 and Mr Paddy Mahony — the Chief Analyst, Strategic Assessments — is acting as Director of the BCI until a new director is selected.

Police Ball



If the sales of AFP 10th Anniversary Port are anything to go by, the ball organised to mark the occasion will be a roaring success. The Ball Committee has sold nearly 60 dozen bottles of the port — and 900 commemorative crocks — to AFP members around Australia and overseas.

The Ball Committee has sold 200 tickets so far, but needs to sell at least another 300 to break even. Committee member, Detective Superintendent Ed Tyrie (Crime Co-Ordination Unit) stressed that the ball was for all AFP members and the public. "It is an occasion for the community to acknowledge the work of the force and to join in our celebrations," he said. "I also want to stress that the ball is intended as a celebration for all members of the AFP and the Committee would like to see as wide a cross section of the force there as possible." The ball will be held on October 20 at the National Convention Centre, Canberra. Det. Supt. Tyrie — who says his supplies of both bottles and crocks are fast running out — can be contacted on 062 75 7460. The other contact member is Sharon McTavish on 062 45 7220.

Southern Region Newsletter

Platypus is pleased to report that Southern Region's newsletter, "Mint Condition", produced by inimitable media man, Keith Livingston, is going from strength to strength.

The following watery tale is produced from the aptly named "Rattling Skeletons Page" of the July issue.

DOWN THE HIGHWAY

Seems a member was hot on the trail of a villain on the Geelong waterfront and on production of I.D. the target opted to elude our member by leaping into the briny and splashing off.

Undaunted, the member (a certain intrepid sergeant, now affectionately dubbed "Flipper") enlisted the assistance of an associate who happened to be nearby (for he too was targeting the same villain) and together they commandeered the villain's boat.

As "Flipper" and associate both lacked the required expertise to handle the craft it ended up stuck fast in swampy mangrove-type territory somewhere near the spot where the villain was last seen swimming.

"Follow me!" said the associate. Intrepid sergeant "Flipper", still wearing shoes and suit, followed the associate who was wearing waders, over the side and into the mud flats where both, unlike the setting sun, sank swiftly in the mire to just below the waistline.

The villain?

Well . . . next time.