

# AFP prepares not only for Olympic Games but for events before, during and beyond 2000

By Janice Jarrett



While the world's attention will be focused on the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games in just three years time, the AFP is planning not only for the Olympic Games, but also for a number of other major events that will surround the elite sporting occasion.



*A model of Sydney Olympic Stadium. (Courtesy the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games).*

*The impact of the Olympic Games for the AFP will be accentuated by their concurrence with the new millennium and magnified by other significant official events which will be held before, during, and after September 2000.*

To confront the challenges of the Olympic Games and major events which will take place in the next few years and after the turn of the century, the AFP has extended the role of the Olympic Coordination Team, increased its membership, and renamed it the Special Events Planning Team (SEPT).

Led by Director, Phil O'Rourke, SEPT members include Karen Shirley, Kerry Henderson, Federal Agents James Cooper, Peter Holder, Graeme Sindel, Stuart Kendal and Garry McGufficke. Supporting SEPT are AFP regional representatives who are known as Olympic Coordinators.

"Many know the 2000 Olympic Games will affect the AFP, but this is only one of the challenges that will confront the organisation in that year," Mr O'Rourke said.

"In all of this the AFP has a unique role with state, national and international responsibilities."

Many VIPs will be visiting Australia during 2000. Among the first will be those attending the World Economic Millennium Forum in Melbourne in late August where about 60 Heads of Government and Heads of State are expected to attend.

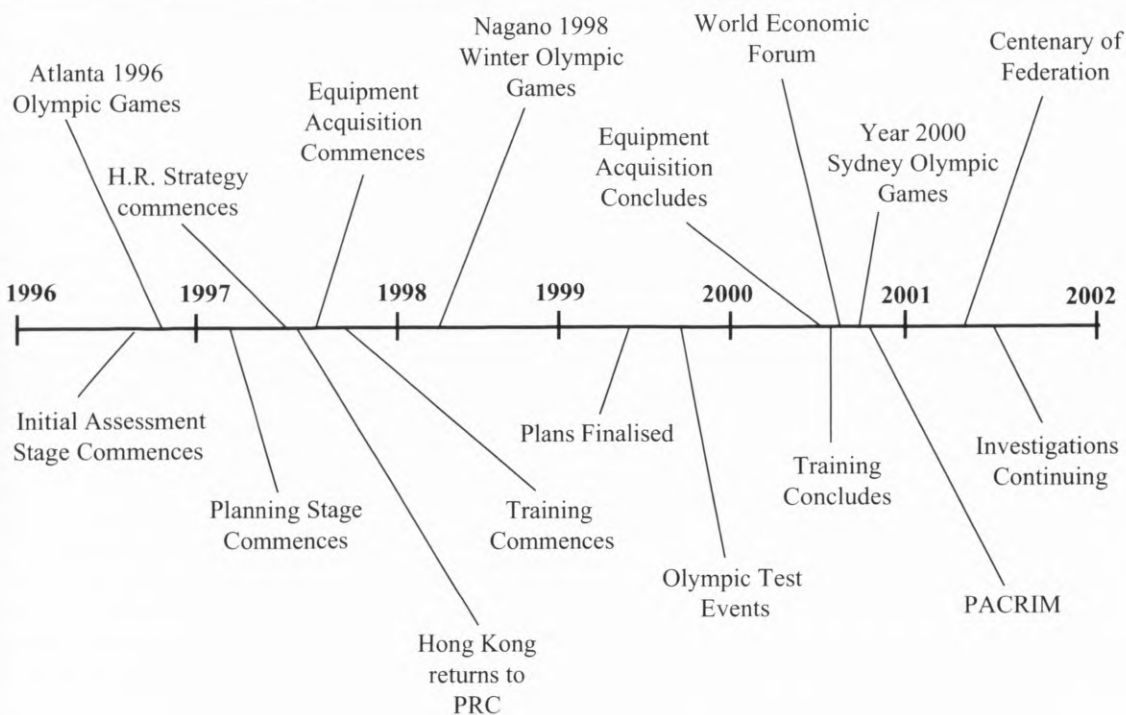
Shortly after, the Olympic Village in Sydney will open on September 2, the Games' opening ceremony will be held on September 15, the closing ceremony on October 1, and the village will close on October 4. Australia's official engagements outside of the Olympic Games will continue during this period, among them, the NSW Government will host the Pacific Rim Conference to be attended by Heads of Government, mostly from Asian countries.

The Olympic Village will open again on October 11 for the Paralympic Games and close on November 1.

But as Olympic fever comes to an end, Australia will head almost immediately into national festivities with the Centenary of Federation in 2001 for which official celebrations have been planned already, including at Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne.

"While all this is taking place the AFP will still be required to carry out its normal business," Mr O'Rourke said.

## Time Line of Events



Special Events Planning Team members, back row from left Phil O'Rourke, Karen Shirley, Federal Agents Peter Holder and James Cooper. Front, Kerry Henderson and Federal Agent Graeme Sindel. Absent, Stuart Kendal and Garry McGufficke.



Project planning had begun and a human resource strategy was being developed to ensure that the AFP would have enough qualified people to do the job in 2000.

Even though 2000 is three years away, planning and budgeting needed to be done now so that the AFP is adequately resourced well in advance of events, Mr O'Rourke said. Equipment acquisitions needed to begin because of the long lead time associated with ordering specialised equipment such as bullet-proof vests, radios and special vehicles.

A group from the AFP would attend the Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan, in February next year to see first hand the types of issues which must be confronted during an

Olympic Games, particularly for the Olympic Family (athletes and officials).

"By mid 1999 it is our aim to have all our plans in place for the year 2000," Mr O'Rourke said.

"The final Olympic test events will be held over the period 1999 — 2000. This will give us an opportunity to see how accurate some of our

plans are, especially those relating to ACT Region.

"By the end of the first half of the year 2000 we will have all of our equipment delivered and in operation, and all personnel trained and ready to assume duty.

"Finally, investigation of any crime that occurs in the Olympic period will continue into 2001, and therefore consume resources."

The team had made some assumptions to

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underpin its plans in preparing for 2000 so it can focus on the AFP's areas of responsibility. These assumptions included that responsibility for Olympic security rests

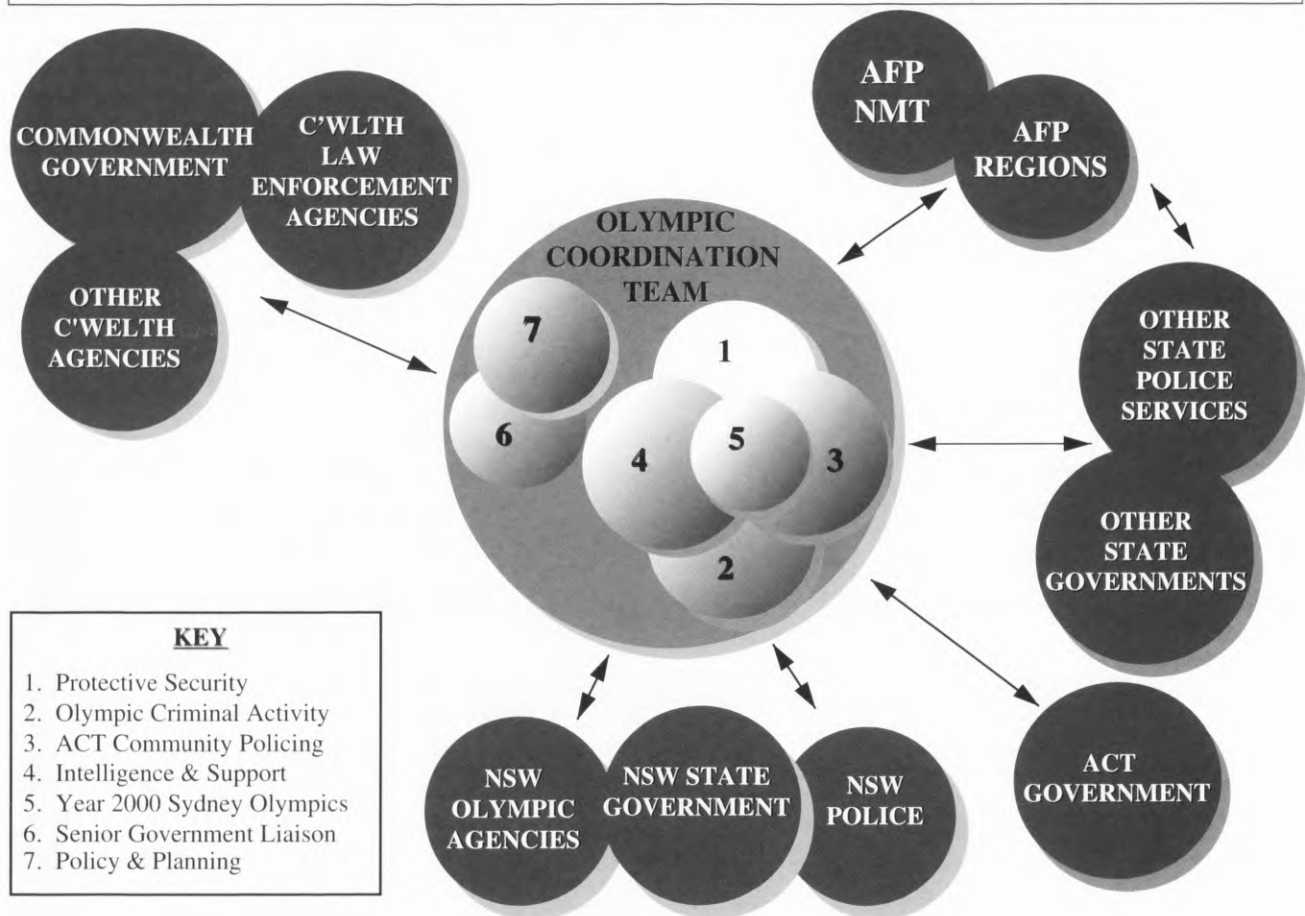
with the NSW Police; that the Protective Security Coordination Centre, which is part of the federal Attorney-General's Department, is the Commonwealth Security Coordinator; that responsibility for Commonwealth law enforcement rests with the AFP; and that states and territories have primary responsibility within their jurisdiction.

The SEPT will act as the AFP's primary intersection point for special events; develop partnerships between stakeholders; identify the AFP's role and responsibility for special events; monitor the AFP's role and response to special events; and promote opportunities for effective use of resources. These relationships are set out in the following diagram.

exchanging information through both national and international networks.

The extent of strategic intelligence required would be known closer to the event as it is such a rapidly changing environment. The AFP would also participate in the Olympic Command Centre which would operate at the Olympic site under the direction of NSW Police during the Games.

## Special Event Planning Team Relationships



The AFP will provide security for Olympic soccer events to be played in Canberra which will start two days before the Games' opening ceremony. It is thought that Canberra will host a state dinner for dignitaries attending the soccer and the SEPT anticipates that the AFP will provide protective security for the occasion. Additional human resources may be brought in from other AFP regions to meet any increased demand on ACT Region.

Another area crucial to the planning for 2000 will be strategic intelligence. Mr O'Rourke said that the AFP is a pivotal member of the intelligence community and is involved in

While NSW would be responsible for security at the Games, AFP resources would be concentrated more closely on increased criminal activity on a broader scale such as counterfeiting, drug importation, passport offences, copyright infringement (also called 'ambush marketing'), illegal immigration, money laundering, social security fraud and credit card fraud, which would be exacerbated simply by the sheer influx of visitors to Australia.

The AFP's endeavours to anticipate the level of criminal activity which will be generated by the Olympic Games will be assisted by the Special Inter-Departmental Committee on the



Prevention of Crime (SIDC-POC) which was established recently to look at the overall impact of crimes against the Commonwealth generated by or related to the 2000 Olympic Games.

SIDC-POC will look at the implications for federal law enforcement in areas such as copyright infringement, narcotic offences, currency, money laundering, credit card fraud, immigration offences and benefit program fraud.

In its first report to federal ministers the committee said that "it would be business as usual for the criminals, but more of it".

"It is now trying to develop a reliable estimate of what that increase is likely to be and the resource implications," Mr O'Rourke said.

He emphasised the need for the AFP to be proactive in its planning for the year 2000.

"A well planned and coordinated response by the AFP will contribute to a safe and secure year 2000 for Australia," he said.

## The year 2000 challenges

- WORLD ECONOMIC MILLENNIUM FORUM
- YEAR 2000 OLYMPIC GAMES
- PACRIM CONFERENCE
- YEAR 2000 PARALYMPIC GAMES
- CENTENARY OF FEDERATION

While providing our usual law enforcement responsibilities

## Increase in fraud predicted for 2000

An article in *The West Australian* on August 7, said that an Australian Institute of Criminology report warned that the potential for plastic card fraud would be heightened when Sydney hosted the 2000 Olympics.

The newspaper said that the AIC reported recently that inadequate safeguards by credit card providers has fuelled a surge in fraud, according to criminologists.

"A report by the Australian Institute of Criminology says the weakest link in the security of credit, debit and smart cards is in the way they are issued", the newspaper said.

"The report found the number of unauthorised electronic funds transfer transactions increased from 11,130 in 1993 to 22,530 last year.

"It [the AIC report] said counterfeit credit cards manufactured in Hong Kong were readily available to organised crime groups in Australia and cost up to \$6 million a year to Australian banks.

"There are more than 10 million major credit cards nationwide which are used to make about one third of retail purchases.

"Research analyst Russell Smith, who presented his findings to the chiefs of Australian police fraud squads last week, said there needed to be more cooperation between retailers, banks and police to combat the problem," the newspaper report read.

The article reported also that the AIC report said tourists would use foreign cards which might be accepted without question by local merchants.