

A cop tells it as it is

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force? "God forbid," he said. "Small is beautiful. You don't want enormous bodies in Australia doing non-productive things."

Is he going to develop a model of the British police forces seen on the telly? Not exactly.

"When *The Sweeney* started, several of the wives of the Flying Squad asked if everyone was always jumping into bed with everyone else," he said, laughing.

"Actually, a lot of the brass got very stuffy because of the excessive display of arms. The Flying Squad worked very closely with the actors, helped them with dialogue and all that. But I mean we never shoot out.

"The only time we had a real shoot out was this dreadful case at the Indian Embassy where two young people got shot by police and it turned out they were carrying only toy pistols."

When he is not helping out with scripts, Sir Colin Wood likes to relax with opera.

Sir Colin is married and has one married daughter. He is their handyman, liking to "spoil wood, making wardrobes and that kind of thing."

"I believe a policeman should have a three-dimensional hobby, painting or gardening or something with tangible results because every year, according to reports, things are 5 per cent worse.

"Every futurologist sees crime increasing at approximately the same rate as it is now. There is no one who I have ever read who says it is going down."

— *The Bulletin*, October 9, 1979.

A FAREWELL TO 42 YEARS' SERVICE

by the Editor

On Thursday, September 27, 1979, the Minister for Administrative Services, John McLeay, announced the appointment of Mr J. M. Davis as Special Adviser on federal policing matters and as Senior Fellow of the Australian Institute of Criminology.

When he announced the appointment, Mr McLeay said, "the Government expressed its appreciation of the service given by Mr Davis to the Commonwealth Police Force, including his 11 years' service as its Commissioner.

"The Government is pleased that he is able to continue to serve the Commonwealth in a special advisory and research role," Mr McLeay concluded.

Mr Davis commenced his Police career as a Constable in the NSW Police Force in 1937, serving in many divisions of that Force. After 17 years, the majority served in the Criminal Investigation Branch, he severed his ties with NSW Police in 1954 as a Senior Constable.

Born at Kitchener, NSW, on July 22, 1916, Mr Davis was educated at Cessnock High School. While a serving member of NSW Police, he enrolled at Sydney University where he graduated in 1947 with an Honours Degree of Bachelor of Laws.

Mr Davis was appointed Assistant Director of the Commonwealth Investigation Service in 1954 and served in this capacity until the Service became part of Compol in 1960.



He was appointed Deputy Commissioner of the newly created Force and served in this capacity until becoming its Commissioner in April 1969.

During Mr Davis's term of office many new procedures and ideas were introduced into the Force included among which were the establishment of uniformed police at international airports, establishment of Australian Bomb Data Centre, establishment of organised crime units within the Crime Intelligence Section, and the creation of V.I.P. and Counter Terrorist Sections with appropriate training.

Other major developments seen during the past decade have been the introduction of forensic science research programmes, expansion of police radio communications net-

work, the introduction of Railway Investigation Squads in Tasmania and South Australia and the introduction of Diplomatic and Consular patrols in Canberra.

Always displaying an interest in education, Mr Davis expanded the Force's training facilities with the acquisition of the Commonwealth Police Training Centre in Canberra. Many in-service training programmes have been included in the Centre's curriculum.

Mr Davis received the Queen's Police Medal (1967), Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (1970), and Officer of the British Empire (1976). He also holds the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and National Medal.

Since 1975 Mr Davis has been the Australian Representative of ICPO. In this capacity he led Australian delegations to the general sessions of ICPO in Argentina, Panama, Stockholm, Manila, Nairobi, Seoul, and Ghana. As well he has visited the Australian Police Contingent serving with the UN Forces in Cyprus in most years since 1970.

When interviewed by *Platypus* Mr Davis said, "Compol members built up a completely honest, effective and responsive force whose traditions of service and dedication became household words within two decades.

"I hope these traditions will spill-over into and influence the destiny of the new Australian Federal Police so that it may justly earn the distinction of being 'Australia's finest'."