

MEDALS

Another Award for the AFP's 'Mr Memory'



1985 continues to be a year of remarkable public recognition for the man in Canberra they long ago nicknamed 'Mr Memory' — Senior Constable Ron MacFarlane (above).

Ron was awarded the Order of the Australia Medal in the General List of the Queen's Birthday Honours List. And that complemented the Australia Day Medallion he won earlier this year.

Ron has a remarkable memory for remembering car number plates — and names and faces. To cite one example, since 1977 he has charged some 563

people with a total of 1,829 offences, the majority motor vehicle theft related.

And from 1969, the year his policing career began, he has recovered in excess of 1,600 stolen motor vehicles.

Self-effacing, Ron would only comment that being an original and longest-serving member of a ACT task force specialising in the theft of motor vehicles, had helped considerably to achieve his arrest record.

Police who have worked with him, however, talk simply of his incredible memory, dedication and knowledge of Canberra criminals.

"I haven't received the latest medal yet," Ron joked. "But I understand it will be presented in the near future by the Governor-General at the ceremony at Government House."



Inspector Dick Downing received the National Medal.



RETIRED Sergeant Louis Ng, of the Christmas Island Police Force, and First Constable Robert Smith were presented with National Medals recently by the Commander Western Region, Superintendent Frank Pimm.

Sergeant Louis Ng Guan Huat served with the Singapore Infantry Regiment from 1959-62. He joined the Christmas Island Police then and rose to the rank of Sergeant. He was the longest serving member of that Force. He is now living in Perth.



First Constable Robert Wayne Smith was a member of the Royal Australian Navy from 1968-74 and joined the Commonwealth Police in 1975. He transferred to the Australian Federal Police in 1979 and served as a uniformed officer in the ACT, Central and Western Regions.



One-hundred-and-twenty years of police service was marked recently when these eight members of the AFP were presented with National Medals. From left, they are: Senior Sergeant Ken Borrow, Senior Constable Trevor Emmerton, Chief Inspector Mick Keating, Sergeant Dave Ashurst, Senior Sergeant Alan Barbour, Senior Constable Bruce Harris, Station Sergeant Don Sutherland, and Inspector Eddie Richards.