

THAIS FORGE CLOSER LINKS

CLOSER Police ties with neighbouring countries is expected to be one of the major benefits from an extended visit by two Royal Thai Police officers to Australia.

The two senior Thai officers are spending five months working with the AFP as part of a new program of liaison and closer police relations.

They are Lieutenant-Colonel Supawoot Sung-Ong, Deputy Superintendent of the Thai Police Cadet Academy, and Captain Somchai Amornchai, a chemist and scientific expert.

Colonel Supawoot is attached to the AFP training section at Weston, while Captain Somchai is working with the Scientific Section.

Colonel Supawoot said Thailand had a police force of about 170,000 to look after its population of 55 million. There was a close relationship between the police and the army. Training for both forces involved separate entry for officers and other ranks.

The similarity extended to beyond training with the army being used to assist the police when extra manpower was needed.

Colonel Supawoot is second-in-charge of the Commissioned Officers Academy, which has about 1200 students. Both officers will return to Thailand in June.



• Colonel Supawoot inspects a parade of recruits at Weston, with Inspector Bill Kirk, OIC Special Training.

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Island territories

In the island territories in which the AFP has a policing role, significant changes appear certain to take place within the next 12 months.

Norfolk Island will have a complete turnover of staff with Senior Sergeant Paul MacIntosh, Senior Constable Ian Standish and Senior Constable Dennis Murray finishing their tours of duty by next January.

The services of locally engaged staff on Christmas Island have been terminated. It is expected that a review of post requirements will result in the Island Police Force consisting permanently of a Superintendent, an Inspector and six Constables.

Cyprus

In Cyprus, a new contingent of AFP members will shortly begin its six-month tour of duty.

A Chief Inspector and nine non-commissioned ranks will arrive to complete the complement for the 25th contingent for the last half of 1986. The contingent will be under the command of Chief Superintendent Wal Williams until October when Chief Superintendent Alan Bird, Commander, ACT Region, will assume control.



• The four visiting cadets are pictured with Chief Superintendent Jim Allen, sitting, and Inspector Don Bosman, standing, during a visit to International Division.

KENNY K. WON THEIR HEARTS

FEATURES of Australian police life provided an eyeopener for four members of the Singapore National Police Cadet Corps who visited Australia recently.

The four cadets, two girls Nurani bte Md Amin and Chua Hwee Leng, and two boys Kenneth Wee Chin Hin and Laurence Lim Chuin Heng, were here as part of a 15-day tour arranged by the AFP.

Cadets from the corps have visited several other countries, including the UK and New Zealand, as part of their training.

The corps is a uniformed youth organisation in Singapore schools, similar to Scouts and Girl Guides. It has a membership of 700 officers and 20,000 cadets. Teachers are seconded to the corps which has its headquarters at the Singapore Police Academy.

Both members and teachers are exposed to police work on attachment and they become involved in crime prevention, drug abuse campaigns and other community policing programs.

During their visits to other countries they are encouraged to become familiar with other police forces' activities and are exposed to the culture of the country.

The four visitors spent eleven days in Canberra and four days in Sydney. For the Canberra part of their tour they were based at AFP College Barton. They inspected most areas of the AFP and spent considerable time mingling with members of a recruit course at the college.

At the AFP's Driver Training facility, they were taken on the circuit by experienced drivers for a taste of high speed skid-pan motoring.

"My heart skipped a few beats and my throat went dry when I saw the speedometer hitting 140 kms an hour," Laurence Lim Chuin Heng said.

All four were impressed with the standard of training for the AFP and praised the kindness and friendliness of the people they met in Australia.

One of their biggest thrills was meeting Constable Kenny Koala and Sergeant Bully. Each commented on the effectiveness of using the puppets to promote crime prevention awareness among young children.