

CEREMONIAL PARADE

A special ceremonial parade at Weston on December 18 was the culmination of a visit to Australia by officials of the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China.

The visit was aimed at establishing a mutual exchange of officers and information on policing.

The delegation members were guests of the AFP Commissioner, Major General Ronald Grey, and they visited Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra.

Their visit followed Commissioner Grey's official visit to China last year, the first by an Australian Police Commissioner (Platypus 17, June 1987).

It was Commissioner Grey's last official parade before he retires this month.

About 600 members of the public gathered to watch the parade in brilliant sunshine and enthusiastically applauded a display by the NSW Police Pipes and Drums Band before the parade began.

A total of 45 AFP members from recruit training courses 1025 and 1026 were reviewed by the President of the Police Academy of the People's Republic of China, Mr Li Ziming.

As a tribute to Commissioner Grey there was also a support parade consisting of a member of every recruit training course to pass out from the AFP Training College, Weston, since he took office in February 1983.

Commissioner Grey presented prizes to the dux of course 1025, Constable Martin Ryan and to the dux of course

1026, Constable Doug Ninness.

The Pakistan Ambassador, H.E. Admiral Tariq Kamal Khan presented the Recruit of the Year (1986) Trophy to Constable Kim Albert (Southern Region).

The Korean Ambassador H.E. Chang Soo Lee presented the Motorcycle (Pursuit) Rider of the Year (1987) Trophy to Constable Anthony Garrett (ACT Region).

Detective First Constable Karl Pattenden (ACT Region, Canberra CIB) received the inaugural United States of America Federal Bureau of Investigation Award for Excellence in Detective Training.

The presentation was made by Mr Jim Sturgis Jnr. of the FBI who said the award represented the close relationship between the FBI and the AFP.

'It will remain a symbol of our mutual recognition that justice and the rule of law are best served by those with a high level of professional competence and who are dedicated to the improvement of the complex skills that are the mark of a successful modern investigator,' he said.

The award had been officially presented to the AFP on the previous night by the Ambassador to Australia, H.E. Laurence William Lane, Jnr.

'This impressive trophy.....will stand as a perpetual reminder of the mutual admiration and common objectives of these two professional organisations,' Mr Lane said.

The trophy recognises the shared goal of justice under the law and the essential role of professional law

enforcement training in achieving justice for our citizens, not only for those who stand accused, but for society as a whole.

'Law enforcement is an essential ingredient of the continuing activity between our two great countries. It is unfortunate that we have to share problems of criminal activity, but we are very fortunate to have organisations such as the AFP and the FBI to carry on this battle and we as diplomats can be content that it is in professional hands,' he said.

The Minister for Justice, Senator Michael Tate, was an official guest at the parade. He praised the recruits on parade, saying he was constantly impressed by the calibre of men and women attracted to serve in the AFP.

And he described Commissioner Grey as a distinguished Australian who had served the nation with honour and distinction.

'To the graduates of recruit courses 1025 and 1026 I say, you are entering an Australian Federal Police which has earned the title of the Commonwealth's premier law enforcement agency under the leadership of Commissioner Grey,' Senator Tate said.

'He has guided this nationwide police force through its most critical stage of early growth so that it is now able to perform the tasks which the Australian people, through its elected government, has committed to it in its charter of objectives.

'I have often said that the character of the commissioner of a force determines the character of that force. In Commissioner Grey we as a nation have indeed been fortunate,' he said.

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Front Cover: Commissioners Avery and Grey with Mr Li Ziming and Inspector Ric Kerrison at the December 18 ceremonial parade. (Picture by Ron Townsend)