

NORTHERN REGION FAREWELL

by Senior Constable Ray Bedford

ON August 18, 1988, members of Northern Region and guests from other Federal Government departments, including various investigation sections and the Department of Public Prosecutions, bid a sad but fond farewell to two former AFP members with some 50 years' police service between them.

Detective Senior Sergeant Terry O'Connor joined the Commonwealth Police in August 1966 and began uniform duties in Sydney. After 12 months Terry was transferred to plainclothes duties in Sydney where he worked in the Criminal Investigation Branch, the Organised Crime Section, and was also the Commonwealth Police Liaison Officer to the former Federal Narcotics Bureau.

In 1973 he was promoted to Sergeant and in 1982 transferred to Northern Region and a one year secondment to the Special Prosecutor's Office in Brisbane. After the SPO secondment, Terry transferred to Fraud and General Crime, Northern Region where he remained until he resigned from the AFP this year.

"Terry is a most competent, reliable and effective investigator who has received the utmost loyalty from his colleagues on the floor," said Detective Superintendent Adams at the farewell. "His presence will be missed by the members in this Region."

Former Detective Inspector "Flash" Peter Wise, who has some 27 years police service, joined the Queensland Police Department at the age of 19. Peter served with the Queensland Police for thirteen years before joining the Australian Customs Service. He remained with the ACS for only nine months because the desire for active policing was too strong and he joined the Commonwealth Police in 1975. He served in Queensland stations until 1977 when he became O.I.C. Norfolk Island as the Sergeant in Charge. In 1978 he was promoted to Senior Sergeant, OIC Darwin, where he served two years. In 1980 Peter was transferred to the Australian Contingent of the United Nations Civil Police in Cyprus.

In 1982 he returned to Brisbane to CIB duties. In 1984 he was transferred to Townsville as the OIC and from there he

was transferred to Broome on promotion as Inspector in Charge, Coastal Protection Unit.

During his career he received two Commissioners Commendations, one from the Queensland Police and the other from the AFP.

Peter says the highlight of his career was the 27 months he spent in Cyprus. "I recommend Cyprus to any young police

officer in the AFP," he said. "They have the opportunity of not only representing the AFP but also representing their country".

Terry and Peter will be sadly missed in this Region, not only for their experience and professionalism, but also for the humour and wit which made for interesting days.

DRAGON BOAT DRAMA



Western Region's Dragon Boat champs.

AFP men and women have established their place at the forefront of yet another sport — dragon-boat racing.

Wearing their team name — "Wee Kon Yu" — with pride, the AFP Western Region's paddlers shattered the opposition to take out the Novice Mixed Division in the first International Dragon Boat Festival held on the Swan River in Perth.

The "Wee Kon Yu" all-stars left the other boats floundering in their wake during the heats and won the final for the Novice Mixed Division trophy from the Burswood Island Casino team by a (dragon's) head and neck. The trophy now has pride of place in the Western Region's social club in Perth. The AFP team comprised 18 paddlers, a drummer and a sweep.

The Festival was organised by the Chung Wah Association as part of the Bicentennial celebrations and to co-incide with the Chinese Year of the Dragon.

One of the aims of the Chung Wah Association is to encourage the general public to take part in dragon boat racing and so share a part of the Chinese culture. Various corporate bodies in Perth were invited to take part in the novice events and training was provided by members of the Chung Wah Association.

The professional events included international entries from Taiwan, Hong Kong and the United States.



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