

areas closely reflects the type of experience one comes across in police work.

"The procedure for processing a piece of information is the same in both fields of endeavour."

The Future

He said there is a limit to the number of operations that analysts can be involved in at any one time, and that limit can be attributed to a lack of resources, both in manpower and funds.

"Our intelligence picture is never as complete as we would like it to be and we are taking a much greater interest in statistical analysis in an effort to improve it."

"The Analyst Unit, which is commanded by Mr Paddy Mahoney, is looking much more closely at statistics so that we can predict trends in drug trafficking much more readily. At present we are studying statistics on cocaine for any indications of an anticipated increase of the drug coming into Australia from across the Pacific.

"In my view the drug problem should have been identified as a national emergency much earlier and all the national resources now being mobilised in the anti-drug crusade applied much sooner. Some indication of the epidemic and the effect in store for Australia should have been evident several years earlier, based on the situation everywhere else."

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Industrial Relations is one of the busiest divisions in the AFP and for Mike Garrett (Executive Officer) one of the attractions is its multi-disciplined nature.

"The combination of police and public servants side by side works very well," he said.

"We get the dual input so necessary to successful industrial relations work — the police operational input which is balanced by the public service industrial relations wages and policy expertise.

Mike, who first came to the AFP in February, 1986, when the Industrial Relations Division was formed, has an involvement in industrial relations going back to the 1960's.

"I became involved with the Electrical Trades Union after I qualified as a licensed electrician and I still maintain my licence.

"Before joining the AFP I was with the Industrial Relations (Commonwealth Employment) Division of the then Department of Employment and Industrial Relations," he said.

Mike's time with the AFP coincides with the development of some of its most



Mr Mike Garrett

important industrial relations initiatives. These include industrial democracy, occupational health and safety, a superannuation review and a career structure review. (Latest CSR report page 20).

The superannuation review culminated in a joint working party report to the Government recommending changes to existing AFP superannuation. The Minister for Justice, Senator Michael Tate, approved a "cessation payment" as an interim answer to the report's findings pending the Commonwealth Superannuation Review this year.

"The success of the Industrial Relations Division, which with 12 staff is a major one in the organisation, has shown that an integrated multi-disciplinary group can function very well in the AFP," he said.

Mike's first links with the force date from early 1985 when he was a Department of Industrial Relations representative on a team that reviewed AFP salaries.

"I saw it as an organisation which would benefit from formalising its industrial relations with government and unions and one which needed to develop employment policies which would benefit the organisation in the long term. Overall, I saw the AFP as a challenge — and it has been!"

Mike was seconded last year to the working party that produced the career structure review report and is part of the project team now undertaking a further review at the request of Commissioner McAulay.

BRITISH VISITOR

Police work was high on the agenda for discussion when Paddy Mahoney met his brother in Canberra recently.

Tim Mahoney is Public Relations Officer with the East and West Sussex County Police in England and his career spans about 15 years in police press relations, including time with Old Scotland Yard

Paddy visited his brother's force, and the Regional Crime Squad, last October. Returning the visit, Tim Mahoney said he had noticed some similarities between British forces and the AFP.

"All the UK forces are under pressure to civilianise posts which don't need police," he said.

"There is pressure to get every available officer back on the beat and back to operational policing. That is the major movement in British policing at present.

"The cry is for more manpower. All the forces are trying to prove they are making the best use of the police manpower they have so that they can get authority to get more police officers."

The East and West Sussex County Police is one of 43 forces in the UK and

has about 3,000 officers assisted by about 1,000 civilians to cover a population of 1.2 million people.

"The beat covers Gatwick Airport, which is the busiest international airport in the world after Heathrow, and cities such as Brighton, Eastbourne and Hastings," Tim said.

"A total of two hundred and fifty officers are stationed at Gatwick for security plus about 40 more in the Special Branch contingent

"A lot of our operations there involve planning for terrorist incidents and aircraft accidents."

The city of Brighton is a particular security concern.

"The Conservative Party will be holding its annual conference in Brighton this October and in the Grand Hotel which was the venue for the October 1984 Conservative Party annual conference which was bombed by the IRA," he said.

"Security planning began more than twelve months ago and a planning team has been on it full time since Christmas"