

AFP has role in Australia's defence

SUPERINTENDENT Ed Tyrie attended the Joint Services Staff College as a student on course 42/90 from 9 July to 7 December last year.

Having often been asked about the relevance of an AFP member attending such an establishment Superintendent Tyrie has written the following article to give an insight into the course.

The JSSC is located off the Cotter Road at Weston in the ACT. The first courses began in 1970 at the Joint Services Wing of the Australian Services Staff College. It was renamed the Joint Services Staff College in 1972 and since then two courses have been held each year.

Courses are attended by Australian and New Zealand Defence Force Officers, and representatives from the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Papua New Guinea, and other Asian and Pacific countries.

The JSSC's present Commandant is Commodore Peter McKay, RN, and the Director of Studies is Colonel Geoff Howard, supported by eight Directing Staff members, two from each Australian Service, one visiting Royal New Zealand Air Force officer and a member of the Australian Public Service.

The Charter of the JSSC is to provide selected Australian Defence

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and withall thy getting get understanding.

Proverbs, iv,7 (1)

Force officers of Lieutenant Colonel or equivalent rank, with an advanced education in preparation for senior appointments. This involves command and policy formulation responsibilities, in the ADF or Department of Defence at colonel and brigadier rank or equivalent.

Members of the Australian Public Service, AFP and other relevant departments may attend with officers from selected overseas nations. Course 42/90 included students from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, New Zealand and the Philippines, together with three representatives from DOD and one from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. After being nominated by the AFP, I was interviewed by Jim Garland, the APS member of the College Directing Staff, and other senior representatives of the DOD (which included a former student) to assess my suitability. The interviewing panel has the right to veto attendance at the JSSC.

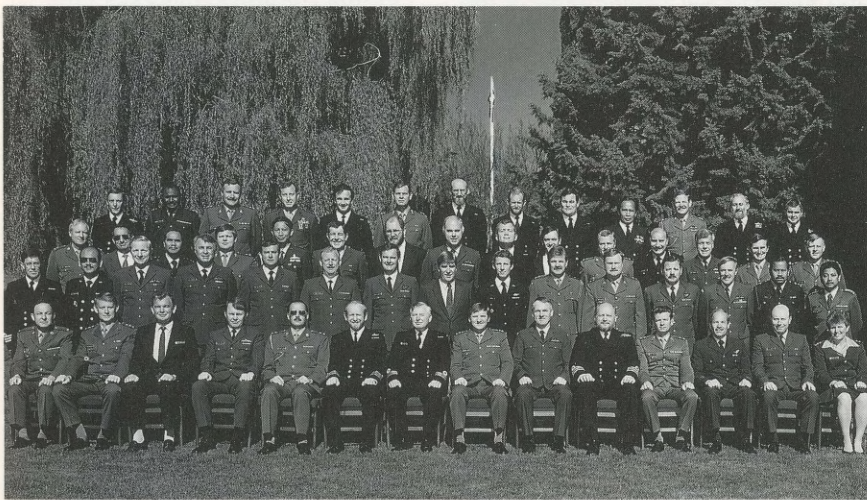
The objective of the course is to ensure that potential course members can evaluate the concepts and factors relevant to the provision of policy advice on national security, military strategy, ADF development, the employment of joint and combined military forces, and to the command and control of such forces at the strategic and operational levels of war.

The course covers three main study areas. These are divided into semesters of about six weeks with two study tours — one overseas, the other in Australia, each about 10 days long. The study periods are grouped under the broad headings of Australia's Strategic Environment, Strategic Policy for Australia, and Implementation of Strategic Policy.

Each study period requires the student to write an essay on a relevant and topical defence issue. Study One comprised lectures, discussions, research into the International System and the way it affects Australia, with emphasis on our nation's sphere of primary strategic interest. In broad terms this area is described as the South Pacific, South East Asia and the eastern reaches of the Indian Ocean. Other areas of interest included North East Asia, North America and Europe, in particular the new order of world powers. The fundamental concepts of strategy and modern theories of warfare were also evaluated.

Study Two evaluated Australia's national objectives and factors influencing the formulation of national security policy, the structure of Australia's Government, domestic factors influencing national security, defence and foreign policies, and the other factors which influence the development of Australia's defence strategy.

The final study period involved evaluation of the Higher Defence Organisation and responsibilities, planning analysis, budgeting, decision-making, interface between the Headquarters of the ADF and



Joint Services Staff College Course 42/90.

Department of Defence Central Office, the relationships between strategy, policy strategic assessment and force development, factors of force development, the organisation and capabilities of the Services, joint and combined command and control of the ADF, together with issues relevant to military strategic planning. The Gulf crisis began during the time of the course, adding interest to the subjects and providing the fascination of studying high-level strategic-thinking, outside but entirely relevant to a police environment.

Most of the AFP's international presence occurs in countries within South East Asia and adjacent to the Indian Ocean, North America and Europe. We have a growing interest in the Pacific Basin where interaction between the military and police is an integral part of law enforcement.

The evaluation of terrorism, which may impact both internationally and domestically upon Australia and our national interests, was both relevant and topical, as was the interface between the police and military when discussing and evaluating military aid to the civil powers. In particular those issues that related to assistance in times of national emergency, and interaction between civil and military branches involved in coastal surveillance, where they impacted upon drug trafficking, illegal entry, illegal fishing and other infringements of our national sovereignty.

Strategic planning, though seen from a military standpoint during the course, forms the basis of the AFP's corporate planning. The objectives in achieving the AFP's mission "to ensure the Australian Government and community are free from criminal attack" is sought by "assessing the criminal environment in Australia and overseas, developing effective law enforcement strategies and implementing such strategies, fostering and maintaining national and international relationships between co-operative law enforcement efforts". An isolated view of Australia and our region would be absurd. We have a major contribution to make internationally, especially within our region of primary strategic interest. Intelligence, experience and knowledge are basic elements of the strategist and one exercises those

skills at all levels of the AFP.

A central component of JSSC studies are the overseas and Australian study tours. The Overseas Study Tour is usually undertaken at the end of Study One to a country or countries relevant to the course. During Course 42/90 one half of the course went to the Philippines and the other, of which I

was a member, visited Thailand and Brunei. Spouses may accompany members of the tour party on a 'no cost to the Commonwealth' basis and I took my wife, Margaret, on this and the Australian tour.

During our visit to Thailand the course members participated in the planned itinerary which involved a series of visits to the four Military Districts of the Thai Armed Forces, including Air Force and Naval components, and at Chiang Mai to the Border Patrol Police Regional Headquarters. We were also extensively briefed at the Australian Embassy in Bangkok by members of the Mission and eminent members of the Thai academic fraternity on the political, fiscal, domestic and foreign policy of the Thai Government.

During the visit to Chaing Mai the course members and staff were briefed by Detective Superintendent Bernie Doyle, our Liaison Officer stationed there, on the narcotic situation in the Golden Triangle, the political, domestic and international ramifications of the manufacture of and trafficking in heroin, and the interaction of the Thai authorities at the regional, national and international level.

It was particularly pleasing to see a member of the AFP providing information entirely relevant to our visit and impacting upon the course learning experience.

The visit to Brunei was short but fascinating and I was assured by those who travelled to the Philippines and who joined us for the Brunei visit, that their tour had been as informative and enjoyable as ours had been to Thailand.

There was more to come. Ten days spent on the Australian Study Tour provided an insight into the opera-



Superintendent Ed Tyrie, fourth from left, with other members of his syndicate.

tional commands and establishments of the ADF in areas of Northern and North-Eastern Australia together with lectures from various military and civilian personnel on matters relevant to Australia's defence. These included briefings by the Queensland and Northern Territory Police at Brisbane and Darwin, and the Australian Customs Service, and the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs.

An electives program synchronised with activities in the core syllabus was programmed as an alternative approach to private study during the course. The electives were conducted by the Directing Staff, academics and officers from relevant government departments.

Assistant Commissioner, Peter Dawson, was the first member to attend a JSSC course. Since then Commanders Jim Allen, Bill Stoll, former Commanders Alex Bunt and Lionel Claydon, together with Superintendent Dave Lewington have preceded my attendance. Associate Commissioner Steve Gavin attended JSSC in 1977.

I am sure they would all say that their attendance opened a wider window on Australia and the world and, additionally, that it gave them an unforgettable experience which provided a large network of friends and associates which, hopefully, will last a lifetime.

I trust that members of the AFP will continue to participate in the activities of the JSSC and enhance their own, as well as the organisation's learning, and thereby the 'getting of wisdom'.