

Superintendent Cox said, "An integral part of any intelligence community is effective liaison with other agencies. The Intelligence Units throughout the Region make every endeavour to promote the AFP's role and responsibility and to ensure high level liaison and working arrangements are maintained. Both formal and informal meetings are regularly held and joint projects/operations have been conducted with many related agencies which considerably enhance the Region's intelligence gathering capabilities. The excellent relationships established within the intelligence community in Northern Region do much to provide a co-ordinated approach to intelligence gathering and often avoid duplication or compromise".

A further demand placed on the Intelligence Units is the recent decision to transfer the Cash Transactions Report Act (CTRA) referrals to that area for preliminary processing and assessment. Suspect CTRA reports are considered initially as an intelligence source which, after preliminary investigation, are either referred to operational Units for investigation

which in turn will enable a co-ordinated effort in countering criminal threats and activities against the Commonwealth."

Organised Crime targeting is conducted within the Region using target development methods by the Regional Intelligence Units or through referrals from Commonwealth departments or agencies. The Branch will continue to target major criminals and organisations by the integrated approach to major investigations and the adoption of a multi-discipline investigation team approach where appropriate.

Some highlights of the Branch's work include:

- The successful extradition of a man from the USA alleged to be a principal offender in a drug importation who avoided prosecution in 1988. The matter has been set down for trial.
- In a matter referred from the Criminal Assets Investigation Section through CTRA reports, an



Among the medal winners at the recent Queensland Police Games were (l to r) Det. Sgt. Ron Cramp, Det. Sgt. Peter Ellis, Ms Lyn Robbins and Det. Sgt. Glen Matinca

or incorporated in the intelligence database for later retrieval and use. The increased focus on money laundering and organised criminal activity now places increasing demand on the already limited resources.

The Region is committed to achieving the overall objectives for the intelligence function in the AFP within the Commissioner's Policy Directive. Much has been achieved and many new initiatives taken to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency in the way the Region approaches its commitment to the intelligence function.

investigation began into suspected fraud and money laundering activities of a Gold Coast solicitor involving in excess of \$3 million, but was terminated when the suspect fled. Queensland Police are continuing inquiries, with no Commonwealth offences (apart from possible passport offences) being disclosed at this point.

- The arrest of a Brisbane businessman in August on charges of alleged fraud of approximately \$9.19 million relating to his business activities including a ship building company. This followed a referral from the Australian Trade Commission in August last year and the earlier execution of search warrants in Sydney and Brisbane. The matter is now before the court.
- After an extensive investigation involving Italian and United States authorities, two people were arrested on foreign extradition warrants in respect to large scale money laundering and cocaine trafficking.

Fit to bust

by Detective Sergeant Mark Ney

WHILE Northern Region is small in numbers it is well represented in most sporting events held for police and government organisation in Queensland.

The Region's members have shown their skills at touch football, rugby union, rugby league, inter-Branch cricket, soccer, netball, volleyball, baseball, and national sporting events such as the Australian and New Zealand Police Games, AFP Games and the Queensland Police Games.

The most recent of national sporting events, the ANZ Police Games, drew competitors from all over the country and the AFP was represented by both Northern Region and competitors from other Regions. AFP members won their share of medals and those who missed out had a good time competing.

Northern Region members participate regularly in police and inter-departmental competitions, enhancing the good relations between all involved and the Bi-annual Golf Day with the Australian Customs Service serves to maintain good working relationships.

Northern Region also boasts the largest proportionate number of participants in the Annual AFP Fitness Competition. The eagerness of the Region's members to participate in sporting activities continues to reflect the Region's unity, both at work and play.