



**AFP**  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

CHAPTER 4

# Close Support



CLOSE SUPPORT

## INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence is a product derived from adding value to information and is derived from an array of sources to provide insight and influence decision making.

In 2006–07, the AFP's Intelligence portfolio continued to increase and improve its services and took on additional responsibilities in International Deployment Group Intelligence and the National Operations Centre (NOC); the latter having merged with the Transnational Crime Coordination Centre (TCCC) in March 2007 to become the AFP Operations Coordination Centre (AOCC).

Ongoing government funding for initiatives, such as the Intelligence Regional Secretariat and the Leadership in Criminal Intelligence Program, resulted in strong results and the initiation of new projects and partnerships. An example of these was the 5th Asia Region Heads of Criminal Intelligence Working Group (ARHCIWG), co-hosted by the Chinese Ministry of Public Security in Shanghai in November 2006. This resulted in a number of new joint ventures aimed at identification and collaboration on common regional criminal threats. ARHCIWG strives to complement other cooperative efforts in the region and provide a platform for these initiatives to be promoted and gain support.

On 1 July 2006, Intelligence received an additional \$51.6 million over four years to enable the AFP to substantially improve its capacity to collect, assess, store and share sensitive threat-related information and criminal intelligence within the organisation and with its partner agencies. The funding provided for information and communication technology solutions, as well as a staffing injection, which has given rise to new teams dedicated to efficient processing and analysis of information and intelligence.

Structurally, Intelligence is aligned into three streams: Intelligence Collection, Intelligence Analysis and the newly merged AOCC.

### INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION

The Manager of Intelligence Collection is responsible for a number of separate portfolios covering Collection and Liaison, Protection Intelligence, Counter and Security Intelligence, the Leadership in Criminal Intelligence Program (LCIP) and the AFP's covert policing services.

#### Collection and Liaison

Collection and Liaison provides a pivotal enabling capability to the Intelligence portfolio, which contributes to a large number of the portfolio objectives and outputs. Collection and Liaison's role is to:

- collect and disseminate all source information and intelligence in a timely, efficient and effective manner within the AFP
- value add, verify and disseminate intelligence to the AFP's partners and stakeholders in a timely, efficient and effective manner
- produce up-to-date intelligence in support of senior AFP decision-makers.



**The AFP Operations Coordination Centre enables a central point of contact for information and intelligence processing about crimes against the Commonwealth.**

## Protection Intelligence

Protection Intelligence provides intelligence support to the AFP, ACT Policing and Protection operations. It also works closely with other Australian Government departments and agencies (including PM & C, PSCC, ASIO, and DFAT) charged with responsibility for safeguarding Commonwealth interests. Protection Intelligence also ensures that Australian Government obligations for the safety and security of diplomats and visiting dignitaries are met.

In 2006–07, Protection Intelligence provided intelligence support to a number of significant events and high-level visits, including:

- G20 Finance Ministers' meeting in Melbourne in November 2006
- APEC meetings held in Australia in advance of APEC Leaders' Week in Sydney in September 2007
- Visits by
  - Cambodian Prime Minister (October 2006)
  - US Vice President Cheney (February 2007)
  - Vice Premier of China (March 2007)
  - Prime Minister of Greece (May 2007)
  - President of the Philippines (May 2007)
  - Dalai Lama (June 2007).

## COUNTER AND SECURITY INTELLIGENCE

The Counter and Security Intelligence (CSI) portfolio produces threat assessments and other security-related assessments and advice to enable management and other stakeholders to make informed decisions on how to safeguard AFP domestic and international operations and activities. CSI assessments and advice provide the basis for understanding the nature and extent of the threats facing the AFP, allowing decision makers to correctly contextualise operational vulnerabilities, identify security risks and implement appropriate and relevant operational security planning responses.

## INTELLIGENCE

### RESULTS FOR 2006–07

#### Workload

- 496 new cases
- 1372 finalised cases
- 708 cases pending at 30 June 2007.

#### Performance Measure

- In 2006–07, performance measures estimated client satisfaction at 74 per cent.

## Leadership in Criminal Intelligence Program

The Leadership in Criminal Intelligence Program is funded under the Government's *Fighting Terrorism at its Source* program, and promotes excellence in criminal intelligence gathering through strategies such as:

- bringing together academic, national and international law enforcement experts to workshop issues affecting transnational law enforcement
- providing training through the Intelligence Management Development Program (IMDP) at the Australian Institute of Police Management, accredited to Graduate Certificate level
- ongoing work of the AFP Doctrine and Process Working Group
- taking sponsorship and editorial responsibility for the upcoming AFP Intelligence Journal – the first international academic journal dedicated to criminal intelligence.

In June 2007, the Leadership in Criminal Intelligence Program took the Intelligence Management Development Program (IMDP) overseas for the first time. The program was adapted to suit local needs and was delivered through the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC). With a fourth IMDP

at the Australian Institute of Police Management in August 2007, LCIP will have sponsored more than 70 police and intelligence managers through the program.

### **INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS**

The Manager of Intelligence Analysis (MIA) is responsible for Analytical Services, Transnational Crime Intelligence (TCI), Counter Terrorism Intelligence (CTI), Aviation Intelligence (AI) and the new International Deployment Group (IDG) Intelligence. MIA also provides functional oversight of the Intelligence offices in the six main capital cities. This ensures that Office Intelligence resources are allocated against national priorities that priority is afforded to internally generated cases and that work is undertaken in accordance with AFP Intelligence doctrine.

#### **Analytical Services**

Analytical Services informs and supports broader AFP decision-making and resource prioritisation through its biannual *Strategic Intelligence Update* and other timely strategic products. Analytical Services staff synthesise material from across AFP's functional streams and draw on reports from the International Network and the Regional Offices. As well, it receives information from partner agencies to assess the existing criminal environment and make predictions about future criminal trends.

#### **Transnational Crime Intelligence**

The role of Transnational Crime Intelligence (TCI) includes the production of tactical and operational intelligence on transnational crime issues relating to the Border, International and ESO functions. TCI consists of four teams, each with a specific focus.

The Transnational Targeting Team is responsible for targeting significant ongoing transnational criminal enterprises. It also supports the Transnational Targeting Network, an initiative bringing together a number of international law enforcement agencies to develop targeting lists for joint operations. The remaining three teams provide analytical and

financial intelligence support to their operational counterparts in the areas of transnational sexual exploitation and trafficking, high tech crime and people smuggling.

#### **Counter Terrorism Intelligence**

Counter Terrorism Intelligence plays a vital role by providing a coordinated, focused and dedicated intelligence capability to support the AFP's counter-terrorism efforts, both nationally and internationally.

In 2006-07, significant activities undertaken included:

- support to the Joint Counter Terrorism Teams in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne and the identification of targets for investigation
- ongoing intelligence support to the *Operation Pendennis* investigation
- considerable effort towards the identification of convergences between multi-jurisdictional-agency targeting strategies against terrorist suspects in Australia
- ongoing support to the Jakarta Regional Cooperation Team and the Manila Regional Cooperation Team.

Counter Terrorism Intelligence also coordinates the secondment of AFP Intelligence staff to the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), the National Threat Assessment Centre (NTAC) and the Joint Counter-Terrorism Intelligence Coordination Unit (JCTICU). These secondments ensure that AFP information, expertise and advice are integrated into the national counter-terrorism effort.

#### **Aviation Intelligence**

The Aviation Intelligence (AI) capability was established following the 2005 Wheeler Review into Aviation Security. Since then the AFP has rapidly expanded its intelligence capabilities through the establishment of Joint Airport Intelligence Group (JAIG) teams at each of the designated airports. JAIG is responsible for providing tactical and operational intelligence in support of the Unified Policing

Model-focused information collection and target development activities. JAIG receives operational and low-level strategic intelligence support from the AI teams, situated within the National Headquarters, which are responsible for providing an overview of national trends and convergences.

#### **International Deployment Group Intelligence**

The International Deployment Group (IDG) Intelligence capability was established in February 2007 to respond to the growing requirements of the IDG in an increasingly complex operating environment. IDG Intelligence provides intelligence advice to IDG and AFP management on issues of interest to IDG deployments. The team also has the responsibility of ensuring trained intelligence personnel are deployed in support of IDG missions.

A number of these personnel will work with host police forces in developing a robust criminal intelligence capacity for that nation. This capacity development will assist the host nation to understand its criminal environment and enable the targeting of regional criminal threats.

A key objective of IDG Intelligence will be the development of a close working relationship with the ADF to ensure joint deployment capabilities are aligned.

#### **AFP OPERATIONS COORDINATION CENTRE**

The Australian Federal Police Operations Coordination Centre (AOCC) started on 5 March 2007 with the merger of two of AFP's portfolios that operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week – the Transnational Crime Coordination Centre (TCCC) and the National Operations Centre (NOC). AOCC now provides a command, communication and coordination support role for all AFP functions within the Deputy Commissioner National Security and the Deputy Commissioner Operations portfolios. AOCC has four business lines providing a variety of support services.

#### **Communications and Alarm Monitoring Support Services**

Communications and Alarm Monitoring Support Services provide direct radio communications with AFP members at Australia's 11 major airports and to Protection teams such as Close Personal Protection and/or Diplomatic Protection Units monitoring alarms at Commonwealth and designated diplomatic locations.

#### **Intelligence Information Support Services**

This business line directs support to Intelligence through the receipt and initial evaluation of all information and intelligence referred to the AFP from client agencies and partners.

Intelligence Information Support Services is also responsible for the recording of information with the AFP's operational database PROMIS and dissemination to state and territory police services, the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) and/or internally to AFP Intelligence teams.

It manages all alerts placed on the Customs Passenger Analysis Clearance and Evaluation (PACE) system, including the Australian National Child Offender Register (ANCOR).

From 1 July 2007, all Family Law alerts will be managed by the AOCC and, later in 2007, all bankruptcy alerts will be transferred to the team. The facilitation of all alerts by AOCC allows for consistency in management and a single point of contact for the public and agencies.

#### **Operations and Response Support Services**

This business line conducts preliminary assessments and evaluation of referrals made to AFP Headquarters.

It provides assistance to AFP members for the preparation, application and reporting of controlled operations and applications to rescind people's passports.

It also maintains the Operations Committee Secretariat, which connects AFP Operations Committees in each AFP Office with AOCC Operations Committee, AFP's highest operational decision-making forum.

## **Business Systems Support and Reporting**

This business line assists all operational and intelligence areas within the AFP in the use of the different domains within PROMIS, including undertaking data integrity reviews and corrections and providing business performance data.

AOCC provides a monitoring service and a 24-hour operations support team, coordinating the flow of operational information between the AFP and its international partners. AOCC facilitates Interpol inquiries, and also those inquiries directed through the International Network, recognising the integral role each has in combating organised crime. The implementation of a comprehensive call centre has catered for dedicated entry points into AOCC providing a more efficient way for people to contact the AFP.

### **NATIONAL SECURITY HOTLINE**

The number of National Security Hotline reports received during the 2006–07 financial year was 6321. Of these reports, 1374 were referred within the AFP for further examination and inquiries.

## **FORENSIC AND TECHNICAL**

Forensic and Technical provides the AFP with a scientific basis for gathering and analysing evidence acquired during the course of investigating criminal matters and is made up of:

- Forensic Operations
- Technical Operations
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Data Centre (CBRNDC)
- Operations Support.

During 2006–07, the portfolio made significant contributions to AFP goals by providing specialist support for national operations, ACT Policing operations, regional deployments, training and capacity-building projects.

The newly established the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Data Centre, like the Australian Bomb Data Centre for explosives, increased the capacity to provide technical intelligence and assist in combating the criminal use of chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear incidents in Australia and overseas.

During 2006–07, a stand-alone evidence-recovery laboratory was built. It enabled the sequential harvesting of potential evidence from objects suspected of being tainted with noxious bacteria or chemicals. This facility reduced the risk of exposure of scientists and the main laboratory complex containment.

Significant investments were also made in ongoing research, development and implementation with many outstanding examples of enhanced science and technology tools contributing to technical intelligence and operation outcomes.

Forensic and Technical contributed to our regional law enforcement partners by providing capacity-building facilities, training and support. In the main, these capacity-building projects were targeted at fighting

terrorism at its source, aimed at reducing the threat of terrorist activities in Australia.

Achievements in capacity building, in an effort to reduce terrorism with our regional law enforcement partners over the past year, included:

- establishment of a bomb data centre in Malaysia
- significant progress toward the establishment of bomb data centres in Indonesia and Thailand
- establishment of a DNA laboratory in Indonesia
- establishment of a chemical criminalistics laboratory in the Philippines (targeting post blast analysis)
- ongoing provision of specialist training to regional law enforcement agencies through the Jakarta Centre of Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) and in recipient agency home countries
- provision of technical support to a number of regional law enforcement partners.

Operations that required significant input from a cross-section of Forensic and Technical disciplines during 2006–07, included:

- A number of major drug importation incidents that resulted in significant seizures, including:
  - operations resulting in seizures of cocaine 130kg, 21kg and 140kg
  - 400kg of suspected ecstasy tablets
  - 200kg of phenylacetic acid (in a joint operation with state jurisdictions)
  - deployment of a crime scene investigator to Malaysia to assist in the investigation of a major clandestine laboratory where 700kg of crystal methamphetamine and 180,000 tablets had been seized
- Deployment of disaster victim identification, crime scene and forensic imaging personnel to support Indonesian National Police investigations into the Indonesian plane crash in Yogyakarta in March 2007.
- Deployment of Australian Bomb Data Centre and

## FORENSICS AND TECHNICAL

### RESULTS FOR 2006–07

#### Workload

- 110 new cases
- 57 finalised cases
- 109 cases pending at 30 June 2007

#### Performance Measure

- Performance satisfaction was 84 per cent

Chemical Criminalistics personnel to the recovery of explosives and weapons from a terrorist cache in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

A number of Forensic Operations personnel presented expert evidence during the murder trial of Glenn McNeill before the Supreme Court of the Territory of Norfolk Island. Glenn McNeill was found guilty of the murder of Janelle Louise Patton.

### FORENSIC OPERATIONS

Forensic Operations, in 2006–07, provided a wide range of forensic services in a demanding and dynamic environment. The broadening scope of forensic support to international capacity building, response to major incidents and the more traditional role of providing forensic services to ACT and national investigations provided challenges and opportunities.

Operations that required significant input from a cross-section of Forensic Operations disciplines during the past year included

- Deployment of crime scene, firearms identification and disaster victim-identification personnel to Timor-Leste to provide specialist assistance in relation to the ongoing investigations resulting from the riots and subsequent murders that occurred in September 2006. Laboratory Services also contributed to this operation through the analysis of samples.

- Deployment of six Forensic Operations personnel to Sri Lanka to assist in the forensic investigation of the Muttur massacre. This incident involved the massacre of 17 aid workers.
- Deployment of crime scene personnel to Tonga to assist in the forensic investigation of the seven deaths resulting from riots occurring in November 2006. AFP Laboratory Services also contributed to this operation through the analysis of samples.
- Deployment of Crime Scenes and Chemical Criminalistics to supply specialist assistance to the Royal Thai Police for a spate of bombings in Bangkok, 3–21 January 2007.
- A number of Forensic Operations personnel significantly contributed to the investigations into online child sexual exploitation involving an international child pornography ring.

### **Field Services**

Forensic Field Services continued to service AFP investigations in Australia and overseas through the application of appropriate and high-level crime scene investigations. International requests resulted in staff being sent to assist in drug and counter-terrorism operations throughout the region. Crime Scene personnel contributed to and supported overseas capacity-building projects and initiatives. Regional Crime Scene personnel supported a number of significant operations relating to counter terrorism and drug importations.

### **Specialist Physical Evidence**

The Forensic Specialist Physical Evidence Team comprises the disciplines of Fingerprints, Firearm Identification and Ballistics and Document Examination. This team supported domestic and international investigations through the application of specialist skills. This team also contributed to and supported overseas capacity-building projects and initiatives.

### **Laboratory Services**

The disciplines within the Laboratory Services provided expert forensic support to ACT Policing in national and

international investigations. The majority of national forensic investigations related to counter terrorism and drug investigations. The latest technology and procedures were used to provide a wide range of forensic services, including DNA analysis, explosive, paint and glass analysis and counterfeit document identification.

### **Electronic Evidence**

Electronic Evidence incorporates the Computer Forensic Teams and Forensic Imaging. The Computer Forensic Teams provided support to AFP operations in Australia and overseas. This support identifies and preserves electronic evidence by attending crime scenes as well as through laboratory-based examinations, restoration, analysis and reporting. The Computer Forensic Teams trained key stakeholders in best practice electronic evidence handling and analysis techniques. They also conducted research into emerging technologies to enhance the identification, preservation, analysis and reporting of electronic evidence.

The Forensic Imaging section provided audio and video laboratory services for high-level processing of audio and video material, generally to analyse or improve the quality of recorded material. The Facial Identification Team within Forensic Imaging produced high-quality facial compositions, based on witness interviews for identification purposes. The Imaging Team provided a range of photographic services to print forensic images from digital sources and negatives, and provided specialist photography services, such as 360 degree imaging.

### **TECHNICAL OPERATIONS**

Technical Operations provided technical support and advice to AFP operations. This was achieved through the delivery of operational support services by the Police Technical Team, Telecommunications Interception Division, Radio and Electronic Support, Capability Development and Engineering. Technical Operations undertook innovative research and development to ensure AFP operations were provided

with the best technical support available. Such innovations resulted in the successful investigation of a significant number of major incidents in Australia and overseas.

### **Police Technical Teams**

Police Technical Teams (PTTs) were based at five locations around Australia and were responsible for covert technical operations supporting ACT Policing, National and International investigations. The functions of PTTs included covert technical surveillance, providing audio, imagery data or tracking product on targets, equipment procurement, training and policy development. During 2006–07, PTT personnel were involved in a number of whole-of-government responses to domestic situations and international operations with our regional law enforcement partners. PTTs also provided advice, training and equipment to a number of regional law enforcement partners through the Law Enforcement Cooperation Program and other regional initiatives.

### **Telecommunications Interception Division**

AFP investigations continued to use telecommunications interception as an effective and flexible tool to gather evidence against people suspected of committing or having committed serious criminal offences, including narcotics trafficking, acts of terrorism, defrauding the revenue of the Commonwealth and (more recently) the downloading of child pornography from the Internet.

The Telecommunications Interceptions Division (TID) supported the investigators of these types of offences by providing warrant provisioning, monitoring, record keeping and report services in accordance with the provisions of the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979*, and a record-keeping and report service with respect to the *Surveillance Devices Act 2004*.

The TID was also responsible for providing investigators with evidentiary packages, including evidentiary certificates and CDs containing lawfully obtained information that form an integral component

of the Crown's case. At the conclusion of the prosecution and appeal process, TID is responsible for ensuring that the associated lawfully obtained product is destroyed. The extent to which investigators and TID comply with the provisions of both Acts is scrutinised by the Commonwealth Ombudsman's Office.

### **Radio and Electronic Services**

Radio and Electronic Services managed the AFP's mobile radio communications systems, tracking systems and taped record-of-interview systems throughout Australia.

Ongoing projects during the year were:

- the purchase and installation of equipment to expand the radio communications network to service the AFP's expanded role at Australia's 11 major airports
- the evaluation and purchase of suitable equipment to replace the AFP's taped record-of-interview system.

Both of these projects complemented and added to the project to upgrade the radio communications and taped record-of-interview systems used by the former Australian Protective Service, which was absorbed into the AFP within the Protection portfolio.

Radio and Electronic Services supported International Deployment Group by providing equipment and radio networks to its areas of operation, and to Surveillance Teams by providing training in the use of tracking systems.

The AFP's Technical Operations represented the Australian Government's interests in mobile radio communications and record-of-interview equipment and systems on various national committees. The AFP is a full member of the Law Enforcement and Security Radio Spectrum Committee, formed under the auspices of the Australian Police Ministers Council to ensure mobile radio systems are compatible and interoperable.

## Capability Development

Capability Development develops new field deployable technology that supports AFP operations.

During the year, Capability Development provided:

- capability under the Surveillance Devices Act
- support, assistance and training to LECP and regional Counter Terrorism projects
- technical advice to other AFP areas.

Capability Development liaised with other law enforcement and intelligence agencies, resulting in the development of new technology solutions during the year.

## Engineering

Engineering liaised with Commonwealth, state and territory law enforcement and security agencies and oversaw partners on engineering standards and contracts for telecommunications interception on behalf of the AFP and Australian law enforcement agencies. Statements of compliance with interception obligations from telecommunications carriers were assessed as part of this.

Engineering participates in and chairs national committees that meet regularly to oversee and regulate national telecommunications interception activities.

## FORENSIC AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE

Resulting from a special Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting in September 2005, the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Data Centre (CBRNDC) was established within the AFP. Throughout 2006–07, Forensic and Technical personnel supervised the construction of the centre, completed in April 2007. The Australian Bomb Data Centre was integrated into this portfolio during the year, resulting in the establishment of the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Data Centres. This was followed quickly by the integration of the Forensic and Technical Rapid Deployment Group.

High-profile operations that required significant input from a cross-section of Forensic and Technical Support and Technical Intelligence disciplines during the year included the following deployments:

- Two Australian Bomb Data Centre officers to Rangoon in Myanmar to provide technical assessment in relation to Improvised Explosive Devices sent through the local postal system.
- Two disaster victim-identification personnel to Timor-Leste to provide specialist assistance to the ongoing investigations resulting from the riots and subsequent murders that occurred in September 2006.
- A disaster victim-identification person to Tonga to assist in the forensic investigation of the seven deaths resulting from the November 2006 riots.
- Australian Bomb Data Centre personnel to supply specialist assistance to the Royal Thai Police for a spate of bombings in Bangkok on New Year's Eve 2006.

## Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Data Centre

Throughout 2006–07, the establishment of the CBRNDC was ongoing. The project included the construction and fit-out of the centre and the recruitment of specialist personnel to staff it. The centre already had been involved in many Commonwealth working groups and committees, including COAG reviews of hazardous materials.

The CBRNDC was officially opened by the Attorney-General on 2 July 2007.

## Australian Bomb Data Centre

The Australian Bomb Data Centre (ABDC) collects, collates, analyses and disseminates information regarding the unlawful use of explosives. In recent years, an additional role emerged for ABDC for regional counter-terrorism capacity building.

Significant achievements during the year were the establishment of a bomb data centre in Malaysia and continuing development of Bomb Data Centres

in Indonesia and Thailand, which will commence operating before December 2008.

ABDC continued its involvement with AFP Australian and overseas operations. International deployments provided support to the investigations into the New Year's Eve bombings in Bangkok, weapons and explosives recovery in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and assistance to domestic AFP counter-terrorism operations. ABDC provides technical assessment of reported explosive-related incidents in Australia and overseas and this engagement, in 2006-07, helped develop a better understanding of terrorist capabilities.

Also of international significance, the 2006 Australia Bomb Data Centre Conference was convened in Canberra, attracting 245 delegates, primarily representing police and military organisations from 13 countries.



**CBRN officers training to deal with hazardous material.**

### **Forensic and Technical Support**

Forensic and Technical Support extends the rapid deployment ability of Forensic and Technical personnel to Australian and international incidents that required specific specialist forensic and technical skills in support of the investigation.

The group provides logistical support, disaster victim identification response, development of the AFP's chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear capability and ongoing commitment to counter-terrorism operations. Through the establishment of this group, Forensic and Technical has developed a level of expertise in posting AFP personnel in support to a wider range of incidents, including terrorism, major crime and natural disasters within Australia and overseas. This group represented Forensic and Technical on the relevant planning teams for the APEC summit and was responsible for coordinating the Forensic and Technical response to the various APEC venues.

Forensic and Technical Support cooperated with external agencies, including ACT and National CBRN Working Groups, Chemical Warfare Agent Laboratory Network, DFAT, PM&C and Emergency Management Australia in providing a whole-of-government approach to developing capability and responding to terrorist incidents. The group coordinated the majority of Forensic and Technical deployment overseas in support of major criminal investigations and natural disasters.

### **Forensic Drug Support**

The Forensic Drug Support Group coordinated and managed drug support through two MOUs between the AFP and the National Measurement Institute (NMI).

The first MOU was for routine analysis of AFP-seized illicit drugs and reporting of results. The second MOU was for chemical profiling for the Australian Illicit Drug Intelligence Program (AIDIP).

The number of samples submitted for analysis during 2006-07 increased. In relation to the ATS, a broader range of precursor chemicals were encountered with a

reduction in the amount of pseudoephedrine samples being submitted for analysis.

### **Australian Illicit Drug Intelligence Program**

The Australian Illicit Drug Intelligence Program (AIDIP) is an ongoing partnership between the NMI and the AFP. The NMI provided chemical impurity profiling data on AFP seizures of heroin, cocaine and ATS. AFP Forensic Operations provide physical profiling data on the packaging, method of concealment and other details of illicit substances.

Chemical and physical profiles are being combined onto an upgraded common AIDIP database and products will be supplied to AFP Intelligence and other stakeholders.

## **FORENSIC AND TECHNICAL BUSINESS SUPPORT**

### **Research and Development**

Forensic and Technical maintained a strong research and development focus that concentrated on priority areas, including field portable equipment, explosive-residue analysis, DNA profiling, electronic evidence, illicit drug profiling, trace elements and latent fingerprint detection. Research projects were undertaken across all of these areas in collaboration with a number of industry and academic partners. A number of projects involved funding from the Australian Research Council (ARC).

### **Information Management**

During 2006–07, a tendering process was completed for the purchase and implementation of a Forensic Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS). LIMS will provide Forensic Operations with a state-of-the-art case management and exhibit-handling system to enhance both productivity and accountability across all forensic disciplines. LIMS commenced Stage 1 roll out in May 2007 with Stage 2 in late July 2007.

Another significant project being undertaken by the Information Management Team is the implementation of a National Disaster Victim Identification database on behalf of the Australasian Disaster Victim Identification

Council (ADVIC). This database was rolled out, with associated training, to all Australian state and territory and New Zealand policing jurisdictions in June 2007.

### **Quality Assurance**

Forensic Operations complies with international accreditation standards (ISO 17025) to ensure the delivery of quality forensic science support for AFP investigators. Laboratory accreditation with the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) was to be reassessed in the second half of 2007 for a further two-year period. During 2006–07, the AFP's Audio and Video Enhancement Laboratory was inspected and accreditation against ISO 17025 was achieved. This was the first audio and video enhancement facility in Australia to gain such accreditation. The Quality Assurance Team also provided quality assurance oversight for the AFP's Breathalyser Calibration Laboratory and this facility achieved NATA accreditation during the year.

### **Projects and Administration**

This team was established during the year to address the management of the increasing number of significant projects undertaken by the Forensic and Technical portfolio. The team also provided administrative support to the Forensic and Technical portfolio, including governance compliance, purchasing, fleet management and asset replacement.