

Ministry of Defence Police

CHIEF CONSTABLE'S ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT



2003-2004



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Contents

Chief Constable's Foreword	01
Role, Vision, Values & Outputs	02
Extended Jurisdiction: Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001	03
Divisional Operations	08
Divisional Commanders' Reports	09
Overseas Deployments	11
Operational Support Unit	12
Special Escort Group	12
Criminal Investigation Department	13
Annex A – Divisional Boundaries	17
Annex B – All Crimes	18
Annex C – Primary Crime	19



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Lloyd Clarke

Chief Constable's Foreword

Mr D L Clarke QPM

The reporting year has again been demanding in operational commitments. The last quarter of the 2002-03 Operations Report saw the MDP surging resources during Op Telic, to support the military by deploying officers at various USA related installations, including RAF Fairford. This work continued through the first quarter of this reporting period and I am proud to report that our commitment to task was well recognised by our customers. Whilst this exceptionally testing period is over, the MDP are continuing to meet customer tasking in response to the increased threat from international terrorism and the resultant enhanced postulated threat.

There has been a comprehensive review of Area Policing Teams (APT) conducted during 2003. The aim of the review was to identify the current role and tasking of the teams, as well as assessing the best use of these resources in the future. As a result of this work, it is planned that the APTs are to be re-tasked as Divisional Support Groups (DSG) from 1 April 2004. The creation of Divisional resources will enable the proactive and prioritised deployment of officers using the National Intelligence Model (NIM), which also comes into use in MDP next year. Divisional Support Groups (DSG) will provide a much more focused use of strategically located resources and, together with the OSU, they will be the spearhead of our surge capability. They will be tasked nationally, on the basis of available intelligence, using the NIM.

On 1 April 2003 the MDP underwent an operational re-organisation. This reduced the 10 geographic Operational Command Units (OCU) down to 5 Divisional HQs, each with a stronger and more focused staffing configuration. As far as possible the geographic boundaries were configured to align with those of the Military and the Home Office Police forces in England & Wales. The Scotland division covers the whole of Scotland. One of the real positives to come out of this

change is the better communication between MDP and the Army Command HQs. Over the course of this reporting year a post implementation study has been undertaken, which has helped to develop the new structure for the future. As we move towards Ministry of Defence Guard Service joining the Agency, from the 1st of April 2004 the new Regional management structure is being developed to work in unison with the MDP Divisional Structure.

This year, as part of the Project Contact implementation, the Agency has pushed forward the new Command & Control package: 'National Strategy For Police Information Systems – Command & Control' (NSPIS C&C) and has commenced the training of 200 operators at a purpose designed and built facility within Wethersfield. There are four themes to Project Contact: Implementing AIRWAVE Radio, Implementing NSPIS C&C, Implementing the ICCS (Integrated Communications Control System) and finally, but most importantly, managing the business change brought about by the aforementioned, to give the best support to our staff and provide the best service to our customers.

Through the valiant efforts of all Agency staff, both police and civilian alike, we have achieved a great deal throughout this reporting period. I am confident that together we are well prepared, both mentally and physically to face new challenges with the same enthusiasm and vigour that our staff displays each and every day.

D L Clarke QPM
Chief Constable

Role, Vision, Values & Outputs

OUR ROLE

The application of civil police training and constabulary powers to combat the principal risks of crime and disorder faced by the Ministry of Defence.

OUR VISION

To excel at the civil policing service we provide to the Ministry of Defence.

OUR VALUES

In common with other police forces, our purpose is to help secure a safe and just society in which the rights and responsibilities of individuals, families and communities are properly balanced.

The guiding principles by which we will carry out our Role are:

- with integrity
- treating everyone fairly, regardless of ethnic origin, religious belief, gender, sexual orientation, disability or social background
- efficiently and effectively
- through partnership
- in a way which obtains best value from police activities
- dealing speedily and transparently with police wrongdoing

OUR OUTPUTS

- Armed Security
 - Uniformed Policing
 - Investigation of Serious Crime
-

Extended Jurisdiction: Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001

Introduction

The Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act (ATCSA) 2001, came into effect on the 14th December 2001, in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and on 7th January 2002 in Scotland. The legislation included provisions that made modest changes to the jurisdiction of the MDP by amending the Ministry of Defence Police Act 1987. There were five principal changes:

- **Requests for MDP officers to assist an officer from another police force.**
If requested by either a Constable of the police force for any area in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, British Transport Police (BTP) or United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Constabulary (UKAEAC) to assist an officer from that force in the execution of his/her duties in relation to a particular incident, investigation or operation.
- **MDP jurisdiction in emergency situations.**
In relation to persons suspected of committing an offence or to save risk to life or injury, if reasonably believed that the purpose would be frustrated or seriously prejudiced by waiting to secure the attendance of the local force.
- **Mutual aid to other police forces.**
To assist any force in the United Kingdom including BTP or UKAEAC, on request to meet special demands on the other force's resources.
- **Jurisdiction for MDP officers in respect of Defence personnel as victims.**
In connection with offences, both on and off the MOD estate, against persons employed by the MOD or visiting forces when performing or attempting to perform official duties.
- **Authorisations under the Terrorism Act 2000.**
Amending sections of the Terrorism Act 2000 to authorise inclusion of MDP Superintendents and ACPO officers to make corresponding designations in areas of current MDP jurisdiction.

Section 122(4) of the act provided for an independent review after two years of the provisions contained within the ATCSA from becoming statute. Evidence relating to the MDP elements of interest was collated and made available to the Privy Counsellor Review Committee. A briefing pack containing statistics and summarised examples on the use of extended jurisdiction provisions to date was prepared for presentation to the Review Committee. The subsequent report acknowledged that their work had been made easier by detailed reporting from both MDP and BTP, on the use of the new powers.

The report of the Review Committee was published on the 18 December 2003 and, as anticipated, related mainly to the more contentious aspects of the legislation concerning human rights issues associated with immigration, asylum, detention and admissibility of personal information. In respect of the extended jurisdiction of MDP the committee viewed it as desirable, in the limited circumstances contained within sections 98-101, that MDP constables should be able to act with all the authority of Home Department constables. The review committee subsequently supported the extension of jurisdiction, with the proviso that it should be revisited when the underlying legislation is next reviewed.

The committee's endorsement of the provisions was subsequently welcomed by the Government in its response to the review as contained within the discussion paper 'Counter terrorism powers: reconciling security and liberty in an open society'.

Statistical Information and Collation

In order to provide accurate information in anticipation of the legislative review and to assist with managing the use of the new powers, a statistical return was implemented, whereby all occurrences of assistance rendered to other law enforcement agencies including emergency use of the new legislation could be collated and monitored. The data gathered has been analysed and information provided as required to the Home Office and Cabinet Office as well as for MDP Management use internally.

Policing Protocols

As a result of the legislative changes a revised co-ordinated policing protocol between MDP and Home Office Police Forces (England & Wales) was agreed and published in Home Office Circular 24/2002 on the 3 May 2002. A similar protocol was agreed between MDP and the Police Service of Northern Ireland and finally with the Scottish Police Service as published in Police Circular 13/2002 on 28 October 2002. The protocols set out the policing arrangements that apply between the MDP and the appropriate Home Department Police Forces (HDPF) in the exercise of the MDP's jurisdiction, as extended by the ATCSA. They outline the areas of responsibility and accountability between MDP and HDPFs and make provision for consultation and co-operation between the parties with the aim of delivering the best policing on the ground.

Statistical Return 2003/2004

1. Table 1 provides a monthly breakdown of the 1665 incidents where MDP officers assisted other police agencies or used the new jurisdiction during the period FY 2003-2004.

Table 1

Apr 03	May 03	Jun 03	Jul 03	Aug 03	Sep 03	Oct 03	Nov 03	Dec 03	Jan 04	Feb 04	Mar 04	Total
88	142	159	174	182	144	124	108	111	95	119	219	1665

The 1665 incidents attended by MDP on behalf of other forces during the period represents less than 1% of all incident and alarm call responses dealt with by MDP officers during the same period.

2. Table 2 provides a breakdown of the five extended MDP jurisdiction categories as well as incidents involving off-duty MDP officers.

Table 2	Requests	Emergency	Mutual Aid	Victims	PoT 2000*	Off-duty
Q1	299	51	0	5	29	5
Q2	394	75	0	0	23	4
Q3	281	44	0	0	12	4
Q4	249	46	0	2	134	2
Total	1223	216	0	7	198	15
%	74%	13%	0%	<1%	12%	<1%

(* - Incidents recorded under PoT 2000 all relate to Stop & Searches carried out by MDP patrols under authorisations made by local HDPFs, **not** to ATC&SA provisions enabling MDP Superintendents and ACPO ranks as authorising officers for cordons and stop & search respectively)

Q1 covers the period 1 Apr to 30 Jun 03

Q2 covers the period 1 Jul to 30 Sept 03

Q3 covers the period 1 Oct to 31 Dec 03

Q4 covers the period 1 Jan to 31 Mar 04

3. Table 3 provides details of incidents reported during the period FY03-04. Of those initially designated as having the potential to be terrorist related each was subsequently established to have been satisfactorily resolved. It also shows that 302 incidents (18%) had an MOD connection. The remainder are generally where MDP officers encounter incidents requiring a policing response during the course of the normal MDP duties whilst transiting outside the MOD estate. MDP officers attended 66 incidents (4%) whilst carrying firearms. This should be read in the context of an armed MDP officer, which includes where the weapons are locked in a secure drop box within the vehicle. None of these incidents involved officers drawing their firearms from the locked box. Constabulary powers were used on 531 occasions (32%).

Table 3	Terrorist related	MOD related	Officers armed	Powers used
Q1	36	80	18	110
Q2	26	86	24	140
Q3	15	51	14	77
Q4	43	85	10	204
Total	120	302	66	531
%	7%	18%	4%	32%

4. Table 4 categorises all incidents under generic headings. The more commonly attended crimes have their own categories whereas the remainder are collated under the general heading of 'crime'. 'Welfare' includes missing and suicidal persons. 'General enquiries' is a miscellaneous category that includes the recording of statements and conducting interviews. Dealing with incidents of a suspicious nature (vehicles and persons) made up 18% of the total during the period.

	Alarms	Crime	Domestic	Fire	Gen enq.	Public order	RTC*	Sus/Sto vehicle	Sus person	Traffic	Welfare
Q1	9	40	11	8	45	90	77	33	25	25	26
Q2	9	51	28	11	79	120	89	30	11	31	39
Q3	13	36	14	6	50	66	71	25	9	15	36
Q4	5	24	14	7	46	64	68	143	10	27	23
Total	36	151	67	32	220	340	305	231	55	98	124
%	2%	9%	4%	2%	13%	20%	18%	14%	4%	6%	7%

* Road Traffic Collision

5. Table 5 provides information about MDP officers who were involved in arresting or detaining suspected offenders. Incidents involving arrest/detention included those for theft, criminal damage, drink driving, assaults, sexual offences and public order situations. The table also includes other incidents involving actual or possible injury to persons or other potentially violent situations. The new provisions have had the effect of providing legal protection to MDP officers when involved in such violent incidents.

	Arrest/ Detention	Assault/Sex Offences	Dr/Driver	Drugs	Firearm	Weapon/ IED*	Injury	Misper	Suicidal
Q1	39	22	11	1	0	17	29	5	1
Q2	59	24	10	7	0	27	40	15	9
Q3	29	11	10	3	2	3	30	9	11
Q4	32	14	6	3	1	6	25	5	3
Total	159	71	37	14	3	53	124	34	24

* Improvised Explosive Device

6. Table 6 shows the number of incidents where assistance has been provided to other police forces since the commencement of the Anti-Terrorism Crime & Security Act 2001.

	2002	2003	2004
Month average	184	132	144
Total	2208	1579	433*

(* Jan-Mar only)

7. Table 7 provides a breakdown of the number of reported uses of the extended jurisdiction provisions by Division. Incidents reported to CID are included in their respective Divisions.

Table 7	AWE*	Scotland	South East	North East	Western	HQ
Q1	13	25	143	92	115	1
Q2	15	34	154	140	153	2
Q3	10	29	103	90	110	1
Q4	21	20	211	91	92	0
Total	59	108	611	413	470	4

* Atomic Weapons Establishment

Summarised Examples

Some summarised examples of incidents where the extended jurisdiction provisions have been exercised in the course of increased security patrolling are:

- An MDP patrol was alerted to a person seen paying close attention to MOD building in hours of darkness. A search was conducted under Section 44 Terrorism Act 2000 resulting in Class B drugs being found on his person. He was arrested under the Misuse of Drugs Act and conveyed to local police station where he was cautioned.
- Local Police requested the attendance of the MOD Police Rope Access Team to carry out the removal of Trident Ploughshares Protestors, who were obstructing the entrance to an MOD establishment. MDP officers from the Rope Access Team separated the protesters who were lying on the road whilst locked together using arm tube lock-ons and removed them prior to arrest by Scottish or Home Department police.
- An MDP patrol carried out a stop check of a car that was seen driving slowly through a Garrison town. A Police National Computer (PNC) check was made which revealed that the car had been reported stolen to police seven days earlier. Checks with Home Department police revealed they wished all four persons in the vehicle to be arrested. All four persons were arrested on behalf of this police force on suspicion of theft of a motor vehicle and then taken to police station where detention was authorised.

- MDP Officers on night-time patrol of Army Training Area checked a vehicle found adjacent to an external check point and stopped three males suspected of poaching offences. PNC checks revealed vehicle document irregularities and occupants of vehicle searched resulting in seizure of a sheath knife and other items suitable for 'going equipped'. West Mercia police were informed and requested MDP to continue dealing until their arrival.
- Whilst on foot patrol, MDP officers noticed a male climbing over the outer fence of the American Embassy to gain access to the sterile area. The officers immediately made their way over to the man and detained him for the purpose of a section 44 search. Diplomatic Protection Group officers subsequently attended and assumed responsibility, completing the search under section 44, Terrorism Act 2000.

Other Benefits

The new provisions have continued to have a considerable impact on MDP anti-terrorism operations. This has included conducting numerous checks of suspicious personnel and vehicles during base-plate and Security Vigilance Area patrols, section 44 stop-checks and the provision of support to Home Department and Scottish Police Forces. In addition, MDP officers now receive the jurisdictional protection when confronted with emergency situations requiring an immediate police response, many of which have the potential to include violence, especially those involving weapons or those resulting in injury to the public.

Divisional Operations

The past business year has been challenging as we moved from an OCU structure into five Divisions against the backdrop of conflict in Iraq. Op Telic affected everyone in the MDP and, as an organisation, we recognised we had to take some important strategic decisions in order to successfully prevent disruption to military operations at key installations. Officers responded magnificently, receiving justified praise from many quarters.

Divisionalisation brought many important changes in the way the Agency manages its business. Not only have Divisional HQ's been adequately staffed but the devolvement of both Personnel and Finance delegations away from the centre to Divisional Commanders was a major step forward.

Now, as we look ahead the pace of change impacting upon us is no less diminished, but this time set against the backdrop of an increased threat from international terrorism and a continuing threat from domestic extremism.

The other major change will see us moving away from Area Policing Teams, a concept that we recognise has served MDP well in the past but which now needs to evolve to meet the Agency's strategic needs in the 21st Century. The introduction of Divisional Support Groups will equip the Agency with a highly focused deployable resource that will be tasked by Divisional Tasking & Coordinating groups linked to the National Intelligence Model (NIM). These changes will see the Agency well placed to provide an improved and directed service to our customers and a platform from which to target crime and disorder across the MOD.

Photo Courtesy of The News, Portsmouth, Protestor activity during Op Telic



Divisional Commanders' Reports

Throughout the year the operational commitments within the Divisions were numerous, following the armed conflict in Iraq and MDP had to deal with the aftermath of anti-war protests and demonstrations. The return to normal working conditions has called upon the dedication and expertise of both police officers and civilian staff to maintain a level of core service across the many areas of the MOD. A map showing the divisional boundaries can be found at Annex A.



The five Divisional Commanders, Chief Superintendents David Allard, Ranjit Manghani, Stephen Walker, Leroy McClelland and Sid Mason

Atomic Weapons Establishments (AWE) Division

The role of the MDP within AWE Division is split into three distinct types of policing – high profile armed Counter-Terrorist patrols conducted by highly trained officers, unarmed policing of protest demonstrations and the provision of a bespoke policing service to both Aldermaston and Burghfield. The MDP's role at both sites continues to be a difficult one of proportionality, finely balancing resources and responses at both ends of the spectrum, at one end countering the increased threat posed by international terrorism while at the other end responding to protest groups and their right to demonstrate.

Throughout the past year anti-nuclear groups have continued to focus their protest actions on AWE and these actions have varied from a single protester through to well organised events by national groups such as Trident Ploughshares and Reclaim the Bases. Both organisations have held

demonstrations at Aldermaston during the year and planning is underway to police known future demonstrations.

North Eastern Division

This first year of operation as a geographical Division has tested both the operational and organisational skills of staff, both police and civilian. Once again, RAF Fylingdales, RAF Menwith Hill, and RAF Lakenheath have been the main focus of protest activity and substantial numbers of arrests have been made in joint policing operations with the Home Department Police Forces at these locations.

Despite the level of protestor activity, crucial MOD outputs at these stations have been maintained, although station employees and residents have, inevitably, experienced varying levels of inconvenience as a result of some major demonstrations. The use of our trained specialist Rope Access and Cutting teams to safely remove protestors who have "locked-on" to structures have proven their worth on many occasions.

North Eastern Division has several highly sensitive Defence sites and combating the threat posed by terrorism remains a high priority within this Division. Initiatives to counter and disrupt potential terrorist activity have included the formation of a joint Counter Terrorist Unit (CTU) involving specially trained officers from both MDP and North Yorkshire Police conducting high-profile joint operational patrols in the vicinity of RAF Menwith Hill.



Extra security was needed for the arrival of B52 bombers at RAF Fairford during Op Telic

South East Division

This last year has been a busy period operationally for the Division that commenced with the homecoming of ships to HMNB Portsmouth from deployment in the Iraq conflict. Many families attended the homecomings and MDP worked alongside Hampshire Police to ensure the events were safe and joyous occasions. Later in the year the traditional Christmas festival was held in the Portsmouth Heritage area, an event that attracted around 35,000 visitors.

Across the period, the Division has hosted a number of VIP visits ranging from members of the Royal Family and members of Government, both British and foreign.

In September the South East Division played a vital role in the internal policing of the Defence Sales and Equipment International exhibition at London Docklands, providing policing and security for MOD assets as well as to personnel at the exhibition. This event is the leading Defence exhibition in the world and was a multi-agency operation involving the Metropolitan Police, British Transport Police and City of London Police.

Divisional officers have been involved in working closely with the Metropolitan Police within the London area ranging from anti-terrorist patrols to ceremonial celebrations such as Trooping the Colour and the high profile visit of President Bush.



MDP Officers provide security for officers and families of HMS Edinburgh on return from Iraq

Scotland Division

Operations in Scotland have continued to provide policing resources for protest activity that is mainly focused on the Clyde area. In addition to planned large-scale

demonstrations, protest activity has also included spontaneous blockades and attempted incursions from both land and sea. Officers have also been deployed further afield to other MOD locations in Scotland to police protests at Dundrennan Ranges in the southwest of the Division.

Officers from Scotland have also had a prominent role in meeting national operations ranging from Op Telic to Marine Unit assets deployed to assist the Metropolitan Police in providing waterborne security for the Defence Sales and Equipment International exhibition in London.

Several large-scale exercises have also been held within the Division covering a wide range of scenarios. This resulted in MDP officers working closely with a number of other agencies to ensure a multi-agency approach to dealing with major incidents such as nuclear accidents and terrorist activity.

Western Division

During the year Western Division officers were involved in more than 100 operations and military events that attracted around 400,000 members of the public. During the summer, officers worked jointly with Gloucestershire Constabulary and colleagues from the RAF Police to ensure the successful policing of the Royal International Tattoo that took place at RAF Fairford.

Looking back to the start of the year the Division was still managing the policing operation for RAF Fairford under Operation Telic. This concluded in early May with a total of 49 arrests having been made by MDP officers during the whole of the operation.

Officers across the Division have been involved in a number of joint operations, such as the involvement of officers from the Divisions. Area Policing Teams in a multi-agency operation with the UK Immigration Service and Wiltshire Constabulary. The operation was directed towards identifying illegal immigrants and resulted in 7 illegal immigrants being arrested and a further 11 people found to be working with no apparent record of their existence in the UK.

Officers from across the Division have also been involved in an investigation in Wales concerning four persons suspected of the theft of MOD property. During the investigation specialist mountaineering equipment has been recovered to the value of around £35,000.

Overseas Deployments

The Ministry of Defence Police continues to lead the British Police Service in the field of international policing, with the MDP representing one third of all officers deployed abroad by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

The UN mission in Kosovo continues to provide the greatest opportunity for officers wishing to serve in an overseas mission and the officers deployed there assist in maintaining Her Majesty's Government's (HMG's) commitment to assist in bringing stability and democracy to this troubled area of the Balkans. MDP Officers are employed throughout the country in a variety of tasks including community patrols, liaison officers to strategic positions, directing the formation of the Kosovo Police Service.

MDP continued to provide Community Police Officers to the Pitcairn Island with two officers serving there at any one time. Each attachment normally lasts three months although it takes almost a month to travel to and from the island. MDP was asked to double our resources to assist with pre-trial depositions and 12 officers experienced this tropical and demanding way of life during 2003/4.

The European Union sponsors the police mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina to which MDP provided two officers to act as mentors.

MDP supported the Royal Military Police with the deployment of Sexual Offence Interview Trained (SOIT) officers to assist with a protracted investigation in Kenya. Four officers are currently involved in this task and will remain with it until complete.

Supporting a new core customer - the British Army in Iraq - was a significant development for the Overseas Deployment Office. MDP currently provides a number of officers to support the efforts of the Coalition in both Baghdad and Basra. These officers are employed in a variety of tasks with the aim of establishing a modern, accountable police service for Iraq and assisting in the restoring of peace to the area.

Photo Courtesy of Gary Davies (2SL Photographer Portsmouth) MDP RIB Team escorting Royal Naval vessel out of Portsmouth harbour



Operational Support Unit (OSU)

The Operational Support Unit (OSU) consists of two units one in the North at Dishforth airfield in North Yorkshire and one in the South at the Agency HQ in Wethersfield, Essex. During this period the OSUs (N) & (S) have continued to provide the Agency with a flexible police response to all and any identified needs. Both units continue to come under the direct operational control of the Operational Support Department and any taskings must be authorised by this department before being undertaken.

The last 12 months have again seen the OSU respond to a number of varied tasks alongside members of both the MDP and Home Office and Scottish Police Forces. The actual duties carried out being dependent upon the specific needs of the Agency and its customers at any given time. The unit still remains one of the Force's

primary providers of a surge capacity. It being capable of responding at short-notice to almost any incident and will, no doubt, be expected to continue to operate in similar challenging situations in the future.

The OSU continues to provide expertise and support to the Agency in the specialist areas of Public Order, Search, Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN), Working at Height and Firearms. The training and standards employed meeting those laid down by the relevant ACPO Manuals of Guidance and Force Policy and Procedures Manuals. Probably the most high profile duty undertaken this year involved the coordination and completion of a search operation in Northern Ireland utilising not only OSU officers but also staff from all the Agency search teams and Fraud Squad.

Special Escort Group (SEG)

The Ministry of Defence Police Special Escort Group (SEG) enjoyed a particularly busy period in the past 12 months. They undertook a number of Convoy Escorts of Defence Nuclear Material both by road and rail, to a variety of locations throughout the United Kingdom. They also escorted other assets on behalf of the MOD. They were also involved in partnership with Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Thames Valley Police Forces, in the escorting of US munitions from during Operation Telic.

In line with the continual review of security, the concept of operations for the SEG is in the process of major changes. This has involved staffing changes, and amendments to operational requirements and deployments.

Criminal Investigation Department

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) provides specialist detective skills to support the uniform branch in a shared responsibility for the prevention, investigation and reduction of crime reported to the MDP on the Defence Estate and is responsible for three strategic areas: CID Management/Operations, Force Intelligence Bureau, and Fraud Squad.

CID Management/Operations

With the disaggregation of CID to Divisional Commanders, CID Operations Department at Headquarters is primarily employed to support Divisional CID by the provision of specialist resources supplied by the Major Incident Unit, Computer Crime Unit, HQ Scenes of Crime Officers and Force Crime Reduction Officer. CID Operations is also responsible for the provision of external specialist training and professional development of Trainee Investigators as well as undertaking reviews of major/serious crime investigations.

Divisional CID are engaged in enquiries, which involve a wide variety of offences under the Criminal Law. Such offences include Fraud, Theft, Criminal Damage and Rape with a focus being put on Primary Crime. Criminal Justice Units within Divisions assist CID with case and court preparation procedures thereby freeing up valuable investigation time for CID Officers.

Computer Crime Unit

The Computer Crime Unit was established in its present format in 1998. It forms part of the HQ CID (Ops) Department and has a responsibility to provide the Force with specialist support in relation to computer crime and the forensic recovery of computer based evidence. The continued exploitation of computer technology by those involved in criminal activity has again produced a substantial increase in the volume of electronic data being processed by the Unit over the last 12 months.

Statistical evidence illustrating the escalating demand for the Units services over fixed periods clearly shows that as far back as 1998/1999 the volume of work processed by the unit was increasing on average by 100% annually. By the year 2002 it was envisaged that demand would continue to escalate at about the same rate. In fact from 2002 to present date the volume of work processed by the Unit has increased by over 800%.

By example over 9,000 G/Bytes of hard media was processed during this 03-04 compared to only 4,500 G/Bytes the previous year.

The Unit has provided assistance in support of 97 criminal investigations covering a broad range of offences ranging from Rape, to Fraud and Theft. It has also been involved with 'Op Ore', a nationwide operation investigating paedophile offences. 'Op Ore' submissions accounted for just over 18% of the total received by the Unit.

Work Ratio:

CID OPERATIONS	69%	
FRAUD SQUAD	17%	
OTHER	14%	(Includes Complaints & Discipline and SB/Intelligence)

The personal development of staff has continued to be a priority; with officers successfully completing advanced computer forensic courses covering high-tech crime investigations, digital evidence retrieval and forensic analysis. Advanced training together with the acquisition of additional workstations and latest forensic tools, has enabled the Unit to maintain a high standard as well as providing the forensic ability to tackle some of the more complex issues generated by the rapid development of computer technology.

Scenes of Crime Officers

At present the Scenes of Crime Department consists of 1 Crime Scene Manager, stationed at headquarters and 8 Scenes of Crime Officers (SOCOs) located at four of the divisions. The department operates 4 major incident vans and 4 general-purpose SOCO vehicles.

During this reporting year the department dealt with a total of 660 offences, detailed below is a table showing the breakdown of these offences:

Crime	2003 -2004
Theft	90
Suspicious Deaths	3
Burglary	278
Criminal Damage	118
Arson	16
Offences Against the Person	37
Sexual Offences	37
Drug Offences	6
Others	75
Total	660

As a result of the SOCO examinations there has been 561 fingerprint lifts recovered and submitted to New Scotland Yard for comparison and 101 forensic submissions for specialist examination including chemical treatments, DNA, including low copy, handwriting, drug testing and tool mark comparisons.

The photographic unit that forms part of the Scenes of Crime department is in the process of purchasing one of the most up to date digital mini labs, which will enable SOCOs to make more use of digital photography.

Crime Statistics

The introduction of the Initial Report Form (IRF), in April 2003, has ensured an increased accuracy in the input of data on the MOSS crime recording system, and enables the Crime Statistics Office to produce data as required by the Home Office and CCMDP in respect of such details as Ethnicity and Hate Crime offences. The reconfiguration of the MOSS system has also enabled the recording of crime to be identified as Primary and Secondary.

The appointment of a Force Crime Registrar has further improved the accurate recording of crime and crime related incidents, in accordance with National Crime Recording Standards.

The Ministry of Defence Police, together with Vivista Ltd, is the pilot Force in the development of the upgrading of the MOSS system, currently in use by seven Forces throughout the UK. The hardware and software, which was purchased during this financial year, will make sure the crime database will continue to be available for the foreseeable future. This will also make the system compatible with the Command and Control system. There will be a smoother transfer of data from the live system to the management information system, and consequently this will speed up any statistical enquiries and operational capability.

Primary and Secondary Crime

The MOD's core duties are summarised as:

- Outputs:** Providing an effective Defence capability
- Stewardship:** Of public funds and resources
- Responsible employer:** Conforming to the highest standards
- Public confidence:** In both the Department and the Government

The **Primary Crime** risks to the MOD are summarised as: Terrorism; theft; espionage/sabotage; public disorder; major financial fraud; criminal damage; offences under the Military Remains Act; offences under the Official Secrets Act.

Case Example

An investigation was carried out into the alleged criminal activities of a regimental Administration Officer at a MOD establishment. The allegations related to irregularities surrounding funds for a millennium project to commemorate Non Commissioned Officer's killed in various conflicts. Records from the fund indicated that the sculptress commissioned to complete the project had received a total of £26,500, however enquiries with the sculptress discovered that only £19,000 had been paid to her. The Regimental Administration Officer was subsequently charged with eight counts of False Accounting and six counts of Theft. The Regimental Administration Officer subsequently pleaded guilty to the False Accounting Charges and was sentenced to twelve months in prison, suspended for twelve months.

Secondary Crime covers all those areas which are not primary crime under the above summary. In general, whilst not implying that such offences are any less serious under the law, individual isolated incidents would not jeopardise the MOD's ability to discharge its core duties and as such should not represent the first call on the MOD's own resources..

Case Example

In May 2003 MDP CID received a report that a number of paedophile type images were found within the toilets of an MOD establishment. Following forensic examination a number of repeat fingerprints were found. An operation to obtain voluntary elimination prints from the civilian workforce was commenced. At this time an employee was identified as a suspect. Search warrants were craved to search the employees home address/work locker and holiday stading. Evidence such as computers and floppy discs were seized. Subsequent examination of this evidence by the Computer Crime Unit at HQ, revealed evidence exactly consistent with two images found in the toilets at the MOD establishment. The employee was later detained interviewed and arrested. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Crime Recording/Solving Rates

The classification of Primary and Secondary Crime has had an obvious effect upon the work of the Crime Statistics Department, the force solving rate, concerns itself solely with Primary Crime. In order to address this and to provide an accurate figure of the crime rate overall, three separate recording/ solving rate programmes have been established on the Multi Operational Support System (MOSS).

Primary Crimes	Recorded	1618	Solved	921	56.92% Detected
Secondary Crimes	Recorded	5278	Solved	2611	49.46% Detected
UK Overall Crimes	Recorded	6896	Solved	3532	51.21% Detected

The detection rate for recorded Primary Offences was at 56.92% for the reporting period, which was in excess of the first part of Key Target 2, to achieve a solving rate of 48% for the investigation of Primary Crime. The overall crime detection rate for Primary and Secondary Offences was 51.21%.

A full breakdown of the crime classification and detection rate by classification can be found at Annexes B and C.

Major Incident Unit

During the reporting year the Major Incident Unit (MIU) has utilised it's static and mobile capabilities to support 12 MDP Investigations on the MOD Estate involving fraud, large scale theft, serious sexual offences, work related deaths and professional standards issues.

Personnel from the MIU have also supported an operation undertaken by the Metropolitan Police in to an offence of murder and an operation undertaken by Hertfordshire Constabulary into a series of rapes.

The mobile capability of the Unit has been extended by the installation of satellite communications which enables each vehicle to deliver voice, data and video images back to MDP HQ from any point in the UK, providing the versatility to support virtually any MDP system or role including MOSS and Command & Control or as contingency against the loss of terrestrial communications.

FORCE INTELLIGENCE BUREAU

The Force Intelligence Bureau is comprised of four sections, Special Branch, Criminal Intelligence, Force Surveillance Branch and Force Counter Terrorism Security Advisor.

The primary function of the Bureau is to provide a proactive intelligence capability to the whole of the operational area of the Agency.

The continued increased threat level relating to terrorism directed at the Defence capability within the UK means that the resources of the Bureau are focused on responding to intelligence surrounding the threat.

The Defence assets are also continually threatened by unlawful protest and disruptive activities upon which the Bureau is mandated to provide an intelligence capability.

The implementation phase of the National Intelligence Model into the Agency has concluded with a Divisional Intelligence Bureau being established at the Divisional headquarters of Aldershot, Clyde, Foxhill and York. The process of installing the Strategic and Tactical Tasking and Co-ordinating Groups at HQ and Divisional level is progressing. This will allow the Agency to direct the correct resources into the identified policing priorities outlined within the Control Strategies. The coming year will provide an evaluation period of the impact that the National Intelligence Model has had on the business of the Agency.

FRAUD SQUAD

Over the preceding twelve months the Fraud Squad has made substantial changes in order to move from a reactive policing organisation to an intelligence-led, proactive Department.

In April 2003 the Fraud Squad adopted the principles of the National Intelligence Model, (NIM) which is a decision making process, primarily a system for ensuring decisions are based on available accurate assessments of problems the Department faces, ensuring these problems are tackled effectively.

The introduction of the NIM necessitated fundamental changes in the way in which the Fraud Squad approached the investigation of major/serious Fraud and Corruption affecting the Ministry of Defence. It involved setting up a Control Strategy and introducing a Tasking and Coordinating Process, resulting in a more focused approach towards an efficient management and investigation strategy.

In order to be truly intelligence-led, resources were moved from the more traditional reactive investigation teams to form a Proactive Investigation Unit. In addition, it was necessary to realign resources and expand the Financial Investigation Unit (FIU) in order to capitalize on new legislative powers to seize the proceeds of crime.

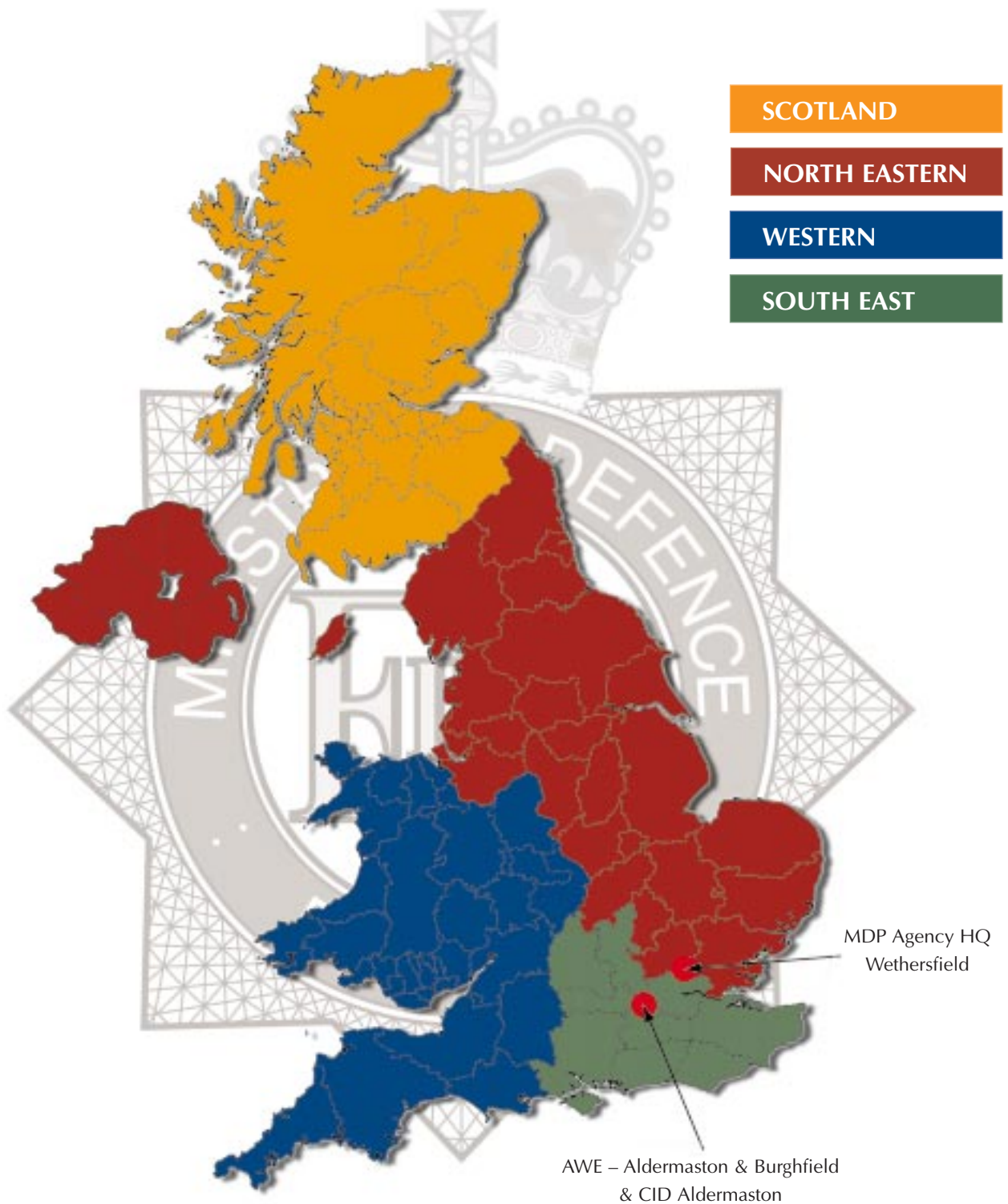
During the previous twelve months all members of the FIU have been trained under the recent Proceeds of Crime Act and are now in a position to conduct confiscations and the restraint of assets. Currently the Fraud Squad has several hundred thousand pounds under restraint.

Throughout the year the Fraud Squad has continued to achieve successful prosecutions for offences involving fraud and corruption, resulting in convictions for numerous offenders. There are several major cases due to come to trial in the forthcoming months.

During November 2003 the Fraud Squad, in conjunction with partners in the Defence Fraud Analysis Unit and Service Police, re-launched the Ministry of Defence's new Fraud Awareness Campaign under the slogan 'MOD – United Against Fraud'. Sir Kevin TEBBITT, Permanent Under Secretary, General Sir Michael WALKER, Chief of Defence Staff and Mr. David RAY, Deputy Chief Constable, Ministry of Defence Police headlined the campaign.

Despite the re-organisational changes that have taken place, the Fraud Squad continues to have an average of twenty-eight (28) cases under investigation at any one time. All of these cases are by definition, serious or complex, having passed through a stringent vetting process. A further thirty (30) cases are under going intelligence development. The FIU continues to support the whole Force in Financial Investigation as well as assisting Service Police departments where possible.

Divisional Boundaries ————— Annex A



Offence Category

All Crimes

Annex B

Crime Class	English Recorded	English Solved	Scottish Recorded	Scottish Solved	%Solved
Assaults Non-Police	363	287	7	7	79.46
Assaults on Police	15	11			73.33
Bomb Hoaxes	10	2	1		18.18
Burglary	566	100	55	9	17.55
Child Sexual Offences	37	31			83.78
Criminal Damage	596	127	151	41	22.49
Customs Offences	9	8			88.89
Drugs Offences	43	41			95.35
Forgery	167	143	22	24	88.36
Fraud	590	413	212	282	86.66
Life Threatening	28	16			57.14
Other Child Offences	5	3	1	1	66.67
Other Offences	1368	1318	47	44	96.25
Other Theft Act	2274	451	195	86	21.75
Public Order Offences	42	38	5	5	91.49
Sexual Offences	57	22	27	19	48.81
State Offences			3	3	100.00
Totals	6170	3011	726	521	
UK Overall Totals	Recorded	6896	Solved	3532	51.22

Crime Property Values

UK Overall	Stolen Value	Recovered Value	Damaged Value
2002/2003	£4,218,788	£795,275	£1,289,449
2003/2004	£2,798,042	£280,661	£784,124

Offence Category

Primary Crime Annex C

Crime Class	English Recorded	English Solved	Scottish Recorded	Scottish Solved	%Solved
Assaults Non-Police	2	2			100.00
Assaults on Police	2	2			100.00
Bomb Hoaxes	7	1	1		12.50
Burglary	81	19	21	5	25.53
Child Sexual Offences	1	1			100.00
Criminal Damage	183	44	114	32	25.59
Forgery	102	90	4	5	89.62
Fraud	268	183	33	107	96.35
Life Threatening	5	1			20.00
Other Offences	182	174	36	35	95.87
Other Theft Act	495	169	63	35	36.56
Public Order Offences	12	11	4	4	93.75
Sexual Offences	1				
State Offences			1	1	100.00
Totals	1341	697	277	224	
UK Overall Totals	Recorded	1618	Solved	921	56.92

Crime Property Values (Primary)

UK Overall	Stolen Value	Recovered Value	Damaged Value
2002/2003	£2,531,843	£517,324	£1,057,101
2003/2004	£1,000,131	£82,199	£597,301

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