

# Commissioners visit peacekeepers in Cyprus while 54th contingent now on deck



The AFP's 54th contingent to Cyprus. Back row from left: AUSTCIVPOL officers Sergeants Stephen Pereira, Alan Taylor and Raymond Johnson; centre row: Sergeants Terri Maric, Sharon McCarthy, Donna Rech and Guy Davy; front row: Station Sergeant Chris Cooper, Superintendent Phil Newton and Station Sergeant Doug Hair.



Commissioner Palmer, accompanied by Commander Barry Carpenter, addresses the AFP contingent in Cyprus.

*AFP Commissioner Mick Palmer and Queensland Police Commissioner Jim O'Sullivan visited peacekeepers in Cyprus in October.*

They also paid tribute to Chief Inspector Jack Thurgar from the 16th Australian Police Contingent on the island who was awarded The Star of Courage after he rescued a local farmer injured when his tractor struck a mine in 1979.

Commissioner Palmer unveiled a plaque, commemorating Mr Thurgar's bravery, presented by the

commander and members of the 52nd and 53rd AUSTCIVPOL contingents.

Meanwhile, the AFP's 54th contingent to the peacekeeping mission on the island left Australia on November 16 for the six-month detachment, led by AUSTCIVPOL Superintendent Philip Newton from ACT Region.

They are part of a 20-member rotational team serving with the United Nations Civilian Police (UNCIVPOL) on the island.