

# AFP congratulates FBI on celebrating its centennial

**Australia's relationship with one of the highly regarded law enforcement agencies in the United States, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, spans more than 70 years. The solid relationship between the AFP and the FBI continues to be an important one as both organisations face the challenges that security and transnational crime activities bring in the 21st Century.**

On 26 July this year, the FBI will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its creation by Attorney-General Charles Bonaparte during the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt. The organisation has grown from a team of 34 investigators in 1908 to more than 30,000 employees today.

The FBI's relationship with Australian law enforcement dates back to at least 1936, when the FBI Washington/Commonwealth Investigations Branch Melbourne was hunting William Dainard (alias Mahan) – who was wanted by US police in relation to kidnapping.

According to records at the National Archives of Australia, there was a possibility that he might try to enter Australia<sup>1</sup>. It had been one of the most sensational crimes in the US when, on 24 May 1935, George Weyerhaeuser, the 9-year-old son of timber baron John Philip Weyerhaeuser Jr was kidnapped<sup>2</sup>. Mr Dainard was one of three people later convicted of the kidnapping charges after being arrested by the FBI in

San Francisco on 7 May 1936<sup>3</sup>.

In 2006, Commissioner Keelty told an audience at the Australian National Security Summit that the AFP's working relationships with other law enforcement and related agencies was crucial in being able to predict, and therefore prevent, crime.

"Sharing ideas and knowledge with our international counterparts has proven to be a most beneficial endeavour," Commissioner Keelty said.

Among other law enforcement organisations, the AFP has partnerships with the Metropolitan Police and Scotland Yard in the United Kingdom, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the New Zealand Police.

Appointed to their positions in the same year, Commissioner Keelty and FBI Director Robert S. Mueller have developed a positive relationship, both professionally and personally. Mr Mueller had little time to settle in to his new job when just days after he began duty the FBI's mission changed dramatically. After 11 September 2001, President George W Bush told Mr Mueller that the organisation's mission had become one of preventing another terrorist attack on the US homeland<sup>4</sup>.

In 2001, following an FBI invitation, the first AFP member was seconded to the FBI National Infrastructure Protection Centre (NIPC) located at its headquarters



in Washington DC. Cooperation between the NIPC and the AFP has been useful in a series of investigations since then, and has provided an invaluable exchange of information and experience. Seven years later, the AFP has a second officer in the FBI, attached to the Cyber Crime Division in its headquarters and four FBI Agents located in Canberra and Sydney.

AFP's partnership with the FBI has practical outcomes from pursuing and investigating terrorists, to the global hunt for online child sex offenders as well as cooperative initiatives focusing on professional development, training and technology exchanges.

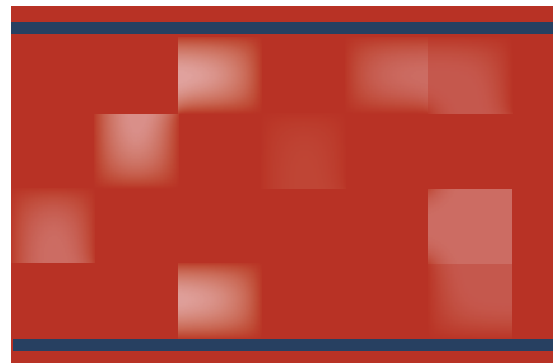
## Cooperative initiatives

The Australian High Tech Crime Centre (AHTCC), which was hosted by the AFP until January this year and is now in the AFP's High Tech Crime Operations portfolio, works closely with the FBI liaison officers in Australia. The FBI has a dedicated cyber crime legal attaché in Canberra, one of around 70 such legal officers based in cities around the world.

<sup>1</sup> The National Archives of Australia, viewed in February 2008 at <[www.naa.gov.au/collection/recordsearch.aspx](http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/recordsearch.aspx)>

<sup>2, 3</sup> The Online Encyclopaedia of Washington State History, viewed in February 2008 at <[www.historylink.org/essays/output.cfm?file\\_id=7750](http://www.historylink.org/essays/output.cfm?file_id=7750)>

<sup>4</sup> Conference paper, *Australia's response to transnational crime in the region*, Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department Robert Cornall, Australian Institute of Criminology International Conference, 29-30 November 2004.



The relationship has improved contacts and ensured information requests to and from the US have occurred in a timely manner.

The AFP has also developed its global capacity to reduce the incidence of online child sex exploitation by deploying AFP members to the FBI's Innocent Images International Task Force (IIITF). The task force allows for the real-time transfer of information from and to the FBI and between task force members and their countries.

The IIITF has involved law enforcement officers from Australia, Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Europol, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.

Five members have been seconded to the IIITF since the taskforce became operational in 2004 and another member is scheduled to begin in 2008.

### Training

The AFP recognises the value of leadership training programs, both individually-held and those held jointly with regional and overseas law enforcement agencies. In 2006 and 2007, the special program Leadership in Counter-Terrorism (LinCT) Pacific Program which focused on counter terrorism, intelligence and leadership, was conducted in Australia and the US.

Superintendent Shane McLennan from Queensland Police, a Visiting Fellow with the Australian Institute of Police

Management (AIPM), said that the inaugural LinCT course held in 2006 was based on a concept initiated in 2004 as a joint leadership project among a number of Northern Hemisphere law enforcement agencies and academic institutions.

"Following the success of the LinCT Atlantic Program in 2004 and 2005, the LinCT concept expanded and was developed as a strategic partnership between three agencies operating within the Pacific – the FBI, the AFP and the AIPM," Superintendent McLennan said.

Presentations and discussions throughout the program were delivered and facilitated by content experts and authorities from law enforcement, government and academia.

The following is a snapshot of the AFP activities which have involved the FBI over the past two years:

- AFP's Management of Serious Crime program, providing both participants and speakers, including senior officers from teams involved in the investigation of international terrorism and Eurasian organised crime
- A week-long symposium as part of the AFP's Leadership in Criminal Intelligence Program involving more than seven international law enforcement agencies
- AFP's Law Enforcement Cooperation Program (LECP), providing material assistance to help establish the Pacific Transnational Crime Network and individual Transnational Crime Units

(TCU) in Pacific nations

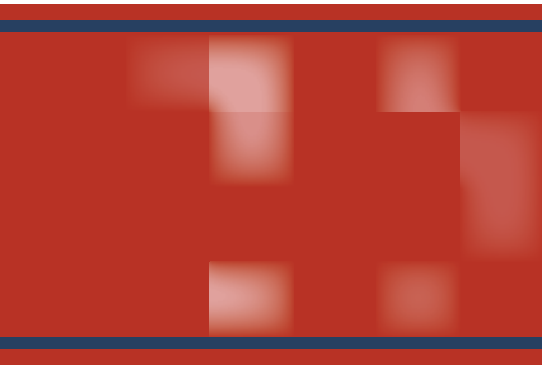
- Sponsoring AHTCC members to deliver presentations to international law enforcement forums
- Hosting AFP staff in the USA and sending FBI personnel to Australia in an effort to develop a data analysis solution for intercepted internet data.

The FBI has also made a substantial training contribution to the development of South East Asian law enforcement partners. While select officers from Australian and regional law enforcement agencies attend the FBI's National Academy in the US, the AFP and FBI have explored joint development initiatives, including the provision of a variety of training programs through facilities such as the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation, which has a counter terrorism focus, the International Law Enforcement Academy in Bangkok, and the Southeast Asia Regional Center for Counter Terrorism in Malaysia.

### Staffing arrangements

In 2007, the AFP and FBI reached in-principle agreement to second an AFP member to the FBI. In January, Deputy Commissioner John Lawler travelled to Washington DC and signed a memorandum of understanding between the AFP and FBI on the secondment of an AFP member.

Federal Agent Courtney Christie is undertaking a six-month attachment to the FBI Cyber Crime division and this will be followed by another six-month



placement within the FBI Counter Terrorism division in Los Angeles.

The proposed program which Federal Agent Christie will undertake includes assignments to the Organised Crime section, focusing on ongoing AFP-FBI cases relating to Russian organised crime (specifically cyber crime issues), at the Washington Field Office: the Public Access Control unit, working with the Innocent Images Initiative in Calverton and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in Alexandria; and observing the training of undercover agents in Dallas and the Baltimore office.

FBI member Special Agent John Scata is currently embedded in the AFP's counter terrorism command structure. Special Agent Scata is also the Assistant Legal Attaché at the US Embassy in Canberra. He has been in this role with the AFP since December 2005 and is due to leave Australia in October 2009.

Special Agent's Scata's role with the AFP has involved conducting FBI database searches on relevant AFP

Bottom left: FBI Executive Assistant Director Stephen Tidwell with Deputy Commissioner John Lawler.

counter terrorism information to identify any counter terrorism holdings the FBI has that could assist the AFP with its investigations. He has also attempted to identify opportunities for joint investigations, facilitate counter terrorism-related requests for assistance and responded to general queries about the FBI.

FBI member Acting Senior Supervisory Agent Jackie Dougher was seconded to the AFP's Online Child Sex Exploitation Canberra team from November 2007 to January 2008. Agent Dougher was sworn in as a special member to contribute to the AFP's international engagement strategy focusing on online predators active in Australia. She also assisted in prisoner debriefs.

Right: Team Leader OCSET Sean Gilliland, Assistant Legal Attache AHTCC Tim Ryan, T/L High Tech Crime Intell Scott Mellis, A/L Attache John Scata, National Coordinator OCSET Reece Kershaw.

Middle: DC Lawler with members of the Washington post; Federal Agent Andrea Humphrys, F/A Courtney Christie, F/A Gerry Morris and F/A Paul Hopkins.

Bottom right: Supt. Shane McLennan, Visiting Fellow, AIPM; Dr Jim Hann, Executive Director, AIPM; Supervisory Special Agent Walt Williams, FBI Academy; Mr Mike Ferrence, Consultant, FBI (Rtd); Mr Warwick Jones, Director-Academic Programs, AIPM.



Photo: Mel Hill

Photos courtesy of Washington Post



Photo far right courtesy of AIPM