



NOAKULA CHARLES

INFORMATION ON THE MINISTRY FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

In accordance with section 206(1) of the Constitution, 1996 (Act No 108 of 1996), the Minister for Safety and Security is responsible for policing in general, and is required to give account to Cabinet and Parliament on all matters relating to policing. An important feature of the Minister's responsibility is the determination of national policing policy and the provision of civilian oversight.

Institutions that report to the Minister for Safety and Security:

- The South African Police Service

Purpose: To create a safe and secure environment for all people in South Africa.

- The Secretariat for Safety and Security

Purpose: To provide support to the Minister in the execution of his duties.

- The Independent Complaints Directorate

Purpose: An independent police complaints body that investigates alleged misconduct of, or alleged offences committed by a member(s) of the SA Police Service.

The Minister submitted the following Bills to the Legislature during 2002/2003:

- The Anti-Terrorism Bill
- The Explosives Bill

The Republic of South Africa signed international agreements with following countries during 2002/2003:

- Portugal - International Agreement
- Rwanda - Memorandum of Understanding
- Taipei - Memorandum of Understanding

The Minister has made the following trips abroad:

DATE	COUNTRY	PURPOSE
28 May - 1 June 2002	Germany	Invited by the German Federal Minister of Justice to discuss matters relating to extradition between Germany and South Africa
30 July - 5 August 2002	Malaysia	Accompanied the President of South Africa
18 September - 20 September 2002	Zimbabwe	7th Annual General Meeting of SARPCCO
22 October - 26 October 2002	Monaco	Monaco World Summit
14 January 2003	Zambia	Accompanied the President
2 February - 8 February 2003	United Kingdom	Guest of Her Majesty's Government to discuss matters relating to standards, civilian oversight and accountability

**FOREWORD BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONER
OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
ANNUAL REPORT 2002/2003**



This report is presented with great appreciation for the sterling efforts of the members of the South African Police Service, supported by reservists, during the year under review. I would also like to thank the community, the business sector and other Government Departments for their increasing support and cooperation.

During the financial year 2002/2003 the South African Police Service faced many challenges. We also achieved numerous successes, some of which I would like to highlight, although they are reflected in the report.

A matter of great concern to the SAPS and to the community is the *levels of crime* in South Africa. Crime statistics for the year under review have been included in this Annual Report. The SAPS has made enormous efforts to reduce levels of serious crime. This occurred against a backdrop of increasing generators of conditions conducive to crime, such as rapid urbanisation, the changing demographics of our society, the increasing number of households and the increasing levels of alcohol and drug abuse.

Special focus, during this period, was given to crimes such as murder, attempted murder, rape, aggravated robbery and serious assault. As a result of police efforts the following achievements, among others, were recorded:

- Murder decreased by 1,7%. Since 1994 the incidence of murder has decreased by a significant 30,7%
- A decrease of 5,7% in the occurrence of rape was recorded. The rape ratio is at its lowest level since the establishment of the South African Police Service in 1994/95.
- There was a significant decrease in high profile cases of aggravated

robbery. The hijacking of motor vehicles decreased by 20,2% and bank related robberies (bank robberies as well as cash in transit robberies) decreased by 15,4%. Both these categories of crime reached the lowest levels recorded since 1996/97.

Despite these gains in the fight against crime, a few categories of crime have increased. These include aggravated robbery, street robbery (especially in informal settlements and former black townships) and robbery at residential and business premises. Special efforts will be made to address these worrying crime trends.

The SAPS has invested substantially in new technology such as the Movement Control System which was fully computerised and installed at border posts and airports in September 2002. The SAPS *Border Police* operate at 53 land border posts, 10 air border posts and nine sea border posts.

As a result of the Movement Control System, as well as other new technology such as mobile luggage scanners, x-ray scanners, body scanners and a traffic flow system, an encouraging increase in the number of seizures of illicit and illegal items was reported during the financial year under review. Examples are - 1 326 stolen/hijacked vehicles to the value of R103 million, narcotics to the value of R98 million and contraband/counterfeit goods to the value of R102 million were seized.

Another form of technology which was implemented in the previous financial year and which proved to be extremely valuable to the South African Police Service during the last financial year was the *Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)*. AFIS has been fully operational at 35 identified remote sites throughout South Africa

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since September 2002. The introduction of AFIS enabled the SAPS to overcome various deficiencies and disadvantages associated with the manual fingerprint system. Faster response times lead to more previous conviction reports being produced. In 2001, for example, for a period of 35 days, it was only possible to produce 163 369 previous conviction reports but, since the introduction of AFIS, it is possible to produce 293 386 previous conviction reports during the same period.

The **restructuring of the Detective Service** was a milestone reached for better investigation capacity at all levels. A total of 534 specialised units were reduced to 255 units to combat serious and violent crimes, organised crime and commercial crime. This has resulted in an integrated intelligence-driven approach being used to great effect. Role players from other departments, such as the Departments of Justice, Home Affairs, Transport and SARS, are often drawn in to assist the SAPS. In terms of drug-related successes alone during the period 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2002, Mandrax tablets with an estimated value of R80 million, ecstasy with a value of R8 million, cannabis to the value of R1 billion, cocaine to the value of R334 million and heroin to the value of R2 million was seized during the Organised Crime Unit's operations. With regard to vehicle-related crimes, during the same period vehicles with an estimated value of R92 million and vehicle components to the value of R6 million were recovered by Organised Crime Units.

Preventing and combating **crimes against women and children** remained a priority during the 2002/03 financial year. The Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Units arrested 15 861 offenders during this period resulting in 98 terms of life imprisonment being handed down by the courts and 14 918 years

imprisonment being meted out.

As terrorism is becoming a matter of international concern, our Crime Intelligence Division and Detective Service proved to be effective. Intelligence indicated that a group of extremists, known as the **Boeremag**, was planning a military-type coup and had a detailed plan to overthrow the Government. An integrated task team comprising intelligence operatives, detectives and other police specialists arrested a number of prominent members of this group during the year under review. Of those arrested, 22 are presently standing trial on charges including high treason, sabotage and murder.

Major events security during the 2002/03 financial year also needs to be given well-deserved credit. The African Inaugural Summit, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the ICC Cricket World Cup took place at venues around the country. During these events SAPS members excelled in their duties and preserved South Africa's international reputation as a leader in the field of major event security.

Sector policing is being implemented in phases at police stations throughout the country. This is an approach to policing whereby the service area of a police station is divided into smaller, manageable areas known as sectors. Cooperation between sector commanders and their communities through consultation and joint projects will lead to healthy police-community relations, greater police visibility and enhanced crime prevention. This process is continuing during the present financial year and is supported by a recruitment process by which personnel will be increased to 152 560 members by 31 March 2006.

Another encouraging trend noted during the period under review is the **decrease in the number of escapes**

that occurred during that period. Although the number of people who were in police custody during that period increased by 39,2%, the number of escapes decreased by 23,8% and the number of escapees by 29,3%. The SAPS will continue enforcing the use of standard and proper procedures to ensure that escapes are reduced even further.

The South African Police Service played a prominent role in regional and international policing organisations during the 2002/03 financial year. The **Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO)**, consisting of police chiefs from 12 Southern African countries, launched several cross-border operations. These operations were targeted mainly at motor vehicle theft and trafficking in drugs and firearms and resulted in various successes and seizures. Operation Rachel, aimed at locating and destroying firearm caches in Mozambique, continued during this period. The South African Police Service was also recognised as a leading law enforcement agency by **Interpol** when Commissioner Jackie Selebi was appointed as Vice President of this international policing organisation.

Although top management of the South African Police Service is greatly encouraged by our successes and achievements, there are a few areas of concern which will be vigorously addressed during the 2003/04 financial year.

The murder of police officials remains a source of concern for the SAPS. During the financial year under review, 150 police officials were murdered. This indicates a 7,9% increase in murders from the previous financial year. An analysis of attacks on police officials clearly revealed that most police officials are attacked whilst in hot pursuit of criminals or whilst busy

effecting an arrest.

Although great strides have been made in **eradicating the illegal pool and criminal use of firearms** during the last financial year, the SAPS remains committed to continue addressing the proliferation of illegal firearms. During the 2002/03 financial year 58 617 firearms to the value of R21 million were destroyed. In the next Annual Report the SAPS will be able to report on the phenomenal success of Operation Sethunya. Already we are reaping the rewards of this operation - over the past five years, 5 310 firearms were reported as stolen. During the period 1 April 2003 to 31 July 2003, 15 340 firearms were confiscated during Operation Sethunya and day to day policing operations.

The combination of all these achievements, successes, projects and operations - especially the reduction in the proliferation of firearms - will guide the SAPS in combating the crime trends that we have reported as being on the increase during 2002/03, that is aggravated robbery, street robbery and robbery at residential and business premises.

The South African Police Service remains committed to rendering an efficient and effective policing service to our communities. We take this responsibility seriously and will continue following an integrated and focused approach to the prevention, combating and detection of crime.



**NATIONAL COMMISSIONER
SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE**



Organisational Profile

RANK DESCRIPTION	Whites		Indians/Asians		Coloureds		Africans/Blacks		Total		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
DEP NATIONAL COMMISSIONER (DDG)	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	4	1	5
DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER (DDG)	4	1	1	0	1	0	3	2	9	3	12
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER (DDG)	0	0	1	0	2	0	6	0	9	0	9
ASST. COMMISSIONER (CHIEF DIRECTOR)	41	6	6	0	6	1	47	4	100	11	111
DIRECTOR	182	26	27	4	30	5	140	16	379	51	430
SNR SUPERINTENDENT (DEP DIRECTOR)	473	93	58	18	50	10	321	64	902	185	1087
SUPERINTENDENT (ASST DIRECTOR)	1459	547	170	34	165	35	834	141	2628	757	3385
CAPTAIN	3036	1261	517	136	678	193	3299	934	7530	2524	10054
TOTAL COMMISSIONED OFFICERS	5197	1934	780	193	933	244	4652	1161	11562	3532	15094
INSPECTOR	11868	3058	1700	233	3852	603	32473	2957	49893	6851	56744
SERGEANT	1588	368	455	90	1470	168	12266	1180	15779	1806	17585
CONSTABLE	1127	473	319	95	1698	605	6715	2282	9859	3455	13314
TOTAL NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS	14583	3899	2474	418	7020	1376	51454	6419	75531	12112	87643
CIVILIANS	758	6956	264	735	1378	2721	7278	9436	9678	19848	29526
TEMPORARY MEMBERS	14	12	1	0	0	0	16	1	31	13	44
CONTRACT	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	3
TOTAL	20553	12801	3519	1346	9331	4341	63401	17018	96804	35506	132310