

**INSTRUCTION No. 125****Detectives and Plain Clothes Police**

1. The main functions of Detectives and Plain Clothes Police are the investigation of crimes and the prosecution of offenders. To assist in achieving these goals, various squads have been formed for the purpose of providing specialized forms of investigation in specified types of crimes. Criminal Investigation Branch staff are under the control of a Superintendent who will issue general instructions to Detectives and Plain Clothes Police throughout the State in respect of the manner of performance of duty. <sup>Establishment</sup>

2. Some of the squads of the Criminal Investigation Branch are as follows:

(1) (a) Armed Holdup Squad, which is organized to—

(i) take necessary action where it is considered an armed holdup or robbery is likely to occur; <sup>Armed Holdup Squad.</sup>

(ii) assist in the investigation following armed holdups or robberies;

(iii) assist in the investigation of serious holdups or robberies where firearms are not involved;

(iv) assist in the search for armed offenders;

(v) supply information to members of the Force in respect of previous armed holdups or robberies.

(b) Requests for assistance should be made by telephone to the Officer in Charge of the squad or, after hours, the Duty Officer, Criminal Investigation Branch. Members of the squad are on patrol 24 hours daily. Where no immediate urgency exists, applications should be made through the Detective Inspector exercising supervision over the area concerned.

(2) (a) Consorting Squad, which is organized to—

(i) enforce the law relating to persons consorting with criminals; <sup>Consorting Squad.</sup>

(ii) assist local Police in their efforts to suppress the activities of pickpockets or other criminals or undesirable persons at race meetings, shows or other similar functions;

(iii) assist other members of the Force in the investigation of a crime which savours of criminal or underworld commission;

(iv) assist in the location and apprehension of prison escapees; and

(v) supply information to local Police concerning active criminals who may be residing in their patrol.

(b) Requests for assistance should be made to the Officer in Charge of the squad or, after hours, the Duty Officer, Criminal Investigation Branch. Members of the squad are on patrol 24 hours daily. Where time permits, applications for the attendance of the squad at country centres should be by way of report through the usual channels.

## Instruction 125—4

- (c) (i) A number of Police who aspire to be trained in criminal investigation duties are located at certain Metropolitan Divisions where they are known as Trainee Detectives;
- (ii) The Divisions involved in this scheme are known as Teaching Stations for Detectives. As successful Trainee Detectives are appointed to vacancies on permanent criminal investigation duties, they will be replaced at the Divisional level by other Police drawn from No. 21 Mobile Division, with the resultant vacancies there being filled by Police on the Graded List;
- (iii) The Detective Sergeant First Class who assists the District Detective Inspector in each Metropolitan District is responsible for overseeing the work and training of the Trainee Detectives;
- (iv) The Trainee Detectives are to be utilized with local Detectives on general criminal investigation. They are to be readily available to perform duty in any Division within the District;
- (v) At appropriate times Trainee Detectives are to be seconded to the various Squads at the Criminal Investigation Branch for periods of two months on a "temporary transfer" basis. Officers in Charge of the Squads shall make and keep an assessment of all such trainees.

Observation Squad.

- (8) (a) Observation Squad, which is organized to perform surveillance duties in respect of crimes or suspected crimes. Other units are used in respect of sly grog and betting complaints.
- (b) Applications for assistance in the Metropolitan Area may be made by telephone but from the Country Area, they should be made through the Detective Inspector, Country Area. Before the Officer in Charge of the squad details any member of his staff to perform duty in the Country Area, he should obtain approval from the Superintendent in Charge, Criminal Investigation Branch.

Special Breaking Squad.

- (9) (a) Special Breaking Squad, which is organized to conduct, or assist in, the investigation of:
  - (i) arson offences;
  - (ii) offences relating to the theft of safes;
  - (iii) offences relating to attacks on real or personal property by means of explosives;
  - (iv) breaking and entering offences involving property of substantial value;
  - (v) organized crime which is not the direct responsibility of some other squad.

## Instruction 125—5

- (b) Applications for assistance from the squad may be made by telephone in the Metropolitan Area but from the Country Area they should be made through the Detective Inspector, Country Area. The Superintendent in Charge, Criminal Investigation Branch, should give approval before members of the squad leave the Metropolitan Area.
- (10) (a) Homicide Squad, which is organized to—
    - (i) conduct or assist in the conduct of investigations into homicides, or in respect of suicides where there is any evidence which might suggest that death was caused by another person;
    - (ii) assist in the investigation of rape offences where unusual difficulties are encountered by the Police.
  - (b) Applications for assistance from the squad should be made through the District Detective Inspector in the Metropolitan Area or by the Detective Inspector, Country Area, in respect of that Area. It is not intended that members of this squad be used for investigations which can be fully handled at a local level, that is when no obstacles exist and Detectives at the scene have sufficient time available to properly pursue the investigation.
- (11) (a) Stock Squad, which is organized to—
    - (i) investigate reports of thefts of stock, wool, wheat and saddlery in the Metropolitan Area, or which have been stolen in the country and dispatched to Sydney;
    - (ii) investigate thefts of meat from abattoirs, etc;
    - (iii) enforce the provisions of the Metropolitan Meat Authority Act in relation to illegal slaughtering of cattle, the Pastures Protection Act and the Wool, Hide and Skin Dealers Act;
    - (iv) give advice to members of the Force on topics mentioned in this clause.



NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE

# RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS

Issued 1915—Revised 1935

Reprinted 1952, 1957 and 1962

Revised 1977

SYDNEY: D. WEST, GOVERNMENT PRINTER—1977

G23641—1