

# Cover Sheet

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Report of the  
Commissioner of Police  
of the Metropolis  
for the year  
1979

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for the Home Department  
by Command of Her Majesty  
June 1980*

LONDON  
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REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE OF  
THE METROPOLIS FOR THE YEAR 1979

New Scotland Yard  
Broadway  
London  
SW1H 0BG  
2nd May 1980

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the police of the  
Metropolis for the year ended 31st December 1979.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

DAVID MCNEE

HM 91 9 119420 0

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## CHAPTER I

# The Year under Review

## Introduction

1979 was a year of anniversaries for the Force. Traffic Department reached its 60th year. Women police passed the same milestone and marked the occasion with a reception honoured by the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. The Police Federation celebrated its diamond jubilee as did the Metropolitan Police Athletic Association which now embraces 41 different sporting and recreational activities. Yet another milestone passed was the 50th anniversary of the formation of traffic police. One birthday however outshone all: the 150th anniversary of the Force itself.

On 29th September 1829 the first Metropolitan Police officer stepped out onto the streets of London. To celebrate 150 years of modern policing many sections of the Force organised local celebrations, open days, gales and other festivities but three major events were held: a thanksgiving service at Westminster Abbey, a titton and an historical exhibition.

## Thanksgiving Service

The inter-denominational thanksgiving service held at Westminster Abbey on 20th May was conducted by the Very Reverend E. F. Carpenter, the Dean of Westminster. A congregation of 2,000, mainly police officers (representing every police force in the country), civil staff and their families, was led by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. The Prime Minister and Home Secretary, with other Ministers and members of both Houses of Parliament, distinguished members of the judiciary, the profession and allied services, and civic dignitaries were also present. It was a moving service.

## "Police 150" Historical Exhibition

The exhibition was held at the Museum of London and brought together for the first time, in a lively and imaginative presentation, a definitive exposition of the history of the Force. It was opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra on 8th May and was seen by 167,156 people before it closed almost five months later on 30th September.

I would like to thank the Museum of London who provided both facilities and help, and those who planned, organised and manned the exhibition. The interest shown indicates a desire for a permanent public police museum.

## The Tattoo

One of the highlights of the anniversary celebrations was the tattoo held at Wembley Arena from 11th to 17th October. The 24-hour programme encompassed both pageant and display. The first half of the show depicted the

growth of policing from the 18th century to the present day; the second half concentrated on displays by various specialist units. Interspersed throughout the programme was the musical accompaniment of the Metropolitan Police Band augmented by bands from the Essex Police and Hampshire Constabulary, the Strathclyde Police Pipe Band and the musical corps of the Federal German Police from Kassel.

The cast of police officers, cadets and civil staff gave a total of eight public performances, including our special performance to an audience of police and civil staff pensioners. They played throughout to large audiences, each performance being conducted before an invited reviewing dignitary. You attended yourself as a Reviewing Officer as did the Prime Minister. On the final night we were honoured by the presence of Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh.

#### Manpower

My optimism last year about future manpower trends has been more than justified by the fact that during 1979 we recruited nearly 2,200 officers. Wastage was just under 1,600, giving us a net gain of around 600 men and women. Women police now comprise almost 8 per cent of our total strength and I regard them as an essential part of a modern police service.

The implementation of the pay recommendations of Lord Edmund-Davies and his committee with the subsequent award by the Police Negotiating Board have done much to retain experienced officers and attract a good standard of recruit. Now that police pay is fixed at a realistic level, with built-in safeguards against inflation, I am hopeful the upward trend will continue. The Cadet Corps continues to be a valuable source of recruitment, providing about one fifth of the total intake into the Force.

Early in the year a Careers Information Office was opened at New Scotland Yard, with its entrance in Victoria Street to provide a readily identifiable venue in central London where would-be applicants could come to discuss the possibility of a police career. More than 2,000 interviews were conducted during the first nine months.

Efforts to recruit people from ethnic minorities have continued and we now have 96 officers of new Commonwealth origin in the Force, including 17 women. Of these one holds the rank of inspector and six are sergeants. Currently careers staff are carrying out a study designed to discover how best to attract recruits from ethnic minorities.

The upsurge in manpower is steadily bringing our present establishment figure within foreseeable reach. That establishment has not been reviewed for years and is clearly unrealistic. With this in view I set up a working party to consider the matter in detail. It has produced an outline formula which takes account of routine urban policing and the special features connected with policing in the Metropolis. The results are currently being considered with the Home Office.

Police efficiency is increasingly dependent on civil staff support which in turn releases more police for operational duties. Numerous measures were taken

throughout the year to reduce civil staff vacancies but only a marginal improvement was achieved. An increase in recruitment was largely negated by the effects of premature wastage. Serious shortfalls in the numbers of technical staff and traffic wardens continued. Because of this I supported proposals for new pay arrangements for traffic wardens, of whom the shortage is particularly acute and whose effectiveness is thereby seriously threatened. I also arranged for study of proposals that civil staff should receive an additional allowance in recognition of the importance of the support services they provide for operational police officers.

Concern about staff numbers is only one part of the management equation. The organisation and utilisation of manpower are others. During the year consideration was given to the need to look at the organisation of the six civil staff departments working to the Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District and this has led to a decision being reached to initiate an independent management review early in 1980 with the object of examining the structure and distribution of functions of those departments, including our financial accountability to you.

As this review is about to begin I am pleased to report that the earlier review of the Force structure has now been completed. The overriding aim has been to maximise the number of police officers available for operational duty, with proposals being submitted to me in respect of each district within the Force.

The recommendations included the centralisation of CID, charging and custodial functions and administrative support services at one or more stations on each district. The need to civilianise or discontinue various non-operational tasks presently undertaken by police officers was also covered. On some districts a change of boundaries was suggested in order to equalise divisional workloads. In some cases divisions are being amalgamated; in consequence the number of divisions has been reduced from 82 to 75. In addition three police stations are to be closed completely and 18 stations are to be closed at night with the specific purpose of making extra officers available for street patrol.

The closure of police stations has met, understandably, with considerable opposition from their local communities but the harsh reality is that stations require officers to man them and in quieter stations these officers were under-employed; officers who could be better used preventing crime on the streets. From the review it became clear that a rationalisation was overdue. Full implementation of the recommendations would release more than 1,000 officers for operational duties but that kind of saving depends upon other factors such as civil staff recruitment, building and telecommunications work. Nevertheless over 400 officers have already been transferred to operational duty as a result of the implementation of the re-organisation proposals, and more will follow.

The decentralisation of functions from New Scotland Yard to area headquarters has continued. Changes in the constitution of the four areas have been approved and certain headquarters personnel concerned with catering, police dogs, press liaison and collating duties are now part of the area DAC's resources.

The reorganisation of Thames Division was completed during the year. Barnes and Blackwall stations were closed and the three remaining new boats

taken into service. The reorganisation has reduced the strength of the division by 66 officers—achieved entirely by the process of natural wastage and the voluntary transfer of officers to other duties.

A major review of any organisation always causes unease in its members but I am convinced that the recommendations are founded upon sound principles. Goodwill is an essential element, however, and no changes have been made without the fullest possible consultation, both inside and outside the Force.

Two major difficulties in the reorganisation of the Force are the condition of many police buildings and the lack of money for a comprehensive capital building programme. I mentioned last year that many police stations and other operational buildings are too old and inadequate for modern policing needs. There is also a shortage of residential accommodation for single officers, and this is made more acute by Trenchard section house being closed for major repairs.

Financial restrictions have for several years prevented re-building or major improvement of premises on the scale anywhere near to what is required and, although a few urgent major improvements have been made, the majority of what money is available has to be used on a profusion of small alteration schemes. Such short term economies are often wasteful in the long run for they delay only temporarily the ultimate necessity for major improvements. We are already having to face the consequences of this, particularly as the number of men and women in the Force increases month by month and as each year passes the effects, including the effects on operational efficiency, will increase. It is my earnest hope that a financial allocation can soon be provided which is sufficiently large to enable the re-building and amelioration programme to start again on the scale necessary to provide the buildings, residential as well as operational, for a very large force.

The Force Inspectorate has completed its first year, inspecting and assessing the efficiency of districts and headquarters branches and has proved worthwhile. Reports of such inspection, which provide myself and my senior colleagues with a comprehensive and up-to-date appraisal, are also forwarded to the Home Office. Inspectors are raising standards and encouraging the cross fertilisation of ideas.

The introduction of court presenting officers should save considerable resources. The scheme will require the approval of the courts but, given that, it will be introduced throughout the Metropolitan Police District during 1980. It operates on the assumption that contested cases are adjourned on the first occasion. The role of the presenting officer will be to obtain remand dates, give brief facts and antecedent histories in non-contested cases and deal with committal under Section 1 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967. This should not only reduce the number of officers attending court thereby raising more available for operational duty but also substantially minimise the inconvenience and expense incurred by police and private witnesses.

Following the assassination of Earl Mountbatten of Burma on 27th August, I instituted a review of the protection afforded to the Royal Family, Government Ministers and other leading public figures. As a result of that review, on 1st

October (with your consent) a temporary new post of Deputy Assistant Commissioner (Protection) was established. His role was to co-ordinate and review all aspects of police protection, including that afforded by officers from the Royal Protection Unit, Special Branch, Diplomatic Protection Group and those attached to the Royal Palace. He worked in close collaboration with the Royal Household, Home Office and other Government Departments.

The number of officers employed on protection duties has had to be increased and the Diplomatic Protection Group is now a permanently established branch of the Force.

The Special Patrol Group continued to provide a mobile reserve, providing a quick response to sudden emergencies and supplementing the day-to-day policing throughout London. The duties of the group however have been affected both by the introduction of changes within the Force and by external trends. In the light of those changes I asked the Deputy Commissioner to review the role and work of the group.

In August 1978, as a result of serious allegations of corruption made against members of the City of London Police and this Force an enquiry code named "Operation Countymen" was established under the leadership of Mr L. Burn, Assistant Chief Constable of Dover. The investigation was still continuing at the end of 1979. I have assured the investigating officers of the fullest possible support in their task of testing the allegations.

To reduce the burden on operational officers and to speed up investigation I accepted a recommendation that complaint investigation units should be established on each district. They came into operation on 1st January and handle the bulk of the less serious complaints made against Metropolitan Police officers. Their reports go first to the Complaints Investigation Bureau before onward transmission to the Police Complaints Board. Serious allegations continue to be investigated by the bureau itself.

The length of time that some officers have remained suspended from duty whilst awaiting trial gives me cause for concern. In one case the delay between the officer being charged and his final appearance at court was more than three years. Justice should not be delayed for anyone but for a variety of reasons policemen suspected of wrong doing should in the public interest be dealt with expeditiously and I have made representations to that effect.

#### Technology

For some years now helicopters have been used by the Force. The provision has been to hire a single-engine machine and pilot from a charter firm. Following a Civil Aviation Authority ruling that (after 31st March 1980) only twin-engine helicopters may be used for operations over London it was decided that we should purchase our own helicopter. Ownership was considered to be cheaper and operationally more advantageous. Only one model met our requirements in full—the Bell 222—and Home Office approval was obtained to purchase a machine for delivery in 1980, with an option to purchase a second for delivery in 1981. Work is now in progress at Liphatts Hill to provide landing and hangar facilities.

During the year planning continued for the new computerised system of Command and Control. An experimental pilot scheme was put into operation on "Y" District with specially designed control rooms being constituted at each of the four divisional stations. Contracts have now been placed in respect of most of the major elements in the Command and Control project and the largest was signed with Sperry Univac in December 1979. This will provide facilities for computers aided despatch in New Scotland Yard and ultimately, in 75 divisional stations and allow for more effective direction and control of police resources in response to incidents reported by the public. The same computer system will replace the existing teleprinter system for administrative communication.

#### Training

I referred last year to the steering committee set up to review recruitment and training within the Force. The Committee has met monthly throughout 1979 and has now completed its review of recruiting. As part of the study, an adviser in educational methods was appointed to examine and report on teaching and learning in recruit and probationer training. He will shortly undertake a similar exercise in relation to the training of detective officers. The steering committee is also looking at management training and selected areas of specialist training. I expect its final report by the middle of 1980.

The upsurge in recruitment has put considerable strain on the training school where special arrangements have been made to accommodate and train the increased number of recruits.

As a result of a decision to end the inspectors' course at the Police Staff College, Bramhall it has been necessary to provide for that stage of an officer's professional education at Peel Centre, Hendon. A number of suitably qualified officers have been attached to the training school to administer this new development course.

Progress has been maintained in training officers for Command and Control, but wider implementation will necessitate additional facilities and the staff of the telecommunication school has been augmented accordingly.

#### Community relations

The importance of the relationship between citizens and police and its effect on the nature of policing on the streets of the Metropolis continues to be stressed at every level of training. Contacts at the lowest level will always be the prime determinant of how good that relationship is.

Modern policing seeks to achieve its aim in many different ways. Not least we seek to tackle crime at its roots by winning the support of young people, particularly by means of an extensive schools commitment. During 1979 the schools programme continued to expand steadily. A curriculum was prepared and agreed in consultation with educational authorities and officers were equipped with a comprehensive set of notes to help them in the classroom.

We were delighted to be able to contribute to the work of the United Kingdom Association for the International Year of the Child by participating in the

"Great Children's Party" held in Hyde Park on the 30th and 31st May. The event drew attention to children's rights and highlighted the many organisations involved in helping children.

In July I held a meeting at New Scotland Yard with representatives from a number of organisations concerned with the treatment of juvenile offenders. The purpose was to explore the possibility of increasing inter-agency co-operation in the prevention of juvenile delinquency. Following that initial meeting commanders held similar meetings for each London borough within their districts. I intend to review our progress during 1980.

I indicated my concern over the problem of juvenile crime and the apparent lack of co-operation between agencies when I addressed the National Conference on Intermediate Treatment at Sheffield on 19th July. As a demonstration of our determination to co-operate with other social agencies I welcomed the suggestion made by the Co-ordinator for the London Borough of Southwark that an "urban aid" application should be made to fund two new posts in the "M" Districts Juvenile Bureau at Camberwell. If the application is successful, and I am hopeful that it will be, two youth and community workers will be attached to the bureau assisting officers with a range of activities designed to help young people who come to the notice of local police.

Towards the end of the year I invited the Policy Studies Institute to put forward proposals for research into the relationship between the Metropolitan Police and the community. This research would aim to test police relationships with all sections of the public, including the various ethnic minorities. The research is expected to take up to two years and is likely to involve several thousand police officers and private citizens being invited to take part in interviews and other studies. We hear many opinions about the state of police community relations in London, yet the only objective published research was carried out 10 years ago by Professor Helson. The results there indicated a generally high degree of public confidence.

I am hopeful that this new research will tell us not only whether that general situation has changed but also, if relations with certain groups are not good, why that is and what measures can be taken to improve matters. Public confidence is essential if we are to police effectively and in seeking to maintain that confidence it is important that we work from the bedrock of hard information and not from the shifting sands of ignorance and prejudice.

Relations between the police and the people of Southall suffered a setback following the serious disorder which occurred when the local parliamentary candidate for the National Front held an election meeting at Southall Town Hall on 23rd April. Members of the public and police officers were injured and one demonstrator—Mr Blair Peach, a member of the Anti-Nazi League—died following injuries he received, allegedly at the hands of a police officer. His death was rigorously investigated and the results fully reported to the Director of Public Prosecutions. The inquest had not been completed at the end of the year.

I conducted a personal enquiry into the disorders and prepared a full report which I submitted to you in June. I spent several days interviewing police



officers and members of the community from Southall. Important lessons were learnt but most encouraging was the optimistic view of the people from Southall.

#### Public order

The period immediately before the General Election on 3rd May posed considerable problems for the Force. The National Front meeting at Southall Town Hall (which was at the centre of the disorders there) was one of five such election meetings held in accordance with a candidate's rights under the Representation of the People Act 1949. Each meeting in a different London borough necessitated a strong police presence to preserve the peace between the National Front and their opponents. The National Front held marches on three occasions after the election; they were not opposed to any great extent and gave rise to little disorder.

The demands on police manpower to deal with public events continued unabated throughout the year. Special arrangements were made to police demonstrations, sporting events and processions on more than 250 occasions. This figure does not include many deployments made throughout the Metropolitan Police District to police picket lines, which were particularly intensive during the industrial disputes early in the year.

The political situation in Iran provoked a series of demonstrations, marches and rallies. Initially the organisers and participants were from factions opposed to the Shah; firm policing was necessary to ensure the protection of diplomatic premises. The change of government in Iran led to both pro- and anti-revolution demonstrations. In addition police had to be deployed at Speakers' Corner to keep the peace between opposing Iranian factions who met there each Sunday. Arrests were made but serious disorder was avoided. This situation continues.

The Notting Hill West Indian Carnival was again held over the August Bank Holiday weekend; the smaller carnival at Finsbury Park was held on the Monday only. Detailed and careful planning was successful in reducing the incidence of crime and injury.

The controlling of football crowds, at weekends most of all, is a continuing heavy commitment. Further ground improvements have been made and several more clubs have been designated under the Safety of Sports Ground Act 1975. The erection of fences and close police supervision have helped to constrain spectator violence inside grounds. An undesirable consequence of that success is the increase of violence by young people on the way to and from matches. This is more difficult to deal with and is more alarming to the public at large.

Widespread police action was called for during the taxi drivers' strike in January and the ambulance drivers' dispute, which manifested itself in a number of one day strikes during the first three months of the year. During the latter dispute police officers combined with members of the armed services to provide emergency ambulance cover.

Resources were further taxed by the industrial action taken by prison officers. Many prisoners were not accepted at London prisons after removal of sentence and had to be accommodated and cared for in police cells.

On two occasions chief constables sought the help of Metropolitan officers in policing National Front marches. In March some 500 officers assisted Hampshire Constabulary and in April a similar number went to Leicester.

One of the saddest events of the year was the funeral of Lord Mountbatten. The circumstances surrounding his murder made it necessary to mount a large scale security operation in addition to the usual arrangements that have to be made on such occasions. Lord Mountbatten was a great friend of the Metropolitan Police and often used his considerable influence for good on its behalf.

Southall apart, my officers were generally successful in keeping public order during 1979. Success in that important area of police work nevertheless continues to be hard earned, costly and at the expense of routine police operations in all parts of the Metropolitan Police District. The pressures of policing public events moreover sap the morale and energies of officers, who too frequently have to flog their dogs off, often at short notice. Despite these frustrations officers in this Force live up to provocation and violence with impressive tact and forbearance. It is this degree of self control that makes it possible for us to pursue a policy of minimum force in this sphere of public order.

#### Crime

Common sense dictates that the extensive commitment of manpower to the policing of demonstrations, disputes and protests detrimentally affects crime levels throughout the London area. Currently a view is being propounded by some academics seemingly based upon extrapolations from limited research studies in the United States of America, that policing has no noticeable effect upon the level of crime. Such theories fly in the face of the historical evidence and police experience in Britain. The continued success of our concentrated campaign against armed robbery, which resulted in a marked drop in the number of attacks against security vehicles in transit and the amount of money stolen, is just one example which emphasises how police action can have positive results in the constant battle against crime.

For the second consecutive year there was an overall reduction in serious crime. The total number of indictable crimes recorded was 557,278: 2 per cent less than the 1978 figure. While this gives some cause for satisfaction, crime in London is still far too high. Moreover despite a reduction in crime generally there was disturbing evidence that violence is increasing. Assaults, many of them serious, went up by 12 per cent; there is evidence to indicate that alcohol is a major factor in many of these crimes of violence. There were 178 offences of homicide recorded in 1979, a large increase compared with 318 in 1978; the 1978 figure was low, however, compared with 142, 145 and 143 respectively recorded in the previous three years.

Against the increase in violence there was a welcome 4 per cent reduction in burglaries. A high priority will continue to be given to measures for combating burglary, which accounts for more than one fifth of all indictable crime.

The importance of good intelligence in dealing with professional criminals cannot be over-stressed. It was with this in mind and with the whole-hearted approval of the chief constables concerned that I authorised the expansion of the Criminal Intelligence Branch at New Scotland Yard by secondment of officers from all other forces in the south east of England. The branch now provides a service to the entire region and has already proved effective in the detection of criminals who are active across the area.

Terrorism continued to take a savage toll. The Irish National Liberation Army claimed responsibility for the murder of Mr. Airey Neave MP on 30th March after a device underneath his car had exploded as he drove out of the House of Commons car park. In January the Provisional IRA set off a bomb at Greenwich gas works, thankfully without loss of life.

In December a man was arrested in connection with the Greenwich explosion during the course of an operation (code named "Othello") which resulted in the arrest of a number of people, nine of whom were charged with criminal offences. The success of "Operation Othello" owes much to the professional and team work of the Anti-Terrorist Branch, Special Branch, Special Patrol Group and Firearms Branch, together with the co-operation of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the Merseyside Force and the Garda Síochána. It was also during December that the Provisional IRA launched a letter bomb attack from Brussels. Fortunately the vigilance of Post Office staff and public airiness prevented casualties.

Industrial action from 27th August until 10th October created even further delays in the judicial process of cases before the major London magistrates' courts. Metropolitan Police civil staff employed in the courts were not recruited and worked normally. Some relief from the difficulties caused by the inordinate delays which occur before controlled cases are heard in the crown courts was forthcoming with the opening of the first of the additional crown court rooms scheduled under the new "crash courts" programme for the Crown Court in London.

In my last Report I mentioned that Part II of my written evidence to the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure was prepared for submission early in 1978. It was in fact submitted on 12th January and dealt with the prosecution system, preparation for and matters arising during the trial.

In general the evidence supported the retention of the status quo so far as the prosecution process is concerned and the prosecution arrangements which exist in the Metropolitan Police. Our current arrangements ensure that those cases which require legal assistance receive it and, at the same time, avoid the unnecessary and expensive reference of simple cases to a prosecution lawyer. While acknowledging that there are some faults with the present system of criminal procedure I noted that when one reviews the sophisticated cases of injustice, the faults are usually found to result from the mistakes or incompetence of those who administer the system and not from the system itself.

On 27th November, together with the Assistant Commissioner (Crim) and the Solicitor, I appeared before the Royal Commission to give oral evidence.

In the same month, the Williams Committee reported to you on the law relating to obscenity. In evidence to that committee we emphasised that the Metropolitan Police had no doubts as to its role as a service and we stressed the need for the present laws to be clarified. It was the committee's view that currently the obscenity laws are "in a mess" and they formulated proposals for new legislation.

Research into robbery streets, encompassing those on bail when the offence was committed and the granting of bail in relation to the arrest for robbery, is now complete (see Appendix 2 for details). It has not caused any initial concern. There are grounds for believing that the Bail Act 1976 goes too far and provides insufficient safeguards for the public from the activities of professional criminals. For police officers, making arrests for serious crimes is difficult and often dangerous. Where, because of the granting of bail the task has to be undertaken for a second time, it is distressing.

#### Traffic

There was a 5 per cent decrease in the number of fatal and personal injury accidents during the year resulting in the lowest recorded total since 1957. This may have been due in part to severe weather conditions which kept a great deal of traffic off the roads and provided a substantial reduction of accidents during January and February. Over the year as a whole traffic levels were not significantly different from 1978.

The reduction in casualties applied to all categories of road users except pedal cyclists. Happily the publicity campaign aimed at improving motor cycling safety appears to be having an effect. There has been national concern about the increase in hit-and-run accidents. Our own studies show that such accidents have been increasing for some years now and there is evidence that the peak times for these accidents coincide with the afternoon and evening liquor licensing hours, particularly at weekends. However, these are not the only times of day at which hit-and-run accidents occur, and a ban on drinking cannot be automatically assumed that the increase in numbers is attributable mainly to drink and driving.

As a further development through the recommendations of the Beaurechamps Committee on the law relating to drinking and driving, the Department of Transport issued at the end of December a consultative document with regard to future legislation. The document is being carefully studied within the Force and we will submit our comments to the Department.

Towards the end of October the Department of Transport also announced measures designed to prevent the abuse of the disabled persons' badge scheme. I made mention of this abuse last year and welcome the measures as the focus within the service is that they do not go far enough to deal with the problem. Chief police officers are jointly approaching the Department hoping, in the interest of the genuinely disabled, to get agreement that it should be made an offence for a person to use an orange badge unless they are entitled to do so.

The evaluation of new speed detection devices was completed during the year and the Minicup hand-held device and the Travelpak horn-side device were

selected for purchase. I anticipate that the Porscs will be fully equipped with these early in 1980.

The industrial action by traffic wardens which began in 1978 was not finally settled until early March, when normal working was resumed. Writage within the traffic warden service continued at a high level throughout the year. The service is now less than half the strength necessary to meet current commitments. The Greater London Council and London boroughs helped by not imposing additional enforcement duties upon us, but by the end of the year many boroughs were expressing concern about the failure to enforce existing restrictions in their areas.

It is important to remember that the volume of London traffic has increased over the last 15 years by approximately 20 per cent. If the traffic warden manpower continues to deteriorate, or if it simply does not improve from its present level and the growth in the volume of traffic continues, the 1980's could see the Metropolis in very real danger of grinding to a halt.

#### International police liaison

The "Capital Policing Europe 1979" Conference was held at Lancaster House on 10th and 11th May. This conference of chief police officers from the capital cities of Europe, the first of its kind, was organised and hosted by the Metropolitan Police with your approval and the help of the Home Office.

In addition to Metropolitan Police representatives, four other United Kingdom police observers attended together with 30 delegates from 15 West European countries. You welcomed members and opened the conference, which dealt with four main areas of police activity: traffic management and enforcement, public order, crime prevention and training. Simultaneous translations in French, German, Italian and Spanish were provided for the delegates. The conference was formally closed by Lord Holstead, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Home Office.

The idea for such a conference was first raised by Mr Edfors, the Chief of Copenhagen Police in December 1977. The strengthening of ties between the countries of Europe make liaison between the police forces essential and it seemed to me that a conference to discuss the common problems involved in policing capital cities would be of considerable value. The constant exchange of views and ideas on policing problems and methods is to the benefit of all cities and police forces alike. The unqualified success of the conference fully justified the decision to hold the first here in London. The next conference is to be held in Vienna during May 1980.

It is not just within Europe that liaison between police forces is necessary. The world grows smaller and criminals pay scant attention to national boundaries. Close links between police forces across the free world are becoming increasingly necessary. During August I addressed the annual conference of the Canadian Chief Police Officers Association in Vancouver and saw something of the way in which Canadian police forces tackle their problems. I visited the *Sûreté du Québec*, the Montreal Metropolitan Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at their headquarters in Ottawa and at their training academy in Regina, and the Vancouver Police.

#### Conclusion

Policing has travelled a long way since 1829. Social and technological progress has changed the face of the Metropolitan Police. Despite all the changes, each year of policing the Metropolis (and 1979 was no exception) serves only as a reminder that the principles upon which policing was founded in this country remain as relevant today as they were 150 years ago. We continue to depend upon the consent and co-operation of the public and the best way to secure people's confidence is by providing a high standard of service. Our aim is, and must always be, to police from within the community, as a part of it and not apart from it. I would like to thank the public, my police officers and civil staff for their support and efforts throughout the year.



## CHAPTER 2

### Personnel and Training

#### Manpower

The establishment and strength of the regular Force are set out in Appendix 1. The strength of the Force at the end of the year was 22,786 (21,038 men and 1,748 women) leaving an overall deficiency of 3,803 against the authorised establishment, which remained at 26,589. There were 14 officers on central service, nine on overseas service, seven seconded, 56 with interforce units, 160 attached to and paid for by other authorities and 58 officers were at universities. There was a net increase in the total strength of 589 officers (339 men and 250 women).

#### Recruitment

The total number of applications received was 7,258 (5,353 from men and 1,905 from women), an increase of 1,493 compared with the 1978 figure of 5,765 (4,332 from men and 1,433 from women).

The numbers of men and women who attended for examination were 3,132 and 979 respectively, compared with 2,292 and 515 in 1978. The numbers of men and women joining the Force were 1,684 and 477 respectively—437 more men and 161 more women than in 1978. These figures include 43 men and five women who re-engaged after previous resignation, 88 men and 10 women who transferred from other forces and 270 men and 83 women (representing 16 per cent of the total intake of recruits) attested from the Cadet Corps on reaching the age of 18½ years.

The average age of all recruits, at 20 years 6 months, was slightly higher than in 1978; 84 per cent of those who joined were single, compared with 85 per cent in the previous year.

The average weekly intake into the Training School was 39, an increase of 12 on the 1978 figure.

During the year 113 graduates joined the Force, of whom four entered under the special scheme for the recruitment of those with higher educational qualifications.

#### Central and overseas service and secondments

A total of 45 officers were engaged on duties away from the Force, serving with HM Inspectors of Constabulary, the Police Staff College, the International Criminal Police Organization, the Home Office, the National Coordinator of Regional Crime Squads, the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, the Royal Ulster Constabulary and overseas police forces. At the end of the year 30 officers were still so engaged.

#### Removals from the Force

Retirements and other removals from the Force are classified in Appendix 2.

#### Awards to widows and children

There were 333 widows' pensions granted during the year, compared with 317 in 1978. Allowances were granted in respect of 26 children.

#### Police Staff College

The 17th special course held from 2nd January to 14th December was attended by 13 officers.

The final inspectors' course, held from 3rd January to 16th March, was attended by 26 officers.

A total of 56 chief inspectors and 15 inspectors attended the new junior command courses held during the year.

Intermediate command courses, formerly command training part 1, were attended by 48 superintendents.

The senior command course, formerly command training part II, held from 26th March to 26th September was attended by two chief superintendents and three superintendents.

#### Training

##### Uniform Branch Training School

The 15-week basic recruits' course was completed by 1,255 men and 340 women, an increase of 369 men and 86 women compared with the previous year.

On 31st December, 469 men and 143 women were still under training. During training, 209 men and 75 women resigned voluntarily, an increase of 36 men and 22 women compared with 1978. Six trainees (five men and one woman) were returned medically unfit.

Two 20-week courses for officers from overseas forces were attended by 47 officers.

The final examination for probationers was attended by 1,009 officers, of whom 90 obtained marks of over 85 per cent. The average mark obtained was 72.5 per cent.

Particulars of other courses held by the school during the year are shown in the following table:—

| Course   | Number held | Duration (weeks) | Number attending |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| Promotion  |             |                  |                  |
| Officers selected for promotion to:                            |             |                  |                  |
| Chief Inspector .. .. .  | 5           | 2                | 99               |
| Inspector .. .. .  | 5           | 6                | 150              |
| Sergeant .. .. .   | 9           | 4                | 357              |
| General  |             |                  |                  |
| Inspectors—development .. .. .                                 | 1           | 6                | 29               |
| Inspectors—refresher .. .. .                                   | 22          | 1                | 359              |
| Sergeants—refresher .. .. .                                    | 21          | 1                | 506              |
| Sergeants (probationary) .. .. .                               | 10          | 4                | 274              |
| Instructors (Training School) including social studies .. .. . | 4           | 8                | 52               |
| Instructors (first aid) .. .. .                                | 1           | 2                | 12               |
| Instructors (first aid—refresher) .. .. .                      | 1           | 1                | 88               |
| Instructors (overseas police) .. .. .                          | 2           | 10               | 30               |
|  | 15          |                  |                  |

The field training programme, designed to provide regular refresher training for constables to keep them abreast of changes in law and procedures, continued during the year, with approximately 11,071 officers receiving one day's instruction every six months.

#### Swimming and life saving

Among the recruits who entered the Training School during the year were 81 who were unable to swim, and a further 115 were poor swimmers. All of these had attained a satisfactory standard on posting to districts.

Training School life saving certificates were awarded to 898 officers.

#### Detective Training School

Particulars of courses held by the school during the year are shown in the following table:—

| Course                             | Duration (weeks) | Metro-politan | Numbers attending |                 | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------|
|                                    |                  |               | UK forces         | Overseas forces |       |
| Introductory ..                    | 2                | 171           | —                 | —               | 171   |
| Initial (junior) ..                | 10               | 184           | 161               | 2               | 347   |
| Initial (senior) ..                | 10               | 12            | 27                | 1               | 40    |
| Detective Sergeants — promotion .. | 3                | 78            | —                 | —               | 78    |
| Advanced ..                        | 6                | 50            | 63                | 5               | 118   |
| Fingerprint, standard ..           | 6                | —             | 27                | 7               | 34    |
| Fingerprint, advanced ..           | 2                | —             | 23                | 4               | 27    |
| Photographic ..                    | 6                | —             | 24                | 5               | 29    |
| Scenes of crime—forensic ..        | 6                | 29*           | 35                | 7               | 71    |
| Beat crime investigation ..        | 1                | 1,435         | —                 | —               | 1,435 |
| Negotiators ..                     | 8 days           | 8             | 12                | 4               | 24    |
| Fraud ..                           | 3                | 31            | 54                | 2               | 87    |
| Drugs ..                           | 3 days           | 106           | —                 | —               | 106   |
| Sexual offences ..                 | 3 days           | 207           | —                 | —               | 207   |

Recent changes include a greater emphasis on computer and other related fraud crimes in the fraud investigation course and a lengthening from two to three days of the course undertaken by women police officers in the investigative techniques used when dealing with sexual offences to cover the interrogative and forensic aspects in more depth.

\*Includes 12 civilian SOCOs.

#### Driver Training School

The table below shows the number of officers who attended the various courses of instruction, together with the results of the tests:—

| Course   | Passed | Failed | Total |
|--|--------|--------|-------|
| Car, standard (at driving school) ..                                 | 224    | 37     | 261   |
| Car, standard (on district) ..                                       | 821    | 45     | 866   |
| Car, standard (special course for British Transport Police, etc.) .. | 15     | 0      | 15    |
| Van ..   | 419    | 116    | 535   |
| Civilian instructors ..  | 4      | 1      | 5     |
| Car, advanced (phases I and II) ..                                   | 492    | 153    | 645   |
| Car, advanced (special)* ..  | 12     | 0      | 12    |
| Instructors ..   | 9      | 6      | 15    |
| Heavy goods vehicle, class I ..                                      | 14     | 4      | 70    |
| Heavy goods vehicle, class III ..                                    | 52     | —      | —     |
| Motor cycle, lightweight ..  | 47     | 5      | 52    |
| Motor cycle, standard ..   | 137    | 33     | 170   |
| Motor cycle, advanced ..   | 16     | 3      | 19    |
| Motor cycle, traffic wardens ..                                      | 17     | 7      | 24    |
| Motor cycle (special)† ..  | 6      | 0      | 6     |
| Traffic patrol, advanced ..  | 33     | 2      | 35    |
| Traffic patrol, standard ..  | 79     | 4      | 83    |
| Traffic patrol, probationers ..                                      | 153    | 0      | 153   |
| Accident investigation, advanced ..                                  | 12     | 0      | 12    |
| Accident investigation, standard ..                                  | 69     | 0      | 69    |
| Vehicle examiners ..   | 8      | 0      | 8     |
| Tachograph chart recognition ..                                      | 568    | 0      | 568   |
| Autocrimers ..   | 93     | 0      | 93    |
|  | 3,300  | 416    | 3,716 |

Driving tests on cars, vans, coaches, motor cycles and mopeds were given at the Driver Training School and on districts to 502 officers, of whom 411 passed.

The school received 2,663 visitors during the year.

\*For Japanese police officers and Home Office staff etc.

†For Japanese police officers.

#### Telecommunications

The table below shows the number of officers who attended the various courses:—

| Course  | Numbers<br>trained |
|---|--------------------|
| Teleprinter .. .. .   | 378                |
| Visual display unit .. .. .                                 | 273                |
| Radio telephony .. .. .                                     | 930                |
| Computer aided despatch .. .. .                             | 316                |
| Personal radio (recruits) .. .. .                           | 1,804              |
| Police National Computer appreciation<br>(recruits) .. .. . | 1,409              |
| <b>Total .. .. .</b>  | <b>5,110</b>       |

#### Defensive weapons

A total of 576 officers qualified in the use of revolvers after attending a basic course. The number of officers authorised to use firearms should the need arise is 3,820. Regular courses are held for refresher training.

We were again indebted to the officers in charge of the outdoor ranges at Purfret and RAF Uxbridge for making their facilities available to the Force.

#### Shield training

Some 2,500 officers are now trained in the use of protective shields and receive refresher training at regular intervals. During the year there were 10,000 attendances at the training centre.

#### Home defence and war duties training

The one-day refresher courses for sergeants and constables with between five and 20 years' service were attended by 1,287 officers, including 37 from the City of London Police. The three-day war duties courses for senior ranks were attended by 188 officers, including 12 from the City of London Police. Probationers continued to receive 10 hours of basic war duties instruction. A home defence instructors' qualifying course was attended by eight officers from provincial forces.

Courses held at the Home Defence College, York, were attended by 13 officers and six officers attended the London Region air reconnaissance courses held by the University of London Air Squadron.

#### First aid

In the principal Force competition, "A" District won the Parsons Shield and went on to represent the Force in the final of the Police National First Aid Competition where the team was placed seventh.

The women's "A" team won the City of London Challenge Rose Bowl in the national competition for policewomen and, as the representative of the police service, subsequently won the Championship Trophy in the women's section of the St. John Ambulance Association's Grand Prior's Trophy Competition. A member of the team won the newly-presented Wilkinson Sword Trophy for the highest individual score in the latter competition.

#### Promotion examinations in police subjects

The annual examinations for constables and sergeants were held in January and April. The results were as follows:—

|                     | Candidates | Successful |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Sergeants</b>    |            |            |
| Competitive .. .. . | 524        | 71*        |
| Qualifying .. .. .  | 116        | 20         |
| <b>Constables</b>   |            |            |
| Competitive .. .. . | 1,014      | 337**      |
| Qualifying .. .. .  | 61         | 7          |

#### Complaints against police officers

The figures quoted in this section relate to complaints in respect of which the investigation and any ensuing criminal and disciplinary proceedings have been completed. This principle has been followed in all previous Reports, although the classification used was "complaints received": direct comparison with previous years can, therefore, be made. Additional information is provided this year to facilitate comparison with the figures quoted for other forces in the Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary for England and Wales.

During the year investigations were completed into 8,786 complaints made by 5,608 complainants compared with 8,962 complaints made by 5,643 complainants in 1978. The 1979 figures represent decreases of 2 per cent and 0.6 per cent over the figures for the previous year. Of the 5,608 complainants 2,164 were persons who had been charged with or reported for offences. Formal representation of dissatisfaction with the outcome of an investigation was expressed by 27 complainants.

The total of 8,786 complaints which were investigated represent 5,487 cases (a "case" can include one or more complaints made at the same time by one person or by a group of people), of which 3,039 had been received during 1979 and 2,448 in previous years. A total of 5,136 cases were received during 1979 and the investigation of 2,097 (40 per cent) of these had not been completed by the end of the year; a further 1,034 cases from previous years were also still outstanding. In a considerable number of the 3,131 outstanding cases the investigation has been postponed because related proceedings are pending before the criminal courts. Of the cases completed, 20 were investigated by officers from other forces.

\*Includes 16 CID officers. In addition 153 sergeants who act as competitors reached the qualifying standard and will be eligible in due course for consideration for reserved vacancies.  
\*\*Includes 82 CID officers.

The table below shows the result of complaints completed in 1979 compared with those of 1978. Details of the various types of complaints can be found in Appendices 3 and 4.

*Complaints, by outcome:*

| Result   | 1979  | Percentage of total complaints completed | 1978  | Percentage of total complaints completed |
|--|-------|--|-------|--|
| Substantiated                                    | 235   | 3  | 287   | 3  |
| Unsubstantiated                                  | 3,121 | 35                                       | 3,529 | 43                                       |
| Withdrawn/not proceeded with                     | 4,620 | 51                                       | 4,299 | 48                                       |
| Dispositions granted by Police Complaints Board* | 778   | 9  | 587   | 6  |
| Total complaints completed                       | 8,754 |  | 8,692 |  |

In 1979 the total number of complaints substantiated was 235 (3 per cent of the total number of complaints and 7 per cent of the complaints that were fully investigated). The types of proceedings which followed these investigations are shown in the table below.

*Substantiated complaints by type of proceedings:*

|  | Number of complaints | Percentage |
|--|----------------------|------------|
| Disciplinary proceedings                               | 14                   | 6          |
| Criminal proceedings (other than for traffic offences) | 12                   | 5          |
| Proceedings for traffic offences                       | 28                   | 12         |
| Dealt with by other means                              | (81)                 | 73         |
| Total substantiated complaints                         | 235                  |            |

Formal disciplinary proceedings are not always necessary in respect of substantiated complaints, many of which are often more appropriately dealt with by a warning or advice from a senior officer.

Over half the complaints (4,620 or 53 per cent) were withdrawn or not pursued at the express request of the complainant, compared with 4,299 (48 per cent) in 1978. During the year, nine officers requested a copy of the complaint made against them and copies were provided to each case in accordance with the Police (Copies of Complaint) Regulations 1977.

\*The Board can dispense with the need to investigate a complaint where it is not reasonably practical to complete a satisfactory investigation.

Section 49 of the Police Act 1964 requires that, except in those cases where a chief officer of police is satisfied that an alleged criminal offence has not been committed, a copy of the report of the investigation into a complaint shall be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his independent scrutiny and advice on whether criminal proceedings should be instituted against the officer concerned. This Forum, however, refers to the Director's reports relating to all criminal allegations made against Metropolitan Police officers and during 1978/1981 such cases were referred with the following results:

*Cases referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions:*

| Type of case                  | Total referred | Proceedings recommended by D of P |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Criminal (other than traffic) | 1,119          | 11                                |
| Traffic                       | 482            | 67                                |
|                               | 1,601          | 78                                |

Of the 1,601 cases, 408 were not Section 49 complaints and the balance of 1,193 cases comprised a total of 1,339 complaints. The following table shows the various categories of complaint together with the number in which proceedings were recommended.

*Categories of complaint referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions:*

| Type of complaint | No. referred | Proceedings recommended by D of P |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Assault           | 562          | 8                                 |
| Bribery           | 49           | 1                                 |
| Perjury           | 120          | —                                 |
| Conspiracy        | 111          | —                                 |
| Theft             | 34           | 1                                 |
| Traffic offences  | 342          | 39                                |
| Other offences    | 561          | 1                                 |
|                   | 1,779        | 52                                |

In accordance with the requirements of the Police Act 1976 a copy of the report of the complaint investigation was sent to the Police Complaints Board in respect of 1,158 complaints. By the end of the year the Board had indicated its decision in respect of 3,163 of these complaints, in some of which did it find cause to disagree with the outcome or with any disciplinary action proposed by the Deputy Commissioner. Additionally, the Board agreed that it was not reasonably possible to complete a satisfactory investigation in 778 cases and exercised its authority to dispense with the statutory requirement to investigate them.

The number of officers convicted of criminal offences (including traffic offences) is given below. Of the 118 officers concerned, seven were convicted of offences other than traffic offences, of whom six were sentenced to imprisonment. Of the 111 officers convicted of traffic offences, 19 were disqualified from driving; 73 of the 111 were off duty at the time of the offence. Six officers were dismissed or required to resign as a result of disciplinary action following conviction. In addition, 13 officers resigned after criminal charges had been preferred against them but before such proceedings were completed and a further 21 resigned while under investigation for criminal matters (11 of the 34 were suspended at the time).

Officers convicted of criminal offences

| Type of principal offence                                       | Sentence etc.         | Number of officers           |   |                     |       |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------|
|   |                       | Investigation arising out of |   |                     | Total |
|   |                       | Complaint                    |   | Other circumstances |       |
|   |                       | A                            | B |                     |       |
| Criminal (other than traffic)                                   | Imprisonment or other | 3                            | — | 3                   | 6     |
| Traffic   |                       | 28                           | 3 | 80                  | 111   |
| All offences  |                       | 32                           | 3 | 83                  | 118   |
| Number of officers consequently dismissed or required to resign |                       | 1                            | 1 | 1                   | 3     |

A—Principal offence arose from matters complained of.

B—Principal offence did not arise from matters complained of.

\*Immediate or suspended sentences.

†Not available.

#### Discipline

Disciplinary charges were brought against 175 officers and one or more charges were found proved against 170. It will be seen that only 23 officers (14 per cent) were proceeded against for offences arising directly from matters complained of by members of the public.

Officers against whom disciplinary proceedings were brought

| Result of disciplinary proceedings    | Number of officers           |    |                     |       |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----|---------------------|-------|
|                                       | Investigation arising out of |    |                     | Total |
|                                       | Complaint                    |    | Other circumstances |       |
|                                       | A                            | B  |                     |       |
| One or more charges were found proved | 21                           | 10 | 130                 | 170   |
| No charges were proved                | 2                            | 0  | 3                   | 5     |
| Total number of officers              | 23                           | 10 | 133                 | 175   |

A—Where one or more charges arose from the matters complained of.

B—Where the charges did not arise directly from the matters complained of.

Details of punishments resulting from disciplinary proceedings are summarised in the table below. Where an officer received more than one punishment, only the most serious is shown. In most cases officers were fined; 13 were dismissed and 19 were required to resign. Five officers were found not guilty. In addition, during the year, 10 officers resigned after disciplinary charges had been preferred against them but before the proceedings were completed, and a further 42 resigned while under investigation for disciplinary matters (12 of the 52 were suspended at the time).

Officers punished as a result of disciplinary proceedings

| Most serious punishment awarded by the disciplinary authority | Number of officers | Appeals to the Commissioner outstanding |
|---|--------------------|---|
| Dismissal   | 13                 | 4                                       |
| Required to resign  | 19                 | 9                                       |
| Reduction in rank   | 9                  | 3                                       |
| Reduction in pay  | 15                 | 0                                       |
| Fine  | 56                 | 1                                       |
| Reprimand   | 40                 | 1                                       |
| Caution   | 9                  | 0                                       |
| Total   | 170                | 18                                      |

A police officer who is punished for a disciplinary offence has a right of appeal to me against the finding or the punishment or both. During the year appeals by 38 officers were made against finding or punishment or both. Fifteen of these appeals and eight which had been outstanding at the end of 1978 were heard. Of these 20 were dismissed, no appeal was allowed against the finding and three punishments were varied. Five appeals were abandoned and at the end of the year 18 appeals were outstanding.

Under Section 37 of the Police Act 1964 a police officer who has appealed to me has a further right of appeal to you against the decision as to the finding or the punishment awarded or both. During the year appeals by nine officers against my decision were referred to you and all were still outstanding at the end of the year. Appeals by two officers against finding and punishment which had been outstanding at the end of 1978 were heard by appeal tribunals and dismissed. One of these officers appealed against three punishments of reduction in rank, and the other against two punishments of requirement to resign and one of reprimand.

#### Health

The number of days' absence through sickness and injury in 1979 was 342,338, an increase of 1 per cent compared with 1978. This was equivalent to 938 officers being unavailable for duty throughout the year. The number of days' absence per officer on the strength increased from 15.5 in 1978 to 15.6 in 1979. Of the days lost, 226,476 were due to sickness, while the remaining 115,862 days lost were the result of injuries on and off duty.

Uncertificated absences for periods not exceeding three days, usually for sickness rather than injury, accounted for 20 per cent of the total.

Twenty-two officers died during the year.

Of the 58,124 days lost through injury on duty, 11,507 were due to assaults by prisoners (an increase of 2 per cent compared with the 1976 total) and 2,392 were due to assaults by other persons (a decrease of 4 per cent). A total of 1,428 days were lost due to injuries received while controlling crowds (a decrease of 24 per cent). A further 7,949 were due to motor cycle accidents when the injured officer was riding (a decrease of 3 per cent) and 8,096 were due to accidents when the injured officer was in a car (an increase of 23 per cent).

Appendix 5 shows, by age group and rank, the average number of days absence per officer during the year. Details of the number of officers injured as a result of being assaulted while on duty are given in Appendix 6.

#### Medical and dental services

During the year a total of 1,183 police officers and cadets (compared with 904 in 1976) were admitted to hospital, 125 to St. Thomas' Hospital and its associated hospitals. The Metropolitan Police Medical Centre and Maudsley Hospital, Foul Cove, admitted 945 patients (compared with 912 in 1976) comprising 320 Metropolitan Police officers, 346 Metropolitan Police cadets, 15 provincial officers and four overseas officers. A total of 4,201 officers and cadets were treated as out-patients by the Medical Officer at his daily clinics; and in addition there were 1,526 cases requiring emergency treatment (compared with 1,120 in 1976). The Convalescent Home at Hare received 142 patients from the Force compared with 161 in 1976.

Dental inspections of cadets at six-monthly intervals and of recruits to the Force have continued.

#### Cadet Corps

A total of 4,948 applications to join the Cadet Corps were received during the year of which 2,849 were from boys and 2,099 from girls. The increase of 419 on the 1976 figure of 4,529 can in part be attributed to an intensive advertising campaign in the educational press and on local radio. Of the 4,948 applicants, 1,049 were called for interview; 547 were accepted into the Corps of whom 206 were in the 17 to 18 age group and attended the short course lasting one term before proceeding to cadet centres for further training. Cadets attained an attainable number 393 compared with 369 in 1976. A total of 142 cadets left the Corps before completing their training. However 11 of these joined other forces as cadets or constables and so were not lost to the police service.

The first of a recently inaugurated series of lectures named after the Corps' founder, Sir Joseph Simpson, KCB, have been given to the cadets by leading public figures including the Rt. Hon. George Thomas, MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, the Rt. Hon. Lord Murray, QC, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, and the Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Thomas Hetherington, KC, QC, MP, QC.

At the cadet training centres, the range of community service activities has been extended to include for the first time assistance to intermediate treatment centres for offenders, the Federation of Boys' Clubs, community relations councils and the Vietnamese refugee centres. In addition, cadets who train in districts now have the full roster of early, late and night duty shifts.

In July, 11 girl cadets from the Kingsbury cadet centre successfully participated in the four-day Nijmegen marches in Holland. They were awarded individual medals and also received the team gold medal. One team of boys and two teams of girls entered the annual Ten Tors expedition on Dartmoor; the boys completed the 45-mile route and the girls the 35-mile route. The cadets also repeated previous successes in the Devizes to Westminster canoe race. For the first time, a girl cadet completed all stages of the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award scheme whilst serving in the Corps.

Teams were again entered in all the National Police Cadet Championships and individual gold and silver medals were won for athletics, cross-country running, Judo, swimming, wrestling and shooting. In the team swimming events the boy cadets won the medley and freestyle relays and the girls won the medley relay.

In the National Cross-Country Championships the boys' team took first place and the girls were runners-up in their event. In the National Life-Saving competition the boys were first and second and the girls were third. The Corps' soccer team won the National Soccer Cup. Individual cadets were selected to represent the Police Athletic Association in athletics.

During the autumn term the donations event was the 150th Anniversary Dinner in the Wembley Arena. Altogether about 450 cadets took part either in the gymnastic display team, the arena party, as actors in the crowd scenes or were employed in and as sellers at to sell programmes.

The Corps' kips-trail watch team continued to prove an effective support service on call to assist operational officers throughout the year. The team was employed on 21 occasions during the year.

#### Sport and police functions

##### Metropolitan Police Athletic Association

The association maintained an active interest in a wide range of sports and recreational pursuits, although the operational demands of the Force led to the cancellation of a few representative matches. Boxes from Italy, West Germany, Switzerland and the United Kingdom took part in the open police boxing championships at the Royal Albert Hall. The Annual Concert was held at the Royal Festival Hall with Roy Hudd as the guest artiste and Shaw Taylor as compère. From the proceeds the sum of £1,500 was donated to the Metropolitan Police Combined Benevolent Fund.

Details of the representative and individual honours won are given in Appendix 7.

#### Honours

Details of honours and awards received are shown in Appendix 8.

#### Commodations

Details of high commendations awarded during the year are given in Appendix 9.

#### Changes among senior officers

Details of changes which took place involving senior officers are given in Appendix 10.



## CHAPTER 3

### Public Order: Operations: Other Police Duties

#### *Public order*

Special arrangements for the maintenance of public order were made for 850 separate events consisting of 420 meetings, matches and ceremonial events and 430 sporting occasions. These figures do not include the occasions when police officers were on duty on picket lines or the special police arrangements made for the General Election.

The number of public order events was substantially higher; hardly a week passed without at least one incident which required special police arrangements and Appendix 11 indicates the frequency with which large numbers of officers were required. On all occasions the police presence was provided at the expense of local operational and administrative commitments.

During the Parliamentary General Election campaign police were present at 405 election meetings. Of these, the five London meetings arranged by the National Front posed the greatest threat to the preservation of public order, in view of the potentially violent opposition they attracted. Many police officers and members of the public were injured, one fatally, during the serious disorders which occurred when the local National Front parliamentary candidate held a meeting at Wootton on 23rd April. Further details of this and other disturbances are given in Chapter 1. On Polling Day, Thursday, 3rd May, police were in attendance at each of the 3,165 polling stations and 66 counting stations within the Metropolitan Police District. To achieve this all uniform and CID officers were required to work a 12-hour tour of duty and all leave was cancelled.

#### *Industrial disputes*

In addition to the demonstrations and meetings, police were engaged on public order duties in connection with eight national and 215 local industrial disputes. At the beginning of the year in particular resources were stretched by the simultaneous occurrence of a number of such disputes.

In January the action involving road haulage drivers of the Transport and General Workers' Union affected over 100 premises in London, including the docks. At the same time, the National Union of Public Employees was in dispute and industrial action was taken by hospital workers, refuse collectors and local government officers. There was widespread picketing at hospitals and some schools were closed. Besides the demands created by the need to maintain a police presence at the picket lines, the police joined with the Army, the St. John

Ambulance and the Red Cross Associations to provide an emergency ambulance service on three occasions when the crews of the London Ambulance Service withdrew their labour for periods of 24 hours. In all, police attended 371 emergency calls and assisted with the 430 calls attended by the military and voluntary services, covering 12,256 miles and involving 28,000 man hours (including stand-by duties).

Later in the year there were industrial disputes involving the Civil Service, print and engineering unions.

#### *Football hooliganism*

Police were employed at 331 Football League or Cup matches which drew over 5½ million spectators. No serious problems were encountered at the matches themselves although there were 1,737 arrests and 6,795 ejections, compared with 1,948 and 6,177 in the previous year.

Of those arrested, 61 per cent were fined an average of £63 for offences of threatening behaviour. Only 3 per cent were given custodial sentences, 6 per cent bound over to keep the peace, and less than 2 per cent received suspended sentences. The remaining cases are still outstanding, were dismissed or dealt with by other means.

The improvement of facilities within grounds which have now been certified under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975, has allowed better control over crowd behaviour and has been a major factor in the decrease of incidents of hooliganism. The designation of Second Division clubs this season should extend these improvements to the majority of London clubs. However, tighter control has led to the creation of more problems outside football grounds and whilst supporters are travelling. To minimise disorder, special attention has been given to the deployment of police within easy access of the London Transport Underground network and the main-line railway termini.

On the occasion of the England v Scotland international football match in May the disorder by football supporters extended to a large part of central London and the effects were experienced throughout the whole weekend. A total of 357 persons were arrested; of these 82 per cent were Scottish supporters. Consideration is being given to ways of reducing the problems associated with this fixture in time for the next London match in 1981.

#### *Public events*

Following the General Election, the State Opening of Parliament by Her Majesty The Queen took place on 15th May. The ceremony of Trooping the Colour took place on 16th June.

There were two State Visits during the year. The President of the Republic of Kenya visited from 12th to 13th June and the President of the Republic of Indonesia and Madame Ties Soeharto from 13th to 16th November.

The funeral of Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma took place on Wednesday, 8th September. Over 4,000 police were on duty in London to provide the necessary security and protection for the ceremony.

Two major events which celebrated the "International Year of the Child" called for special arrangements by the police to control the large crowds. At the "Great Children's Party" in Hyde Park in May, 160,000 children were entertained on the two days and the event was visited by Her Majesty The Queen and other members of the Royal Family. To close the year a torchlight procession and carol service held at Buckingham Palace in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen and The Prince of Wales attracted some 40,000 people.

#### Community relations

The Community Relations Branch assumed a number of additional responsibilities during the year and was re-organised into four sections: policy and training; liaison; forward planning and information and crime prevention. In addition the branch administers the Metropolitan Police Band.

Despite the diverse activities of the branch, its work is sometimes mistakenly assumed to be concerned solely with race relations. Community relations has much wider implications involving all police activity; it aims to create an environment in which the enforcement of the law may be efficiently and effectively carried out. Nevertheless, it should be acknowledged that throughout the year a considerable part of our community relations effort has concentrated on relationships with the ethnic minorities. Although it is the police who must respond to many of the manifestations of racial tension, the Force cannot alleviate all the problems which face some sections of the ethnic minorities, for example, poor housing; unemployment; rifts between the old and young. These social factors do not inevitably lead to increasing friction between police and the minority communities but on occasions they are complicating factors in an already sensitive situation. Considerable progress has been made in establishing good relations between the police and the ethnic minorities but much remains to be done.

Regular meetings have been held with the Commission for Racial Equality at national level and with local community relations councils, community relations officers and other representative groups and individuals. These talks do not always end in complete agreement but they are invariably of value in that views are exchanged and problems discussed.

#### Community Liaison Officers and Juvenile Bureaux

Whilst it has always been the duty of every officer to promote goodwill and understanding with all sections of the community, the district community liaison officer in recent years has become responsible for co-ordinating and encouraging these activities. Under the direction of the district commanders, the liaison officers respond to the varying needs of the community and in these areas with sizeable ethnic minorities a considerable amount of time is spent maintaining effective channels of communication with their representatives.

During the course of the year a review of community relations activity was carried out and, in recognition of the heavy burden on community liaison officers, 20 constables were appointed to assist them on districts.

#### Young people and the police

A large proportion of the young persons seen by juvenile bureau officers have been referred to them as a result of criminal offences. In 1979 the number of such young people continued to fall compared to previous years. It is too early to make any assessment of the reason for this decline and there is no room for complacency when juveniles continue to feature prominently in the serious offences of robbery, theft from the person and burglary. The table below shows the number of juveniles referred to the bureaux for all offences (including traffic) in the past five years and how they were dealt with.

|                           | 1975   | 1976   | 1977   | 1978   | 1979    |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Prosecution .. .. .       | 23,246 | 20,615 | 22,954 | 22,038 | 20,941  |
| Caution .. .. .           | 13,195 | 11,023 | 13,786 | 12,921 | 11,629  |
| No further action .. .. . | 3,120  | 2,820  | 3,309  | 2,677  | 2,194   |
| Total .. .. .             | 39,561 | 34,458 | 40,049 | 37,656 | 33,864* |

The number of juveniles cautioned has consistently remained at about one third of the total coming to police notice.

In other cases the bureaux became involved with children as victims and the expertise which has been developed in co-ordinating police action in care proceedings and cases of non-accidental injuries to children has largely overcome the residual suspicion felt by some agencies of police involvement in this sensitive field.

The need for the police to establish a good relationship with the young at an early stage has long been recognised and much effort has been put into the schools involvement programme this year by juvenile bureau officers with the assistance of officers drawn from local stations and home beats. The programme is designed to show children the necessity for law and its observance and to give them an understanding of the role of the police. The schools programme is a sound investment for the future: it is hoped that the young people who meet police in the classroom will carry forward a real understanding of the role of the police service into their adult life.

The success of this programme depends largely on the effectiveness of the police officers involved. I am grateful to the many people in the field of education who gave their assistance. Whitelands College, Putney, continued to give professional guidance to police officers on the techniques of teaching in schools. Thomas Huxley College organised a similar course for local officers in Ealing. Arrangements are well advanced for courses to be held at the Middlesex Polytechnic at Trent Park in 1980.

Between April and September officers of "G" District (Hackney) organised a five-a-side football competition for young people. The tournament was specifically designed to attract those who do not normally join organised youth activities. Altogether 182 male and eight female teams entered the competition. Players in nearly two thirds of the teams were not involved in recognised youth

\*Approximately 1,200 referrals which would otherwise have been included in the 1979 figures have been held over until 1980 as the result of changes in the recording procedures following the implementation of the new computerised statistical system.



groups and youngsters from the ethnic minorities were well represented. A similar competition will be held in 1980 throughout the whole of the Metropolitan Police District.

During 1979 bureau officers ran courses in the public service section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme at bronze, silver and gold levels. Over 1,500 young people were involved in 88 courses. The residential weekend course at Hendon Training School, for the gold award, again proved very popular. Contact with the Scouts and the Church Lads' and Girls' Brigades was maintained through the police badge programmes.

#### *Conference on treatment of juvenile offenders*

Increasing importance is being placed on co-operation between the various agencies dealing with juvenile crime, for it is recognized that no single agency has a solution to this intractable problem. In July a meeting was held at New Scotland Yard with officials from a number of organisations to discuss possible means of joint action in the prevention of juvenile delinquency and a committee was formed to monitor the progress of the venture. District commanders will hold similar meetings for each of the London boroughs within their police districts to identify areas of further co-operation and will report back to the central committee in 1980.

#### *Metropolitan Police Band*

A full year of engagements included playing at the State Opening of Parliament, State Visits, the 150th Anniversary Tattoo at Wembley Arena and, as part of the branch's community relations work, an increased number of school concerts.

#### *Crime prevention*

The Central Crime Prevention Unit is now part of the Community Relations Branch, where it has augmented and complemented the preventive work being undertaken as part of the community relations effort.

Officers from the unit and districts have continued to meet the regular demand for specialist advice and, in all, 26,448 security surveys of property were carried out by headquarters and district crime prevention officers. In addition, 1,719 talks on the subject of crime prevention were given to various organisations. Part of the increase in the unit's workload resulted from the security threat preceding the General Election campaign and, in addition to the advice given to the political parties and their candidates, every polling centre was visited by crime prevention officers during the 24 hours prior to the commencement of voting.

In conjunction with the Public Information Department, full use was made of the media to promote the objectives of crime prevention by the dissemination of advice, supplemented by posters and advertising literature and the regular use of the mobile advice centre which was visited by many thousands of people.

#### *Incitement to racial hatred*

There was a reduction in the number of cases of incitement to racial hatred reported. Only nine cases came to notice compared with 32 in the previous year. Two of the cases clearly lacked evidence and the remaining seven were

referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for consideration as to whether the Attorney General should be asked to grant his fiat to enable proceedings to be taken. In all seven cases, the Director was of the opinion that there was insufficient evidence to justify this course of action. During the year two cases were heard at crown courts, one case from 1977 and the other from 1978. There was a conviction in each case.

#### *Carnival*

Notting Hill carnival once again attracted a large number of spectators. Happily the reduction in reported crime and injuries experienced in recent years was maintained. This contributed to a generally relaxed atmosphere allowing the event to be enjoyed by almost everyone including the police. Only the late evening outbreak of violence on the Monday marred an otherwise untroubled festival. It is to be hoped that the efforts made to establish a state of mutual trust and goodwill between the police and the two organising committees will lead to the isolation and exposure of the minority who use the carnival as a cover for crime and violent confrontation with the police.

For the second year running a carnival took place at Finsbury Park. Several thousand spectators were attracted to a street parade and subsequent events in the park. Police worked with the organisers to ensure the carnival was trouble free, as indeed it was, and minimal policing was required.

#### *Campaign for the repeal of Section 4, Vagrancy Act 1824*

The campaign to repeal Section 4 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 maintained momentum. Arguments advanced often show ignorance of the law and a dependence on assumption rather than fact. Whilst recognising the sincerity and genuine concern of many of the people and organisations involved, it would be in the interest of justice if campaigners did not prevent partial, distorted and even obviously mistaken accounts of unidentifiable incidents as though they were evidence from which conclusions could safely be drawn.

The case for the retention of Section 4 will be made in my evidence to the House of Commons Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration and the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure in 1980.

#### *Community policing projects*

Three experimental community policing projects were established during the year in Stockwell, Fulham and Kings Cross. The intention is to provide intensive home beat policing and each project has a "police contact point" where officers can meet and discuss problems with members of the community.

#### *Church liaison*

Valuable liaison has been maintained with church groups in London. The most frequently discussed issues have been those relating to the police and the ethnic minorities. There have been meetings with the Methodist Church Division of Social Responsibilities, Bishops of the Established Church, the Roman Catholic Commission for Racial Justice and the Society of Friends, as well as other religious groups.

#### *Research into police/community relations*

After consideration and consultation about the research project into police relations with the community, mentioned in last year's Report, the Policy Studies Institute was invited to put forward its proposals. The proposed research will be concerned with the relations between the police and all sections of the public including relations with ethnic minorities. If present negotiations are successful the research will commence in 1980.

#### *Inter-agency co-operation in Southwark*

To further the excellent liaison existing between police and the local authority in Southwark, it has been suggested that an "urban aid" application should be made to finance two new civilian posts in the juvenile bureau at Camberwell Green police station. If the application is successful the additional staff, who will be employed by the local authority, but based at the bureau, will be known as "Youth and Community Workers" and will assist the bureau officers in a variety of activities connected with youngsters who come to the notice of local police.

#### *Thames Division*

The economies referred to last year were completed in September with the closure of Blackwall police station and the removal of its mooring facilities. The delivery of the new style duty boats has been completed and all seven are now in service. The use of new low-wash craft for the upper reaches remains under consideration.

In 1979 officers of the division were called upon to deal with 159 river accidents, in which 39 people sustained personal injury and one died. A total of 71 persons were rescued from the river and of these 56 were rescued by police. Royal Humane Society awards were made during the year to four civilians and two police officers. The number of dead bodies recovered from the river was 35 of which five remain unidentified.

#### *Underwater Search Unit*

The unit was involved in 139 operational searches, occupying a total of 280 days, and a further 23 days were spent on periodic searches, exhibition activities and training. Recoveries by the unit included 21 dead bodies, 24 motor cars, 21 motor cycles and numerous offensive weapons and items of stolen property.

During the year four officers from the unit attended the Police Diving School in Northumbria for further training.

#### *Special Patrol Group*

The Special Patrol Group has continued to fulfil its role as a mobile reserve capable of responding rapidly to demands for extra manpower from districts or headquarters branches. In addition to 11 district assignments, each lasting about three weeks, the group formed an emergency reserve for the police engaged at the Lancaster House conference on Zimbabwe-Rhodesia.

These major assignments were interrupted for short periods on 176 occasions when the group responded to urgent requests for assistance, such as the participation with the Anti-Terrorist Squad on 11th December in the arrest of 15

persons under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. It also provided extra manpower on 26 occasions during searches for missing persons and murder enquiries and was employed to evacuate homes in the area of the gas works in Kensington where an explosion was threatened.

The group made 3,284 arrests for crime and 1,385 other arrests. A total of 12,379 pedestrians and 16,932 vehicles were stopped under legal powers in the course of the prevention and detection of crime; the group executed 215 warrants and reported 843 people for traffic offences. Units from the group were instrumental in the arrest of 84 persons concerned in organised crime and in the recovery of over £1½ million of property during two assignments in support of the Serious Crimes Branch.

As mentioned in Chapter 1, the role of the group was under review at the close of the year.

#### *Diplomatic Protection Group*

The Diplomatic Protection Group commenced operations five years ago on an ad hoc basis. It was not an established unit of the Force and officers were seconded to it for limited periods. Since then its value has been proved and it became clear that the group should be put on a permanent footing. With effect from 14th May, therefore, an augmentation to the establishment of the Force was authorised for the Diplomatic Protection Group. All the posts have now been filled voluntarily by experienced officers.

The group operates from four bases in central London. It is capable of immediate response to incidents at diplomatic premises and provides police officers for the protection of embassies where necessary.

#### *Mounted Branch*

The strength of the branch at the end of the year was 229 officers against an establishment of 214.

During the year, 11 horses were purchased, four were sold as temperamentally unsuitable and 21 were humanely put down. The number of horses on 31st December was 183 against an establishment of 201.

Among the recruits trained were officers from the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, the City of London Police and the Zambia Police Force. Included on the advanced equitation course were officers from Avon and Somerset Constabulary and the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police.

Mounted Branch officers were responsible for 146 arrests, 1,164 summonses, 2,456 verbal warnings and 1,405 stops. They were engaged on 716 occasions for ceremonial and other duties and on 60 occasions in connection with the maintenance of public order.

The 51st Metropolitan Police Horse Show and Tournament was held at Amber Court on 27th and 28th July and was honoured by the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra on the first day. Provincial police forces, the City of London Police, the Royal Navy, the Royal Air Force, the Royal Marines, the Household Cavalry and the Royal Military Police entered competitors.

The Mounted Branch competed with distinction at five other horse shows in 1979 recording wins in the best turned out man and horse and the best trained police horse at both the South of England Agricultural Show and the Royal Windsor Show and the skill at arms competition (a special event) at the Royal Tournament. In addition, the Activity Ride was performed at the South of England Agricultural Show and the Musical Ride at the Metropolitan Police Tattoo.

#### Dogs Section

There were 352 dogs on the strength at the end of the year including 298 which were operational, 17 under training and six breeding bitches. Of the 40 puppies reared during the year, nine were disposed of as unsuitable and 31 were sent to districts to be walked. A total of 67 dogs were disposed of because of age or illness.

Officers of the section were responsible for 8,320 arrests and 3,376 summonses; 61 missing persons were found and 303 items of property were recovered. The operations unit of the section organised 60 large scale searches and provided security patrols at prisons and courts.

A Home Office course for instructors held at the Dog Training Establishment was attended by two Metropolitan Police officers and 11 officers from other forces; all reached the required standard.

Officers from many provincial forces, British Transport Police, Garda Síochána and Bermuda Police attended various courses at the Dog Training Establishment and were supplied with trained dogs.

Demonstrations by the dog display team were given at the Royal Tournament and the 150th Anniversary Tattoo at Wembley.

#### Narcotics detection

During the year the Labrador dogs specially trained in the detection of narcotics were successful in 393 of the 745 calls they attended and 844 persons were arrested in result.

#### Explosives detection

The dogs specially trained in the detection of explosive substances attended 1,449 calls, a 61 per cent increase over 1978, and there were four positive results during the year. Searches were carried out in advance of ceremonial occasions or events regarded as potential security risks.

#### Court duties

With the opening of the new crown court building in Croydon, the number of police officers employed at such courts rose again and an early reduction is unlikely as a further three crown court buildings are due to open in 1980.

Discussions have continued about reducing the number of officers employed at magistrates' courts. Some progress has been made in gaining agreement to the reimbursement of the Receiver for the cost of police officers and Metropolitan Police civil staff employed on duties properly identified as the responsibility of the clerks of the courts, but a reduction of only four officers has been achieved. The overall number of officers employed on court duties is 366.

The business of the inner London magistrates' and juvenile courts was affected by the industrial action taken by some courts staff from 27th August until 30th September. Although magistrates and senior staff dealt with prisoners and urgent matters at magistrates' courts so that no undue inconvenience was caused in relation to custody of prisoners, the adjournment of summonses increased the administrative work. Only one juvenile court in the inner London area was open during the five weeks to deal with urgent cases; all other cases for hearing at the juvenile courts during that period were postponed. The subsequent re-instatement of these cases caused considerable additional work. A more harmful effect was that it extended even further the existing lengthy delays in bringing cases before juvenile courts.

The lack of progress in replacing police officers employed as cornermen's officers by civilians employed by local authorities and for the reimbursement of the cost of those police officers who are still so employed, has been most disappointing. I hope that firm decisions will soon be made.

#### Court proceedings

The number of people dealt with by magistrates' or juvenile courts in 1979, having previously been charged or summoned in the Metropolitan Police District, was 335,930. The corresponding figure for 1978 was 349,864. These figures are not a complete record of people proceeded against in the Metropolitan Police District due to difficulties which have existed for some years in collecting court proceedings statistics. As a result, in some areas large amounts of data are unavoidably missing or incorrectly coded. Efforts are continuing to improve the quality of the data but it is likely that some of the problems may remain for some time.

Sections 14 to 17 of the Criminal Law Act 1977, implemented on 17th July 1978, introduced the following classifications of offences by mode of trial: offences triable only on indictment, offences triable only summarily and offences triable either way. The Act changed the mode of trial of some offences and the new classifications are not compatible with the offence groups "indictable" and "non-indictable" used in previous Reports. The term "traffic offences" covers the same offences as in last year's Report but the mode of trial for some of these offences has changed resulting in a decline in the number sent for trial at crown courts. Although the classification of offences by mode of trial is applicable to traffic offences this group is separately identified.

The strike by administrative staff employed by the Inner London Magistrates' Courts Service at magistrates' and juvenile courts between the end of August and the end of September delayed the processing of cases. As a result some summonses which would otherwise have been heard in 1979 appear to have been held over until 1980 and others which were due for hearing during the strike were adjourned sine die.

During the year 175,923 people were dealt with by magistrates' or juvenile courts having previously been charged at a police station. Of these 16,489 were charged principally with traffic offences including 9,677 who were charged with theft or the unauthorised taking of motor vehicles. A further 83,737 were charged principally with indictable or triable either way offences other than traffic offences; this included 41,163 people who were charged principally with theft

or handling stolen goods. The remaining 75,601 were charged with summary offences only. The total number of charges and further charges brought was 277,525.

The number of people summoned to appear at magistrates' or juvenile courts in 1979 was 160,000 in respect of a total of 206,556 offences; of these 13 per cent were traffic offences. Summonses were issued at the instance of the Metropolitan Police in 80 per cent of the cases, the remainder being issued at the instance of other authorities or private individuals.

During the year 16,337 people appeared for trial at crown courts having previously been charged or summoned within the Metropolitan Police District.

In the first complete year since the implementation of the Bail Act 1976, 9,057 offences were dealt with under Section 6 (failing to surrender to bail) and 9 (indemnifying surety for bail).

Details of proceedings at magistrates' and at crown courts are shown in Appendices 12 and 13. Appendix 12 contains 1978 figures but analysis by mode of trial has not been possible for 1978. Appendix 13 contains details of pleas and acquittal rates for different offence categories.

#### Requests for notification of arrest

During 1979 a total of 330,419 arrests were made by the Force of which the majority, almost two thirds, were for the less serious type of offences not included in the crime statistics section of Chapter 4. In most cases the individual was quickly released and a request to inform a reasonably named person promptly fulfilled. Of the 330,419 people arrested, it was necessary to delay notification in 486 cases for a period of four hours or more and in 116 of these cases the delay was for 24 hours or more. In each of the cases for which the delay in notification exceeded 24 hours a detailed report was submitted to the Home Office in accordance with the current procedures for monitoring the operation of this section of the Act.

#### Obscene publications

Last year it was reported that, in accordance with Section 3 of the Obscene Publications Act 1959, districts could place samples of British-produced material before justices of the peace for authority to seize similar publications. This policy was maintained during 1979 and some shopkeepers subsequently accepted the decisions of courts which found the majority of the seized material obscene and ceased to sell publications similar to those forfeited; others disregarded the verdicts and persisted in stocking the material.

With regard to publishers, in the past three years over 1,690,000 articles have been seized from their premises. Most of the publications were forfeited and, despite some unsuccessful appeals, a few firms ignored the courts' decisions and expanded their business activities into the retail trade to sell similar types of material. In 1979 several new shops were opened in London and the provinces.

The ever growing popularity of video cassette recorders has resulted in an increase in the manufacture (usually within the United Kingdom) of cassettes from pornographic films produced overseas: at the end of 1979 several cases were under investigation.

During the year 1,170,752 articles were seized under the authority of the 1959 Act following the execution of 1,117 search warrants of these 229 were in respect of unlicensed cinematograph clubs. Of the 1,033 new cases considered by the obscene publications branch, 410 were submitted to the Solicitor's Department for legal advice. There were 979 prosecutions or other court proceedings involving 1,050 individuals or companies.

#### Betting, gaming and lotteries

Three warrants were executed in respect of unlawful betting compared with six in 1978. Only two cases, which originated in 1978, were decided by the end of the year and the fines and costs imposed by the courts totalled £945.

The number of gaming warrants executed was 87 compared with 110 in 1978. Of this total, seven related to gaming on machines, five to dice and cards or dice alone, 23 to cards and 52 to pai-kua and fan-tan. In addition 18 cases of gaming with cards, and six cases of gaming with machines were dealt with by way of summons. During the year, 51 gaming cases (four of which originated in 1978) were decided; fines and costs imposed by the courts totalled £37,975. Four orders were made for the forfeiture of machines and in two other cases the machines were returned to the supplier.

Nine warrants were executed in connection with lotteries, seven of which related to one enquiry. During the year two cases (one of which originated in 1978) were decided and the fines and costs imposed totalled £280. Of the remaining two cases no proceedings ensued in one and the other case a due to be heard in 1980.

At the end of the year 23 clubs were licensed for gaming other than bingo and 143 clubs for bingo only under the provisions of Part II of the Gaming Act 1968. A further 39 members' clubs were registered for gaming under the Act.

#### Clubs

At 31st December there were 3,272 clubs operating under registration certificates and 676 operating under justices' licences. The combined total of 3,948 represents an increase of 103 on the previous year's figure.

During the year five raids were made on registered clubs and 23 on licensed clubs. Proceedings were completed in respect of 12 cases (of which one arose from a raid carried out in 1977 and three from raids in 1978) and fines and costs imposed by the courts totalled £2,385.

#### Licensed premises

Excluding clubs operating under a justices' licence, there were at the end of the year 10,323 premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises. Of these, 3,631 had restaurant, residential or combined restaurant and residential licences. The number of off-licensed premises was 4,944. During the year 16,132 special orders of exemption were granted to licensed premises and clubs, of which 13,494 were for Christmas and the New Year period. The corresponding figures for 1978 were 68,167 and 10,329 respectively. The total figure for this year excludes 1,781 special orders of exemption granted in connection with the General Election.

#### **Drunkenness**

During the year 47,227 persons (of whom over 90 per cent were males) were proceeded against for drunkenness or drunkenness with aggravation and 40,182 were convicted. These totals were respectively 4,434 and 3,800 higher than those for 1978. The figures above include persons proceeded against for other offences who were also charged with drunkenness or drunkenness with aggravation but do not include persons prosecuted for being under the influence of drink or drugs when driving or in charge of vehicles unless they were also charged with drunkenness.

Of the convictions for drunkenness and drunkenness with aggravation, 4,137 (3,822 involving males and 315 females) were for offences committed by persons in the 18 to 20 age group and 1,158 (1,060 involving males and 98 females) were for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age.

Comparative figures of persons proceeded against for drunkenness, showing the proportion per 1,000 of the estimated population, are given in Appendix 14.

#### **Firearms**

The number of new firearms certificates granted was 860 and 2,492 expired certificates were renewed. Refusals of new applications and applications for variation of certificates totalled 91 and 14 respectively compared with 104 and 22 in 1978. A total of 1,134 certificates were cancelled including 79 on refusal to renew (74 in 1978) and 10 on revocation. There were eight appeals to crown courts of which four were dismissed, two were allowed, one withdrawn and one abandoned. At the end of 1979 there were 9,504 current firearms certificates, a decrease of 274 on the previous year's figure. The number of shotgun certificates granted was 2,908 which included 71 short-term visitors' certificates, and 8,058 expired certificates were renewed. Refusals to grant certificates totalled 279 and there were 17 appeals to crown courts against such refusals. Nine of these were dismissed, five were allowed and three adjourned. The number of shotgun certificates revoked was 28.

The number of dealers registered with the Force on 31st December was 237, a decrease of one from the previous year. A total of 19 dealers' certificates were cancelled because the holders had ceased to trade in firearms, and four applications for registration were refused. Proceedings were taken for 864 offences under the Firearms Act 1968 and the number of cautions administered was 843.

During the year 2,695 firearms of all descriptions (including 908 pistols and revolvers and 285 shotguns) were surrendered or confiscated and small shells, grenades and assorted ammunition amounting to 67,131 rounds were received.

#### **Aliens and Commonwealth citizens**

The number of registered aliens living in the Metropolitan Police District on 31st December 1979 was 130,044 compared with 116,973 at the end of 1978, an increase of 13,071.

During the year the Metropolitan Police enforced deportation orders in respect of 390 aliens and 357 Commonwealth citizens (compared with 302 and 625

respectively in 1978) and supervised the departure of 19 aliens and five Commonwealth citizens (13 and five respectively in 1978). In addition five aliens were repatriated (compared with nine aliens and eight Commonwealth citizens in 1978); seven exclusion orders were enforced (none in 1978).

#### **Lost property**

The number of articles found in cabs and deposited with police was 7,549 (8,161 in 1978). Of these, 2,950 were restored to their owners and 1,681 were returned to the cab drivers who deposited them. The remainder, unclaimed by either loser or finder, were mainly disposed of by sale.

Articles reported found in the street totalled 107,213 (111,054 in 1978). Of these, 102,829 were deposited with police and the remaining 4,384 were retained by finders. The number of items restored to losers was 41,476. The number of losses reported to police was 138,743 (142,503 in 1978).

#### **Abandoned vehicles**

Police made enquiries about 1,100 apparently abandoned vehicles (1,267 in 1978). In previous years local authorities had been asked to remove abandoned vehicles, together with those they themselves had found, but in 1979 a change was made to using private contractors for this purpose; 950 were removed by this method (1,041 by local authorities in 1978).

#### **Metropolitan Special Constabulary**

At the end of the year, the strength of the Metropolitan Special Constabulary was 1,674, compared with 1,761 at the end of 1978. During the year a total of 319 recruits joined and there were 466 resignations. Of these 34 left in order to join the Metropolitan Police and three to join other forces.

Members of the Metropolitan Special Constabulary performed 74,321 tours of duty, and spent 47,474 hours in training. The continuation training programme referred to in last year's Report was enlarged in 1979 and a scheme for periodic weekend training exercises at Lippitts Hill Camp was introduced.

As in previous years, the Metropolitan Special Constabulary gave valuable support at ceremonial occasions and special events including the "Police 150" exhibition at the London Museum; and members also took an active part in the Metropolitan Police 150th Anniversary Tattoo at Wembley.

Despite the decline in their numbers, members of the Special Constabulary increased the total hours of duty performed, which indicates their dedication and worthwhile contribution to the public service.

## CHAPTER 4

## Crime

## Crime statistics for the year

## General

The crime statistics relate to all offences recorded during the year for which crime reports are produced. They include all serious offences reported to the Home Office together with others for which crime reports are produced but which are excluded from the Home Office statistics of serious offences, e.g. drug offences. Although the term "serious" includes virtually the same offences as those described as "indictable" in previous Reports, the description has been amended following the change in the range of offences covered by the term "indictable" which resulted from the implementation of parts of the Criminal Law Act 1977 on 17th July 1978.

The number of serious crimes recorded by the Force in 1979 was 557,378. This is 10,000, or 2 per cent lower than the corresponding total of a year ago. A summary of crime recorded during the past five years is shown in the table below. This table and the others in this chapter use the Metropolitan Police Office classification of crime which is based upon a circumstantial as well as a legal classification. The categories in this classification do not correspond precisely with those of the Home Office but are of more direct value for police purposes. However, the relationship between the two classification systems is shown in Appendix 20 crimes of violence and Appendices 15 and 16 contain details of serious crimes recorded and cleared up by Home Office classification.

## Crimes known by category and year

| Category of crime                         | 1975           | 1976           | 1977           | 1978           | 1979           |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Crimes of violence:</b>                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Assaults, etc. including homicide ..      | 11,319         | 12,613         | 13,378         | 14,727         | 16,425         |
| Robbery and other violent theft ..        | 7,959          | 10,129         | 12,415         | 12,180         | 11,636         |
| Burglary ..                               | 98,141         | 106,045        | 122,179        | 121,127        | 116,973        |
| Autotheft ..                              | 148,322        | 150,656        | 174,479        | 177,297        | 173,371        |
| Other theft and handling ..               | 136,062        | 136,616        | 149,570        | 141,325        | 137,306        |
| Fraud and forgery ..                      | 30,825         | 30,916         | 30,208         | 29,845         | 25,954         |
| Criminal damage and miscellaneous ..      | 55,811         | 59,720         | 65,723         | 70,906         | 75,413         |
| <b>Total serious crime<sup>a</sup> ..</b> | <b>486,669</b> | <b>507,595</b> | <b>568,952</b> | <b>567,387</b> | <b>557,378</b> |
| <b>Other crime<sup>b</sup> ..</b>         | <b>14,013</b>  | <b>14,879</b>  | <b>15,214</b>  | <b>16,362</b>  | <b>16,705</b>  |

<sup>a</sup>Many offences, committed on London Transport and British Rail premises and investigated by the British Transport Police, are excluded from the figure.

<sup>b</sup>Excluded from the total.

The table below shows that the 2 per cent decrease in the total for serious crime was not spread uniformly over all types of crime and two categories recorded increases. "Assaults etc." followed the general upward trend of recent years and increased by 12 per cent. The other category to show an increase was "criminal damage and miscellaneous offences" which increased by 6 per cent. Fraud and forgery fell for the third consecutive year and recorded the most marked percentage change (-13 per cent) and autocrime offences declined for the first time this decade. However, fraud and forgery was the only category of crime for which the number of offences recorded in 1979 was less than in 1975 whereas for "robbery and other violent theft" the number of offences recorded in 1979 was 46 per cent higher than in 1975 but nevertheless it was the lowest for three years.

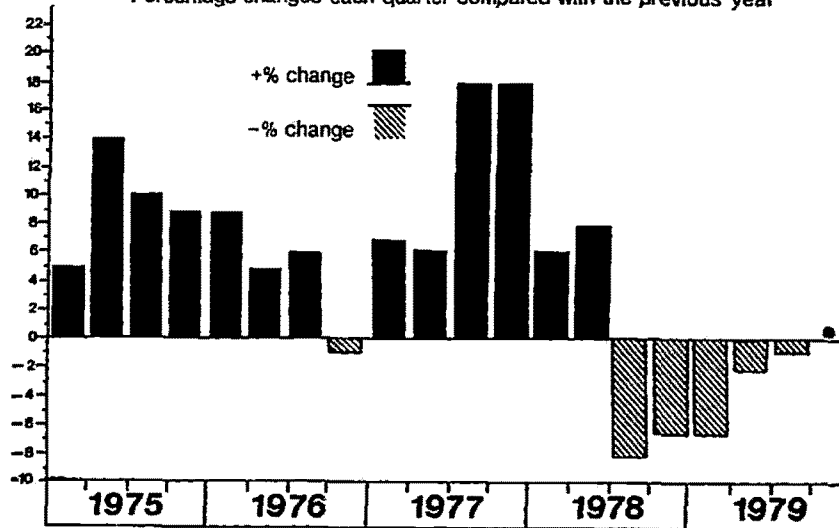
## Annual percentage changes in crimes known by category and year

| Category of crime                    | 1975      | 1976      | 1977       | 1978      | 1979      |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Crimes of violence:</b>           |           |           |            |           |           |
| Assaults, etc. including homicide .. | +14       | +11       | +6         | +10       | +12       |
| Robbery and other violent theft ..   | +43       | +27       | +23        | -2        | 4         |
| Burglary ..                          | +14       | +9        | +15        | -2        | 4         |
| Autotheft ..                         | +9        | +1        | +16        | +2        | -3        |
| Other theft and handling ..          | +6        | -         | +9         | -6        | -3        |
| Fraud and forgery ..                 | +2        | -         | 2          | -1        | -13       |
| Criminal damage and miscellaneous .. | +6        | +7        | +10        | +8        | +6        |
| <b>Total serious crime ..</b>        | <b>-9</b> | <b>+4</b> | <b>+12</b> | <b>-</b>  | <b>-2</b> |
| <b>Other crime ..</b>                | <b>-5</b> | <b>+6</b> | <b>+2</b>  | <b>+8</b> | <b>+2</b> |

The fall in the number of serious crimes recorded follows the very small decline the previous year but is only the third time in 20 years that the annual total for serious crime has fallen. However, the decreases of the past two years do not balance the large increases of earlier years and the 1979 figure is, therefore, 15 per cent higher than in 1975 and 65 per cent above the 1970 total. Over the past 10 years the strength of the Force has changed relatively little and at the end of 1979 was 7 per cent higher than in 1970.

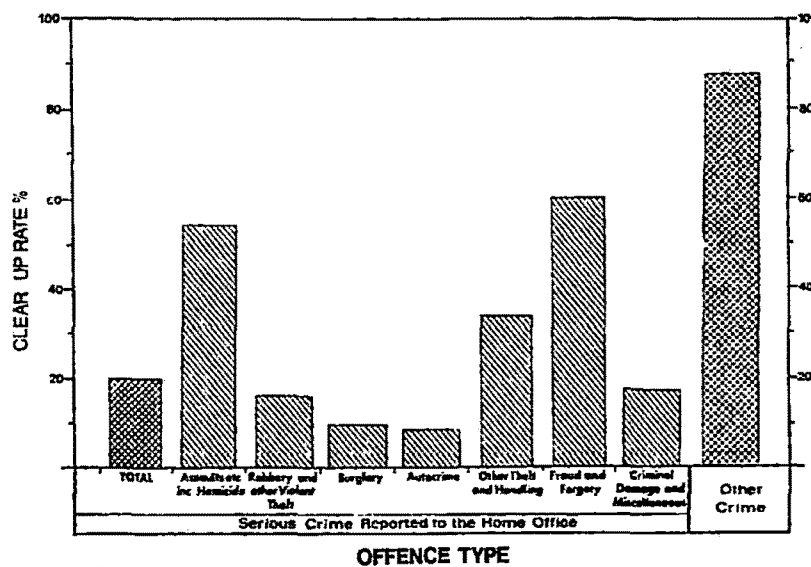
The quarterly percentage changes in the number of serious crimes shown in the chart on page 42 have been calculated by comparing the totals for each quarter with the corresponding period of the previous year. During 1979 no quarter recorded an increase compared with 1978 but the chart clearly shows that since the middle of 1978 the percentage changes have moderated progressively and the final quarter of 1979 recorded a figure only marginally below the last quarter of 1978. The recorded fall of 2 per cent in the annual figures was almost entirely attributable to the decreases in the first half of the year.

# SERIOUS CRIME RECORDED BY THE HOME OFFICE Percentage changes each quarter compared with the previous year



● There was no percentage change for the last quarter of 1979.

## Clear up rates by crime classification 1979



The seasonal pattern of the crime figures was distorted in 1978 by the decline in the latter half of the year, but the 1979 figures show some return to the seasonal pattern evident before 1978. "Assaults etc." were relatively low in the first quarter and figures for the remaining quarters somewhat higher. "Robberies and other violent thefts" were highest in the fourth quarter and auto crime and "other theft and handling" were both relatively low in the first and high in the last quarter of the year. For burglary there was no evidence of the peak in the fourth quarter which was part of the seasonal pattern before 1978.

#### Arrests and crimes cleared up

The number of serious crimes cleared up was 113,311 (4 per cent less than 1978) giving a clear up rate of 20 per cent compared with 21 per cent in the previous year and 24 per cent in 1975. During the year the Force made 165,470 arrests for serious crime (a fall of 2 per cent compared with 1978). The chart on page 43 shows the clear up rates for 1979 for each crime category.

For "robbery and other violent theft" and burglary there were more clear ups than in 1978 although the number of crimes recorded in both categories was less; the clear up rate for "robbery and other violent theft" (17 per cent) was the highest since 1975 and that for burglary (11 per cent) was similar to the rate for 1977. The clear up rate for fraud and forgery showed the largest fall, from 64 to 60 per cent. The only other category to show a decline in the clear up rate was auto crime which fell from 10 per cent in 1978 to 9 per cent.

Fewer serious crimes were cleared up and fewer arrests were made at the time the offence first came to the notice of police which accounts for the fall in the overall number both of "clear ups" and arrests. However, arrests for serious crime made as a result of enquiries after the offence was first reported (more than 43,000 in 1979) were higher than in 1978. Although the total number of crimes cleared up was lower than in 1978 or 1975, the number cleared up by an arrest after the offence was first reported was higher in 1979 than in either of these years.

Appendix 19 shows by age group the numbers and percentages of people arrested for each category of crime. There has been little change over the past five years although the proportion of juveniles among those arrested (26 per cent in 1979) is slightly lower than it has been for five years. It is not possible to conclude, however, that 26 per cent of all serious crimes in 1979 were committed by juveniles since not all of those arrested will subsequently be convicted and for those crimes which are not cleared up the age of the offender is not known. Nevertheless, the arrest statistics still show a disturbing involvement in crime by young people.

#### Crimes of violence

This category contains two different groups of offences which are considered separately. The common denominator linking the two groups is the potential for violence against the victim. The first group "assaults etc.", includes homicides and violent sexual offences as well as the more usual assaults. The second group covers robbery and any other theft where violence is involved; for this reason a small number of burglaries are included. Appendix 20 gives some details

of the circumstances surrounding these crimes, the weapons involved and whether or not injury resulted.

The number of "assaults etc." recorded was 16,425, 12 per cent higher than in 1978. This continues the upward trend of recent years. During the year the number of homicides (murder, manslaughter and infanticide) which were recorded increased sharply to 179 after a substantial fall to 118 the previous year. Attempts, threats and conspiracies to murder increased for the second consecutive year to 227; attempted murder accounted for only 37 of these offences. During the year 167 homicides were cleared up including a small number first recorded in 1978.

#### Assaults and other violence against the person, by offence type

| Offence type                             | 1975   | 1976   | 1977   | 1978   | 1979   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Homicide                                 | 145    | 145    | 142    | 118    | 179    |
| Attempts and threats to murder           | 148    | 109    | 90     | 176    | 227    |
| Rape                                     | 167    | 180    | 167    | 275    | 246    |
| Causing death by dangerous driving       | 105    | 97     | 103    | 39     | 29     |
| Wounding and other acts endangering life | 1,094  | 909    | 883    | 823    | 881    |
| Other wounding and assaults              | 9,750  | 11,171 | 12,033 | 13,294 | 14,863 |
| Total                                    | 11,319 | 12,613 | 13,378 | 14,727 | 16,425 |

The number of rapes recorded in 1979, 246, was 11 per cent less than in 1978 and the number of other violent sexual assaults on females also fell, by more than 40 per cent, to 148. Both these offences had recorded large increases during the previous year. The great majority of crimes in the "assaults etc." group are woundings or assaults of varying severity. The more serious "wounding and other acts endangering life" increased for the second consecutive year to 881, but this total remained close to the average for the past five years. The less serious woundings and assaults accounted for 90 per cent of "assaults etc." in 1979; these offences, which are mainly the so-called "Section 47" assaults, increased by 12 per cent compared with 1978 to a figure 52 per cent higher than in 1975.

During the year 8,964 (or 55 per cent) of the "assaults etc." were cleared up. For those offences where there was some previous association between victim and assailant the clear up rate was 80 per cent and for the remainder, where there was no such association, the rate was 48 per cent.

During 1979, 11,636 robberies and other violent thefts were recorded, a decline of 4 per cent compared with 1978. The table below shows that although this is the second consecutive year that these offences have decreased the number is 46 per cent higher than in 1975. During the first nine months of the year the decline relative to 1978 averaged 8 per cent but in the final quarter there was a relative increase of 7 per cent. "Other violent theft" includes any theft-related offences other than robbery in which actual or potential violence against the victim is involved.



*Robbery by circumstances of offence, and other violent theft*

| Circumstances of offence      | 1975  | 1976   | 1977   | 1978   | 1979   |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Robbery of business property: |       |        |        |        |        |
| In transit                    | 468   | 520    | 657    | 509    | 504    |
| On premises                   | 1,295 | 1,369  | 1,381  | 1,403  | 1,230  |
| Robbery of personal property: |       |        |        |        |        |
| Following attack in the open  | 1,977 | 2,999  | 3,771  | 3,753  | 3,458  |
| Otherwise                     | 608   | 545    | 728    | 858    | 906    |
| Conspiracy to rob             | 103   | 89     | 121    | 121    | 124    |
| Total robbery                 | 4,452 | 5,572  | 6,876  | 6,594  | 6,232  |
| Other violent theft           | 3,507 | 4,607  | 5,569  | 5,286  | 5,404  |
| Grand total                   | 7,959 | 10,179 | 12,445 | 12,180 | 11,636 |

In 1979 almost all of the 5,404 offences of "other violent theft" and over 70 per cent of the 6,232 robberies involved the theft of personal property and it is here that the distinction between a robbery and a violent theft (generally a "smash") becomes blurred. Both these types of theft declined in 1979 by 3 to 4 per cent relative to 1978. The majority of the victims of "robberies etc." of personal property were females and only 50 per cent of the offences resulted in the theft of property valued at £25 or more. The "peak" hours for these offences were between 5 p.m. and 1 a.m.—over half of the offences were committed during this period.

There were 1,734 robberies of business property, 9 per cent less than in the previous year. Almost all of the decline was among robberies on premises; the number of robberies of property in transit, 504, changed little.

Firearms were involved in 756 robberies, 12 per cent of all robberies, compared with 734 robberies during 1978. In 41 of the offences a firearm was actually fired compared with 40 such cases in 1978. Of the 756 robberies where firearms were involved the great majority involved business property. The efforts directed against bank robberies during 1978 were continued and as a result there were only 21 bank robberies during 1979, one more than in the previous year, but 20 less than in 1977.

During the year 2,011 robberies and other violent thefts were cleared up, an increase of 1 per cent over 1978 and the clear up rate rose, for the second consecutive year, to 17 per cent. About 27 per cent of these clear ups were recorded when the offence was first reported and a further 26 per cent on the same day that the offence was reported. About 64 per cent of clear ups for robbery and other violent thefts were achieved by the arrest of a suspect rather than as a result of further charges, etc., against suspects already under arrest.

#### *Burglary*

This category excludes a small number of burglaries, 184 in 1979, where the victim was subjected to violence; these have been included in crimes of violence. There were 116,873 burglaries recorded, a 4 per cent decline compared with 1978 and the second consecutive annual decrease after the rise of 70 per cent between 1973 and 1977. The decline was greatest for the first two quarters of the year during which the figures were 5 per cent below the corresponding 1978 figures.

*Burglary by method and type of premises*

| Circumstances               | 1975   | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    |
|-----------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Forcible entry:             |        |         |         |         |         |
| In dwelling                 | 34,130 | 36,579  | 48,362  | 51,585  | 51,406  |
| In non-residential building | 32,427 | 34,632  | 45,912  | 44,461  | 40,040  |
| Walk-in:                    |        |         |         |         |         |
| In dwelling                 | 21,637 | 24,101  | 19,013  | 17,286  | 17,048  |
| In non-residential building | 5,947  | 11,613  | 9,893   | 7,795   | 8,289   |
| Total                       | 98,141 | 106,945 | 123,179 | 121,127 | 116,873 |

The table above shows that there was a slight fall in both forcible entry and walk-in burglaries of residential premises; these two categories accounted for 59 per cent of burglaries in 1979 compared with 57 per cent the previous year. The relative decline was greatest (10 per cent) among forcible entry burglaries of non-residential buildings which decreased for the second consecutive year. The only type of burglary to record an increase (6 per cent) was walk-in burglaries of non-residential premises; these offences had recorded a fall of 21 per cent in 1978 compared with 1977.

The number of burglaries cleared up was 12,623 giving a clear up rate of 11 per cent; this is slightly higher than in 1978 and the first time since 1975 that the clear up rate has not declined. The clear up rate for burglaries of residential premises of 9 per cent for both forcible entry and walk-in burglaries, was lower than for burglaries of non-residential buildings for which the clear up rates were 12 per cent (forcible entry) and 16 per cent (walk-in).

Of the 12,623 burglaries cleared up, 37 per cent were clear ups recorded at the same time that the offence was reported and the remaining 63 per cent were clear ups of initially undetected offences.

#### *Autocrime*

This category comprises thefts from vehicles and unauthorised taking or theft of motor vehicles or other conveyances (mainly bicycles). The table below shows that for the first time since 1975 the annual total for autocrime, 173,571, declined compared with the previous year. During the period 1975 to 1978 the number had increased by 21 per cent. Almost half of the total annual fall occurred during the first quarter of the year but the figure for the second quarter was, contrary to the general pattern for these offence categories which recorded a decrease in annual figures, higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1978.

*Autocrime by type of offence*

| Offence                               | 1975    | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Theft of motor vehicle*               | 15,978  | 18,172  | 20,539  | 22,068  | 24,706  |
| Unauthorised taking of motor vehicle* | 46,145  | 44,531  | 32,078  | 5,562   | 51,482  |
| Theft from vehicle                    | 20,862  | 20,304  | 21,735  | 21,877  | 18,077  |
| Moved                                 | 48,302  | 49,609  | 60,442  | 60,873  | 59,325  |
| Not moved                             | 15,445  | 18,040  | 10,612  | 15,177  | 10,581  |
| Theft of bicycle, etc.                |         |         |         |         |         |
| Total                                 | 146,552 | 150,656 | 174,479 | 177,297 | 173,571 |

\*Normally a car is regarded as stolen rather than taken without consent if it is not recovered within 30 days.

The percentage change in annual figures varied for the different types of autocrime. The largest percentage fall (16 per cent) was recorded for thefts from vehicles which had been moved. Other thefts from vehicles declined by 3 per cent and unauthorised taking by 6 per cent. These declines were entirely accounted for by offences relating to private vehicles whereas all types of offences concerning commercial vehicles increased by comparison with 1978; theft and unauthorised taking of commercial vehicles showed the greatest relative increase, of nearly 40 per cent, to about 4,600. Theft of private motor vehicles and bicycles, etc. were the only classes of autocrime offences involving private vehicles to increase.

During the year 15,934 autocrime offences were cleared up giving a clear up rate of 9 per cent, slightly lower than last year. The clear up rate was highest (17 per cent) for unauthorised taking which accounted for over half of all the autocrime clear ups recorded in 1979. The clear up rates for thefts from vehicles which had been moved and for thefts of bicycles and other conveyances were unchanged from last year at 4 per cent. Of the 15,934 autocrime clear ups 57 per cent were achieved at the same time that the offence was first reported and a further 24 per cent on the same day that the offence was reported.

#### *Other theft and handling*

Included here are all thefts other than violent theft, burglary or autocrime, which have been dealt with separately. In 1979 a quarter of all serious crime was "other theft and handling" and the total was 3 per cent below that for 1978. During the period 1975 to 1979 the growth of this type of crime was less than for serious crime generally and the annual total declined by 6 per cent in 1978; the number of "other theft and handling" offences recorded in 1979 was, therefore, only 1 per cent higher than in 1978. Over 80 per cent of the decline compared with 1978 took place during the first half of the year.

The number of pickpocket offences recorded was 2,447, a decline of 30 per cent compared with 1978, however, the total for all types of non-violent theft from the person was 3 per cent higher than in 1978. Of other theft of personal property, theft from offices showed the largest percentage change, an increase of 20 per cent. Compared with 1978 theft by an employee declined by 3 per cent and other theft of business or public property, including shoplifting, by 7 per cent.

The number of recorded offences of shoplifting (24,311) provides little indication of the prevalence of this offence. Offences generally come to notice only when an offender is apprehended—84 per cent of shoplifting offences which were recorded by the police were cleared up by an arrest at the time the offence took place. However, the falls in 1978 and 1979 in the number of recorded offences are a reversal of the trend of earlier years.

There were 21,945 clear ups of shoplifting offences amounting for nearly 20 per cent of all clear ups for serious crime during the year. For "other theft" apart from shoplifting and handling stolen goods 16,581 clear ups were recorded, a clear up rate of 16 per cent. The majority of these clear ups occurred at the time the offence was committed.

There were 6,876 offences of handling stolen goods recorded, 3 per cent less than in the previous year. The nature of this type of crime is such that almost all of the offences recorded were cleared up at the time the offence came to the notice of the police.

#### *Fraud and forgery*

The number of fraud and forgery offences recorded gives a particularly poor indication of their prevalence. It is thought that many offences of this type are not reported to the police and there are difficulties in attempting to count or classify these offences consistently as some are extremely complex. During 1979, 25,954 fraud and forgery offences were recorded, 13 per cent less than in 1978 and the lowest figure recorded in the past five years. Of the total, 46 per cent were cheque frauds, 48 per cent were other frauds and 6 per cent were forgeries. Almost all of the total fall was in the recorded number of cheque frauds which were 25 per cent less than in 1978 but changes in recording practice relating to cheque frauds recorded by the Central and Inner London Cheque Squads may account for a large part of this. Other types of fraud increased by 4 per cent compared with 1978 but forgery recorded a decline of 23 per cent.

A total of 15,544 offences were cleared up, a clear up rate of 60 per cent. As in 1978, three quarters of the clear ups occurred at the time the offence was reported.

#### *Criminal damage and miscellaneous offences*

This category includes all serious offences not included elsewhere. The great majority of these offences, over 90 per cent in recent years, are criminal damage. During the year 71,193 offences of causing criminal damage were recorded, an increase of 7 per cent. This continues the general upward trend for criminal damage over the past five years although the annual rate of increase is less than in any year during that period. Among the miscellaneous crimes there was a 4 per cent fall compared with 1978 in the number of non-violent sexual offences and a 2 per cent decline in going equipped to steal.

During the year 9,938 offences of criminal damage were cleared up giving a clear up rate similar to 1978 of 14 per cent. For non-violent sexual offences the clear up rate was 30 per cent generally and where the suspect and victim had been previously known to each other the clear up rate was 78 per cent. It is considered that many offences of this nature go unreported.

#### *Other crime*

The crimes included under this heading are those for which the Force completes crime reports but which the Home Office does not include in the statistics of serious offences recorded by the police. The numbers of these offences recorded tend to reflect the amount of police activity as well as changes in the numbers of offences occurring.

During 1979, 5,372 offences contrary to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 were recorded and 5,241 arrests were made for those offences, 80 per cent being of people aged 21 and over. The arrests included 160 people arrested for offences involving several different types of drug. Amongst the remainder were 84 people

arrested for offences involving cocaine and 248 for offences involving heroin. The great majority of the arrests, 4,190, were for offences involving cannabis only and 3,095 of these were for simple possession. There were 537 arrests for attempting to import or export cannabis: most of these arrests were made by Customs & Excise officers.

In addition to the 1,060 indictable assaults on police officers during the year, a further 1,114 non-indictable assaults occurred. The 1,311 cases of being a suspected person investigated during the year resulted in the arrest of 1,894 individuals. There were 3,718 cases of possessing offensive weapons during the year.

#### *Criminal Investigation Department*

Reference has already been made to some of the major trends in criminal activity and to the slight but encouraging fall in indictable crime. The following paragraphs give more detail of the work of various branches of the Criminal Investigation Department.

#### *Serious Crimes Branch*

The mixed team of CID officers and specially selected uniformed officers in the Dangerous Drug Squad is proving most effective and with the co-operation of the Drug Enforcement Section of HM Customs & Excise a number of major drug traffickers have been arrested and large quantities of drugs seized. The tragic shooting of Mr Peter Bennett, a customs officer, in the East End of London during an arrest is indicative of the dangers faced in this type of work.

The abnormally high number of cases of homicide (179 during the year) led to demands being made on the branch to provide assistance to districts. Officers from the Murder Squad conducted enquiries in a number of cases, the most notable of which led to a man pleading guilty at the Central Criminal Court to a total of six murders committed since 1974, and a further three persons being charged with murder.

#### *Metropolitan and City Police Company Fraud Branch*

The branch commenced 529 new enquiries during the year amongst which were 33 involving alleged corruption in the public sector. New methods of defrauding commercial companies and the public have come to light including the large-scale "pinning" of audio tapes and a variety of other proprietary products. Vast sums are being obtained as a result and these methods have already contributed to the demise of a number of well known companies.

#### *Flying Squad and No. 9 Regional Crime Squad*

The policy established last year of concentrating the main effort of the Flying Squad on the prevention and detection of commercial armed robberies has amply proved its worth. Armed attacks on security vehicles have been significantly reduced and a series of robberies at Building Society branch offices and Post Offices was successfully terminated by the arrest of those responsible.

The squad's activities resulted in the recovery of a large number of weapons, including 74 shotguns and 44 handguns used in the commission of serious crimes. Information supplied by resident informers has enabled many previously undetected crimes to be cleared up. During the year cash and other valuables amounting to more than £2 million were recovered.

The No. 9 Regional Crime Squad, in addition to working closely with the Central Robbery Squad, carried out many complicated enquiries and recovered cash and other property to the value of £1 million.

During the year many operations were organised centrally using district personnel, the Special Patrol Group and members of the Flying Squad and Regional Crime Squad. In the weeks before Christmas an anti-crime operation involving over 200 officers and 70 vehicles was carried out with notable success in areas where there was a high risk of robberies and serious street crimes being committed.

#### *Stolen Motor Vehicle Investigation Branch*

The branch's investigations have again been concentrated on the criminals who have specialised in stolen vehicles, in particular in importing high value vehicles stolen abroad and subsequently registering them in this country.

Enquiries from foreign forces doubled during the year and international co-operation through Interpol increased with beneficial results.

#### *Anti-Terrorist Branch*

In addition to the major terrorist investigations, in particular "Operation Otis" mentioned in Chapter 1, enquiries have been made into an explosion at the Turkish Airline offices, and a series of letter bombs sent from Belgium to prominent people in this country by the Provisional IRA. Undoubtedly the wide publicity given to the letters by the media helped to prevent death or injury being caused.

#### *Technical support*

The explosives officers of C7 Branch attended 1,216 incidents, a similar total to last year. Sixty-two hoax devices were dealt with; a number of these were again of highly realistic construction.

During the year the Equipment Unit was merged with a section of the Chief Engineer's Department to form a Technical Support Unit providing closer liaison between police and engineering staff.

During the year 75,527 scenes of crime were attended or examinations carried out by scenes of crime officers. From these, forensic evidence was found in 18,543 cases and finger or glove marks were found in 18,452 cases.

#### *Forensic Science Laboratory*

As in previous years, the work of the Laboratory has grown, both in the number of crime cases examined and in the number of specimens analysed in drinking and driving cases. The moves to conform with EEC regulations on tachographs have resulted in an upsurge of work on chart analysis.

#### Administration

The provision of evidence to the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure proved a major administrative task. In addition the department assisted in the setting up and monitoring of controlled experiments for the Commission. The statistical and conference section was redesignated C3 Branch, and assumed responsibility for the official interpreters' list and the public record search unit at Companies House.

#### Special Branch

The number of officers employed on Special Branch duties remains at 402.

The branch afforded personal protection to British and foreign dignitaries for a total of 18,295 man-days. This increase over 1978 resulted predominantly from the General Election campaign and the Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Conference. On behalf of the Home Office 1,404 naturalisation and registration cases were completed.

#### CID on districts

As part of the recommendations of the working party on the further review of the Force structure, centralisation of CID officers at divisional stations continued during the year. Some progress has been made in recruiting additional civilian staff to form divisional support groups, and to relieve operational CID officers of routine paper work. Officers are still faced with excessive case loads.

#### CHAPTER 5

### Traffic, Communications and Technical Support

#### Traffic

##### Accidents

During the year there were 50,308 accidents resulting in death or injury, a decrease of 3,390 (6 per cent) compared with the previous year, and the lowest annual recorded total for over 20 years. Although traffic levels were greatly reduced in the early part of the year by severe weather, they increased to a record volume in July, but averaged throughout the year traffic flows were similar to those recorded in 1978. Thus although accident totals fell substantially during the first quarter of the year, there was also a welcome reduction in every month (except October) and the overall decrease cannot therefore be attributed solely to the adverse winter weather. The numbers of accidents involving death, serious and slight injury in each of the 10 years up to and including 1979 are shown in Appendix 21, and the distribution of fatal and injury accidents by months, together with corresponding figures for 1978, is shown in Appendix 22.

Averaged over the year the number of accidents per day was 138. Once again Friday was the worst day for accidents and 5 to 6 p.m. remained the worst hour.

There is growing concern nationally at the increase in hit-and-run accidents. An examination in the Metropolitan Police District for the years 1977 and 1978 showed that the highest rates for hit-and-run accidents (22 per cent and 16 per cent respectively) coincided with the three hours after the afternoon and evening liquor licensing hours. This is particularly apparent during the weekend period. It is likely, therefore, that a proportion of cases of failing to stop after an accident result from the wish to avoid a possible charge of driving whilst unfit through drink or drugs, but as the problem is not confined solely to those times of day associated with liquor licensing hours, drink and driving is not necessarily the predominant factor in the increase in this class of offence.

In the following table the accident totals for bank holiday periods in 1979 are compared with those for the previous three years:—

|                               | 1979  | 1978  | 1977  | 1976  |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| New Year's Day .. .. .        | 39    | 70*   | 144   | 145   |
| Easter (Thurs-Mon) .. .. .    | 579   | 585   | 592   | 511   |
| May Day .. .. .               | 84    | 133   | —     | —     |
| Spring (Fri-Mon) .. .. .      | 551   | 543   | 525   | 530   |
| Late Summer (Fri-Mon) .. .. . | 431   | 427   | 542   | 477   |
| Christmas (23rd-27th) .. .. . | 555   | 501   | 700   | 633   |
| Total .. .. .                 | 2,239 | 2,259 | 2,503 | 2,296 |

\*New Year's Day was a Sunday, the day of the week on which least accidents occur.

Based on daily accident averages for 1979, a total of some 2,760 accidents would have been expected if the days during the bank holiday periods had been normal days.

#### *Accident characteristics*

Appendix 23 shows the type of location at which injury accidents occurred and the number of vehicles involved. Seven out of every 10 injury accidents occurred at or near a road junction of some kind and of these some 57 per cent were at a "T" or staggered junction. Twenty-one per cent of all accidents occurred on or within 50 yards of some form of pedestrian crossing.

An analysis of the various classes of vehicles involved in accidents is given in Appendix 24.

#### *Casualties*

Casualties by class of road user and degree of injury are shown in Appendix 25. A total of 62,210 persons were killed or injured in road accidents. This was 4,632 (7 per cent) less than in 1978. Deaths decreased by 103 (14 per cent) whilst serious and slight injuries fell by 570 (6 per cent) and 3,959 (7 per cent) respectively. The following table shows the number of persons killed among different classes of road user in 1979 and for the four preceding years:—

|                                  | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Pedestrians . . . . .            | 347  | 367  | 373  | 377  | 349  |
| Pedal cyclists . . . . .         | 31   | 39   | 34   | 40   | 38   |
| Motor cyclists* . . . . .        | 102  | 111  | 98   | 109  | 79   |
| Drivers and passengers . . . . . | 173  | 239  | 213  | 233  | 241  |
| All road users . . . . .         | 653  | 756  | 718  | 759  | 707  |

\*"Motor cyclists" includes all riders of two-wheeled motor vehicles and combinations.

Traffic counts carried out during the summer showed an increase in the number of pedal cycles on the road but the number of two-wheeled motor vehicles was lower than that recorded in 1978. This explains to some extent the rising number of pedal cyclists who were injured on the roads (although not fatally) and the reduction in motor cycle casualties. It would also seem that the "Ride Bright" campaign mentioned in last year's Report and the recent training campaign are continuing to have a good effect.

#### *Child casualties*

A further welcome reduction in the number of children (under 15 years of age) killed or injured is reflected in the total of 7,933, a decrease of 791 (9 per cent). Full details are shown in Appendix 26. Compared with 1978, child pedestrian casualties decreased by 540 (10 per cent) but child pedal cycle casualties increased by 42 (3 per cent). Other child casualties (mostly passengers in motor cars) decreased by 293 (14 per cent). Some 13 per cent of all child casualties were under school age.

The following table compares the index numbers for child casualties since 1972 with the index numbers for the estimated child population. The base year for the index numbers has been taken as 1972 (i.e. 1972 = 100).

| Year           | Child casualties | Estimated child population |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1972 . . . . . | 100              | 100                        |
| 1973 . . . . . | 90               | 97                         |
| 1974 . . . . . | 81               | 95                         |
| 1975 . . . . . | 77               | 95                         |
| 1976 . . . . . | 75               | 93                         |
| 1977 . . . . . | 77               | 90                         |
| 1978 . . . . . | 72               | 88                         |
| 1979 . . . . . | 66               | 87                         |

As can be seen, between 1972 and 1979 child casualties declined at a rate two and a half times greater than that at which the child population declined.

#### *Accident prevention*

##### *Application of accident intelligence*

Except when they were engaged in other duties during the ambulancemen's strike in the early part of the year, teams of the Accident Prevention Unit directed their attention to locations of high accident risk and to road user behaviour most likely to cause accidents. In December the teams were assigned to main suburban shopping centres of high accident risk where, in addition to their normal role, they helped maintain traffic flow in the busy pre-Christmas shopping period.

During the year, officers of the Accident Prevention Unit dealt with some 250,000 people for offences and thoughtless behaviour on the roads—mostly by word of advice. As in 1978 prosecution was considered necessary in only 7 per cent of these cases.

#### *Traffic management*

##### *General*

During 1979, the Greater London Council made 459 Traffic Management Orders, a decrease of 89 from the 1978 figure of 548. Of this total 147 (204 in 1978) were for prescribed routes, 113 (177) for waiting and loading restrictions, 66 (71) for parking places, 13 (24) for bus lanes, 35 (27) for bus stop clearways and 8 (20) for bans on overnight street parking of lorries.

##### *Environmental measures*

Experience has shown the difficulty of obtaining effective enforcement in respect of schemes which rely on signs alone and which prohibit entry except for access. Although final results are not yet available, early indications of an experiment are that a scheme is more successful from an enforcement, environmental and traffic management point of view if the scheme imposes a total prohibition on entry at one particular point, but allows alternative access to the protected area to be gained at some other point which is less attractive to through traffic.

#### *Blackwall Tunnel experiment*

In conjunction with the Greater London Council, a major traffic management experiment was conducted at Blackwall Tunnel in August and again in September. The experiment was designed to provide short-term relief from the severe morning delays on the south side of the tunnel and the results are now being evaluated by a joint working group.

#### *Automatic traffic signals*

Traffic signals were installed at 62 new sites and four existing sets of signals were removed. The net increase of 58 sets brought the total number in operation in the Metropolitan Police District to 2,052. Of the 62 new sets, 46 were at "pelican" crossings.

#### *Deployment of traffic wardens*

Despite an intensive recruiting campaign in the autumn, the high wastage rate in the traffic warden service mentioned in Chapter 1 continued.

At the end of the year the strength of the traffic warden service (including 52 wardens employed at Heathrow Airport) was 1,099, compared with 1,342 at the end of 1978. The total was made up as follows:—

|  | Men | Women | Total |
|--|-----|-------|-------|
| Divisional traffic warden controllers .. | 3   | 1     | 4     |
| Senior traffic warden controllers ..     | 10  | 4     | 14    |
| Traffic warden controllers ..            | 11  | 28    | 39    |
| Traffic warden supervisors ..            | 76  | 99    | 175   |
| Traffic wardens ..                       | 263 | 604   | 867   |
| All grades ..                            | 363 | 736   | 1,099 |

The decrease in the number of traffic wardens precluded any significant change in the policy of concentrating warden resources mainly within controlled parking zones. Some redeployment of wardens from suburban controlled parking zones where compliance is good to restricted streets in other areas was possible, but most restricted areas outside the zones continued to receive only sporadic attention.

The enforcement of the bans on night lorry parking was also affected due to a lack of volunteers to form the necessary teams. As a result some areas received only occasional enforcement while others had the amount of attention reduced to spread the enforcement effort more evenly.

An enforcement experiment was conducted in part of Soho in September when traffic wardens and vehicle removal officers worked closely together to keep critical roads in the area clear. It is proposed to introduce this method of working permanently in the West End and to conduct a similar experiment in a suburban area.

#### *Controlled parking*

As stated in Chapter 1, the Greater London Council and the London boroughs have maintained their helpful attitude by not introducing new parking control schemes although several schemes are in an advanced state of preparation should enforcement capability improve. A number of boroughs made major amendments to existing zones involving changes in parking provision.

#### *Tourist coaches*

Although the amount of tourist coach traffic remained high, a slight decrease from the previous year was again recorded. The problem of providing suitable and sufficient off-street parking space in central London for coaches remains as potential sites are lost to building development but the additional coach meters mentioned in last year's Report were installed during the year and good use was made of the majority. The enforcement of parking regulations on the increasing number of foreign coach drivers continues to present difficulty but without a change in legislation a significant improvement in the position is unlikely.

The scheme to monitor the movement of coaches carrying football supporters has proved successful and the collation and dissemination of information has been extended to cover other forms of travel. The general arrangements which have now been developed in this scheme are being used to advantage in assisting other forces as well as ourselves in policing areas where football supporters are present in large numbers.

#### *Cab ranks*

Three new cab ranks were appointed; 16 existing ranks were altered; and 15 ranks were cancelled with the prior agreement of the cab trade. At the end of the year the number of ranks totalled 513 and these provided 2,455 cab spaces, a decrease of 154 from the previous year's figure.

#### *School crossing patrols*

At the end of the year the number of school crossings approved for supervision was 1,767. This was eight fewer than at the end of 1978, approval having been given for 18 new crossings and withdrawn in respect of 26 places, including 11 controlled by police, where supervision was no longer required. Following a review of crossings supervised by police, 18 were reclassified for supervision by civilian patrols. The total of crossings supervised by police was thus reduced to 27, compared with 56 in the previous year and that for crossings supervised by civilian patrols was increased from 1,719 to 1,740.

At 31st December the number of adult patrols was 1,256 and a further 21 crossings were covered by senior boys and girls from schools. There was therefore a deficiency of 463 civilian patrols compared with 406 at the end of the previous year. Continued efforts made to recruit additional patrols during the year met with little success. Thames Television featured the recruiting problem in its "Help" programme but despite an encouraging initial response the final result was disappointing.

## Traffic offences

### General

Information about the number of persons proceeded against for traffic offences is given under the heading "Court proceedings" in Chapter 3 and in Appendix 12.

Statistics relating to traffic offences which were dealt with by proceedings or disposed of by formal caution during the year, and comparisons with 1978, are set out in Appendix 27.

### Proceedings for causing death by reckless driving

In 1979 proceedings at magistrates' courts were completed in respect of 11 offences of causing death by reckless or dangerous driving, compared with 30 in 1978, and all but one were sent for trial. The crown courts tried 34 offences in 1979, including some outstanding from the previous year, and 29 convictions were recorded. In 1978 there were 77 trials and 53 convictions.

### Drink and driving

During the year 13,606 prosecutions were undertaken at magistrates' and juvenile courts for offences of driving or attempting to drive or being in charge of a motor vehicle either when unfit to drive through drink or drugs, or with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit. The corresponding figure for 1978 was 11,821. There were 10,520 convictions in 1979 (9,009 in 1978). As a result of the implementation of Section 15 of the Criminal Law Act 1977 all offences committed on or after 17th July 1978 are now dealt with summarily. A total of 616 offences, which took place before 17th July 1978, were dealt with at crown courts in 1979 and 394 convictions were recorded. Sentences at all courts for 1979 included 263 terms of imprisonment (253 in 1978) and 223 suspended sentences (185). Periods of disqualification were imposed in 9,484 cases (8,417).

Details of the results of breath tests and analyses of blood or urine specimens are shown in Appendix 28.

### Disqualifications

Disqualification from driving was ordered for 18,486 traffic offences compared with 18,397 in 1978.

### Fixed penalty and excess charge tickets

The number of traffic tickets issued during the year was 1,958,388. Of these 1,561,120 were fixed penalty notices, an increase of 61,486 (4 per cent) compared with the 1978 figure and 397,268 were excess charge notices issued at parking meters, which are supervised by traffic wardens on behalf of local authorities. The latter figure was 140,949 (55 per cent) higher than in 1978. The issue rate for excess charge notices in 1978 was particularly low because of industrial action taken by traffic wardens during the latter part of that year. Details of fixed penalty notices issued in 1979 are shown by offences in the table at Appendix 29. Police have no information about the payment of excess charges or processing of excess charge notices as these are matters for local authorities.

The disposal of the 1,561,120 fixed penalty notices issued in 1979 and the balance outstanding from 1978 is shown in the table below:—

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Balance outstanding from 1978            | 144,796          |
| Enforceable issue in 1979 (see note (a)) | 1,401,743        |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>1,546,539</b> |

### Disposed of as follows:—

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Paid (see note (b))  | 877,611          |
| Cancellation by administrative decision (see note (c))                       | 136,904          |
| Offender not identified within the time limit for proceedings (see note (d)) | 168,317          |
| Listed for summonses (see note (e))  | 130,752          |
| Balance outstanding at end of year   | 232,955          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>1,546,539</b> |

### Notes

- The number issued (1,561,120) less the number subsequently cancelled (159,377) because they were unenforceable, e.g. the recipient was entitled to diplomatic immunity or was an overseas visitor who had left the country or the owner could not be identified because the vehicle carried a foreign registration mark.
- Payments for fixed penalty notices issued during or after July 1979 may be received in 1980.
- The reasons for cancellation were: there were errors in the notices; the issuing officers had left the service or were otherwise unavailable to give evidence; no information was available to identify the owner; representations by the recipients of the notices were acceptable.
- There was either no reply at all to the enquiry of the vehicle registration authority or the information was given so late or proved to be so out of date that there was insufficient time to complete the procedure within the six months' limit for laying of informations.
- Includes the number of cases reaching court and the number which should result in proceedings but final achievement is subject to the successful laying of informations and the availability of manpower at the Central Ticket Office and court time.

### Traffic District

The year saw a change of nomenclature from Traffic Division to Traffic District and the transfer of the Traffic Control staff to the communications branch.

On 31st December the police strength of the district was 992 against an establishment of 1,289. In addition there were 1,241 civil staff, including 1,099 traffic wardens and 69 vehicle removal officers.

The number of abnormal load movements notified to police rose from 22,543 to 23,512 and the number in which the loads were accompanied by police rose from 984 to 1,026.

#### Removal of vehicles

In exercise of their powers under the Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations 1968, police removed or caused to be removed to pounds or police stations 63,505 vehicles which had been left in a dangerous or obstructive position or in contravention of a statutory prohibition or restriction. This was 15,570 more than in 1978.

#### Public Carriage Office

##### Cabs

The number of cabs in service on 31st December was 12,267, a decrease of 186 from the previous year. This is the first occasion for many years on which a fall in the number of cabs in service has been reported. These cabs were operated by 7,643 different owners compared with 7,701 owners in 1978. Of these owners, 7,170 owned only one cab and nine operated fleets of 100 or more cabs. The number of cabs fitted with two-way radio increased from 2,684 in 1978 to 2,861 in 1979.

The number of new cabs licensed for the first time was 1,143 which was 316 fewer than in the previous year. Cabs with diesel engines accounted for 99 per cent of the total number licensed.

The number of cabs found unfit in service was 3,963 compared with 3,415 in 1978. Defective tyres, poor bodywork and the emission of excessive smoke were again the most common defects reported.

The number of taximeter tests carried out was 18,209 compared with 17,834 in 1978. Some 45 per cent of cabs in London are now fitted with electronic taximeters.

##### Cab drivers

During the year 5,855 cab drivers' licences were issued compared with 5,742 in 1978 and 5,559 in 1977; 108 applications for licences were refused. Revocations and suspensions of existing licences numbered 29 and 41 respectively. On 31st December there were 17,076 licensed cab drivers compared with 16,740 a year earlier.

Cab driving tests totalled 824, or 74 more than in 1978. There were 146 failures, representing a failure rate of 18 per cent compared with 13 per cent in the previous year. The number of persons applying for the first time to take the knowledge of London examination was 1,636, or 764 fewer than in 1978. Attendances for oral examination decreased from 20,299 in 1978 to 18,429. The number of successful candidates was 725, compared with 688 in the previous year; this total includes candidates who were granted suburban licences and 30 suburban drivers who qualified for full London licences.

#### Offences by cab drivers

During the year, 492 persons were proceeded against at magistrates' courts and 185 were cautioned in writing under the special laws relating to London cab drivers. The number of summonses and convictions for the more serious offences involved are shown in the table below. The standard of conduct of most cab drivers remains high.

| Offence                                      | 1978             |                    | 1979             |                    |
|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
|  | No. of summonses | No. of convictions | No. of summonses | No. of convictions |
| Taximeter offences                           | 74               | 68                 | 41               | 38                 |
| Disregarding cab rank regulations            | 51               | 47                 | 78               | 63                 |
| Refusing to be hired*                        | 195              | 74                 | 105              | 79                 |
| Failing to wear a badge                      | 73               | 67                 | 52               | 49                 |
| Flying clew-bore than a rank                 | 127              | 118                | 100              | 96                 |
| Demanding or taking more than the legal fare | 18               | 13                 | 13               | 12                 |
| Using insulting language                     | 25               | 20                 | 37               | 24                 |
| Carrying excess passengers                   | 4                | 4                  | —                | —                  |

\*Includes refusing hiring on and off ranks.

#### Drivers and conductors of public service vehicles

During the year 9,657 drivers' licences were issued, compared with 10,204 in 1978 and 10,200 in 1977; 28 applications for licences were refused. Revocations and suspensions of existing licences numbered 39 and 34 respectively. Examiners of the Public Carriage Office conducted 633 driving tests during the year. There were 285 failures, representing a failure rate of 45 per cent compared with 37 per cent in 1978.

The number of licences issued to conductors was 4,236 compared with 4,551 in 1978 and 3,935 in 1977. Three applications for licences were refused and there were eight revocations of existing licences.

#### Police transport

At the end of the year the transport fleet consisted of the following vehicles:—

##### Police section

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Cars, vans etc. | 2,171 |
| Motor cycles    | 428   |
|                 | 2,599 |

##### Support services

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Cars, coaches, vans etc. including spare vehicles | 1,028 |
| Total   | 3,627 |

At 31st December 3,109 police officers were authorised to use their private cars on duty, an increase of 18 from the previous year's figure. In addition, 282 officers were temporarily authorised during the year to use their private cars for special enquiries.



### *Accidents*

Police operational vehicles were involved in 3,777 accidents of all kinds on the highway. The mileage per accident was 11,193 for cars, 10,736 for motor cycles and 11,169 for the whole of this part of the fleet. After detailed investigation police drivers were held to be entirely or partly to blame for 1,167 accidents, giving a mileage per blameworthy accident of 35,833 for cars, 43,582 for motor cycles and 36,150 for all operational vehicles.

One police officer received fatal injuries in an accident involving a police vehicle.

### *Communications*

#### *Command and Control*

Reference is made in Chapter 1 to the planned computerised system of Command and Control for the Force. During the year the experimental computer-aided dispatch system dealt with 169,439 transactions, 155,645 in an operational role and 12,794 for training purposes. To assist planning for the central computer of the Command and Control system the Information Room, Traffic Control Radio Room and Area Traffic Control were placed under the same command.

#### *Telephone network*

Improvements to the Metropolitan Police telephone network were the subject of continued planning during the year. The automatic telephone system at Catford police station referred to in last year's Report was taken into use. Implementation of the scheme at Croydon police station to provide facilities for "2" District was delayed by technical difficulties beyond our control. It is expected that the matter will be resolved in 1980.

#### *Information Room*

During the year 1,032,266 telephone messages were received in the Information Room of which 233,968 were ordinary calls from members of the public and police establishments and 798,298 were emergency ("999") calls. These totals represented a decrease of 238,925 and an increase of 49,003 respectively compared with the previous year's figures.

#### *Police National Computer—computer terminal bureau*

A total of 424,946 transactions were processed in the computer terminal bureau in the Information Room on behalf of the Force, a decrease of 57,322 compared with 1978. The decrease reflects the increased use of divisional terminals which give direct on-line access to the computer records.

#### *Automatic alarms*

At the end of the year 41,203 alarm installations of the type which operate automatically over the emergency public telephone system were recorded as being located in the Metropolitan Police District. The number of new installations notified to police in 1979 was 2,098 and 99 existing installations were

removed. In all, 92,142 calls were received from this type of installation compared with 92,189 in 1978. The total includes 74 maintenance calls as well as test calls from new installations which have to be answered but are not included in the false call statistics. In 322 cases (390 in 1978) the calls resulted from actual or attempted burglaries.

A further 85,228 calls were received during the year from alarm systems connected directly to commercial control stations operated by alarm companies and relayed to Information Room on a direct telephone line. Of these calls, 240 resulted from actual or attempted burglaries, compared with 224 in 1978.

The total number of calls received from the two types of alarm systems was therefore 177,370 of which 174,636 were false calls.

By the end of the year police response had been withdrawn from some 500 premises in view of the continuing high rate of false calls. The efforts of the burglar alarm inspectorate are now directed towards inspecting and reporting upon the quality of installations before consideration is given to restoring police response where systems have been troublesome.

#### *Teleprinters*

The number of outstations operating on the Metropolitan Police teleprinter network in either two-way or reception-only mode was increased from 241 to 243. During the year the total number of messages dealt with in the Telegraph Office concerning districts amounted to 1,532,939 a decrease of 42,569 compared with 1978. A total of 113,251 telex messages were dealt with by the Telegraph Office, 1,507 fewer than in 1978.

#### *Radio*

At the end of the year the number of vehicles and river craft fitted with Force radio was 3,129, compared with 3,118 in 1978. The number of personal radio networks in use by the Force increased by one to 87. The number of personal radio sets in use rose from 7,553 in 1978 to 7,974. Of this total, 5,330 were of the new type of set introduced in the replacement programme.

#### *Interpol communications*

The United Kingdom Interpol radio station message traffic increased with a total of 38,987 messages being processed (34,606 in 1978).

Of this number, 19,083 messages were received and 19,904 transmitted to other member countries; the corresponding figures for 1978 being 17,126 and 17,480 respectively. In addition a further 8,853 (7,340 in 1978) messages concerning the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO) were exchanged with other United Kingdom forces.

The ICPO picture telegraphy network was extended during the course of the year by the installation of phototelegraphic equipment by Interpol Luxembourg and Interpol Tunis. The Interpol radio station in London can now exchange photographic copies of fingerprints, photographs or other documents with the Interpol bureaux of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia and West Germany.

The number of international radio stations operating for the exclusive use of ICPO increased by two to 56.

#### **Helicopters**

Direct assistance to ground units in operational police work was given in answering 1,633 emergency calls, compared with 2,035 in 1978, and this participation resulted in the arrest of 246 persons (339 in 1978). A total of 1,317 hours were flown, a decrease of 54 hours compared with the previous year.

#### **Technical support**

##### *National Criminal Record Office*

After the innovations and changes in procedure of recent years mainly involving the operational running of the Police National Computer, indexes and the conversion of records to a total microfiche system based on microfiche, the year was one primarily of refinement and consolidation of the systems currently operating within the Office.

In May the Central Conference Committee on Criminal Information Systems endorsed a proposal to introduce a system of reporting recordable offences to the National Office only. Particulars of non-recordable offences will be retained by individual forces. A trial to test the capability of the National Office for this task began in October and initial indications are that it will be able to meet all forces' requirements, when conversion to a total microfiche system is complete.

##### *Fingerprints*

In 1979, 487,462 searches were made in the national fingerprint collection, resulting in 285,456 identifications.

In August, the second stage of the videofile fingerprint information system, involving the female national fingerprint collection was taken into operation for routine comparison purposes.

The system referred to in last year's Report of checking scenes of crime marks against the fingerprint information held in the Police National Computer produced 102 crime identifications. The scenes of crime section produced 7,569 positive identifications from finger marks taken from scenes of crime. This total, the highest ever achieved, represented a 12 per cent increase over 1978.

#### **Missing persons**

A total of 6,538 juveniles and vulnerable adults were recorded in the index as missing, compared with 6,302 in 1978. Of these, 367 boys and 226 girls were under the age of 14 years and 1,066 boys and 1,933 girls were between the ages of 14 and 17 years. The total includes all those reported missing during the year together with those from previous years who have not been traced or identified. Some of these were first reported missing over 20 years ago. The term "vulnerable adults" includes the elderly, the sick or those whose manner of disappearance gave cause for special concern.

At the end of the year, 489 persons were recorded as still missing from the Metropolitan Police District, the largest category being 140 girls aged between 14 and 17 years (135 last year).

In addition, 1,621 adults not classified as vulnerable were recorded as missing from the Metropolitan Police District of whom 455 were still missing at the end of the year. Approximately 13,000 other persons were reported missing but were found before their disappearance was fully recorded centrally.

Of the total of 6,538 juveniles and vulnerable adults recorded as missing, 2,914 were persons included in the index at the request of provincial and overseas forces, compared with 2,001 in 1978. At the end of the year 1,181 of these were recorded as still missing, the largest category being 726 males in the 18 years and over age group.

The experimental use of dental records to help identify bodies began in March. The indications are that this technique will prove valuable not only in the positive identification of deceased persons but also in saving time by positively excluding persons whose dental pattern does not match that of the deceased.

## CHAPTER 6

### Specialist and Support Functions

#### Solicitor's Department

For the first time since 1974 the total number of cases conducted by the department fell slightly: increases in most categories of prosecutions were counterbalanced by a reduction of 10 per cent in the number of traffic cases, resulting in a decrease of 1 per cent in the overall figures. There was no reduction in the receipt of work formerly undertaken by the Director of Public Prosecutions and the department continued to undertake a substantial number of civil litigation cases.

Following the procedural changes referred to last year, whereby certain offences can no longer be committed for trial and others can now be tried summarily instead of being triable only at the crown courts, there was a marked reduction in the number of cases committed to the crown courts. Nevertheless, the number of occasions on which the department had to provide legal representation in cases heard in courts of summary jurisdiction was significantly higher than might have been expected as a result of these changes and an augmentation of 10 posts for solicitors was authorised during the year to meet the increasing workload in this area. With more solicitors available to undertake advocacy in these courts, it is hoped to achieve a saving in the fees now paid to barristers to act on behalf of the department in summary cases. The establishment of the department is now 69 solicitors and 200 non-professional staff.

Details of the work for the year are given in the table below:

|   | 1978   | 1979   | Comparison |
|---|--------|--------|------------|
| Total number of cases   | 36,315 | 35,936 | -379       |
| Traffic cases (including 'drink' and 'driving offences')          | 8,541  | 8,042  | -499       |
| Committals to crown courts  | 15,776 | 15,939 | +163       |
| Appeals to crown courts   | 3,061  | 2,896  | -165       |
| Appeals to Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) and House of Lords | 100    | 105    | +5         |
| Attendances at courts of summary jurisdiction                     | 25,507 | 27,535 | +2,028     |
| High Court writs  | 63     | 60     | -3         |
| County court actions  | 31     | 39     | +8         |
| Divisional court cases:   |        |        |            |
| Continued   | 54     | 33     | -21        |
| Discontinued  | 11     | 5      | -6         |
| Concluded   | 9      | 10     | +1         |

Only four of the extra crown courts planned for the London area to reduce the arrears of work were opened in 1979, but more are expected to be operating by the middle of 1980.

#### Force Inspectorate

The first inspection by the Force Inspectorate, that of "F" District, commenced in February 1979. The branch has since completed inspections of a further six districts and 17 specialist branches in "A", "B", "C" and "D" Districts. The Inspector of the Force, a Deputy Assistant Commissioner, under the personal direction of the Deputy Commissioner, is maintaining a schedule to achieve inspection of the whole Force within the next two years and on a regular basis thereafter. In view of the size of this commitment, in November an additional chief superintendent post was authorised and a small civilian support team established to assist with the administration. Close co-operation is maintained with other departments responsible for staff inspection, audit, operational research and organisation and method studies within the Force as well as with HM Inspectorate of Constabulary.

#### Management Services Department

Studies of the potential use of computer systems form an increasing part of the department's work. At the end of the year assessments of user requirements had been completed or were at an advanced stage in relation to General Registry, record keeping in the telephone section of the Chief Engineer's Department, marking and analysis of training school examination papers, information retrieval for major criminal investigations, the management of police residential quarters, the catering staff payroll and the method index of the Criminal Record Office. A feasibility study was in progress concerning the development of a computerised index for stolen objects d'art to complement that for stolen paintings which has operated successfully for four years and a major review of the possible applications for micro-computers and micro-processors in the Metropolitan Police was being undertaken.

The department continued to support the Command and Control project; assistance was given with the evaluation of the experimental system operating on "Y" District to determine in particular the functions, staffing and layout of divisional control rooms in the final system. Further work was carried out to define the requirements for a computerised system to improve the deployment and management of the resources available to deal with public incidents.

The department is examining a number of management information systems in parallel with the Command and Control project and good progress has been made in studies of crime reporting and the crime statistics procedures whereby the manual processes may be reduced significantly and the operational value of the information enhanced.

Studies into the provision of administrative support for divisional CID have continued using the experimental CID Support Group on "M" District. The review of post-arrest procedures, also referred to last year, has progressed satisfactorily and recommendations for a number of procedural changes are being made.

Further work in the Criminal Record Office included a study of the need for publications such as the Police Gazette, now that access is available to the wanted index on the Police National Computer. Following the decision to extend the use of microfiche for criminal records, some of the subsequent changes have been monitored by the department.

Organisation and method studies of the registry services and police recruiting procedures were completed. Amongst other completed studies were a review of the procedures for handling exhibits within the Laboratory and a pilot study into the work of best crimes officers. The latter identified a number of areas requiring more detailed study. Work commenced on a number of feasibility studies for word processor equipment, the re-design of the accident report book, and a study of the role and function of crime prevention officers.

Evaluation of the social studies element of the recruits' courses has been completed and a number of modifications proposed. The department is still assisting in the review of all aspects of the selection and training of police officers.

A total of 354 suggestions were submitted through the Force Suggestion Scheme, a reduction of 13 compared with 1978. Of these 16 were adopted and 146 rejected leaving 192 outstanding at the end of the year. During the year consideration of 180 suggestions submitted before 1979 was completed. Of these 48 were adopted and 132 rejected. The adjudicating committee at its meeting in November considered 17 suggestions and made awards totalling £235 to the originators of 13 of these.

A total of 34 civil staff suggestions were submitted during the year, of which six were accepted and nine rejected. Consideration of six suggestions received before 1979 was completed and at the end of the year 56 suggestions were still outstanding. The adjudicating committee at its meeting in October considered nine suggestions and made awards totalling £1,120 including individual awards of £470 and £300.

#### Public Information Department

This year saw the culmination of the department's two years of planning for the 150th anniversary celebrations, the work for which was undertaken in addition to the news and publicity services normally provided. Following a review of the department, a restructuring of its functions was announced in March and the changes included the allocation of additional staff resources to the area press and publicity officers and the creation of a secretariat to meet the department's increasing administrative and financial responsibilities.

#### *The 150th anniversary celebrations*

Special efforts were made to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Metropolitan Police in a wide variety of events, both official and informal.

On 8th May, the "Police 150" historical exhibition, sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Museums Advisory Board, was opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra in the Special Exhibitions Hall of the Museum of London in the presence of senior representatives of the Home Office, the Department of Education and Science, the Greater London Council, the Corporation of the City of London and the Museum of London. The exhibition, which formed a comprehensive presentation of the history of the Force, included original equipment and uniforms, cartoons, portraits and quotations, many on display for the first time, and authentic reconstructions of police scenes.

Later in the year the Force presented the Metropolitan Police 150th Anniversary Tattoo at the Wembley Arena. Specialist branch displays, gymnastics and historical scenes tracing the development of the Metropolitan Police were performed by a cast of police officers, cadets and civilian staff. The tattoo was presented on five evenings and at two matinees in October before audiences totalling 60,000. A 40-minute television programme of the event was made and subsequently televised by the BBC.

The Police National Day was celebrated on 29th September, the anniversary of the day Metropolitan Police officers first took up their duties on the streets of London in 1829. The occasion was promoted by arranging open days at 18 police stations. Similar events were held throughout the year to underline the important role of the police in the communities they serve. Many thousands of people took the opportunity to visit these police stations to meet their local police.

Other activities to commemorate the anniversary in which the department was involved included the Service of Thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey; the celebration march contest organised by the London Evening News and Chappell & Co. Ltd.; and the issue of four commemorative stamps by the Post Office. Assistance was also given during the year to the production of two histories of the Force: "The Queen's Peace" by David Aspell and an illustrated history published by the British Tourist Authority.

#### *News and press information*

Although the Press Bureau dealt less with specific news stories during the year, many enquiries were directed to the Bureau as a result of major events involving the Force. Increased demands were made on the News Group for interview and filming facilities, many of them in connection with the 150th anniversary celebrations.

#### *Area Press and Publicity Officers*

As part of the general reorganisation following the review of the Force structure, the area press and publicity officers were deployed as a part of the Area DACs' resources but overall responsibility remained with the Director of Information for the dissemination of news and for publicity. Local changes proposed by the review gave rise once more to rumour and public speculation about police station closures and many press conferences were arranged for district commanders to allay local fears.

In pursuance of the Force's open policy towards the press, the station press liaison officer scheme, which operates under the guidance of the area press and publicity officers, has provided a useful service for local press reporters.

#### *Radio and television*

Appeals for assistance by press officers on the three London local radio stations led to a number of arrests, the recovery of stolen property and the tracing or identification of witnesses and missing persons.

The number of cases featured in the London Weekend Television programme "Police 5" (summarised in Appendix 50) fell because of the 11-week strike of ITV technicians but at the end of the year the successful results were only marginally less than those of 1978.

#### *Traffic warden publicity*

The post of traffic warden press and publicity officer was re-established in February after a lapse of nearly three years. Publicity was given to the shortage of traffic wardens and the importance of the work; press releases were written for the local press; and features produced for radio and television on training methods and London's parking problems. A revised version of the "Parking in London" booklet was printed and distributed at the end of the year.

#### *Recruitment publicity*

Recruitment advertising designed to meet the increasing interest in the Metropolitan Police as a career appeared in the southern editions of the national press, armed services periodicals and leading careers directories. Regular use of local radio for police and cadet recruitment advertising provided a good response and publicity campaigns were mounted in support of the careers section's tours in the provinces and at local job centres throughout London.

#### *Traffic Department publicity*

The Metropolitan Police roadcraft exhibition was seen at many locations throughout the Metropolitan Police District and proved to be particularly popular at the Royal Tournament where it was visited by His Royal Highness The Prince Andrew. Displays were also provided at four motor cycle open days organised at Traffic Division garages.

#### *CID appeals publicity*

During the year 32 sets of posters and leaflets appealing to potential witnesses to come forward in connection with enquiries into serious crimes were produced. Many of these contributed to the progress and successful outcome of the enquiries.

#### *General publicity*

A total of 78 exhibitions and local displays were arranged of which 23 were directly associated with the 150th anniversary celebrations. Of the remainder, nine were mounted on behalf of the Community Relations Branch on general police subjects.

A new documentary film "Police Station", produced by the department, received a gold award in the public service category from the British Industrial and Scientific Film Association. Production also started on a new short documentary film designed to inform potential recruits about the recruitment selection process and the initial training period at the Peel Centre. This film will be shown in cinemas around the country and it is hoped that it will help to reduce unsuitable enquiries and premature wastage during the early weeks of service.

#### *Visitors*

Of the 3,937 official visitors to the Force, 137 police officers and officials from 59 countries requested special facilities or periods of attachment varying from one day to five months.

#### *Civil staff*

A total of 15,653 civil staff were employed at 31st December, comprising the following broad groups:—

|  | <i>Full-time staff</i> | <i>Part-time or casual staff</i> |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| General administration and support staff in headquarters departments | 4,424                  | —                                |
| Professional, technical and scientific staff                         | 1,594                  | —                                |
| Industrial workers in garages, maintenance depots, etc.              | 1,305                  | —                                |
| Catering staff (including industrial grades)                         | 1,084                  | 370                              |
| Office and other support staff in districts                          | 2,288                  | 291                              |
| Traffic warden grades  | 1,099                  | —                                |
| Cleaning staff   | 480                    | 1,293                            |
| School crossing patrols  | —                      | 1,256                            |
| Miscellaneous  | —                      | 169                              |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>12,274</b>          | <b>3,379</b>                     |

I have referred in Chapter 1 to the disappointments experienced during the year in recruiting and retaining staff. Despite the efforts to attract more recruits to the Office, wastage continued at a high rate and at the end of 1979 there was a net gain of only 162. The traffic warden service was most severely affected, which, largely as the result of a protracted dispute over pay, suffered an overall decrease in its numbers of over 240 wardens. Some progress was made, however, with the implementation of schemes for employing civil staff in place of police officers performing administrative tasks in districts and thereby releasing the officers for operational duties.

Easing of the staffing restrictions imposed from 1974 onwards made it possible to reintroduce a programme of career development for civil staff. A new branch established for this purpose has concentrated initially on staff in the administrative, executive and clerical grades; visits being made to all headquarters branches. Career development will later be extended to staff in districts and to professional, technical and other specialist staff throughout the Office.

Three new courses have been introduced by the civil staff training branch: a seminar on industrial relations, a seminar on staff selection and a traffic warden management course. A total of 1,772 civil staff officers attended 18 different types of training courses. Training on short courses, external courses and specialist seminars also continued together with assistance to staff in undertaking academic studies, including Open University courses.

### Honours

Details of honours and awards received by members of the civil staff are included in Appendix 8.

### Changes among senior officers

Details of changes which took place involving senior civil staff are included in Appendix 10.

### Finance

Expenditure incurred by the Metropolitan Police is met principally by Government grants and by a precept levied on local authorities within the Metropolitan Police District. In 1978/79 the sum received from each of these sources was £146 million and £159 million respectively; other receipts amounted to £46 million. Most of the expenditure (about £343 million) was met from revenue, but capital projects, such as the purchase and construction of buildings, were funded by borrowing.

A table showing details of the actual expenditure and receipts in 1978/79 under the main accounting headings is at Appendix 31.

As in previous years, details of the Force's future plans and the probable cost, produced for the Home Office as a five-year forecast covering the financial years 1980/81 to 1984/85, formed the basis of the preliminary estimates for 1980/81. These figures, which, together with the revised estimates for 1979/80, were submitted for your approval early in 1980, were used also as the basis for calculating both the amount of Government grants for 1980/81 and the precept on the local authorities for that year.

At the annual consultative meeting in November with representatives of the local authorities, the Receiver was able to report the successful outcome of negotiations to increase the level of the grant for Imperial and National Services and the progress which had been made towards the recovery of the full cost of other work done by the Metropolitan Police as an agency for other bodies.

During the year, agreement was reached with the Home Office and with representatives of the Exchequer and Audit Department about a substantial improvement in the layout of the Metropolitan Police estimates and accounts. The agreed changes will take effect from 1st April 1980.

### Police buildings and residential accommodation

The North East Area Traffic Unit at Chadwell Heath was completed and taken into use during the year. Work was also finished on major amelioration of Staines police station, the new recruiting office at New Scotland Yard and a large number of minor schemes. Building work continued on a new district station at Croydon and on a new divisional station at Kilburn for completion early in 1980.

As already mentioned in Chapter 1, the reduction in the amount of the capital allocation for building work has meant that most resources had again to be concentrated on general amelioration of police stations and other premises rather than on rebuilding. It proved possible, however, to start work on a

number of new schemes including a police station at Thamesmead, pistol ranges at Lippitts Hill, major improvements at Paddington Green police station and fitting out premises in Buckingham Gate as an operational feeding centre.

Acquisitions authorised during the year included sites for the new Carter Street police station and for a new section house in the vicinity of Heathrow as well as premises to facilitate expansion of Kingston police station. Negotiations also began for leasing offices to be developed in Fimlico for housing staff in non-operational headquarters branches which are currently scattered over a large number of buildings.

At the end of the year 3,651 officers were provided with residential accommodation in section houses, women police hotels, residential training centres and elsewhere, including rooms in the British Airways hotel at Thorncliffe House for officers of Airport District. It was established during the year that Trenchard House section house would need to be closed for a lengthy period for major repairs, and in order to provide some replacement accommodation in central London, arrangements were being made to lease the London Hostels Association building in Inverness Terrace, W2.

Over the year sales of older married quarters reduced the number held by 71 to 4,093, of which 248 were being occupied by single officers thereby relieving pressure on section house accommodation. The programme for the installation of central heating in married quarters continued and by the end of the year 73 per cent of all houses and 15 per cent of all flats had been so equipped.

A total of 214 officers vacated quarters to purchase or rent accommodation compared with 279 in 1978.

### Supplies

Replacement of office equipment and furniture in police stations and offices continued during the year as necessary.

New designs for the uniform jacket and trousers and a short outer coat for male police officers were approved during the year and manufacture was put in hand with the issue to be on a replacement basis as old garments wear out. Authority was also given for a personal issue of handcuffs. Issue of a reinforced version of the traditional police helmet continued with most officers being equipped by December. Experiments continued with various types of high visibility clothing, especially those for use by police motor cyclists.

### Catering Department

Catering facilities continued to be provided at 180 police buildings, including headquarters premises, police stations, section houses, training centres and magistrates' courts. A new catering unit came into operation at the new North East Area Traffic Unit at Chadwell Heath and two units ceased when Blackwall and Uxbridge police stations were closed. The catering units at police stations at Sutton, Ilkington, Caledonian Road, Hackney, St. Ann's Road, Albany Street and Harlesden were improved.

The Central Production Unit is now supplying "cook-freeze" meals to 56 catering units and also producing very large numbers of items of food each week for feeding police officers on duty at demonstrations and like events.

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\* The CTD strength for ordinary duty includes No. 9 District Appraisal Circuit Sergeant.  
† The three next figures comprise officers serving in state-fair units, as university, or paid for by other institutions.

A new computerised accounting system is expected to be introduced during the latter half of 1980.

## Establishment and strength of the regular Force on 31st December 1979

|                         | Country, District, or County | District, County | Commissioners | Chief Supt. | Supt. | Chief Inspector | Inspector | S.E.S. | Emergents | Commissioners | Totals |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|-----------|--------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
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| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
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| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
| Municipal Revenue Dept. | Alameda                      | 12               | 7             | 17          | 17    | 28              | 81        | 1      | 2,71      | 1,38          | 1,725  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         | Alameda                      | 12               | 1             | 13          | 13    | 23              | 23        | 1      | 1         | 1,38          | 1,423  |
|                         |                              |                  |               |             |       |                 |           |        |           |               |        |



\* Figures for service affected by the war on recruitment from September 1913 to December 1914; includes 3 conscripts retired on reaching the age limit with less than 25 years' service.

| Year | Deaths           |          |          |          | Total removals |
|------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|
|      | 25 years or over | 20 years | 15 years | 10 years |                |
| 1970 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 788            |
| 1971 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 815            |
| 1972 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 825            |
| 1973 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 835            |
| 1974 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 845            |
| 1975 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 855            |
| 1976 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 865            |
| 1977 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 875            |
| 1978 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 885            |
| 1979 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 895            |
| 1980 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 905            |
| 1981 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 915            |
| 1982 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 925            |
| 1983 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 935            |
| 1984 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 945            |
| 1985 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 955            |
| 1986 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 965            |
| 1987 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 975            |
| 1988 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 985            |
| 1989 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 995            |
| 1990 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1005           |
| 1991 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1015           |
| 1992 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1025           |
| 1993 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1035           |
| 1994 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1045           |
| 1995 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1055           |
| 1996 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1065           |
| 1997 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1075           |
| 1998 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1085           |
| 1999 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1095           |
| 2000 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1105           |
| 2001 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1115           |
| 2002 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1125           |
| 2003 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1135           |
| 2004 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1145           |
| 2005 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1155           |
| 2006 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1165           |
| 2007 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1175           |
| 2008 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1185           |
| 2009 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1195           |
| 2010 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1205           |
| 2011 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1215           |
| 2012 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1225           |
| 2013 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1235           |
| 2014 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1245           |
| 2015 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1255           |
| 2016 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1265           |
| 2017 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1275           |
| 2018 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1285           |
| 2019 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1295           |
| 2020 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1305           |
| 2021 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1315           |
| 2022 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1325           |
| 2023 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1335           |
| 2024 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1345           |
| 2025 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1355           |
| 2026 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1365           |
| 2027 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1375           |
| 2028 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1385           |
| 2029 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1395           |
| 2030 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1405           |
| 2031 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1415           |
| 2032 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1425           |
| 2033 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1435           |
| 2034 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1445           |
| 2035 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1455           |
| 2036 | 150              | 25       | 27       | 30       | 1465           |

### Removals from the Force

### APPENDIX 3

## APPENDIX 4

## Complaints against police: analysis by number of complainants

|                               | 1979          |                 |              | 1978          |                 |              | Increase or decrease in 1979 |            |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------|
|                               | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Total        | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Total        | Substantiated                | Total      |
| <b>Criminal allegations:</b>  |               |                 |              |               |                 |              |                              |            |
| Assault .. .. .               | 12            | 1,712           | 1,724        | 5             | 1,709           | 1,714        | + 7                          | + 10       |
| Bribery .. .. .               | 1             | 71              | 72           | 1             | 74              | 75           | —                            | — 3        |
| Perjury .. .. .               | —             | 93              | 93           | —             | 106             | 106          | —                            | +13        |
| Conspiracy .. .. .            | —             | 100             | 100          | —             | 70              | 70           | —                            | +30        |
| Theft .. .. .                 | 1             | 158             | 159          | 1             | 171             | 172          | —                            | +13        |
| Traffic offences .. .. .      | 28            | 282             | 310          | 23            | 302             | 325          | + 5                          | +15        |
| <b>Sub-total .. .. .</b>      | <b>42</b>     | <b>2,416</b>    | <b>2,458</b> | <b>30</b>     | <b>2,432</b>    | <b>2,462</b> | <b>+12</b>                   | <b>+ 4</b> |
| <b>Other matters:</b>         |               |                 |              |               |                 |              |                              |            |
| Harassment .. .. .            | —             | 185             | 185          | —             | 122             | 122          | —                            | +63        |
| False evidence .. .. .        | —             | 15              | 15           | 1             | 21              | 22           | — 1                          | — 9        |
| Attitude to public .. .. .    | 12            | 776             | 788          | 15            | 803             | 818          | — 3                          | +30        |
| Neglect .. .. .               | 57            | 534             | 591          | 66            | 522             | 588          | — 9                          | + 3        |
| Irregularity .. .. .          | 65            | 1,388           | 1,453        | 90            | 1,381           | 1,471        | +25                          | +18        |
| Mistaken arrest .. .. .       | 7             | 34              | 41           | 3             | 55              | 58           | + 4                          | +17        |
| Racial discrimination .. .. . | —             | 9               | 9            | —             | 12              | 12           | —                            | + 3        |
| Stops in street .. .. .       | —             | 54              | 54           | 1             | 71              | 72           | — 1                          | +18        |
| Miscellaneous .. .. .         | —             | 16              | 16           | —             | 18              | 18           | —                            | + 2        |
| <b>Sub-total .. .. .</b>      | <b>141</b>    | <b>3,009</b>    | <b>3,150</b> | <b>176</b>    | <b>3,005</b>    | <b>3,181</b> | <b>+35</b>                   | <b>+31</b> |
| <b>Total .. .. .</b>          | <b>183</b>    | <b>5,425</b>    | <b>5,608</b> | <b>206</b>    | <b>5,437</b>    | <b>5,643</b> | <b>+23</b>                   | <b>+35</b> |

## APPENDIX 5

## Sickness and injury absence

1979  
A. By age group

| Age group                 | Average number of days' absence per officer* |                | Total number of days' absence |                |
|---------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
|                           | Certificated                                 | Uncertificated | Certificated                  | Uncertificated |
| Under 25 years .. .. .    | 12.9   | 3.3            | 68,663                        | 16,431         |
| 25-29 years .. .. .       | 12.5   | 3.6            | 40,993                        | 11,774         |
| 30-39 years .. .. .       | 11.6   | 3.1            | 84,038                        | 22,678         |
| 40-49 years .. .. .       | 11.5   | 2.9            | 62,153                        | 15,380         |
| 50 years and over .. .. . | 16.5   | 2.9            | 16,707                        | 3,321          |
| <b>All ages† .. .. .</b>  | <b>12.4</b>                                  | <b>3.2</b>     | <b>272,554</b>                | <b>69,784</b>  |

B. By rank

| Rank                           | Average number of days' absence per officer* |                | Total number of days' absence |                |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
|                                | Certificated                                 | Uncertificated | Certificated                  | Uncertificated |
| Superintendent .. .. .         | 3.7  | 0.6            | 802                           | 124            |
| Chief inspector .. .. .        | 4.8  | 1.4            | 2,149                         | 629            |
| Inspector .. .. .              | 8.9  | 1.9            | 10,919                        | 2,371          |
| Police sergeant .. .. .        | 9.5  | 2.7            | 36,134                        | 10,185         |
| Police constable .. .. .       | 13.6   | 3.5            | 222,550                       | 56,475         |
| <b>All above ranks .. .. .</b> | <b>12.4</b>                                  | <b>3.2</b>     | <b>272,554</b>                | <b>69,784</b>  |

\*Based on an estimate of average strength throughout the year.

† All ranks up to and including superintendent.

# APPENDIX 6

## Police officers injured as a result of being assaulted while on duty

| Month           | Placed on sick list | Continued on duty | Total  |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------|
| January .. ..   | 52                  | 239               | 291    |
| February .. ..  | 76                  | 266               | 342    |
| March .. ..     | 60                  | 291               | 351    |
| April .. ..     | 75                  | 235               | 310    |
| May .. ..       | 72                  | 241               | 313    |
| June .. ..      | 98                  | 334               | 432    |
| July .. ..      | 86                  | 325               | 411    |
| August .. ..    | 69                  | 385               | 454    |
| September .. .. | 55                  | 253               | 308    |
| October .. ..   | 47                  | 232               | 279    |
| November .. ..  | 63                  | 314               | 377    |
| December .. ..  | 59                  | 258               | 317    |
| Totals .. ..    | 812                 | 3,373             | 4,185* |

\*Compares with 3,955 in 1978.

# APPENDIX 7

## Metropolitan Police Athletic Association—representative and individual honours

### Representative honours

Constable Barker represented the British Korfball Association in an under-21 tournament in Holland.

Constable Elliott represented Great Britain in both the World and European "Midget" car racing championships in Holland.

Chief Inspector Glen and Sergeant Abbott represented Great Britain in the World "Albacore" class dinghy sailing championships in Torbay.

Inspector Baggs was selected as a member of the Great Britain centre fire pistol national squad and Constable Snow was a member of the Great Britain centre fire pistol 'B' squad.

Sergeant Weir represented Great Britain in wrestling tournaments in Israel and West Germany. He and Sergeant Patrick represented Great Britain in a triangular match against France and Switzerland. Sergeant Weir also wrestled for Northern Ireland in a match against Eire and Scotland.

Constable Gerrard represented England in the 100 metres hurdles in a match against Belgium, Norway and Scotland at Gateshead.

Sergeant Seddon represented England in the 20-kilometre walk in the European Games in Prague, the 3-kilometre indoor match against Spain and Italy in Milan, the 30-kilometre walk against Italy in Rome and the 35-kilometre walk in the European Economic Community championship in France.

Constable Blagg represented England in a junior walking match against West Germany.

### Individual honours

Inspector Fox was a member of the triples team that won the London and Southern Counties bowls competition.

Constable Leverton represented the London Amateur Boxing Association in their boxing matches against Hamburg in West Germany, West Scotland in Jersey and Copenhagen in London.

Constable Windus was appointed team manager of the south west division of the London Amateur Boxing Association for their match against a Wales select team.

Sergeant Inch won the French Police air rally flight simulator competition.

Constable Brown officiated as an umpire at the European hockey championships in Holland.

Constable Nibre won the Barking to Southend race walk.

In the rugby county championships Sergeant Patrick played for Kent and Constables Montgomery and Bryan for Middlesex.

Detective Chief Inspector Fosbury won the Elsey/Glen Grant intermediate stage clay pigeon shooting championship and the South East England open sporting championship.

Sergeant Butcher officiated as a judge at the European tug of war championships in Sweden.

For the fourth consecutive year Constable Whyte was appointed team coach for the British schoolboys' team in their annual weightlifting match against West Germany. Sergeant Patrick retained the London and Southern Counties heavyweight wrestling titles.

Superintendent Archer retained the title of the best all-round weightlifter in Great Britain.

## APPENDIX 8

### Honours and awards received

#### *Pearce of the United Kingdom for Life*

Sir John Samuel Richardson, Bt, MVO, Consulting Physician to the Metropolitan Police.

#### *Royal Victorian Order*

To be a Commander (CVO):

Lt-Colonel A. C. Cole, MVO, TD, Garter Principal King of Arms; Commandant, Metropolitan Special Constabulary.

To be a Member (4th Class) (MVO):

Chief Superintendent S. Critchlow.

Commander L. F. J. Walker, QPM.

#### *Order of the British Empire*

To be a Commander of the Civil Division (CBE):

Mr R. E. T. Birch, Solicitor for the Metropolitan Police.

Mr J. S. Wilson, OBE, Assistant Commissioner.

To be an Officer of the Civil Division (OBE):

Mr J. A. Dellow, Deputy Assistant Commissioner.

Mr D. N. Fogden, FRICS, MRTP, Assistant Chief Surveyor.

To be Members of the Civil Division (MBE):

Miss N. Blacklock, formerly Superintendent.

Chief Superintendent R. R. Burnham.

Mr J. M. Elmes, formerly Chief Inspector.

Mr L. W. Marks, Executive Officer.

Mr J. B. Warwick, formerly Superintendent.

Major R. C. Wilson, Explosives Officer.

#### *Order of St. John*

Promoted to the Grade of Commander (Brother):

Constable A. C. Gatson.

Promoted to the Grade of Officer (Brother):

Constable J. H. Joslin.

Appointed in the Grade of Serving Brother:

Constable J. E. Blatch.

Mr D. Hine, QPM, Deputy Assistant Commissioner.

Constable D. M. Lines.

Commander C. Mulvihill, QPM.

Mr D. W. Prielard, Commandant, Metropolitan

Special Constabulary.

Sergeant M. E. Rogers.

Commander G. W. Rushbrook.

Appointed in the Grade of Serving Sister:

Sergeant S. Raine.

#### *George Medal*

Constable B. E. W. Pawley.

#### *Queen's Gallantry Medal*

Constable B. E. Grove.

Constable G. Hayes.

Inspector D. B. Martin.

*British Empire Medal (Civil Division)*

*For Meritorious Service:*

Constable G. P. Bishop.  
Mrs N. Counsell, formerly Cleaner.  
Mrs S. Downard, School Crossing Patrol.  
Sergeant C. W. Foss.  
Sergeant T. J. Gray.  
Sergeant H. Haunsford.  
Mr E. P. Horne, formerly Sergeant.  
Mr E. F. Jackson, Fitter.  
Constable J. W. B. Paley.  
Mr W. M. Shields, formerly Sergeant.  
Constable H. A. Slupper.

*Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service*

Mr R. A. C. Barber, Deputy Assistant Commissioner.  
Commander J. Cass.  
Commander G. B. Collins.  
Mr D. W. Halsey, Deputy Assistant Commissioner.  
Mr A. H. Howard, formerly Commander.  
Commander T. J. O'Connell.  
Commander I. G. B. Richardson.  
Commander K. D. Skilleen.

*Commendation by Her Majesty The Queen*

Constable J. Baker.  
Constable D. Brady.  
Constable A. M. Hatch.  
Chief Inspector D. G. Marvin.  
Constable M. W. Price.  
Constable C. E. Rowell.  
Constable E. B. Scott.  
Constable M. R. Tierney.

*Royal Victorian Medal (Silver)*

Constable A. F. Smith.

*Officer of the Order of the Dannebrog*

Commander M. J. Trestail, MVO.

*Knights of the Order of the Dannebrog*

Superintendent A. N. Dipple.  
Chief Inspector C. A. Hagan.  
Inspector N. D. Short.

APPENDIX 9

High Commendations awarded by the Commissioner

For outstanding courage and devotion to duty, whilst off duty, in a case of armed robbery and serious offences under the Firearms Act 1968:

Sergeant W. J. Weallans.

For outstanding courage and determination in effecting the arrest of a man for attempted murder, sounding with intent to commit grievous bodily harm, using a firearm with intent to avoid arrest and other firearm offences:

Detective Inspector R. E. Newark.

For outstanding courage and determination in effecting the arrest of a man armed with a gun and a plastic bottle containing ammonia, for offences of aggravated burglary, theft and using corrosive fluid with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, whereby the officers sustained personal injury:

Constable P. Smith.

Detective Constable R. Asquith.

For outstanding courage and devotion to duty in effecting the arrest of an armed man for offences under the Firearms Act 1968, attempted murder, assault occasioning actual bodily harm and attempted grievous bodily harm whereby the officer sustained personal injury:

Inspector D. B. Martin, QGM.

For outstanding courage and determination in effecting the arrest of a man, armed with a sawn-off shotgun, for offences of assault with intent to rob, attempted robbery, having a firearm with intent and possessing a firearm without a certificate:

Detective Sergeant J. P. Batten.

Detective Constable R. M. Wilson.

For outstanding bravery and determination in effecting the arrest of an armed man for offences including using a firearm with intent to resist arrest and unlawful possession of a firearm:

Sergeant M. E. Field.

For outstanding courage and determination whilst attempting to arrest an armed mentally deranged man whereby the officers sustained personal injury:

Superintendent L. Bwendon.

Sergeant C. W. Broom.

Constable M. J. Pausay.

For outstanding courage and tenacity in effecting the arrest of a youth for taking a motor vehicle and causing grievous bodily harm with intent to resist arrest whereby the officer sustained personal injury:

Constable C. P. Minter.

For outstanding courage and determination in effecting the arrest of an armed man whereby the officer sustained personal injury:

Detective Constable M. J. Green.

APPENDIX 9 (continued)

For outstanding courage and determination in attempting to effect the arrest of a man for offences of grievous bodily harm, reckless driving and taking and driving away a motor vehicle whereby the officers sustained personal injury:

Detective Constable G. A. Fisher.

Detective Constable P. R. Edmonds, QGM.

For outstanding courage and determination in effecting the arrest of a man in possession of a knife:

Sergeant B. R. Clark.

Constable P. R. Manley.

For outstanding courage and determination in effecting the arrest of a man in possession of a loaded firearm:

Constable A. J. Davies.

For courage and ability displayed when faced with a mentally deranged person armed with a knife and a pistol:

Constable S. B. Farley.

For the rescue of a mentally deranged person who was in danger of falling from a bridge onto live railway lines, whereby the officers suffered slight personal injuries:

Constable D. A. Vyse.

Detective Constable D. G. Chappell.

Detective Constable M. P. Bryant.

Changes among senior officers

APPENDIX 10

Police

Mr J. A. Dellow, OBE, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, assumed responsibility in "A" Department for Operations.

Mr R. A. C. Barker, QPM, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, assumed responsibility in "B" Department for Traffic.

Mr S. Leckey, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, assumed responsibility in "C" Department for Support and Commercial.

Mr R. C. Stevenson, QPM, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, assumed responsibility in "C" Department for Administration.

Mr D. Helm, QPM, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, assumed responsibility for Protection.

Mr R. H. Anning, QPM, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, was appointed Inspector of the Force; he was later appointed to be one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary.

Mr J. S. Crisp, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, assumed responsibility for No. 1 Area; he subsequently retired from the Force.

Mr J. A. Lock, QPM, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, returned from appointment as National Co-ordinator of Regional Crime Squads in England and Wales; he subsequently retired from the Force.

Mr G. D. McLean, Commander, was appointed Deputy Assistant Commissioner and assumed responsibility for No. 1 Area.

Mr E. F. Maybank, Commander, was appointed Deputy Assistant Commissioner and assumed responsibility for No. 2 Area.

Civil staff

Mr S. H. Carter, Senior Principal, "B" Department, retired.

Mr R. B. Jones, Principal, was promoted to Senior Principal, "E" Department.

Mr I. O. Levy, BSc, Deputy Chief Engineer (Command and Control), died.

**APPENDIX 11**  
Public order events which required the employment of more than 1,000 officers

| Date         | Subject  | Number of police |
|--------------|--|------------------|
| January 22nd | March by National Union of Public Employees  | 3,713            |
| February 3rd | Meeting of British and Iranian groups protesting against the Shah  | 2,211            |
| 11th         | March by Pakistani People's Party and Pakistani Overseas Forum   | 2,230            |
| March 9th    | March by the National Union of Students  | 3,263            |
| 18th         | Marches by the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey, the Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front and the Islamic Solidarity Committee                                   | 1,013            |
| April 1st    | March by the General Union of Arab Students  | 1,470            |
| 8th          | March by the Pakistani People's Party<br>Punk Rockers in the King's Road, Chelsea  | 2,325            |
| 15th         | Marches by the Kashmir Liberation Front and the Patrick Pearse Centenary Society   | 1,021            |
| 20th         | National Front election meeting at Islington Town Hall   | 1,451            |
| 22nd         | Meeting of the Indian Workers' Association at Southall Dominion Cinema   | 1,400            |
| 23rd         | National Front election meeting at Southall Town Hall  | 2,847*           |
| 25th         | National Front election meeting at East Ham Town Hall  | 1,230            |
| 28th         | Socialist Unity meeting at Southall<br>Meeting held by the National Front parliamentary candidate for Hackney South<br>March by the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child | 6,733            |
| 29th         | Demonstration and rally against racism and fascism   | 3,208            |
| May 1st      | National Front election meeting at Caxton Hall and May Day march   | 4,007            |
| 19th         | March by the General Union of Arab Students  | 1,342            |
| 30th/31st    | "Great Children's Party" at Hyde Park  | 1,560            |
| June 13th    | Funeral of Mr Blair Peach  | 1,278            |
| 23rd         | Marches by the National Front and the British Movement<br>March by Islamic groups  | 7,818            |
| 30th         | Marches by the Anti-Apartheid Movement and the Campaign for Homosexual Equality  | 2,951            |

| Date           | Subject  | Number of police |
|----------------|--|------------------|
| August 12th    | March and demonstration by the Troops Out Movement   | 1,418            |
| 26th/27th      | Notting Hill carnival  | 10,135†          |
| 27th           | Finbury Park carnival  | 1,375            |
| September 16th | Meeting and march by the Chile Solidarity Campaign<br>Meeting and march by Iranians in support of Prime Minister Bakhtiar<br>Iranian meetings at Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park | 2,693            |
| October 6th    | National Front march   | 3,761            |
| 28th           | March by Life Group<br>March by Trades Union Congress  | 1,830            |
| November 7th   | March organized by Lambeth Borough Council   | 1,664            |
| 11th           | National Front march to Cenotaph<br>March in support of the Zimbabwe Emergency Campaign  | 4,497            |
| 25th           | "Stop Tory Immigration proposals" march  | 2,658            |
| 28th           | March "Against the cuts" by the Labour Party   | 4,037            |
| December 3rd   | Anti-National Front march at Hackney   | 1,631            |

\* At this event 97 police officers and 25 members of public were injured (one fatally). 345 arrests were made.

† At this event 39 police officers and 32 members of public were injured. 44 arrests were made.



## APPENDIX 12

## Number of persons proceeded against, by type of proceedings and outcome\*

## A: At magistrates' courts

| Year and category of principal offence**       | Proceeded against by means of |            | Total proceeded against | Outcome   |                            |                |                        |
|--|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
|  | Charges                       | Summonses† |                         | Convicted | Charge withdrawn/dismissed | Sent for trial | Otherwise disposed of‡ |
| 1978   |                               |            |                         |           |                            |                |                        |
| Indictable, triable either way and summary ... | 150,012                       | 33,363     | 183,375                 | 142,789   | 9,501                      | 18,308         | 12,777                 |
| Traffic ...                                    | 15,517                        | 150,972    | 166,489                 | 155,979   | 6,414                      | 2,141          | 1,955                  |
| Totals§ ...                                    | 165,529                       | 184,335    | 349,864                 | 298,768   | 15,915                     | 20,449         | 14,732                 |
| 1979   |                               |            |                         |           |                            |                |                        |
| Indictable and triable either way ...          | 83,737                        | 1,480      | 85,217                  | 57,242    | 6,523                      | 16,679         | 4,773                  |
| Summary ...                                    | 75,697                        | 24,812     | 100,509                 | 84,968    | 5,524                      | —              | 10,017                 |
| Traffic ...                                    | 16,489                        | 133,715    | 150,204                 | 136,713   | 6,185                      | 1,379          | 5,027                  |
| Totals§ ...                                    | 175,923                       | 160,007    | 335,930                 | 278,923   | 18,232                     | 18,058         | 20,717                 |

## APPENDIX 12 (continued)

## B: At crown courts for trial

| Year and category of principal offence | Number for trial | Outcome   |           |                       |
|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|
|  |                  | Convicted | Acquitted | Otherwise disposed of |
| 1978                                   |                  |           |           |                       |
| Indictable and triable either way ...  | 14,747           | 11,236    | 3,374     | 137                   |
| Traffic ...                            | 1,819            | 1,480     | 329       | 10                    |
| Totals§ ...                            | 16,566           | 12,716    | 3,703     | 147                   |
| 1979                                   |                  |           |           |                       |
| Indictable and triable either way ...  | 14,417           | 10,282    | 3,792     | 343                   |
| Traffic ...                            | 1,915            | 1,579     | 303       | 33                    |
| Totals§ ...                            | 16,332           | 11,861    | 4,095     | 376                   |

\* Persons who were proceeded against on more than one occasion during the year have been counted separately on each occasion. However, where persons have been dealt with on the same occasion for two or more offences they have been included only once.

\*\* Following the implementation of Sections 14-17 of the Criminal Law Act 1977 on 17th July 1978 the categories of offence have been changed and some categories shown for 1978 have been combined for comparability with 1979.

† Includes summonses issued other than at the instance of the Metropolitan Police.

‡ Includes, for instance, persons whose cases were adjourned sine die or who failed to appear.

§ Due to long-standing data collection difficulties, court proceedings statistics are incomplete. In addition, figures for any year include a minority of records from previous years.

APPENDIX 13

Persons tried at crown courts, by offence type, plea and outcome of trial

| Principal offence                     | Total trial | Not tried | Plea of those tried |            |         | Outcome <sup>1</sup> |              | Acquittal percentages |                           |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|------------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
|                                       |             |           | Guilty              | Not guilty | Mixed** | Total tried          | Found guilty | Of total tried        | Percentage of guilty plea |
|                                       |             |           |                     |            |         |                      |              |                       |                           |
| Violence against the person .. ..     | 2,384       | 57        | 397                 | 511        | 64      | 2,327                | 778          | 33                    | 68                        |
| Sexual offences .. ..                 | 448         | 17        | 92                  | 93         | 112     | 401                  | 132          | 31                    | 64                        |
| Burglary .. ..                        | 2,234       | 43        | 1,252               | 179        | 477     | 2,083                | 1,903        | 13                    | 43                        |
| Robbery .. ..                         | 1,129       | 28        | 422                 | 212        | 288     | 1,101                | 179          | 16                    | 36                        |
| Theft and handling stolen goods .. .. | 5,105       | 117       | 1,384               | 882        | 1,071   | 4,988                | 1,631        | 33                    | 49                        |
| Fraud and forgery .. ..               | 1,011       | 29        | 310                 | 161        | 207     | 892                  | 204          | 21                    | 43                        |
| Drugs .. ..                           | 805         | 24        | 268                 | 146        | 201     | 789                  | 166          | 21                    | 48                        |
| Others .. ..                          | 1,301       | 28        | 283                 | 270        | 319     | 1,272                | 399          | 31                    | 68                        |
| Total .. ..                           | 14,417      | 343       | 4,410               | 2,456      | 3,416   | 14,076               | 3,792        | 27                    | 42                        |
| Totals .. ..                          | 1,915       | 33        | —                   | —          | —       | 1,882                | 303          | 16                    | —                         |

\* Includes cases where no prosecution is brought and those where the defendant died, failed to appear or was found unfit to plead.

\*\* Where the defendant pleads guilty to some offences and not guilty to others at the same court appearance.

<sup>1</sup> A person is shown as acquitted only if he is acquitted of all charges, and is not found guilty of the offence of which he is convicted of any charge.

<sup>2</sup> Defendant who did not plead guilty to all charges or entered mixed pleas at this court appearance.

<sup>3</sup> These figures are not available.

See also notes to Appendix 17.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE  
OF THE METROPOLIS FOR THE YEAR 1979

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CORRECTION.

Appendix 13: Persons tried at crown courts, by offence type, plea and outcome of trial

Delete the table on page 92 of the Report and replace by the revised version printed overleaf.

August 1980  
LONDON: HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

Persons tried at crown courts, by offence type, plea and outcome of trial

APPENDIX 13

| Principal offence               | Total for trial | Not tried* | Plea of those tried |            |         | Total tried | Outcome†  |              | Acquittal percentages |                                   | Percentage of guilty plea |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------|------------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                 |                 |            | Guilty              | Not guilty | Mixed** |             | Acquitted | Found guilty | Of total tried        | Of defendants contesting charges‡ |                           |
| Violence against the person     | 2,384           | 57         | 397                 | 1,289      | 641     | 2,327       | 778       | 1,549        | 33                    | 40                                | 17                        |
| Sexual offences                 | 448             | 17         | 92                  | 227        | 112     | 431         | 132       | 299          | 31                    | 39                                | 21                        |
| Burglary                        | 2,234           | 43         | 1,252               | 462        | 477     | 2,191       | 283       | 1,908        | 13                    | 30                                | 57                        |
| Robbery                         | 1,129           | 28         | 422                 | 391        | 288     | 1,101       | 179       | 922          | 16                    | 26                                | 38                        |
| Theft and handling stolen goods | 5,105           | 117        | 1,384               | 2,533      | 1,071   | 4,988       | 1,651     | 3,337        | 33                    | 46                                | 28                        |
| Fraud and forgery               | 1,011           | 29         | 310                 | 365        | 307     | 982         | 204       | 778          | 21                    | 30                                | 32                        |
| Drugs                           | 805             | 24         | 268                 | 312        | 201     | 781         | 166       | 615          | 21                    | 32                                | 34                        |
| Others                          | 1,301           | 28         | 285                 | 669        | 319     | 1,273       | 399       | 874          | 31                    | 40                                | 22                        |
| Totals                          | 14,417          | 343        | 4,410               | 6,248      | 3,416   | 14,074      | 3,792     | 10,282       | 27                    | 39                                | 31                        |
| Traffic                         | 1,915           | 33         | —†                  | —†         | —†      | 1,882       | 303       | 1,579        | 16                    | —†                                | —†                        |

\* Includes cases where no prosecution is brought and those where the defendant died, failed to appear or was found unfit to plead.

\*\* Where the defendant pleads guilty to some offences and not guilty to others at the same court appearance.

† A person is shown as acquitted only if he is acquitted of all charges, and is shown as found guilty if he is convicted of any charge.

‡ Defendants who plead not guilty to all charges or entered mixed pleas at this court appearance.

§ Includes homicide.

† These figures are not available.

See also notes to Appendix 12

Persons proceeded against for simple drunkenness or drunkenness with aggravation and the proportion per 1,000 of the estimated population of the Metropolitan Police District\*

APPENDIX 14

| Year       | Number of persons proceeded against† | Number of persons proceeded against per 1,000 of population |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1970 .. .. | 40,358                               | 4.9   |
| 1971 .. .. | 42,732                               | 5.4   |
| 1972 .. .. | 44,589                               | 5.6   |
| 1973 .. .. | 46,218                               | 5.9   |
| 1974 .. .. | 41,948                               | 5.4   |
| 1975 .. .. | 41,283                               | 5.4   |
| 1976 .. .. | 44,505                               | 5.9   |
| 1977 .. .. | 44,956                               | 6.0   |
| 1978 .. .. | 42,793                               | 5.8   |
| 1979 .. .. | 47,227                               | 6.4   |

\* The figure for 1979 includes persons who were proceeded against for drunkenness in addition to a more serious offence; the figures for earlier years have been adjusted accordingly.

† Persons who were proceeded against on more than one occasion during the year have been counted separately on each occasion.

**APPENDIX 15**  
Serious offences known to police, by Home Office classification

| Offence*   | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <i>Violence against the person:</i>                              |         |         |         |         |
| 1 Murder .....   | 145     | 142     | 118     | 179     |
| 4a Manlaughter .....   | 62      | 50      | 74      | 37      |
| 2 Attempted murder .....   | 47      | 40      | 102     | 190     |
| 3 Threat or conspiracy to murder .....                           | —       | 1       | —       | —       |
| 4b Child destruction .....                                       | 97      | 103     | 39      | 29      |
| 4c Causing death by dangerous driving .....                      | 969     | 802     | 825     | 881     |
| 5 Wounding or other act endangering life .....                   | 4       | —       | 3       | 4       |
| 6 Endangering railway passenger .....                            | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 7 Endangering life at sea .....                                  | 10,966  | 11,817  | 12,999  | 14,660  |
| 8 Other wounding, etc. ....                                      | 5       | 1       | 1       | 50      |
| 9 Assault .....  | 2       | —       | 2       | 2       |
| 12 Abandoning child under two years .....                        | 4       | 20      | 15      | 13      |
| 13 Child stealing .....  | 1       | 1       | 1       | —       |
| 14 Procuring illegal abortion .....                              | 3       | 3       | 1       | 2       |
| 15 Concealment of birth .....                                    | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| Group total .....  | 12,345  | 12,980  | 14,180  | 16,027  |
| <i>Sexual offences:</i>  |         |         |         |         |
| 16 Buggery** .....   | 76      | 107     | 104     | 60      |
| 17 Indecent assault on a male** .....                            | 384     | 352     | 282     | 270     |
| 18 Indecency between males .....                                 | 300     | 346     | 438     | 198     |
| 19 Rape .....  | 181     | 168     | 277     | 247     |
| 20 Indecent assault on a female .....                            | 1,253   | 1,354   | 1,616   | 1,693   |
| 21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with girl under 16 .....          | 23      | 19      | 25      | 23      |
| 22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with girl under 16 .....          | 249     | 174     | 148     | 165     |
| 23 Fornication .....   | 31      | 18      | 13      | 14      |
| 24 Procurement .....   | 10      | 9       | 23      | 22      |
| 25 Abduction .....   | 3       | 17      | 24      | 11      |
| 26 Bigamy .....  | 42      | 36      | 23      | 33      |
| Group total .....  | 2,562   | 2,610   | 2,972   | 2,736   |
| <i>Burglaries:</i>   |         |         |         |         |
| 28 Burglary in a dwelling .....                                  | 60,670  | 67,369  | 68,856  | 68,494  |
| 29 Aggravated burglary in a dwelling .....                       | 107     | 154     | 167     | 167     |
| 30 Burglary in a building other than a dwelling .....            | 46,252  | 55,801  | 52,249  | 48,323  |
| 31 Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling ..... | 18      | 14      | 13      | 17      |
| 33 Going equipped for stealing, etc. ....                        | 1,315   | 1,200   | 1,200   | 1,196   |
| Group total .....  | 108,262 | 124,529 | 122,505 | 118,197 |

**APPENDIX 15 (continued)**

| Offence*  | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <i>Robbery:</i>   |         |         |         |         |
| 34 Robbery .....  | 5,522   | 6,826   | 6,594   | 6,232   |
| <i>Theft and handling of stolen goods:</i>                              |         |         |         |         |
| 39 Theft from the person of another .....                               | 14,877  | 16,641  | 16,233  | 16,435  |
| 40 Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter ..... | 15,359  | 14,927  | 13,410  | 12,472  |
| 41 Theft by an employee .....   | 4,942   | 5,326   | 5,443   | 6,015   |
| 42 Theft of unauthorized taking from mail .....                         | 76      | 78      | 70      | 118     |
| 43 Abstracting electricity .....  | —       | —       | 176     | 252     |
| 44 Theft of postal cycle .....  | 17,867  | 18,849  | 18,037  | 19,287  |
| 45 Theft from vehicle .....   | 69,913  | 83,181  | 82,590  | 77,402  |
| 46 Shoplifting .....  | 24,599  | 27,548  | 25,608  | 24,311  |
| 47 Theft from automatic machine or meter .....                          | 2,815   | 1,892   | 1,696   | 1,337   |
| 48 Theft or unauthorized taking of motor vehicle .....                  | 62,703  | 73,286  | 76,730  | 76,188  |
| 49 Other theft or unauthorized taking .....                             | 72,985  | 81,753  | 77,223  | 75,176  |
| 54 Handling stolen goods .....  | 6,477   | 5,129   | 7,084   | 6,482   |
| Group total .....   | 291,693 | 329,410 | 324,108 | 316,515 |
| <i>Fraud and forgery:</i>   |         |         |         |         |
| 51 Fraud by company director, etc. ....                                 | 5       | 15      | 29      | 9       |
| 52 False accounting .....   | 337     | 335     | 383     | 318     |
| 53 Other fraud .....  | 28,163  | 27,660  | 27,174  | 23,644  |
| 60 Forgery or uttering drug prescription .....                          | 125     | 445     | 436     | 397     |
| 61 Other forgery or uttering .....                                      | 2,157   | 1,753   | 1,871   | 1,766   |
| Group total .....   | 30,916  | 30,208  | 29,843  | 25,954  |

## APPENDIX 15 (continued)

| Offence*  | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <i>Criminal damage:</i>                                   |         |         |         |         |
| 56 Arson .....  | 1,061   | 1,545   | 2,027   | 2,250   |
| 57 Criminal damage endangering life .....                 | 66      | 21      | 36      | 14      |
| 58 Other criminal damage† .....                           | 54,701  | 60,180  | 64,527  | 68,771  |
| 59 Threat etc. to commit criminal damage .....            | 116     | 96      | 122     | 160     |
| Group total .....   | 55,944  | 61,842  | 66,812  | 71,195  |
| <i>Other offences:</i>                                    |         |         |         |         |
| 35 Blackmail .....  | 172     | 172     | 164     | 168     |
| 36 Kidnapping .....                                       | —       | —       | —       | 8       |
| 62 High treason .....                                     | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 63 Treason felony .....                                   | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 64 Riot .....   | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 65 Unlawful assembly .....                                | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 66 Other offences against the State or public order ..... | —       | —       | —       | 233     |
| 67 Perjury .....  | 23      | 20      | 31      | 34      |
| 68 Libel .....  | 2       | 1       | —       | —       |
| 76 Aiding suicide .....                                   | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 79 Perverting the course of justice‡ .....                | —       | —       | 28      | 66      |
| 80 Absconding from lawful custody‡ .....                  | —       | —       | 1       | 5       |
| 99 Other indictable offences .....                        | 195     | 295     | 115     | 8       |
| Group total .....   | 451     | 547     | 371     | 322     |
| Grand total .....   | 507,595 | 568,952 | 567,387 | 557,778 |

\* Two different systems have been adopted for the classification of offences in Appendices 15 to 20.

† The Home Office classification assigns each crime to one of about 65 categories according to the Act (and Section) under which an offender would be charged if apprehended.

‡ The Metropolitan Police Office classification allocates each crime according to circumstances as well as legal classification and there are six main classifications:

- Crimes of violence, which consists of assaults etc. (including homicide) together with robbery and other violent thefts
- Burglary
- Auto-theft
- Other theft
- Fraud and forgery
- Criminal damage and miscellaneous

The Metropolitan Police Office classification system is designed to produce statistics of direct significance for police purposes.

\* \*\* Attempt to commit burglary is included with "indecent assault on a male" for years up to 1977 but with "burglary" from 1978.

† Includes figures for the offence of "unlawful sexual intercourse with a defective".

‡ Offences in these classes for all years up to 1977 were included in class 99.

§ Offences of criminal damage of £20 in value or less are included. The numbers of such were:—

|            |        |
|------------|--------|
| 1976 ..... | 15,121 |
| 1977 ..... | 13,846 |
| 1978 ..... | 14,362 |
| 1979 ..... | 13,240 |

¶ Offences in this class for all years up to 1978 were included in class 99.

APPENDIX 16  
Serious offences cleared up, by Home Office classification

| Offence*   | 1976   | 1977   | 1978   | 1979   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <i>Violence against the person:</i>                              |        |        |        |        |
| 1 Murder .....   | 140    | 133    | 106    | 167    |
| 4 Manslaughter .....   | 31     | 45     | 69     | 31     |
| 4a Infanticide .....   | 30     | 11     | 46     | 103    |
| 2 Attempted murder .....   | —      | —      | —      | —      |
| 3 Threat or conspiracy to murder .....                           | —      | —      | —      | —      |
| 4b Child destruction .....                                       | —      | —      | —      | —      |
| 4c Causing death by dangerous driving .....                      | 97     | 103    | 39     | 29     |
| 5 Wounding or other act endangering life .....                   | 626    | 512    | 525    | 588    |
| 6 Endangering railway passenger .....                            | 4      | —      | 3      | —      |
| 7 Endangering life at sea .....                                  | —      | —      | —      | —      |
| 8 Other wounding, etc. .....                                     | 6,243  | 6,269  | 7,081  | 7,801  |
| 9 Assault .....  | 4      | 1      | 1      | 16     |
| 12 Abandoning child under two years .....                        | 1      | —      | 3      | 2      |
| 13 Child stealing .....  | 2      | 16     | 10     | 10     |
| 14 Procuring illegal abortion .....                              | 1      | —      | 1      | —      |
| 15 Concealment of birth .....                                    | 1      | —      | —      | —      |
| Group total .....  | 7,200  | 7,090  | 7,833  | 8,751  |
| <i>Sexual offences:</i>  |        |        |        |        |
| 16 Buggery** .....   | 66     | 93     | 92     | 49     |
| 17 Indecent assault on a male** .....                            | 291    | 247    | 212    | 192    |
| 18 Indecency between males .....                                 | 291    | 343    | 422    | 189    |
| 19 Rape .....  | 115    | 111    | 168    | 163    |
| 20 Indecent assault on a female .....                            | 505    | 494    | 604    | 606    |
| 21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with girl under 13 .....          | 15     | 14     | 21     | 19     |
| 22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with girl under 16 .....          | 183    | 132    | 175    | 133    |
| 23 Incest .....  | 29     | 19     | 10     | 13     |
| 24 Procurement .....   | 10     | 8      | 21     | 20     |
| 25 Abduction .....   | 3      | 12     | 16     | 9      |
| 26 Ransom .....  | 37     | 26     | 16     | 26     |
| Group total .....  | 1,543  | 1,499  | 1,700  | 1,418  |
| <i>Burglary:</i>   |        |        |        |        |
| 13 Burglary in a dwelling .....                                  | 6,360  | 6,538  | 5,873  | 6,317  |
| 29 Aggravated burglary in a dwelling .....                       | 72     | 79     | 62     | 62     |
| 30 Burglary in a building other than a dwelling .....            | 7,038  | 7,285  | 6,731  | 6,290  |
| 31 Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling ..... | 7      | 6      | 6      | 6      |
| 33 Going equipped for stealing, etc. .....                       | 1,216  | 1,200  | 1,220  | 1,198  |
| Group total .....  | 14,673 | 15,111 | 13,906 | 13,473 |

## APPENDIX (16 continued)

| Offence*  | 1976   | 1977   | 1978   | 1979   |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Robbery:</b>   |        |        |        |        |
| 34 Robbery .....  | 1,124  | 1,093  | 1,394  | 1,457  |
| <b>Theft and handling stolen goods:</b>                                 |        |        |        |        |
| 39 Theft from the person of another .....                               | 1,221  | 1,354  | 1,455  | 1,373  |
| 40 Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter ..... | 2,207  | 2,001  | 1,876  | 1,776  |
| 41 Theft by an employee .....   | 4,444  | 4,773  | 4,843  | 5,437  |
| 42 Theft or unauthorised taking from mail .....                         | 33     | 33     | 43     | 36     |
| 43 Abstracting electricity .....  | 856    | 823    | 774    | 776    |
| 44 Theft of a pedal cycle .....   | 4,981  | 5,913  | 5,433  | 4,671  |
| 45 Theft from a vehicle .....   | 22,767 | 24,791 | 23,189 | 21,945 |
| 46 Shoplifting .....  | 215    | 182    | 150    | 149    |
| 47 Theft from automatic machine or meter .....                          | 10,504 | 10,800 | 11,158 | 10,471 |
| 48 Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle .....                  | 9,706  | 10,353 | 9,116  | 8,239  |
| 49 Other theft or unauthorised taking .....                             | 6,476  | 7,129  | 7,082  | 6,876  |
| 54 Handling stolen goods .....  |        |        |        |        |
| Group total .....   | 61,470 | 68,302 | 65,264 | 62,017 |
| <b>Fraud and forgery:</b>   |        |        |        |        |
| 51 Fraud by company director, etc. ....                                 | 5      | 14     | 28     | 8      |
| 52 False accounting .....   | 334    | 319    | 365    | 500    |
| 53 Other fraud .....  | 15,731 | 15,813 | 16,735 | 15,540 |
| 60 Forgery and uttering drug prescription .....                         | 194    | 340    | 331    | 309    |
| 61 Other forgery .....  | 1,751  | 1,467  | 1,577  | 1,187  |
| Group total .....   | 18,015 | 17,953 | 19,036 | 15,544 |

## APPENDIX 16 (continued)

| Offence*  | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>Criminal damage:</b>                                   |         |         |         |         |
| 56 Arson .....  | 306     | 300     | 353     | 414     |
| 57 Criminal damage endangering life .....                 | 37      | 10      | 10      | 11      |
| 58 Other criminal damage .....                            | 7,430   | 7,917   | 8,671   | 9,401   |
| 59 Threat etc. to commit criminal damage .....            | 94      | 75      | 89      | 112     |
| Group total .....   | 8,867   | 8,302   | 9,123   | 9,938   |
| <b>Other offences:</b>                                    |         |         |         |         |
| 35 Blackmail .....  | 121     | 110     | 116     | 98      |
| 36 Kidnapping* .....                                      | —       | —       | —       | 8       |
| 62 High treason .....                                     | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 63 Treason felony .....                                   | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 64 Riot .....   | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 65 Unlawful assembly .....                                | —       | —       | —       | —       |
| 66 Other offences against the State or public order ..... | 25      | 20      | 32      | 104     |
| 67 Perjury .....  | 53      | 53      | 31      | 28      |
| 68 Libel .....  | 1       | 1       | —       | —       |
| 76 Aiding suicide .....                                   | 2       | —       | —       | —       |
| 79 Perverting the course of justice .....                 | —       | —       | 26      | 63      |
| 80 Absconding from lawful custody .....                   | —       | —       | 1       | 5       |
| 99 Other indictable offences .....                        | 175     | 281     | 87      | 7       |
| Group total .....   | 378     | 465     | 299     | 313     |
| Grand total .....   | 114,272 | 119,817 | 118,599 | 113,311 |

\* See footnotes to Appendix 15.

\*\* "Attempt to commit burglary" is included with "indecent assault on a male" for years up to 1977 but with "burglary" from 1978.

† Includes figures for the offence of "unlawful sexual intercourse with a defective".

‡ Offences in these classes for all years up to 1977 were included in class 99.

§ Offences of criminal damage of £20 in value or less are included. The number cleared up were:—

|            |       |
|------------|-------|
| 1976 ..... | 3,189 |
| 1977 ..... | 4,309 |
| 1978 ..... | 4,355 |
| 1979 ..... | 4,404 |

¶ Offences in this class for all years up to 1978 were included in class 99.

# APPENDIX 17

## Serious offences known to police: percentages cleared up

| Offence group<br>(Home Office classification) | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| Violence against the person                   | 59   | 55   | 56   | 55   |
| Sexual offences                               | 60   | 57   | 57   | 52   |
| Burglary (including going equipped to steal)  | 14   | 12   | 11   | 12   |
| Robbery                                       | 20   | 16   | 21   | 23   |
| Theft and handling stolen goods               | 22   | 21   | 20   | 20   |
| Fraud and forgery                             | 58   | 59   | 64   | 68   |
| Criminal damage*                              | 14   | 13   | 14   | 14   |
| Other offences                                | 84   | 83   | 79   | 60   |
| Total serious crime                           | 23   | 21   | 21   | 20   |

\* Offences of criminal damage of £20 in value or less are included.

## Offences by Metropolitan Police Office classification: percentages cleared up

| Offence group<br>(Metropolitan Police Office classification) | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| Crimes of violence:  |      |      |      |      |
| Assault, etc. (including homicide)                           | 59   | 54   | 55   | 55   |
| Robbery and other violent theft                              | 16   | 13   | 16   | 17   |
| Burglary   | 13   | 11   | 10   | 11   |
| Auto-theft   | 11   | 10   | 10   | 9    |
| Other theft and handling                                     | 34   | 34   | 33   | 33   |
| Fraud and forgery  | 58   | 59   | 64   | 60   |
| Criminal damage and miscellaneous                            | 18   | 17   | 17   | 17   |
| Total serious crime  | 23   | 21   | 21   | 20   |
| Other crime  | 88   | 73   | 87   | 87   |

# APPENDIX 18

## Burglary, robbery and theft known to police in 1979, by value of property (including cash) stolen

| Offence<br>(Home Office classification)                 | Value of property stolen |               |             |             |               |               | Total no.<br>offences |
|---|--------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
|   | Nil                      | Under<br>£25* | £25-<br>£24 | £25-<br>£99 | £100-<br>£499 | £500-<br>£999 |                       |
| 28, 29 Burglary—in dwelling                             | 6,350                    | 2,301         | 6,878       | 12,885      | 22,168        | 8,461         | 58,661                |
| 30 Burglary—in non-dwelling                             | 7,078                    | 2,879         | 7,787       | 10,259      | 12,464        | 3,882         | 42,840                |
| Total (burglary)  | 13,428                   | 5,180         | 14,665      | 23,144      | 34,632        | 12,343        | 117,021               |
| 34 Robbery  | 997                      | 537           | 1,308       | 1,620       | 996           | 214           | 5,980                 |
| 35 Theft from the person                                | 772                      | 1,253         | 6,273       | 5,878       | 1,888         | 202           | 6,233                 |
| 40 Theft of motor vehicle (except from a motor vehicle) | 100                      | 1,538         | 2,688       | 3,961       | 3,323         | 504           | 16,435                |
| 41 Theft by employee                                    | 34                       | 1,135         | 1,195       | 1,512       | 1,248         | 413           | 6,015                 |
| 43 Abstracting electricity                              | 46                       | 150           | 17          | 18          | 15            | 2             | 232                   |
| 44 Theft from a shop                                    | 1,231                    | 6,267         | 12,671      | 15,519      | 20,613        | 2,232         | 19,887                |
| 45 Theft from a post office                             | 39                       | 6,266         | 10,567      | 4,993       | 1,110         | 16            | 24,311                |
| 46 Shoplifting—general                                  | 31                       | 228           | 672         | 359         | 63            | 2             | 1,377                 |
| 48 Theft or unauthorized taking of a motor vehicle      | 1,741                    | 91            | 269         | 2,300       | 4,312         | 17,668        | 10,657                |
| 49 Other theft or unauthorized taking                   | 8,348                    | 21,080        | 24,253      | 24,253      | 13,665        | 2,144         | 72,718                |
| Total (Theft)   | 4,729                    | 27,533        | 60,433      | 87,168      | 90,860        | 23,623        | 309,633               |

\* Includes offences where the value of property was not known and personal value offences.

† In cases where the vehicle was stolen, the value of the property stolen includes the value of the vehicle.



# APPENDIX 19

## Arrests in 1979 by crime category and age group\*

### A. Number of persons arrested

| Crime category<br>(Metropolitan Police Office<br>classification) | Age group |        |        |        |         | Total   |
|--|-----------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
|  | 10-13     | 14-16  | 17-20  | 21-30  | Over 30 |         |
| Crimes of violence:  |           |        |        |        |         |         |
| Assaults etc. (including homici-<br>des)                         | 201       | 1,127  | 2,199  | 2,850  | 2,495   | 9,094   |
| Robberies and other violent<br>theft                             | 148       | 605    | 602    | 537    | 271     | 2,263   |
| Burglary   | 1,223     | 3,054  | 3,113  | 2,549  | 1,389   | 12,647  |
| Auto crime   | 1,345     | 5,073  | 6,802  | 3,707  | 1,088   | 18,296  |
| Other theft  | 3,920     | 6,717  | 7,932  | 10,588 | 12,712  | 43,732  |
| Fraud and forgery  | 68        | 256    | 1,125  | 2,438  | 3,546   | 6,397   |
| Miscellaneous  | 828       | 2,137  | 3,158  | 3,538  | 3,142   | 13,018  |
| Total serious crime  | 8,226     | 19,419 | 25,261 | 26,317 | 24,443  | 105,470 |
| Other crime  | 273       | 1,669  | 3,661  | 5,665  | 3,208   | 14,694  |

### B. Percentages within each age group

| Crime category<br>(Metropolitan Police Office<br>classification) | Age group |       |       |       |         | Total |
|--|-----------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
|  | 10-13     | 14-16 | 17-20 | 21-30 | Over 30 |       |
| Crimes of violence:  |           |       |       |       |         |       |
| Assaults etc. (including homici-<br>des)                         | 2         | 12    | 24    | 32    | 28      | 100   |
| Robberies and other violent<br>theft                             | 6         | 26    | 30    | 24    | 12      | 100   |
| Burglary   | 14        | 27    | 26    | 20    | 11      | 100   |
| Auto crime   | 7         | 28    | 37    | 20    | 6       | 100   |
| Other theft  | 9         | 15    | 18    | 25    | 31      | 100   |
| Fraud and forgery  | 1         | 5     | 17    | 38    | 77      | 100   |
| Miscellaneous  | 6         | 17    | 24    | 27    | 24      | 100   |
| Total serious crime  | 8         | 18    | 24    | 25    | 23      | 100   |
| Other crime  | 2         | 11    | 23    | 39    | 22      | 100   |

\*The arrest figures are for crime reportable offences only and relate to persons arrested and proceeded against by the police by means of a charge or otherwise and include, for example, juveniles dealt with by the juvenile bureau procedure. The above figures represent about a third of all arrests made in the Metropolitan Police District in 1979. Arrests are also made each year for offences such as drunkenness for which crime reports are not produced.

# APPENDIX 20

## Details of crimes of violence known to police in 1979\*

### A. Breakdown by Home Office classification

| Classification   | Number of<br>offences |
|--|-----------------------|
| Assaults, etc.: including homicide                     |                       |
| 1, 4   | 208                   |
| 2, 3   | 227                   |
| Attempts and threats to murder                         | 15,372                |
| 5, 8, 9  | 24                    |
| Wounding and assaults                                  | 24                    |
| 16, 17   | 246                   |
| 19   | 148                   |
| Rape   |                       |
| 20   |                       |
| Indecent assault on females (part)                     |                       |
| Group total  | 16,425                |
| Robbery and other violent theft                        |                       |
| 14   | 6,232                 |
| 28, 29, 30, 31   | 128                   |
| Burglary (part)  | 90                    |
| 32, 33   | 5,186                 |
| 39   |                       |
| Demands of money with menaces and miscellaneous (part) |                       |
| (Theft from person (snatches only))                    |                       |
| Group total  | 11,636                |
| Grand total  | 28,061                |

### B. Breakdown by the circumstances in which the offences occurred

| Circumstances of offence  | Assaults etc. | Robbery | Other<br>"violent" theft |
|---|---------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Robberies, etc., of business property   |               |         |                          |
| —in transit   | 8             | 504     | 56                       |
| —on premises  | 2             | 1,230   | 17                       |
| Robberies, etc., of personal property with no<br>previous association between assailant and<br>victim |               |         |                          |
| —following mugging attack   |               |         |                          |
| —in the open  | 58            | 3,468   | 4,544                    |
| —in other public places   | 7             | 470     | 555                      |
| —following illegal entry  | 13            | 267     | 125                      |
| —following short association  | 7             | 159     | 18                       |
| Other violence, with no previous association<br>known   |               |         |                          |
| —sexual motive/attack   | 358           | —       | —                        |
| —weapon discharge of firearms   | 799           | —       | —                        |
| —attacks by members of public on staff  | 1,051         | —       | —                        |
| —others   | 9,245         | —       | —                        |
| Robberies and other violence, with assailant<br>related or known to victim                            | 3,411         | 9       | 20                       |
| Attacks on police   | 1,059         | 1       | —                        |
| Conspiracies and miscellaneous  | 465           | 124     | 69                       |
| Total   | 16,425        | 6,232   | 5,404                    |

# APPENDIX 20 (continued)

## C. Breakdown by principal type of weapon known to have been involved, if any

| Type of weapon  | Assaults etc. | Robbery | Other "violent" theft |
|---|---------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Firearms, fired .....                                 | 774           | 41      | 2                     |
| Firearms (red, imitation or supposed) not fired ..... | 161           | 715     | 19                    |
| Sharp instrument .....                                | 2,028         | 914     | 52                    |
| Blunt instrument .....                                | 2,073         | 370     | 29                    |
| Noxious substance .....                               | 113           | 35      | 14                    |
| Explosives .....                                      | 9             | 2       | —                     |
| Total in which weapons were involved ..               | 5,158         | 2,077   | 116                   |
| No weapons involved .. .. .                           | 11,267        | 4,155   | 5,388                 |
| Grand total .. .. .                                   | 16,425        | 6,232   | 5,404                 |

## D. Breakdown on the basis of whether injury occurred

| Cause of injury   | Assaults etc. | Robbery | Other "violent" theft |
|---|---------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Injury caused by use of weapon involved ..                              | 4,821         | 489     | 69                    |
| Injury caused otherwise (including by pushing or pushing, etc.) .. .. . | 11,115        | 3,461   | 1,062                 |
| No injury .. .. .   | 489           | 2,282   | 4,273                 |
| Total .. .. .   | 16,425        | 6,232   | 5,404                 |

\*This appendix includes only those offences where there was an element of violence against the victim.

# APPENDIX 21

## Traffic accidents involving death or injury since 1970

| Year | Number of accidents involving death or personal injury |         |        |        | Change on previous year |           |
|------|--|---------|--------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|
|      | Fatal  | Serious | Slight | Total  | Number                  | Per cent. |
| 1970 | 761  | 9,422   | 46,005 | 56,188 | +293                    | +1        |
| 1971 | 719  | 8,844   | 44,669 | 54,232 | -1,936                  | -3        |
| 1972 | 759  | 8,721   | 46,743 | 56,223 | +1,971                  | +4        |
| 1973 | 697  | 8,026   | 45,552 | 54,275 | -1,948                  | -3        |
| 1974 | 680  | 7,817   | 42,550 | 51,047 | -3,228                  | -6        |
| 1975 | 672  | 7,485   | 43,234 | 51,391 | +344                    | +1        |
| 1976 | 722  | 8,252   | 43,984 | 52,958 | +1,567                  | +3        |
| 1977 | 692  | 8,046   | 46,465 | 55,203 | +2,245                  | +4        |
| 1978 | 726  | 7,933   | 45,039 | 53,698 | -1,505                  | -3        |
| 1979 | 627  | 7,528   | 42,157 | 50,308 | -3,390                  | -6        |

# APPENDIX 22

Monthly personal injury traffic accident totals

| Month        | 1978  | 1979  | Change this year over previous year |           |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
|              |       |       | Number                              | Per cent. |
| January ..   | 4,569 | 3,604 | -965                                | -21       |
| February ..  | 3,797 | 3,253 | -544                                | -14       |
| March ..     | 4,432 | 6,152 | +280                                | +6        |
| April ..     | 4,238 | 3,880 | -358                                | -8        |
| May ..       | 4,440 | 4,342 | -98                                 | -2        |
| June ..      | 4,325 | 4,079 | -246                                | -6        |
| July ..      | 4,372 | 4,055 | -317                                | -7        |
| August ..    | 4,182 | 4,048 | -134                                | -3        |
| September .. | 4,676 | 4,325 | -351                                | -6        |
| October ..   | 4,786 | 4,910 | +124                                | +3        |
| November ..  | 4,962 | 4,954 | -8                                  | -         |
| December ..  | 4,969 | 4,706 | -263                                | -5        |

o Less than 0.5 per cent.

# APPENDIX 23

Personal injury traffic accident characteristics

|   | Vehicles per accident |        |       |      |      |     |       |    | Eight or more | Total |
|---|-----------------------|--------|-------|------|------|-----|-------|----|---------------|-------|
|   | One                   | Two    | Three | Four | Five | Six | Seven |    |               |       |
| All accidents                           | 591                   | 1,045  | 52    | 15   | 49   | 14  | 3     | 1  | 1,700         |       |
| At junctions                            | 7,678                 | 10,420 | 1,270 | 222  | 49   | 14  | 3     | 1  | 19,607        |       |
| Roundabouts                             | 3,666                 | 5,712  | 578   | 116  | 20   | 3   | 1     | 1  | 9,493         |       |
| or staggered junctions                  | 312                   | 312    | 40    | 8    | 4    | 1   | 1     | 1  | 1,077         |       |
| Cross-roads                             | 477                   | 487    | 50    | 13   | 1    | —   | —     | —  | 1,027         |       |
| Other junction                          | 116                   | 768    | 65    | 13   | —    | —   | —     | —  | 1,027         |       |
| Using private drive or entrance         | 116                   | 6,193  | 43    | 13   | 74   | 22  | 13    | 11 | 920           |       |
| Not at or within 20 yards of a junction | 8,022                 | 6,193  | 1,301 | 241  | 74   | 22  | 13    | 11 | 15,977        |       |
| All accidents                           | 20,674                | 25,379 | 3,343 | 718  | 152  | 41  | 19    | 12 | 50,308        |       |
| All pedestrian crossings                | 11                    | 15     | 1     | 1    | —    | —   | —     | —  | 27            |       |
| Manually controlled                     | 1,330                 | 1,449  | 136   | 26   | 3    | 1   | 1     | 1  | 3,247         |       |
| Light-controlled—see at junction        | 2,071                 | 2,518  | 250   | 14   | 3    | 1   | 1     | 1  | 4,447         |       |
| Uncontrolled                            | 2,671                 | 2,552  | —     | 47   | 9    | —   | —     | —  | 5,669         |       |
| All pedestrian crossings*               | 5,049                 | 4,724  | 497   | 87   | 15   | 5   | —     | —  | 10,377        |       |
| All pedestrian crossings accidents*     | 15,625                | 20,602 | 2,846 | 651  | 137  | 36  | 19    | 12 | 39,931        |       |
| Accident not at pedestrian crossings    | 20,674                | 25,379 | 3,343 | 718  | 152  | 41  | 19    | 12 | 50,308        |       |
| All accidents                           |                       |        |       |      |      |     |       |    |               |       |

\* These figures include accidents with or without pedestrian casualties.

# APPENDIX 24

## Vehicles involved in personal injury traffic accidents

| Types of vehicle                                   | 1978    | 1979    | Change this year over previous year |          |
|--|---------|---------|-------------------------------------|----------|
|  |         |         | Number                              | Per cent |
| Pedal cycles .. .. .                               | 4,103   | 4,510   | +407                                | +5       |
| Mopeds .. .. .                                     | 1,887   | 1,610   | -277                                | -15      |
| Motor scooters .. .. .                             | 78      | 105     | +30                                 | +38      |
| Motor cycles .. .. .                               | 11,354  | 10,176  | -1,178                              | -10      |
| Motor cycle, scooter or moped combinations .. .. . | 12      | 10      | -2                                  | -1       |
| Cars and cabs .. .. .                              | 58,760* | 55,410* | -3,350                              | -6       |
| Buses and coaches .. .. .                          | 4,706   | 3,904   | -802                                | -9       |
| Goods vehicles—<br>not over 1½ tons† .. .. .       | 6,421   | 5,896   | -525                                | -8       |
| over 1½ tons but not over 3 tons† .. .. .          | 106     | 219     | +113                                | +107     |
| over 3 tons† .. .. .                               | 2,270   | 2,258   | -12                                 | -1       |
| Other motor vehicles .. .. .                       | 1,484   | 1,428   | -56                                 | -4       |
| Other non-motor vehicles .. .. .                   | 31      | 26      | -5                                  | -1       |
| All types .. .. .                                  | 91,012  | 85,555  | -5,457                              | -6       |

\* One or more cabs were involved in 1,013 accidents in 1978 and in 850 accidents in 1979.

† Unladen weight.

‡ Too small to be reliable.

§ Less than 0.5 per cent.

# APPENDIX 25

## Deaths and injuries in traffic accidents by types of road user

| Type of road user                | 1978   | 1979   | Change this year over previous year |          |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|----------|
|                                  |        |        | Number                              | Per cent |
| <b>Pedestrians</b> .. .. .       |        |        |                                     |          |
| Deaths .. .. .                   | 367    | 347    | -20                                 | -5       |
| Serious injuries .. .. .         | 3,234  | 2,988  | -246                                | -8       |
| Slight injuries .. .. .          | 12,754 | 11,812 | -942                                | -7       |
| <b>Total casualties</b> .. .. .  | 16,355 | 15,147 | -1,208                              | -7       |
| <b>Pedal cyclists</b> .. .. .    |        |        |                                     |          |
| Deaths .. .. .                   | 39     | 31     | -8                                  | -4       |
| Serious injuries .. .. .         | 449    | 462    | +13                                 | +3       |
| Slight injuries .. .. .          | 3,613  | 3,793  | +180                                | +5       |
| <b>Total casualties</b> .. .. .  | 4,101  | 4,286  | +185                                | +4       |
| <b>Motor cyclists*</b> .. .. .   |        |        |                                     |          |
| Deaths .. .. .                   | 111    | 102    | -9                                  | -8       |
| Serious injuries .. .. .         | 1,913  | 1,704  | -209                                | -11      |
| Slight injuries .. .. .          | 9,381  | 8,434  | -947                                | -10      |
| <b>Total casualties</b> .. .. .  | 11,405 | 10,240 | -1,165                              | -10      |
| <b>Other road users†</b> .. .. . |        |        |                                     |          |
| Deaths .. .. .                   | 239    | 171    | -68                                 | -28      |
| Serious injuries .. .. .         | 3,335  | 3,207  | -128                                | -4       |
| Slight injuries .. .. .          | 31,407 | 29,157 | -2,250                              | -7       |
| <b>Total casualties</b> .. .. .  | 34,981 | 32,537 | -2,444                              | -7       |
| <b>All road users</b> .. .. .    |        |        |                                     |          |
| Deaths .. .. .                   | 756    | 683    | -73                                 | -14      |
| Serious injuries .. .. .         | 8,911  | 8,361  | -550                                | -6       |
| Slight injuries .. .. .          | 97,155 | 93,196 | -3,959                              | -7       |
| <b>Total casualties</b> .. .. .  | 66,842 | 62,210 | -4,632                              | -7       |

\*Includes riders of mopeds, scooters, motor cycles and motor cycle combinations.

†Mainly drivers of, and passengers in, vehicles.

‡Too small to be reliable.

**Oil**

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<sup>12</sup>General cautions includes written solutions and cautions by senior officers of juveniles in the presence of their parents. Includes damages driving prior to implementation of Section 50 of the Criminal Law Act 1977 on 1st December 1977. Includes aspect of regulations governing pedestrian crossings by either stationary or moving vehicles. For comparison with Appendix 12. See also footnotes to Appendix 12.

Quarterly statistics of breath tests, analyses of specimens, etc.

APPENDIX 28

|  | 1978    | 1979           |                |                |               |         |
|--|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
|  | Total   | Jan.-<br>March | April-<br>June | July-<br>Sept. | Oct.-<br>Dec. | Total   |
| <i>At scene. Breath tests and arrests</i>  |         |                |                |                |               |         |
| Total of persons required to take breath test or arrested under S.5(5), R.T. Act 1972 <sup>a</sup> | 17,831† | 5,159†         | 5,706†         | 5,451          | 6,380         | 22,696† |
| Breath test negative <sup>b</sup>  | 2,307   | 1,337          | 1,158          | 955            | 1,416         | 4,866   |
| Breath test positive   | 10,835  | 2,531          | 3,128          | 3,185          | 3,433         | 12,277  |
| Breath test refused  | 2,457†  | 693†           | 718†           | 654            | 761           | 2,826†  |
| Arrest under S.5(5), R.T. Act 1972   |         |                |                |                |               |         |
| No requirement   | 2,232   | 598            | 702            | 657            | 770           | 2,727   |
| Arrest after negative result   | 108     | 3              | 3              | 1              | 1             | 8       |
| Total persons arrested/reported  | 15,632  | 3,825          | 4,551          | 4,497          | 4,965         | 17,838  |
| <i>At station. Required to take a breath test</i>  |         |                |                |                |               |         |
| Breath test negative   | 1,528   | 287            | 347            | 356            | 313           | 1,303   |
| Breath test positive   | 11,436  | 2,872          | 3,422          | 3,389          | 3,724         | 13,407  |
| Breath test not provided   | 2,656   | 666            | 782            | 751            | 927           | 3,126   |
| Totals   | 15,620† | 3,825          | 4,551          | 4,496†         | 4,964†        | 17,836† |
| <i>Laboratory specimens. For analysis</i>  |         |                |                |                |               |         |
| Blood specimen given   | 11,550  | 2,917          | 3,418          | 3,379          | 3,844         | 13,558  |
| Urine specimen given   | 1,612   | 387            | 535            | 505            | 505           | 1,932   |
| Specimen refused   | 987     | 236            | 254            | 275            | 311           | 1,076   |
| Totals   | 14,149  | 3,540          | 4,207          | 4,159          | 4,660         | 16,566  |
| <i>Result of analysis</i>  |         |                |                |                |               |         |
| Under prescribed limit   | 2,514   | 580            | 736            | 745            | 792           | 2,853   |
| Over prescribed limit  | 10,558  | 2,707          | 3,207          | 3,130          | 3,543         | 12,587  |
| Not analysed—specimen insufficient or spoiled, etc.  | 85      | 15             | 7              | 10             | 15            | 47      |
| Total analysed   | 13,157  | 3,302          | 3,950          | 3,885          | 4,350         | 15,487  |

<sup>a</sup>These figures are incomplete; the increase in 1979 is due to an improved method of data collection.

†Includes instances of hospital doctors objecting to breath test.

‡Excludes drivers with a positive breath test who were not arrested.

APPENDIX 29

Fixed penalty notices issued

|   | By police |         |                              | By traffic wardens |           |                              | Totals    |           |                              |
|---|-----------|---------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|
|   | 1978      | 1979    | Increase or decrease in 1979 | 1978               | 1979      | Increase or decrease in 1979 | 1978      | 1979      | Increase or decrease in 1979 |
|   |           |         |                              |                    |           |                              |           |           |                              |
| Parking place offences in controlled parking zones                          | 4,162     | 6,058   | + 1,896                      | 397,028            | 372,182   | - 24,846                     | 401,190   | 378,240   | - 22,950                     |
| Restricted street offences in controlled parking zones                      | 26,919    | 39,362  | + 12,443                     | 778,374            | 806,863   | + 28,489                     | 805,293   | 846,225   | + 40,932                     |
| Restricted street offences outside controlled parking zones (not clearways) | 40,246    | 58,876  | + 18,630                     | 185,256            | 179,203   | - 7,053                      | 226,502   | 238,079   | + 11,577                     |
| Clearway offences   | 9,804     | 17,567  | + 7,763                      | 49,307             | 52,625    | + 3,318                      | 59,111    | 70,192    | + 11,081                     |
| Vehicle lighting offences   | 301       | 423     | + 122                        | 5                  | 18        | + 13                         | 306       | 441       | + 135                        |
| Waiting offences on cab ranks   | 482       | 700     | + 218                        | 2,922              | 3,938     | + 1,016                      | 3,404     | 4,638     | + 1,234                      |
| Waiting offences on bus stops   | 804       | 1,318   | + 514                        | 2,103              | 2,455     | + 352                        | 2,907     | 3,773     | + 866                        |
| *Unspecified  | 215       | 755     | + 540                        | 706                | 18,777    | + 18,071                     | 921       | 19,532    | + 18,611                     |
| All offences  | 82,933    | 125,059 | + 42,126                     | 1,416,701          | 1,436,061 | + 19,360                     | 1,499,634 | 1,561,120 | + 61,486                     |

\*For temporary technical reasons these notices were not analysed by specific offence code.

## APPENDIX 30

## Results of appeals made in the London Weekend Television programme "Police 5"

| Subjects of appeal  | Total number of cases shown on television | Cases in which there was no response | Cases in which information of no immediate use was received | Cases in which information received was of direct use in the investigation | Number of arrests directly attributable to the appeals |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Murders and suspicious deaths   | 29  | 2                                    | 10  | 17   | 5  |
| Attempted murders and assaults  | 4   | —                                    | 3   | 1  | —  |
| Bomb incidents  | 2   | —                                    | —   | 2  | —  |
| Robberies   | 54  | 5                                    | 15  | 34   | 19   |
| Sexual offences   | 9   | —                                    | 1   | 8  | 5  |
| Abduction/missing persons   | 7   | 1                                    | 3   | 3  | 1  |
| Arson   | 1   | —                                    | —   | 1  | 2  |
| Thefts of paintings, antiques, silverware, objects d'art  | 2   | —                                    | 2   | —  | —  |
| Thefts of clothing and accessories  | 17  | 6                                    | 5   | 6  | 1  |
| Thefts of jewellery, clocks, watches, lighters, metals  | 10  | 4                                    | 3   | 3  | 10   |
| Thefts of food, drink, toys, tobacco, radio and electrical equipment, cameras, musical instruments, furnishings | 13  | 1                                    | 2   | 10   | 5  |
| Property in police possession   | 14  | 2                                    | 3   | 9  | 11   |
| Miscellaneous   | 7   | —                                    | 4   | 3  | —  |
| Totals  | 169                                       | 21                                   | 51  | 97   | 59   |
| Value of response (per cent)  |   | 12                                   | 30  | 57   |  |
| 1978 figures for comparison:  |   |                                      |   |  |  |
| Totals  | 219                                       | 31                                   | 86  | 102  | 60   |
| Value of response (per cent)  |   | 14                                   | 39  | 41   |  |

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## APPENDIX 31

## Metropolitan Police Fund 1978/79

| Receipts  | £           |
|---|-------------|
| A—Government grants   | 144,560,000 |
| B—Grants on local authorities within the Metropolitan Police District | 158,832,000 |
| C—Grants in respect of police and auxiliaries specially employed      | 9,335,000   |
| D—Contributions by police and civilian staff towards pension etc.     | 7,248,000   |
| E—Interest on cash balances   | 5,002,000   |
| F—Sale of surplus property  | 2,005,000   |
| G—Police catering receipts  | 1,520,000   |
| H—Miscellaneous receipts  | 18,581,000  |
| Total   | 350,809,000 |

| Payments  | £           |
|---|-------------|
| A—Administrative expenses including salaries etc. of civil staff                | 33,183,000  |
| B—Pay, allowances, clothing and equipment of police and auxiliaries             | 183,184,000 |
| C—Land and buildings: capital expenditure                                       | 12,370,000  |
| D—Land and buildings: repairs, rent, rates, fuel etc.                           | 26,149,000  |
| E—Equipment   | 16,148,000  |
| F—Police catering   | 7,551,000   |
| G—Pensions, etc. of police and retired members of the Metropolitan Police Force | 34,608,000  |
| H—Miscellaneous expenses  | 10,105,000  |
| Total   | 343,378,000 |

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# APPENDIX 32

## Research into offences of robbery committed while on bail

For several years the Force has been concerned at the number of people arrested for serious crimes who were found to be on bail at the time of the offence. Research into the abuse of bail undertaken during 1976 and 1977 was described in the Reports for those years; although this research provided a valuable indication of the extent of absconding while on bail, data relating to offences committed while on bail proved to be unreliable. Further research was undertaken during 1979 to quantify the extent of this problem in relation to arrests for robbery and to determine the characteristics of those on bail at the time of arrest and whether bail was subsequently granted for the robbery offence. The scope of the research was restricted to robbery arrests because this enabled useful information to be obtained with limited resources about an offence in which there is much public interest and because it was thought that a substantial number of these offences were committed by people on bail. Since the research was based only on arrests for robbery, however, the conclusions cannot be extended to arrest for other offences nor can the results provide estimates of the proportion of people granted bail who subsequently offended while on bail.

A detailed bail form was completed by the officer in the case in relation to 1,678 people arrested for robbery in 1979; for a variety of operational and administrative reasons no bail form was completed for about 1 per cent of robbery arrests recorded in 1979 and these arrests have been excluded from the analysis throughout. The form recorded details of the prisoner, the offences, if any, for which the accused was on bail at the time of the arrest for robbery, the circumstances in which bail had been granted in the earlier case and whether bail had been granted in the current case at the time the form was completed. All 1,678 bail forms which had been completed were analysed and the statistics and commentary in this appendix are drawn entirely from these forms.

### Arrests for robbery

Of the 1,678 people arrested for robbery 510 (30 per cent) were juveniles (aged 10 to 16), 547 (33 per cent) people aged 17 to 20 and 621 (37 per cent) adults aged 21 and over; this age distribution is similar to that for robbery arrests in recent years. Of those arrested for robbery 23 per cent (378 out of 1,678) were found to be on bail at the time of arrest. Analysed by age group the proportions on bail were as follows:—

| Age in years | Percentage on bail |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 10-16        | 17                 |
| 17-20        | 28                 |
| 21 and over  | 22                 |
| All ages     | 23                 |

This shows clearly that the proportion of juveniles who were on bail at the time of their arrest was lower than the average for all ages, whereas, for those aged 17 to 20 the proportion on bail was relatively high.

Table A below shows, for the 378 on bail at the time of the robbery arrest, the most serious offences for which bail had been granted. It should be noted that the figures for "other offences" contain some offences which are not included in the crime statistics discussed in Chapter 4. As can be seen nearly 90 per cent of those on bail had been granted bail for "serious crimes". For 26 per cent of those on bail the most serious

# APPENDIX 32 (continued)

offence was burglary, for 17 per cent robbery and for 15 per cent "other theft and handling". For juveniles the proportion on bail for robbery, nearly 25 per cent, was particularly high. By comparison with the proportions among all 120,164 arrests for all crime in 1979, offences of assault, robbery, "other violent theft" and burglary each accounted for a relatively high proportion of the offences for which bail had been granted, amounting in the case of robbery to 17 per cent, even though arrests for robbery in 1979 accounted for less than 2 per cent of all arrests. This over-representation of certain offences was similar for all age groups.

TABLE A:  
Persons arrested for robbery who were on bail at the time of their arrest, by age group and offence type for which bailed

| Crime category,<br>Metropolitan Police<br>Office classification | Age group |            |             | Total      |
|---|-----------|------------|-------------|------------|
|   | 10-16     | 17-20      | 21 and over |            |
| <b>Crimes of violence:</b>                                      |           |            |             |            |
| Assault .. .. .   | 5         | 14         | 18          | 37         |
| Robbery .. .. .   | 20        | 22         | 23          | 65         |
| Other violent theft .. .. .                                     | 8         | 7          | 4           | 19         |
| Burglary .. .. .  | 24        | 42         | 34          | 100        |
| Auto-crime .. .. .  | 10        | 14         | 8           | 32         |
| Other theft and handling .. .. .                                | 8         | 24         | 25          | 57         |
| Fraud and forgery .. .. .                                       | 2         | 6          | 7           | 15         |
| Criminal damage etc. .. .. .                                    | —         | 7          | 6           | 13         |
| <b>Total serious crimes .. .. .</b>                             | <b>77</b> | <b>134</b> | <b>125</b>  | <b>336</b> |
| <b>Suspected person .. .. .</b>                                 | <b>6</b>  | <b>6</b>   | <b>2</b>    | <b>14</b>  |
| <b>Offensive weapon .. .. .</b>                                 | <b>2</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>2</b>    | <b>8</b>   |
| <b>Other offences .. .. .</b>                                   | <b>1</b>  | <b>10</b>  | <b>9</b>    | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>Total less serious offences .. .. .</b>                      | <b>9</b>  | <b>20</b>  | <b>13</b>   | <b>42</b>  |
| <b>Grand total .. .. .</b>                                      | <b>86</b> | <b>154</b> | <b>138</b>  | <b>378</b> |

Among the 378 who were on bail for a previous offence there were 109, almost 30 per cent, who had more than one case outstanding at the time of the robbery arrest (i.e. they were already on bail at the time of the offence prior to the robbery). This means that one in 15 of all those arrested for robbery was on bail with at least two earlier cases outstanding. The age distribution of those with two or more cases outstanding and the offence distribution of the more serious of the earlier offences was generally similar to the age and offence distribution in Table A, although of the 27 juveniles with more than one case outstanding, burglary was the most serious of the earlier offences for 17, over 60 per cent.

The majority (81 per cent) of the 378 suspects on bail at the time of their arrest for robbery had been granted bail by either a juvenile or magistrates' court. Police had granted bail to 62 (16 per cent) and crown courts or judge in chambers to eight. These figures relate only to the bailing authority responsible for the most recent grant of bail prior to the most recent arrest and may reflect the relatively long period spent by defendants on bail granted by juvenile or magistrates' courts. Police had objected to bail in the cases of 178 of the 378, more than 47 per cent.

The analysis of the use of weapons in the current robbery cases showed that about 15 per cent of arrests related to an offence involving a firearm and over 20 per cent

# APPENDIX 32 (continued)

to an offence where some other weapon had been used. Those on bail at the time of the arrest were no more or less likely than those not on bail to be a suspect in cases involving a weapon. Nor was there any tendency for those on bail to be disproportionately associated with robberies where any particular type of weapon, such as a firearm, had been used.

## Granting of bail in the current case

The police objected to the bail of 902 people out of the total of 1,678 arrests for robbery, 54 per cent. Police objections to the bail of juveniles were less frequent (25 per cent) than for those aged 21 and over (about 70 per cent). Also, police were more likely to object to bail if the suspect was on bail at the time of arrest—police objected to the bail of more than 80 per cent of those on bail when arrested compared with 45 per cent of those not on bail. For juveniles these two factors combined to give a very low rate of objection to bail by police of just over 15 per cent for those not on bail when arrested; by contrast police objected to the bail of nearly 90 per cent of those aged 17 or more who were on bail at the time of the current robbery offence.

The bail form merely indicated whether bail had been granted in the current case by the time the form was completed. Since in some cases bail may have been granted after the form had been returned for analysis the results presented here are likely to understate the number of persons arrested for robbery who were granted bail at some stage. Of the 1,678 people arrested, 1,608 (96 per cent) had already been granted bail when the bail form was completed. In only 33 cases out of 776 where police did not object to bail had bail not been granted. Since bail was almost always granted if there were no police objections Table B below analyses the granting of bail only in cases where the police had made objections.

TABLE B:  
Persons arrested for robbery: police objections to bail being granted by age,  
whether on bail at the time of arrest and whether bail granted in the current case

| Whether on bail at the time of arrest and whether bail granted in current case | Age group |       |             | Total |
|--|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|
|  | 10-16     | 17-20 | 21 and over |       |
| On bail when arrested:   |           |       |             |       |
| Bail granted   | 30        | 40    | 26          | 96    |
| Bail not granted   | 27        | 97    | 93          | 217   |
| Total  | 57        | 137   | 119         | 313   |
| Percentage granted bail  | 52%       | 29%   | 22%         | 31%   |
| Not on bail when arrested:   |           |       |             |       |
| Bail granted   | 37        | 99    | 133         | 269   |
| Bail not granted   | 34        | 97    | 189         | 330   |
| Total  | 71        | 196   | 322         | 589   |
| Percentage granted bail  | 52%       | 51%   | 41%         | 46%   |
| All arrests:   |           |       |             |       |
| Bail granted   | 67        | 139   | 159         | 365   |
| Bail not granted   | 61        | 194   | 282         | 537   |
| Total  | 128       | 333   | 441         | 902   |
| Percentage granted bail  | 52%       | 42%   | 36%         | 40%   |

# APPENDIX 32 (continued)

Of the 902 people for whom the police objected to bail, 355 (40 per cent) had already been granted bail by the time the bail form was completed. As can be seen from Table B above police objections to bail were relatively more successful for those suspects on bail when arrested and there was also a tendency for the proportion granted bail to decline as the age of the suspect increased. Where the suspect had not been on bail about 45 per cent received bail in the current case and about 50 per cent of those on bail when arrested were again granted bail—this was despite police objections. For juveniles, over 50 per cent were granted bail even when there was a police case against and this proportion was identical for both those on bail and not on bail when arrested.

Of the 212 people accused of robbery where a firearm had been used 120, about 45 per cent, are known to have been granted bail in the current case—this is a lower proportion than the proportion (56 per cent) among the total 1,678 robbery arrests. For no other weapon type was the corresponding percentage significantly different from the overall figure.

## Conclusion

The research has shown that of 1,678 people arrested for robbery, 23 per cent were found to be on bail at the time of the arrest and that of those aged 17 to 20 years the proportion on bail was 28 per cent. Of those on bail, nearly 90 per cent had been granted bail for "serious crimes" and offences of assault, robbery, "other violent theft" and burglary were particularly prominent. Almost 30 per cent of those on bail when arrested for robbery had more than one case already outstanding. Police opposed bail for 902 defendants but 365 of them (40 per cent) nevertheless succeeded in obtaining bail. Of that number, 96 were already on bail at the time of being arrested for robbery.