THE WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA

Report by Mark Langhorn

2008 Churchill Fellow

THE DONALD MACKAY CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIP to study investigative techniques and training methodology in relation to Transnational Crime

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Signed ........................................
(Mark Langhorn) 6th February 2009
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INTRODUCTION

‘Transnational Crime – a by-product of globalisation’

Globalisation can be described as the “collapsing of time and space, the process whereby, through mass communication, multinational commerce, internationalized politics and transnational regulation, we seem to be moving inexorably towards a single culture” (Findlay 2004: 83, Findlay 1999:viii). Globalisation has increased the permeability of national borders and a faster flow of commodities, money, information and human beings (Kadono 1999:119). Globalisation also creates new and favourable contexts for crime. Crime is now as much a feature of a globalised culture as any other aspect of its consumerism (Findlay 1999: 1 – 2).

Findlay (2004: 100) identifies a number of features of globalisation that has irrefutable connections with crime:

- **Crime and opportunity** – Information technology and the worldwide web facilitate this. All crime that is possible and more attractive through instantaneous communication methodologies will grow.
- **Crime and socio-economic disadvantage** – the nature of victimisation as a result of many fundamental global crime problems (particularly for women and children) will be directed from rich to poor.
- **Crime and social marginalisation** – marginalisation and alienation are dividing modern societies by race, religion, age, drugs of choice, sexuality, etc. Crime, as its by-product will grow within advanced industrial societies.
- **Crimes of the powerful** – with the abuse of power comes crime. Terrorism will grow as an alternative resolution.

This project recognises the effects of globalisation on crime and law enforcement around the world and the subsequent links and impacts upon crime and law enforcement in Australia. Law enforcement agencies must recognise the emergence of crime types and methodologies witnessed by other nations and consider a response at a local level to this.

Due to the restricted access to certain information and ongoing cases and investigative methods, parts of this report have to be referred to in a general sense. If law enforcement officials seek further detailed information they are able to contact the author.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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OUTLINE OF PROJECT

The Donald Mackay Churchill Fellowship enabled travel to Fiji, USA, Canada, UK, The Netherlands and Thailand, to study investigative techniques and training methodology in respect of transnational crime.

Transnational Crime is regarded as any crime that originates or has extensive links to another country and is often perpetrated by organised crime groups. Such crimes that are regarded as transnational crime include cyber crime, internet fraud, drug importation, human trafficking, child pornography/paedophilia, and terrorism.

This study was conducted by visiting agencies and training establishments to witness first hand what methods are employed to prevent, deter and investigate transnational crime and how these agencies train their members in that respect.

The investigative agencies visited and studied within this project were the Transnational Crime Units and Criminal Intelligence Division in Fiji; Department of Homeland Security in the US; Serious Organised Crime Agency, Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency in the UK; Europol and Expertisecentrum Menenhandel & Mensensmokkel in The Netherlands; as well as the Australian High Commission, Law Enforcement Liaison, in each country visited.

The training venues visited and studied during this project were the Fiji Police Academy; Pacific Regional Training Centre in Canada; Federal Law Enforcement Training Centre in the US; West Yorkshire Police in the UK; KLPD Zuidelaren Training Centre in the Netherlands; International Law Enforcement Academy and Royal Thai Police Education Bureau in Thailand.

FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

By being able to visit various agencies around the world a comparison of investigative and training methods was able to be achieved. This ensured that there was exposure to not only the best, but also innovative and contemporary approaches to targeting transnational crime and related training programmes. The recommendations made for law enforcement in Australia are what the author believes to be world class and suitable to advance transnational crime investigation and training in this country. They include –
1. Forming a Child Exploitation Online Protection Agency, being a central body that houses social workers, police, educators, call takers, analysts and covert operatives as a coordinated approach to preventing, disrupting and investigating the exploitation and abuse of children and child pornography and paedophile rings.

2. An integrated Federal and State response to Human Trafficking in partnership with other NGO’s.

3. Increase education of State Police in respect of Human Trafficking, not only in the sex industry but also forced labour markets.

4. Each state to increase targeting of licensed and unlicensed brothels as an approach to tackling Human Trafficking and disrupting organised crime.

5. A coordinated response involving partners and stakeholders combining to focus their efforts in relation to all forms of transnational crime.

6. Introduce and develop specialised cyber crime courses that are delivered to a greater number of law enforcement participants.

7. Re-evaluation of the law enforcement training environment to incorporate vocational and specialist courses in respect of transnational crime.

8. Access global initiatives by sending Australian law-enforcement officers to innovative and contemporary courses already developed by law enforcement agencies around the world.

9. Access industry experts from private industry and utilise their expertise to develop and deliver training to law enforcement personnel in specialised areas.

10. Harness expertise from within law enforcement and develop commercialised training courses that can be delivered to private and public stakeholders.

**DISSEMINATION**

The recommendations arising from this report are to be disseminated by the following methods.

- Submission of report to the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for publication on their website.
- Submission of report to the Australian Police Journal (National Publication) for consideration of Editor to publish.
- Submission of paper to the International Police Association & Victoria Police Association for consideration of publishing in their publications.
- Presentation to the Victoria Police Corporate Committee in April 2008 on recommendations relevant to Victoria Police.
- Presentation to Australian Commissioners Conference (pending negotiation).
- Submission of report to the Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention, University of Wollongong, for consideration of publication in academic journals.
• Presentation to the Combined Services Clubs of Griffith.
• Contribute to the enhancement of Victoria Police Training at the Victoria Police Academy through input into the development of training courses in accordance with the recommendations and lessons learnt.
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME - 2008

21\textsuperscript{ST} September – 26\textsuperscript{th} September
Suva & Nadi, Fiji

- Australian High Commission, Law Enforcement Liaison
- Suva, Transnational Crime Unit
- Suva, Criminal Intelligence Division
- Fiji Police Academy
- Nadi, Transnational Crime Unit

27\textsuperscript{th} September – 5\textsuperscript{th} October
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
(Privately Funded)

- Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Pacific Regional Training Centre

6\textsuperscript{th} October - 10\textsuperscript{th} October
Washington DC, USA

- Australian Embassy, Law Enforcement Liaison
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (Liaison)

13\textsuperscript{th} October – 18\textsuperscript{th} October
Glynco, Georgia, USA

- Federal Law Enforcement Training Centre, Department of Homeland Security

19\textsuperscript{th} October – 1\textsuperscript{st} November
London & surrounds, United Kingdom

- Serious Organised Crime Agency
- Child Exploitation & Online Protection Agency
- West Yorkshire Police
- Australian High Commission, Law Enforcement Liaison

5\textsuperscript{th} November – 18\textsuperscript{th} November
The Netherlands

- Australian High Commission, Law Enforcement Liaison
- Europol
- Dutch Bureau of National Rapporteur Mensenhandel (BNRM)
- Expertisecentrum Mensenhandel & Mensensmokkel (EMM)
- KLPD Training Centre, Zuidelaren

18\textsuperscript{th} November – 2\textsuperscript{nd} December
Thailand

- International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA)
- Royal Thai Police Education Bureau
- Australian High Commission, Law Enforcement Liaison
THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

Because of the nature of society as a whole, there are regions around the world where one crime type is more prevalent than another. This is because of regional instability. For instance, a number of African nations are susceptible to overseas organised crime due to the political environment and the corrupt nature of government; if a government exists at all. Although, from an Australian perspective, the types of crimes that we would associate with these African nations seem on the surface to be in contrast to anything that would occur in Australia; evidence arising out of the United Kingdom will show just how third world countries become the unwitting partner in organised and transnational crime.

FIJI

Examples of underdeveloped nations that unwittingly become the haven of organised crime include many of the islands to the north of Australia. Countries such as Nauru, Solomon Islands, East Timor, Tonga and Fiji are all a conduit to Australia’s northern borders. Fiji was visited as part of this fellowship and it is evident that the countries law enforcement capabilities have been hampered by the 2006 coup. To this day, the military are still in rule in Fiji and the Australian government’s position is not to aid the country whilst it remains in this state of rule. Law enforcement in Fiji relies heavily on foreign support. What is evident is that the Fiji police are committed to fighting crime and work closely with police on neighbouring South Pacific Islands. With assistance from the Australian Federal Police, Fiji was first to set up its own Transnational Crime Unit (TCU) based both in Suva and Nadi. Fiji also was home to the Transnational Crime Coordination Centre, but since the coup, this moved to Samoa.

The need for the TCU was evident as organised criminals were using the islands to ply their trade. Drugs and weapons are easily shipped by yacht between the islands. Long haul shipping can come out of North America, and even South America, easily to the South Pacific. Once the illegal wares reach the islands, it is easy to sail undetected around the islands and virtually to the north coast of Australia.

The other trend is for illegally gained money to be shipped through the south pacific to Australia to be laundered. A recent success was a large Clandestine Laboratory, the equipment having been shipped in from New Zealand, found set up in a factory in the jungle areas of Fiji. Many criminals see the inability of police in the region to resource their investigations as an attractive reason to run their crime from within the country and then export their wares, such as drugs, to the western markets, including Australia.
NORTH AMERICA

Canada is one country experiencing the emergence of transnational crime in a number of contexts. In a number of respects, Canada resembles Australia in various ways – the threats that we face, law enforcement structure and response, and legislative frameworks.

Canada is identifying that Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) is an issue. THB is often a hidden problem, that is also often unidentifiable by police because they are not trained what to look for. When we think of human trafficking we tend to picture barely sea worthy boats coming south from Indonesia, full of refugees. In reality, this is people smuggling and the people on the boat have generally paid a fee to get on board and are willing participants. THB is the movement or holding of people against their will. It often involves women and children who find themselves working as slave labour or in prostitution. THB is far more prevalent in Europe, which will be touched on shortly. In Canada, like in Australia, what is emerging is that women are often deceived as to their purpose of coming into a country. They believe they are coming to work in hospitality or the like, but upon arriving they are taken by organised crime gangs who remove their passports and demand that they work off the fee performing prostitution; a practice known as Debt Bondage.

Similarly, the southern states of the US are witnessing similar problems with Mexicans and even women from El Salvador and other third world South American countries. The women have been smuggled over the border or arrive on visitors visas and are met by organised crime gangs. The women are held as sex slaves and ordered to work in illegal brothels. Money is often sent back to the woman’s family. The difficulty is that the women are too frightened to talk to authorities because of fear of rape and retribution. The authority’s search for the true identity of the victim to assist with repatriation is hampered because the family she left behind do not want her to
return because they are receiving money. This highlights the difficulty to prove that the victim is in fact a victim of trafficking, but intelligence indicates this is a common situation.

Additionally, Canada is now a country that is recognised as a conduit for large movements of drugs. Recent examples of seizures in Canada and Australia highlight this. In May & June 2008, two large shipments of amphetamines and ice were located in Sydney and Melbourne. The drugs, valued at $78million, were hidden in foot spas and originated from Canada (Davis & Rout 2008: online June 12). As a result, exports from Canada are now undergoing increased scrutiny. In fact, Canada is recognised as producing high quality cannabis, often in hydroponic grow houses. The trend here, as is also the case in Australia, is that the houses are rented, often by people of South East Asian descent. Again, like with THB, sitters are brought over from South East Asian countries to mind the crop whilst it grows. Intelligence reveals that much of this high quality cannabis is trafficked to the United States in exchange for cocaine and the cocaine is trafficked into Canada.

The United States, as can be expected after the events of 9/11, are heavily focused on border protection. There are some estimated 600,000 – 800,000 illegal immigrants that cross their borders every year. Many are refugees, but others are trafficked or smuggled into the country. Others are there for a more sinister purpose, terrorism. The prevention of terrorist activity is a prime focus of the US and this is evident from the increase in strength and the significant financial resources provided to the Department of Homeland Security, whose 26 agencies are focused on the protection of the United States and its citizens (refer Appendix 1).

UNITED KINGDOM

The United Kingdom is a small country rich in culture. It is largely a multi-cultural society with great diversity in economic and social divides. This makes it relatively easy for organised criminals to exist, often undetected. The events of 7th July 2005, show how a group of British born Muslims were radicalised by home-grown terror cells and planned a wave of terror on London. Law enforcement in the UK has learnt from the lethargy that led up to these bombings and now focus their attention not only far and wide, but within its own borders. Terrorism is not a new phenomenon to the British, facing the daily threat of bombings from the IRA over many years. Where the ever present danger faced by IRA terrorist attacks has subsided, British law enforcement was unprepared for their own citizens to act in this manner. The response is a large increase in intelligence focused law enforcement coupled with community policing practices.

The UK is also facing a large threat from Organised Crime gangs. The type of society that exists in the UK provides a market place and demand for drugs, prostitution, child pornography and cyber crime. For instance, on January 29 2009, Michael Morgan was jailed for 10 months for possessing one of the largest known collection of child porn, some 400000 images. He was part of a global online organisation of paedophiles and was detected by the FBI in the USA (West Lothian Courier, online). The response from UK law enforcement in these areas is impressive.
NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands and Belgium are the world’s largest producers of synthetic drugs. Synthetic drugs are ecstasy (MDMA) and amphetamine. The reason given by the Dutch for this is because of the expertise within the country. There is on average 4 – 6 tonnes of amphetamines seized annually in the European Union (EU), and an average of 15-20 million tablets (refer Appendix 2). In 2007, there were 91 clandestine laboratories dismantled in the EU, most capable of making over 300kg of product (refer Appendix 3). There is substantial evidence that Australia, along with countries such as the UK, is the prime market for these drugs. Operations EILCS and EELS was one such investigation where a pill punch seized in The Netherlands with the symbol of a kangaroo matched 750,000 tablets seized in Australia (refer Appendix 4).

The other major focus relating to transnational crime for The Netherlands is on THB. This is also a focus of the European Union and is listed by Europol in the 2008 EU Organised Crime Threat Assessment (OCTA) as a key focus for law enforcement. The current trend is for West African women and girls, Eastern European women and girls and also Romanian & Bulgarian women and girls to be forced into prostitution in Western countries, especially in The Netherlands. In 2007, there were 579 victims of trafficking registered in The Netherlands. Of these, 103 were under the age of 18. There were 70 offenders charged in 2006 in The Netherlands of charges relating to forcing women into or to remain in prostitution. It must be noted that the Dutch use the term ‘trafficking’ not in the sense of ‘moving’ but in the sense of forcing a person to do something against their will. For example, a pimp who threatens to divulge to a prostitutes family what her occupation is, coupled with a threat that he be paid money from her for his silence, is classed in The Netherlands as trafficking for the purposes of prostitution and as a result 25% of the reported victims of trafficking are Dutch (Bureau NRM, 2008: 9-11).

The response of the Dutch authorities and government indicate how serious they are about tackling THB. It is a practice that exists in Australia, yet there is no significant coordinated response to it. I will discuss this later in this report.

EUROPEAN UNION

Europe, due to its geography and its cultural, social and historical differences, is not a homogenous structure. So although Europol focus on current trends relating to organised crime, regional priority to crimes may also need to be set. Europol produces two publications each year, the OCTA, as already referred to, and a separate threat assessment for terrorism, TE-SAT; which highlights the priority placed on the terrorism threat to various EU nations. Intelligence-led policing practices that Europol advocate focus on Organised Crime Groups and acknowledge that these groups are widening their operational scope and range of criminal activities they are involved in. The focus of Europol in 2008 is drug trafficking, crimes against persons

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1 This number refers to ‘possible’ victims as it is a requirement of the police to register people as victims, based on a police assessment and not necessarily a report made by the victim.
(THB, illegal immigration), fraud & currency/commodity counterfeiting (Europol 2008).

THAILAND

Thailand is also a unique environment that allows crime to flourish. Law enforcement is large and cumbersome, with over 250,000 police officers; however, it is also uncoordinated, lowly paid and publicly known to be corrupt. But it is also evident that serving as a police officer is honourable for Thai people and there are many police officers dedicated to making Thailand safe. The government and courts have also displayed a tough stance against crime, especially drug trafficking, by enacting severe penalties. Yet Thailand is still seen as a conduit for many of the world’s international criminals as the environment supports their ability to operate without notice. However the Thai’s, when often helped by Australian, British and US law enforcement agencies are able to catch some of the world’s major criminals. One recent success is the arrest of the Russian arms smuggler, Viktor Bout. He was arrested in a sting operation in March after travelling to Bangkok to sell weapons to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) (BBC News 2008: online March 6).

The trafficking of heroin through Thailand has long been an issue for the region and for Australia. In fact, an Australian man, Andrew Hoods, was arrested in December trying to smuggle three kilograms of heroin out of Bangkok’s International Airport (AAP, 17 Dec 2008). Thailand remains a major transit route for drugs produced in Myanmar, which behind Afghanistan is the world’s second largest drug producing nation.

Aside from drug trafficking, the other major issue arising in and from Thailand is THB. The local prostitution industry is massive and organised criminals recognise that poor women and children, especially from the north of Thailand, are potential money earners and susceptible to trafficking to western nations. Australia, like the US and Canada, is a favoured destination, as the following recent excerpts of Australian news reports highlight:

22 Dec 2008 (ABC News Online)-

A 48-year-old Gold Coast hairdresser has been handed a five-year sentence in the District Court in Brisbane for people trafficking. Keith William Dobie pleaded guilty to luring two Thai women to work as prostitutes in Australia.

6 Dec 2008 (Natalie O’Brien, The Australian)-

The decision meant former Brunswick brothel owner Wei Tang, 46, was returned to jail to finish the 10-year sentence she received in 2006 when convicted of keeping five Thai women as sex slaves.

The case began in 2003 when the AFP raided the Fitzroy Club 417 in Melbourne and Tang, the then owner, was charged with slavery offences.
Tang -- convicted on 10 counts of slavery -- had forced five Thai women to work without pay to service a so-called debt of $45,000 each. Under their contracts, each woman had to provide sexual services to 900 customers, working six days a week for four to six months.

GLOBAL INITIATIVES BY CRIME TYPE

Although all countries visited as part of this fellowship tackled aspects of transnational crime at various levels, this report focuses on those countries where initiatives are contemporary and innovative in comparison to what is already in existence in Australia; hence, every country is not referred to in each crime type.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Paradoxically, Australian law enforcement does little to recognise THB as a priority, evidenced by the lack of designated enforcement units and investigative strategies. The Australian Federal Police have small Transnational Crime Sexual Exploitation Teams (TCSET) in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. Yet the Australian Government are signatories to the ‘Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children’, known as the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Treaty), signed by Australia in 2002 and ratified in 2005, which focuses on the protection of women and children from slavery and prostitution. The USA, the UK and member countries of the EU, especially The Netherlands focus on THB as a law enforcement priority. In fact, in some cases there is a direct link to organised crime groups and evidence exists that profits made from the sale of women into prostitution is diverted back to the organised crime groups to further drugs & weapons trafficking and even the possibility of funding terrorist organisations.

The Netherlands, by far, has the most coordinated response to this crime with the support of government. The reason for this in the first instance is that government and law enforcement recognise that there is a major problem and take advice from Europol and the EU that this problem needs to be a focus. Conversely, the lack of response from some countries around the globe is because government and law enforcement fail to recognise a problem in the first instance. This being the case, then of course there will be no response to the crime. However, western countries that ignore THB or claim not to have a problem are being ignorant to the fact that this crime will be occurring in their country. Legalising prostitution, as occurred in the Netherlands, and is also the case in Australia, does not make the problem disappear. Evidence from The Netherlands is that it creates another dimension to the problem and the liberalised laws of the country actually attracts and creates an ideal environment to traffic women for the purposes of prostitution. Alternatively, as in the case of the US, by saying that all forms of prostitution is illegal; therefore, there is no problem with THB for prostitution, is also just as ignorant to the problem. Where there is a culture in Western society that people are willing to pay for sex, then given the demand, there will always be crime groups eager to exploit that demand.
The Dutch police (KLPD) are separated into 25 regional police forces, of which each have a responsibility for targeting THB. Geographically and demographically, the response differs, with some regions claiming not to have a problem in their area. However, regions containing the cities of Amsterdam, Utrecht, The Hague and Rotterdam have all set up Human Trafficking Units to target and investigate instances of this crime. THB is classified into three levels; those at the two higher levels are investigated by the National Criminal Investigation Service. These levels relate to where the criminal activity and organisation crosses regional boundaries and international boundaries. The KLPD have also set up the Expertise Centre (Expertisecentrum Mensenhandel & Mensensmokkel) (EMM), based in Zwolle. This centre houses various partners and stakeholders with an interest in THB, including Foreign Police (Immigration) and Non-Government Organisations (NGO’s) such as those interested in the health and welfare of the women and children. The joint collaboration by experts in all facets of THB enable successful complex investigations to be conducted, as well as informing practice and improving response across the KLPD. This coordinated response is supported by intensive training, which will be discussed later in the report.

The role of police in the EMM as a partner is one aspect, but they also play an investigative role as support for the remainder of the KLPD. In particular, the designation of Information Officers enables the collation of information from all the regions to develop a connection between organised crime and areas they operate in. For example, the analysis of intelligence may reveal the same pimp operating in a number of regions, moving girls around to avoid detection. The central oversight role of police attached to the EMM ensures that individual regions are not doubling up on investigations and assists with a coordinated response to an investigation by bringing together separate investigative units to coordinate their response.

The Dutch Government set priorities for its police in this area. Answerable to the EU, they are proactive in responding to this type of crime. In 2000, various ministries provided funding for the establishment of the Bureau National Rapporteur Mensenhandel (BNRM). This is an independent government body established to research trends and developments in THB and to report back to government. There are eight researchers attached to the BNRM who specialise in areas such as law enforcement, prostitution, forced labour and child exploitation. The combined research is used to produce the BNRM report to government every two years. This report discusses the phenomena and includes research into the law enforcement and government response to the issue. Every year a statistical report is produced.

The BNRM remain independent as they are responsible for analysing the situation as it stands, sometimes critical of police, policy and legislation. However, they are experts in an academic way and attend five meetings a year with the EMM and annual conferences at Europol involving law enforcement representatives from member states. They also assist in organising conferences and bringing together stakeholders. Their main role is to report to government and provide advice on policy and legislative issues.

Europol in their threat assessment for 2008 (OCTA) also predict THB as a major crime issue for the EU. Europol’s Serious Crime Department 5 (SC5) is responsible for Crimes Committed against Persons. Europol, as an organisation has significant
intelligence capabilities to assist in the prevention, detection and investigation of all manner of organised crime. In fact, there are a number of International Law Enforcement Liaison Officers housed at Europol, including Australia. The capacity to obtain intelligence from such an organisation is something that is open to Australian Law Enforcement, dependant on which Analysis Working Files they are a third country partner to.

In relation to THB, Europol have an intelligence capacity to support European law enforcement. They also have attached experts in the field and regularly inform member states on strategic direction and issues that they identify. The function of the International Liaison Officers can assist with the exchange of information when crimes cross national borders. In fact, it is the reason that Europol has been successful with various operations, because one building houses many national representatives and communication and exchange of information can occur at a far quicker and often less formal rate.

The United Kingdom has also recognised that THB occurs within its borders and that as a nation, it possesses the right societal makeup in which THB can flourish. There have been two very tragic circumstances in which the trafficking of human beings into the UK led to large numbers of deaths. 58 illegal immigrants from China were killed when they suffocated in a lorry crossing by ferry to Dover in 2008. 21 illegal Chinese immigrants were killed in 2004 when they drowned in Morecambe Bay whilst performing forced labour as cockle pickers. The Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) is proactively working to target THB and illegal immigration before the people are brought into the UK. Through the network of 140 overseas liaison officers based around the world, the SOCA are building relationships with countries that have been identified as areas where crime that impacts on the UK originates from or has close connections to. The overseas liaison officers in Asia are working with various stakeholders to try and tackle such issues before illegal immigrants arrive at the border. Without revealing methodology, the overseas liaison officers have a significant operational role within the countries gathering intelligence and providing investigative support to local law enforcement.

The United Kingdom has also seen the establishment of the UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC). The centre is proactively trying to educate the community about THB. It has an accessible website and runs various projects and education campaigns, online and through the media. A help line has been set up, as well as online access, to report crimes such as forced labour or prostitution. The UKHTC was established to lead the fight against human trafficking. As global experts in their field, the Centre brings together a number of agencies – from law enforcement and government to non-governmental agencies (NGOs) and charities – to create a specialist team. The agencies (partners) include Europol, Interpol, Child Exploitation Online Protection Agency (CEOP), Crime Stoppers and a number of other support agencies.

The UKHTC takes a victim-centred human rights approach in its outlook to THB. Victims are often severely traumatised by their experiences and need specialist and sensitive care to help them stabilise their lives and plan a return to normal life. The victims often go from being unaware of their plight to being afraid of inviting violence or repercussions once they become aware, and are therefore reluctant or
unable to come forward. Their status as potential key witnesses is also important. As such, with victim care critical in the bringing of successful investigations and prosecutions against traffickers, they must feel that their rights are respected through professional care and security (UKHTC 2008, online).

In Thailand, a well known source and stopover country for THB, there are various agencies attempting to tackle the issue. The Australian Federal Police have a liaison officer whose portfolio is in relation to THB. The AFP have initiatives with the local Thai police, especially in area such as Pattaya, well known for its sex tourists, to assist local authorities in gathering intelligence, evidence and prosecuting offenders. The AFP has provided local authorities training in relation to Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation. Recently, the Australian government was part of the Australian-funded Asia Regional Cooperation to Prevent People Trafficking project, a three year A$12 million (344 million Baht) initiative that laid the foundations for regional cooperation and national capacity building in the area of criminal justice responses to trafficking in Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Burma. The project assisted the four governments to establish specialist anti-trafficking units and regional cooperation processes and procedures based on international best practice and human rights principles. Building on that success, a new five year, A$21 million (602 million Baht) project will continue the work of institutionalizing an effective criminal justice response to trafficking; reducing impunity for traffickers and securing justice for victims. The new project will work in Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and extend to Indonesia and other ASEAN countries (Australian Embassy 2006).

In the USA, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) are responsible for investigating illegal immigration and the trafficking of human beings into the US. They are supported by a frontline force of Customs & Border Protection officers. ICE is an agency within the Department of Homeland Security. Although they respond to incidents, intelligence-led investigations have become a focus of this agency.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police and municipal police have also identified THB as an issue emerging in Canada. They are at a stage where they are educating police officers what to look for in areas where forced labour or prostitution exists. At this time the law enforcement effort relates to educating police to be mindful of THB when conducting duties in areas that are prone to the use of immigrants in forced labour and prostitution.

**DRUG TRAFFICKING**

Fiji has identified that the South Pacific Islands are a haven for drug smuggling. Australia should be concerned with this because of our proximity to these islands. Fiji police, with the assistance of the Australian and New Zealand governments have set up a Transnational Crime Unit (TCU). The unit is overseen by an Inspector and has offices based in Suva and Nadi. The unit is a small group of detectives, supported by an analyst, targeting various crime types, but predominantly drug trafficking, where there are links to other nations. Since the inception of the Transnational Crime Unit in Fiji, other South Pacific nations, including Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Micronesia have also set up TCU’s. Much of the credit for this initiative goes to the Australian Federal Police, who have provided support to these
struggling nations. The network of TCU’s in the South Pacific is assisted by the Transnational Crime Coordination Unit based in Apia, Samoa. The network of TCU’s share intelligence amongst each other and provide assistance during investigations that involve each nation.

The TCU’s visited in Suva and Nadi are a dedicated group of experienced detectives. Unfortunately they are under-resourced and could probably be even more successful than they have been with better equipment and facilities. The TCU’s in Fiji share facilities with Customs, a new initiative that is allowing the exchange of intelligence and access to information at a faster rate. Traditionally, the Customs Department in Fiji are well resourced because the government view them as revenue raising. Therefore, in comparison to other areas of the Fiji Police Force, the TCU’s are well resourced (by Fiji standards) because of their connection to Customs. Both offices are in fact housed in Customs buildings.

In terms of investigation, the TCU’s approach is conventional, focusing on covert surveillance and the use of human sources (informers). Electronic methods of surveillance are beyond the limits of Fiji Police. Although the methods of investigation are conventional, Australian law enforcement agencies can learn from the success of creating a joint initiative, such as the TCU, to focus on Transnational Crime and the movement of drugs in and around the South Pacific.

The United Kingdom identifies itself as a major market for all manner of drugs, but the trend of late has seen the importation of cocaine, ecstasy and amphetamine. In 2005 the UK created the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act, which as well as bringing together various pieces of legislation, set up the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA). The Act brought together the National Crime Squad, the National Criminal Intelligence Service and the parts of HM Revenue and Customs and the UK Immigration Service that deal with drug trafficking and people smuggling. SOCA is a new organisation and as expected with the amalgamation of law enforcement personnel from various agencies, teething problems have existed; however, the concept is visionary and success is predicted. SOCA is also heavily intelligence driven, especially in Financial Investigations. In all crime types SOCA see the tracking of financial records as an investigative tool and ultimately the seizure of illegal funds as a priority of any investigation.

In regards to drug trafficking, SOCA has identified this as a priority for the UK. Their approach to tackling the problem is the most proactive approach to law enforcement that exists and the US Drug Enforcement Agency are likely the only other agency in the world to take the same approach. The SOCA refers to fighting the drug trade ‘upstream’. Their focus, rather than on catching drug couriers bringing the product into the country, or even catching the organiser of each load, is to disrupt the drug trade at its point of origin. The two main focuses of the SOCA is ‘upstream’ heroin and ‘upstream’ cocaine. For example, a priority is to maintain intelligence on trade routes and it is known that cocaine is produced in Colombia and shipped overland to countries such as Venezuela where is it being flown by light plane across to the west coast of Africa. Due to the state of rule in countries such as Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria, it is difficult to know how the cocaine is moved through Africa,

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2 The Transnational Crime Coordination Unit was originally housed at Fiji but was moved after the 2006 coup.
but what is known is that it predominately surfaces in Spain, the closest country to Africa, where it is then distributed through Europe and again shipped into the UK. The Shengen agreement allows free movement across all European borders, so once in Spain the drugs can easily be moved to various ports and attempts made to import the drug into the UK. Most seizures in Europe are made in Spain.

Having identified such trade routes, through the International Liaison Officers, the SOCA aim to disrupt these trade routes in South America. Working closely with trusted groups in local law enforcement and sourcing intelligence, the SOCA are freely sharing information with South American authorities who they trust, so that they will shut down, arrest or prosecute offenders. Ultimately, the aim of the SOCA is not really an investigative role, as the purpose is disruption and prevention. Therefore, if local authorities destroy drug labs, seize planes and deal with the problem as may be expected in such countries, this achieves the aim. It is true that the SOCA by stretching its tentacles this far is protecting more nations other than itself, but this is seen as a successful way of tackling the drug problem at the source. It is also an innovative approach.

Europol are tackling drug trafficking by using their intelligence capabilities to coordinate unified operations against organised crime groups. The member states of Europol submit intelligence holdings to them, enabling analysis across Europe and wider. Europol have been successful in linking entities such as organisations, people and equipment involved in networks of drug manufacturers and traffickers. Operation Eeels (Appendix 4) is a prime example of how Europol identified manufacturing equipment in the Netherlands was linked to drugs seized in Australia. The ability to collect such intelligence and build up a comprehensive profile and coordinate investigations with member states is the strength that Europol brings to law enforcement. The concept of which can be easily replicated in Australia or even Australasia.

**CHILD PORNOGRAPHY / ONLINE PEADOPHILIA**

A recent innovation to tackle child abuse, paedophilia and the online distribution of child pornography is the formation of the United Kingdoms Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency (CEOP). This unique facility houses 120 staff consisting of law enforcement officers, psychiatrists, social workers, analysts, lawyers and civilian call takers. It is a highly publicised organisation with advertising being found on police vehicles and even police horses. CEOP’s role is multi-faceted, call takers work 24 hours a day as a helpline, children can also email or access the agency through the internet. Analysts access all information and disseminate the information received to ensure appropriate action and protection is made available to victims.

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3 The Shengen Agreement allows free movement across all European borders without any further passport control. The United Kingdom is not a party to the Shengen Agreement.
Like the philosophy of the SOCA, CEOP also see the advantages of financial investigations in this crime type. Many paedophiles and those involved in child porn networks create false cyber identities, often with prepaid wireless internet connections; however, these predators still leave behind financial trails which are tracked by the financial investigators in an effort to locate the true identity of these predators. Additionally, in a secure room, highly trained covert operatives gain access to paedophile chat rooms, talking online with predators and learning information about their methods, and hopefully their identity. One can imagine the mental toll on these investigators, often being bombarded with child pornography. However, this approach is a necessary fight against the evil that lurks on the internet. Like the covert investigators, behind locked doors and away from wandering eyes, is the Victim Identification Unit. The unit analyses photographs and videos, trying to identify the victims, whether they are still in danger, their location and who the offender may be. Clues such as birth marks, tattoos, accents, background furniture and fittings can often narrow down the location where the child abuse is occurring. This unit is also participating in research about child pornography and paedophilia and the preliminary results from in excess of 240,000 images online indicate that 95% of offenders are white males. This raises the question about whether western culture is a factor in child abuse.

CEOP are also trying to educate children in the UK about the dangers of the internet. School groups are targeted and information provided about the dangers of My Space and posting private details on the internet, available to paedophiles that are on the lookout to groom potential victims.

CEOP is a member of the Virtual Global Taskforce (VGT), which is a partnership that brings together national law enforcement agencies to protect children from sexual exploitation. Formed in 2003, VGT membership ensures closer cooperation and collaboration between national law enforcement agencies and delivers a global response to child exploitation. There are systems and processes in place to share information and intelligence between countries to ensure a ‘fast time’ response to ‘at risk’ children. The VGT runs joint operations to disrupt and deter offending, to
rescue children from abuse and to identify and prosecute child sex offenders. Australia (AFP) is a current member of the VGT, along with agencies from Canada (RCMP), Italy (National Police), US (ICE) and the UK, as well as Interpol.

**FRAUD (incl. CYBER CRIME)**

Although Cyber Crime includes various criminal offences that may be committed through the use of the internet, such as Child Pornography distribution as described above, the predominant crime emerging through this medium is fraud in its various guises.

The SOCA in the UK has as one of its priorities to tackle fraud against individuals and the private sector and hi-tech crime (Serious Organised Crime Agency 2008). This includes ‘technology enabled crime’, identity fraud and counterfeiting and both fiscal and non-fiscal fraud. There focus is not on individual offenders but on organised crime groups using new technology to commit these crimes. Again, without revealing methodology, the SOCA focus heavily on intelligence and especially financial intelligence relating to targets. SOCA has a dedicated Asset Recovery & Confiscation Unit that has so far been seizing 20 million pound per year from criminals. The financial investigator is attached to the team investigating the crime. The financial investigator conducts three types of investigations – Confiscation (criminal), Money Laundering or a Civil Investigation. An initiative being used in the UK is the use of ‘incentivisation’, where the agency seizing the assets is rewarded by having access to those funds for further law enforcement purposes. For example, the courts, the prosecuting agency and the police (or SOCA) share in access to the funds.

To highlight the emphasis that SOCA place on focusing on the Proceeds of Crime, one only needs to look at the strength of the unit. Five hundred staff work in areas such as the Financial Intelligence Unit, Proceeds of Crime Operations, Civil and Recovery Tax & Strategy. As Annie Norris, a Senior Manager in the unit said, “Asset seizure and finances are the main focus of SOCA in their methodology to attack organised crime”. The SOCA Proceeds of Crime Unit are the only specialised area in the UK and therefore receive a lot of requests from all agencies to conduct financial investigations. In fact, last years national seizures amounted to 125 million pounds.

Each SOCA member undertakes the SOCA Investigators Course, a programme that is run over 13 weeks. Within this course, 4 hours is spent on E-Crime. This is a general course for all members and those in specialist roles can undertake additional training. Most of this additional training, such as three levels of High Tech Crime Training courses is conducted by the National Police Improvement Agency, responsible for delivering training across England.

After drug trafficking, financial crime is the favoured activity for organised crime groups within the EU (Europol 2007:21). Europol dedicate an area of their organisation, Serious Crime 4 (Financial Crime Unit), to the investigation of Fraud. Of particular interest to this area is the infiltration of organised crime into the area of payment card fraud. Europol are targeting this as they have found that organised
crime groups are exploiting readily available technological expertise and equipment (skimming devices, hackers, phishing kits, etc) on offer. Findings indicate the growing use of the internet provides new vulnerabilities to be exploited for stealing and abusing data (Europol 2008).

In combating fraud, Europol’s focal point is to support cross-border money laundering investigations, recovery of the proceeds of crime and linking suspicious transactions reported in other member states with offences committed in separate countries. The Europol mandate enables it the opportunity to better steer and coordinate operational initiatives conducted in the member states. It provides analytical assistance through the financial intelligence-led policing practices, which encourages the exploitation of financial data from different sources (Europol 2007).

Europol supports the Camden Asset Recovery Interagency Network (CARIN). This network consists of judicial and law enforcement experts from over 44 countries, jurisdictions and international organisations. The aim of this network is to enhance the effectiveness of depriving the criminals of their illicit profits. The added value of the group is that it improves cross-border and inter-agency cooperation as well as information exchange, within and outside the EU (Europol 2008b). In addition, member states can also access the Financial Crime Information Centre (FCIC) which is an Internet Website that supports law enforcement authorities with technical, non-operational information on financial crime and provides a platform for the exchange of ideas and experiences.

Europol, in trying to support its member states in this crime area in its efforts to disrupt organise crime, offers Cyber Crime Training. Serious Crime 1 (Organised Crime) section of Europol contains a High Technology Crime Centre. This area has advised and assisted in developing a Master of Science (Security & Forensics Computing) course through Dublin University. The unit also offer many seminars and short courses in the area of High Tech Crime. The High Technology Crime Centre sits in the structure of the Organised Crime Groups Unit because they support the operations of SC1, but also assist across all crime groups.

**TRAINING INIATIVES**

This report has already discussed a variety of training initiatives being developed and delivered by various agencies; however, dedicated training venues in Fiji, USA, Canada, Netherlands and Thailand were also visited as part of this project. The purpose for these visits was to determine what training is provided to law enforcement personnel in that country in regards to targeting transnational crime. There are two reasons that training is incorporated into this project. Firstly, it is important to examine how new investigative initiatives are implemented and staff development in these new areas achieved. Change within any organisation is a process that needs management and it is interesting to see how law enforcement agencies around the globe implement change, such as new investigative techniques and initiatives and to the extent that training is included in that process. Secondly, what are the training methods being used and can they be utilised in Australian law enforcement.

4 Similar to AUSTRAC reports.
FIJI POLICE ACADEMY

The Fiji Police Academy is based in Suva. One area of the academy is known as the School of Investigation. This area is responsible for delivering crime investigation training to detectives. The Fijians were assisted by staff from the Victoria Police School of Investigation in the mid-90’s to develop their training course and the current training course is still a reflection of this. The training of detectives is split into two courses, The Field Investigation Course and Detective Training School. Combined, the courses run a total of ten weeks. The focus is to deliver training in areas of legislation, crime scene processing, investigation strategies and interview techniques. These are the building blocks for all detectives working within the Fiji Police Force.

The detectives attached to the Transnational Crime Units have qualified at this course. In fact, the current Acting Inspector in charge of the TCU is normally attached to the School of Investigation as an instructor.

What is of significant interest for the purposes of this project is that the Fiji Police Academy houses a computer based interactive training facility. The funding and development of this facility was provided by the Australian Government and facilitated through the AFP and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The interactive training focuses on transnational crime investigation and prevention and consists of 64 modules. The modules include topics such as Identification of Suspicious Persons at Airports, Interdiction at Sea and Money Laundering. However, the training facility is not linked to any mandatory course or a pre-requisite for employment in a particular field. Its use is open to any police officer wishing to enhance their own career and the facilities are used at an individual’s own pace. To complete all modules it would take approximately 44hrs. Having said that, the facilities are not always open for members to use and because the number of computer terminals in the training room is limited to nine, the Fijian Police advertise when a course can commence and officers need to apply. At the time of the visit, the training terminals were not operating and had not been for some time as the server was damaged. It was not known when this would be fixed because of budgetary restraints – a common complaint in Fiji. The Fijians are dedicated and committed to improving their practices but it is evident they are restricted by funding and resources.
FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTRE (FLETC)

In respect of training facilities, the most impressive site was the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centre (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia, USA. The FLETC forms part of the Department of Homeland Security. FLETC serves as an interagency law enforcement training organization for more than 80 Federal agencies. The Centre also provides services to state, local, and international law enforcement agencies. The greatest feature of this facility is the reality associated with the training. The building of a new hotel, restaurant, apartment facilities, operational police station and court room which are used for all aspects of scenario based training serve as a significant advantage to law enforcement officers who are privileged to use these facilities. Standing in the lobby of the hotel, one could mistake themselves being in a real life hotel. The attention to detail is amazing. FLETC are miles ahead in simulating real life situations for its students to train in.

In relation to transnational crime, FLETC, as a training institute has recognised the need to prepare law enforcement officers in this respect. For example, they have tailored an Internet/Cyber Crime Investigation course which incorporates the following syllabus –

- Fundamentals to Cyber Crime Investigations
- Setting up an Investigative Computer
- Xbox Live Investigations
- Google Hacking Techniques
- Email Trace Investigations
- Voice Over Internet Protocol Overview
- Instant Messaging and Chat rooms
- Myspace: Stalking the Stalker
• Forums and Newsgroups
• Peer to Peer Investigations
• Practical Exercises
• Students will be issued hardware and software associated with the investigation of cyber crimes committed upon the internet and networks.

In addition to this, FLETC’s Computer and Financial Investigations Division run additional innovative courses in order to keep pace with emerging global trends. These courses include Mobile Device Investigations Program, Digital Evidence Acquisition Specialist Training Program & Computer Network Investigations Training Program. These courses are conducted in well appointed classrooms with extensive facilities to compliment the learning environment.

FLETC also house a port of entry training facility, which is a fully functioning land border crossing, airport and processing facilities. This facility is used to train Customs and Border Protection Officers, as well as Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE). ICE is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security and its mission is to enforce US customs and immigration laws. ICE specifically focuses on the illegal importation of contraband, weapons and human smuggling/trafficking. To qualify as a Special Agent with ICE, students must complete a 12 week Criminal Investigator Course at FLETC and then an additional 12 week training course specific to the role.

Of interest to Law Enforcement in Australia and areas investigating transnational crime is the International Training & Technical Assistance offered by FLETC. FLETC offers participation on their courses on a space-available basis to international students. Training programs are viewable on their website. In the current environment it is wise for Australian law enforcement agencies to research innovative
techniques from outside Australia and by sending officers on such well advanced courses can assist in building Australian law enforcement capabilities.

FLETC are also a partner in the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) program. There are ILEA’s situated in Hungary, Thailand, Botswana and El Salvador. The ILEA in Bangkok, Thailand, was visited as part of this project.

INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY (ILEA)

ILEA Bangkok began delivering courses in 1999. Upon its inception the focus was on enhancing the effectiveness of regional cooperation against principal transnational crime threats in South East Asia. The objectives of ILEA is the development of effective law enforcement cooperation with the participating countries (ASEAN) and the strengthening of each country’s criminal justice institutions to increase their abilities to cooperate in the suppression of transnational crime. The participating countries, whose police officers are offered a small number of places on each course are – Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam. Other law enforcement personnel from nations outside of this group can also attend courses if places permit and at a fee. For instance, two members of Victoria Police are attending a Post Blast Investigation Course in 2009.

The courses delivered by ILEA Bangkok that are scheduled for 2009 include –

- Post Blast Investigation Course
- Clandestine Laboratory Investigations Course
- Chemical Control Course
- Supervisory Criminal Investigators Course
- Fraudulent Travel Documents
- Computer Crime Investigation Course
- Investigative Information Management Course
• Intellectual Property Rights Course
• Narcotics Unit Commanders Course
• Personnel and Facility Security Course
• Seaport Border Enforcement Training
• Cargo Targeting & Risk Management Training
• Combating Terrorism
• Complex Financial Investigation Course
• Arson Investigation
• Trafficking in Persons Course (ILEA Bangkok 2008).

Many of the courses delivered that are listed above focus on aspects of transnational crime. Given that the courses are open to law enforcement personnel from South East Asian nations is comforting for Australia to know that our nearest neighbours recognise the growing threat of transnational crime and are endeavouring to train police officers to prevent and investigate it. Although Australian law enforcement personnel based in Thailand have a relationship with staff at the ILEA, the US are the drivers of the ILEA network and are the key instructors on most of the courses. Most of the instructing staff are flown over from agencies such as the DEA to deliver their subjects. There is no permanent instructing staff based at ILEA. The Program Director and two Deputy Program Directors are from the US, whereas the Executive Director and Executive staff are Royal Thai Police Officers.

One of the most interesting aspects to the delivery of these courses is how ILEA overcome the language difficulties. All classes are delivered in English as the instructors are predominantly US law enforcement officers. However, the lecture theatre is reminiscent of the United Nations conference room. Each seat has headphones and translators are employed who sit in booths at the rear of the lecture room to translate the course delivery to the students in real time.

The other interesting aspect is that these courses are not assessable. They are purely designed to build the capabilities of the participants in order that they return to their own nations and pass on what they have learnt. In respect of measuring the success of the ILEA program, there are no systems of evaluation in place to record this. It is evident that outcomes of the course are not what is important, but the bringing together of law enforcement from various nations to support improving networks and for the US to be seen as assisting in the global law enforcement effort in the region.

ROYAL THAI POLICE EDUCATION BUREAU

The Royal Thai Police Education Bureau is the central training facility for all of Thailand; however, it is not the training centre for recruits. The focus of training at this facility is on Management Courses and Detective Training. The centre provides the Inspectors Course, Management & Leadership Course and Investigation Management Course. Additionally, there is one course a year of Detective Training. This course has approximately 40 participants and lasts for 16 weeks. It is a generalist course in relation to crime scenes, surveillance, law and tactical requirements.
The Royal Thai Police Education Bureau does not provide specialist courses in relation to Transnational Crime related matters; however, Thai police are able to attend courses at ILEA, as described above.

PACIFIC REGION TRAINING CENTRE (PRTC)

The PRTC is the training centre for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in British Columbia and is approximately an hour east of Vancouver. The centre has well appointed facilities and the rooms are privately managed by a hotel and management group. The predominant focus of training at this facility is courses that meet the local needs of RCMP members. However, there a number of courses being delivered that address some aspects of transnational crime.

The main series of transnational crime related courses delivered at PRTC is the Internet Investigators Course – Basic, Intermediate & Advanced. PRTC has identified that the internet and the cyber world are the most emerging tools for crime. Such crimes as identity theft, cyber-terrorism, child pornography and fraud are committed by the use of the internet. Recent phenomena have also identified that virtual worlds and chat rooms are being used to organise crimes. In Melbourne, Victoria, there have been numerous instances of fights and drug deals being arranged over the internet. Understanding the internet is essential to law enforcement’s efforts to target and investigate organised crime.

The intermediate and advanced Internet Investigators Course contains some very interesting topics, such as understanding issues relating to Internet Child Exploitation, Child Pornography and online Child Safety. The syllabus also addresses cryptographic applications (used to secure data) and steganographic applications (used to hide data). The advanced course also includes successful interception of Internet based communications and also analysis of email messages that are effectively untraceable due to the use of ‘remailers’ and proxy servers.

These three courses require an instructor with an advanced level of knowledge and as such the RCMP outsource the delivery of these courses to David Toddington, a highly regarded expert with a private company. David also delivers training to the West Yorkshire Police in the UK and has a strong policing connection. The RCMP approach to outsourcing training in specialist fields is an interesting concept; however, not necessarily a foreign concept to law enforcement agencies in Australia. It is a concept, especially in regards to the complex technical aspects of transnational crime, in which law enforcement in general should regard as a viable alternative. Often police investigators need to be a jack of all trades, some specialise, but most don’t often have the time to become an expert in advanced and emerging areas and also possess the capabilities and time to train a wider police force. Seeking experts who understand policing and their chosen topic is likely to be the future direction in police training in specialist areas.

The PRTC also deliver a Sexual Offence Investigation Course over 10 days, of which a component is concerned with the Integrated Child Exploitation Unit and the ability to conduct online internet investigations.
CHILD EXPLOITATION AND ONLINE PROTECTION CENTRE (CEOP)

This report has already discussed the role of CEOP as a law enforcement agency and the work they are doing to identify, locate and safeguard children and young people from harm. CEOP has built numerous partnerships and work alongside specialists, educators and investigators to add value, expert knowledge and skills to front line child protection. To support this CEOP have developed a unique programme of training courses and also set up the CEOP Academy programme. The courses are delivered by specialists in their fields, including forensic behavioural analysts, barristers and senior investigating police officers. The training courses are designed to help better understand the nature of sexual offending and also to impart the skills and knowledge that can better equip professionals to deal with the nature of this crime.

The following courses are offered by CEOP, note most courses build on each other in this order and it is a prerequisite of admittance onto some of these course that the previous course is complete –

- Foundation Course in Understanding Child Sex Offenders (2 days)
- The Use of the Internet by Child Sex Offenders (2 days)
- Interviewing Child Sex Offenders (2 days)
- Master Class in Advanced Techniques of Interviewing Child Sex Offenders (3 days)
- Sex Offender Risk Assessment and Management in the Community (2 days)
- Strategies for Investigating Serious Sexual Crimes against Children (2 days)
- Using the Sexual Offences Act 2003 to Protect Children from Harm (2 days)
- Risk and Manipulation: Exploring the Links between Young People’s Risk Taking and Offender Behaviour Online (1 day)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Behavioural Forensic Psychology
- Advanced Topics with Sex Offenders: Assessment, Intervention and Witness Skills

The Postgraduate Certificate requires completion of 5 core subjects from the above list. The award is granted from the University of Central Lancashire (CEOP 2008).

POLITIE REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE - ZUIDELAREN

The training centre at Zuidlaren is a small regional facility for training police officers working in the north of the country. The reason for travelling to this facility was to observe a component of a Human Trafficking Course. The KLPD Human Trafficking course is a total of 12 days in length, run 2 days a fortnight over a 12 week period. The course consists of six days of law, communications, culture, welfare, intake interview and investigation. Under Dutch law, police have to of completed this course before they can conduct brothel checks and interview prostitutes. The course has a high fail rate, close to 50%, which is based on a persons attitude, for example, looking at the cleavage of a prostitute or the manner in which the prostitute is treated.

The component of the course observed for this project was the ‘Intake Interview’ which is when the police officer is interviewing a prostitute to determine if there are indicators of trafficking or being forced into prostitution against their will. The students are taught a structured interview style which enables them look for signals of
trafficking, such as missing passports, bruises, nervousness, methods of getting into prostitution, or whether the girls get to keep their own money. The students are taught how to respond to these signs and the options that can be provided to the victim. The techniques are victim centred with a focus on firstly ensuring the safety and welfare of the girl, and secondly, building rapport and trust with the victim in an effort to persuade them to assist in the investigation against the traffickers.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Having the opportunity to study and speak to experts around the world has enabled a comprehensive comparative study of strategic direction and methodology in respect of transnational crime investigation and training. There were numerous lessons learnt that can assist Australian law enforcement agencies in their endeavours to prevent, deter and investigate transnational crime. The following recommendations are divided into investigative and training categories –

**INVESTIGATIVE**

1. Formation at State level of an agency similar to the UK’s Child Exploitation Online Protection Agency, being a central body that houses social workers, police, educators, call takers, analysts and covert operatives as a coordinated approach to preventing, disrupting and investigating the exploitation and abuse of children and child pornography and paedophile rings. Due to Australia’s land mass, this would need to be state based with oversight by a National Management Committee.

2. Recognition that Human Trafficking is also an emerging issue in Australia and as such consider an integrated Federal and State response to the problem in partnership with other NGO’s to improve prevention, investigation and intelligence gathering capabilities.

3. Increase education of State Police in respect of Human Trafficking, not only in the sex industry but also forced labour markets. It is often local law enforcement that will respond to or recognise these issues in the first instance.

4. In absence of an integrated Federal and State response to THB, or as support to such a response, each state should increase targeting of licensed and unlicensed brothels, and the like, as an approach to tackling THB and on a wider scale of disrupting organised crime.

5. Across all transnational crime types, greater emphasis should be placed on a coordinated response involving partners and stakeholders combining to focus their efforts. UK’s SOCA is an exceptional model that is indicative of such a response; and in comparison to the bureaucracy of many US agencies that focus on the one crime type but work as autonomous agencies, Australian law enforcement would be wise to closely observe SOCA’s methods and results.

**TRAINING**

6. Introduce and develop specialised Cyber-Crime courses that are delivered to a greater number of law enforcement participants. The courses would focus on Fraud,
E-Crime, Identity Theft or other computer related crimes. These crime types are emerging at a rapid rate and the greater number of investigators trained in modern investigative techniques will contribute to better quality investigations.\(^5\)

7. Re-evaluation of the law enforcement training environment to incorporate vocational and specialist courses in respect of transnational crime, rather than the current approach of delivering generalist investigative courses or career progression courses. Such specialist courses could include Investigative Interviewing, Interviewing victims of THB, E-Crime, On-Line Covert Operations, or even the development of new courses such as International Financial Intelligence Training.

8. Access global initiatives by sending Australian law-enforcement officers to innovative and contemporary courses already developed by law enforcement agencies around the world; such as those International courses offered by FLETC in the US. Those officers would then be expected to assist in the development of similar initiatives in Australia.

9. Access industry experts from private industry and utilise their expertise to develop and deliver training to law enforcement personnel in specialised areas; such as internet based investigations, or financial fraud.

10. Australian law enforcement agencies need to be recognised as experts in their field and develop and commercialise their product; such as the courses that are run by CEOP, FLETC and ILEA. The current trend in Australia is that academics and universities possess the expertise in emerging fields and offer the most comprehensive courses and training in respect to crime areas such as Cyber Crime. Law enforcement agencies, by the nature of their experience, should be recognised as experts and there is a need in Australia to harness that expertise and develop contemporary training courses. Such courses are marketable to outside agencies. The funds generated from the supply of these courses can be returned to the law enforcement agency to build further training expertise, provide world class facilities, purchase modern equipment, fund research & development, and attract expert educators. The world class facilities at FLETC in the US epitomises this approach and the facilities highlight the success of being regarded as experts in specialised training areas.

CONCLUSION

Transnational crime is emerging as a major threat to Australia and to the way Australian law enforcement operates in this country. This project, through the support of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, has enabled an extensive study to be conducted on a global scale. Visits to Fiji, Canada, USA, UK, Holland and Thailand contributed to identifying emerging crime threats in each of these countries. More importantly, initiatives in both investigation and training in respect of transnational crime were observed and studied. The observations, discussions and research enabled the above recommendations to be made. Although the above recommendations are general in nature, the author can provide greater detail and would be delighted to do so, if any law enforcement agency in Australia considered the emergence of transnational crime a risk to their community and wished to enact similar changes that have been recommended in this report.

\(^5\) As a model, courses run by FLETC, CEOP and ILEA are good starting points.
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Senior Sergeant William Duncan, VicPol, Melbourne

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Department of Homeland Security – Organisational Structure
Appendix 3

EU Synthetic Drug Production Situation Overview - 2005

Key – The Red Circles indicate a laboratory capable of producing in excess of 300kg of synthetic drug. The blue circles indicate laboratories that would produce less than 300kg of a synthetic drug.

EU Production units – storage, synthesis, tableting

1999 – Dismantled production Units - 61
2000 – Dismantled production Units - 64
2001 – Dismantled production Units - 51
2002 – Dismantled production Units - 87
2003 – Dismantled production Units - 73
2004 – Dismantled production Units - 87
2005 – Dismantled production Units - 94
2006 – Dismantled production Units – 83
2007 – Dismantled production Units – 91
example:
- Punch seized in The Netherlands
- 750,000 tablets seized in Australia.