

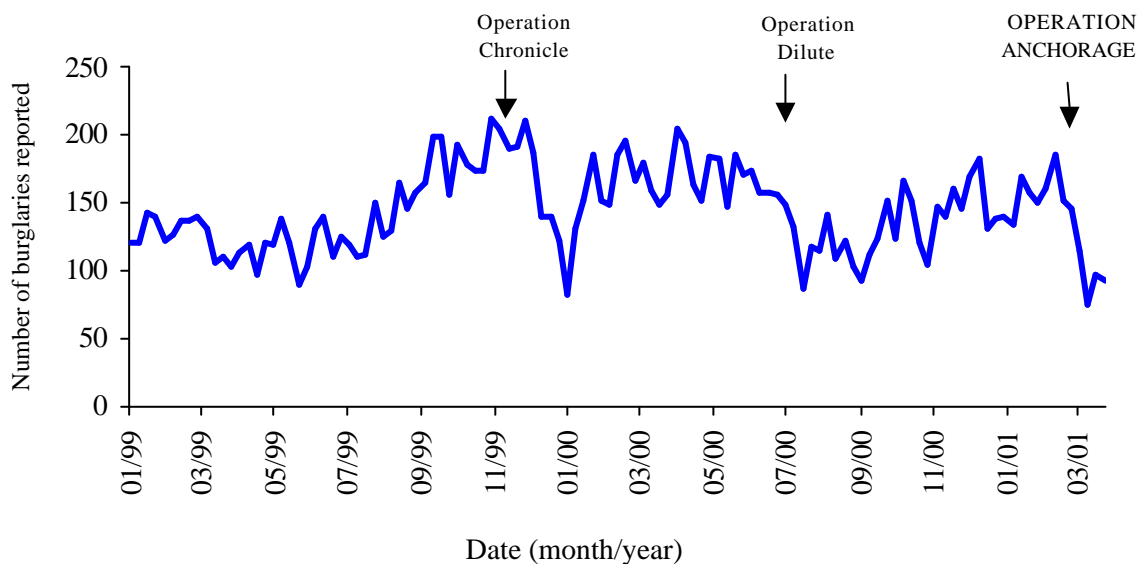


• From the Australian Institute of Criminology •

Police strategies lead to reduced burglary rate in ACT

In response to escalating burglary rates in the Australian Capital Territory, the Australian Federal Police has, over recent years, introduced a series of crime reduction strategies in Canberra. These operations have been effective in achieving a short-term reduction in burglary rates, but the number of burglaries has risen again after the cessation of the operation (though not to pre-operation rates). The latest strategy—Operation Anchorage (which ran from February 2001 until the end of June 2001)—included special burglary-reduction teams, surveillance, police stops and random breath tests in high burglary areas. Following Operation Anchorage, the number of burglaries in Canberra declined from 169 per week to 92 per week. “Policing Urban Burglary”, a report of the operation recently released by the Australian Institute of Criminology, shows that Operation Anchorage was successful in reducing burglary rates, but highlights the importance of enduring crime prevention rather than reduction-only strategies.

Number of burglaries per week, 1999–2001



Source: AFP PROMIS database

SOURCE: Ratchiffe, J. 2001, “Policing Urban Burglary”, *Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice*, no. 213, Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra.

Full report available on AIC web site: <http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/tandi/ti213.pdf>

Australian Institute of Criminology • GPO Box 2944 Canberra ACT 2601

• Tel: 02 6260 9251 • Fax: 02 6260 9201

• Email comments: Vanessa.Dennison@aic.gov.au

• Visit online: <http://www.aic.gov.au>