

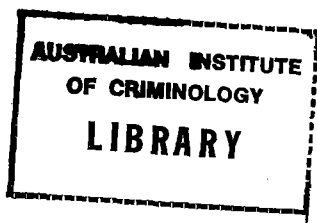
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PROGRESS IN CRIME PREVENTION
IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
4-8 October 1976

C.R. BEVAN

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY
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INTRODUCTION

A feature of Papua New Guinea's growth as an independent nation has been its determination to anticipate and avoid to the greatest possible extent common problems of developed and developing nations with regard to crime and its prevention and control. The Government of Papua New Guinea has availed itself of every avenue of assistance. The inauguration of the Australian Institute of Criminology provided one such means. In March 1975, the Director of the Institute was invited by the Chief Minister of Papua New Guinea, Mr Michael Somare, to observe at first hand the country's efforts to prevent and control crime, a visit which culminated in Chapter 1 of the Australian Institute of Criminology publication, '*Crime in Papua New Guinea*'.

This publication comprises edited papers presented at a seminar closely following Mr Clifford's visit from 7-11 July 1975. Although it was felt that crime statistics in existence at that time were lacking in comprehensiveness and accuracy, that seminar indicated a serious crime problem was already developing in Papua New Guinea and included some worthwhile practical suggestions for its reduction.

In October 1976, the Minister for Justice, Mr N. Ebia Olewale, again invited the Institute of Criminology to conduct a follow-up exercise in Papua New Guinea to gauge progress made in crime prevention and control in that country over the preceding fifteen months. This seminar revealed that the previous project had prompted Papua New Guinea to a searching examination of the nature of crime and its causation in all cultures and to an appreciation of the social, political and economic realities of the phenomenon. There was detectable an informed loss of confidence in the penalty system as an agent of crime control. Critical eyes had been turned on existing statistical skills, methodologies and the amount of attention given to their routine compilation.

Speakers criticised attitudes to crime and criminals in high places. It was evident that there are people in Papua New Guinea who have thought deeply about strategies for the attainment of the kind of society people really want and the steps to be taken to achieve those goals. It was apparent that there are people in Papua New Guinea who are unimpressed by the practice of setting up institutions and organisations to control and prevent crime in the absence of basic changes to the conditions under which people live and work.

OPENING ADDRESS

It was obvious that progress had taken place in certain areas and not in others. In his opening address, the Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea, Sir Sydney Frost, conveyed the impression that the police had effected valuable initiatives that had led to increased confidence on the part of the community and some diminution of urban crime. He drew attention also to an increase in the proportion of cases in which pleas of guilty had been entered in Papua New Guinea courts, and a diminution in the frequency with which statements made to the police in criminal justice trials were being challenged.

Subsequent addresses to the seminar served to confirm Sir Sydney's impression that considerable progress in police performance had occurred, and seemed likely to continue to occur, under the leadership of the present Commissioner of Police.

PROGRESS TOWARDS CRIME PREVENTION IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Inspector H. Kneebone

Such claims were supported in detail by Inspector H. Kneebone. Acknowledging the short-term nature of the results recorded, Inspector Kneebone's paper pointed nonetheless to improvements in public willingness to report property offences. It was felt that this has resulted from the institution of a sector patrol system in Port Moresby which has increased public confidence in the likelihood of a report of a crime resulting in detection and arrest.

Attention was directed by Inspector Kneebone to the continuing increase in juvenile crime (of the order of 3 per cent per annum) and in the amount of white collar crime, both apparently contributing the major proportion of the amount of property crime committed. Arguments were advanced for the inauguration of a police juvenile squad, the training of a fraud squad and the establishment of a national youth service. In 1973, the then Minister for the Interior, Dr John Guise, appointed a study group which drew up twenty recommendations aimed at the institution of a National Youth Service. Inspector Kneebone expressed an earnest wish that the service be established. He was critical of national crime and criminal justice statistics, but indicated that some improvement had taken place. He was more enthusiastic about the extension of the village courts system to suburban settlements and that steps had been taken over the previous twelve months towards decentralised police control by the establishment of sub-stations throughout the country which serve to involve police more closely in general community development.

THE ROYAL PAPUA NEW GUINEA CONSTABULARY AND CRIME PREVENTION

Mrs C. Gowdie

Because of the wide publicity given to '*Crime in Papua New Guinea*' Mrs C. Gowdie, a lecturer at the Police Training College at Bomana, spoke of the attention to training of police officers that does actually occur and is developing. As late as July 1976 an induction course was introduced, based on the research of the police psychologist, and aimed at reaching a wide range of concepts, from 'helping people in trouble' to the problems of life on a police station. This four week course is to be taught to all future squads of recruits, supplementing courses already established aimed at raising the education levels of commissioned officers. From the beginning of 1974 straight education courses had been taught to both direct entry cadets at the Joint Services College and to in-service commissioning courses at Bomana, concentrating on social science and technical skills. There has been developed, additionally, a social science follow-up course emphasising sociology for the policemen, paying particular attention to attitude formation, understanding how social changes affect both the community and the law-enforcement agency, the functions of law and police in a society, and the law-and-order problems of developing countries.

PROGRESS ON CRIME PREVENTION STATISTICS

Mr R. Fergie

The paper presented by the Government Statistician, Mr Ron Fergie, was a coherent statement detailing the point of progress reached since the 1975 seminar, reasons why greater progress had not been made, and certain remedial suggestions.

Recognising that one of the inherent problems in crime prevention statistics is that their production is in the hands of a number of different agencies, namely, police, courts, corrective institutions and officers of the new Department of Provincial Affairs, he called for a concerted effort by all to develop a coordinated system with explicit links and common definitions and standards. He is obviously conscious of the inter-relationships between the various education, health and security sub-systems in society and of the need for the isolation of social indicators based on data series extracted from all these interrelated fields. The Bureau of Statistics itself, he believes, is the logical agency to be the necessary statistical coordinator. It is the Bureau also that should be able to help with the design of collection and processing systems providing a bridge through its systems analyst between agencies and the National Computer Centre.

Recognising the need for experienced and qualified staff, including computer programmers and data capture processors, to carry out the necessary operations and procedures, he places the responsibility for the recruitment and training of such officers for government agencies on the shoulders of his Bureau. He was not confident of progress, however, unless the users of statistics maintain a constant dialogue with those who design and operate the systems, bringing enthusiasm and a growing amount of expertise to an atmosphere of interested cooperation.

Statistical science is relatively new. The statistician is today a highly trained, professionally qualified person. It is little wonder, therefore, that the usual relegation of responsibility for the keeping of statistics to the different agencies concerned, none of whom were likely to have among their employees skilled statisticians, resulted in statistics inadequate in range, coherence, speed of publication and availability to researchers. In fact, criminal justice statistics in existence were of exceedingly doubtful use. The keeping of well-integrated statistics was impeded by lack of direction and expertise, lack of contact between producers and users, lack of appreciation of the need for good statistics, lack of willingness to expend resources on them and a general defensiveness about the whole subject. Agencies tended to be reluctant to share statistics with interested enquirers and to adopt a 'let us slap some figures together' approach to their preparation when periodically called upon to do so.

As a result of the Australian Institute of Criminology's first seminar on Crime Prevention in July 1975 and the two-day seminar on Statistics of Public Order and Safety organised by the Bureau of Statistics in November of the same year, which brought together representatives of all the principal producers and users of criminal statistics, a working group was set up to develop an integrated statistical system. As the police were not represented, this group confined its attention to court statistics to parallel a revision of legislation covering district and local courts. It proposed an examination of the court register as the source document for gathering data and an examination of national court and village court administration records with a view to their being accommodated within the same system of statistics. The Bureau backed up the working group in its endeavours to develop a court register as a useful source document by technical assistance to the agencies through its systems analyst, but Mr Fergie's paper was not able to indicate that the goals of its adoption throughout the courts system had been reached. Contacts between the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary and the Bureau finally resulted in the latter being called in to advise on the establishment of a statistical series for monitoring the efficiency and effectiveness of the operation of the newly introduced motorised sector patrols in Port Moresby. Resulting from the discussion, a system has been established without placing undue demands on the constabulary. Similarly, the Bureau was able to develop for the corrective institutions service a draft lay-out for an annual publication covering detainee statistics, an exercise which has been postponed only through the unfortunate breakdown in computer services provided by the National Computer Centre. Hopes were still high, nonetheless, for 1975 figures to be available for publication in the following month or two.

The Bureau of Statistics had welcomed the establishment of the Crime Prevention Council in Papua New Guinea earlier in the year, and had been successful in initiating the inclusion in the Council's Constitution of the function of encouraging the production of crime statistics. It was also hoped that the Council would provide a means of directing the broad attention of statistical users to the activities of criminal justice agencies, and to the working group set up to develop the statistical system, thereby providing the working group with a much needed 'shot in the arm'.

The Bureau also welcomed the inauguration of a regular annual training course on statistical operations and procedures at the Administrative College. One course had already been held training twenty-six statistical officers, to be followed by a second course early in 1977.

Mr Fergie's blueprint for the short and long term improvement in the usefulness of criminal justice statistics in Papua New Guinea is precise and practical. He presses the need for regular publication of police statistics, even as frequently as on a monthly statistical bulletin basis, the return to efficient operation as quickly as possible of the National Computer Centre, and for improvements in basic numeracy among agency employees which affects the quality of the sources from which adequate statistics can be assembled.

Finally, he expresses a wish for the disappearance of major philosophical blocks to enthusiasm for adequate statistics. He denies that it is possible to run a crime prevention agency by the 'seat of the pants' on the basis of largely unaided observations or impressions of experienced individuals. He deplores the 'keep out of our hair' philosophy that suggests public order and security statistics are private departmental property, and he pleads for the statistical system to be conceived of as a unified system designed to cross agency lines and to be available at various levels for planning and management purposes. He rejects the notion that it is only gross statistics that are the Bureau's business, and that detailed operating statistics belong to individual departments.

A SUMMARY OF RESEARCH INTO THE CURRENT LAW AND ORDER
PROBLEM OF PORT MORESBY - *Mr M.L. Mackellar*

1975 was an interesting year in Port Moresby. It was the year of Independence, of rejoicing and celebration, but according to Magistrate Malcolm Mackellar, it was an unhappy year for some plagued by fear of burglary and theft. Mr Mackellar's paper was prepared from his own research project funded by the Australian Criminology Research Council and was a study of the crimes of breaking, entering and stealing in Port Moresby, and court loadings in that city.

His research consisted of an in-depth analysis of all breaking and entering incidents reported to the police during the six month period April-September inclusive in 1975, and a rather shallower statistical analysis of all cases which passed through the lower courts of Port Moresby during the same period. He conducted, in addition, house to house victim surveys through selected suburban areas characterised by high-crime and low-crime rates, supported by personal interviews with both victims and criminals. He concluded that much of the crime in Port Moresby during that time could be attributed to failure by both private citizens and government departments and agencies to take basic precautions. He was able to extract as many as twenty-three ways in which crime could be reduced in Port Moresby, some of which seemed almost too obvious to mention, but which invited comment on the incomprehensible failure to implement them that was characteristic of life styles in the city. The first ten methods were directed at the

average Port Moresby householder and included such obvious means as:

1. Keeping doors locked.
2. Getting to know neighbours for mutual supervision during periods of absence.
3. Agreements among neighbours to stagger outings.
4. Erecting boundary fences.
5. Keeping a dog.
6. Ensuring that servants' quarters are occupied at all times.
7. Making sure windows are securely closed and barred.
8. Leaving security lights burning at night.
9. Being sure to report every crime suffered; and
10. Being careful to ascertain details of one's actual address.

The city of Port Moresby does not have a street numbering address system, and buildings can be accurately identified in many instances only by section and lot numbers.

The Government was exhorted to move swiftly to:

1. Encourage the police to adopt vigorous crime preventive practices.
2. Increase police morale by improvements in housing and other basic necessities.
3. Simplify procedures in the lower courts by abolishing committal processes.
4. Simplify appeal processes by channelling appeals from lower courts through the District Court instead of directly to the National Court.
5. Standardise minimum penalties in line with the provisions already in the Customs and Minor Traffic Acts.
6. Vary the kinds of imprisonment that courts can impose by the provision of viable alternatives such as weekend gaol, release to work, parole, probation and community work orders.
7. Increase the jurisdiction of the lower courts, thus speeding up the case clearance rates in Port Moresby.

8. Expand the village courts area of jurisdiction.
9. Abandon multi-racial and multi-ethnic suburbs to improve the safety of the Port Moresby citizenry.
10. Broadcast daily crime statistics so that people might be alerted during high crime times and take more safety precautions.
11. Get rid of public servants who, it was claimed, are either involved in criminal activities directly or are harbouring gangsters.
12. Increase police activities in the direction of regular visible patrols as a deterrent to crime; and finally
13. Do something about the unemployed.

Mr Mackellar emphasised the ready feasibility of all of his suggestions and accompanied each of his proposals with a considered plan for its implementation. He was of the opinion, for instance, that the problems associated with his claim about the alleged employment of public servants with long criminal records could be evaporated by two simple amendments to the Public Service (Interim Arrangements) Act, requiring:

1. Public servants to be finger-printed and to carry identification cards, and
2. Mandatory dismissal from the Public Service following conviction for certain offences such as fraud, misappropriation of public funds, stealing, and drunk and disorderly while on duty.

None of his remedies required special training or special equipment of any kind; all that was lacking, claimed Mr Mackellar, was determination to make Moresby a safer and better place. The previous colonial administration did not escape his critical spotlight, and, in fact, was held by him to have contributed to such a large crime wave in such a small city by 'years and years of mismanagement and bad planning and lack of forethought'.

THEFT IN PORT MORESBY

Mr F. Young

Mr Young conducted research into the crime of theft in Port Moresby because of its prevalence. His investigations were concentrated on teenage crime and teenage gangs, attempting to identify the type of person, age and motivational factors of people committing theft, breaking and entering, shop stealing and picking pockets. His paper contained accounts of the modus operandi of the thieves, their social organisation into gangs and their ability to adapt to new situations.

The study was confined to indigenous males as they represented the largest single group of known offenders. Although the number of offenders interviewed by Mr Young was so small as to cast doubt on the efficacy of the exercise, his findings do reasonably closely parallel the findings of other similar investigations carried out on larger samples. His accounts of the methods employed by the offenders in planning their breaking and entering offences reinforced the hints proffered by Mr Mackellar for the physical control of crime in Papua New Guinea in general and Port Moresby in particular. The lessons to be learned are obvious if people are really concerned to effect decreasing opportunities for crimes to be committed upon them.

The police of Papua New Guinea are accorded favourable comment by Mr Young. He learnt from his conversations with the offenders in his sample that police patrol efficiency is improving to the point where they are accorded a good deal of respect by the offending groups. He takes some pains to explain that certain traditional social conventions such as the wantok system render it extremely difficult for the police to recover stolen goods and charge apparent offenders because of the protection offered to known offenders by their wantoks. He deplores the isolation of the police from the community because of their being housed in a barrack situation, and urged that married members of the police at least be provided with housing throughout the town.

Mr Young was pessimistic about the crime situation in Port Moresby, offering his opinion that it will worsen over the next few years because of the rising number of school leavers in the face of the decreasing number of employment opportunities. He perceives an ideal climate for the growth of crime in the large number of unemployed or unemployable teenagers who have been educated to wealth-oriented goals but possess in fact no legal means of attaining them.

He recommends a form of national service provided youth is given an opportunity to attain some of its goals. Otherwise such a national service may even result in the formation of more disciplined and cohesive gangs. Altogether Mr Young's paper provides support for one of the resolutions, finally emanating from the seminar, relating to the adaptation of the Papua New Guinea Education System to the ultimate needs of the nation, so that the population is not left with insufficient means of gainful and meaningful employment.

CRIME PREVENTION IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS - SOME PROPOSALS

Mr N.K.F. O'Neill

The Law Reform Commission of Port Moresby established by the Law Reform Commission Act of 1975 has initially two principal tasks. It suggests appropriate reforms to aspects of current law referred to it by the Minister for Justice, and it makes recommendations to the Minister on the development of new laws. Mr N.K.F. O'Neill, Secretary of the Law Reform Commission, contributed information as to activities of the

Law Reform Commission which, in his opinion, should foster crime prevention, and some proposals of his own that should result in a measure of crime prevention in urban and rural areas.

A Summary Offences Bill, recommended by the Commission in its first Report issued in September 1975, contains a number of new offences designed to help the police prevent inter-group fighting before it starts. The loitering and consorting offences in the Bill should assist crime prevention in urban areas. In its 4th Report, published in March 1976, the Commission recommended new legislation consisting of three short and simple Bills dealing with arrest, search and bail, which, if enacted, will enable the police to find all the law on those matters in one place. They should thus be able to act quickly and decisively in situations of stress, confident that they know the law and are acting within it. A good deal of trouble in rural areas which also occasionally leads to tribal fights stems from incidents of adultery. A new law about to be recommended by the Commission provides for peaceful ways of settling such disputes.

Proposals to simplify committal proceedings, to increase the criminal jurisdiction of the Senior Magistrates and the introduction of new forms of sentencing, have developed from close liaison with the Acting Chief Magistrate. The Commission is pressing for the inauguration of probation and parole services, the use of mediation and compensation as mechanisms for dispute settlement in Papua New Guinea, and ways of having courts take local concepts and perceptions into account when determining criminal guilt. Mr O'Neill is convinced that a criminal justice system which is in tune with people's views as to what is acceptable and what is not acceptable behaviour has much greater chance of being respected than one which is imposed from without and which reflects the views of another society in another place at another time.

As his own personal view, Mr O'Neill rejects the notion that the criminal law is able to play an effective role in curbing the urban drift. The police attempt, based on the laws relating to unlawful means of support, is, in Mr O'Neill's opinion, not only a clear miscomprehension of the law, but must have considerable impact on the rights of innocent people. He describes proposals afoot to introduce even harsher legislation as both 'Draconian and unconstitutional'. Pragmatically then, he destroys the logic of the harsher proposals by pointing to the false premise on which they are based. It is believed that the high incidence of house breaking and property offences in Port Moresby can be blamed on the urban drift. Two surveys indicate that more than half the break and enter offences are committed by young men from two Papuan provinces, many of whom have been in Port Moresby for some time. They were either born there or came as children with their parents and have lived there ever since.

Mr O'Neill is more than a lawyer. He sees the inutility of relying on the criminal justice system and its penalties for crime control.

His proposals suggest sociological intervention that relies for crime prevention and control on such measures as:

1. The removal of police from residence in barracks to break down their current social isolation from the people.
2. The establishment of juvenile and consorting squads within the Police Department.
3. Improved street lighting in towns.
4. The redevelopment of the educational system so that it relates more to people's real vocational opportunities.
5. Campaigns to inculcate feelings of shame in tribal fighting.
6. The stimulation of small-group economic, political and social activities with delegation of decision making to the local level.
7. Confident reliance on the village courts and the new Land Dispute Settlement legislation.

He rejects such measures as 'pass' laws, drawing attention rather to evidence from other developing countries in which ward organisations are called upon to play a significant part in maintaining public order. He places his faith in community development, by which he means more than merely raising living standards and increasing incomes.

THE MAGISTERIAL SERVICE

Mr F. Iramu

Tracing the history of magisterial services in Papua New Guinea, Mr Francis Iramu, magistrate, drew attention to the change for the better that had taken place in the training for judicial and administration functions now performed by national magistrates. A higher level of education is now required of candidates for magistrate training, and the content of the training course at the Administrative College has been made more comprehensive and more relevant to work in the field. Short courses are conducted from time to time for magistrates demonstrating potential for working in Provincial courts. Each year a further one year academic course of the normal law degree at the University of Papua New Guinea is offered to magistrates considered capable and who can be relieved of their field duties.

The establishment of the present magisterial services, following Independence Day on 16 September 1975, effected major changes which now clearly provide for a career service, offering equal opportunities to all magistrates for promotion to higher ranks, a provision which was practically non-existent in the previous structure. Magisterial work in Papua New Guinea is still not without its problems, which Mr Iramu realistically assessed. He offered considered suggestions for improving the service, most of which related to providing greater opportunities for higher education for magistrates, culminating in law degrees. He advocated more concise National and Supreme Court decisions, (simplified copies of which should be sent to all magistrates), and a scheme for exchanging Third World Magistrates with those from other countries with legal systems based on Common Law.

CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Mr J. Aisa

In his paper delivered to the 1975 seminar, Mr David Biles, Assistant Director (Research) of the Australian Institute of Criminology, referred to primary and secondary crime prevention as two elements in a crime prevention policy. The 1976 seminar provided evidence that considerable attention had been directed during the intervening fifteen months to primary prevention. There was less evidence to indicate progress in the secondary aspects of crime prevention in Mr Biles' terms. Information was provided by Mr Joseph Aisa, President of the Crime Prevention Council of Papua New Guinea, on the activities of the infant Council, formed on 6 April 1976. Already that organisation has set up a sub-committee to enquire into the feasibility of providing a presentencing reporting service to courts, using initially the members of the Legal Aid Group of the Law Students Society, University of Papua New Guinea, as investigators and reporters.

Another sub-committee is to set up an adult education programme aimed at assisting parents, especially those newly established in urban areas, to appreciate their special and more onerous responsibilities to their male children and the community in contrast to the free and easy life of rural living. A third sub-committee will endeavour to coordinate the activities of voluntary community groups with a view to assisting long term prisoners with pre-release counselling and aftercare of a more concrete kind.

PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS FOR CRIME CONTROL IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Mr W. Clifford

Three papers were presented by the senior officers of the Australian Institute of Criminology. In his paper titled 'Prospects and Problems for Crime Control in Papua New Guinea', Mr Clifford emphasised the naivety of being misled into the belief that a normal, healthy society does not have crime, and that a change of political complexion will cause it to disappear. Crime, in fact, is an integral part of our social, economic and political life, and a normal feature of any kind of social organisation. It is necessary to plan, not to

eliminate all crime under all circumstances, (because this is a dream), but to contain crime within tolerable limits and protect innocent victims, especially the victims of violent crime. It is also a mistake to imagine that crime is only a social problem and not equally a problem of power - both political and economic. It is therefore not something which can be left only to the police to deal with.

Papua New Guinea's approach to crime control should be based upon the serious acceptance of crime as a powerful social, economic and political event, and its control has to be conceived in a total national context, the responsibility of all government, commercial and community organisations. As close an eye has to be kept on official corruption as on tribal fighting. Communities have to be brought fully into the campaign for the control of disruptive behaviour long before it becomes necessary to enact and enforce special laws.

Papua New Guinea should establish a national crime prevention commission on which ministers or their most senior officials will sit with the commissioners of police and prisons and a senior representative of the judiciary. The task of this commission should be to look at the national situation in terms of investigation of the opportunities which national development will undoubtedly provide for more crime or for different forms of it.

On a world view, the difference between countries with high rates of crime and those with low rates can be measured by the strength of informal social controls. Although they are the most powerful agencies of crime prevention, these informal controls become diluted by urban growth and the kinds of population mobility that divorce people from their traditional patterns of life. There are lessons to be learned from experience in Japan and Africa which would repay close study by Papua New Guinea. There are distinct dangers in embarking on education and health programmes without taking cognisance of experience in other places. Education programmes which have been unrelated to the real needs of the nation, and centralised health programmes that have served to hasten the urban drift, have proved to be less than useful.

Since the criminal justice services themselves cannot be expected to contain future crime, the task of training police officers in Papua New Guinea to fulfil their proper role in society will take time, probably to the end of the century. Although short term intensive training programmes may be needed, the types of growth necessary will take time and experience and will not yield to hothouse stimulation. Although the establishment of the village courts system was a desirable move, there still has to be a wider accommodation of customary law ideas within the criminal justice system itself. Police can better operate through established authorities at a local level. Wherever possible peace making compensation, as well as the use of the fine, can be more effective than the deprivation of liberty.

Although Mr Clifford emphasised that crime is not a problem that can be left to the police, courts and the prisons, he asserted at the same time that those three agencies, nonetheless, have to be improved and inter-related so as to provide a favourable criminal justice system. It is not possible to carry out improvements without accurate knowledge of how the systems are working. The tool in this process is the availability of accurate statistics. Mr Fergie's paper, presented earlier in the seminar, had left an unmistakable impression that, although some small improvement was discernible since the previous seminar, there was still lacking in Papua New Guinea awareness of the need for the accurate gathering of statistics if progress in crime prevention is to be expected to occur.

CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH SUGGESTIONS FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Mr D. Biles

Mr Biles, Assistant Director (Research) of the Australian Institute of Criminology, outlined specific means of improving the situation. His paper confined itself to realistic suggestions for research activity in Papua New Guinea - realistic in the sense that all suggestions involved no extravagant use of resources. His suggestions were eminently practicable, covering the three main types of research relevant to criminological researchers in the country. He suggested surveys of public attitudes to:

1. The illegality of drunkenness, adultery and gambling.
2. The provision of alternative forms of sentencing, such as probation, parole and work order schemes.
3. The use of compensation and restitution.
4. The village courts system.

He called for regular publication of crime trends within the suburbs of Port Moresby and other large cities, and within each of the regions in Papua New Guinea, for the purposes of long-term planning of crime prevention activities by police and other agencies. He recommended victimisation surveys for the calculation of reportability rates as a means of revealing the extent of the 'dark figure' of unreported crime throughout the country.

It is impossible to assess the community's confidence in existing crime prevention programmes and other social innovations unless reasonably accurate statistical information about the incidence of crime in particular areas, both before and after the innovation, has been achieved. Only on the basis of accurate statistical information can Papua New Guinea experiment profitably with such innovations as different styles of architectural and town planning, the up-grading of levels of street lighting, and other crime prevention planning

measures suggested by speakers at this seminar.

For the sake of police efficiency and continuous improvement, regular surveys of public attitudes to the police should be conducted, so that positive steps can be taken if the level of acceptance or approval shows signs of declining. Accurate data derived from surveys of police morale, reviews of pre-service and in-service training systems, and analyses of manpower statistics relating to recruitment and resignations, provide an invaluable tool for effective police administration. They are also highly relevant to the level of service offered to the community.

Mr Biles called for repeated analysis of court work-loads in the manner conducted by Mr Mackellar, as well as research into the sentencing patterns of different judges and magistrates for different types of crime. As disparities are everywhere known to exist, it is only reasonable that they should be revealed and steps taken to correct them. It is particularly important for the proper functioning of a correctional system that relevant recidivism rates, following different types of sentence such as probation and imprisonment, are accurately recorded and analysed. Such data is necessary for research into the influence on prisoners' post-release behaviour of the educational and training programmes offered to prisoners under sentence and into the administrative needs of correctional systems, including those for specialist staff such as psychologists and social workers. Only thus is it practicable to maintain high levels of staff morale and effectiveness.

As a final proposition, Mr Biles recommended the establishment of a small criminology unit within the University of Papua New Guinea for the purpose of encouraging and conducting the kinds of reasearch he envisages.

THE TRAINING OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL - AN ON-GOING PROCESS

Mr C.R. Bevan

The paper presented by Mr C.R. Bevan, Assistant Director (Training) of the Australian Institute of Criminology, impressed on the seminar the need for continuous training of criminal justice personnel. As Mr Clifford had indicated, crime has many dimensions and cannot be considered simply a minor or incidental social problem. As confidence in the capacity of a penal system to contain crime diminishes, it is being more universally recognised that criminal justice workers are dealing with a relatively small proportion of offenders, namely, those who are caught. If it is accepted that what happens to those people will have little bearing on total rates of crime, it becomes more essential that the offenders are treated in a fashion which offers no further damage to their person, however much they may be expected to undergo punishment for their crimes as a possible deterrent to themselves and others.

It is essential therefore, that judges and magistrates, court officers, police, probation and parole officers, and prison officers are kept continuously informed as to the actual mainsprings of criminal behaviour, trends in crime, methods of dealing with offenders, factual information about the effects of penal measures, the sociology of crime

and prisons, and technical applications to crime detection and control. He drew attention to elaborate training programmes being implemented for judges in the United Kingdom as an indication that no officer should be regarded as immune from the on-going process of training and information. Police came in for special mention because of their particular importance in the criminal justice system. It is a commonplace that the police force is very largely a social service, continuously available to the public as such, and cannot fulfil its full and true function without a much more complete knowledge of the mainsprings of human behaviour than is at present included in most police training programmes. The theme of the paper emphasised that the need for training of all criminal justice workers will be forever with us.

RESOLUTIONS

There was no mistaking the current of strongly supported ideas that were threaded through all discussions and all contributions at this seminar. People concerned with criminal justice and crime in Papua New Guinea contributed to a consensus of easily identified sentiments. These are reflected in the small number of resolutions emanating from the meeting but which, it may be claimed, were unanimously advocated:

1. Believing that the major real wealth of Papua New Guinea is at present not utilised and that the population is left thereby with insufficient means of gainful and meaningful employment and that the education system is currently insufficiently oriented to the ultimate needs of the Nation and believing that these circumstances contribute to problems of crime in this Nation, this seminar resolves that the National Government be urged to re-examine its education policy so as to lay more meaningful emphasis throughout the system on education in rural pursuits.
2. Conscious of the close relationship between juvenile crime and insufficient opportunities for youth employment, this conference resolves that the 1974 study on the National Youth Service be resurrected and a study of it by the public and members of all levels of Government be made, and that the matter of the National Youth Service go back to Parliament for further consideration and for immediate implementation at the local level.
3. This seminar recommends that the Government be urged to direct special attention to maximising and coordinating personnel resources of Government Departments and voluntary organisations concerned with training criminal justice workers for both juvenile and adult offenders through the development of training programmes both specialist and generic.

4. This seminar urges the National Government to provide financial support for the Papua New Guinea Crime Prevention Council with a view to assisting it to establish a permanent secretariat and to facilitate the realisation of the objectives of the Council as enumerated in the Constitution.
5. This seminar resolves that legislation be drawn up for the magistrates to empower them to sentence offenders to community work projects instead of a term of imprisonment in corrective institutions.
6. This seminar believes that a probation service and a parole system are important elements of any criminal justice system. The seminar considers that a probation service can carry out a number of important tasks that need to be done in the administration of criminal justice. The seminar also believes that by its work a probation service can increase community consciousness of the crime problem and thus contribute to crime prevention. This seminar therefore recommends that the Government establish a probation service and parole system as soon as possible.

CONCLUSION

It is hoped that similar seminars will continue to be a regular feature of collaboration and cooperative endeavour on the part of Papua New Guinea and the Australian Institute of Criminology. It would be a great source of satisfaction if, at the next seminar, it could be revealed that a probation and parole service has been established, that the imprisonment rate has fallen, that community resources have been mobilised to ensure that fewer juveniles are being detained in adult prisons, that reliable statistics relating to corrective institutions and juvenile criminal justice processes are available.

It is earnestly hoped that by the next seminar crime in Port Moresby is no longer so vital an issue that the Port Moresby City Council finds it necessary to include law and order in its Welfare, Health and Education portfolio, and that such measures as National government 'pass' laws, vigilante groups and security organisations, as recommended by one speaker, are no longer deemed necessary, even in the imagination, and that measures have been injected into the educational systems along the lines hinted at in a later pronouncement by the nation's Prime Minister, Mr Michael Somare, as part of his 'Five-Year Plan'.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Project Director

Mr C.R. Bevan Assistant Director (Training) Australian Institute of Criminology Canberra	Dr D. Boston Faculty of Law University of Papua New Guinea Port Moresby
Mr D. Biles Assistant Director (Research) Australian Institute of Criminology Canberra	Mr K. Egan Public Prosecutor Officer of the Public Prosecutor Port Moresby
Mr M.C. Filan Senior Training Officer Australian Institute of Criminology Canberra	Mr R. Fergie Government Statistician Bureau of Statistics Port Moresby
Mr I. Alurula Department of Welfare Port Moresby	Mr A. Geno City Council Port Moresby
Mr B. Andrews Assistant Secretary (Executive) Department of Justice Port Moresby	Mr C. Gilmour Executive Officer Magisterial Service Port Moresby
Mr W. Andrews Acting Public Solicitor Public Solicitor's Office Port Moresby	Mr S. Homoka Department of Welfare Port Moresby
Mr J.S. Aoae Secretary for Justice Department of Justice Port Moresby	Mr F. Iramu Senior Magistrate Lae, Papua New Guinea
Mr T. Au Department of Welfare Port Moresby	Mr M. Jaran Acting Inspector Corrective Institutions Service Port Moresby
Mr W. Bai Commissioner Corrective Institutions Service Port Moresby	Mr M. Kapi, Deputy Public Solicitor Public Solicitor's Office Port Moresby
Mr T. Barrett Regional Officer Village Court Secretariat Port Moresby	Mr L. Kavaua Department of Welfare Port Moresby

Mr P. Kerepia
 Commissioner of Police
 Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary
 Port Moresby

Mr B.W. Kidu
 The State Solicitor
 State Solicitor's Office
 Port Moresby

Superintendent H. Kneebone
 Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary
 Port Moresby

Mr A. Maino
 Ombudsman
 Ombudsman Commission
 Port Moresby

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 Assistant State Solicitor
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 Port Moresby

Mr M. Maraleau
 State Prosecutor
 Office of the Public Prosecutor
 Port Moresby

Mr M. Mackellar
 Magistrate
 Port Moresby

Mr D. Melange
 Department of Welfare
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Mr B. Narakobi
 Chairman Law Reform Commission
 Port Moresby

Mr N.F.K. O'Neill
 Secretary
 Law Reform Commission
 Port Moresby

Mr J. Pritchard
 Chief Magistrate
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Mr T. Puri
 Bureau of Statistics
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Mr B.M. Ryan
 State Prosecutor
 Officer of the Public Prosecutor
 Port Moresby

Mr J. Riley
 Administrative College
 Waigani
 Papua New Guinea

Mr D. Sibui
 Department of Welfare
 Port Moresby

Mr F. Young
 Psychologist
 Public Service Commission
 Port Moresby

PROGRAMME

'PROGRESS TOWARDS CRIME PREVENTION IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA'

Monday - 4 October 1976

- 9.00am Welcome to Participants
Mr J. Aoa
- 9.15am Official Opening
Sir Sydney Frost
Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea
- 9.30am Programme Outline
Mr C.R. Bevan
- 10.00am Morning Tea
- 10.30am 'Progress in Crime and Criminal Justice
Statistics in Papua New Guinea'
Mr R. Fergie
- 12.00 Noon Lunch
- 1.00pm 'Report on a Crime Research Project
in Papua New Guinea'
Mr M. Mackellar
- 2.00pm 'Gang Structure in Port Moresby'
Mr F. Young
- 3.00pm 'Proposals for Crime Research in Papua
New Guinea'
Mr D. Biles
- 4.00pm Afternoon Tea

Tuesday - 5 October 1976

- 9.00am 'Training of Criminal Justice Workers -
an On-going Process'
Mr C.R. Bevan
- 10.00am Morning Tea
- 10.30am 'Planning for Crime Prevention'
Mr W. Clifford
- 12.00 Noon Lunch
- 1.00pm Reports on Crime Prevention Progress:
*Law Reform Commission
Magisterial Service
Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary*
- 2.30pm Afternoon Tea
- 3.00pm Workshops
- 6.30pm Reception

Wednesday - 6 October 1976

- 9.00am Reports on Crime Prevention Progress
Mr N.K.F. O'Neill
- 10.00am Morning Tea
- 10.30am Panel Discussion
*Mr C.R. Bevan
Mr D. Biles
Mr N.K.F.O'Neil*
- 12 Noon Lunch

Wednesday - 6 October 1976 (contd)

- 1.00pm Reports on Crime Prevention Progress
Corrective Institutions Service Welfare
- 2.00pm Afternoon Tea
- 2.30pm Workshop

Thursday - 7 October 1976

- 9.00am Reports on Crime Prevention Progress
*Dr D. Boston
Crime Prevention Council*
- 10.00am Morning Tea
- 10.30am Forum
- 12.00 Noon Lunch
- 1.00pm Discussion outline for final Workshop
Mr C.R. Bevan
- 1.30pm Workshops
- 3.30pm Seminar Summary
Mr C.R. Bevan
- 4.00pm Close of Seminar
Mr J. Aoea

Post-Courier - Thursday, 30 September 1976

Outpacing the criminals

In the never-ending battle between cops and robbers the ones with the most up-to-date techniques usually have the edge.

That is why crime prevention seminars can be so important.

Last year's crime prevention seminar held in Port Moresby has proved the value of the "goodies" pooling their resources to keep the upper hand.

Unemployment, juvenile delinquency, police inefficiency, overloaded courts and the need for better statistics were major topics dealt with at the seminar.

As a result a Crime Prevention Council was formed, and a new police patrol system introduced.

A new court has opened in the city to deal exclusively with traffic cases.

All these positive efforts towards curbing crime have followed directly or indirectly from discussions at last year's seminar.

On Monday, the Chief Justice, Sir Sydney Frost, will open a follow-up seminar organised again by the Department of Justice and the Australian Institute of Criminology.

The seminar will give the public a chance to know what has been achieved during the year.

Some successes are obvious already.

Researchers say that Port Moresby's crime rate is dropping because of increased police efficiency.

If next week's forum is as useful as the last for local and overseas experts to air their views, it will mean further action in long-range crime prevention.

Post-Courier - Tuesday, 5 October 1976

MAGISTRATE JOLTS PS...

Beware the gangsters

Some senior public servants were directly involved in criminal activity or were harboring gangsters, a crime seminar in Port Moresby was told yesterday.

A senior district court magistrate, Mr M. L. Mackellar, told the seminar that the practice of ignoring or belittling the criminal activity of certain public servants should cease.

If departmental heads or the Public Service Commission were reluctant to discipline their staff properly, then the law should do it for them, Mr Mackellar said.

He said that while the Police Commissioner was not reluctant to shed any of his men convicted of crimes, the Public Service Commission obviously was.

Simple changes

He said two simple amendments to the Public Service (Interim Arrangements) Act could require —

- All public servants to be fingerprinted and carry identity cards; and

- Mandatory dismissal from the Public Service following conviction for certain offences such as fraud, misappropriation of public funds, stealing and drunk and disorderly while on duty.

"It seems pointless pursuing a policy to reduce crime in Port Moresby if some senior public servants, who are in a position to implement such a policy, are themselves involved in criminal activity directly or are harboring gangsters," Mr Mackellar said.

He said that while there were hundreds of well-educated, qualified and honest school leavers without work, the continued employment of public servants with long criminal records should be discouraged.

in top posts

Mr Mackellar, addressing the "Progress towards Crime Prevention in Papua New Guinea" seminar being held at the Administration College, was making a report on a crime research project.

Continued on Page 24

Post-Courier - Tuesday, 5 October 1976

Survey on problems

He said that from April to September 1975, a survey had been conducted into the general law and order problems of Port Moresby.

Mr Mackellar said the report found that much of the crime in Port Moresby in 1975 could be attributed to a failure by both private citizens and Government departments and agencies to take even the most basic precautions.

The call to "get rid of criminal public servants" was one of the

23 ways in which crime could be reduced in Port Moresby, the report stated.

Mr Mackellar said that not all these methods had to be implemented immediately.

But unless some were implemented soon, there could be no hope for a reduction in crime in Port Moresby within the foreseeable future, he said.

Household protection

Mr Mackellar said that 10 of the methods were simple and directed at the average Port Moresby householder.

They included keeping your doors locked, getting to know your neighbor, keeping your servants' quarters occupied at all times, always reporting any crime committed against you, and knowing your address.

However, Mr Mackellar said much of the necessary effort aimed at reducing the volume of crime in the city could only be taken by the Government or the appropriate semi-governmental agencies.

● Turn to Page 3.

Crime shock

● From Page 1.

Among the main suggestions directed at the PNG Government were:

- Improve police morale by handing the Murray Barracks complex over to the police;

- Simplify the lower court procedure by getting rid of the comital process;

- Simplify the appeal process, standardise minimum penalties and vary the kinds of imprisonment which courts can impose;

- Increase the jurisdiction of the lower courts and expand the village courts' area of jurisdiction;

- Broadcast daily crime statistics and do something about the unemployed.

Mr Mackellar said

that Port Moresby was a very small city by world standards.

"How a small city ever had a large crime wave can only be attributed to years and years of mismanagement and bad planning and lack of forethought during half a century of haphazard colonial administration.

"It could have been easily prevented but it never was."

He said that although crime in itself cannot be prevented in Port Moresby, the crime wave could easily be prevented, simply by using ordinary cheap and easy methods of household security and ordinary police preventive and detective methods.

Let the poor people steal

LAW REFORM BOSS AIRS IDEALS

The poor were justified in stealing food and drink in an unjust society where the rich were not checked in their avarice, the Chairman of the Law Reform Commission, Mr Bernard Narakobi said yesterday.

"If the state will not control the selfish, then let the poor help themselves to what is due to them," he told the crime seminar in Port Moresby.

"If the state is not giving its people a vision to live for, work for and die for, then let the people plan their own visions and take steps to fulfil these."

The trouble with Papua New Guinea was that it was caught in the Western capitalist legal web that knew no

other than court, police and adversary forms of justice.

It was narrow, impersonal, inhuman and often extremely unjust.

"What is the state doing about those who, after making their first K10,000 go on making their second K10,000, making use of state services?"

"What is the state doing about the rich foreigners who have two and three cars and have speed boats at the yacht club."

"What is the state doing about the rich expatriates who have their own cars and continue to make use of Government vehicles."

"What is the state doing about those nationals who are slowly digging their greedy feet into the earth so that they will control production and perpetuate the war between the rich and the poor, the capital and the labor, the employer and the employee?"

Mr Narakobi, who said he was speaking as a private citizen, said fundamental changes in society were required.

They should include:

- A shift from an adversary system of justice to a mediatory system.

- Use of mediation in police and prosecution functions.

- Limiting imprisonment to hardcore criminals beyond reform and dangerous persons.

- A probation system where convicted persons would be supervised but stay in the community.

- Putting offenders to shame by the use of public disgrace.

Mr Narakobi said little would be achieved by setting up high-level crime prevention councils, institutes of criminology and law reform commissions.

The first task was to define what the society wanted, and then take steps to achieve these goals.



● Mr NARAKOBI

"The people must be given an ideal, a vision to live for.

"Freedom, justice, and equality from the mouths of politicians, academics and bureaucrats as well as businessmen are meaningless if those who preach are driving around in luxury cars, dining and wining, while those who are preached to are struggling to find where the next meal is coming from."

Post-Courier - Thursday, 7 October 1976

'WHITE COLLAR CRIME' COSTING MILLIONS

There was a severe shortage of policemen who were competent in investigating white collar crime, the crime prevention seminar has been told.

Superintendent H. Kneebone told the seminar that white collar crimes were rapidly increasing.

Supt Kneebone said that the increase in the value of property stolen had gone from about K1.1 million in 1972/73, to K2.8 million at the end of the last financial year.

He said the greater part of this could be described as white collar crime including offences of passing

Fraud is on the increase

valueless cheques, forgeries and false pretences.

"We are faced with the problem of a severe shortage of policemen that are competent in handling investigations into this type of offence," he said.

He said a request to the Commonwealth Secretariat for help to set up a fraud squad had been rejected.

The secretariat was asked to help obtain

expert fraud investigators to set up a fraud squad and to train national officers.

He said other avenues were being explored but this possibility of help was remote.

There was an extremely urgent need to train national officers in order to overcome the rapidly increasing economic or white collar crimes, he said.

CRIME 'CAN'T BE KILLED'

Crime will never be totally eradicated, the Minister for Justice, Mr Olewale, said on Tuesday night.

Mr Olewale said that seminars like the one on crime prevention being held in Port Moresby this week would make the public aware of its responsibility in crime prevention.

Speaking at the launching of the book "Crime in Papua New Guinea", Mr Olewale said the matter of crime prevention was not only for police, courts and corrective institutions.

Mr Olewale was presented with a copy of

the book by the editor, Mr David Biles, the assistant director (research) of the Australian Institute of Criminology.

Mr Biles said he accepted that the book was out of date in many ways. The current seminar, "Progress Towards Crime Prevention", showed every day that tremendous progress had been made.

In a few months, he hoped that the Institute would produce another book to follow up "Crime in Papua New Guinea", he said.

Post-Courier - Thursday, 7 October 1976

GADGETS TO TRAP A THIEF

Technological "know-how" should be used to make crimes more difficult, Mr C. R. Bevan told the crime prevention seminar in Port Moresby.

The certainty of detection could be universally accepted as a deterrent to crime throughout the community, he said.

The more difficult it was to steal, the more risk one ran of being caught, he said.

Mr Bevan, who is Assistant Director of the Australian Institute of Criminology, was presenting a paper on the training of people working throughout the justice system.

"We, as a people, should use our technological know-how to devise more instruments that will make it more difficult for people to break and enter houses, motor cars and buildings, or to attack other men, women and children.

"Nothing will ever prevent crime altogether, but there is virtue in making it more difficult."

Training in the use of existing and future technological protective and preventive gadgets was a useful proposition, he said.

Research into and invention of crime preventive gadgets would be a continuing process as more technological knowledge was injected into the field.

"Both the police and the general public would profit from continuous access to such information and training.

"Again, as in many other areas of criminology, we fail to make use of a great deal of knowledge that we already have in how to prevent or discourage crime."

Mr Bevan said that the Australian Institute of Criminology was becoming more active in this area.

It was trying to include manufacturers and marketers of crime prevention implements in seminars and training programs.

'Police understand PR'

The problems of police public relations were understood in the force and attempts have been made to deal with them, a crime seminar in Port Moresby has been told.

A curriculum development officer at the Bomania Police Training College, Mrs C. Gowdie, told the seminar that the public often complained that the police force's public relations were poor.

She said the problems were understood and new initiatives were being tried.

Mrs Gowdie said the college tried to get police students to examine their own attitudes to their job and the community.

She said one of the subjects — social science — was taught with this idea and aimed at a better relationship with the public.

Post-Courier - Thursday, 7 October 1976

Swifter police action shakes up teen gangs

Teenage gangs had acknowledged the increase in police efficiency over the past year, the crime prevention seminar was told this week.

A psychologist, Mr F. Young said that two years ago, if gang members set off an alarm in a house they knew they had up to one hour to leave.

Over the past nine months, the gangs had begun to think in terms of minutes, Mr Young said.

"The mere sight of a patrol van in the area is sufficient to make them have second thoughts," he said.

Mr Young told the seminar he had interviewed more than 40 delinquent youths in his research.

"The juveniles under 16 have the utmost respect for the Juvenile Squad, while all spoken to, fear the CIB".

"For the first time, police are attacking crime at its roots.

"Measures taken over the past year have been primarily preventive and secondly detective.

"Whereas this will not reduce the number of hard core criminals, it may be a deterrent to fledgling members," he said.

He said Port Moresby was developing a professional criminal class from a sub-culture whose base was in the teenage gangs. At present the development was in the post-embryonic stage and offered an invaluable research environment for the basis of a criminological theory.

"Looking forward, the crime situation in Port Moresby will worsen over the next few years."

"The number of school leavers is rising while employment opportunities are decreasing," he said.

The rise in educational requirements for employment had effectively excluded 90 per

cent of the teenage work force from attaining their goals, he said.

The urban teenage problem must be viewed differently to the rural teenage problem, he said.

"In my view the urban teenage criminal who turns professional will act as a catalyst for the remainder of the country's potential criminals."

The urban teenager had full exposure to sophisticated town environments and if forced into a rural development scheme, might be a disruptive influ-

ence rather than an asset, he said.

"For the benefit of the rest of the country he must be kept in an urban situation utilising his ingenuity and skills in a legal manner," he said.

There was a public empathy towards teenagers in Port Moresby, coupled with antipathy from part of the public towards police, Mr Young said.

Unless there was more co-operation with the police from the public, there was little

hope of curtailing the number of criminal occurrences.

"It has been a popular practice to 'knock the cops' in Port Moresby, yet the amount of protection given to some of these criminals and the failure of some of the public to assist makes the police look far more inefficient than they are," he said.

Post Courier - Friday, 8 October 1976

'NARAKOBI VIEWS ARE RED'

Magistrate 'disgusted'

The Chief Magistrate, Mr J. Pritchard, yesterday criticised what he called the "communist views" expressed by Law Reform Commission chairman, Mr B. Narakobi, at this week's crime seminar.

"To assert that the poor are entitled to steal from the rich is a disgraceful statement coming from the chairman of the nation's Law Reform Commission," Mr Pritchard said.

The Police Commissioner, Mr Pious Kerepia, said yesterday that Mr Narakobi could not be serious in saying that people should be allowed to steal.

Mr Narakobi's statement was dangerous, Mr Kerepia said.

Former senior magistrate and now acting secretary of the Land Courts Secretariat, Mr Sinaka Gova, agreed with Mr Pritchard's statement and said Mr Narakobi's remarks were degrading to the seminar.

On Wednesday, Mr Narakobi told the crime seminar that the poor were justified in stealing food and drink in an unjust society where the rich were not checked in their avarice.

"If the state will not control the selfish, then let the poor help themselves to what is due to them," Mr Narakobi said.

Mr Narakobi said he was speaking as a private citizen.

Mr Pritchard said it was disgraceful that Mr Narakobi should turn the seminar into a political platform by making the statement.

"To assert at this seminar what are straight out communist views which preach the virtual destruction of law and order as we know it, is utterly wrong," Mr Pritchard said.

Such statements coming from the chairman of the nation's Law Reform Commission gave little hope of sensible law reform in this country, Mr Pritchard said.

● Turn to Page 4.

Continued on Page 30

Post-Courier - Friday, 8 October 1976

'Red views' row

● From Page 1.

"Further, I am ashamed because statements which imply that there is no value in this seminar, no value in the Crime Prevention Council or even in the Law Reform Commission itself, are an insult to the representatives of the Australian Institute of Criminology who have come to PNG to help us solve the problems of crime in this country," he said.

"All of us here have realised that we are all working to the same end . . . to solve this crime problem and make this a better country for its people

to live in," Mr Pritchard said.

Mr Kerepia said that Mr Narakobi, as a lawyer, should realise the importance of laws. And the laws said that there would be no stealing by anyone, rich or poor.

"I appreciate his point of view that there should be stricter controls on those who exploit the "little man" to get rich. But he should not lose sight of the fact that it is an idealistic theory that all people should have an equal amount of money, goods and prestige," Mr Kerepia said.

In PNG society, many people had no financial wealth and if Mr Narakobi meant

that all of these people should be allowed to steal, he was inviting 90 per cent of the population to commit a serious criminal offence, Mr Kerepia said.

"I am certain Mr Narakobi would be one of the first to complain if his house was broken into.

"He is advocating something that will never work because in any legal system, westernised, communist, traditional or otherwise, stealing is not accepted," Mr Kerepia said.

"As Chairman of the Law Reform Commission, he is in a position to do a great service for this country, but this is not the way to do it."

Post-Courier - Friday, 8 October 1976

Crime charge 'disgusting' — PS boss

A just society or anarchy?

A leading nationalist has attacked senior district court magistrate, Mr Mackellar, for making "offensive and grossly inaccurate statements" about alleged criminal activity by senior public servants.

Mr Rabbie Namaliu, the chairman of the Public Services Commission, challenged Mr Mackellar to provide a list of senior public servants who had been either convicted for harboring criminals or directly involved in criminal activity, and whom the commission had been reluctant to dismiss.

Mr Mackellar, a former klap, who has been living in the country for more than 20 years, made the allegation at the crime seminar in Port Moresby this week.

Mr Namaliu said he was disgusted by the statement.

He said his commission was aware of public servants who had been involved in cases of misappropriation of funds, fraud, and being drunk and disorderly.

Appropriate action had always been taken after the officers had been convicted by the court.

Mr Namaliu said most of these officers had been of junior rank.

He said there were public servants still under investigation and until they were convicted, Mr Mackellar should not expect the commission to dismiss them.

"I hope Mr Mackellar's carelessness in not distinguishing between fact and fiction, the Public Service Act and other Acts, and junior and senior officers, was an isolated aberration," he said.

He said Mr Mackellar should consider publishing an apology to correct the "injustice" he had done to the commission and to public servants generally.

There will be a public outcry over Bernard Narakobi's "Robin Hood" solution to the undoubted inequities in our society—a society in which the rich have so much and the poor have so little.

But responsible, law-abiding people will be horrified by his proposition that the poor are justified in stealing food and drink in an unjust society if the rich are not checked in their avarice.

This can only be interpreted as meaning that the poor can break the law with impunity. That is completely unacceptable. That is a complete breakdown in the rule of law, anarchy, a state of chaos.

In every society there must be order. Since time immemorial that basic ethic, "you shall not steal", has prevailed. And it must continue to do so.

The equitable transference of wealth from the haves to the have-nots is not a new concept. It is a problem that has troubled idealists like Mr Narakobi for thousands of years.

That concern is not unjustified. But it is the responsibility of the state to give those in real need the services and food, and if need be, the money, to ensure a better quality of life, a greater dignity, and the basic human rights.

Under no circumstances can any nation condone blatant theft to achieve this so-called just society.

Mr Narakobi is less off the rails when he says that if the state does not give "its people a vision to live for, work for and die for, then let the people plan their own vision and take steps to fulfil these".

Mr Narakobi, however, omitted one important qualification. This must only be achieved through the democratic process. Otherwise again anarchy and chaos.

MP calls for crime study

GOVT INQUIRY URGED

The Deputy Speaker, Mr John Kaputin, has called on Parliament to set up an independent body to study crime and corruption in Papua New Guinea.

National Parliament should look into the question of whether there are "gangsters in top posts" in the Public Service, he said.

Mr Kaputin said PNG was a product of the colonial process and as such the question of gangsters, corruption and other criminal activities could not be ruled out.

This was not only to be expected in the Public Service but also among politicians and Ministers.

If such a symptom was on the horizon in PNG, there was no doubt that in five to ten years the crime rate would increase.

Mr Kaputin was commenting on warnings

made at a crime prevention seminar in Port Moresby last week.

Australian criminologist, Mr W. Clifford, said official corruption could be a factor in undermining PNG's national effort to build its future.

And senior District Court Magistrate, Mr M. L. MacKellar, said some top public servants were directly involved in criminal activities or were harboring gangsters.

Mr Kaputin said the colonial process had created a system which offered fertile soil for criminal activities.

There was a great imbalance in the country's economic structure, and racial discrimination and inequality still prevailed.

Because of these factors the temptation to turn to criminal activities was just around the corner.

Mr Kaputin warned that unless positive steps were taken now the capital, Port Moresby, would become more and more a sanctuary for criminals.

Mr Kaputin suggested several measures which could be taken to help minimise Port Moresby's criminal problems:

- A greater degree of decentralisation of government and the com-

mercial activities of the City of Port Moresby.

- New industries, basic or servicing, should not be encouraged in Port Moresby.

- An increased Government assistance for rural development should be considered a top priority as young people flock to Port Moresby because there is nothing for them in the village.

Post-Courier - Monday, 11 October 1976

Opposition defends Narakobi's views

Both the Leader of the Opposition, Sir Tei Abal, and his deputy, Mr Paul Langro, have come out strongly in defence of the social views expressed last week by Mr Bernard Narakobi.

Mr Narakobi, in an address to the crime prevention seminar in Port Moresby, pleaded for "freedom, justice and equality" and said the poor were "justified in stealing . . . in a society where the rich were not checked in their avarice".

Mr Narakobi is Chairman of the Law Reform Commission.

On Friday his comments were labelled "communist" by the Chief Magistrate, Mr J. Pritchard, and "dangerous" by the Police Commissioner, Mr Plous Kerepia.

In a joint statement issued yesterday, Sir Tei Abal and Mr Langro hit at Mr Narakobi's critics — suggesting they had misunderstood Mr Narakobi's meaning — and called on all political leaders and crime prevention organisations to rally round and accept the challenge of Mr Narakobi's views.

Here's what Sir Tei Abal and Mr Langro thought Mr Narakobi meant:

"We think that those who have criticised Mr Narakobi for his statements to the crime seminar, have done so either because they have taken his views (expressed on the spur of the moment) out of context or interpreted them too literally.

We feel that what Mr Narakobi said was intended to draw attention to the social problems which are the root-cause of crime — and that the present efforts to deal with crime are not a long-term cure because we are treating the symptoms of the disease, rather than the disease itself."

Mr Langro: "Prevention is better than cure and I think what Mr Narakobi said in respect of our own society is very important.

What in effect Mr Narakobi was asking is: "Are we satisfied with our society as it is? and Where is the equal distribution of wealth and material progress for all demanded by our eight national aims? And well may he ask!"

Take up the challenge

He said Mr Narakobi was not advocating resort to criminal methods but calling for the removal of those factors in our society which might make crime appear to be morally defensible.

Sir Tei Abal said he not only accepted the

challenge which such a call embodied but he urged all political leaders and crime prevention organisations to do the same.

"What Mr Narakobi has rightly asked is: 'Are we satisfied to simply employ more police and magistrates and build more prisons, or should we be placing greater emphasis on removing from our society the causes of crime?'

"I believe the latter aspect is of the greatest importance.

"We do have a very uneven distribution of wealth in our country.

"People do come to towns because they offer the best opportunities of getting regular employment.

"Not enough jobs are available and people resort to crime when faced with no practical alternative.

"The eager young of our country, who have drive and idealism to build a better way of life for their people, are disillusioned and frustrated at the empty words of the Government.

"Every Papua New Guinean should have the right to fulfil himself — to make the most of his talents and contribute to his people's betterment.

"His personal freedom to do this as an individual must be protected. But the kind of society we want is one where, out of compassion and brotherhood for his fellow man, he will share the fruits of his labor, since all men

are not equally gifted or have the same opportunities."

Sir Tei Abal said that much of our urban crime "resulted from the fact that the Government was not willing to employ the idle for the National good; was not willing to create adequate employment opportunities, and was not willing to adopt policies and attitudes which would speed development, increase opportunities, or encourage people to achieve their aspirations and ideals."

"We do not want a society where personal freedoms are restricted, nor do we want the present society where the very poor are stealing from the rich."

Sir Tei Abal and Mr Langro said that Mr Narakobi may have expressed himself in a way which might be misunderstood — and obviously had been."

But it was obvious that Mr Narakobi "loved his country and was deeply concerned for his people and the state of emergent society."

Post-Courier - Monday, 11 October 1976

... And so does Lemeki

The General Secretary of the Public Service Association, Mr Jacob Lemeki has also criticised the Chief Magistrate, Mr John Pritchard and Police Commissioner, Mr Pious Kerepia for their comments against the statement by Mr Narakobi.

"It appears that Mr Pritchard would rather have his existing laws, and hand out punish-

ment, than to critically look at the society upon which these crimes occur," he said.

Mr Lemeki said that to prevent criminal activities, the Government should prohibit the showing of films which encouraged youngsters to combat the police force.

He alleged that both Mr Pritchard and Mr Kerepia were not prepared to look at the root causes of crimes in the country.

"Mr Narakobi, speaking as a private citizen, has exposed the basis of

criminal activities and if the so-called seminar on Crime Prevention was held to provide some guideline to solve these problems then they would be ill-advised to ignore Mr Narakobi's statement," he said.

Mr Lemeki said Mr Narakobi had worked hard "to be where he was" and was prepared to see that "freedom, justice and equality was done for everyone instead of being sucked into a capitalistic system".

Post-Courier - Thursday, 14 October 1976

AN APOLOGY 'IS NOT NECESSARY'

A Port Moresby magistrate said yesterday he did not feel any apology was necessary for comments he had made about alleged criminal activity by some senior public servants.

The magistrate, Mr M. L. Mackellar, claimed last week that some senior public servants were directly involved in criminal activity or were harboring gangsters.

He was speaking at the crime prevention seminar held in Port Moresby.

The chairman of the Public Services Commission, Mr Rabbe Namaliu, said last week that Mr Mackellar should consider publishing an apology to correct the "injustice" he had done to the Commission and to public servants generally.

Mr Mackellar said that although he had the

greatest respect for Mr Namaliu and other members of the Commission, he did not feel any apology was necessary.

Mr Mackellar said his comments at the seminar were a summary of the findings of a research project into Port Moresby's law and order problems.

He said the research period for the project was April to September 1975.

A full report of the project was now in the drafting stage, he said.

He said the full report contained the evidence and argument on which the summary was based.

Post-Courier - Thursday, 14 October 1976

Localise Chief Magistrate: Law experts

A call for the localisation of the Chief Magistrate's position has been made by some members of the UPNG Faculty of Law.

They said that some senior and experienced national magistrates were due to graduate shortly, and urged that the Chief Magistrate's position be localised as soon as practicable.

A statement, signed by four staff members, condemned the Chief Magistrate, Mr John Pritchard, for his criticism of the Law Reform Commission, Chairman, Mr Bernard Narakobi.

"The Chief Magistrate by virtue of his office, and his nationality, has no right to participate in the internal politics of this country," they said.

The four members are Mr Sam Kaipu, research officer, Mr Brian Brunton, senior tutor, Mr Tony Deklin and Mr John Gawi, both lecturers. All are PNG citizens.

Last week Mr Pritchard criticised what he termed the "communist views" Mr Narakobi expressed at the crime seminar.

Mr Narakobi had told the seminar that the poor were justified in stealing food and drink in an unjust society where the rich were not checked in their avarice.

Mr Pritchard said yesterday that his appointment expired at the end of March next year.

At the meeting of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission in August he had submitted the names of two magistrates likely to graduate in Law this year, and asked the Commission to consider whether either of these two magistrates should replace him when his appointment ended, Mr Pritchard said.

The four faculty members said: "We are particularly concerned that the Chief Magistrate failed to see the substance of Mr Narakobi's argument, although we are not really surprised."

"Whatever the merits of Mr Narakobi's remark 'if the state will not control the selfish, then let the poor help themselves to what is due to them' it does not follow as a matter of logic that such a view is either "communist" or can be interpreted by a reasonable person such as Mr Pritchard as urging people to steal in its literal sense", they said.

"All that the phrase does is to provide a moral as opposed to legal justification".

To label Mr Narakobi's remarks as 'red' was not only to display political ignorance and naivety, but was an insult to the National leaders of the country, they said.

"To label a nationalist of the stature of Bernard Narakobi "communist" is an insult to the people of this country, because it implies that leaders like Mr Narakobi cannot think for themselves," they said.

"If implies they all ways have to be led by someone else. Such a

label is the epitome of colonial condescension."

"Mr Narakobi sought to examine the root causes of crime."

They also condemned the "neo-colonial pontificating of the Editor of the Post-Courier in his Law and Order editorials."

Chief Magistrate 'over-reacted', say lawyers

Two leading Papua New Guineans have lashed out at Chief Magistrate Mr John Pritchard, who criticised a public servant for making a "disgraceful comment" on law and order.

In a joint statement last night, the interim president of the National Lawyers' Association, Mr Buri Kidu, and the secretary of the Law Reform Commission, Miss Meg Taylor, said Mr Pritchard had over-reacted.

Mr Kidu is a State solicitor and Miss Taylor is a post-graduate law student.

Mr Pritchard had strongly criticised the Chairman of the Law Reform Commission, Mr

Bernard Narakobi (see story Page 1).

Speaking at the crime seminar in Port Moresby this week, Mr Narakobi said the poor were justified in stealing food and drink in an unjust society where the rich were not checked in their avarice.

Mr Kidu and Miss Taylor said Mr Pritchard's criticism showed that there were those in the administration who viewed the law as a legal entity.

Contrary to that view, they said, they believed the law was an integral part of the political and social development of Papua New Guineans.

"We are surprised that someone of Mr Pritchard's experience in this country cannot see the argument Mr Narakobi was making," they said.

They said Mr Pritchard was insensitive to the real problems facing Papua New Guinea, with its foreign legal system.

"We strongly support Mr Narakobi's view that the establishment of a Crime Prevention Council and an Institute of Criminology would be of little use," they said.

"By establishing such bodies we accept criminals and the economic system which induces crime.

"We are forced to adapt our laws to the situation."

Anti-crime program

The Crime Prevention Council executive hopes to present its program to the Government and the public by the New Year.

The president, Mr Joseph Aisa, told the Crime Prevention Seminar that the council was now hampered by lack of money.

It hoped to obtain some financial independence after it put its program to the Government, he said.

Mr Aisa said that since the council was formed it had set up three sub-committees.

One was looking into the feasibility of a presentence reporting scheme, using law students.

Another would set up an adult education program to help parents, especially those new to urban areas.

The third sub-committee would try to coordinate voluntary community groups in helping long-term prisoners with pre-release counselling and with other assistance after release.

Post-Courier - Friday, 15 October 1976

SEMINAR URGES NEW GOVT POLICY

To cut crime — use, parole

The Government has been urged to set up a probation and parole system.

The crime prevention seminar yesterday recommended that the Government set up a probation and parole system.

The seminar in Port Moresby also recommended a national youth service and financial support for the Crime Prevention Council.

These were among resolutions passed by the seminar at its final session yesterday afternoon.

One resolution stated that a probation and parole system was an important part of any criminal justice system.

A probation service could increase community awareness of the

crime problem and could contribute to crime prevention.

Another resolution called for Government financial support for the Crime Prevention Council, to help it set up a permanent secretariat.

Another stated that because of the close relationship between juvenile crime and lack of opportunities for youth employment, a national youth service should be established.

The seminar also called on the Government to re-examine its education policy.

It said it believed that Papua New Guinea's major real wealth was not being used and people were left with insufficient gainful and meaningful employment.

The seminar said the existing education system was inadequately oriented to the nation's needs.

These circumstances contributed to PNG's crime problem, it said.

The seminar called for the Government to place more emphasis in

the education system on rural pursuits.

Speaking at the seminar's closing, the Minister for Justice, Mr Olewale, said the seminar had been very worthwhile and had passed on important matters.

He said the Government was thinking of introducing some village rules in town areas.

The system might even have chiefs of community groups in towns and cities, he said.

The Chief Justice, Sir Sydney Frost, told the seminar's closing session that he looked forward to the time when week-end punishment could be established.

He said this would meet the crime problem, particularly in regard to youthful offenders, without confining people for long periods and keeping them from their families.

A full report on the seminar and its work, including its resolutions, is expected to be completed within a month.

Post-Courier - Friday, 15 October 1976

Crime row: Olewale speaks out

The Minister for Justice, Mr Olewale, yesterday defended the Chief Magistrate, Mr John Pritchard, and the Law Reform Commission Chairman, Mr Bernard Narakobi.

Mr Olewale said he was satisfied that statements made by both men at the recent crime seminar were made in what they considered the best interest of the country.

Mr Narakobi had told the seminar that the poor were justified in stealing food and drink from the rich in an unjust society where the rich were not checked in their avarice.

Mr Pritchard criticised what he called Mr Narakobi's "communist views which preach the virtual destruction of law and order as we know it".

Both Mr Narakobi's comments and Mr Pritchard's criticism sparked off controversy.

GOVT TO SET UP PAROLE SCHEME



● Mr OLEWALE

In a statement from Fiji, where he is attending the South Pacific Forum Law of the Sea conference, Mr Olewale said both men had much experience and much to contribute to the development of PNG.

"I deplore any suggestion that those statements were made contrary to the national interest," Mr Olewale said.

In his statement, Mr Olewale also said that the Government may establish a parole and

probation scheme before the end of this year.

Mr Olewale said crime problems should not be looked at in a vacuum.

Environmental pressures which influence the incidence of crime must also be considered, he said.

Mr Olewale said the Government would treat crime as a social problem and not a

problem only for the law.

He said the Government recognised that crime was a real problem in Papua New Guinea and could destroy the basis of law and order in the country.

However, he said, the Government did not believe that imprisonment for criminals would be the end of crime.

Mr Olewale also said he viewed with concern comments made by the deputy Speaker, Mr John Kaputin (Rabaul), that expatriate lawyers were sabotaging law reform suggestions.

"Mr Kaputin fails to see the proper role of the Law Reform Commission which is to look into and report to me on matters referred to it," Mr Olewale said.

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OLEWALE DEFENDS

● From Page 1.

"I am completely satisfied with the Law Reform Commission's work and assure Mr Kaputin that while amendments are made to the Commission's views, it is only to make their suggestions more workable."

The law could be, and was, being changed to meet the wishes of Papua New Guineans. But until the laws were changed by Parliament, they could not be broken with impunity, he said.

The Law Reform Commission had been set up to assess which laws were required by PNG and the Government was satisfied with the Commission's performance and was aware of the reforms originating from it, he said.

Mr Olewale said Mr Pritchard had been conscious of his posi-

LAW VIEWS

tion as an expatriate Chief Magistrate and had conducted the magistracy to ensure his position was localised as soon as possible.

It had been purposely planned that two national magistrates were finishing their law degrees this year, he said.

To suggest that the Justice Department be localised immediately presupposed the availability of national lawyers, he said.

Many national lawyers sought advancement in fields other than practising law in the Department and when that was the trend, it was most difficult to localise the Department, he said.

Crime was a real problem threatening the country and the Government was aware that many of the laws were inappropriate, he said.

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