

Detective Superintendent Lester Charles CROSS – AFP864

“Early in 1988 Lester was injured in a covert operation in Sydney. He was in hospital for six weeks and off work for nine. He ruptured two disks in his back and at the same time cut his finger. At the time he was under a house putting in a listening device and it was very dark. While the pain in his back seemed the problem it was the cut that had become septic which then went to his back as well. He came home after the job and woke up the next morning unable to move. The hardest part was diagnosing what had happened. He ended up with septicaemia and nearly died but because he was so fit and strong once the doctors got onto it he made 100% recovery. When he returned to work midyear he was promoted and given the job of starting the Police Technical Unit Southern Region. We moved to Melbourne later that year.

At the end of 2002 Lester was sent to London. At the time our government wasn't happy with the intel they were receiving around the Saddam Hassan / weapons of mass destruction information. He worked out of the AFP Australia House office and was there about 8 months. He liaised with UK and French Police and Interpol in Lyon. While he was there he was also asked to be one of the referees of a major UK counter Terrorism exercise held in Scotland. It was called Operation Blue Blanket”. (Susan).

The 2004 opening of the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) in Semarang, Indonesia, was regarded internationally as a major counter terrorism innovation. The joint venture between the Australian and Indonesian governments was managed and developed collaboratively by the Australian Federal Police and Indonesian National Police.

The late Lester CROSS, former commissioner Mick KEELTY and other AFP agents helped realise an ambitious program of bilateral collaboration in the form of the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC). The impressive JCLEC campus now occupies one corner of the vast Indonesian police academy compound in Semarang, Central Java. Intended to equip Indonesian and other South-East Asian police officers in foundational technical, forensic and operational skills JCLEC has contributed to the transformation of Indonesian police capacity and professionalism. (Source ABC News <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-10-12/barton-bali-bombings-ten-years-on/4308906>).

CENTRAL JAVA -- KEYSTONE COPS MISTAKENLY SHOOT AT AUSTRALIAN CT OFFICIAL

Cable from US Embassy Indonesia 2007 December 11, 07:19 (Tuesday)

https://wikileaks.org/plusd/cables/07JAKARTA3362_a.html

PRECIS:

“Lester CROSS, the Australian Director of the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) in Semarang, Central Java, was attacked by armed men on 25 November 2007, near the city of Solo, Central Java. Four armed men on motorcycles chased CROSS' vehicle, which was armoured, and attempted to stop it. CROSS, who is a highly experienced agent of the Australian Federal Police, took counter-measures and continued driving away from the attackers. The attackers then opened fire on his vehicle, shooting a bulletproof window and puncturing one tire. CROSS evaded the attack and returned safely to Semarang. The incident was a case of mistaken identity and had been carried out by members of a police counter-narcotics unit. 6. (SBU). The police had received a tip that a drug dealer carrying drugs in his vehicle would be in an area where CROSS happened to be traveling. The police had assumed that CROSS was the drug dealer whom they were pursuing. As police had approached the vehicle on motorcycles, CROSS had taken defensive measures and had not stopped. Concluding that CROSS was trying to elude them, police had opened fire on the vehicle. CROSS had escaped the attack and returned to his home.

NO PROBLEMS, MATE: In the end, the incident--which could have had tragic consequences--has not resulted in any problems between the Australians and the Indonesian police. Working relations between the Australians and the Indonesians at JCLEC are excellent and seem set to remain so. CROSS--who has shrugged his shoulders at the whole situation--remains at work in Semarang; he rotates out, returning to Australia early next year”.

Opisthorchis viverrini, also known as the Southeast Asian or Oriental **liver fluke**, lives in a certain genus of freshwater snails and in humans, and when it lives in humans, it seems to predispose the humans to cholangiocarcinoma, which is cancer of the bile ducts. The bile ducts carry bile from the liver and gallbladder through the pancreas to the duodenum, which is a part of the small intestine. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/how-a-liver-fluke-causes-cancer-18173277/>