

Coming soon: *AFP*, the series

After a gruelling filming schedule and hundreds of hours in post-production, a new television series about the AFP is about to go to air.

Very soon, Australian TV viewers will get an exclusive insight into the operations of the AFP when the Nine Network airs a special documentary series on the organisation.

AFP the TV series is giving members the opportunity to tell their stories, accurately informing the public about what they do and why they do it, while debunking many misconceptions about policing.

Two seasons of *AFP* have now been filmed. They give an armchair view of the policing activities AFP members are involved in, both in Australia and overseas, and the distinctive nature of the AFP's role as a national policing agency.

One of the most powerful episodes in the first series focuses on the AFP's role in the aftermath of a plane crash in Papua New Guinea. The cameras follow members of the AFP's Disaster Victim Identification team into dense jungle to find the bodies of nine Australians who were killed when their Twin Otter aircraft crashed en route to the Kokoda Track.

This episode illustrates just one aspect of the work the AFP does on a global scale. The series also gives viewers an insight into its international operations by travelling to AFP posts in the Philippines, Indonesia, the Solomon Islands, Cambodia and Timor-Leste.

The diverse storylines include operational and non-operational scenarios that showcase the unique relationships the AFP has with its national and international law enforcement partners. From the pursuit of a people smuggling syndicate across Indonesia to the work of the Prime Minister's close personal protection team, the show

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01: Federal Agent Kurt Plummer watches as Zapruder cameraman Marcus O'Brien films overlay of Manila.



02: Zapruder cameraman Sam Clark films beach scene overlay. **03:** Zapruder cameraman Sam Clark discusses a suitable location to film from Jakarta's back alleys with AFP driver Markus Barbarelle. **04:** Disaster Victim Identification members at work in the jungle site of crashed Twin Otter aircraft in Papua New Guinea. **05:** Cameraman Sam Clark films a drug deconstruction during Operation Meranti **06:** AFP driver Markus Barbarelle is only too happy to act as camera assistant during an interview with Federal Agent Leisa James. Agent Leisa James.

really does provide access to all areas of the AFP's business.

Viewers will also gain an insight into the more emotionally difficult aspects of policing through an episode which follows AFP members in the Philippines as they investigate online sex predators using an international network to trade child sex abuse images online.

The ragged edge of frontline policing is not excluded, and the series uses exclusive 'helmet cam' footage to capture the reality of what happens during the execution of an advanced warrant in which a suspect is apprehended. Other highlights of the first series include an AFP bomb expert handling an assignment in the Solomon Islands from Canberra, canines and their handlers being put through the inaugural currency detection dog course and the emotional last day of one member's deployment to Timor-Leste.

AFP was produced by Zapruder's Other Films, a Sydney-based television production company owned by journalist Andrew Denton.

It is hoped that by series end there will be greater public awareness of the AFP's international and

domestic law enforcement activities, Crime Stoppers, the National Security Hotline, National Missing Persons Week, and online consumer and child protection activities.





07: Local children take an interest in the filming. **08:** The Disaster Victim Identification team helps unpack supplies from the Army Blackhawk helicopter as nightfall closes in near the site of the Papua New Guinea plane crash. **09:** Zapruder cameraman Sam Clark films overlay in downtown Jakarta. **10:** Zapruder cameraman Sam Clark films against the setting sun on a beach in Pasir Putih.

