OCCUPATIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT OF THE ROYAL MALAYSIA POLICE CID PERSONNEL



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ABSTRACT

Abstract of project paper presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the Master of Science

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The detectives are the plain clothed lower ranking officers who are attached to various sections and units in the CID. They are the group of officers who will carry out the detailed instructions given by the officers. Their job includes the execution of arrest, surveillance, escort, search, investigation and raids. The aim of the study is to assess the occupational risks faced by the CID detectives of the Royal Malaysia Police in the performance of their job. There has not been such study carried out before. However, there were some similar studies published by police research units abroad.

Detectives from Kuala Lumpur Contingent were taken as sample to represent the detectives in the whole country. Questionnaires were issued to them to seek information about the occupational risks they encountered. The questionnaire focused on areas of personal background, courses and training, employment and regulations, risks and equipments.

One hundred and fifty-five questionnaires were distributed. However, only one hundred and thirteen questionnaires were good for analysis. The tools used were the SAS and Excel system. Results were presented in demographic profiles, for areas where statistical analysis were found inapplicable.

From Pearson correlation analysis, the factors of unit, frequency of job, personal protective equipment and rank were found to be significantly correlated with risks. However, courses and training factor were found not to be significantly correlated with risk factor. In another approach, regression analysis was used. Risk was used as dependent factor, while unit, frequency of job, personal protective equipment and rank were taken as independent factors. The relationship of the factors was expressed as a model.

In this study, the figure of R^2 (63%) shows that there are some other factors contributing to risk assessment. Further study is recommended to look for a higher consistency model for risk assessment is this area of study.

PERPUSTAKAAN KEJURUTEKAAN UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

ABSTRAK

Abstrak kertas projek yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

KAJIAN TENTANG RISIKO PEKERJAAN KE ATAS ANGGOTA-ANGGOTA CID POLIS DIRAJA MALAYSIA

Oleh

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Penugasan di Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah Polis Diraja Malaysia memerlukan sumbangan dan peranan berkesan daripada anggota berpangkat rendah. Mereka diberikan latihan khusus di samping diberikan elaun khas detektif. Detektif merupakan anggota polis berpangkat rendah yang tidak memakai unifom yang bertugas di pelbagai unit di Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah. Tugas mereka adalah melaksanakan arahan-arahan terperinci yang diberikan oleh pegawai-pegawai.

Tugas-tugas mereka termasuklah melaksanakan tankapan, pengintipan, eskot, soal siasat, pemeriksaan tempat kejadian jenayah, penyiasatan, serbuan dan lain-lain. Tujuan kajian ini dibuat adalah bagi mengetahui tentang risiko pekerjaan yang mereka hadapi di dalam melaksanakan tugas-tugas mereka. Tidak ada kajian yang dilakukan sebelum ini di dalam tajuk yang sama. Walau bagaimanapun, terdapat beberapa kajian yang agak serupa dengannya dilakukan sebelum ini di negara lain.

Detektif daripada Kontijen kuala Lumpur telah dipilih sebagai sampel bagi mewakili detektif di seluruh negara. Soalan-soalan telah dikendalikan terhadap mereka bagi mendapatkan maklumat tentang risiko pekerjaan yang mereka hadapi di dalam melaksanakan tugas-tugas mereka. Soalan-soalan tertumpu kepada hal-hal latar belakang, kursus dan latihan, penugasan dan peraturan-peraturan, risiko serta peralatan-peralatan yang digunakan.

Sebanyak seratus lima puluh lima set soalan telah diedarkan, Walau bagaimanapun hanya seratus tiga belas daripadanya yang didapati baik untuk dianalisis. Sistem SAS dan Excel telah digunakan untuk analisis. Bagi bahagian-bahagian di mana analisis statistik tidak sesuai atau tidak dapat dilakukan, penganalisaan berbentuk demografik telah dilakukan.

Melalui penganalisaan korelasi 'Pearson', adalah didapati faktor-faktor unit, kekerapan penugasan, peralatan perlindungan diri dan pangkat seseorang sangat berkaitan dengan faktor risiko. Walau bagaimanapun, kursus dan latihan didapati tidak berkaitan sangat dengan faktor-faktor risiko.

Melalui penganalisaan regresi, rosiko telah digunakan sebagai faktor bergantung, manakala unit, kekerapan penugasan, peralatan perlindungan diri serta pangkat telah diambil sebagai faktor tidak bergantung. Hubungan antara faktor-faktor tersebut telah diterjemahkan sebagai model.

Di dalam kajian ini, nilai R (63%) menunjukkan bahawa terdapat beberapa faktor lain yang menyumbang dan patut diambil kira di dalam pengukuran risiko. Kajian seterusnya adalah dicadangkan bagi memperolehi model pengukuran risiko yang lebih tepat bagi kajian di dalam bidang ini.



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- CCID Commercial Crime Investigation Division
- CID Criminal Investigation Department
- CP Commissioner of Police
- CPO Chief Police Officer
- CT Courses and Training
- FJ Frequency of Job
- ICT Information and Communication Technology
- IGSO Inspector General Standing Orders
- IPK Contingent Headquarters.
- PPE Personal Protective Equipments
- RMP Royal Malaysia Police

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The role of Royal Malaysia Police (RMP) is to serve as the law enforcement agency to the government. In particular, RMP is responsible over crime matters. Its history is traceable back to the early history of the state itself. The police unit was formed during the Malacca Sultanate and was responsible for the order, peace and stability of the port and the state as well.

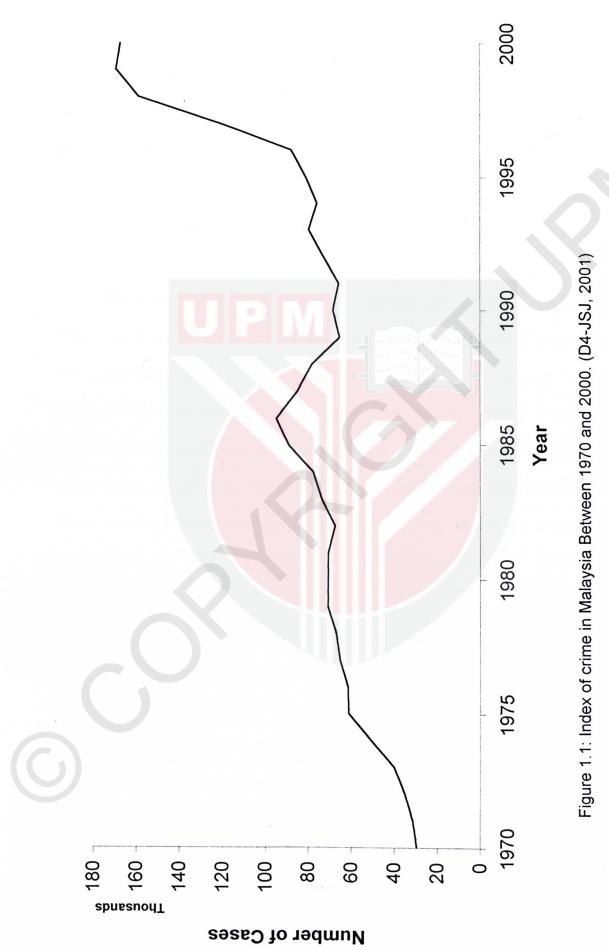
The modern police in this country began in the year 1807 when the Colonial British introduced the Charter of Justice in Penang. The High Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff was appointed and was made responsible for maintaining peace and security and the enforcement of laws in the Prince of Wales Island, that is today's Penang (Aslie, 1984). RMP have just celebrated its 194th birthday on March 25th this year (BBA, 2001). Its roles and functions are still basically the same.

As the country advances and the nation progresses, the crime follows as well, the crimes becomes more complicated in nature. New methods were deployed; sophisticated equipments were used in committing crimes. The "modest operandi" or the methodology is as advance as the world's advancement in all walks of life. The advancement of Information and communication technology (ICT) is not spared with. Today, the criminal uses the ICT to commit crimes. The challenges for today's force members are undoubtedly tremendous.

Over times, the number of crimes committed continued to grow. This ascending trend is contributed by various related factors such as the social, economic, educational levels, law enforcement and others. The force members have to constantly measure themselves up with the surrounding and be sufficiently reliable. Therefore, everybody in this country will be able to feel safe in terms of life, property and mind. The ascending crime trend in the country is seen through the statistic of overall crime index for the past 30 years as shown in figure 1.1. The index is summary of violent crime and property crime indices.

The substantial increases of major types of crimes in late 1980s and 1990s indicated that the country's rapid economic and industrialization progress have brought about its attending social problems. Studies conducted by well-known criminologists such as Clifford Shaw, Robert Mackay and Frederick Thrasher have revealed that high crime rates are associated with areas undergoing rapid economic and industrial transition (CCP, 1997).

Nowadays, reading our daily newspapers can be very disheartening. There are numerous heinous crimes, which are reported almost everyday. Rape, murder, robbery, snatch theft and so on. What has become of our country? In our quest to be a fully industrialized nation, we have overlooked one important element that is to be able to feel safe in term of person,



property and mind. Without this element, it serves no purpose for us to have a high GDP, economic growth rate or world-class infrastructure. This is because we will still unable to enjoy a high quality of life when we always have to be on guard against falling victim to crime (Yuen, 2001).

1.2 Problem Statements

There are incidences where armed robbers being gunned down by the police, serial rapist arrested, dangerous character in gangsters overpowered and eventually arrested. There are also abduction and ransom money. However, fast and smart actions of the police save the victims. There were abundance of such instances like the popular cases of Kalimuthu (The Star, 1999), gang Azhar (UM, 1998) and Gang Mamak (The Star, 2000). And, these cases generally were handled by certain group of officers in the RMP force.

Even though they are always on the upper hand and the criminals always in adverse eventuality, the risks could be overwhelming which could gives an adverse eventuality too. In carrying out their duties, they have to handle dead bodies, hazardous crime scene or site. There may be HIV or Tuberculosis diseases exposure that may cause possible vulnerability to the officers. Were they adequately equipped and trained for their jobs? Were they happy to shoot at the criminals while fully aware that they too could be shot by the criminals? How stress are they when they were called or assigned for a iob? The study was intended to assess the risk encountered by the group of personnel in the CID, particularly health and safety risks and looking into their equipments and training provided. They were the personnel in the lower ranking officers from Police Constable to the Sub-Inspector who are serving as detectives or the plain cloth policeman. They were chosen in this study, as they are the immediate responders to the crime apprehension and investigation activities.

1.3 Objective of Study

Objectives of the study were: -

- (a) To assess the occupational risks faced by the CID detectives.
- (b) To make recommendation on any possible measures, procedures, methods, training or equipments be changed or be adopted by the authority in order to enhance the working condition of the group under study.

1.4 Significance of Study

Research or a study itself is started from a "problem". Generally, a problem occurs when changes take place in the areas such as politic, economy, society, safety and etc. The society will decide if the statement would be considered as a problem. Commonly, the statement would become a problem if it affects the society (Mahdzan, 1995). In other words, a research is important to organizations, societies and certain individuals. In this study, the research was carried out to,

- Investigate whether the CID detectives are;
 - i. Sufficiently trained.
 - ii. Properly equipped.
 - iii. Encountering health and safety risks.
- (b) Determine the factors that are contributing to the occupational risk in current organization.
- (c) Reveal the occupational risks that occur repetitively and yet to be overcame.
- (d) Suggest the solution to the problems frequently faced by CID detectives at the end of the study.

1.5 Limitations

Occupational hazards faced by the CID detectives are a big topic by itself. Considering the constraints in time and resources, the scope of the study was confined to the following:

 The group taken for study was the RMP's CID detectives serving in Kuala Lumpur Contingent only. They are the supporting group in the CID functional activities.

- 2. Areas of study were only confined to:
 - i. Personal background of the respondents.
 - ii. Safety and health risks encountered in the performance of their duties.
 - iii. The effectiveness of the courses and training provided.
 - iv. Logistic preparation, in particular the PPE.



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