

REPORT FROM THE HONG KONG SECTION ON THE 2010
FRIENDSHIP WEEK HELD 31 OCT – 7 NOV 2010

Founded in 1950, the International Police Association (IPA) is the world's largest social organisation for police officers, with more than 300,000 members across the globe. The Hong Kong Section of the IPA was set up in 1960. Under the motto "Service Through Friendship", the IPA Hong Kong Section organises regular social activities for its own members and acts as host to overseas members visiting Hong Kong.

To commemorate its 50th anniversary, the Hong Kong Section organised a Friendship Week from 31 October 2010 to 7 November 2010. Acting as hosts to more than 80 IPA members from 12 countries, members of the Hong Kong Section showed their guests around the city as well as various police departments, promoting not only this splendid metropolis but also international friendship among police officers worldwide.

The opening ceremony of the Friendship Week was held at the auditorium, 8/F, Hong Kong Police Headquarters on 31 October 2010. Officiating the ceremony as the guest of honour was Mr. TANG King-shing, the Commissioner of Police, who joined the President of the Hong Kong Section – Mr. HO Ying-foo, Superintendent of Division B of the Commercial Crime Bureau – in welcoming police officers from around the world. A variety of music played by the Silver Band enlivened the occasion, and an impressive scene following the ceremony where participants – all in police uniforms of their own countries – came together and posed for group photos was a moment to remember.

The 7-day Friendship Week was full of interesting activities arranged by the Hong Kong Section to ensure that the holiday of the guests was both pleasurable and unforgettable. Accompanied by their hosts from the Hong Kong Section, overseas members visited different tourist attractions, including Murray House in Stanley, the Giant Buddha on Lantau Island, Golden Bauhinia Square and the Peak, and there were all the local must-try dishes to be savoured, not to mention seafood of Lamma Island and Sham Tseng roasted goose. Visits to various police departments including the Police College and Hong Kong Island Regional Command and Control Centre also enabled participants to gain better understanding

of the work of the Hong Kong Police Force.

A farewell banquet was held on the Peak as the Friendship Week drew to a close. While expressing admiration for this culinary capital of Asia and its spectacular harbour views of the night, the participants conveyed their heartfelt thanks to the Hong Kong Section for the carefully designed programme, without which their stay in Hong Kong could never had been so enjoyable. Notes of “Auld Lang Syne”, together with good wishes, brought the 7-day event to a perfect finale. Participants from far and wide wrote to the Hong Kong Section after the Friendship Week, thanking its members for their hospitality and complimenting the Hong Kong Police on their professionalism. The success of the event has promoted friendship among police officers worldwide and enhanced the positive image of the Hong Kong Police Force.