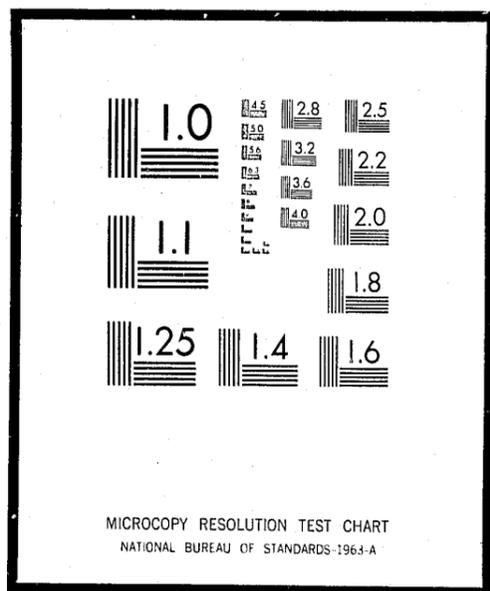


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LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
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Rikspolisstyrelsen  
National Swedish Police Board  
Direction Nationale de la Police de Suède  
Schwedisches Reichspolizeiamt  
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November 1973

THE SWEDISH POLICE ORGANIZATION

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INTRODUCTION

On January 1, 1965, the Swedish police system was nationalized. Until then the police had been a municipal responsibility. Simultaneous with the nationalization the system was reorganized.

One of the most important reasons for this reorganization was the size of the police districts at that time. They were generally too small for a rational planning of police activity and optimal utilization of both personnel and material resources. In 1964 there were 554 police districts in Sweden, and of these 70% were staffed by less than 10 officers. There were 989 police posts. Moreover, police personnel were in principle restricted to their own district limits - a fact which made concerted police operation extremely difficult. A modern and efficient police system requires complete mobility so that personnel can be brought in where most needed. The reform also resulted in a reduction of the number of police districts to 119 with 510 police posts.

Two other very important reasons for the reorganization were the rapid development of crime and the substantially increased intensity of traffic - fields requiring considerable and in many cases centrally co-ordinated police action. The number of crimes has risen from a good 500 000 in 1963 to about 530 000 in 1970. At the same time the nature of criminal activities has become more serious. Parallel to this the number of motor vehicles has increased from around 1 million in 1958 to approximately 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  million in 1970 with severe traffic problems as a result.

Both practical reasons and reasons of principle necessitated a separation of the police proper, the prosecutor and the bailiff from each other. Previously these three authorities were integrated, with the local chief of police taking the duties of both prosecutor and bailiff.

One of the major drawbacks to the old system was the absence of a central authority that could watch over the collective interests of the police organization, acquire resources and funds, execute uniform routines, and issue rules and regulations, etc.

## THE NATIONAL SWEDISH POLICE BOARD

The central police authority, the National Swedish Police Board (NSPB) is, next to the Ministry of Justice, the highest authority within the Swedish police system.

### Organization

The National Swedish Police Board is run by a special board, consisting of the National Police Commissioner, who is the chairman, the Deputy National Police Commissioner, who is the vice-chairman, and six other members appointed by the Government. These six are members of the Swedish Parliament and thus they represent the political parties. In this way the work of the board is given an important parliamentary link.

The head of the NSPB is the National Police Commissioner with a director-general's status. His deputy is the Deputy National Police Commissioner. Work at the NSPB is divided between a secretariat, four departments, nine bureaux and one computer unit, 25 sections, two police colleges and two police training units, and the National Criminal Investigation Department.

### Duties

By means of inspections the NSPB is to keep itself informed of the condition and needs of the police, and by means of advice and instruction work for planning, co-ordination, uniformity and rationalization within the police system. Furthermore, it is the duty of the board to issue regulations in certain respects for subordinate police authorities, and in specially designated fields exercise direct control of police activity. The board is responsible for the comprehensive administration of the whole organization, and it also runs theoretical and practical training at the police college with branch schools.

The National Swedish Police Board's operational command comprises the following functions:

- a) special police activity to prevent and uncover crimes against national security, etc.
- b) traffic surveillance covering two or more counties and requiring co-ordination and co-operation across county limits, and surveillance at sea and in the air.

- c) surveillance and security during state visits and similar events
- d) investigation of crime requiring to be dealt with on a national basis, such as murder and other serious crimes of violence, illegal narcotics and liquor traffic, currency offences, smuggling, safe breaking and crimes against property in connection with mail and freight transports.

The NSPB is also the highest authority for the National Forensic Science Laboratory (NFSL) and is, in addition, responsible for large central records, for instance the police records which are EDP based.

### The Secretariat

The secretariat helps the National Police Commissioner and the Deputy National Police Commissioner with the co-ordination, follow-up and planning of work. It includes an information unit which is responsible for the internal and external information, the police museum and the board's library. The information unit supervises - inter alia - the issuing of the publication Svensk Polis (Swedish Police) and Allmänna Meddelanden (General Bulletines).

The unit produces a constant stream of information for full and objective information on police work for mass media and the general public. In co-operation with other units of the board, information campaigns against e.g. vehicle thefts and robbery of old people, etc. are carried out. In conjunction with a mobile exhibition the information unit helps local and regional police authorities organize Police Day and other events of a social contact nature. The information unit also processes matters concerning educational visits, etc.

### Department A

#### Police Bureau I

Police Bureau I deals primarily with the work of uniformed policemen. Its field of work covers mainly the maintenance of law and order and traffic surveillance.

A traffic section plans and co-ordinates traffic surveillance and national activity such as helicopter operations etc. Matters concerning assignment

of personnel for traffic surveillance and how to deploy these men are also handled by this section. In addition it issues instructions for road safety education in schools and maintains contact with authorities and organizations concerned with traffic safety, e g the National Road Safety Office (TSV) and the National Swedish Road Safety Organization (NTF).

Police Bureau I also includes a surveillance section that prepares standards, methods and instructions for surveillance work, and estimates the need for policemen, cars, dogs, etc. Plans for procedure in the event of alerts and emergency situations, mountain rescue, SAR (search and rescue) work and the Sea Police are also part of the duties of this bureau. Moreover this section is responsible for the allocation of personnel to police districts for surveillance work and for their employment.

#### Police Bureau II

Police Bureau II could also be called the criminal bureau, although it deals partly with matters other than criminal investigations. The most important duties of the bureau are detection and investigation work and operational command of investigations carried out on a national basis. The bureau is divided into four sections.

The investigation section handles matters concerning planning and rationalization with regard to investigation work, the local records, preliminary investigations and co-ordination between the police, the prosecution authority and the courts. The section also deals with matters concerning police and traffic accident statistics and working statistics for investigation work in the police districts. Moreover this section is responsible for estimating the allocation of personnel to the police districts for investigation work.

The police authority section handles matters concerning police authorities and traffic committees and gives expert opinions to the Government in constitutional matters, etc. regarding investigation and police activities. This section issues the publication Rättsnytt (Judicial News). It also gives instructions, advice and recommendations on matters concerning aliens.

The criminal section co-ordinates detection and investigation work dealing with crime on a national level. The section directs activity in the

National Criminal Investigation Department (NCID), which consists of about one hundred qualified detectives, specialized in different fields. Their work is organized in four squads:

- Squad A investigates murder and other serious crimes of violence
- Squad B combats narcotic crimes
- Squad C deals with larceny and thefts from old people
- Squad D deals with fraud and similar offences

The criminal section is also concerned with planning and rationalization of working methods and routines, and the issuing of instructions for protection and detection and crime prevention. In these activities the section co-operates with other authorities and organizations involved. In addition the National Criminal Investigation Department serves as a reinforcement to the local police when investigating crimes requiring specialized knowledge or a particularly large number of people.

The Interpol section carries out the duties incumbent upon the National Swedish Police Board in its capacity of National Central Bureau within the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol). The duty of the section is to maintain contact with the General Secretariat in Paris and the national bureaux of other countries. Thus the section functions as a service organization for authorities concerned with the maintenance of law and order in Sweden, in their contact with corresponding organizations in other countries. Matters dealt with comprise international search for wanted persons and other measures in connection with extraditions, interrogations or other investigations in the case of crime, and investigations of a general nature affecting international police work.

#### Department B

##### The Technical Bureau

The demand for a technical improvement of the police system has been emphasized during recent years. In order to satisfy this demand the technical bureau was created when the police system was reorganized. The bureau consists of four sections:

The equipment section is responsible for acquiring equipment for vehicles, traffic surveillance, mountain rescue, crime investigation, and horses and dogs. It is also responsible for issuing directions on the use and care of this material.

The vehicle section is responsible for the acquisition and maintenance of the whole vehicle park, including cars and motor-bicycles as well as boats, helicopters and snow-scooters. It also handles technical matters concerning air ambulances and rescue aircraft (SAR aircraft).

The telecommunications section is responsible for radio and telecommunications. An over-all modernization of the police radio network started in 1970, and from the beginning of 1973 a modern and efficient radio system, System 70, is in use in the whole country. A special radio network has been set up in mountain areas.

The buildings section handles matters concerning police premises, in co-operation with the National Board of Public Building, etc. Its duties include calculating dimensioning and functioning bases in connection with the building of new premises, and additional work or rebuilding of existing premises for the police.

#### The Training Bureau

The comprehensive training activity of the police is planned, administered and to a great extent carried out by the training bureau.

The main part of the planning is carried out by the training section which in co-operation with - inter alia - other bureaux within the National Swedish Police Board works out the contents of the different courses, and the annual training assignment for police colleges, counties, and police districts. The section is also responsible for co-ordination and educational development of police training.

A recruitment section is also part of the training bureau, being the central unit for recruiting personnel for the police chief and police constable arm of the force.

Having been admitted to training, the policemen obtain their basic training at the Police College in Ulriksdal, where certain central courses are held as well. The training for those admitted to police chief training, like all other officers' training-courses, takes place at the Police College in Solna. Centrally arranged training in motor vehicle duties and traffic surveillance takes place at the police section of the Swedish Army Driving School in Strängnäs, and training of dog handlers at the police section of the Swedish Armed Forces' Dog Training Centre in

Sollefteå. Moreover certain special training is located in other places in the country, chosen because of their geographic location, availability of training grounds, etc.

Altogether the central training includes about 150 different courses per year. The basic training and the officers' training courses at the police colleges in Ulriksdal and Solna include instruction in - inter alia - general police theory, criminal law, civil law, Swedish, English, psychology, medicine, knowledge of motor vehicles, and physical training.

Training which for practical reasons cannot be carried out centrally is instead taken care of regionally through the respective County Police Commissioners, or locally as the responsibility of the police commissioner of the police district in question. The local training includes primarily physical training and further use of weapons.

#### Department C

#### The Administration Bureau

The administration bureau handles - inter alia - the economic administration of the police system. The bureau is divided into five sections.

The budgeting and planning section is - inter alia - responsible for allocations and budgets, financial long-term planning, programme budgets and routines for central payments for the whole police system. Book-keeping entries of some 40 000 items per month are effected by means of EDP.

The purchasing section deals with - inter alia - the acquisition of material for the NSPB, local police organizations and the National Forensic Science Laboratory. It is also responsible for selling discarded or rejected material. The section has a turnover of about Skr 100 million p.a.

The legal section handles - inter alia - contract, insurance and compensation matters (although not salaries), and settlements of claims for damages and other matters where the board represents the Crown. This section also issues Föreskrifter och Anvisningar för polisväsendet (Regulations and Instruction for the Police Force).

The organization section deals with organizational matters concerning the

local police organization, e.g. division into police districts, sub-districts, etc, and matters concerning office equipment, as well as design and acquisition of forms. Moreover the annual police report is compiled by this section.

The service section supervises the board's premises and maintenance of its office equipment and furniture. It is also responsible for the reception and telephone exchange service within the National Swedish Police Board.

#### The Computer Unit

A special computer unit, divided into a systems section and an operations section also belongs to the administrative bureau. The unit is responsible for development, operation and maintenance of EDP-systems.

The number of systems in production has increased rapidly and today there are about forty. These systems consist both of advanced real time systems and more conventional processing.

Among the real time applications are, for instance, the wanted persons system and the wanted vehicles system. Today about 350 telex units and some 20 visual display units are linked to these countrywide systems. The systems are available 24 hours a day and at present deal with a query and up-dating frequency of around 7 000 calls per 24 hours (2 500 000 p a).

Among processing run on more conventional lines are, for example, systems for parking fines, breach-of-regulations fines, reports of crime and passport matters.

In the field of crime investigation certain records selector systems have been developed. Particularly worthy of mention is the trace finder system for fingerprints, where matters concerning identification of persons are on-line, and trace-finding (from the scene of the crime) is carried out in batch processing, and an information retrieval system for reports of crime. At present 49 people are employed in the computer unit. In addition the unit utilizes the services of about ten consultants mainly for development work within the Judicial Information System (JIS), stages 1 - 3, dealing with the Criminal Records File (CRF), and the flow of data to and from the CRF.

Equipment consists of two third generation computers from the Honeywell-Bull 400 series and two communications computers. In addition to the normal equipment (punch card readers, high speed printers, magnetic tape units, etc.) the computers are linked to mass storage. This is of the magnetic sheet type with a storage capacity of about 1.4 billion signs.

In June 1972, a contract was signed with Univac concerning delivery of a very large and advanced computer system. The installation will take place during the autumn of 1973.

The new system comprises a double computer system Univac 1110 with two communications computers. The disc storage capacity will be increased to include 5 billion signs. About 300 visual display terminals will be connected in a countrywide network via five concentrators of the PDP-11 type. Computer-to-computer connection with - inter alia - CBR/CKR and DATA will be set up. The computer system is dimensioned to handle 13 queries per second in addition to considerable batch processing both centrally and via terminals. With the installation of the new computer system, the computer processing within the police will be strongly directed towards on-line application, to a great extent a prerequisite for the replacement of certain local records requiring large personnel.

#### The Records Bureau

This bureau is the latest addition within the National Swedish Police Board. It became operational on 1 July, 1970.

This bureau is responsible for the various kinds of central crime records at the NSPB. It is also responsible for large parts of an information system common to the whole Judiciary (the Judicial Information System, JIS). Like the majority of central crime records the JIS-system is EDP-operated.

The records bureau consists of a planning group and three sections. The planning group is responsible for developing and planning new routines and for certain other duties, common to the whole bureau.

The control section deals with sentences, court orders, and fines from the whole country. It carries out the manual processing appertaining to EDP-processing of these documents. This includes follow-up and ensuring that summonses are approved of and that fines are paid. Information to various authorities regarding committed crimes and offences is distributed

by this section. Matters which in the course of EDP-processing are listed on special faults or report lists must also be dealt with here. A new Criminal Records File constituting a technical co-ordination of the general criminal records and the National Swedish Police Board's criminal records, will come into use during 1973. The control section will then be responsible for the input of information on crimes and criminals into this File.

The punching section transfers information to be used in the various EDP-systems to a computer input medium. This means that information is either punched on card or tape, or transferred to magnetic tape.

The records section keeps the National Swedish Police Board's police records, consisting of various sub-records based on EDP techniques.

The criminal records contain information on persons sentenced for or suspected of crime, and are based on the criminal files opened in the police districts. The investigation records receive reports of crimes from the police districts and process them - inter alia - to uncover crime series and to chart the modus operandi of various criminals and also to estimate official crime statistics. With the aid of the fingerprint centre's records, tracing and identification can take place on a national basis. The publishing centre issues from its own press Polisunderrättelser (Police Information) and a number of other publications for crime investigation. Moreover, there is a wanted persons system that makes it possible for enquiries to be put through all police telex units and answers to be given directly to these units (on-line operation). The records centre deals with extracts from the central police records. The section also operates a central passport records file, including all the country's 2.8 million passports. Personnel are on duty 24 hours a day at a co-ordination centre which is in constant touch by telex with all police districts and is responsible for - inter alia - national and zone alerts and for operating an on-line system for searching for stolen vehicles.

The expansion of the National Swedish Police Board's records bureau makes it possible to use information stored in EDP systems for detection and investigation purposes to an ever-increasing extent. There are already completed on-line systems for wanted persons and search for stolen motor-vehicles. Thus the police districts can by telex get immediate information about persons and vehicles of current interest, and at the same time the districts can themselves quickly alert the whole country or certain

zones. Further development of the computer routines will within a near future bring additional rationalization benefits, as it will be possible to get on-line access to most of the central records.

#### The Staff Bureau

The administrative department of the board also includes a staff bureau. This is divided into three sections.

The general section deals with negotiations and interpretations of collective agreements and administrative statutes, and implementation regulations in connection with this. Moreover, it handles matters of principle regarding testimonials and recommendations.

The staff section handles matters concerning appointments, dismissals, old-age pensions, vacations, salary classification, etc., and works out rules concerning personnel and vacation account.

The staff welfare section deals with labour protection, occupational injuries, early retirement and disablement pensions, and all central activity concerning joint consultative committees, management democracy, staff welfare and amenities.

Under the supervision of the National Office for Administration Rationalization and Economy, the National Swedish Police Board and a number of police districts are now trying a personnel administrative information system (PAI) for improved government personnel administration. A special work group within the staff bureau has the responsibility for this trail activity within the police system.

#### Department D

##### The Security Department

The security department of the board is immediately subordinate to the National Police Commissioner. The department exercises special police authority for the prevention and uncovering of crimes against national security, etc. Activity is supervised by a head of department who takes the Deputy National Police Commissioner's place on the board when matters of security are under discussion.

An administrative division deals with administrative matters, defence and training matters, and central computer planning. Also included are the central records, fundamental to all security activity.

#### Bureau A

Bureau A is primarily concerned with preventive matters such as security and industrial protection, as well as control of personnel and special aliens. Security duties during state visits are also carried out by personnel from this preventive unit. Furthermore, the bureau deals with radio control.

#### Bureau B

Bureau B carries out detection and investigation duties, including processing of security information.

The security department also includes regional security sections, in general linked to the counties. These sections are responsible directly to the department, but in certain cases personnel can be placed at the disposal of the County Police Commissioners.

#### THE NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY

The National Forensic Science Laboratory operates in administrative matters under the National Swedish Police Board, but is independent in questions of a technical nature. The Laboratory was instituted in 1964. Provided it does not interfere with the duties of other government central laboratories, it carries out laboratory investigations occasioned by suspicion of criminal activity, and does research within its field of work.

Work at the NFSL is divided between three departments: one chemical and biological, another physical-engineering and the third dealing with handwriting and documents. There is also a secretariat. Each department is in turn divided into a number of sections with respect to various specialities. Thus the physical-engineering department, for example, consists of a weapons section, a general section, a fire section, a photographic section and a workshop.

#### THE REGIONAL POLICE ORGANIZATION

The County Government Board is the highest police authority in the country. Apart from the county of Gotland there is a County Police Commissioner in every county. Within the County Government Board he has sole authority to make decisions regarding the forms of police activity, and he supervises and is responsible for police activity in the county. He does this primarily by issuing regulations and instructions to the police districts and by co-ordinating police activity in the various police districts in the county.

When particular situations so require, or when the demand for uniform command within the county is particularly prominent, the County Government Board has the right to wholly or in part assume command of the police forces in the police districts. Examples of this include traffic surveillance, maintenance of law and order at big events or meetings, emergencies or other comprehensive accidents or catastrophies, and investigations affecting several of the county's police districts. In carrying out duties of this sort the County Government Board can summon temporary police reinforcements from one county and order reinforcements to another.

#### County Traffic Surveillance Groups

Regional traffic surveillance is carried out by special county traffic surveillance groups. The County Government Board is in direct command of the policemen in a county traffic surveillance group. Instructions regarding the duties which preferably should be the responsibility of such a group are issued by the National Swedish Police Board.

There are 35 county traffic surveillance groups, varying in size according to the county. The county of Gotland has no such group, twelve counties have one group each, ten counties have two and one county has three.

A county traffic surveillance group is responsible for traffic surveillance across police district limits. If there is more than one county traffic surveillance group in the same county, the County Government Board decides in which areas the respective groups primarily are to operate.

The main purpose of a county traffic surveillance group is to carry out the following duties within its area of operation:

- continuous traffic surveillance on the busier roads, i e primarily European Highways, national highways and other roads with high traffic intensity, traffic surveillance on other roads if surveillance requires special equipment or specially trained personnel, and the police district in question does not have sufficient resources to carry out surveillance
- participation in specially organized traffic surveillance duties, i e raid-like surveillance measures
- supervision of the quality and condition of highways and road safety equipment within the areas patrolled in connection with traffic surveillance duties

#### THE LOCAL POLICE ORGANIZATION

##### The Police Districts

On the local level the country is divided into 119 police districts. The division is based on the municipal block limits; thus a number of blocks form a police district. The aim is for a police district to have a sufficiently large population and be so structured that police work in the district will afford work for a police force of at least 20 and preferably up towards 50 regular policemen. There are certain deviations from this principle, e g districts which prior to the nationalization of the police had a police force of more than 50 men, and very sparsely populated areas where districts with a police force of less than 20 men were accepted.

Supervision of police activity in a police district is the responsibility of the police board, consisting of the police chief and six to eight members elected by the County Council or, in certain cases, by the local government. The police chief, with the rank and title of police commissioner, alone exercises the command of the police in his district, and he also settles most of the occurring matters. However, the police board decides in plenary meeting more important matters of organization and finances, certain appointment matters, and important matters of information and other items submitted by the police chief. Matters concerning

discharging of police management duties are not to be decided by the plenary meeting. Nor may the police chief submit to the police board matters other than those connected with the administration of the police, or general outlines for police activity. The internal police organization in an average district consists of a secretariat, a constabulary department with a surveillance section and a traffic section and a criminal investigation department with six squads: an investigation squad, a general investigation squad, a technical squad, a larceny squad, a fraud squad and a violence squad.

The main part of the police force is based in a central location with a special area of responsibility, the central sub-district. Furthermore, in large urban areas there are working groups with local sub-districts, subordinate to the central location. Certain smaller communities have police posts manned by one policeman.

##### The Central Location

Activity within the police district is directed from the central location. The personnel are on duty 24 hours a day. From the radio centre of the district all units, even radio, can be reached. By telex connection with the National Swedish Police Board and other police districts is also possible. Technical equipment in the police districts is of high quality. Due to a good supply of vehicles quick action can be taken from the central location to different parts of the police district.

##### Working Groups

The division of working groups is determined by the demand for police surveillance and service. This has resulted in variations in the sizes of the groups. Their duties consist mainly of external surveillance and simple investigations, while major investigations are handled at the central location.

In order to improve the service provided by the police, every working group is now empowered to make decisions through its officer in charge in a majority of police matters, such as certificates of fitness for driver's licences, interim licences, permits for blasting and for lotteries, seamen's visas, confiscation of driver's licences, matters concerning found property, intoxication, etc. Simultaneous with the cent-

ralization of the organization itself, therefore, certain duties were decentralized.

### Surveillance

The head of the constabulary department is directly responsible to the police commissioner or assistant commissioner/superintendent for maintaining law and order and security within the whole police district. Surveillance duties are carried out by personnel in the surveillance sections, working groups and police posts. Surveillance includes mainly the following duties:

- general supervision of law and order in public places
- general surveillance of known criminals and asocial persons, and of children and young people with integration difficulties
- general surveillance for prevention of damage and injury or criminal assault on citizens and property
- general traffic surveillance
- traffic routing
- control of hunting and fishing
- reception duty
- liaison duty (manning of radios, telex units, and alert links)
- investigation duty in connection with preliminary measures in the event of crimes and situations where it is the duty of the police to take action.

### Traffic

The local police organization includes 38 traffic sections, each under its respective police commissioner. In the police districts in Stockholm, Gothenburg, and Malmö there are larger units. In other police districts there are sections with strengths varying between 4 and 13 policemen. In police districts without traffic sections, the duties normally carried out by such sections are carried out by the surveillance section.

The work of the traffic section is primarily geared to road safety within the police district. Main duties are:

- continuous traffic surveillance within the whole police district, primarily, however, within areas not covered by the county traffic surveillance groups
- supervision of the quality and condition of highways and road safety equipment

- planning of and - to the extent permitted by the availability of personnel - assistance with road safety education in the schools
- investigation in matters of authorization concerning public highways
- duties concerning local traffic regulations, traffic planning, and closing off of streets and roads

### The Criminal Police

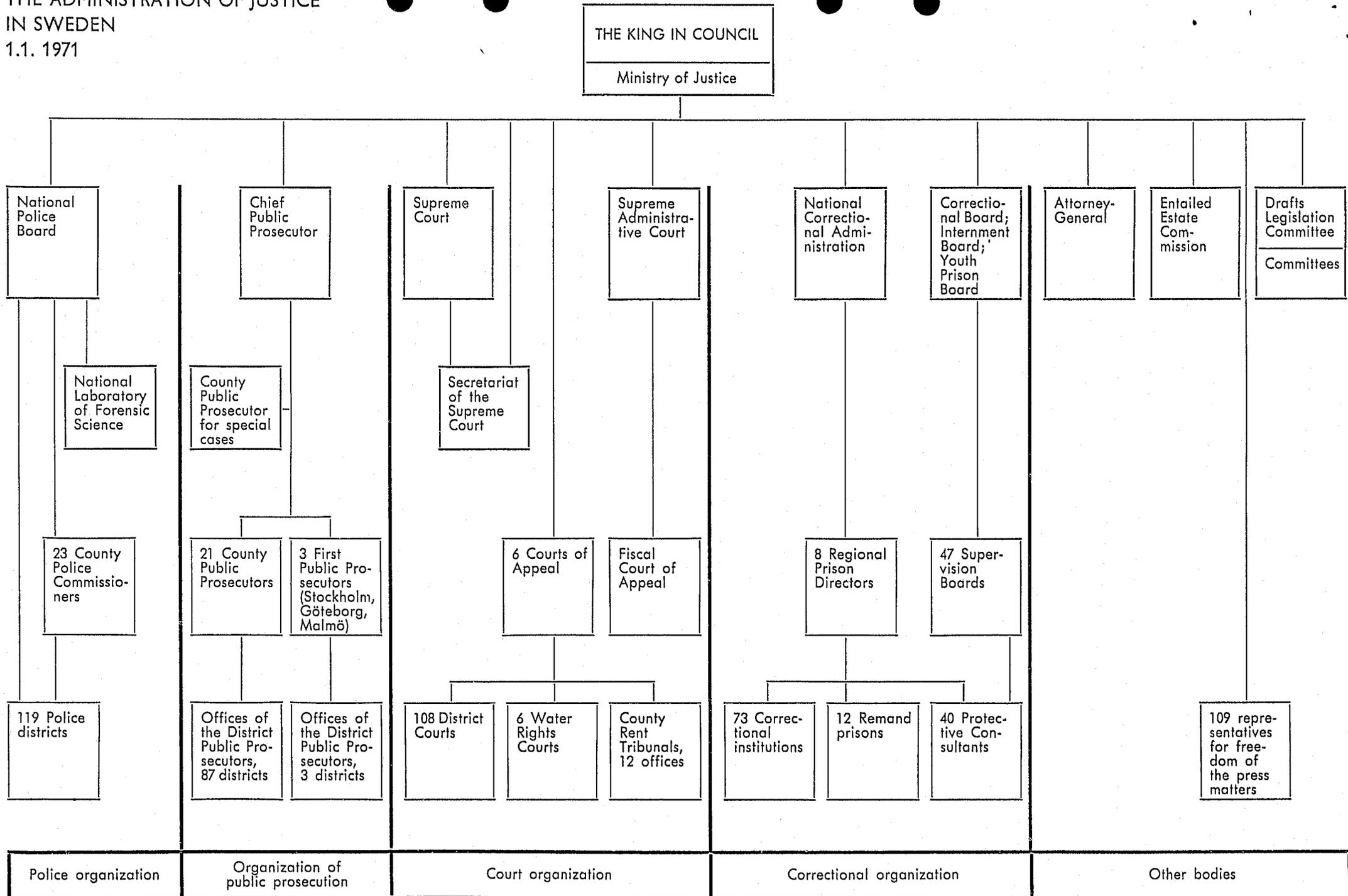
The chief of the criminal department is immediately responsible to the police commissioner and the assistant commissioner/superintendent for the activity of the criminal police within the police district. The greater part of the detection and investigation work in the police district is carried out by the criminal department.

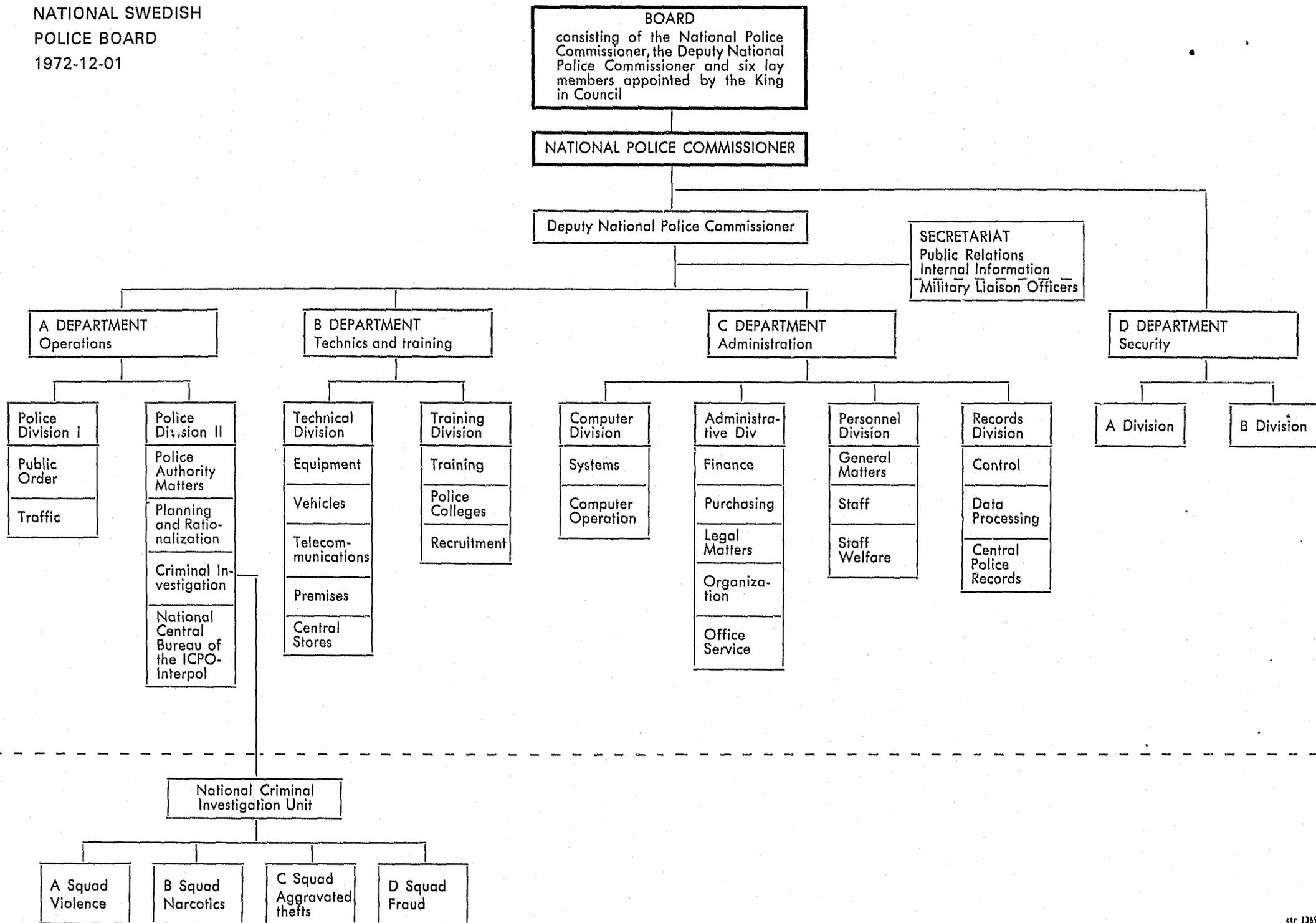
The criminal department is divided into squads. The number of squads depends on the crime situation in the police district and on the availability of personnel. In an average district there are an investigation squad, a general investigation squad, and crime investigation squads (larceny squad, fraud squad, and violence squad) which have the following division of work:

- the investigation squad deals with investigations, comprehensive crime investigations, and general and police investigations of a social nature
- the general investigation squad makes investigations concerning traffic accidents (including those with fatal casualties) and investigations concerning legislation of a social and correctional nature or with regard to aliens, and certain permit and report matters
- the criminal department's crime investigation squads primarily deal with investigations of crimes according to the penal code, deaths and fires, and crimes against the penal law concerning taxes, the penal law concerning narcotics and the narcotics regulations
- the technical squad handles technical investigations, especially in the case of crimes of a serious nature or when such crimes can be suspected.

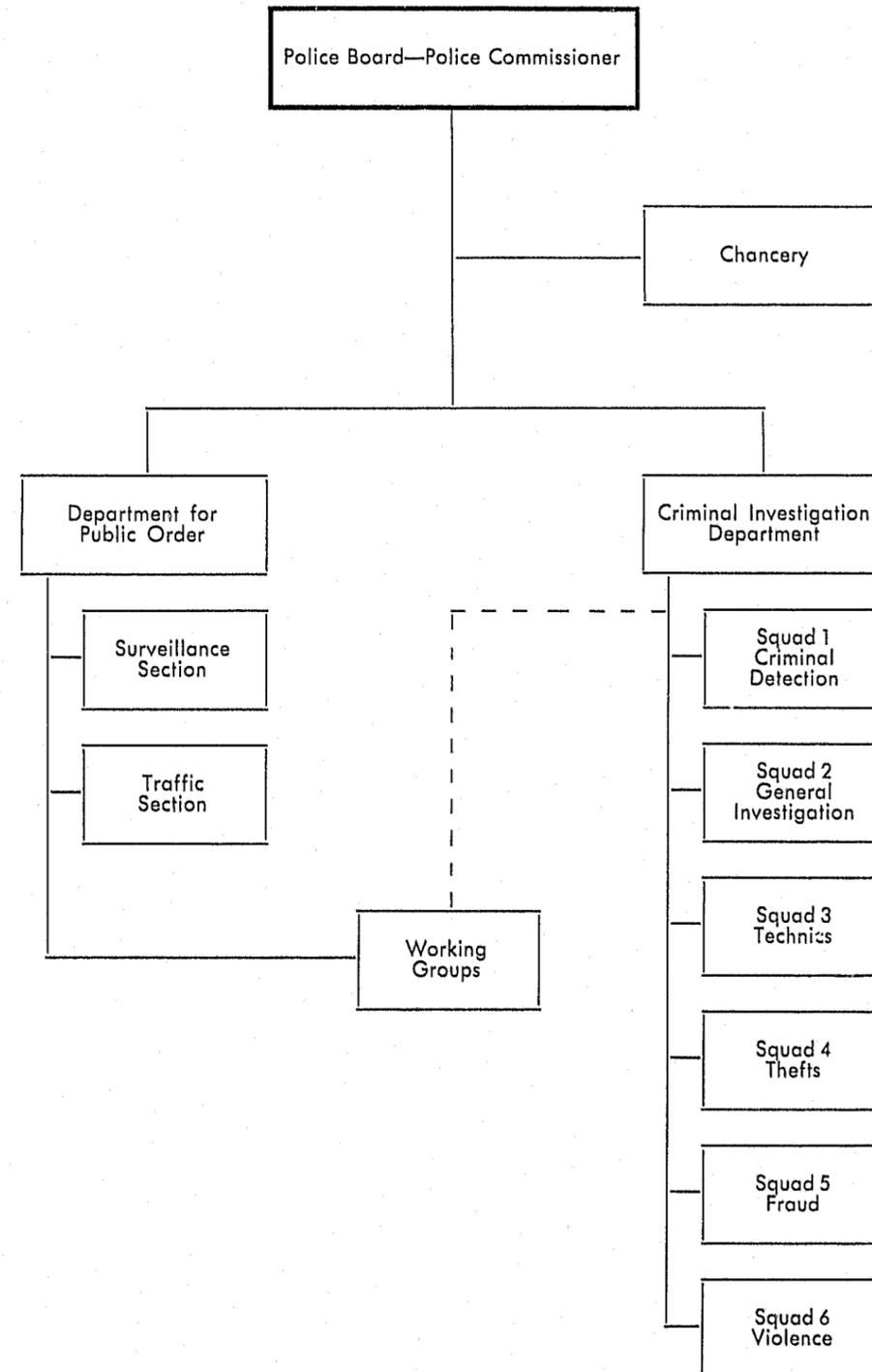
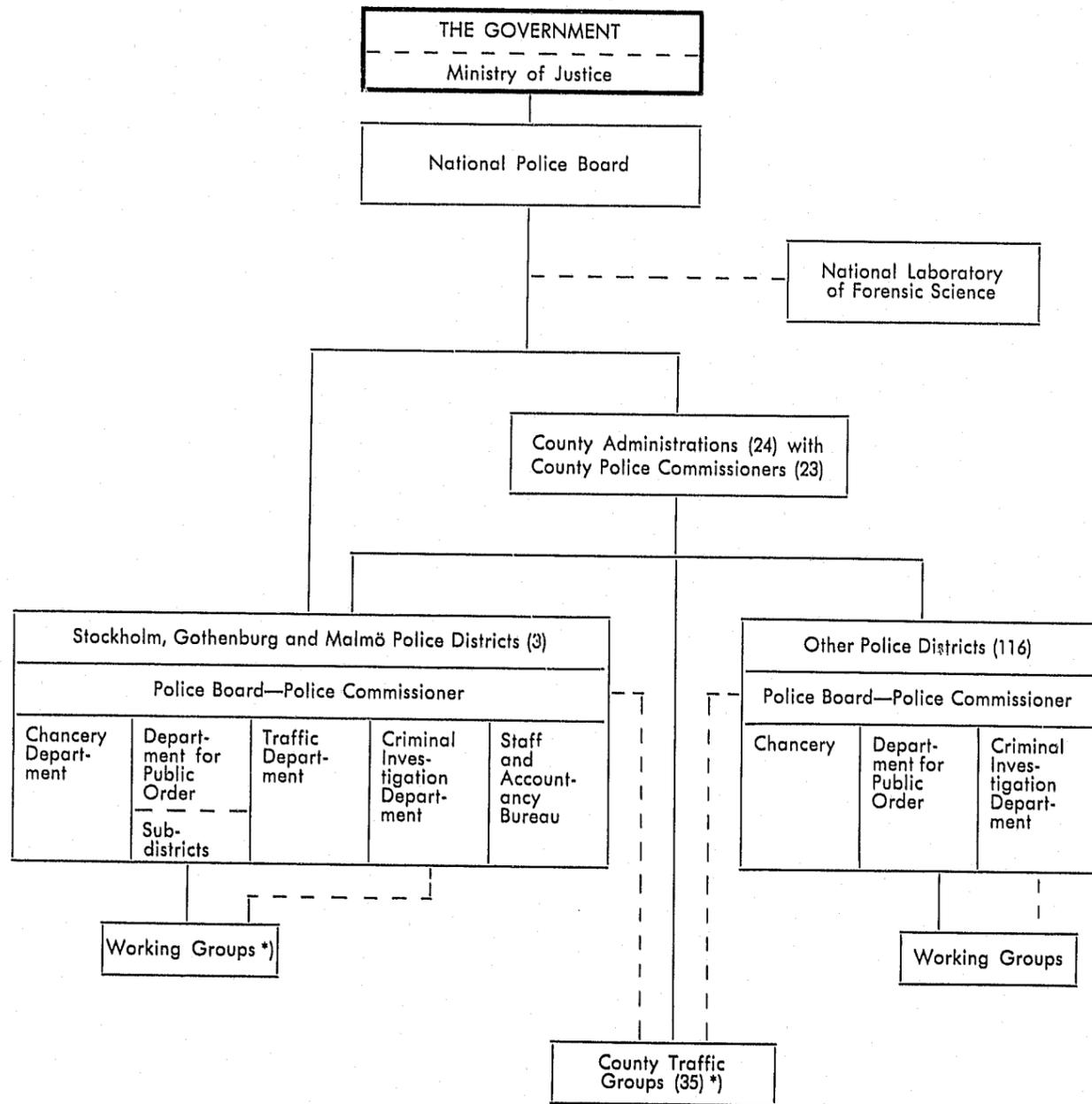
ORGANIZATION OF  
THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE  
IN SWEDEN

1.1. 1971





Except the Police Districts of Stockholm,  
Gothenburg and Malmö



\* Not in Stockholm Police District.

**END**