

AN OVERVIEW ON THE INDONESIAN POLICE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT (IPMHD)

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1. Introduction.

Dinas Kedokteran dan Kesehatan Polri, abbreviated as Disdokes Polri, (The Indonesian Police Medical and Health Department, IPMHD) is one of the departments administered under the Chief of the Indonesian National Police, located at the Indonesian Police Headquarters in Jakarta. At Regional Police level, there are 19 Police Medical and Health Departments, which are responsible to their respective heads of the Regional Police.

It seems that the terminology of medical and health for the Department overlaps, but it can be understood from the objective of the Department that has two different intentions. The first intention is to support police operations through technical/medical assistance and the second is to carry out health services for the police personnel and their dependents.

The purpose of this overview is especially intended for those police health personnel who are planning to go abroad to attend training sessions or seminars. In case they need information on the Indonesian Police Health Services, we hope this writing will become one of the several sources of the information required.

2. Functions.

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As has been mentioned earlier, the IPMHD has two purposes, and can be described as follows :

a. To support police operations through technical/medical assistance, such as to produce medical informations or certificates concerning the cause of death. This information enables the police to carry out objective investigation.

b). To provide occupational health services for the police personnel, so that they will be physically fit to perform their duties. This particular health services need to be administered so that all police units are in the high state of readiness and therefore they will be able to perform their duties around the clock.

In addition, the workload of the average Indonesian Police personnel is greater than in other contries, as the amount of the personnel is more limited compared to the population to be served (the ratio is aproximately 1:1000-The Indonesian population is approximately 180.000.000, the police personnel is 180.000.000-while in Malaysia the ratio is 1:450, Singapore 1:350).

c). To provide general health services for the police personnel, civillians working with the police and their respective dependents.

3. The Organization

At the Indonesian Police Headquarters,

the IPMHD is headed by a Police Brigadir General who is usually a medical doctor, and is directly responsible to the Chief of the Indonesian National Police. The Head of the IPMHD is assisted by a Department Secretary, who supervises Sections, and is respectively responsible for planning, personnel administration, logistic administration, system management and secretariat.

Operational units under the head of the IPMHD are the Police Central Hospital, the Institute of General Health Services, the Institute of Police Pharmaceutical Institute and the Warehouse of Health Materials. It can be seen from the names of the units, that except for the Warehouse and the Institute of General Health Services, the units are mostly directed in line with crime prevention and law enforcement which are the main mission of the Police.

Lembaga Kedokteran Kepolisian (the Institute of Police Medicine) is responsible for managing and developing medical science as a support to Police operations. For this purpose, the institute develops and applies Forensic medicine and Medical Law to support the CID in carrying out crime investigation, such as producing certificate concerning the cause of death, providing technical assistance in medical malpractice cases, etc. The institute also supports the Police Intelligence Department through medical intelligence, such as the application of food security, in case the Police should be responsible for the security of a VIP. To support the traffic police, the institute applies traffic medicine, in this case medical tests for people who are intending to have a driving licence, in addition to carrying in valved in and out medical test for the drivers who have been involved in traffic accidents which were due to human error. The institute also provides health education to the public, especially health education related to maintaining security and order, such as the danger of drugs, narcotics and alcohol consumption.

Lembaga Kesehatan Kesamaptaan Kepolisian, (the Institute of Police Occupational Health) is responsible for managing and developing medical and health science in order to be able to maintain and increase good health and fitness for the police personnel. This is desired in accordance with their job environment, so that they can always be ready to do their duties. The functions of the institute include carrying out medical tests/check up for the police candidates during recruitment or when they are entering special trainings. The medical test also done regularly every six months for police personnel. The other duties of the Institute are among others, giving nutrition education and evaluating the diet of the police personnel that are in training, health education and evaluation of environment/sanitation and providing technical assistance in sports medicine, especially during police physical training.

Rumah Sakit Kepolisian Pusat, the Police Central Hospital, is responsible for providing health services for police personnel, civilians working with the police and their families. This hospital is also intended to support the police in their operations through clinical services, such as emergency services for victims of mass disaster, traffic accident victims, issuing certificates concerning the cause of injuries to help criminal investigation, the carrying out forensic pathology, etc. The hospital also provides health services, including in patient service for the prisoners detained by the police who have not yet received verdicts from the judges.

Lembaga Farmasi Kepolisian, the Police Pharmaceutical Institute, is responsible for producing and developing drugs required by the police personnel. It is also responsible for supporting the police operations, such as teaching or providing technical assistance to operational police in identifying dangerous drugs or materials. It also develops simple field tools for detecting dangerous drugs or materials, which are very useful for operational police.

As has been mentioned earlier, at Regional police level, there are 19 Police Medical and Health Departments, which are technically coordinated by the IPMHD, but operationally administered under the Regional Police. Each medical and health department at the regional police level, coordinates some police hospitals and police clinics.

4. Health Personnel.

Health personnel in the Police mostly have medicals and paramedicals educational background, some of them are non medicals and non paramedics. About 20% of them are in police uniforms, with ranks ranging from police sergeant to brigadir general. The highest rank (brigadir general) belongs to the head of the IPMHD.

At the IPMHD alone (Indonesian Police Headquarters, Jakarta), around 50 doctors and 300 paramedicals are assigned to provide medical service. This figure includes those who are working at the Police Central Hospital.

There are approximately 400 more doctors and 1.200 paramedics who are distributed at the Regional Police Medical and Health Departments, Hospitals and Clinics. They are under the Supervision of the Regional Police.

All doctors (including dentists), who are in police uniforms, have been trained in Police Medicine and Police Occupational Health for at least two weeks during their first two years of service.

The intention of this training is to prepare them to carry out the work within the police, namely to support the police operation and to maintain the health status of the police personnel, so that they are always ready to do their duties.

At Police Hospitals, either at central or regional level, some doctors are specialists/consultants, such as cardiologist, pulmonologist, internist, ENT specialist, pediatrician etc. The police Departement funded their specialized study when they have completed 2 - 3 years of service. The Police

Central Hospital in Jakarta is the biggest hospital within the Police and is also appointed to be the referral hospital within the Indonesian Police.

5. Health Facilities.

The Health Facilities of the Indonesian Police Departement consist of hospitals and clinics. The Police Central Hospital in Jakarta which has 200 beds, is the biggest police hospital. While in Medan, Bandung, Kediri and Ujung Pandang, there are four other smaller hospitals, with a bed capacity of 80, 75, 150 and 125 respectively. Another smaller Police hospitals, with bed capacity ranging from 25 to 50 can be found in Tebing Tinggi, Padang, Pekanbaru, Surabaya, Semarang, Tulungagung, Kupang and Ternate.

About 250 Police Clinics are distributed through-out Indonesia. They are mostly located at Regency Police and at Police Training Centres. In remote areas, where police clinics do not exist, the health care of the police personnel is carried out by government health centres, which can be found in every district in Indonesia, including districts in remote areas.

To some extent, health services within the Indonesian Armed Forces are being integrated in their usage. The intention of this integrated system is to make the health service more effective and efficiently used. The implementation of this system is so that armed forces personnel, regardless of their force, is free to choose the closest health facilities that belong to the Armed Forces, in case she or he needs medical attention. It means that police personnel are allowed to seek help in any Armed Forces Hospital, if they domicile near the hospital.

6. Health Situation.

The morbidity rate of the police personnel is not known, but since the Police are selected when they enter the service, the rate could be lower than that of the national morbidity rate, which is 4,5% at present.

From routine medical check ups, it is reported that roughly 50% of the police personnel have excellent health status (class I), which is the highest. Only about 0,3% belong to the class IV health status, which is the lowest. Those who belong to the class IV health status group can be excluded from the service, since they no longer meet the requirements of a ready Police Force.

Some diseases often persist in the Police Force, are: the common cold, infection of the respiratory tract, skin diseases, diseases of the digestive system, high blood pressure and gastric ulcers. Work environment, such as around-the-clock duties, polluted air during traffic jams, stress factor due to a risky occupation (i.e. facing criminals), could be some factors that contribute to the development of the above diseases.

7. Conclusion.

The Indonesian Police Medical and Health Departement has particular missions in its services. These missions are to support the Police operations through the application of medical science and to increase as well as to maintain the health status of the police

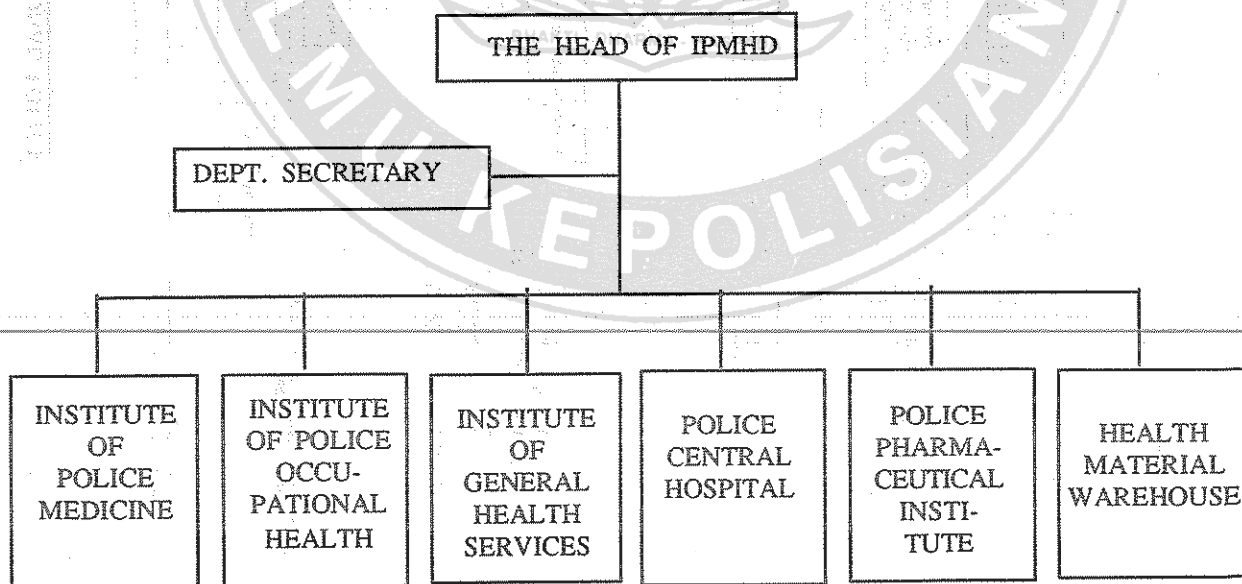
personnel. By doing so, they will always be ready to perform their duties. The reason for these missions is that as a developing country, Indonesia needs a stable and a "strong" law enforcement body, to make the country stable in its development.

For a "strong" law enforcement body, a particular medical and health service is a must, in order to be able to support both the operations and the personnel to carry out their duties.

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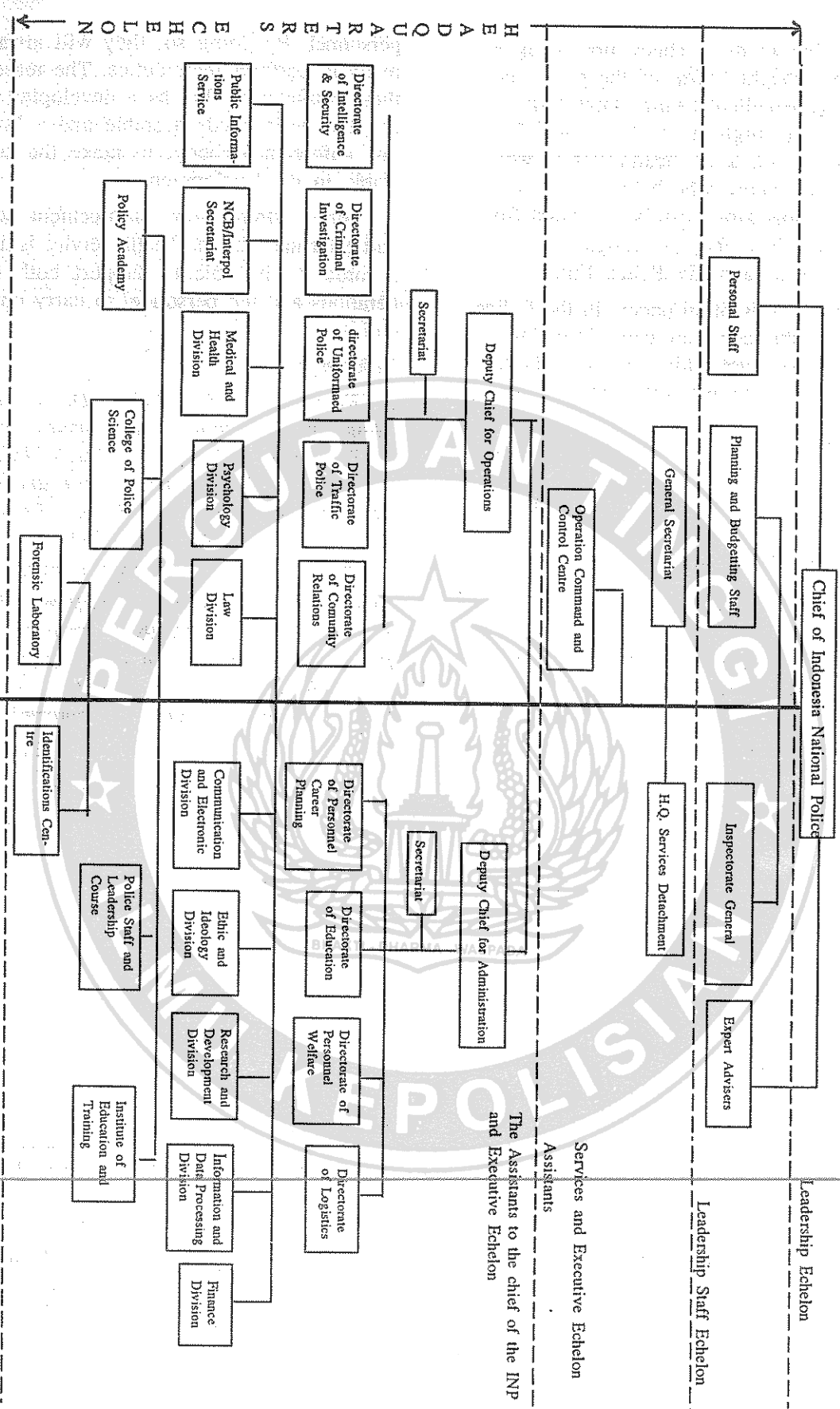
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THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE IPMHD



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE INDONESIAN NATIONAL POLICE

HEADQUARTERS



REGIONAL POLICE ECHELON