ORGANIZED CRIME INVESTIGATION COURSE
“Crime is no longer bound by borders. The bad guys have all the money and no rules. The good guys have all the rules and no money. Transnational organized crime gangs, and the unholy alliances they have formed, have become the most powerful interest group on the planet. Until now, they have seemed unstoppable.”

Jeffrey Robinson

“The Merger”

Organized Crime taking over the world
INTRODUCTION

Organized Crime bosses have embraced globalization every bit as enthusiastically as the heads of legitimate international conglomerates.

Organized crime, as portrayed in TV shows such as The Sopranos or films such as Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels, is often shown as a glamorous, exciting business inhabited by old-style crooks or good-natured gangsters.

Organized Crime is big business. It’s invariably international and sophisticated but it also strikes right at the heart of our local communities, creating suffering and misery for its victims and making millions for its insidious perpetrators.
GENERAL REMARKS ON ORGANIZED CRIME SITUATION

- Organized Crime is flourishing worldwide at an unprecedented rate
- Undoubtedly a TRILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY worldwide
- Proliferation of transnational organized crime
- Influx of prolific foreign criminal groups
- Criminal enterprises forging strategic alliances
- Posing a serious threat to our national security and economy
President Edgar Hoover

No official term

Organized crime a widely discussed topic

“Godfather”

Definition for organized crime

Profit and power

Modern organized crime

1980’s and 1990’s

Palermo Convention
ORGANIZED CRIME IS ALL ABOUT MONEY: MONEY OR POWER
DEFINITIONS OF ORGANIZED CRIME

FIJNAUT GROUP DEFINITION
As a group or network of people primarily focused on illegally obtained profits and in the systematic commissioning of crime with great societal consequences

EU CONVENTION
Organized crime group shall mean a structured group of three or more persons existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established pursuant to this Convention, in order to obtain, directly, or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

SOUTH AFRICA
Organized crime is the systematic commission of serious crimes over a prolonged or indefinite period motivated by a craving for profit or power.
ORGANIZED CRIME CONCEPTS/
CRITERIA USED BY SAPS

No formal definition

“Criminal High-flyer” – Any person involved in serious crime over a prolonged period of time for profit or power. No outstanding warrant of arrest or nor involved in any known criminal group.

“Criminal Group”

Two or more persons
Involved in serious crime
Prolonged period of time
Profit or power
Simulate business / commercial structures
Division of labour
Disciplinary sanctions
Engage in money laundering
Corruption
Use violence / intimidation
Transnational
SAPS Act (Section 16 describes circumstances or endeavors that amount to organized crime)

By any enterprise or group of persons who have a common goal in committing crimes in an organized manner

Persons in trust or making use of specialized or exclusive knowledge

Revenue/expenditure of national government

National economy or integrity of currencies

Such proportion or nature that investigation required at national level

Unwrought precious metals and diamonds

Endangered Species

Transnational crimes
Organized Crime: Silent but violent!
HISTORY

Mafia
15th Century
19th Century
The term Mafia
Mafiasu
Sicilian dialects
The real name of the Mafia
Omerta
Laws of the Omerta
Organized Crime in the USA
The Black Hand
Explosion in the USA
Al Capone
Lucky Luciano
Joseph Valachi
Mafia Criminal activities
OTHER ORGANIZED CRIME GROUPS

- Chinese Triads
- Japanese Yakuza
- Albanian
- Russian
- Turkish
- Israeli
HISTORY OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Gangs in the Western Cape
- Political and economic development
- Post 1994
- Organized crime groups can adapt quickly
- Organized crime versus gangs
- Gangs
- Organize crime
- Organized crime versus ordinary crimes
- Early gangs in South Africa
WHY SOUTH AFRICA?

- Economic engine
- Superimpose legitimate business enterprises
- New democratic dispensation
- Direct flights
- Telecommunications
- Modern banking centre
- Porous borders
- Push and pull factors in region and beyond
Both domestic and foreign OCE

Domestic OCE well entrenched and from criminal gangs to more sophisticated outfits

Use legitimate business or professionals to facilitate organized crime activities

Transnational

Monopoly

Strategic alliances

Social economy of organized crime

Structured and loosely affiliated networks

Military precision

Procure technical expertise

Violence is common denominator
Never underestimate the danger of organized crime!
Diverse groups
Control territory
Exclusive membership - Bouncer groups and motor cycle gangs (Hells Angels)
Franchising – American gangs in Western Cape
AFRICAN OCE

WAN (Mainly Nigerian): Drug Trafficking, 419 and other fraud scams

Tanzanians: Heroin

Mozambicans: Arms smuggling & house robberies

Zimbabweans: Bank & Cash in Transit robberies
FOREIGN OCE

- Russian
- India
- Pakistan
- Chinese
- Eastern European
- Israeli
- Other international crime groups
Precious Metals $ Diamonds

Counterfeiting

Money Laundering

Arms Smuggling

 Trafficking in Human Beings

Organized Crime Activities

Vehicle theft & hijackings

Fraud Scams and Corruption

Kidnapping

Endangered Species

I illicit Drug

Robberies
West Africa generally regarded as an example of a humanitarian tragedy characterized by grand corruption, brutal wars and criminal anarchy (ISS Security review Volume 14/2005)

Today most law enforcement consider WAN as dangerous adversaries

Their global reach, flexibility and amorphous structure have ensured their success in drug trafficking and fraud

Flat, loose and flexible

Sophisticated and tenacious

Human internet

Most populous nation in Africa
BRIEF OVERVIEW

- 1991
- Multi kilo drug seizures
- Concentrated in Gauteng until late 1990’s
- Exploit immigration system
- Highly educated and intelligent
- Dominate the heroin and cocaine trade in RSA
- Opportunists
- Employ RSA citizens as drug mules
- Acquire RSA passports / ID’s
- Infamous 419 scams
- Identity hijacking (SA Reserve bank, Lottery)
- 419 Victims kidnapped
- Child prostitution
- Money laundering
- Extra ordinary measures needed to tackle Nigerian onslaught
In a world where national and international boundaries are increasingly irrelevant, the need for cooperation and coordination among law enforcement has never been greater.
Any questions ??

Team work is necessary.
One can always blame it on the other
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SAPS: Commander: Non Ferrous Metals