TASKS AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF THE FORENSIC EXPERTS AT THE C.I.D. OF MECKLENBURG–VORPOMMERN

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SUMMARY

The professional training of all Forensic C.I.D. Experts is guided by their functions within the criminal case proceedings. The sharing of tasks and assignments between such local police stations and the Forensic Experts of C.I.D. ("Landeskriminalamt") at the investigation and solution of criminal offences will be illustrated for Mecklenburg–Vorpommern.

The officers and agents at the offices of local competence are the first to examine the scene of the crime and to secure the traces and clues as found on place. The investigator or responsible detective has to determine the important questions for investigations and analyses giving his instructions to the Forensic Institute of C.I.D. to get analyses of these specific traces and clues of his choice.

The Forensic Experts of C.I.D. analyse the traces and comparative materials, draw up their scientific expert's opinion and present it also at the trial.

This specific type of sharing of the tasks exists in all states of the Federal Republic of Germany. In principle, the institutional separation of securing the traces and clues at the scene of crime by the officers on one hand and the analyses of these traces and clues by the experts of the Forensic Institute of C.I.D. on the other hand is generally enforced.

These Forensic C.I.D. Experts take action by orders or instructions given to them through the Court and/or the administrative authorities. At the criminal proceedings they serve as an institution of evidence.

It is the task of the Forensic Institute to analyse all traces and clues material and the comparative materials sent to them from any scene of crime in Mecklenburg–Vorpommern. In the Forensic Institute work 47 collaborators, among them are 19 Forensic Experts in 9 different forensic fields. In the year 2000 there were not less than 9.000 applications for forensic analyses. Investigations on

dactyloscopic (fingerprint) demands and DNA analyses and evaluations took the biggest part. Because of an exceeding workload it is not always possible for each of the different fields to draw up and present the forensic expert's opinions within a time limit of four or six weeks. However, investigations and analyses concerning severe crimes have absolute priority over others.

The professional training of the Forensic C.I.D. Experts is quite different. These experts are police officers, engineers and university graduates. Some of them have attended and passed the specific trainings for Forensic Experts at the Federal C.I.D. ("Bundeskriminalamt").

Since 50 years by now, at the Federal C.I.D. specific courses of instruction are organized and held for Forensic C.I.D. Experts working on dactyloscopic (fingerprint) tasks, shoeprints & toolsmarks, firearms, documents and handwritings. By this way of instruction it is guaranteed to have an always homogeneous state of knowledge and skills for all these centrally instructed C.I.D. Experts.

The courses of instruction are organized and subdivided in a three–months–basic– course followed by a two–months–final–instruction–course. In groups formed of eight members they are taught specialized technological know–how, scientific basic knowledge, theory of probabilities, law and legal affairs, forensic analyses, evaluation of findings and the techniques of drawing up a forensic expert's opinion. The theoretic knowledge is put to the test and checked in written tests. The courses of instruction are completed with an oral examination and the defending of a forensic expert's opinion, held in front of a examinations commission.

Before, and even between these courses, these future expert trainees are instructed at the fields where they later will work.

Up to now, there is not (yet) any comparable form of centralized instruction in course for scientific forensic experts, like analytical chemists, biologists and physicists. Their specialized knowledge gained at the Universities still represents a form of sound bases for any work like a Forensic C.I.D. Expert. Working with and handling of such forensic material like traces and clues, as also the specific methods of analyses and investigation to employ, and the techniques of drawing up a forensic expert opinion are imparted to the later experts by internal instructions or sit ins on courses held by other Forensic Institutes, or directly at the Federal C.I.D.

Actually a project group formed by the leaders of all the Forensic Institutes, together with the Federal C.I.D. proposes a new structure for a future instruction programme. This shall take into consideration the different levels of knowledge and skills as found with the future expert candidates, and on the other hand it should also offer the steps of instruction for chemists and other university graduates. It is the aim to offer the specific steps of instruction„matching and suitable" to any of the future Forensic Experts. Depending from the state and level of knowledge these courses of instruction can be taken by them. The final examinations will be held on the whole range of knowledge and skills as requested for a Forensic Expert, with no regard of the specific levels of instruction as gained by the candidate.

With this, an important step will be done towards the Guarantee of Quality essential for any expert's opinion on C.I.D. technology.

CO–OPERATION AND DIVISION OF LABOUR IN THE HANDLING OF CRIME BY POLICE

In Germany the training of experts focuses on the allocation of duties that follows from one of the tasks of the police force, i.e., to clear up crime.

Which is the role of forensic experts in this?

A possible definition might be read as follows:

A committed crime is cleared up, employing both scientific methods and technical means, relying on secured traces and marks, as well as on factual evidence, so that the guilt of a suspect may either be proven or that he may be exonerated.

This objective may only be met as a result of close co–operation of a police investigator and a forensic expert.

When going into this co–operation and division of labour between local police offices on the one hand and forensic experts from the state Criminal Investigation Department (C.I.D.) on the other, I would like to refer to the example of Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania.

First work on the scene of a crime falls on the local constabulary or criminal police force in charge. The scene of a crime will be secured, traces and marks shall be searched for and marked. Also, photos and drawings of the site as well as of the locations of any traces and marks will be made. The latter will be preserved and a report shall be made, covering the scene of that crime.

Professional and appropriate search, the preservation and recording of traces and marks are essential for submitting factual evidence. Results of the preservation of traces and marks are of essential relevance, because they decide on whether or not all chances may be exhausted for an appropriate evaluation of traces/marks and of comparative materials.

An investigator in charge reviews traces and marks collected, compiles those to be analysed and comparative materials and formulates questions for the investigation, which will then be passed on to forensic experts.

Throughout this stage, the reliable flow of information between an investigator and a forensic expert is of special importance. It is not enough to merely issue investigation orders or formulate questions. The expert needs the facts of the situation and must know the places where traces and marks were found (relevance of foreign fibres depending on the position of a piece of clothing, relations between people, reaching or supporting movements, insides or outsides of disassembled locks). This communication to forensic experts must also include descriptions of any marginal conditions. The latter include changes of traces and marks related to the weather, any changes carried out on carriers of traces and marks (putting the safety catch of arms on or off) etc.

Traces, marks and comparative materials will be forwarded to the forensic institute division of the Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania C.I.D. for an analysis. Forensic experts review this material and the questions raised in this context. They will then decide whether additional laboratories need to be involved for parts of an analysis. If so, they will issue relevant instructions.

Experts carry out any forensic analyses required together with their assistants. Afterwards they work on their opinion or report. Should the court summon the expert, this opinion shall have to be submitted during proceedings. An expert will then describe the material analysed, explain the analytic procedures employed, give his conclusions and reply to questions raised by the judge, prosecutor or counsel for defence.

There are similar structures and procedures in several federal states. Larger federal states involve forensic centres outside state Criminal Investigation Department for an early analysis of traces and marks. To refer to dactylographic work as a case in point, this might involve the elimination of people authorised to leave traces/marks. As part of an analysis of firearms it might cover a classification of proscribed objects and the firing of weapons for comparison.

City states, such as Hamburg or Berlin, have squads for preserving traces and marks in the state C.I.D. These search for and preserve traces and marks at the scene of a crime and they may concentrate on this one duty only.

There is, however, a general rule. Officers of the local police office or from the group responsible for searching or preserving of traces and marks do just that. The analysis of such traces and marks by experts from the state Criminal Investigation Department is kept strictly separate. Great care is taken to make sure that no expert shall analyse traces and marks he preserved himself at the scene of a crime. As the law now stands, any such involvement might be a reason for putting the impartiality of that expert into doubt.

Nevertheless, it will be possible to employ an expert at the scene of a crime, particularly if any expert knowledge is called for or desired. Situations like these might include an opinion on any fibre melt–ons after a traffic accident by an expert on textiles, locating the site from where a shot was fired or an evaluation of the damage caused by a shot by an expert on firearms. Also, a person responsible for preserving traces and marks might ask for help. It should be borne in mind that an investigator of the causes of a fire must begin to work on the very scene.

ON THE STATUS OF FORENSIC EXPERTS FROM STATE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENTS

In addition to police authorities, prosecutor's offices and the courts also instruct experts from state C.I.D.[5] to prepare opinions. The analysis of traces and marks, the preparation of opinions and submission of the latter to a court is all a direct part of the duties of an expert working at the request of an authority. It is irrelevant whether this expert is a police officer or an employee.

In their capacity as employees of the authority, forensic experts of the state C.I.D.[5] are obliged to conduct official functions without any bias and to prepare an objective opinion. It is generally accepted that experts of the state Criminal Investigation Departments are independent. Their field of work is kept organisationally separate from investigating divisions. As to the core of their work as experts they are not bound by any instructions.

An expert from the state C.I.D. acts on the instructions from an authority or from the court. In criminal proceedings he therefore assumes the property of judicial evidence. The introduction of his/her opinion into court proceedings serves the ascertainment of the true facts of the case.

In keeping with Article 256 of the Code of Criminal Procedure opinions prepared for that purpose may be read out as a part of the court proceedings. This is an exception from the otherwise strictly observed principle of oral presentation in criminal proceedings. It is very practical for the activities of experts. If they had to address the courts on all of their opinions, they would not have any time left for casework.

A distinction must be made when it comes to private experts. The latter work for private clients (one of the parties in a civil or a criminal case). Theirs are private opinions. They are not accepted as judicial evidence in criminal proceedings.

FIELDS OF FORENSIC STUDY AT THE MECKLENBURG–WESTERN POMERANIA STATE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT

The Forensic Institute of the Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania state C.I.D. analyses traces/marks and comparative materials from all crime scenes in Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania. Specialisations have been introduced. These are indispensable for day–to–day casework.

The subject group dactylographic analyses finger prints to identify those who left them. Work involves the AFIS network, an automated fingerprint identification system of all state C.I.D.[5] and the Federal C.I.D. Every fingerprint will be compared to a data set of almost 3 million finger prints of both hands, equivalent to some 30 million individual fingerprints. It is planned to enlarge this analysis and also include palm surfaces.

Although fingerprint analysis has been used by police for one hundred years and although all criminals should be aware of this technique by now, a large part of all applications for analysis still request dactylographic evaluations.

The subject group tools and instrument marks looks into the identification of traces and marks left by implements and allocates those. The objects of study are traces and marks on locks and keys, those left by tyres and shoes, and fitting blocks. Attempts are also made to restore any markings made invisible.

The firearms subject group is responsible for a technical and legal evaluation of weapons, ammunition and equipment. This activity concentrates very much on legal aspects and the Weapons Act. People employed here analyse and identify firearms and fragments of ammunition, they reconstruct shots fired and evaluate damage by shooting.

The subject group for documents and identity papers checks their authenticity and looks for evidence of forgery. Attempts are also made to make visible any latent or covered entries. Writing tools are compared and authenticities or forgeries confirmed or otherwise. Also writing instruments are analysed and the experts look for any passport photos that have been exchanged.

The subject group for handwritings compares those for determining the writer of a certain piece. To be quite clear on this, however, it should be mentioned that no psychological interpretation of any handwriting is provided.

The subject group of toxicology analyses evidence for drugs (narcotics), pharmaceuticals and poisons.

The chemistry/physics subject group tries to find evidence of and identify, quantify and compare chemical trapping agents (burglar traps), paints and varnishes, vehicle varnishes, glass, explosives, incendiary devices, chemical and technical products and materials. Staff also analyse bulbs and smoke (from firearms).

The serology subject group provides specific protein definitions and DNA analyses of blood, sperm, saliva and skin. Those who left traces are found, others will be eliminated.

A group of textile analysis studies and compares microscopic textile traces (fibres). It also evaluates damage to textiles, studies traces of passages on textiles and – after traffic accidents – it provides reconstructions of seating positions.

Specialist forensic photography completes the range of specialised subjects. Services are provided for experts, but also for the state C.I.D. and police offices across the state. Photographic services, a laboratory, video equipment and copying machinery are available equipped both for traditional and digitised operations.

Compared to the rest of the country the forensic institute of the Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania State Criminal Investigation Department is a fairly small operation. It employs 47 staff, including 19 experts and three young people undergoing training for future work as experts.

Whenever matters of speech recognition, the study of language patterns employed, of defusing unconventional explosive and incendiary devices, of general biology, electrical engineering, environmental analysis, or of forensic studies in the context of investigating the causes of death and topics in the context of forensic information and communications equipment are involved, the Federal Criminal Investigation Department or external facilities shall be instructed to take over.

As the other forensic institutes of the state C.I.D.[5] and the Federal C.I.D., the forensic institute division in Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania is a scientific institution working along interdisciplinary lines. It relies on a close interplay of forensic experts from all subject groups and work with the investigating authorities. This combination that aims at a forensic analysis of traces and marks cannot be found in any other institution outside the police force.

In the year 2000, altogether some 9,000 requests for investigation were submitted to the forensic institute division. They covered all subject groups.

Staff from all subject groups do not always succeed in communicating to the investigator a result of the analysis of traces and marks within four to six weeks. Because of the significant rise in requests for analysis, DNA studies have a particularly high workload at present. But caseloads also went up for the other subject groups. Figures have trebled over the past seven years. The number of staff, however, only rose by about one fifth.

Forensic institutes in different federal states devised a variety of strategies to cope with the large volume work. Certain states restrain specific analyses to serious crimes, others put a limit on the number of traces and marks analysed per case.

Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania has not yet chosen this road. If need should be, numerous ways shall be found to coordinate efforts between experts and investigators, so as to limit analyses to the required level, to avoid generalised questions and to lay down priorities. The objective is to provide a short–term forensic analysis for all subject groups and types of offences and crimes which supports investigation efforts, although we are not yet able to provide such services as comprehensively as we would want to.

But one thing always holds and it is valid for all forensic institutes: Investigations of serious crimes will take precedence under all circumstances.

THE CENTRALISED TRAINING OF EXPERTS AT THE FEDERAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT

Let us now address the matter of expert training.

What type of training has been provided for experts at the Criminal Investigation Department in the state of Mecklenburg–Western Pomerania?

Some of them in dactylography, tool marks, fire arms and handwriting studies are police officers who underwent additional training to qualify for work as experts. Others are certified engineers who were employed by the forensic institute after graduation. Most of them underwent training to be forensic experts.

University–graduated scientists work in toxicology, chemistry/physics, DNA analysis and the study of textile fibres. Only some of them were also trained to be experts.

These differentiations mirror present training levels of forensic experts in Federal Germany. The equality of specialised forensic disciplines in day–to–day operations has not yet been adequately reflected in the training of experts until the present day.

This is a result of differences in professional training received by staff in the natural sciences and classical disciplines. But another explanation is that expert natural scientists for work in forensic institutes were brought into this work later.

Any investigation of the scenes of a crime and expert analysis of traces and marks by specialists from the police forces was originally concentrated on:

offprints and imprints of shoes, tool marks, locks,
weapons and ammunition,
handwritings, documents, and
the analysis of fingerprints.

These fields are still summarised under the heading „classical forensic techniques”. This also mirrors their traditional role.

Interested police officers had taken over these specialised duties and they were later given appropriate training for this work. Since the 1950s centralised expert training courses have been offered in Federal Germany for the following subjects: dactylography, tool marks and other object–related traces, document studies, handwritings, fire arms and traces of fire arms.

For a number of years these courses have also been open to applicants from police forces of neighbouring German–speaking countries. If there are any free places, colleagues from Austria, Luxemburg and Switzerland join in.

“Rules for Training and Examinations” have been worked out to define the length of courses, and also curricula as well as any examinations required. For enrolment in such courses, any trainee needs to have attended a specialised college of higher education.

A police officer must therefore have reached the higher ranks. In Germany, he/she will at least have reached the level of Kriminalkommissar (Polizeikommissar) after graduating from a special college of higher education for the police. Any employee must have undergone similar education and training, i.e., must have completed engineering studies at a specialised college of higher education.

Earlier specialised college studies shall enable future trainees to work on tasks in a concentrated manner, focussing on success. Also, they will be able to define and independently resolve issues and to outline specific subjects in a comprehensible manner. They will be in a position to question other views, but also to go in for self–criticism. These qualities serve forensic experts very well in their work.

Centralised expert courses at the Federal Criminal Investigation Department comprise three months of basic training and a two months' completion course. The Federal C.I.D. runs both sets of courses. Before attending the basic course, any trainee should have been involved in analysing traces and marks of his future field of activities for two years. He/she will then be familiar with fundamental working techniques for the study of forensic materials. This also includes that participants should be in a position to produce photographic documentation of traces and marks and of the different stages in an investigation. They should also have basic knowledge of criminology and of the law.

During these courses at the Federal C.I.D., instruction is arranged for groups of eight. Courses are the equivalent of seminars, any subject matter is provided during conversation, leaving much room for explanations, questions and debate. Some of the knowledge is the result of private study. Group structures make for easier learning together.

Comprehensive knowledge will be acquired during basic training courses. A few key terms

might just be mentioned: specialised technical knowledge, fundamentals of the chosen field of analysis from the natural sciences, the study of traces and marks, probability, knowledge of the law, forensic studies, compilation of findings as well as opinion writing.

Studies of traces and marks will refer to their origins and show phenotypes. Characteristic features of groups and individual specimens shall be explained. Information will also be provided on how changes in objects leaving traces or marks affect the latter. Likewise, links will be established with other subjects. Information shall also be given on what types of traces and marks may occur together. Here, the sequence of studies is important so as to rule out any negative influence on analytical procedures of consequent subject fields. Numerous practical examples will be given of how to preserve traces and marks.

Fundamentals from natural sciences will be taught as related to subjects. Studies of optics, for instance, will outline the way microscopes and cameras work. Biological studies will impart anatomical and physiological knowledge of the skin to dactylographers. Prehensile functions of a hand will also be described. As part of fundamentals of chemistry, experts on documents will learn about the properties and paper and glues and firearms experts will find out about the chemical properties of metals.

Any subject matter which forms part of instructions shall be related to the specific field. In the course on tool marks and firearms one starts off from materials studies and ends up with manufacturing processes mainly employed.

This basic course will be complemented by a tour, for instance taking in a police office in a neighbouring country. Students will go and see a weapons maker, a mechanical engineering plant, the Federal Printing Office or other facilities closely linked to their chosen specialisation.

Theoretical knowledge will be put to the test of several written examinations. Facts and circumstances of legal relevance will have to be commented on. One question might be:„Please decide, whether or not the behaviour of the expert in the case in question before and after the court hearing may lead to a rejection by one of the parties". In another paper students will have to provide a detailed description of how to preserve traces and marks at the scene of a crime. Other papers will concentrate on the fundamentals of identification theory and principles for comparing traces and marks.

Future experts shall work in their local police office during a break between basic training and the completion course. They will be involved in evaluating traces and marks as to their speciality. A student will be able to carry out studies under guidance and also compile results in an opinion. He/she will not be entitled to sign this yet. Students watch their colleagues during legal proceedings to gain a better understanding of how courts work.

As a rule, completion courses will be held one year after a basic course. Theoretical subjects shall be repeated and work focuses on instructions for opinion writing. Both structure and contents of an opinion will be rehearsed thoroughly, referring to several examples from fieldwork. Great value is put on language employed, so as to avoid any pitfalls in court. This objective is also served by attending a court session.

A completion course will be rounded off by instructions for effective speechmaking as well as by comprehensive legal information on the status of forensic experts during legal proceedings.

At the end of this course, training shall be completed by an oral examination, taking in all fields studied. Trainees will also have to defend an opinion before a board of examiners. After successful completion, the newly appointed experts shall receive a document corroborating their status.

This centrally–run type of training with a definite curriculum and agreed examination subjects makes sure that experts from all federal states come equipped with equivalent knowledge and it also guarantees a uniform approach to the provision of forensic opinions. The certificate graduates receive safeguards the status of experts before the courts in that it provides documentary proof of training received.

However, attendance of this centralised course run at the Federal Criminal Investigation Department is not compulsory before assuming expert work for a state C.I.D. The latter decides on whether staff attend centralised courses or whether preference shall be given to internal courses run by

the respective police forces. As more and more engineers with well–established credentials for fundamentals in their given subjects have been employed in fields falling under classical forensics, many state C.I.D.s do no longer take up parts of centralised courses. They know about the expertise of their engineers and so they are not prepared to invest in the same sort of training twice. They therefore train their staff with their own experienced experts and also send them on visits to other state Criminal Investigation Departments.

This approach, however, has drawn more and more criticism in recent times. Critics say that it cannot be defended from the point of view of quality assurance for activities of experts.

CONSIDERATIONS ON REDESIGNING THE CENTRALISED EXPERTS' TRAINING

As a result, people have thought about modifying the structure of training to once again enhance its attractiveness for all students, notwithstanding different levels of knowledge acquired before. And there is another reason to reconsider training as run at present. There are no comparable centralised courses for experts in the natural sciences (chemists, biologists and physicists).

Experts with these specialisations joined the police force when factual evidence could be extended to take in traces and marks which, until then, could not be analysed objectively. This was the outcome of more highly developed methods of scientific analysis and of greater sophistication in metrology. Gradually, analytical procedures became available to study splinters of glass and parts of varnish and paint, explosive residues, the smoke of firearms and it became possible to distinguish between writing tools.

Often, chemists were the first experts employed by forensic institutes. They became responsible for all tasks relating to natural sciences. They evaluated toxicological and serological traces and studied materials samples, employing a wide range of chemical and physical assays. Soon afterwards, biologists, physicists and engineers joined the team to cover ever more differentiated analyses under the natural sciences.

Expert knowledge acquired at university provides a well–founded base for work as an expert. But natural scientists will also have to acquire ways of handling forensic traces and marks. They will have to learn what analytical methods shall be used and how to structure and write opinions. Also, legal knowledge must come into it. Experienced experts working at the forensic institute have traditionally provided this type of knowledge locally or it is the result of working visits to neighbouring state Criminal Investigation Departments and their equivalent at national level.

In recent years a process of rethinking has begun in the forensic institutes. Great attention must be paid to training future experts so as to maintain high quality standards in forensic analysis. Most people feel that it is necessary to include *all* forensic experts into a centralised form of training, quite irrespective of the level of education already achieved by individuals.

There is a good example for such type of training:

In the former GDR every forensic expert–to–be, no matter which was his/her special subject, attended a one–year course at the Berlin Institute of Criminology. Its duties may be compared to those of the Federal Criminal Investigation Department. Subjects on which instruction was provided included criminology, tactics of crime hunters, psychology, theory of identification, law, responsibilities in handling offences and many more.

Much room was given to training at the scenes of crimes. An expert was not just confined to any specialism because he/she was also responsible for preserving traces and marks in cases of capital crimes. As part of their studies students were taught to interpret crime scenes and write minutes thereon. To that extent, the objective of this type of training involved much police activity. An expert was a member of the police force first, a detective second. Forensic work only occupied third place. This offered many advantages concerning day–to–day co–operation of experts and investigators. People knew the work done by their counterparts and spoke a common language.

Training was completed with an examination on theoretical subjects and an opinion, especially compiled for this examination. Every graduate was given a certificate documenting his/her expert status.

This explains why I have in my department chemists, biologists and physicists trained as experts. Those university graduates who joined us after 1990 do no longer have this type of training.

A restructuring of centralised experts' training has been debated for some time. A project group of the heads of all forensic institutes of the state Criminal Investigation Departments and of the Federal C.I.D. is working out proposals for a new structure of courses. It is to reflect different levels of knowledge of trainee experts and shall also provide courses for all subjects.

With your permission, I shall briefly outline this idea:

Subjects will be taught in stages (courses). Every trainee expert attends those courses whose subject matter he/she is not familiar with. To give you an example: The subject„Law" might be subdivided into a„Fundamentals" section, dealing with the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Penal Code etc., and another under the heading„The role of an expert in criminal procedure". Police enforcement officers who attended the specialised police college of higher education have already covered subject matter covered under„Fundamentals", and would therefore not attend again. Natural scientists, however, unfamiliar with these fundamental subjects, would attend. All would attend the second module, dealing with the status of an expert ("The role of an expert in criminal procedure"). This type of knowledge is equally new for trained enforcement police officers as well as for university graduates.

The objective is to provide a broad range of training modules, which might be attended, depending on what a person knows. Everybody shall find„made–to–measure" courses to attend.

Examinations would cover all knowledge required of an expert, no matter which courses a person attended. Therefore, proof of examinations must be submitted for all parts of training, even though one or the other course may have been skipped because of sufficient knowledge levels. There will also have to be a final exam.

But: These concepts take us into the future. They are the first ruminations of the project group, which must still be developed. Also, the heads of forensic institutes shall have to go through them.

But there is no question: A uniformly high quality of forensic analysis also depends on the quality of training. And centralised training of all forensic experts of Federal Germany is one indispensable condition for it!

CONCLUSION

To maintain a high quality of forensic analysis in state Criminal Investigation Departments and in the Federal Criminal Investigation Department, great emphasis must be put on training future forensic experts. Centralised classical subject training on crime handling and dactylography run by the Federal C.I.D. has stood the test of time. It provides for a high level of specialised knowledge among experts from all federal states and it guarantees a uniform approach to forensic opinion writing.

A majority feels that it is also necessary to include forensic experts representing the natural sciences part of analyses into such centralised training, quite irrespective of individual levels of knowledge.

This subject is covered by considerations of a project group looking into restructuring the centralised training of experts.

MEKLENBURGO PRIEŠAKINĖS POMERANIJOS ŽEMĖS KRIMINALINĖS TARNYBOS KRIMINALISTIKOS TECHNIKOS EKSPERTŲ UŽDAVINIAI IR APMOKYMAS

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SANTRAUKA

Kriminalistinės technikos ekspertų rengimas priklauso nuo jų atliekamos funkcijos baudžiamajame procese. Uždavinių pasiskirstymas tarp vietinių policijos institucijų ir federalinės žemės

kriminalinės tarnybos kriminalistinės technikos ekspertų tiriant nusikaltimus rodomas imant pavyzdžiu Meklenburgo Priešakinės Pomeranijos žemę.

Vietinių kompetentingų policijos institucijų pareigūnai apžiūri įvykio vietą ir fiksuoja pėdsakus. Formuluojami ekspertinio tyrimo klausimai ir atitinkamos federalinės žemės kriminalinės tarnybos kriminalistinės technikos institutui pavedamas išrinktų pėdsakų ir lyginamosios medžiagos tyrimas.

Kriminalistinės technikos ekspertai atlieka ekspertizę ir pateikia ekspertizės išvadas teismui pagrindinio bylos nagrinėjimo metu.

Uždavinių pasidalijimas tokia pačia arba panašia forma praktikuojamas visose Vokietijos Federacijos žemėse. Šio pasiskirstymo pagrindinis principas yra pėdsakų fiksavimas įvykio vietoje, atliekamas policijos pareigūnų, bei pėdsakų įvertinimas, atliekamas kriminalinės tarnybos ekspertų.

Kriminalistinės technikos ekspertai dirba teismo arba institucijos pavedimu. Jie atlieka įrodymo priemonės funkciją baudžiamajame procese.

Ekspertų išsilavinimas yra gana įvairus. Tarp jų yra policijos pareigūnų, inžinierių, universiteto absolventų. Kai kurie yra baigę Vokietijos Federacijos kriminalinės tarnybos ekspertų kursus.

Jau beveik 50 metų Vokietijos Federacijos kriminalinėje tarnyboje organizuojami kursai daktiloskopijos, trasologijos, balistikos, dokumentotyros ir raštotyros sričių klausimais.

Ekspertų kursai apima pagrindinį 3 mėnesių kursą ir baigiamąjį 2 mėnesių kursą. Studijuojantys asmenys įgyja gamtos, teisės, kriminalistinės technikos, ekspertologijos mokslų žinių. Kursai baigiami egzaminu – pokalbiu ir atliktos ekspertizės gynimu dalyvaujant egzaminavimo komisijai.

Panašaus pobūdžio kursų gamtos mokslų specialistams rengti (chemikų, biologų, fizikų), deja, dar nėra. Šių sričių ekspertinės veiklos pagrindas yra universitete įgytos specialybės žinios. Ekspertų profesiniai įgūdžiai bei žinios tobulinami vidinių apmokymų, vizitų kitose kriminalinėse tarnybose arba Vokietijos Federacijos kriminalinėje tarnyboje metu.

Šiuo metu visų federalinių žemių kriminalinių tarnybų kriminalistinės technikos institutų bei Vokietijos Federacijos kriminalinės tarnybos vadovų grupė kuria naujos apmokymo struktūros projektą. Būsimajam ekspertui siekiama pateikti jam tinkančią apmokymo sistemą. Manoma, kad kursų rengėjai turėtų atsižvelgti į eksperto jau turimas žinias. Nepriklausomai nuo baigtų apmokymo stadijų, būtų tikrinamos bendros būtinos žinios.

Permainos ekspertų apmokymo sistemoje reiškia svarbų žingsnį, žengtą sprendžiant kriminalistinių ekspertizių kokybės užtikrinimo klausimus.