

**TRANSFORMATION IN THE ADMINISTRATION POLICE SERVICE IN  
KENYA, 1958 - 2010**

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**DECLARATION**

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other University or for any other award.

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## **DEDICATION**

This work is dedicated to my family, Njuguna, Abigael, Wendy and Angela for their love and encouragement.

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## OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Administration Police officers--** Administration police are officers appointed to serve as police officers in the administration police service. AP service means the service established under the AP Act of 1958.

**Administration Police Service** – means the service established under the AP Act of 1958.

**Police force** – the official organization that is responsible for protecting people and property, making people obey the law, finding about and solving crime and arresting criminals.

**Security** – protection of a person, building, organization or country from crime or attack by foreign countries. The group of people responsible for protecting a building.

**State** – Refers to a political unit that rules over a defined or sovereign territory.

**Transformation** - change in the appearance or character of something or someone especially for improvement.

**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>AP -</b>	Administration Police
<b>COP -</b>	Community Policing
<b>DO –</b>	District Officer
<b>FGD-</b>	Focus Group Discussion
<b>KANU</b>	Kenya African National Union
<b>KNA-</b>	Kenya National Archives
<b>KPR -</b>	Kenya Police Reservists
<b>O.I-</b>	Oral Interview
<b>OCPD-</b>	Officer Commanding Police Division
<b>OHMS-</b>	On Her Majesty Service
<b>RCT –</b>	Rational Choice Theory
<b>RDU-</b>	Rapid Deployment Unit
<b>NARC -</b>	National Alliance of Rainbow Coalition.
<b>IBEAC-</b>	Imperial British East Africa Company.

**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

<b>Askari</b>	Swahili word for soldier.
<b>Agikuyu</b>	A Bantu speaking nation occupying the central part of Kenya including, Nyeri, Kiambu, Muranga, Kirinyaga, and Nyandarua counties.
<b>Batis</b>	A material tied as socks on the legs of armed forces to prevent them from skin injury in the course of their work.
<b>GEMA</b>	Gikuyu, Embu, Meru, Akamba.
<b>Shuka</b>	Kiswahili word for piece of clothing.
<b>Jo Ugenya</b>	Dholuo term referring to the people of Ugenya.
<b>Uaminifu na Haki</b>	Swahili term which means faithfulness and justice.
<b>Nguo ya madoadoa</b>	Swahili term which mean clothing with spots.
<b>Shiftas</b>	An armed gang that was fighting for secession in the North Eastern Frontier.

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## ABSTRACT

The police service in any society plays a crucial role in ensuring internal peace and security is achieved. There has been growing concern by the public on the role of the police officers which necessitated reforms in the police service in Kenya. This study sought to investigate the genesis of the administration police in Kenya, recruitment, and functions from 1958 to 2010. Data for this study was collected in Nyeri County. Guided by the rational choice and the neopatrimonial paradigms, the study sought to examine the premise that the police generally, and the administration police in particular, has been patronized and (mis)used by consequent governments for their own goals. The study employed both primary and secondary data. Primary data was obtained through oral interviews and archival resources from the Kenya National and Nyeri County Archives. Data was obtained from former and current administration and regular police officers, former officers in the provincial administration, elders, educationists and members of the public with relevant knowledge on the transformation in the administration police. Secondary data was accessed from text books, journals and other materials from the Post Modern Library, of Kenyatta University, Jomo Kenyatta Memorial Library at the University of Nairobi and the Kenya National Library Services in Nyeri. Data analysis was done through corroboration of different sets of data. Ethical issues pertaining to research were observed during the entire process of this study. The study established that Administration Police has undergone various transformations, from a regiment entity to a service to enhance efficiency and cooperation with Kenya Police. Similarly the command structure also changed with the promulgation with both the AP and Kenya Police Service operating under one command. Steps have been made towards improved training and education through the establishment of Administration Police Training College – Embakasi. It has witnessed female officers joining the service some taking high ranks. Further studies should be done on gender dynamics in the Administration Police Service.

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

There has been growing incidents of insecurity in Kenya which has led to scrutinizing the work of the police force in the new millennium. Underlying all communities, however simple, there has always existed the concept of security. Whether woven through social cohesion or achieved through political effort, every society requires internal security. It is no wonder then that Ralph (1998) argued that the need for law and order has existed since people began to inhabit the earth. Different arms of police have been established in various countries to enhance efficiency and specialization of officers. In the United States of America, policing began with the increase of immigrants from Europe. The immigrants were not readily accepted in the new World. The original inhabitants of the United States were not willing to share their land with the new comers Scaremella (2011).

According to Ola (1984), in pre-British era Nigeria, a great deal of administrative developments had taken place in the Hausa states. By early nineteenth century, the Hausa emirates had developed a well-organized system to ensure there was law and order. The structure of authority was centered on the office of the Emir. The Emir ruled with the help of palace bureaucrats. These administrators were chosen on the basis of their loyalty to the Emir. The position of the Emir was later exploited by the British administrators on establishment of colonial rule.

Investigating the obstacles to effective policing in Nigeria, Onyeozili (2005) noted that modern policing was quite alien having been imposed by the colonial

government. He observed that colonial policing was not introduced to protect the lives and property of the Africans but rather to protect colonial interests. He argued that the current obstacles in the way to effective policing in Nigeria is an inevitable aftermath of a colonial system that was designed to conquer, displace and suppress Africans for the sole purpose of exploiting African indigenous labor and resources. It was important to investigate whether the colonial police force played a similar role in Kenya.

Worthy of note is that in Nigeria like Kenya, imperial police orientations have been maintained and strengthened by post-colonial governments (Gimode, 2007). This made the current study necessary as it explored the origin and growth of the administration police; an area which has received little academic attention.

In the pre-colonial Kenya, maintenance of law and order was the responsibility of the council of elders ( Mbiti 1969, and Muriuki 1975). Each community had its mechanism of policing to ensure there was law and order. The elders made rules and ensured they were followed. The requirement for one to become an elder, for instance in the Gikuyu community, included payment of a goat to the council, one had to be married with an established homestead and of high moral standard ( Rosberg & Nottingham 1966). Kinship ties played a vital role in the maintenance of law and order (Muriuki 1972). The family was the fundamental basis of social structures and interaction, For instance, settling of disputes and the regulation of local affairs was carried out on kinship or village levels. Clan and kinship solidarity was particularly strong where the clan occupied the same locality. Such a locality was the focus of social and political interaction, a feature that tended to cement local relations even further.

The establishment of colonial rule meant the destruction of local freedoms, sovereignty and autonomy. The administrative styles were changed and Africans had to adapt to new styles. The styles involved imposition of chiefs even in areas where they had not existed (Muriuki 1975). This action only soured further the already strained relationship between the British and Africans. The newly installed chiefs found their positions prestigious due to their closeness with the Europeans and the benefits that accompanied it. The chiefs had retainers who helped them enforce colonial rule. These were the tribal police who form the focus of this study. It however strained the relationship between the imposed chiefs and the Africans who saw them as traitors. A number of studies on police force have been done in Kenya. These include, (Wachanga 1975), (Anderson 2005), and (Gimode 2007). However these studies have not focused on the role of administration police. One of the studies that has analyzed the role of colonial police in Kenya is the work of (Elkins 2005), who noted that the rewards of the home guards were attractive as they were exempted from paying taxes. They owned land unlike their fellow Africans and were rewarded with cattle from suspected Mau Mau adherents.

(Sommer 2007) examined the history of the Kenya police from 1885-1960. He observed that the history of policing in Kenya can be traced to 1896, when the Foreign Office ordered the first police office to be opened in Mombasa. At that time, the term 'Askaris' was commonly used to describe both the police and military. Policemen were employed to protect shops, storehouses and banks. Sommer noted that the earliest policemen comprised of Indians, Somalis, Swahilis and Comorians. The author observed that by the early years of the twentieth century the police force was being deployed to other areas like Kisumu and Nairobi. Sommer's work was

relevant to this study, it observed that the Kenya police was instituted for the protection of colonial interests. The work, however, focused on police in general and the military. It was necessary to examine how one specific branch was established and how it has historically developed over the years up to the post- independence period. In his study, (Gimode 2007) argued that colonialism in Kenya, as elsewhere was illegal and being so relied on oppression, repression and brutal force to sustain itself. The police institution was manipulated to achieve this. The colonial government used the police to enhance their rule and suppress the Africans. Gimode's work was of great significance in this work as it addressed the role of the police, who include the scarcely studied AP service which is the focus of this study. (Chtalu 2014) examined the challenges related to police reforms in Kenya; the study explored the areas where these reforms have succeeded and where they had not. The study observed that the police reforms had not elicited noticeable recognition even from police officers. The study however focused on the police service in general while the current study focused on the AP.

The study by Muthondeki, and Mwenje (2014) examined the psychological challenges faced by retired Administration Police Officers. The study observed that due to the nature of police work and sub-culture, the Administration Police hardly plan for their retirement hence find it difficult to live in the civilian world. The study noted that there lacks a support system in Kenya Administration Police that helps the officers to deal with psychological problems while on duty. As such officers, go into retirement with work related stress that impact negatively on their psychological wellbeing while on the service. This work was very significant to the current study as it exposes on the challenges that face Administration Police. (Njuguna 2016)

examined the impact of Community Policing on security in Nairobi. The study established that the awareness of Community Policing had increased in Ruai and this had reduced the crime rate to some extent. In the light of the above, it is clear that there exists a gap in the literature on the history of the administration police in Kenya. Most of the existing studies have focused on the entire police force in Kenya, including (Gimode 2007), Sommers 2007, and Mkutu 2008). The evolution and growth of the administration police has not received adequate academic attention in the period between 1958 - 2010. This study seeks to fill this gap of knowledge.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

At a time when security sector reform is at its peak, studies on the police generally and on the Administration Police in particular are important. Studies on the Police force in Kenya demonstrates that very few studies have focused on the transformation of the administration police in Kenya and the development of the force during and after the colonial period. Further, the few studies that have studied the police have dwelt on the history of the Kings African Rifles or the military.

This study interrogated the emergence in the administration police force in Kenya from 1958 and its transformation up to 2010. This was done by first tracing the genesis of the administration police force and examining its role during the colonial period. The study also examined the transformation of the Administration Police from 1959-1978. Transformation of the AP during the reign of President Moi was be examined. Finally the study investigated the transformation that took place during the NARC era. This study would not have come at a more appropriate time as

security sector reform is at its peak, hence, a study on the police generally and of the administration police in particular was important. In order to do a thorough analysis, the study focused on Nyeri County.

### **1.3 Objectives of the study**

This study sought to achieve the following objectives.

- i. To trace the emergence of the administration police in Kenya up to 1958.
- ii. To examine the transformation in the administration police from 1959 to 1978.
- iii. To investigate the transformation of the administration police from 1979 to 2002.
- iv. To examine the changes that took place in the functions of administration police from 2003 to 2010.

### **1.4 Research Questions**

- i. What was the genesis of the administration police in Kenya to 1958?
- ii. How did the administration police in Kenya change between 1959 to 1978?
- iii. To what extent did the functions of the administration police change during President Moi's regime from 1979 to 2002?
- iv. What transformation took place in the administration police 2003 to 2010?

### **1.5 Research premises**

The study was guided by the following research premises.

- i. The administration police force was established to facilitate colonial exploitation in Kenya to 1958.
- ii. The functions of the administration police force were geared towards the protection of political leaders rather than enhancing the security of the citizens from 1959 to 1978.
- iii. There was considerable changes in the administration police from 1979 to 2002.
- iv. Tremendous reforms were effected in the structural organization of the administration police from 2003 to 2010.

### **1.6 Justification and Significance of the Study**

Reviewed literature revealed that there is scarce literature on police and specifically on administration police making this study significant.

Scholarly work has been done on the police force in Kenya. Wachanga (1975) examines the role of police in colonial Kenya, Sommer (2007) traces the History of Kenya police force 1885-1960, while Gimode (2007) studied the entire police force in independent Kenya. Mkutu (2008), on the other hand undertook a study of security in the North Rift. These studies however focused on the police in general while this research focused specifically on the administration police.

Kenya's vision 2030 hangs on the balance in absence of internal peace and security. The success of the devolution of power from the central government to county government which is currently being implemented in Kenya is also highly dependent on security stability in Kenya. It was imperative therefore that historical investigation is done to trace the genesis, recruitment, and the functions of the

administration police. The study commenced in 1958, this is the year when the first Kenyan constitution, the Lennox Boyd constitution was crafted. It was also at this time when the tribal police ordinance was changed to create administration police and the force commenced centralized training at Ruring'u in Nyeri. Ruring'u was the initial location of the administration police training school before being relocated to Embakasi, Nairobi. The year 2010 is significant because it was the year when the new constitution of Kenya was promulgated. Subsequently, new reforms were introduced including the restructuring of the administration police force into a police service.

### **1.7 Scope and limitations of the study**

This study examined the administration police in Kenya generally but specifically limited itself to Nyeri County. A study on the administration police in Kenya was a daunting task as it was practically impossible to visit all the forty seven counties. The study was conducted in the geographical limits of Nyeri County, which was a hotbed of the Mau Mau war of liberation. The study investigated the genesis, functions and the recruitment patterns in the administration police in the period between 1958 and 2010. In 1958 is the year when the tribal ordinance changed to Administration Police. The study ends in the year 2010 since it is the time when the new constitution was promulgated. The new constitution come with a lot of changes which saw the merger of the Administration Police service and Kenya Police Service under one command structure.

This period was flexible as the study sought to interrogate the emergence of the tribal police as the administration police was referred to before the term changed in

1958. The study also examined the extent to which the post 2010 administration police has changed after the merger with the regular police. The study focused on the administration police which has hardly been interrogated from a historical perspective. Matters of security are rather sensitive hence the researcher together with her research assistants encountered some challenges in accessing sensitive information. The researcher used snow- balling method to mitigate the challenge. The respondents were assured that the research was purely for academic purpose as well as total confidentiality of their participation.

## **1.8 Literature Review**

### **1.8.1 Introduction**

This section reviews literature on the emergence of police, their functions and various reforms the force in different parts of the world and Kenya in particular has undergone. Focusing on the United States of America (USA) Scaremella (2011) argued that policing began with the increase of immigrants from Europe. These immigrants started policing to protect themselves from the original inhabitants who saw them as a threat to their land. Initially, policing was the responsibility of all able bodied men since strength as opposed to training was needed. The establishment of the police was for the purpose of protecting foreigners who had migrated to America and not the inhabitants whose land was being invaded. This work is significant to this study as it demonstrates that the genesis of police in United States of America was the effort of foreign immigrants which is a similar case to the emergence of modern policing in Kenya, which was motivated by colonialists.

Similarly, Fanon, (1968) observed that the police in colonial era were agents of the colonial government. He explained that the police were a crucial component of the colonial rule in African and other colonized countries. The police enabled the colonialists to penetrate the colonies and enhance their rule. Fanon's work was important to this study as it provided information on police operations in the colonial era. It however treats the police generally. Thus, there was need to establish how and when the administration police force came into being, as well as its motives and performance. (Mathieu1994) in his comparative study of colonial policing in Nyasaland, Gold Coast and Kenya, observes that law enforcement in former British colonies was for the purpose of fulfilling political, economic and military goals. In this respect British colonial policing relied on the colonial law enforcement unit based on the model of the royal Irish constabulary, which was primarily formed to uphold British rule in occupied Ireland rather than uphold the rule of law.

(Owino 1993) examined the military organization among the pre-colonial Luo community in Kenya, in which he unravels the origins of the Jo-Ugenya military tradition. In this study, he demonstrated that even the so called decentralized societies had well designed military organizations to ensure security. The study shows how the British succeeded in transforming the traditions of the Jo-Ugenya to suit the demands of the colonial order. The work, despite focusing on the military was important to this study. There was need to understand the focus of the military of the pre-colonial African communities and find out if it served similar needs to those of the administration police.

Foran (1962) examined the history of policing in Kenya. He observed that the Kenya police was established in 1897 to maintain peace and order so that the wheels of

colonial commerce could revolve smoothly. His work demonstrated that the police force started as British East Africa police force and played the role of watchmen as its initial role was to guard the scattered trading stations and support the British East Africa Company's servants operating in the interior. He added that the construction of the Kenya-Uganda railway necessitated the growth of infant police posts and police officers posted in the inland to safeguard the railway properties and manpower engaged in the construction.

Foran's work was significant to our study as it explored the history of the police and the initial operations of the police in Kenya. However, it studied the police generally. Focusing on the role of the police during the Mau Mau war, Wachanga, (1975), argued that police were used to arrest political leaders. For instance in October 1952, all the political leaders were arrested in operation Jock Stock. Many were hanged as a warning to Mau Mau supporters. In the same year the government built home guard posts throughout central Kenya. Europeans soldiers were posted to each camp. Wachanga's work examined the police in general hence the necessity to investigate the genesis and role of the administration police which was the task of this study. (Banett 1978), examined the operations of the police in the colonial era and observed that the force was very brutal. For instance, after the arrest of Harry Thuku, police firing led to the death of about twenty five Africans. He also observed that the government enforced its projects through chiefs and headmen who were often reinforced by police officers. He argued that some practices that had been adopted by a sect in Murang'a but were given up when forbidden by government after a fight between the sect adherents and the police. Bannets work focused on the police in general while this study focused on the administration police.

(Kanogo 1987), examined squatter insecurity in colonial Kenya. She observed that most of them had moved to the white highlands for wage employment as well as escaping the oppression of the chiefs and their headmen. In the settler farms they realized that their security and that of their children especially the young adults depended on the benevolence of the settlers. Kanogo's work was crucial to this study as it demonstrated the biased nature of the colonial law enforcement officers.

(Gimode 2007) studied the police force in post independent Kenya and observed how the police have been manipulated by the state as instruments of regime protection. Post-independent African states inherited the police institution without democratizing it. He observed that like the army, the police have remained one of the most outstanding colonial legacies. Gimode's work was significant as it examined the police in independent Kenya. Nevertheless the study focused on the police force in general. It was therefore crucial to examine the functions of the administration police and what changes have occurred in the force.

Mkutu (2008) undertook a study on the state of insecurity in the North Rift region of Kenya. He demonstrated how the proliferation of light weapons has prolonged civil wars in East Africa and made them lethal. He observed that there was a localized arms race in the North Rift that led to increased violence, a black market for arms and widespread racketeering. The presence of modern weapons has led to escalation of crimes in the North Rift; especially cattle raiding as it has increased the confidence of the raiders. In particular, he focused on the Kenya Police Reserve (KPR) that was established to bridge the gap between the regular police and the civilians. He demonstrated that KPR had an advantage in protecting the community

since they were within reach when needed to counter attacks from external aggressors. They were within the people and familiar with the local people and the terrain. He however added that KPR lacked clear recruitment and disciplinary procedures, which sometimes contributed to insecurity due to misuse of arms. Mkutu's work was of great significance to our study as it delved in matters of security and demonstrates some of the challenges the police in Kenya face including the proliferation of small arms which have greatly contributed to insecurity. However his work focused on police reservists and was limited to the North Rift, while this study focused on the administration police.

Elkins (2005) examined the crimes perpetrated by the British colonial police against the African nationalists and the considerable measures that the British colonial government undertook to conceal them. Her work examined the atrocities that were perpetrated by British forces in Kenya. It gave detailed information on how disarmed prisoners were massacred and how torture was employed to extract information from Mau Mau suspects and observed that the agents of law and order performed their duty with inhumanity. It was therefore necessary to find out if and how the administration police were involved.

(Kisiangani 2009) observed that the police force was constructed with the primary goal of maintaining law and order especially with a view to preserving the privileges of the minority white settlers. The main responsibility of the colonial police was to contain the African population through very strict law and order approach. His work observed that the Kenya police was established to secure the imperial exploitation of Kenya's resources by ensuring that law and order was maintained. The work also

discussed colonial police violations in Kenya. He observed that during the colonial time especially in 1930s and 1940s, the police was effectively deployed to suppress popular African demands. In the post independent era, however, police violations continued where acts of intimidation, torture and detention without trial were noted. This work informed the current study.

Discussing the weakness of the police force in post independent Kenya, (Ransely 2009), observed that there is need for proper training needs analysis before recruitment and training of the police. He argued that significant part of training is taken up by field drills and parades and limited time is left to other significant aspects of training which points to the need of examining the trends in the recruitment of the administration police.

Omenje and Mwangi (2012) focused on the challenges bedeviling the police department and which make the work of police very difficult. They identified various problems associated with police in their work like well-connected criminals, drug and peer influence, the growth of vigilantes and ethnic militias, corruption in the police force as well as proliferation of small arms and light weapons attributed to conflicts in the horn of Africa. Additionally, the lack of reliable transport means which cannot match the speed and efficiency with which the criminals escape make the job of the police difficult. The work comprehensively focused on the challenges which hinder effective performance of the police. However, the study focused on the entire police department which hence too diverse.

Ruteere and Pommerolle (2003) examined community policing (hereafter COP) in Kenya. They observed that Community policing may appear a transformative model that had the potential to fundamentally alter the political culture of the police force.

They however noted that the concept of COP is ambiguous as different players had varied understanding and objectives of the concept. For instance, the local communities expected to be included in and consulted about police initiatives. The police on the other hand perceived those consultative forums as soft on crime. Likewise, the business community and the wealthy tend to appropriate the police officers. The authors suggested that COP can be effective with the goodwill of the local community, the commitment of the police and the ability to deal with conflicts and contradictory perspectives and objectives. The study was useful to this study as it observed that police institutions for instance AP, have reformed by virtue of involving the citizens.

Similarly, Brogden, (2005) studied COP in the transitional societies, he identified the components of COP as community-consultative forums, neighborhood watch schemes and problem solving policies. He observed that COP may not be successful as may have been suggested, as in some cases it has propagated social schism. This happens when COP strategies are supported and driven by donor interests. He inferred that for COP to be successful, it must draw on local experiences and practices that are effective in managing insecurity. This work was important to this study as COP policies have dominated the police reform efforts.

Ruteere (2011) in his critique of Collier's book '*Wars, Guns, and votes*': *Democracy in dangerous places*' observes that African states should be careful when receiving and implementing foreign ideas especially on security issues. He notes that military intervention by Western powers had taken a new version in the name of humanitarianism. He suggested that the developing countries should be wary of military intervention by the West in the promotion of democracy. He added that the

discourse on security which was often used to mean development should concern Africans. He averred that African states are capable of solving their security problems. This work, though largely on the military, was useful to this study as it highlighted the potential of the African states in handling their security issues. The administration police though not mentioned in this work, are stakeholders in security provision.

Kivoi and Mbae, (2013), writing on the challenges of police reforms in Kenya, argued that Kenya inherited its security structure from the British colonial government which has remained the same for fifty years. They continued to observe that after independence, the constitution had provision for the establishment of a neutral police force but this was never to be. Instead, political leaders have turned the police service into a political tool. Political impunity which existed before independence was never eliminated after independence. This work was very significant in this study as it challenged the researcher to examine the structural and welfare trends in the administration police. Muthondeki, (2017) focused on Security sector reforms influencing transformation of national police service. He pointed out that police everywhere are confronted with ever changing security scenario that demand for reforms that enhance effective service delivery. His work was of great significance to this study as it explored the security sector reforms influencing transformation of the national police who include the Administration Police.

Specific studies have been conducted on Nyeri. Muriuki, (1974) in his elaborate account of the migration of the Agikuyu people focused on Nyeri. This work was very useful in this study as it gave a history of the people occupying Nyeri region. It describes the existence of the relations of the Agikuyu among themselves and

between them and their neighbours especially the Maasai depicting how they enhanced security. He observed that the peaceful existence among the Gikuyu was strained with the onset of British rule. He argues that there were several punitive expeditions undertaken by the British forces against the people of Gaki; implying the people of Nyeri. This work was of great significance in this study as it makes reference to the role of chiefs and the chiefs' retainers who are relevant in the current study.

Dutto (1975) studied Nyeri town from an anthropological perspective but paying particular attention to the people of the town. He described Nyeri town as a creation of colonialists. He observed that the town stands within a formerly uninhabited forested area. The study argued that at its establishment, Nyeri town was settled by European administrators, Asian traders and African soldiers and labourers. Despite the study being anthropological, depicting various people who lived in Nyeri including thousands of soldiers during the emergency and their occupation since its emergence, it was significant to this study as it focused on Nyeri Town the headquarters of Nyeri County where this study was conducted.

Kiruthu (1997) undertook a historical study on African labourers in Nyeri Township. His study was of great significance to this study as it traced the emergence of the locale of study as an urban centre. The study examined the colonial policies that led to establishment of Nyeri town and the cultural patterns that emerged as a result of settlement of different communities. The study analyzed the experience of workers in Nyeri in the colonial period and observed that Nyeri is one of the few centers in Kenya established by the colonial government to serve the white settlers in the midst

of an African community who had not experienced such foreign influence. It examined the socio economic consequences of the establishment of Nyeri Township which the researcher linked to the need for establishment of administration police in the area. However the study ends in 1945 which necessitated a historical development on the area in the later years. From the foregoing literature, it was evident that scanty research of historical nature has been done on administration police. This study attempted to gather information on this area and reconstruct a part of Kenya's past that has not been given much attention.

### **1.8.2 Theoretical Framework**

This study employed Rational Choice and the Neo-patrimonialism theories. Rational Choice theory is premised on the importance of maximizing a real value utility function. The idea of utility, as the theory stresses, assigns a numerical ranking to each possible choice. Rational Choice theory was pioneered by sociologist George Homas, who in 1961 laid the basic framework for exchange theory, which he grounded on assumptions drawn from behavioural psychology (Curran and Renetti, 2008). During the 1960s and 1970s, other theorists such as Blau, Coleman and Cook, extended and enlarged his framework and helped develop a more formal model of rational choice. Rational Choice theory attempts to explain all social phenomena in terms of how self-interested individuals make choices under the influence of their preferences. It treats social exchange as similar to economic exchange where all parties try to maximize their advantage or gain and to minimize their disadvantage or losses. ([www.umsl.edu/~rkeel/200/ratcho.html](http://www.umsl.edu/~rkeel/200/ratcho.html)). The theory's basic assumptions are that human beings base their behaviour on rational calculations, they act with

rationality when making choices, and their choices are aimed at optimizing their pleasure or profit.

This theory was applicable to this study as the administration police was established to enable the colonial government enhance its rule and enable it reap the most economic benefits possible. This study has established that the Administration police officers were used to help the chiefs in their labour mobilization and payment of taxes. Similarly, the post-independent governments have maintained the institution of policing due to the benefits they reap, otherwise it would no longer be useful as the implication of this theory is that if the cost of a social institute is too high, it is only rational to restrain or deter from committing it. The theory has a weakness in that it assumes that life is simple, clear or straight forward. Often in governments, policymakers stop searching for alternatives when the current one appear to be adequate. This weakness is overcome by Neo-patrimonialism theory.

Neo-patrimonialism is a system of social hierarchy where patrons use state resources in order to secure the loyalty of clients in the general population (Gordon and Gordon, 1996). The above authors have observed that African states have been plagued by several challenges one among them being reliance on administration bureaucracies and intolerance of dissent. Neo-patrimonialism entails an informal patron/client relationship that can reach from very high up in the state structures down to individuals in small villages. In his study, Kiruthu, (2006) employing this theory, argued that patronage politics in post independent Kenya have contributed to both lack of clear policies and procrastination with regard to the informal economy which has consequently led to stagnation of the jua kali enterprise. The two theories

were used as both complemented each other in explaining the transformation in the Administration police. The current study established that the AP was used as a government tool, during the colonial era to exploit the Africans economically through forced or meagerly paid labour and payment of taxes as well as for regime protection in the post independent governments.

## **1.9 Research Methodology**

### **1.9.1 Introduction**

This chapter discusses the procedures that were used to collect, analyze, and present data .These included research design, study locale, target population, sampling design, and data collection instruments, procedures and data analysis.

### **1.9.2 Research Design**

The study adopted a descriptive research design to investigate the genesis of the administration police, their performance and the changes the force has undergone. A descriptive study is useful in the description of something in regard to who, what, where, when and how of a phenomenon. Descriptive research design was important since this study was qualitative and entailed accessing in-depth information.

### **1.9.3 Site of study**

The study was carried out in Nyeri County, (Appendix IV). The county headquarters lies about 160 km from Nairobi. Nyeri County consists of Nyeri Central, Tetu, Kieni East, Kieni West, Mathira East, Mathira West, Nyeri south and Mukurweini sub Counties. It is also home to Nyeri town, with a municipal status. Other smaller

townships include Kiganjo, Ruring'u, Kamakwa, Mathari, Narumoru, Karatina, Othaya and Mukurweini Kiruthu (1997).

#### **1.9.4 Target Population**

This study target population included elders, chiefs, former and current administration and regular police officers, educationists and other people with relevant information concerning the study. However, 135 people were interviewed through purposive sampling and snowballing. These informants included both men and women.

#### **1.9.5 Sampling Design and Procedure**

This study employed purposive sampling technique using snow balling method in order to identify knowledgeable respondents. Those interviewed were one hundred and thirty five respondents, drawn from oral interviews and focus group discussions. They consisted of 15 regular police officers, 9retired police officers, 31 administration police officers, 11 retired administration police officers, 10 chiefs, 22 retired civil servants, 9 academicians and 28 elders. Both men and women.

#### **1.9.6 Validity and Reliability**

Validity refers to the extent to which an instrument can measure what it was meant to measure. The researcher ensured that the interview schedule addressed in depth. The researcher sought the help of her supervisor to determine the relevance of content addressed in the interview schedule. Reliability is the degree to which a question consistently measures (Orodho, 2009). For the purpose of this study, the instruments were pretested in Kiambu County.

### **1.9.7 Data Collection**

The study accessed both primary and secondary data.

#### **a) Primary Data**

The study employed three types of primary data, namely; oral sources, archival sources and data from government records. The study accessed information from informants who included former and current administration and regular police officers, educationists, elders, and other people with relevant information on the transformation in the administration police. Archival information was accessed from both the Kenya National Archives and Nyeri County Archives. In the archives, the researcher accessed information from record books, handing over reports, intelligence reports and annual reports.

#### **b) Secondary Data**

Library research was conducted in the Kenyatta University library, Jomo Kenyatta Memorial Library in the University of Nairobi and Nyeri County Library. Sources included books and journals.

Internet Research was also used to access relevant data.

#### **c) Data Collection Procedure**

An introduction letter was obtained from the Graduate School at Kenyatta University to enable the researcher access a research permit from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). The researcher ensured that research instruments were complete. The interview schedule was free

from error. The date of interviews was agreed on by the researcher and respondents in advance.

### **1.9.8 Data Analysis**

Data analysis was done by transcribing information that was tape recorded and summarized field notes. This was done after the researcher had gathered what was important, what could be learned and what was to be reported. Both secondary and primary data were subjected to content analysis then arranged along the basis of themes of study. Data was then corroborated to ensure that there were no contradictions.

### **1.9.9 Ethical Considerations**

This study abided in the ethics of research to ensure there was total compliance. The researcher started by giving the aim of the research to the respondents, the respondents were informed of their role and about their voluntary participation at the time of the research. Confidentiality of the respondents and their identity was enhanced. Most of the respondents requested for anonymity and it was assured. The researchers emphasized that the work was purely for academic purpose and a researcher's consent form was signed.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **2.0 THE EMERGENCE OF ADMINISTRATION POLICE IN KENYA 1885-1958**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

The major focus of this chapter is to trace the emergence of the administration police in Kenya to 1958. However, it must be noted that the term administration police for a security unit in Kenya came into existence in 1958. Thus there was need to trace the very roots of this unit before this period. To attain this, the chapter stretched back to the late 1885 when Kenya became a sphere of influence under IBEAC rule. The need for the security in trade ventures led to the need to have a security force. From this initiative, several years later the AP was born. The Rational Choice theory and the Neo-Patrimonialism theories were used to demonstrate that the monarchy acted as the patron of the colony but there was need for enhancement of security to facilitate British merchants and company officials. Hence the reality on the ground necessitated the creation of a local force to supplement the few British personnel.

#### **2.2 The 1884-1885 Berlin Conference and IBEAC, 1885-1902**

While it is true that the administration police unit got its current name in 1958, its history dates back to the 1885 period when Kenya fell under the British protectorate under the agreement that was reached during the Berlin Conference in Germany. Peacock (1958) noted that the conference had been convened by Otto Von Bismark, the then Chancellor of Germany, who was anxious to secure a peaceful division of Africa. After this conference, the process of colonization began in Africa and Kenya was not left behind. Historical studies point out to the fact that first form of

colonial regime that was established in Kenya was the use of company rule and in Kenya, the British used the Imperial British East Africa Company (IBEAC). In an interview with a university professor in Nairobi, it was noted that the company had established an armed security force in 1896 with stations to safeguard its trade ventures in Mombasa. He explained that this initiative was coined by Sir William McKinnon, who had personal interest of safeguarding his business stores. It is from this initiative that the entire idea of coming up with a police unit in Kenya was coined. Basically, the work of this armed service was to offer protection to the major business ventures of the IBEAC. This has been endorsed by Foran (1962) and Wolf (1973) who observed that police service in Kenya was established in 1897 to protect the property of IBEAC in Mombasa.

An oral interview with Mahugu at Ruringu revealed that majority of the service men in this unit at this time were drawn from the Indians and were controlled by the Indian police statutes (Mahugu, O.I 14.5.16). The old man explained that the British relying on the Indians as chief security in the force was based on the idea of race superiority where the Indians were regarded second after the Europeans and finally the Africans, who were regarded as less human and uncivilized. Thus, the IBEAC administrators preferred to use and trust the former compared to the latter (Mahugu, O.I 14.5.16 2017). Wolf (1973) and Sommer (2007) observed that police were recruited from the Asian population in Mombasa.

### **2.3 The Kenya Uganda Railway: More Security Men 1897**

It is significant to note that the major aim of the colonialists was to spread colonialism and use the African resources to maximize profits in their mother land

industries. Peacock (1958) observed that the British expansion in Africa in 1850 - 1900 was undertaken by a number of big commercial concerns which had the blessing of Colonial Office. The British East Africa Company was responsible for opening up Kenya and Uganda. As such, they needed infrastructural development in their colonies to enable easy access to the sources of raw materials and the port of Mombasa for the case of East Africa. It is against this background that the Kenya Uganda Railway was constructed from the Port of Mombasa to Uganda.

This railway had a significant impact on the birth of the police force in Kenya. In an interview with a retired police officer it was noted that the construction of the Kenya Uganda Railway needed tight security to safeguard the construction materials in each station, thus an organized security force was needed (Muraga, O.I 3.6.16). The police were used in carrying out not only maintenance and construction work but also offering security to the construction materials. A retired chief from Mathira, explained that in 1897 as the construction of the railway was taking off, R M. Ewarl was appointed to foresee the formation of a police force in Mombasa that would necessitate the construction of the railway ( Kogi, 8.6.16). This needed the establishment of centers in towns such as Kisumu, Nairobi and Mombasa. The above move is an indication that at that time the colonial penetration and security in Kenya was expanding. Wolf (1973) observed that as the railroad moved inland, more police officers who included Africans were recruited for duty.

Apart from the construction of the Kenya Uganda railway, by late 1880s, the British colonial administrators had taken over the control of Kenya from the IBEAC. However it should be noted that the entry of the colonialist in Kenya was received with mixed reactions by the African communities with many resisting the

establishment of the colonial rule in their territories. An academician interviewed in Nairobi noted that, communities such as the Agiriama and Nandi took up arms to resist British penetration into their territories (Nyaga, O.I 8.8.16). Wanyiri (2005) in his work on *the price of freedom* notes that the Nandi staged a long resistance against the British. Such communities as the Nandi resisted the construction of the railway and feared losing their independence and their land to foreigners. A Mau Mau war veteran at Mathari noted that with such military resistance, the colonial administrators needed a police force for defense and to suppress the resistance from the local communities (Kagoma ,O.I, 9.12.16).

#### **2.4 The village headman ordinance of 1902-1928**

In an interview with a retired police officer at Kayole, it was revealed that the hostilities from the locals in Kenya prompted the British commissioners to expand the security officers (Njagi, O.I, 2.12.16). The police officer further noted that the need for law and order all over the country prompted the British colonial administrators to pass the Village Headman Ordinance of 1902. This is the ordinance that saw the establishment of the administration police unit in 1902, to have a central body that would be relied on any time by the British. Explaining the major aim of this ordinance, a retired chief at Narumoru noted that the sole aim of bringing the locals into the money economy, was to control the movement of people and those of the livestock in addition to controlling labor ( Kihonge. O.I, 6.1.17). Bogonko (1980) noted that the Village Headman Ordinance was passed in 1902 under which the chiefs were appointed to collect tax, to impose peace and to ensure the flow of labour to European employers. The village headman was the agent of the colonial government at the reserve. The village headman had to rely on village

toughs and bullies to help them effect the unpopular colonial policies Muriuki (1974). These policies were geared towards economic exploitation of the Africans by the colonialists. These local toughs took the role of the native police while the Kenya police who were already in existence focused in the urban areas. The village toughs otherwise known as the chief's retainers and whose primary function was to police the native areas evolved to the tribal police.

In a focus group discussion with a group of elderly men at Karatina it was revealed that members in the unit consisted of chief and sons of chiefs who were loyal to the colonial master (elderly men, FGD, 14.10.16). They further explained that these village loyalists were recruited mainly to carry out patrols in African reserves. An elderly man who once served as an AP officer under the colonial master in Ruringu noted that at that time, these groups of security people were called chiefs retainers (Ngahu,O.I 3.11.16). He explained that as time went by the chief retainers was transformed into tribal police after a meeting that was held by the provincial commissioner and district officers of central province (Ngahu, O.I 3.11.16).

## **2.5 Tribal Police Ordinance; 1929-1945**

An interview with a former education officer revealed that it is from the tribal police that the administration police emerged. He noted that precisely the tribal police came into existence in 1929 through the enactment of the Tribal Police Ordinance of 1929 (Wahome,O.I. 4.7.16 ). The same is noted in KNA PC/CP8/4B/3 which verify that a meeting of senior District Commissioners in Central Province explained the details of the New Tribal Police Bill. From the finding of a focus group discussion held at Ruringu, with a group of clan elders the major reason as to why the colonial

master set up the tribal police was to ensure that law and order was ensured in the colony (clan elder, FGD, 20.10.16). The tribal police acted as the watchdog of the colonial master in Kenya. They ensured that those who did not pay the poll and hut tax as per the colonial political economy policies were put under arrest and fined for the same. In addition, an old man at Ruringu who once served in the colonial tribal police in the early 1950s, noted that the tribal police ensured that the labor policies that were instituted by the white man were well adhered to by the Africans (Ndiritu, O.I 24.4.17). It was that loyalty to the white man that made the tribal police officers unpopular among the Africans. The African communities regarded the tribal police officers as enemies of Africans since they worked to serve the economic, political and social interests of the white man at the expense of the life and wellbeing of the local Africans. Muriuki (1974) observed that relations among Africans was strained with the onset of the British rule. This is when some cooperated with British while others opposed the colonial rule. The chiefs and their retainers were very instrumental in the implementation of colonial policies which made them very unpopular.

A retired chief interviewed at Othaya noted that given their roles, the recruitment of the tribal police officers was very selective. He explained that the officers were drawn from the sons of the chiefs (Waruingi O.I 20.8, 16). Echoing the same remarks an elderly man in Karatina noted that the recruitment of the police officers into the tribal police unit during the colonial period was basically based on the kinship to the colonial chiefs and the loyalty one demonstrated to the colonial provincial administration (Kingori, O.I. 15,3.17). It is in this context that one of the former officers in the tribal police unit at Ruringu noted that when he went to join

the tribal police in 1945, the area chief was very instrumental in his recruitment to the force since unlike other youth of his age, he was very loyal to the chief (Wandeto,O.I 12.9.16). However it also emerged that in as much as the recruitment was basically based on the loyalty and kinship to the colonial chief, the responsibility for recruitment was with the District Officers while approval was bestowed with the colonial governor as confirmed in (KNA PC/CP8/4A/9) The recruitment was in agreement with the rational choice theory, the chief knew the loyalists in the villages who would work to enforce the colonial policies.

A retired chief interviewed at Ruringu noted that in the words of his late father, a colonial chief, once one was recruited into the tribal police he would be given a registration certificate and a uniform (retired chief, O.I. 2017). He explained that the uniform comprised of the shorts, *shuka*, blanket and a brass numbered badge. The badge communicated the rank of the officer while the *shuka* had the provincial letter (Mathenge,O.I 4.12.16). With regard to this uniform a clan elder noted that the uniforms was not worn everyday but on specific occasion such as when the officer was on duty or if the officer had an errand to run in the district offices (Kagama, O.I.4.3.17). On enlistment each tribal police officer was given a registration certificate. The same is confirmed by (KNA PC/CP8/4A/9) which also adds that these items were provided half yearly. The brass numbered badge was worn on the left arm and had marks signifying the rank of the officer. The uniform was strictly worn when the officer was on duty.

An old man who once served in the tribal police interviewed at Ruringu noted that after the recruitment, training then followed. The training involved instruction on the duties of the tribal police officers, how to arrest criminals in the society to the

chiefs and how to salute to the colonial masters (Wandeto, O.I 12.9.16). He further explained that the training took a period of two months. Emphasizing on the training a colonial chief interviewed at Mathari noted that the training served as avenue for proving ranks to the tribal police officers, instilling discipline and more loyalty on the police officers and instilling their duties and powers all these under some sought of supervision (Mukanda, O.I. 14.5.17). The retired chief further notes that the tribal police officers lived in police depot with the superintendent officer who provided an instructor for the courses.

An old man who once served in the tribal police interview at Ruring'u noted that there were supervisors normally drawn from African ex- service men. He explained that this ex-service men were responsible for the monitoring of behaviour and discipline of the officers. He took a roll call at every assembly normally called a parade and was responsible for reporting any form of misbehavior by the tribal police officers to the district officers (Ndiritu, O.I 24.3.17).

It is significant to note that the tribal police unit was only composed of men. Women were not recruited into the service at all. The elderly man interviewed at Ruringu explained that perhaps this was grounded on the traditional African culture that forbid women from the public sphere (Mahugu,O.I. 14.5.16). However, a retired chief, not refuting this, explained that even the colonial master never regarded the Kenyan women and African women in general as individuals who would offer much in the police unit (Gathege, O.I, 5.5.17). In this regard a retired education officer noted that Kenyan women suffered double under the colonial regime, one as Africans and secondly as women. The colonialists had no regard for the African women. He explained that perhaps this was grounded on the writings of

the early visitors to the coast of Kenya (Mundia ,O.I 13.3.17). They only wrote from the male centered point of view about the African continent. It is this skewed perception that the colonial master took even in the recruitment of the tribal police officers.

The findings revealed that once the recruitment was done, the conduct sheet of the tribal officer was established. A colonial chief interviewed at Mathari noted that the conduct sheet stated the details of the officers as they appeared on his identity card, his salary and any record of recommendation or punishment if any (Mukanda, O.I 14.5.17). The retired chief further explained that it is the district officer who was the sole custodian of this conduct sheet.

It is significant to note that there were promotions in the tribal police unit, (Gikingi, O.I 14.4.17). He explained that the promotion was based on individual ability to read and write, ability to communicate well using English and Kiswahili and level of discipline and smartness. He remarked that;

I was able to get a promotion from the constable to sergeant due to my ability to read and write in Kiswahili. Most of my fellow officers were not educated thus it was hard for them to be given ranks in the tribal police. Moreover my ability to speak English accorded me a chance to be saved from hard tasks as in many cases the white man would send me to wash his clothes and convey message to other tribal police officers.

This was a huge privilege and honour during that time  
(Gikingi, O.I 14.4.17).

## **2.6 Mau Mau uprising 1947-1957**

It is significant to note that up to the early 1950s, the tribal police worked in cooperation with other security forces such as the Kenya Police and the Prison Department to get rid of Mau Mau movement that was born in the late 1940s. A

colonial chief interviewed at Mathari noted that in doing this work, the police officers worked closely with the colonial chiefs and their loyalists. The chief noted that

The tribal police worked hand in hand with us in the gathering of information as far as the activities of Mau Mau was concerned. This was not an easy task because Mau Mau movement was such a secretive one and one had to be careful because if they happened to get you they would kill you. Accordingly we worked in groups of around seven individuals in areas where Mau Mau activities were most felt (Mukanda, O.I 14.5.17)

It is significant to note that by the close of 1947 Mau Mau resistance movement begun oath taking among its members. Foran (1962) observed that Mau Mau became active towards the close of 1947, severe oath taking ceremonies were known to have taken place. Men, women and children were compelled to take the oath and those who refused were punished severely. A Mau Mau veteran interviewed at Ruringu noted that the oathing became so violent that even young children and mothers were forced to take the oath and whoever refused take the oath would be killed (Muraga, O.I.3.6.16). Explaining the increase in violence from the group, an academician interviewed in Embu noted that the agitation was driven by the nationalist spirit that the ex-servicemen of the Second World War came with, from the experience they got while fighting for the white man in Europe (Nyaga,O.I 8,8,16).

Rosberg & Nottingham (1966) observed that the post-war period realized massive African political involvement in Kenya under a leadership determined to replace colonial rule with a majority African rule. The Africans had gained additional experience, having been involved in the war outside Africa. They mingled and were

inspired by nationalists from other countries especially India, whose politicians had been actively agitating for an assurance of rapid advance to independence. On the return of these ex-service men, Kenya African Union (KAU) was born in 1944. They also noted that during the latter part of 1951, the pace of oathing had mounted significantly as the oath was the vehicle of territorial nationalism. Bennett (1963) noted that throughout 1948, were the open actions of KAU, and the speeches of Kenyatta during its meetings. He also noted that increased Kikuyu political activity took many forms. Noted in the Administration police website is that major expansion of the tribal force started around 1948 with increased African agitation and fear of widespread rebellion. Even as their numbers increased in Central Province strength in all areas bordering the province was increased to prevent the spread of Mau Mau ([www.administrationpolice.go.ke](http://www.administrationpolice.go.ke)). It was also in 1948 that the Kenya Police training college was opened in Kiganjo Nyeri.(KNA Kenya police Annual Report 1948). As such, by the late 1940s and early 1950s, the Mau Mau activities had intensified as the movement was now a threat to the British occupation in Kenya.

It is against this background that a clan elder at Mathari noted that in 1952 following the violence from the Mau Mau fighters, the Europeans presented a concern in the Legislative Council for the declaration of emergency (Kagama,O.I 4.3.17). A retired chief noted that with the emergency declaration, the police had to be reinforced and be well equipped to deal with the resisters and this led to the increase in the number of tribal police officers in Central Kenya (Gethi, OI, 14.4. 17). This is confirmed by Foran (1962) who observed that Mau Mau was well organized, murderous and its members operated in gangs. The Police had to be

reinforced to match the crime of this magnitude. This saw the increase of the tribal police in Central Province in an effort to suppress the movement. Such increase in number of tribal police officers in central Kenya specifically was due to the fact that Mau Mau activities were highly concentrated and felt in Central Kenya than in any other place in the Country. It is worth noting that the colonial government made a deliberate move to increase the number of tribal police officers to curb the interests of African nationalists and promote their own, this is in line with the rational choice theory.

In addition in an oral interview with a clan elder at Karatina it was found out that in the colonial period very few tribal police were recruited from the Gikuyu, Embu, Meru, Akamba (GEMA) communities (Wamai, O.I, 18.4.17). He explained that this was not only due to the fact that resistance against the colonial master was intense in central Kenya but also due to the fact that Mau Mau was regarded as a movement associated with people from central Kenya and more specifically the Agikuyu. This is confirmed in KNA PC/CP8/4A/9 which noted that the GEMA men had not generally been attracted to the tribal Police force.

Despite the unpopularity of the tribal police officers among the Africans, in a focus group discussion with a group of clan elders at Mathira chiefs camp, it was revealed that although majority of the tribal police officers were working for the white man, there are some who just posed as loyal to the white man only to spy for the Mau Mau fighters (clan elder, FGD, 9.4.17). This is an indication that not all the tribal police officers were actually working for the white man especially when the Mau Mau war began. Some tribal police officers acted as not only the source of

information about the white man whereabouts to the fighters but also provided weapons and bullets to the Mau Mau fighters in the forest.

It is significant to note that given their roles (guarding the colonial courts, chasing and arresting those who did not pay tax ) up to 1958, the tribal police officers were normally regarded by the Africans as askari kanga (Njagi, O.I 2,12,16). Additionally, they faced hostility from the local people especially during the Mau Mau war. A former tribal police officer expressed the hostility that he got from even the close family members. He noted that;

I joined the tribal police in 1953 not because I never loved my people but because the poverty at home would not allow me. Additionally, the fact that the police were exempted from tax payment I was motivated to avoid the wrath of the tribal police officers and the chiefs who I severally witnessed arrest and punish Africans for failing to pay tax. However once I joined not even my brothers were happy. I was regarded as a traitor and a betrayer in the family and the society at large. In fact even after independence my late brother who was a Mau Mau veteran would never shake my hand (Njagi, O.I, 2.12.16).

## **2.7 The Administration Police Act of 1958 and The Birth of AP**

It is significant to note that despite such hostility and the feelings by the colonial government to reduce the force in order to cut the colony's expense, the tribal police officers continued to render services to the British colonial administration. However, in 1958 there was a landmark in the history of the Tribal Police in Kenya. A former tribal police officer interviewed at Ruringu noted that in a meeting held by the Provincial Commissioner in the month of September, the colonial masters decided to reduce the cost of constructing tribal police officers training centers in all the provinces in the country (Wandeto,O.I. 12.9.16).

Accordingly, he explained that an agreement was reached to concentrate on setting up only one training center at Nyeri and more specifically at Ruringu. Explaining the selection of Ruringu as a site for the construction of the training center, a retired chief attributed this to the violence in the region from the Mau Mau fighters (Mathenge, O.I 14.12.16). He explained that it was in Ruringu that Mau Mau raised their first flag and declared a war against the colonial master in 1952. This was evident in the presence of Mau Mau flag site in the region coupled with several Mau Mau association offices from the Nyeri region (see appendix i). Additionally he noted that it was in Ruringu, 100 meters away from where the training center was constructed that Kenyatta addressed his last political rally before he was arrested (Mathenge, O.I. 14.12.16). Dutto (1975) affirms that it was in Nyeri town, at the Ruringu stadium, that Kenyatta gave his last speech before being arrested. It is also a fact that most of the Mau Mau leaders came from Nyeri for instance Dedan Kimathi and General China (Waruhiu Itote). Given these significant events of Mau Mau taking place in the region, the British colonial master regarded the area as a dangerous zone that needed more security prompting him to set up a training camp in the region.

As such in 1958, transformation of the administration police took place. A colonial chief interviewed at Mathira noted that in this year, the tribal police Ordinance was changed to the administration police act leading to the changing of the name from the tribal police to the administration police (Kogi, O.I 8.6.16). The same is noted in KNA (XXXVII), *Colony and Protectorate of Kenya Ordinances during the year 1958* which verifies that the Administration Police force was established. Muthondeki (2017) noted that in 1958, Tribal Police Ordinance was revised to

Administration Police Act, during the state of emergency necessitating the expansion of the establishment. In addition the same year, the force began its training in Ruringu in Nyeri under on her majesty service.

## **2.8 Summary**

The major focus of this chapter was to examine the emergence of the administration police in Kenya to 1958. The findings revealed that the history of the administration police in Kenya dates back to 1885 when Kenya became a British sphere of influence courtesy of the Berlin Conference that resulted in the partition of Africa. The need for security by the IBEAC led to the establishment of security units majorly drawn from the Indian race. However in 1902 under the village headmen Ordinance the base of the administration police was set in Kenya. The findings further revealed that in 1929 under the tribal police ordinance the tribal police evolved from the Village Headman Ordinance to the Tribal Police Ordinance.

The tribal police officers were majorly out to protect the economic interest of the colonial master. This, they achieved through arresting the defaulters. In addition they acted as the guards in the colonial courts. Recruitment in the force was pegged on loyalty to the colonial chiefs although ability to read and write English and Kiswahili was an added advantage especially for the promotion purposes. The chapter also revealed that only men were recruited as tribal police officers and that majority of them were sons of chiefs and colonial allies. Additionally, the chapter established that people from the GEMA communities were reluctant to join the tribal police. They had demonstrated a lot of hostility to the white man especially with the formation of the Mau Mau movement in the late 1940s.

The training took place in a period of two weeks and once enlisted each recruit got a record sheet where his details were listed. They were also given a short, badge and a blanket. Majority lived in police lines under the supervision of ex-servicemen. The findings also indicated that the training of these officers entailed training on how to salute the boss, how to make a parade and how to shoot, arrest a criminal among others. Basically, the training was paramilitary in nature. The chapter further revealed that during the secondary resistance movement in Kenya led by Mau Mau, the tribal police officers were increased in number especially towards the end of the 1940s to 1953. At this time the work of the tribal police officers majorly revolved around arresting the Mau Mau fighters and members who were forcing others to take oaths. Accordingly, they experienced a lot of hostility and became unpopular among the local people who were fighting against colonialism. However, despite the hostility, the chapter revealed that the tribal police officers continued to work closely with the chiefs and other forces until in 1958 when the colonial administration held a meeting to decide on the direction the force would take. In that meeting it was agreed that rather than have several tribal police training centers in each province, it was economical to have one training center in Ruringu just a few meters away from the Mau Mau flag site. In addition, the same year the administration police act replaced the tribal police ordinance thus changing the name of the force to Administration Police.

## CHAPTER THREE

### 3.0 FUNCTIONS OF ADMINISTRATION POLICE: 1959-1978

#### 3.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter we discussed the emergence of the Administration Police unit in Kenya. This chapter focuses on the recruitment and functions of the force from 1959 to 1978. As we have already seen in the previous chapter, official training of the administration police began at the Ruringu tribal police training center under the colonial auspices. Until 1963 when Kenya gained independence, the administration police worked for the interest of the colonial master. However, with independence some changes set in the force in terms of the uniform and recruitment patterns and placement of the Administration Police.

#### 3.2 Administration Police; 1959- 1962

In the period 1959 to 1962, the recruitment of the police officers into the Administration Police unit did not change much. An oral interview with a clan elder at Mathira East, revealed that the major criteria for recruiting the police officers at the eve of independence into the unit was based on individual physical fitness and medical fitness (Komu,O.I 28.4.17). It is in this regard that a former Administration Police officer noted that;

The unit was not for the weak and the medically unfit. The chief would not allow tiny and physically unfit or weak men into the force as they would not be trusted to offer security that was needed (Wagema, O.I. 20.4.17).

However in as much as this was the case, loyalty to the chief, the district and provincial administration gave an individual an upper hand in the selection. As such

a retired chief noted that the chiefs used this opportunity to recruit the sons of their kin and allies into the force (Gathege O.I, 5.5.17). A former tribal police officer noted that in many cases there were those basics that one had to meet to be in the force even if he was a son or a friend or relative to the chief. For instance, he noted that one had to be five feet in height and be able bodied (Kanyotu, O.I, 8.3.17).

### **3.3 Ruring'u Training Centre to 1967**

In an oral interview with a former tribal police officer, it was noted that once the Ruring'u tribal police training center was established, the tribal police officers were sent there for training majorly which was paramilitary ( Kimeu, O.I, 20..4.17). The former officer noted that the training focused on basic instructions, physical drills and fitness as well as promotional and prosecution courses. Echoing the same remarks, a retired chief noted that training among the administration police officers during this period focused on how to handle guns, arresting criminals, and marching, saluting and general ethics of the police (Wamai,O.I. 18.4.17). KNA (PC/CP8/4A/9) Confirms that the administration police were directed during training on their duties as police; their powers of arrest and their aid to the chiefs. They trained on drills, how to salute an officer when on the move or standing and how to carry a weapon.

Additionally, promotion aspects would not be left behind. A retired administration police officer noted that promotion in the force was something highly regarded (Mutua, O.I, 18,12,16). He explained that promotion was based on discipline and loyalty to the force. Neatness was also used as a criteria to offer promotion to the administration police officers. It is with regard to this that a retired police officer interviewed at Machakos noted that to ensure that they remained physically smart,

the administration police officers would not sit down to avoid their shorts getting creased ( Kimeu, O.I. 2.1.17). He explained that each moment they ensured that their shorts were well pressed and clean. Echoing the same remarks a retired administration police officer interviewed at Kerugoya noted that even when visiting the toilets, they would take off their shorts to avoid them getting creases (Kaberia, O.I 12.2.17). This ensured that they remained physically smart all the time thus securing high chances for promotions.

### **3.4 From Ministry of Native Affairs to the Office of the President**

Foran, (1962) observed that the control and management of the police was taken over by Africans from the British. A retired sergeant noted that with independence in 1963 major changes took place in the Administration Police unit (Musili O.L, 18.3.17). He explained that, the provincial administration and the unit were moved from the Ministry of Native Affairs to the Office of the Prime Minister. Administration police strategic plan 2013 points out that at independence, the AP was moved from the Ministry of Native Affairs to the Office of the Prime Minister and later to the Office of the President.

This information is verified in the administration police website ([www.administrationpolice.go.ke](http://www.administrationpolice.go.ke)). However, in 1964 the Administration Police unit was moved to the Office of the President (Komu, O.I,28.4.17). The informant further explained that in as much as there were such changes, the independence government upheld the provincial administration hence the AP remained very key in government affairs (Komu, O.I 28.4.17). A former civil servant noted that the

administration police remained as the government watch dog and did all that the president in power instructed (Maina, O.I,7.4.17).

He further noted that the administration police officers continued ensuring law enforcement as well as guarding the government buildings and property. This was due to the misery that had been witnessed when the government wanted to disband AP on ground that its roles were overlapping with those of the Kenya police. This is echoed in KNA (PC/CP8/4A/9) which claimed that an inquiry was conducted into what could be an overlap in the function and responsibilities between the Kenya Police and the AP. The inquiry concluded that whatever shift of functions and responsibilities there was between the two forces, there was in every district a continuing need for both. The two forces were complementary and in most districts they had established a satisfactory working arrangement to fit the particular circumstances of their area. Explaining the scenario, a former administration police officer at Ruring'u noted that when the AP was disbanded, crime rate increased in the country with looting of police station thus Mzee Jomo Kenyatta recalled all the police officers who had gone home and those who had joined other departments (retired AP, 2017). It is in this context that the administration police unit remained under the provincial administration guarding the government property, chief's camps and other government buildings. Nicholas (2018) noted that Kenyatta at independence strengthened the formal institution of the Provincial Administration under which the AP are. This is in line with neo-patrimonialism theory, he did that to ensure loyalty from his subjects.

The functions of the administration police were expanded after independence. This was mainly necessitated by new developments such as insecurity in the northern part

of the country. In an oral interview with a County Commissioner in Nairobi, it was revealed that in some areas, the AP officers would be engaged in operational duties alongside Kenya Police and the Kenya Army (Munyi, O.I. 18,12.16). For instance, in 1966, following President Kenyatta 's command the AP were engaged in North Eastern province when the shiftas menace prevailed, where they were patrolling and protecting the villages (Munyi, O.I. 18.12.16). The commissioner further noted that the AP officers mainly participated in public functions. Echoing the same remarks, a retired Administration Police officer noted that the AP officers participated in state function such as participating in the Independence Day parade of 1965 (Kahungu, O.L. 2.4.17). That band was formed in the early 1960s.

### **3.5 Embakasi Training Centre, 1967**

The findings also revealed the year 1967 was remarkable as there was a significant change and development in the of AP unit. A former administration police officer interviewed at Mathari noted that this year saw the establishment of the, Embakasi Training School where centralized training continued (former administration police, O.I. 2017) KNA (LG/5/1346) confirms that Administration Police training school was opened at Embakasi in 1967. The former officer explained that the Embakasi Training School was set up at the present Jomo Kenyatta International Airport. Following this development, the training of the Administration Police was moved from Ruring'u to Embakasi in Nairobi. A County Commissioner interviewed noted that as the training was moved to Embakasi and only refresher courses were carried out at Ruring'u Training Centre (Munyi, O.I, 18.12.16). In 1972, official training then kicked off.

It is significant to note that during the Kenyatta era, no woman was recruited into the administration police force. A retired police officer noted that the idea of not recruiting women in the administrative police force was carried over from the colonial gender discrimination in the public (Wambugu, O.I 5.7,16). The officer explained that it was not until the 1980s under the rule of President Moi that women were recruited in the administration police unit. The police unit was negatively skewed towards males. A retired administration police officer noted that such gender exclusivity in the unit made it hard for the police officer to arrest and search female suspects and criminals (Kanyotu,8.3.1717). The Administration police website points out that the first female officers were recruited in 1987 ([www.administrationpolice.go.ke](http://www.administrationpolice.go.ke)).

### **3.6 Roles of the AP 1967-1978**

It was also noted that at this time the Administrative Police had a specific mandate which included; assisting all government officers in exercise of their lawful duties. Executing all orders and warrants lawfully issued by competent authority, preservation of the public order, prevention of offences and apprehension of offenders, acting as messengers in any matter connected with the administration or public services, enforcement of executive/administrative decisions and defense of Kenya in the event of war or emergency. However from these roles, one came out significantly as far as the administration police unit is concerned at that time. A retired Kenya police officer noted that the administration police were the most trusted by the administration of the time and that the training of the officers had paramilitary aspects unlike the Kenya police (Mary, O.I,4.4.17).

### **3.7 Changes in the AP Uniform**

Additionally it emerged that at this time the AP police uniform also changed. In an interview with a County Commissioner in Nairobi, it was revealed that unlike in the colonial period where the tribal police did not wear shoes under colonial regime, the administration police officers began wearing shoes. Additionally the commissioner noted that towards the end of 1965 they began wearing the *nguo ya madoadoa* and wearing trousers (Munyi,, O.I, 18.12.16). A retired Administration Police Officer interviewed at Kerugoya noted that their uniform was so designed that even the shirts had no collars and were short sleeved. They wore boots and then tied a material called *batis* as socks to prevent them from skin injury in the course of their work (Omondi, O.I, 23.4.17).

In addition the materials for the uniform also changed. It was revealed that they began wearing clothes with materials that would not need starch. Moreover in an oral interview with a county commissioner, it was noted that even the types of hats that they wore changed. The commissioner noted that the administration police officers ceased wearing pith helmets.

### **3.8 AP Salary and Remunerations to 1978**

In terms of their salary a retired administration police officer noted that in 1966 the salary of the AP officer was Ksh 180(Retired administration police, O.I, 2017). He noted that from this amount there were some deductions such as graduated personal tax (GPT) of fifty cents thus getting a net of 179.50 shillings. By the end of the 1970s, the officer noted that the salary of an administration police officer was 225 Kenyan shillings. Explaining the housing situation among the administration police,

a county commissioner noted that between 1971 and 1974 the housing was improved. The police were not supposed to live near people as this was a mechanism to avoid conflict between the men in the force and the public. The commissioner explained that after training the Administration Police officers would get housing through the chiefs and the District Officers. He further noted that the houses were normally round in shape and their roofs were grass thatched (Munyi, O.I, 18.12.16).

Explaining the miserable housing situation at that time, a retired administration police officer noted that the houses were small and were normally congested, at times they would accommodate a number of officers. He explained that this not only breached their rights to privacy but also made their lives uncomfortable thus killing their work morale. The officer further noted that the government was not concerned with the housing since it is the inmates who even made those houses as a form of punishment for the crimes that they had done. Moreover it was noted that the force had very few or inadequate resources. For instance a retired police officer at Ruring'u noted that the AP had only one multipurpose lorry that would take them to events together with their officers (retired administration police, O.I.2017). He explained that such lack of essential resources made the other police units, especially the Kenya police, to look down upon the administration police. Many times they were laughed at by the regular police officers who had good vehicles for carrying their officers.

It is significant to note that under the leadership of Jomo Kenyatta, the administration police became a government tool. It was the only trusted force that offered security to the top government officials both as home guards and

bodyguards. Moreover, they were essential in the disruption of the political rallies of the opposition groups that the regime in power oppressed. Basically the Kenyatta regime used the administration police for the benefit of the ruling party and consolidating state power just like the colonial master used it to actualize their capitalism motive in Africa .This is confirmed by the rational choice and neopatrimonialism theories. In 1978 Jomo Kenyatta died and Daniel Moi took over the office.

### **3.9 Summary**

The focus of this chapter was to discuss the functions of the administration police in the period 1959-1978. The chapter revealed that in 1958, Ruring'u tribal police training center was set up. Upon gaining independence, the black elites took over the government and Kenyatta became president. At independence, the administration police was moved from the Ministry of Native Affairs to the Office of the Prime Minister and later on under the Office of the President. It was revealed that the recruitment of officers in the administration police was still under the chief and the district officers. As such most recruits came from the chief's kin and friendship although there were minimum requirements that were supposed to be met.

The chapter also revealed that the training of the police officers at this time was paramilitary and entailed how to handle a gun, arrest and prosecute criminals, salute, marching, parading among others. Their roles included provision of security to government official and property as well as arresting criminals. In addition it was also revealed that the administration police uniform also changed and they began wearing trousers and the materials for their trousers changed to khaki.

The findings revealed that the housing condition of the administration police officers was very poor with the officers living in small round mud and grass thatched houses. The houses were also congested. Moreover the police unit was poorly equipped making them a laughing stock among other police units thus generating hatred among the units. However their salary was increasing by 5 shillings every year such that by 1968 their gross salary was 225 shillings.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### 4.0 CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION POLICE, 1979-2002

#### 4.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter, the role and the recruitment patterns of the administration police were examined. It was revealed that one major role of the administration police was to act as guards to government officials. This chapter seeks to examine the changes in the administration police during the Moi era. The chapter also interrogated some of the changes in the recruitment, functions and also promotion of the AP officers. Lastly the chapter examines some of the challenges that were brought about with the changes in the in the administration police.

#### 4.2 Moi and the administration police

President Daniel Arap Moi took over the helm of the presidency temporally after the death of President Kenyatta in 1978 awaiting the 1982 general election. A retired chief in Ruringu in an oral interview revealed that President Moi was viewed by the opposition as a passing cloud and he would not take on power (Gathege, O.I, 5.5.17). The above views were also echoed by a former politician in an oral interview who pointed out that upon the death of President Kenyatta, many people in the government never thought that Moi would take on power and even lead the country for such a long time. The respondent further pointed out that this was because President Moi was never allowed into the inner circle of Mzee Jomo Kenyatta despite the fact that he had served in the government for more than a 15 years as the Minister of Home Affairs (Matu , O.I, 5.1.17).

In addition, during this time as the Minister of Home Affairs, all the dockets of the Kenya police and the administration police were under this ministry. In an oral interview with a former member of parliament in Karatina, it was revealed that this exposure really helped President Moi to build a support network within the intelligence community for instance the administration police (Kariuki, O.I 2.2.2017). Furthermore this network helped him set up his personal autocratic rule that later extended to authoritarianism, this was noted by a retired chief in Karatina (Kogi, O.I. 8..6.16).

Once Moi ascended to power, there were very high expectations from the people. In an oral interview with a retired AP in Embakasi, it was noted that the people of Kenya had very high expectations from his administration especially that a democratic and human right oriented political space would be put in place (Kioko, O.I. 7.8.16). These expectations came after the decisions and promises he made immediately he took over the presidency. This concurs with an oral interview with an elderly man in Kiganjo who pointed out that people had high expectations after president Moi came to power because of the promises and things he did then to the people. For instance, he released twenty six political detainees across all ethnic spectrum who had been detained during Mzee Jomo Kenyatta's administration (Njogu, O.I, 10.8.16). In addition he introduced the Nyayo slogan that was built on three pillars namely love, peace and unity as noted by an elderly woman in Mukaro (Wacera, O.I, 28.1.17).

During this time the administration police was still offering localized policing services. In an oral interview with a Retired AP in Ruring'u, it was revealed that when Moi took over, the Administration Police offered localized police services

such as maintaining peace. The respondent further pointed out that the AP used to be deployed in events of war and emergency and this was according to the administration police Act Section 5 of the old Kenyan Constitution (Retired AP, O.I.2017). In addition, a key informant interview with a former tribal police officer in Othaya, it was noted that the administration police were also the security officers who guarded high level officials such as chiefs, district commissioners among others. The respondent further revealed that this was because they were regarded as the most loyal police officers to the government (Former tribal police officer, O.I. 2017).

### **4.3 The 1982 attempted coup**

In 1982, a section of the Embakasi based air force officers attempted a military coup aimed at overthrowing the president. In an oral interview with a police constable in Nairobi, it was revealed that this was a second attempt. The respondent further pointed out that during the first attempt President Moi was however reluctant to the attempt and he did not take any action. The earlier attempt was to prevent Moi from ascending to power after the death of Kenyatta through a change in the constitution. This is supported by Kariuki (2001), who was one of the influential ministers in the Moi regime. He observed that like other attempted coups, the 1982 one would not succeed. According to a police constable in an oral interview, this was because of the history that president Moi shared with the police when he was the minister of home affairs (police constable, O.I, 2017). It was also revealed that in the 1982 attempted coup Moi used every means possible to suppress the coup. A retired administration police interviewed at Ruring'u noted that the coup marked the highest gross violation of human rights by the police force and more specifically the

administration police whom the president regarded as the most loyal (retired AP, O.I. 2017).

After the attempted military coup of 1982, Moi began a series of changes in his administration. In an oral interview with a former politician in Karen, it was revealed that president Moi changed some aspects in the government that made him consolidate more state power and control all the other arms of the government and use the police force as a tool for his personal use against his opponents (former politician, O.I, 2017). Kivoi and Mbae (2013) observed that like in the colonial period, the police have never been neutral but have been used by political leaders as tools of political survival after independence.

This meant that all the police including the administration police became a tool for his personal use. As a result, this led to some changes in the organization, recruitment and also the role of the administration police.

#### **4.4 Changes in the recruitment and training of the administration police**

In recruitment so many determinants were put in place to ensure integrity was enhanced. In an oral interview with a retired OCPD in Muruguru, it was revealed that in the Jomo Kenyatta era, for one to be recruited to be an administration police officer, one had to have physical and medical fitness and high level education was not a determinant. The respondent further pointed out that as a result of emphasis of formal education among Kenyans, education became a determinant in the recruitment of administration police officers (Retired OCPD, O.I, 2017). The following remarks concur with an administration police in Karatina who pointed out that during the Moi era, for one to be recruited to be an administration police they had to have completed secondary education and attained a mean grade of D+ at

KCSE. The respondent further pointed out that education became a determinant in recruitment of police because also of the increase in population of the e number of recruits (Karoki,, O.I,8.8.16).

Another aspect that changed in the recruitment was the fitness of the recruits. In an interview with a retired commandant in, it was revealed that during the Kenyatta era, only physical and medical fitness mattered. However, this changed during the Moi era (Mary, O.I, 4.4.17). This concurred with a police officer in Karatina who pointed out that in the Moi era, the recruitment requirements became more specific on what the recruited had to possess. For instance, the recruits had to be five inches tall, be able bodied, and not necessarily having all the teeth (Wandeto, O.I, 6.5.17). In addition, a retired chief in Ruring'u revealed that these specification in the medical and physical fitness were to ensure uniformity among all the administration police. Furthermore, even when they matched, they would all be uniform ( Gathege, O.I, 5.5.17).

In the administration police, there were no women recruited for this work. An interview with a retired AP in Karatina, revealed that during the Kenyatta era, the administration police force did not have any women because they were regarded a lesser gender who could not do the work done by the men in the administration police force (Wagama, O.I. 2.12.17) However, this changed during the Moi era. In an oral interview with an inspector in Nyeri town, it was revealed that:

In the 1980s, Moi travelled outside Kenya and he found out that there are women AP but that was not the case in Kenya because no law allowed that. Therefore, he suggested for women entry into the administration police (Kosgei, O.I, 6.4.17).

The same remarks were echoed by a retired administration police in Kiganjo who pointed out that it was during the Moi regime that women were allowed in the administration police force. The respondent further pointed out that the first female AP officer to be recruited was in 1987 (Kahungu, O.I, 2.4.17).

In addition, a former female commandant in Muruguru revealed that women were also recruited into the AP because they facilitated in the body searching of women criminals. The respondent further pointed out that this was also an efforts to incorporate more and more female into the ranks of officers in the AP where many of them served in supervisory and specialized positing (Mary, O.I, 4.4.17). This meant that there were no female officers that offered more sophisticated police service for instance offering security in an event of war.

After the recruitment, the candidates who succeeded underwent the next step which was training so that they would become administration police officers. In an oral interview with an inspector of police in Nairobi, it was revealed that training had really changed compared to the training carried out earlier. The respondent further pointed out that during the Kenyatta era, training mainly involved being taught how to shoot and arrest, marching , saluting, and how to handle a gun (Musomba, O.I, 1.2.17). This concurs with the remarks of an administration police who pointed out that training during the Kenyatta era was very simple because the recruits used to be taught how to handle a 303 rifle gun, how to shoot, march, saluting and also general ethics of the police that would enable the administration police to co-relate with the general public (Lydia, O.I, 14.7.17).

However, the training changed during the Moi era. An interview with retired AP in Ruring'u revealed that as a result of modernization and also good relations with

other modernized countries in the world, training of administration police slightly changed especially in weaponry and also other tactics of training were incorporated (Wandeto, 12.9.16). An oral interview with a Sergeant in Embakasi, revealed that during the Moi era, some of the training aspects involved drilling which was saluting, how to use different types of weapons such as rifle which accommodated ten bullets, hecracosh and also the G3. The respondent further pointed out that the AP were also taught paramilitary techniques (Muritu, O.I. 21.4.17). The remarks agree with a retired AP in Nairobi who pointed out that during the Moi era, the AP used to be taught paramilitary techniques. This involved night firing, fighting at night, day, in an open ground and also in the forest. The respondent further pointed out that the AP were also taught maneuver and also signs to use during the fighting. For instance:

If the sergeant wanted the AP to move forward during combat, there was a sign he used to direct the AP officers to do that (Retired AP, O.I, 2017).

The above remarks concur with the views of an administration police in Mukaro who pointed out that during training, the AP used to be taught the use of signs and also maneuver. This is the main reason why they wear clothes that have shades of green and light green (*madoadoa*) on them (Lydia, O.I, 14 7 1617).

#### **4.5 Changes in the promotion and role of the Administration police**

An interview with a sergeant in Ruring'u revealed that during the Kenyatta era, some of the factors that determined the promotion of an officer were for instance loyalty to the president, discipline and also smartness of the AP officer (Hawa, O.I. 22.3.17). However, this totally changed during the Moi era where education really mattered in the promotion of an officer and also the number of years in the service.

This was revealed by a retired AP officer in Karatina (Wagama, O.I, 2.12.7). Therefore, this led to very many officers going back to school to improve their education and also some even went to police colleges for further training so as to be promoted in other ranks of the AP force.

In a focus group discussion with some administration police officers in Ruring'u, it was found out that in the 1960s, the commandant was the senior most officer in the AP followed by his adjutant. The respondents further pointed out that other ranks that were in the administration police were for instance the senior sergeant major also known as the Warrant Officer 1 ( FGD, 2.9.16). However, some changes were done during the Moi era. In an oral interview with a retired sergeant, it was revealed that in the Moi era, a major step in shaping the AP force was done through the introduction of inspectorate ranks. The respondent also noted that the initial batches of inspectors undertook their inspectorate courses at the Kenya police college at Kiganjo before the subsequent which attended their training in Administration police training college in Embakasi and also Outward Bound School in Loitokitok (Musili, O.I, 18.3.17).

In addition, an interview with an inspector in Nyeri town, it was noted that after the introduction of the inspectorate rank, the senior inspectorate members moved to superintendent ranks in the 1980s. The respondent noted that the main reason for the move was because the government wanted to put in place rural development programs at the district levels which were placed under the responsibility of the district commissioners (Kosgei, O.I, 6.4.17). This agrees with the views of an AP officer in Nyeri town who noted that the introduction of the superintendent rank in the AP force was so that they could help in the supervision of AP matters effectively

at the district level so that rural development program could be effective (Kimondo, FGD 2.9.16). As a result, despite the fact that the AP was a national structure, through its involvement in rural development it was able to touch into localized policing services.

An interview with a retired AP in Nairobi revealed that very many AP officers wanted promotions because of one major factor which was better pay compared to what they used to get. The respondent further pointed out that salary was a key factor for the urge of officers to want promotion. He further noted that:

As for me, in the 1960s I used to get a salary of 180 Kenya shillings but with every year we would get a salary increment of five shillings. However, this money was not enough for me and my children thus I opted to apply for a promotion so that I could get a better pay. In my new position I was able to get a salary of 800 shillings in the 1990s which was better for my family (Mutua, 18.2.16).

On the part of the role of the AP force, the force was divided into several units with each unit playing a different role. In an interview with an AP officer, it was found out that the force had several units such as the Anti-stock Theft unit that dealt with livestock theft especially in the north eastern province, the Anti-Bandit Unit that was formed in the 1986 to fight against bandits and its headquarters was placed in Tana River and Lamu districts because of bandits from the neighboring country Somalia (Muchai, O.I, 23.4.17).

In addition, in a focus group discussion with retired AP officers in Nyeri town, it was revealed that, other units included the Anti-Shifta Unit formed in 1980s, its headquarters was in Garissa district and another unit was the Rapid Anti-Bandit unit which was different from the Anti-Bandit Unit in Tana River. The respondent

further pointed out that the unit was formed in 1997 and was based at the AP training college in Embakasi but was later called the Rapid Deployment Force that could deal with any emergency that would come up ( FGD, 3.11.16).

In addition, an interview with a commandant in Nairobi, it was revealed that the AP force also had a unit known as the Security of Government Buildings (SGB). The respondent further pointed out that the SGB was responsible for VIP protection and also securing vital government installations in the country (Obuya, O.I. 4.1.17). His views concurs with a retired OCPD in Karen who pointed out that the AP force was regarded as the underdog of the government. This is the reason why they were used to protect the government officials at the time. The respondent further revealed that for instance a chief would have AP officers to protect his or her home and office (Zebadiah, O.I 22.5.17).

In an FGD with sergeants in Nairobi, it was noted that another unit which was key in the AP force was the Rapid Deployment Unit (RDU) during the Moi era. The respondent pointed out that the unit was responsible for emergency deployment. Some of the deployments made by the RDU were for instance wars against poaching in the country and also to curb ethnic clashes that were on the rise in the Rift Valley Province from 1991 to 1997. The respondents further noted that the RDU was initially composed of officers seconded from other units as well as the AP training college. However, this changed in 2000 where it was effected and it received new officers who received added tactical training and also refresher courses to be able to deal with any situation in the country. Respondents in the FGD further noted that the situations that could be handled by the RDU would range from any emergency to even threats of law and order. The unit was headed by a commanding officer and its

headquarters are in Nairobi (Sergeants, FGD, 11.3.17). The establishment and operation of RDU is cited in the AP website ([www.administrationpolice.go.ke](http://www.administrationpolice.go.ke))

From the above findings, it was evident that there were several changes in the role and promotion of the police and this was because of the money economy and also challenges that were on the rise in the society such as bandits, riots and poaching among others.

#### **4.6 Challenges faced by the administration police**

In an interview with retired AP officer in Ruiru, it was that Moi era was a tough time especially for AP officers. The respondent further revealed that the main reason for this was that an officer had to praise the government and if one talked something against the government, groups like the Recce squad, which was a Military unit, would eliminate that person (Kyalo, O.I 16.4.17).

Another challenge identified was corruption and bribery which affected the officers. According to an AP officer in an oral interview, corruption and bribery really affected the AP force during the Moi era. The respondent further pointed out that some officers offered bribes so as to get promotions. This meant that some of the most educated could not be promoted without bribing their way through (Karoki, O.I, 8.8.16). In addition, an informant interviewed in Ruring'u revealed that the motto of the AP is usually *uaminifu na haki* thus the AP officers took an oath of not accepting bribes however, some still took the bribe (Kanyotu, O.I, 8.3.17).

Another challenge faced by the AP officers was the poor housing. In an FGD with AP officers at Ruringu, it was revealed that housing had become a major problem during the Moi era because the officers lived in miserable conditions. The

respondents further revealed that after training, the officers would get housing through the chief and the District Officers and Commissioners. However, due to the increase in population of the number of officers being recruited, the officers were forced to share the houses. For instance two or three families would share one house (AP officers, FGD, 2.9.16). The above remarks were also echoed by a retired AP officer who pointed out that during the Moi era, the officers used not to live near other people and they used to make their own houses near the chief's camp or even the office of the District officer or Commissioner. The respondent further noted that there was a lot of congestion because the houses were small rooms which would accommodate several officers and their families (Retired AP, O.I, 2017).

From the above findings, it was evident that the Moi era had its own strengths and weakness but also it showed several changes that occurred in the AP force.

#### **4.6 Summary**

The chapter sought to interrogate the changes in the administration police during the Moi era. It was established that President Daniel Arap Moi took over the helm of presidency temporally after the death of President Kenyatta in 1978 awaiting the election. However, he was viewed by other politicians as a passing cloud and he would not take on power and rule Kenya for 24 years. It was also revealed that once Moi ascended into power, there were high expectations from his administration especially that a democratic and human right oriented political space would be put in place.

It was also noted that after the attempted military coup of 1982, Moi began a series of changes in his administration. This brought about change in the organization, recruitment and also the role of the administration police. It was noted that for one to

be recruited to be an administration police they had to have finished secondary education and attained a mean grade of D+. Therefore education became a key factor in the recruitment of AP officers. Other factors included, being able bodied, five inches tall, and the chest to be 32 centimeters.

It was also revealed that some of the training aspects involved drilling which was saluting, how to use different types of weapons such as rifle which accommodated ten bullets, hecracosh and also the G3. The respondent further pointed out that the AP were also taught paramilitary techniques. This was very different from the training in the Moi era which mainly involved marching, saluting and also how to handle a 303 rifle. It was also noted that promotion during the Moi era was mainly determined by education and also the number of years in the services this was unlike before where loyalty, and discipline were the key aspects in promotion. Lastly the chapter revealed some of the challenges that were being faced by the AP officers were for instance bribery, corruption and poor housing as a result of increase in population of the number of the AP officers being recruited.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### 5.0 RECRUITMENT AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

#### POLICE; 2003-2010

##### 5.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter, the researcher focused on the changes that were witnessed in the administration police from 1978- 2002. In this section, the researcher focused on the changes in the recruitment and functions of administration police from 2002. By this time, many Kenyans were hopeful that a new regime would replace grievances voiced against the Moi government which was considered dictatorial by some. As such, when Kibaki came into power in 2002, many reforms took place and the police force was not an exception. In this chapter therefore, the researcher proceeds to discuss some of the changes witnessed in administration police.

##### 5.2 Just mere ‘askari wa chief?’

From the findings, it was revealed that before the Constitutional making process that started in 2002, the administration police were seen as chief’s police just like it was in the colonial times. Explaining this scenario, a lawyer interviewed in Nairobi noted that great landmark of administration police was the outcome of Constitutional talks between 2002 and 2004. The talks pointed out that the AP were not just chief’s police but a vital provider of security and safety in Kenya. He remarked;

“Following the constitutional talks that began taking shape in 2002, the AP was seen to be evolving with their functions clearly identified indicating AP’s lead in community safety and national duties (Lawyer, O.I. 2017).”

In the above remark it is evident that unlike previously whereby the functions of the AP were not clearly stipulated, the new era shed some light in the AP. However some of the policy makers during the making of the new Constitution had argued that the AP was not a necessity in the force and called for their removal. Explaining this scenario, a legislator interviewed in Utawala noted;

“Askari wa chief (Chief’s police) were not seen as important. In most cases the community saw them as an enemy who only protected the welfare of those in power a situation traced back from colonialism (Legislator, O.I.2017).”

Remarking similar views, in an interview with a retired inspector of police in Nyeri town, it was noted that initially the AP was seen as meaningless but after the Constitutional talks it started gaining meaning.

### **5.3 AP under National Police Service**

In an interview with a policy maker in Nairobi, it was noted that following Constitutional talks from 2002- 2004 there was a call to merge the Kenya police and the administration police under the Kenya National Police Service. This was with an aim of coordinating the affairs in the police service for better delivery of services to the people. As such, in 2011 the National Police Service was created and placed the administration police and Kenya police under the command of an inspector general. The Inspector General (I.G) was appointed through vetting and competitive process unlike initially where by the president appointed him or her solely. This is evident in the new constitution that was promulgated in 2010 (chapter 14; Article 243-246)

With the placing of the AP and the Kenya Police under one umbrella of the National Police Service it was anticipated that there would be better service delivery.

However, in an oral interview with a corporal in Nyeri it was noted that the AP are yet to be fully absorbed into the national police service. He pointed out that for example, the AP still maintain their original badge embodied in their police caps. However, it was noted the despite this there is notable discipline in the AP unlike during colonialism where they would harass the community (Njuguna, O.I. 18.2.16).

#### **5.4 From physical fitness to education**

A Lawyer interviewed noted that the 2010 Constitution institutionalized education as a key driver towards upward social mobility with article 43(1) spelling out that every person has a right to education. As such, there was need to review education requirements for the AP. He noted that, after the Constitutional reforms, the entry grade to the force was raised to a C (plain) but later reversed to D plus. Explaining this, he noted that the Inspector General called for the revert pointing out that there was shortage of recruits in the police service. Further, in an interview with a retired chief at Ruring'u, it was noted that before the promulgation of the constitution in 2010, AP would enter into the force through other requirements such as physical attributes. He pointed out that during colonialism and the fight for independence, entry into the AP depended primarily on physical attributes and so was promotion.

He remarked that;

“When my son was joining the AP, only the physical attributes such as height mattered. Promotion was also due to smartness. The smart you appeared, the higher the chances of being promoted. By smartness here I mean, well ironed uniforms and being able to treat the *wakubwa* well for instance by saluting properly (Gathege, O.I. 5.5.17). “

This shows that education was not a necessity before the Constitutional reforms. It was noted by a retired AP officer in Ruring'u that nowadays the AP is characterized

by a lot of impatience whereby the youths, enter the force as long as the grades allow them. He remarked;

“During our time, education was not very necessary. Personally I sneaked through the fence to Ruring’u AP post and was recruited due to my physical attributes, I did it out of passion and the furthest I had gone in education was class seven. Nowadays I see young men and women even the short ones entering the service as education requirements allow them. (Kanyotu, O.I. 8.3.17). “

Despite the education not being valued in the police service before the new constitution, a retired school principal interviewed noted that education was important for the AP. According to her, paramilitary training was not enough and thus education was a necessity to equip them with skill such as information technology, public relations among others. This would enable them to relate well with the public, bearing in mind initially they were despised by the community due to associating with the colonialists (Waweru, O.I. 20.2.17).

On the same note, regarding education it was noted that after 2002, the government paid more attention to education in the police service with the AP qualified band members for example getting chances to train in the local universities. After the training they are offered diplomas and degrees unlike initially where they were only offered a certificate (Kamenju, O.I. 9.2.17). However, it was noted that initially they got music education from colleges outside Kenya. Such colleges included; the Victorian College of Music and Royal College. Therefore the 2010 Constitution, under the national police service aimed at making use of local resources to equip the AP with skills required to serve Kenyans. According to Kimosop, (2011), Administration Police has greatly improved in terms of training. It is embracing

Information Communication Technology (ICT) in operations, developing ICT strategy, procuring modern ICT equipment and training of personnel among others,

From the above, various debates on education requirement emerge, with some arguing that it was not a necessity while others think it was. From the researcher's point of view, the change in entry requirement into the service was vital as initially some saw the police officers as those with low education. The world is dynamic and so should be our institutions.

### **5.5 Training**

On training, it was noted that AP receive paramilitary training, whereby they train in jungle warfare, field craft and tactics forensic, ballistics among others. This kind of training has been there even before 2002 but after 2002 the training evolved incorporation of other aspects that came in with modernity and insecurity due to terror threats (Mary, O. I. 4.4.17). It was also noted that as far as training was concerned it was offered in colleges unlike before whereby they were known as training centers .In an interview with an Administration police officer who is based in Embakasi, it was noted that the administration police training college in Embakasi, provides AP training services as stipulated in the National Police Service commission (Mwai, O.I. 15.2.17).

Further, as far as the training is concerned, there was appointment under the National Police Service Commission of a head of training and reform. This officer supervises officers who train recruits in the training college as well as planning and coordinating training programs. In conjunction with the field and the unit

commanders in the training colleges, the training director also coordinates programs offered externally on the administration police.

### **5.6 Human Resource Policy**

Following the promulgation of the new constitution of 2010, there was establishment of AP's human resource policy. The human resource department is headed by a director of human resource management who is mandated with the responsibility of overseeing personnel services and support. In an interview with an administrator in the police service, it was noted that the human resource management takes care of issues pertaining pensions, insurance, medical, counseling, gender welfare & sports among others (Administrator. O .I. 2017). A senior administration police officer noted that the human resource department through its policies has enabled AP's training on policing courses locally and internationally on studies in peace building, terrorism, human development among others (Mwai, O.I. 15.2.17).

Under human resource, it was noted that there has been developments as retirement of the AP officers is concerned. In an interview with an AP officer, the police officers are now able to save in Saccos such as the Harambee Cooperative Society. In addition, they enjoy medical insurance benefits that enable them to take care of their families (AP officer, O.I. 2017).

### **5.7 Gender Issues in the Administration Police**

An interview with an advocate in Nairobi pointed out that chapter four of the Kenyan Constitution addresses equality before the law for men and women, boys and girls. Women and men have equal rights including right to equal opportunities

in social, economic, political and cultural spheres. As such, there was need to include more women into the police service after the formation of the National Police Service Commission which under its Act of 2011 it outlined that the deputy inspector general/ generals should be of the opposite gender (Irungu, O.I. 20.4.17).

A retired police superintendent noted that the entry of women into the force, was not common until late 1980s when there was need for women to enter the force to facilitate handling of women who were arrested. It was noted that the first woman joined the police force in 1987 but after the police reforms implementation committee from 2002 there were effort to redress what was pre-dominantly a male domain (Wanyonyi, O. I. 3.4.17). This is confirmed in the Administration Police website which notes that the first batch of female officers were recruited to the force in 1987. This saw the entry of over eight hundred women into the police service. With such developments, female officers are called upon to take care of domestic and sexual violence. In a focus group discussion with women leaders in Karatina, it was noted that there are allegations that the male police officers tend to ignore those cases leaving women to suffer. The move to incorporate more women into the force was thus applauded by feminists and gender activists across the country (Women leaders, FGD, 14.4.17).

However, despite such developments, a gender activist pointed out that female officers are still few in the police service compared to the men with only an estimate of about ten percent females out of about over seventy thousand police officers. She argued that the legacy of female police officers as secretaries even in the police service is yet to fade fully. On a positive note, the gender activist pointed out that following police reforms, there was hope of incorporating more women with the

reforms aiming at providing training facilities for women in the training colleges. As such, some women have achieved officer ranks and doing equally well in the administration police just like men (Wambui, O.I. 20.4.17). To illuminate on this, Kimosop (2011) notes that AP service is a male dominated organization and to be in line with the new Constitution, the gender imbalance should be corrected.

In a focus group discussion with male administration police officers in Mathira East, it was noted that there is a lot of despising of the female administration police officers. The respondents argued that women are not equal to the task of hard training and being sent for tough errands. They argued that in most cases women cannot go alone for instance for a patrols in the night as they are mandated with the responsibility of accompanying them. In this regard, the roles of women as administration police officers should be lighter duties such as clerical work or administration duties (Male AP officers, FGD 9.10.16). From this focused discussion, it was clear that despite the constitutional provisions of incorporating more women into the police service, it is not welcomed by some male officers. Coming to the defense of the female officers, a female sergeant interviewed noted that men are only scared of women surpassing them as witnessed by the rise in ranks of various women in the service (Atieno, O.I. 4.10.16).

From the debates above, it was clear that there are efforts towards gender inclusivity in the police service with the administration police being not an exception in order to enhance service delivery as stipulated in the new Constitution.

## **5.8 Improved Welfare of the Administration Police**

In a focus group discussion with administration police officers at Kanyama, Mathira, it was found out that there is noted improved welfare of the police officers. The respondents pointed out that the salaries have been increasing gradually attracting many to serve in the police service. In addition, the respondents pointed out that better salary and good housing have made them loyal to their masters since mostly they guard the top officials and with their welfare being taken into consideration they are unlikely to snitch on their masters AP officers, 28.4.17). A retired AP officer noted that initially the housing was so poor with the AP officers living in houses known as A -frame that was constructed with iron sheets. In the small make shifts they would share the room with other fellow officers making it very uncomfortable especially for those who were married. The retired officer remarked;

“During our time the housing was very poor. The married ones who were living with their wives had it rough through sharing the room separated by curtains. Nowadays I see the AP having better houses which they even rent out if they don’t want to stay in the station (Njagi , O.I. 2.12.16).”

Further, it was noted that with the new Constitution there was improved welfare as far as transport system in the AP was concerned. In an interview with a senior AP officer, it was noted that since 2002 the AP saw change in the transport system. The officer pointed out that initially the AP used a multi- purpose lorry that would carry the commander, officers and luggage altogether. However, key developments in the transport sector have been noted with the AP having at least three helicopters to aid in their operations. In addition, the commander enjoys his or her own car with the rest of AP officers enjoying better and improved vehicles. However, in an interview with a security head in Nairobi it was noted that as much as we applaud the

improved system in transport, there is a lot of modernity with the vehicles being designed for luxury purposes other than the administration work for security purposes. He remarked that;

“Nowadays, I see even AP officers on duty driving Mercedes Benz and other high profiled vehicles. The question is; are they designed to suit security requirements in case of an operation? (Abdi, O. I. 20.11.16)”

The above points out that a lot need to be done to ensure that the equipment and the transport system is in line with the required standard for safety purposes.

### **5.9 Emerging Conflicts among the Administration Police Officers and the Kenya Police Officers**

It was noted that there is increased levels in the conflicts among AP officers and their counterparts, the Kenya police. Explaining this turn of events, a senior officer noted that in some instances the other officers despise the AP arguing they are pets of the loyalists. This kind of despising has often led to conflicts some of which are reported while others are not. Despite being placed together under the national police service, there is no coordination of the two services.

In addition, in a focus group discussion with AP officers in Utawala, it was pointed out that the junior police officers often feel intimidated by their seniors. The respondents pointed out this has led to conflicts in the stations and often leading to disappointments where some officers end up ending their own lives and those of their loved ones (Administration police officers, 6.9.16). Differing from these views, a discussion with some elderly men at Ruring’u pointed out that some of the conflicts being witnessed among the officers revolve around love triangles. Some officers in their line of duty fight over women in the service and in some cases they

hurt their female colleagues upon realizing they have an affair with someone else. They indicated that this was not the case in the 1990s as fewer women were in the force but the Constitution has now allowed many women to serve Kenyans just like men do.

In addition, the respondents indicated that some of the officers fight under the influence of alcohol something that was not common in the 1990s. They pointed out that alcohol and drug abuse is a serious threat not only to the uniformed men but men generally if serious measures are not taken (Elders, FGD. 12.1.17). On the same note, in an oral interview with a lawyer, it was noted that the conflicts in the police service generally can be due to various external forces such as interference from the politicians and the media. He called on the media and politicians to be careful in propagating messages that may incite conflicts in the police service (Muriithi, O.I 20.2 17).

### **5.10 Summary**

In this chapter, the researcher focused on the changes that have been witnessed in the AP. It was noted that the AP has moved from being viewed as chief's officer who were considered less important. Under the new Constitution, their roles were more outlined to include community policing, guarding administrators, keeping law and order among others. It was also pointed out that there has been emphasis in formal education as an entry pass mark into AP unlike initially where physical attributes were vital. In regard to gender issues, the AP has seen entry of more women into the service that in some instances are considered to be a threat career

wise by the male counterparts. The AP was also incorporated into the Kenya Police Service to enhance efficiency and cooperation with the Kenya Police.

However, the merger was seen as ineffective with some Kenya police officers still despising the unit under scrutiny. On matters to do with training, the AP have made steps towards better training through colleges such Embakasi Training College under the supervision of different personnel as stipulated in the new Constitution. Further, in terms of welfare, better salaries and housing have been incorporated into the AP system. The chapter concludes that from 2002, there were changes witnessed in the police service and the AP was not an exception. This has seen the AP move upwards in terms of service delivery to the people and job satisfaction with many aspiring to join the AP.

## CHAPTER SIX

### 6.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 Introduction

This study focused on the transformation in administration police in the period 1958-2010. 1958 is the year when the independence constitution was crafted. In the same year, the tribal police ordinance was changed to administration police and the force commenced centralized training at Ruring'u in Nyeri, making Nyeri a core area for this study. 2010 is the year when the new Constitution was promulgated and thus various changes were witnessed in AP.

#### 6.2 Summary

In chapter one, the background to the study was provided and the statement of the problem provided. The objectives and research questions, as well as the premises were also given. In addition, the chapter provided the scope of the study, the justification and significance of the study and limitation. Further, the chapter also provided the literature review, and the gaps identified enabled this study to be researchable. The theoretical framework that guided the study was also provided. Finally, the chapter provided the methodology that the researcher employed in conducting the research as well as the ethical considerations during the study.

In chapter two, the study focused on the emergence of administration police in Kenya. Chapter three focused on the role and recruitment patterns of the AP in the period 1958 – 1978. In chapter four the study focused on the changes in the AP during the Moi era. In chapter five the researcher focused on the changes that have

been witnessed in the AP from 2002-2010 when the new Constitution was promulgated.

### **6.3 Conclusion**

The findings revealed that history of the administration police in Kenya dates back to 1885 when Kenya fell under the British protectorate courtesy of Berlin conference that saw the partition of Africa. The findings further revealed that in 1920 under the Tribal Police Ordinance the tribal police evolved from the village headman ordinance. The chapter also revealed that only men were recruited as the tribal police officers and that majority were sons of chiefs and colonial allies. The training took place in a period of two weeks and once enlisted each recruit got a record sheet where his details were listed. The chapter revealed that the tribal police officers continued to work closely with the chiefs and other forces until in 1958.

In chapter three the focus was on the role and recruitment patterns of the administration police in the period 1958-1978. The chapter revealed that in 1958, Ruring'u Tribal Police Training Center was set up under on Her Majesty service. At independence, the administration police was moved from the Ministry of Native Affairs to the Office of the Prime Minister and later to the Office of the President. The chapter also revealed that the training of the police officer at this time was paramilitary and entailed how to handle a gun, arrest a criminal, prosecute a criminal, salute, marching, parading among others. Their roles included provision of security to government officers and property as well as arresting criminals. The findings revealed that the housing conditions of the administration police officers

were very poor with the officers living in a small rounded mud and grass thatched houses.

In chapter four, the study focused on interrogating the changes in the administration police during the Moi era. It was also revealed that once Moi ascended into power in 1982, there were high expectations from his administration especially that a democratic and human right oriented political space would be put in place. It was also noted that after the attempted military coup of 1982, Moi began a series of changes to his administration. This brought about change in the organization, recruitment and also the role of the administration police. In addition, training aspects involved drilling which was saluting and how to use different types of weapons. Further, promotion during the Moi era was mainly determined by education and also the number of years in the service. Finally, the chapter revealed that there were challenges facing AP officers such as poor housing.

In chapter five, the researcher focused on the transformation that has been witnessed in the AP from 2002 to 2010 when the new Constitution was promulgated. AP has moved from being just viewed as chief's police who were considered meaningless. Under the new Constitution, their roles were more outlined to include community policing, guarding administrators, keeping law and order among others. After the new Constitution, AP was incorporated into Kenya police service to enhance efficiency and cooperation with the Kenya police. The merger was seen as ineffective with some Kenya police officers still despising the Administration police. In addition, steps have been made towards better training and emphasis in education through the establishment of training colleges such Embakasi training college which is under the supervision of different personnel as stipulated in the new

Constitution. Also, more women have been incorporated into AP unlike in Moi's era when they were few. Worth noting in the transformation is the command structure. The AP force is currently under the command of the Inspector General who has two deputies; Deputy inspector General (Kenya Police) and Deputy Inspector General (Administration Police). Below the Deputy Inspector General (AP) is the Administration police regional Commander. At the county level is the AP service County Commander. At the sub county level is the sub county commander, then the AP service ward commander. The chapter concludes that from 2002, there were changes witnessed in the police service and the AP was not an exception. It is important to note that the Administration Police has been domiciled in different ministries. In the colonial era it was in the ministry of Native Affairs, at independence in the Office of the Prime Minister later in the Office of the President and is currently in the ministry of Interior and Co-ordination of National Government.

## **6.2 Recommendations**

The study recommends that there is need to review the AP under the national police service act in order to establish whether the reforms as stipulated have been effective. There is also need for counselling sessions and improved sports in the AP in order to reduce wrangles that are witnessed in the service. In addition, if possible married couples working in the same stations should be discouraged to avoid conflicts related to love triangle.

## REFERENCES

### PRIMARY SOURCES

#### i) Oral Interviews

<b>PARTICIPANT</b>	<b>AGE</b>	<b>PLACES</b>	<b>YEAR</b>
Lydia Muriithi	56	Mukaro	14.7.16
Zebadiah Muritu	80	Karen	19.8.16
Wamai Njuki	79	Karatina	18.4.17
Gathege Kinyua	86	Ruringu	5.5.17
Matu Muya	90	Karatina	5.1.17
Kioko Nzuve	83	Embakasi	7.8.16
Njogu Wangombe	90	Kiganjo	10.8.16
Serah Wacera	70	Mukaro	28.1.17
Ndiritu Kabira	83	Ruring'u	24.3.17
Kirui Tanui	67	Nairobi	26.4.17
Wambugu Wahome	84	Ruring'u	5.7.16
Karoki Njagi	32	Karatina	8.8.16
Henry Obuya	48	Ruring'u	4.1.17
Muchai Kanyi	28	Karatina	23.4.17
Koskei Kirui	57	Nyeri town	6.4.17
Kahungu Gachii	87	Kiganjo	2.4.17
Mary Wanjeri Karue	80	Muruguru	4.4.17
Musomba Chalo	60	Nairobi	1.2.17

Muritu Nderu	67	Embakasi	21.4.16
Mutua Ndile	87	Nairobi	18.2.16
Musili Mumo (Retired)	56	Nyeri town	18.3.17
Kamau Gakere	58	Karen	3.9.16
Ngendo Mwai	69	Nyeri	15.2.17
Peter Njuguna	65	Nyeri	18.2.17
Mundia Kiama	56	Nyeri	13.3.17
Mohammed Sule	61	Embakasi	4.5.16
Wandeto Mwangi	40	Ruring'u	6.5.17
Irungu Wachira	38	Nairobi	20.4.17
Rose Atieno	46	Ruiru	4.10.16
Muriithi Wahome	70	Nairobi	20.2.17
Munyi Nduati	68	Nairobi	18.12.16
Komu Nyuguto	76	Mathira East	28.4.17
Lilian Wangechi	56	Nyeri town	22.4.17
Hawa Osman	60	Ruring'u	22.3.17
Wagama Chege	89	Karatina	24.3.17
Njeru Amon	78	Karen	24.4.17
Kanyotu Ngumi	86	Ruringu	8.3.17
Gikingi Muya	89	Othaya	14.4.17
Wamae Kariuki	87	Karatina	2.2.17
Oguto Amos	67	Nairobi	11.11.16
Kyalo Mutunga	79	Ruiru	16.4.17
Wambui Kiiru	48	Utawala	2017

Wamuyu Mwangi	54	Nairobi	19.3.17
Kamenju Githu	65	Utawala	9.2.17
Muthoni Wahome	67	Utawala	9.10.16
Wanyinyi Wafula	75	Nairobi	3.4.17
Wambui Kimotho	45	Nairobi	3.4.17
Abdi Osman	55	Nairobi	20.11.16
Mahugu Njanjo	76	Ruringu	14.5.16
Muraya Stephen	85	Ruringu	3.6.16
Kogi Maina	65	Mathira	8.6.16
Mbogo Kaguma	82	Mathari	9.12.16
Omondi Temo	73	Kerugoya	23.4.17
Kagama Kihonge	72	Narumoro	6.1.17
Wahome Muriithi	70	Nairobi	6.1.16
Nyaga Kamenyu	72	Nairobi	4.7.16
Wandeto Kiago	68	Ruringu	12.9.16
Ngahu Wambugi	84	Ruringu	3.11.16
Waruinge Thuku	78	Othaya	20.8.16
Mathenge Kiarie	72	Ruringu	4.12.16
Kingori	58	Karatina	15.3.17
Mukanda Gachigi	89	Mathari	14.5.17
Waituika Thuku	87	Ruringu	16.6.16
Kagama Miche	65	Mathari	4.3.17
Gethi Gathuku	67	Nyeri Town	14.4.17
Kiemeu Kioki	80	Machakos	20.4.17

Maina Ngethe	87	Nairobi	7.4.17
Njagi Njeru	73	Kayole	2.12.16
Kabariu Nkonge	75	Embu	12.2.17

**a) FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION**

<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>PLACES</b>	<b>YEAR</b>
AP officers	Ruring'u	2.9.16
Retired AP officers	Nyeri town	3.11.16
Sergeant	Nairobi	11.3.17
Women leaders	Karatina	14.4.17
Male Aps	Mathira East	9.10.16
AP officers	Kanyama	28.4.17
AP officers	Utawala	6.9.16
Clan elders	Mathira	9.4.17
Clan elders	Ruringu	20.10.16
Elderly men	Karatina	14.10.16
Elderly men	Ruring'u	12.1.17

N/B There was a total of 135 respondents drawn from 69 oral interviews, and 11 focus group discussions. Each focus group discussion comprised of 6 participants.

## **b) Archival Sources**

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- iii) KNA (PC/CP8/4/2) Senior Commissioners Meetings 1923 - 1958
- iv) KNA (PC/CP8/LB/1) Minutes of District Commissioners meetings(1923-1928)
- v) KNA (VOL XXXV11) Colony and Protectorate of Kenya Ordinances during the year 1958
- vi) KNA – The Kenya Police Annual Report 1948
- vii) KNA -Colonial office report on the colony and protectorate of Kenya for the year 1960
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**APPENDIX I**



**Mau Mau Flag Site**

**APPENDIX II****INTERVIEW SCHEDULE GUIDE**

Name of informant

Gender

Age

Education status

Occupation

Residence village

**Questions to the civilians**

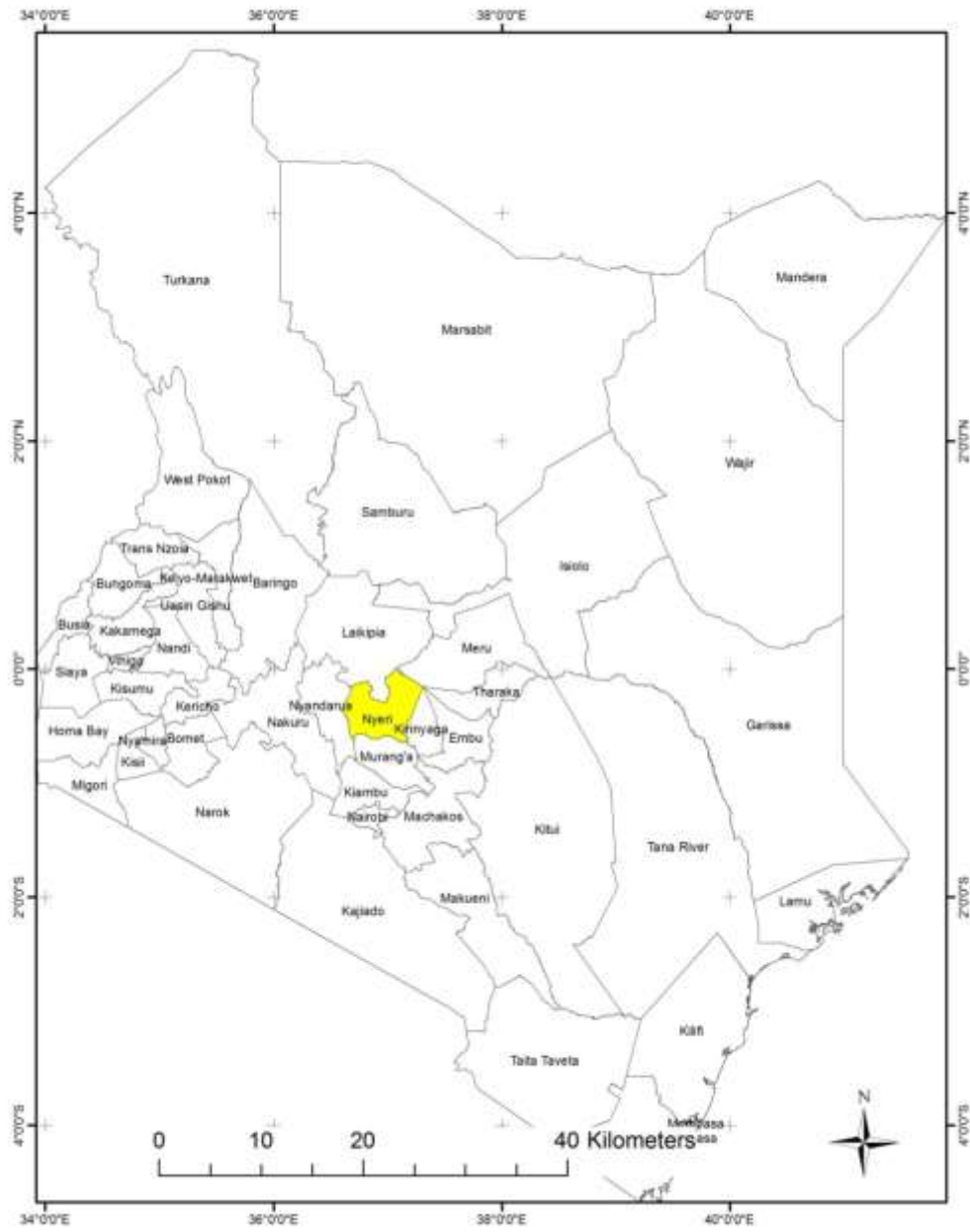
- 1) How long have you lived in this sub County?
- 2) In your view what is the role of the administration police?
- 3) Why was the police force established?
- 4) Have you always lived here?
- 5) When did administration police start operating in this area?
- 6) How did the administration police interact with civilians?
- 7) What was the work of the administration police officers?
- 8) How did they do their work?
- 9) What were the people's attitudes towards the police officers?
- 10) What type of weapons did they use?
- 11) How can you describe the housing?
- 12) What kind of uniforms did they wear?
- 13) How were the people in this area effecting security prior to the establishment of the administration police?
- 14) How did the people of Nyeri scounty respond to new challenges e.g. change of guard, inflation?

15) What can be done to improve the current security state in Nyeri County?

**Questions to the police officers**

- 1) How long have you lived in this sub county?
- 2) For how long have you served as a police officer?
- 3) What is the genesis of the administration police in Kenya?
- 4) What security issues you have been handling as an officer?
- 5) When did you join the police service?
- 6) What problems have the police been facing, for instance, in dealing with crime prevention and control?
- 7) What weapons have you been using?
- 8) What changes have occurred in administration police department in terms of uniforms, training, housing and remuneration?
- 9) How do you respond to the new changes taking place in crime?
- 10) How can you describe the relationship between the police and civilians in Nyeri County?
- 11) What is the relationship between the police in various departments for instance AP and regular police?
- 12) What can be done to improve the current security state in Nyeri County?

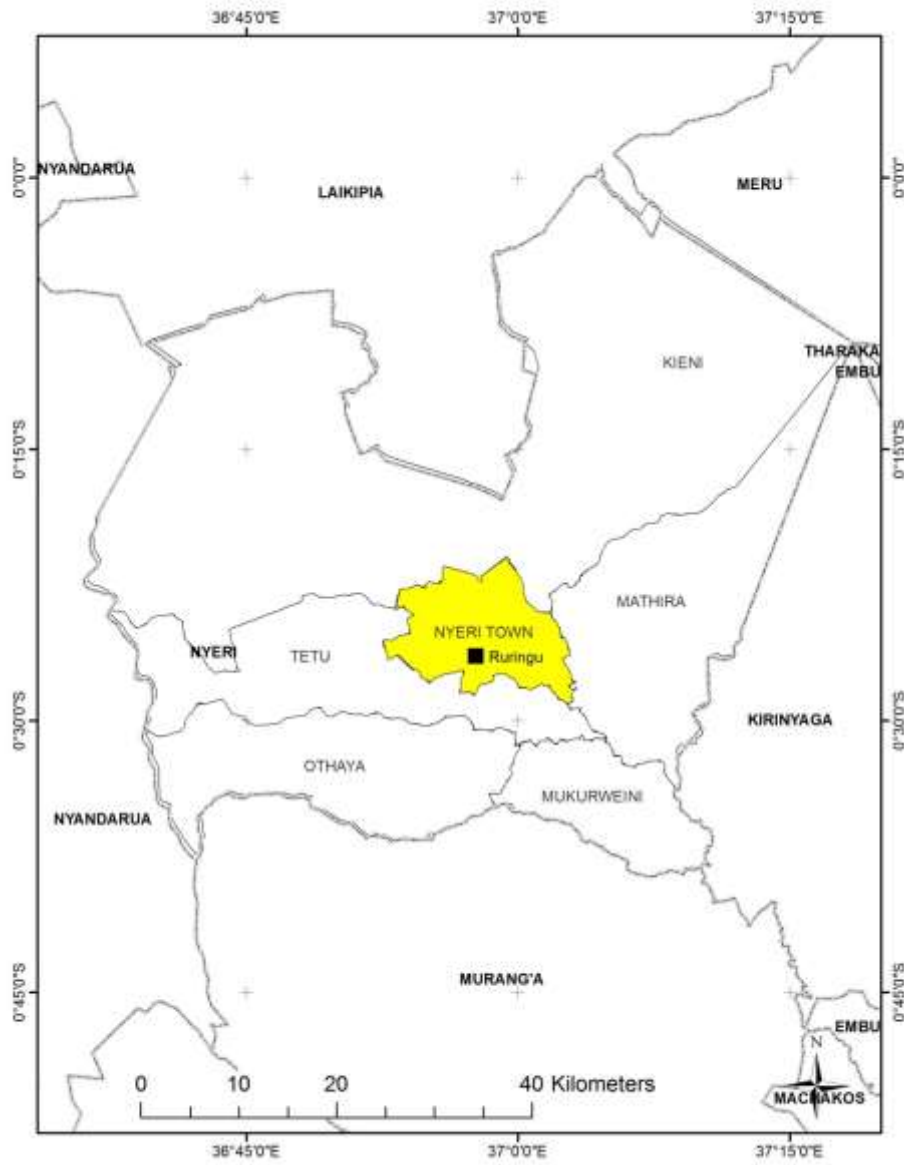
APPENDIX III



Source: Survey of Kenya

Map of Kenya

APPENDIX IV



Source: The Survey of Kenya

Map of Nyeri County

## APPENDIX V



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL

E-mail: [dean-graduate@ku.ac.ke](mailto:dean-graduate@ku.ac.ke)

P.O. Box 43844, 00100  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
Tel. 810901 Ext. 57530

Website: [www.ku.ac.ke](http://www.ku.ac.ke)

Internal Memo

FROM: Dean, Graduate School

DATE: 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016

TO: Gladys Kirigo Wambugu  
C/o History, Archaeology and Political  
Studies Dpt.

REF: C50/21421/2012

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL

-----  
This is to inform you that Graduate School Board, at its meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 approved your Research Proposal for the MA Degree Entitled, "Transformation in the Administration Police Service in Kenya, 1958-2010".

You may now proceed with your Data Collection, subject to clearance with Director General, National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation.

As you embark on your data collection, please note that you will be required to submit to Graduate School completed Supervision Tracking Forms per semester. The form has been developed to replace the Progress Report Forms. The Supervision Tracking Forms are available at the University's Website under Graduate School webpage downloads.

Thank you,

JOHN ODONGI  
FOR: DEAN, GRADUATE SCHOOL

c.c. Chairman, Department of History, Archaeology and Political Studies

Supervisors:

1. Dr. Felix Kiruthu  
C/o Department of History, Archaeology and Political Studies  
Kenyatta University
2. Dr. Susan Mwangi  
Department of History, Archaeology and Political Studies  
Kenyatta University

JMO/rwm


APPENDIX VI

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:**  
**MS. GLADYS KIRIGO WAMBUGU**  
**of KENYATTA UNIVERSITY, 1233-10100**  
**nyeri, has been permitted to conduct**  
**research in All Counties**


**on the topic: TRANSFORMATION IN THE**  
**ADMINISTRATION POLICE SERVICE IN**  
**KENYA, 1958- 2010**

**for the period ending:**  
**13th April, 2017**

**Permit No : NACOSTI/P/16/10277/10573**  
**Date Of Issue : 14th April, 2016**  
**Fee Recieved : Ksh 1000**



**Applicant's**  
**Signature**



**Director General**  
**National Commission for Science,**  
**Technology & Innovation**