

Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Budget supplementary estimates; October 2008
Answers to questions on notice from Department of Defence

Q1

ADF Investigative Services

Senator Payne, Hansard, 22 October 2008, pp8-10

- a) On what date did Colonel Grutzner commence as ADF Provost Marshal?
- b) Please provide the policing experience of ADFIS members, including the Provost Marshal designate.

RESPONSE

- a) 24 April 2006.
- b) The ADF Investigative Service (ADFIS) was formally established on 16 May 2007. The ADFIS was formed by grouping the investigative capabilities of the three Services (Naval Investigative Service, Army Special Investigation Branch and RAAF Security Police Investigators) into a single, joint investigative agency, under the command of the PM ADF and reporting directly to the CDF

ADFIS Investigators are expected to be qualified in accordance with Australian Government Investigations Standards. They do so by completing the Service Police Basic and Intermediate courses and the 12 week ADF Investigator Course (ADFIC) at the Defence Police Training Centre. ADFIS Investigators are also required to complete the Defence Forensic Procedures Course and selected Investigators can expect to undertake training and secondments with civilian police in specific disciplines, including sexual assault, drugs, homicide, professional standards and intelligence.

The current ADFIS establishment is 151 positions comprising 131 Investigator positions and 20 support staff positions (legal, administration, records, business management and logistics). Currently some 34 Investigator and direct support positions are vacant. However, across the currently filled positions, 100 ADFIS Investigators possess a total of in excess of 650 years investigation experience.

A table detailing the experience of current (2008) ADFIS investigators is attached.

The Provost Marshal designate, Colonel Martyn Reed, is a General Service Officer with considerable military command experience. He also has extensive leadership and management experience, which he has developed both within the Army and as a civilian. While not a Military Policeman himself, Colonel Reed has developed during his career a solid appreciation of policing issues. As an Improvised Explosive Device Disposal and Explosive Ordnance Disposal officer, Colonel Reed undertook two years of specialist bomb-disposal training in North America with the US Military, FBI, Canadian Defence Force and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. As a senior officer within Army Headquarters, Colonel Reed supervised the Provost Marshal-Army (PM-A) and his team and skilfully managed a range of serious and sensitive personnel issues on behalf of Chief of Army. Colonel Reed has been specifically chosen by the Chief of the Defence Force due to his performance as Director of Coordination-Army and for his demonstrated ability to lead and transform cultures.

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Appointment	Rank	Investigation Experience
Provost Marshal ADF	COL	22 Yrs
Command Warrant Officer	WOFF	18 Yrs
Director Professional Standards	LCDR	26 Yrs
Professional Standards Officer 1	CAPT	4 Yrs
Director Criminal Intelligence	APS6	8 yrs
Criminal Intelligence 1	WO1	12 Yrs
Director Service Police Central Records Office (SPCRO)	FSGT	3Yrs
Deputy Director Policy	FLTTLT	1 Yr
Training Coordination	PO	Unconfirmed
Director of Operations	MAJ	20 Yrs
Investigation Operations	CAPT	20 Yrs
Investigation Plans	FLTTLT	19 yrs
Future Operations	SGT(AF)	2 Yrs
Staff Officer Investigations	LT	0 yrs
Current Operations	SGT(A)	9 Yrs
Senior Investigator	WO1	11 Yrs
Joint Investigation Office (JIO) Commander Butterworth	WO2	11 Yrs
Regional Commander	CAPT	Unconfirmed
Case Manager	WO2	15 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	2 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	4 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	1 Yr
Investigator	CPL(AF)	1 Yr
Investigator	SGT(AF)	20 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	3 Yrs
Case Manager	WO2	13 Yrs
Case Manager	PO	17 Yrs
JIO Commander	WO2	4 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	2 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	4 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	0 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	3 Yrs
JIO Commander	CPO	10 Yrs
Investigator	PO	23 Yrs
Investigator	PO	6 Yrs
Investigator	PO	4 Yrs
Investigator	PO	3 Yrs
Investigator	PO	1 Yr
Investigator	PO	4 Yrs
JIO Commander	CPO	0 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	3 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	2 Yrs
JIO Commander	SGT(AF)	3 Yrs

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Investigator	CPL(AF)	4 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	7 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	9 yrs
JIO Commander	FSGT	4 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	2 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	3 Yrs
JIO Commander	CPO	0 Yrs
Regional Commander	FLTLT	10 Yrs
Case Manager	WO2	10 Yrs
Investigator	CPO	0 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	3 Yrs
JIO Commander	WO2	8 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	2 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	2 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	1 Yr
JIO Commander	SGT(AF)	4 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	7 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	18 Yrs
JIO Commander	SGT(A)	10 Yrs
JIO Commander	WO1	4 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	4 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	15 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	6 yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	Unconfirmed (UK Lateral)
Investigator	CPL(AF)	1 Yr
JIO Commander	CPO	10 Yrs
Investigator	PO	3 Yrs
Regional Commander	FLTLT	3 Yrs
Case Manager	WO2	9 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	2 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	4 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(A)	3 Yrs
JIO Commander	CPO	22 Yrs
Investigator	PO	9 Yrs
Investigator	PO	0 Yrs
Investigator	PO	1 Yr
Investigator	CPL(AF)	3 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	3 Yrs
JIO Commander	WO2	9 Yrs
JIO Commander	FSGT	1 Yr
Investigator	SGT(A)	6 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	1 Yr
Investigator	CPL(AF)	1 yr
Investigator	SGT(AF)	9 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	4 Yrs
Regional Commander	CAPT	25 yrs
Case Manager	CPO	27 Yrs

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Appointment	Rank	Investigation Experience
Investigator	PO	4 Yrs
JIO Commander	CPO	6 Yrs
Investigator	CPO	0 Yrs
Investigator	PO	3 Yrs
Investigator	PO	6 Yrs
JIO Commander	SGT(AF)	3 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(A)	4 Yrs
Investigator	SGT(AF)	8 Yrs
Investigator	CPL(AF)	1 Yr
Investigator	CPL(AF)	1Yr

Q2

Inventory Remediation

Senator Johnston, Hansard, 22 October 2008, p27

What has been the total cost to date of remediating inventory systems and processes?

RESPONSE

The directly attributable cost to Defence and DMO since commencement of the inventory-related remediation plans in 2004 is around \$52 million, to 30 June 2008.

Q3

White Paper Community Consultation Panel

Senator Ludlam, Hansard, 22 October 2008, p29

What selection criteria was used by the Minister in selecting the Community Consultation Panel members?

RESPONSE

The members of the Community Consultation Panel were chosen by the Government and represent a wealth and cross section of professional backgrounds in the military, business, science, research, legal and political sectors.

Each panel member was chosen on the basis of their interest or involvement in Defence matters, their capacity to inform debate and their ability to build stronger community interest in the future of Australian Defence Force.

Q4

Defence White Paper

Senator Trood, Hansard, 22 October 2008, p30

Is Defence still on track to complete the document by the end of this year?

RESPONSE

Defence is well advanced in its consideration of the strategic environment relevant to the future development of our armed forces and the resultant capability priorities which should be pursued.

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The Government has reiterated its determination to ensure a fully costed White Paper is delivered by March-April 2009.

Q5
Special Purpose Aircraft

Senator Fierravanti-Wells, Hansard, 22 October 2008, pp35-41

- a) What would have been the typical seat configuration for the former Prime Minister's overseas trips on the B707?
- b) How many journalists usually travelled in the 707 aircraft when accompanying the former Prime Minister overseas?
- c) On how many occasions since Mr Rudd became Prime Minister has there been a request for a second aircraft to carry journalists?
- d) How many requests were made during the tenure of the former Prime Minister, Mr Howard, for a second aircraft to accompany him overseas?
- e) From whom did Defence charter the second aircraft used in the Prime Minister's overseas trip in June 2008, and how was it configured?
- f) Has the cost of the aircraft chartered by Defence been greater than the cost of one of the regular VIP fleet?

RESPONSE

- a) For overseas tasking the RAAF Boeing 707 in VIP configuration was typically fitted with:
 - 4 seats in the VIP Suite,
 - 20 seats in business-class standard, and
 - 20 seats in economy-class standard.

The mix of seating between business class and economy class could be varied slightly depending on the requirements of the tasking.

- b) On overseas trips when the former Prime Minister travelled by RAAF B707 between 1997 and the withdrawal of the B707 from VIP tasking in 2002, the number of journalists carried on the B707 varied between two and 19.
- c) As at 22 October 2008, since Mr Rudd became Prime Minister, a second aircraft to take journalists has been requested, and provided, on four occasions. Three were commercial charters and one was a RAAF C-17.
- d) During his tenure, the former Prime Minister made five requests for a second aircraft to accompany him overseas.
- e) For the overseas visit in June 2008 to Japan and Indonesia, the OzJet-operated 737-200 series was in standard commercial configuration with eight business-class and 94 economy-class seats, and was chartered from Heavylift Cargo Airlines, a member of the ADF Airlift Standing Offer panel. Heavylift owns OzJet.
- f) The additional cost of the regular Defence VIP aircraft is \$3,355 per hour. The additional cost of the charters in June and July 2008 were \$12,833 per hour and \$15,283 per hour respectively. While the additional cost of charter is higher than the additional cost of using a RAAF VIP aircraft, this is partly offset by recoveries from the larger party of journalists. For the June 2008 charter, Defence expects to recover \$141,679 from journalists. For the July 2008 charter, Defence is currently preparing invoices to be despatched to journalists.

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Q6

Townsville Airport Rescue & Fire-Fighting Services

Senator Macdonald, Hansard, 22 October 2008, pp53-54

- a) Has Defence received correspondence from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government requesting that Defence and Airservices Australia resolve the rescue and fire-fighting services contract?
- b) What action has Defence taken to resolve the matter?

RESPONSE

- a) Yes. The correspondence, dated 5 March 2008, was addressed to the Deputy Chief of Air Force.
- b) Since receipt of the correspondence, Defence (both Air Force and Defence Support Group) has been actively participating in meetings and discussions with all parties with a view to meeting the requirements specified by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government. On 29 October 2008, Delta released to Defence (received on 3 November 2008, by Deputy Chief of Air Force) a copy of the transition plan and an unsolicited proposal for delivery of Airport Rescue and Fire-Fighting Services at Townsville Airport). Defence is in the process of evaluating the transition plan and unsolicited proposal, and consulting with all parties as required.

Q7

Joint Strike Fighter

Senator Johnston, Hansard, 22 October 2008, p71

Is Australia contributing to the test and evaluation phase of the JSF Program?

RESPONSE

The test and evaluation phase of the JSF Program covers many individual elements, broadly divided into Development Test and Initial Operational Test & Evaluation (IOT&E).

In terms of Development Test, Australian project personnel embedded in the JSF project office are involved in planning and conducting that testing. DSTO personnel have already been involved in detailed assessment of the JSF radar. DSTO is also conducting operational analysis and technical risk assessments of the various JSF systems and has staff located in Washington as advisers and technical specialists. Australian personnel have recently been involved in detailed noise assessment of the JSF. In the future, we plan on contributing one technician and one flight test engineer to the 'Flight Science' portion of the Development Test activities.

For IOT&E, while we do not plan to acquire dedicated test aircraft, we are in negotiations with the US to determine the optimum level of engagement so as to minimise the amount of unique IOT&E activities we need to conduct after we receive our first aircraft in Australia, currently planned for 2014. Only the US, UK and Netherlands will be involved in flying during the IOT&E program. Italy had also intended to participate, but has recently opted out because of costs.

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Q8

Defence Family Healthcare Clinics Trial

Senator Trood, Hansard, 22 October 2008, p77

Under the scheme, would a person be able to access out-of-area dental services if a dentist was not available in that person's local area?

RESPONSE

ADF dependants living in the regions identified for the ADF Family Health Care Trial will be able to receive dental services from a dentist of choice, including out-of-area dentists.

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Q9

Remediation of Contamination of Defence Land at Lawson ACT

Senator Ludlam, Hansard, 22 October 2008, p80-83

- a) For how long has Defence been aware that the site was contaminated, particularly the lead and asbestos contamination?
- b) Is the asbestos on the site covered or uncovered?
- c) Could you please provide the committee with a copy of the contamination assessment report and the site remediation action plan?
- d) How many qualified environmental officers does Defence have?
- e) Were autopsies carried out on any of the culled kangaroos?
- f) What is the known Aboriginal heritage value of the grassland areas on the site?

RESPONSE

- a) PCB contamination was first identified in the mid to late 1980s and general contamination was identified in the early 2000s. The potential for asbestos contamination was highlighted in 2002 and confirmed in 2006. Lead contamination was first identified in 2008.
- b) The asbestos-containing material identified on the site, primarily in surface building rubble and the former landfill, was bound and no loose fibres were detected.
- c) Yes, copies have been provided to the Committee.
- d) Defence has 38 National Office staff in environmental roles and approximately 42 regionally based staff in environmental roles across Australia. However, expertise from members of Defence's environmental panel is contracted, along with independent auditors, for disposal projects.
- e) Post mortem research investigations were undertaken by the ACT Government on about half of the kangaroos. The main purpose of these investigations was to determine the condition (health) of the animals in relation to the availability of food on the site.
- f) An assessment undertaken by Defence's Heritage Consultant, in collaboration with the four Registered Aboriginal Organisations in the ACT, found that there were eight Aboriginal sites and seven areas of Potential Archaeological Deposits. The assessment found that the identified sites were not of high archaeological significance but possessed important cultural values to the local Aboriginal community.

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Written Questions on Notice

W1

Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme

Senator Boswell

- a) What, if any, steps have been taken to estimate the costs of the Government's response to climate change including the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme for every department, agency and program within this portfolio?
- b) What are the costs and estimated costs identified (reported separately)?
- c) Have any costs been included in forward estimates and, if so, where?

RESPONSE

- a) None.
- b) Unknown.
- c) No.

W2

Special Purpose Aircraft

Senator Fierravanti-Wells

- a) Further to the questions asked on 22 October 2008 regarding the use of the VIP aircraft for overseas travel by Prime Minister Rudd and his accompanying media entourage, please advise where the reimbursement referred to by media organisations is shown in the budget papers.
- b) Please provide details of all reimbursements made to the Commonwealth by media organisations, persons or entities in payment for travel by journalists as part of the Prime Minister Rudd's media entourage on any trip since 24 November 2007.

RESPONSE

- a) The expected recoveries from journalists are included in the *Portfolio Budget Statements 2008-09*, page 85, in the section headed Income, Revenue, Goods and Services.
- b) For the Prime Minister's overseas visit in March-April 2008, invoices have been raised to recover a total of \$252,000 from 21 journalists at \$12,000 each. For the Prime Minister's overseas visit in June, which utilised a chartered 737-200 aircraft to carry the media party, invoices have been raised for 21 journalists totalling \$141,679. For the July 2008 charter, Defence has not yet calculated the amount to be recovered. Defence has also issued invoices for recoveries from journalists who travelled on a number of domestic and overseas trips using a single RAAF VIP aircraft.

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W3

Disposal of Schofields Site NSW

Senator Payne

What consultation has taken place with Blacktown City Council regarding the Department of Defence recently announcing a call for tenders for the sale of the Schofields Aerodrome site?

RESPONSE

Defence has liaised with Blacktown City Council in the normal course of events over a long period regarding the Schofields site.

Defence did not specifically consult with Blacktown City Council regarding the open market tendering process. However, on 30 April 2008 Defence advised Blacktown City Council that the Schofields site was going to market, so that the Council could prepare for inquiries from interested parties. Blacktown City Council also obtained a copy of the sales Information Memorandum and attended the on-site inspection, with other potential purchasers, on 20 May 2008.