

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 25

Senator Siewert asked the following question at the hearing on 23 February 2009:

Were the Japanese allegations of a collision between the *Kaiko Maru* and the *Robert Hunter* made under the same provisions as the current Japanese allegations of an incident between the *Steve Irwin* and the *Yushin Maru No. 3*? (s10 (2) *Crimes (Ships and Fixed Platforms) Act 1992*).

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

No. In relation to the alleged collision between the *MV Kaiko Maru* and the *MV Robert Hunter* the AFP did not receive a complaint from the Japanese authorities. A referral was received from the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society on 20 February 2007.

In response to this referral the AFP undertook preliminary enquires and offences under the *Crimes (Ships and Fixed Platforms) Act 1992* and *Crimes at Sea Act 2000* were considered.

In response to the recent complaint from Japanese authorities regarding the incident between the *MV Steve Irwin* and the *MV Yushin Maru No. 3* the AFP undertook preliminary enquires and considered a range of offences including section 10 (2) the *Crimes (Ships and Fixed Platforms) Act 1992*.