

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION SERVICE

Question No. 21

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 12 February 2013:

Senator BRANDIS: Has Customs seized any illegal shipments of cigars in the past six months and, if so, how many?

Mr Pezzullo: I am just not sure that we get whole shipments of cigars. We will check, but the answer—being the recollection of the relevant competent officers—is that we cannot recall shipments of cigars.

Senator BRANDIS: Can I rephrase the question and ask for quantities?

Mr Pezzullo: Sure.

Senator BRANDIS: You will take that on notice?

Mr Pezzullo: Yes.

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

Between 1 July 2012 and 31 January 2013 Customs and Border Protection made six detections of cigars totalling 2080 cigars and 1.1 kg of cigar products.