

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0429) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

How many people were involved in escaping the Manus centre during February 2013 and on how many occasions, and on what dates, did escapes take place? Were these people all single adult males? Of which nationality?

Answer:

A number of transferees left the Regional Processing Centre on Manus Island (Papua New Guinea) for a short period of time during February 2013. On each occasion the individuals returned to the Centre voluntarily.

All transferees involved in the incidents were single adult males of Iranian and Iraqi nationality.

The incidents occurred on the following dates:

- 13 February – One single adult male transferee left the Centre for a short period of time before returning to the Centre voluntarily.
- 14 February – In the first of two incidents, two single adult male transferees left the Centre for a short period of time before returning to the Centre voluntarily. In the second incident, approximately fifty transferees left the Centre for a short period of time before returning to the Centre voluntarily.
- 21 February - Seven single adult male transferees left the Centre for a short period of time before returning to the Centre voluntarily.
- 23 February - Three single adult male transferees left the Centre for a short period of time before returning to the Centre voluntarily.
- 24 February - One single adult male transferee left the Centre for a short period of time before returning to the Centre voluntarily.