

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 25 February 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14-323)

Senator Conroy (Written) asked:

Were any of the commanders of the vessels that entered Indonesian waters warned that they were entering Indonesian waters or were close to Indonesian waters by operational headquarters?

a. Please provide information about the explanations were provided by Customs and Navy captains for their incursion into Indonesian waters.

Answer:

No. As noted in the Joint Review of Positioning of Vessels Engaged in Operation Sovereign Borders – Executive Summary, the incursions were inadvertent, in that each arose from the incorrect calculation of the boundaries of Indonesian waters.

Recommendations One and Two of the Joint Review recommend that the Chief of Joint Operations, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Border Enforcement) Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) and the Chief of Navy consider any individual lapses in professional conduct. Due to the on-going consideration of the recommendations, it would be inappropriate to provide a response at this time.