

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0335) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

In relation to reportable incidents that occurred in SERCO managed detention facilities, were any weapons searches conducted after each of these incidents? Were any found? What were they?

Answer:

The detention services provider, Serco, is required to undertake regular, routine searches of the facilities and monthly random security checks of client accommodation. Searches are conducted to detect and control the presence of illegal, excluded and controlled items. Specific 'weapons searches' are not required to be conducted after each and every reportable incident.

During some regular routine searches conducted by Serco, items which could potentially be used as weapons have been located. Serco's operational response is to remove such items from the clients and hand them over to the relevant State/Territory police.

Management of persons who are found in possession of potential weapons is dealt with on a case by case basis. The State/Territory police may choose to charge clients if they consider it appropriate. On other occasions, Serco counsels clients regarding appropriate behaviour while in immigration detention.

The table below summarises the detection of potential weapons located and reported by the detention services provider between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011.

Facility	Date	What was Found
MITA	13/07/2010	broken objects
NWP IDC	17/07/2010	metal object rods and other broken items
NWP IDC	23/07/2010	knife
NWP IDC	23/07/2010	scissors, needles
BITA	28/07/2010	knife
NWP IDC	30/07/2010	stick
Gwalia Lodge APOD	1/08/2010	length of timber, fire extinguisher
VIDC	11/08/2010	scissors, shifter, razors, broken pool cue and other non-permitted items
VIDC	18/08/2010	mop handle

NIDC	30/08/2010	knife
VIDC	1/09/2010	knife
VIDC	7/09/2010	knife, metal bar, pool ball, hoe, shovel, pole
VIDC	8/09/2010	scissors
MIDC	10/09/2010	scissors
BITA	12/09/2010	knife
Phosphate Hill APOD	14/09/2010	scissors
VIDC	16/09/2010	scissors, metal pole, wooden stick and other non-permitted items
VIDC	17/09/2010	knife
NWP IDC	19/09/2010	broom handles
Construction Camp APOD	24/09/2010	knife
NWP IDC	8/10/2010	knife
PIDC	24/10/2010	knife, toy guns
Gwalia Lodge APOD	26/10/2010	scissors
PIDC	2/11/2010	scissors
NWP IDC	9/11/2010	knife
Gwalia Lodge APOD	12/11/2010	scissors
Construction Camp APOD	29/11/2010	screwdriver
VIDC	30/11/2010	scissors
NWP IDC	1/12/2010	extendable knife
NWP IDC	1/12/2010	scissors
Gwalia Lodge APOD	3/12/2010	knife, scissors
Scherger IDC	22/12/2010	scissors
Phosphate Hill APOD	31/12/2010	knife
NWP IDC	3/01/2011	screwdriver
VIDC	10/01/2011	mop handle
VIDC	13/01/2011	mop handle
MIDC	25/01/2011	vacuum cleaner pipe
VIDC	31/01/2011	work tools
Phosphate Hill APOD	15/02/2011	scissors
VIDC	21/02/2011	metal door opener, metal tubing
VIDC	21/02/2011	scissors
PIDC	1/03/2011	knife
NWP IDC	2/03/2011	knife
NWP IDC	2/03/2011	scissors
NWP IDC	3/03/2011	scissors
NWP IDC	4/03/2011	metal rod, wire
Inverbrackie APOD	7/03/2011	knife

VIDC	9/03/2011	knife
Construction Camp APOD	9/03/2011	scissors and other non-permitted items
VIDC	10/03/2011	knife
NWP IDC	17/03/2011	length of timber
VIDC	17/03/2011	knife
VIDC	19/03/2011	scissors
VIDC	21/03/2011	metal rod
VIDC	23/03/2011	metal poles
NWP IDC	26/03/2011	scissors
Construction Camp APOD	30/03/2011	metal and wooden poles
Phosphate Hill APOD	11/04/2011	knife
NWP IDC	13/04/2011	scissors
VIDC	5/05/2011	scissors, metal pole
NIDC	6/05/2011	pool cue, knife
VIDC	6/05/2011	metal pipe
VIDC	10/05/2011	scissors, broken items
VIDC	15/05/2011	knife
NIDC	16/05/2011	pool cue
NWP IDC	17/05/2011	metal strapping and wire
VIDC	26/05/2011	mop handle
Construction Camp APOD	31/05/2011	metal poles, scissors
MIDC	1/06/2011	scissors
VIDC	2/06/2011	weapons
Construction Camp APOD	3/06/2011	metal rods, hammer
VIDC	3/06/2011	knife
VIDC	4/06/2011	cork screw, spanner
Leonora APOD	7/06/2011	scissors
VIDC	15/06/2011	pool cue
Phosphate Hill APOD	18/06/2011	knife
VIDC	27/06/2011	scissors
VIDC	29/06/2011	scissors