

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 198

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

- a) Does Customs perform face to passport checks on non commercial vessels when entering Australia?
- b) If so, can these figures be provided as a percentage of the total for the last 12 months?
- c) Can these figures be broken down to include first port or subsequent port of call for face to passport check?

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

- a) Yes
- b) 100%
- c) All face to passport checks are undertaken at first port.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 199

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

Of those non-commercial vessels, which enter Australia, how many instances of passport discrepancies are found, and what action is taken where, discrepancies are revealed?

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

There have been no instances of passport discrepancies found on non-commercial vessels.

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) has advised that if it was advised by Customs that a discrepancy had been discovered, it would generally refuse the person immigration clearance.

DIMIA also advised that as a result of being refused immigration clearance the person would be detained, either onboard the vessel or onshore in a place of immigration detention, pending removal from Australia. The passport in question would be removed from circulation.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 200

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

What land based surveillance of the coastline is being undertaken? What methods are used by the ACS?

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

The Australian Customs Service does not undertake land based surveillance of the coastline. However, land patrols covering a variety of functions are undertaken in all States and Territories.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 201

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

What is the cost of land based surveillance?

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

The Australian Customs Service does not undertake land based surveillance of the coastline. Land patrols are an integral part of Customs Regional and District Office functions and costings are difficult to identify and separate.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question 202

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004

- a) Can you advise whether all the matters that were canvassed during the ANAO audit process have been put in train or have been completed by recommendation?
- b) If not, which of the recommendations have not finally implemented or completed?

The answer to the Honourable Senator's question is as follows:

The ANAO audit made nine recommendations, of which six are complete.

The three outstanding recommendations are numbers 6,7 and 9.

NO.	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
6	To support fraud control planning and inform management decision-making, the ANAO recommends that Customs: (a) routinely evaluate and analyse fraud referrals, investigations, case outcomes and trends nationally; and (b) disseminate this information within Customs to support the assessment of risks and the development of the fraud control plan and fraud action plans.	It is anticipated that systems to implement this recommendation will be completed in early 2005.
7	To ensure consistent practices in managing and recovering debts relating to court-imposed fines, costs and penalties, the ANAO recommends that Customs: (a) review its processes and systems for recovering these debts; (b) develop and implement standard procedures for recording, monitoring and reporting debts arising from prosecution actions; (c) consider drafting a Chief Executive Instruction to support this debt management process; and (d) consider transferring this function from the Investigations Branch to an area of the office responsible for debt management across the organisation.	The function of managing and recovering various debts has been transferred from Investigations to Sanctions Section and the Financial Services Branch. Standard Operating Procedures and Chief Executives Instructions are being reviewed. The Financial Services Branch is reviewing Customs Debt Management Policy and is compiling a list of options for recovery of debts. Debt management has been computerised

NO.	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
9	<p>The ANAO recommends that Customs build on its ongoing work to review its performance measures for preventing, detecting and controlling fraud; and to move towards developing a range of performance indicators that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) more accurately assess the effectiveness of its fraud strategies; and (b) include internal and, where necessary, cross-agency quantitative and qualitative data to ensure reliability and consistency. 	<p>In developing its fraud control plan, Customs complies with the <i>Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines</i> issued by the Attorney-General's Department (AGD). The <i>Guidelines</i> do not require agencies to develop performance measures to assess the effectiveness of fraud control strategies.</p> <p>Nevertheless, each year, all Commonwealth agencies are required to complete a fraud control questionnaire from which AGD produces a report on fraud against the Commonwealth and fraud control activities within Commonwealth agencies.</p> <p>Customs is assessing how best to use this information to develop performance indicators.</p>

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 203

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

In respect of the maritime surveillance can you outline the number of indigenous officers of the Torres straight have been recruited and on what basis is their recruitment and pay?

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

Since 1999-2000, the Australian Customs Service National Marine Unit has recruited twelve Torres Strait Islanders as marine trainees under the National Illicit Drugs Strategy. Trainees are employed for twelve months as Customs Officer Level 1, sea-going crew. During this time, officers also attend courses to obtain qualifications in first aid, shipboard safety and radio operation.

The current pay range for a Customs Officer Level 1 is \$21,212 to \$42,952. As sea-going crew, trainees also receive a 60 per cent marine allowance in recognition of the special duties performed and in lieu of any overtime, shift penalty or restricted duty allowance.

On successful completion of their training, the marine trainees are recruited as permanent employees as positions become available.

This recruitment process is ongoing.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 204

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

Could Customs outline why there has been a drop in the number of square kilometres searched by aerial surveillance coverage's by square nautical miles from 2002-3 from 146 million to 138.0 million?

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

Coastwatch plans the flying program to meet tasks identified by a number of Commonwealth agencies using an agreed risk assessment approach. Invariably some flights are subsequently cancelled or shortened due to requirements to react to shorter-term targeted missions, adverse weather conditions, aircraft unserviceability and/or crew unavailability.

In 2003-04 Coastwatch supplemented the flying program with satellite coverage that provided an additional 4.5 million square nautical miles.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 205

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

Can you advise the reasons for why there has been a drop in Coastwatch contracted aircraft sorties from 4613 to 4508?

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

See answer to Question 204.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 206

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

Can you advise the reasons for why the Navy contracted to do maritime surveillance by the RAN Fremantle class patrol boat similarly dropped 781 to 580 sea days. Was that as a consequence of customs or coast watch requesting less hours or the RAN Fremantle class patrol boats being offered by the navy reducing their number of sea days on offer to customs?

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

This question should be asked of the Department of Defence.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 207

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

In respect to operation RELEX II is it possible to determine the number of square nautical miles patrolled which was made available to customs?

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

This question should be asked of the Department of Defence.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 208

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

How many vessels have been detected by the Australian Customs Service (ACS) entering the Australian territorial sea without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities for each of the years since 1996?

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

This question was previously asked by the Honourable Senator on 29 March 2004 as Question on Notice 2776 and was answered on 3 August 2004. The answer is unchanged. A copy of the answer is attached.

(Question No. 2776)

[Senator Ludwig](#) asked the Minister for Justice and Customs, upon notice, on 29 March 2004:

(1) For each year since 1996, how many vessels has the Australian Customs Service (ACS) detected entering the Australian territorial sea without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities.

(2) For each year since 1996: (a) how many vessels that landed on Australian territory without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities has the ACS detected; and (b) in each case: (i) when was the vessel detected, (ii) where was the vessel when detected, and (iii) how did the ACS first become aware of the vessel's presence on the mainland.

(3) Does the ACS maintain a record of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected in Australia's territorial sea; if not, why not; if so, since 1996, have any unauthorised foreign flagged vessels been detected more than once.

(4) Can details be provided of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected more than once since 1996, showing: (a) the name of the vessel; (b) when and where it was detected; and (c) any action initiated by the ACS in relation to the vessels presence in the Australian territorial sea.

[Senator Ellison](#) —The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

(1) The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides that all ships have a right of innocent passage through territorial seas. In accordance with this Convention, there is no requirement for a foreign flagged vessel to seek authorisation from Australian authorities to enter the Australian territorial sea.

Under relevant legislation, including the Customs Act 1901, officers of the Australian Customs Service are able to exercise certain powers in relation to vessels and people suspected of unlawful activity within the Australian territorial sea.

These powers include the powers to detain, search and move a vessel or person.

The following table sets out the number of sightings of Foreign Fishing Vessels (FFVs) potentially fishing illegally in Australian waters, and the number of Suspect Illegal Entrant Vessels (SIEVs) detected in Australia's territorial seas since 1998-99:

Year	Foreign Fishing Vessels* potentially fishing illegally in Australian waters	Suspect Illegal Entrant Vessels detected in Australia's territorial seas
1996-97	Not available	11
1997-98	Not available	18
1998-99	254	33
1999-00	185	71
2000-	297	52

01		
2001-02	474	23
2002-03	685	0

* Note: The great bulk of FFVs are similar in construction and carry no distinguishing markings. Defence and Coastwatch aircraft are unable therefore to identify individual FFVs, and data relating to sightings of FFVs will inevitably include some repeat sightings of the same vessel during successive sorties.

(2)Vessels are not required to seek authorization to land at a proclaimed port within Australian Territory. They are required to notify the Australian Customs Service of impending arrival 48 hours before coming into a proclaimed port, and then have 24 hours after arrival to report to Customs.

Under s.58 of the Customs Act 1901, vessels seeking to enter any place other than a proclaimed port or airport, for example because of weather or other reasonable cause, must first obtain Customs permission. Customs does not keep records of all vessels that have landed in other than a proclaimed port or airport, other than those that are alleged to have landed for the purpose of either people smuggling or attempting to import prohibited goods.

The following vessels have landed on Australian Territory since 2000, allegedly for the purposes of committing such offences. Data on vessels landing prior to 2000 are archived and extraction of records would involve significant resources.

Date	Arrival Point	Circumstances
4/01/2000	Ashmore Islands	HMAS Wollongong sighted vessel aground on Ashmore Islands.
24/01/2000	247nm ENE of Sydney	Sighted by Coastwatch - drug operation
1/02/2000	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted as it was approaching the Christmas Island.
16/02/2000	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted approaching Christmas Island.
6/03/2000	Ashmore Islands	Coastwatch sighted vessel in the process of unloading SUNCs by raft.
18/03/2000	Ashmore Islands (vessel not sighted)	Coastwatch sighted group of SUNCs on West Island of Ashmore Islands.
28/03/2000	Ashmore Islands	Coastwatch sighted vessel in lagoon of West Island of Ashmore Islands.
24/04/2000	Ashmore Islands	Coastwatch sighted vessel on West Island of Ashmore Islands.
9/05/2000	Ashmore Islands	Coastwatch sighted vessel at Ashmore Islands. Also reported by HMAS Bendigo.
16/05/2000	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Botany Bay approaching Ashmore Islands.
1/06/2000	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Wauri approaching lagoon at Ashmore Islands.
27/06/2000	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island
10/07/2000	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Wauri as it approached Ashmore Islands.

23/09/2000	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted on East Island by ACV Wauri tender
1/10/2000	Ashmore Islands	ACV Wauri crew sighted SUNCs on West Island of Ashmore
15/10/2000	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Wauri entering Ashmore Islands lagoon.
17/12/2000	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by Coastwatch 15/12/2000; monitored by Coastwatch and ACV radar until arrival at Ashmore Islands.
16/12/2000	Boigu Island (Torres Strait)	Boigu Island Community Police advised Queensland Police of vessel arrival.
18/12/2000	Ashmore Islands	Coastwatch sighted vessel aground on sandbar east of East Island at Ashmore Islands.
6/01/2001	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island
8/03/2001	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted in the lagoon at Ashmore Islands by ACV Arnhem Bay.
24/03/2001	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Wauri and HMAS Bunbury in the lagoon at Ashmore Islands.
25/03/2001	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island
28/03/2001	Kerr Islet	Coastwatch aircraft sighted vessel aground at Kerr Islet in the Torres Strait.
18/04/2001	Landed Exmouth (not sighted)	Western Australian Police at Exmouth advised apprehension of Suspect Unlawful Non-citizens.
23/04/2001	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
27/04/2001	Vessel tracked from air and intercepted 3/5/2001 at Moreton Island near Brisbane	Drug operation
3/05/2001	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by Coastwatch aground in vicinity of East Islet
9/05/2001	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted in Christmas Island harbour.
20/05/2001	Ashmore Islands (vessel not sighted)	Lone person sighted by ACV Wauri on West Island
4/06/2001	Bathurst Island	Vessel reported by local resident
7/07/2001	Gold Coast	Drug operation
25/07/2001	338 nautical miles off Point Bluff	Sighted by Coastwatch - drug operation
4/08/2001	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
13/08/2001	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted at the entrance to Ashmore Islands lagoon by ACV Arnhem Bay
16/08/2001	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
22/08/2001	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
10/09/2001	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Arnhem Bay on Ashmore Islands.
15/09/2001	Cocos Island	Vessel sighted at Cocos Island.
9/12/2001	Cocos Island	Vessel sighted at Cocos Island.

28/05/2002	Ashmore Islands (vessel not sighted)	Campfire sighted on Ashmore Islands by ACV Arnhem Bay
9/04/2003	Dinghy landed at Boggaly Creek 14km west of Lorne Victoria	Sighted by Coastwatch - drug operation
1/07/2003	Port Hedland	Vessel reported by Port Authorities
4/11/2003	Melville Island	Vessel reported by Melville Islanders
4/03/2004	Ashmore Islands (vessel not sighted)	Vessel sighted by ACV Dame Roma Mitchell

(3) See my response to (1) above. There is no requirement for foreign flagged vessels in Australian territorial waters to be authorized. Records are kept of vessels intercepted committing an offence against relevant Border Protection legislation.

(4) See my response to (1) above. As there is no requirement for vessels to be authorized, records of this nature are not maintained.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 209

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

How many vessels have the ACS detected that landed on Australian Territory without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities for each of the years since 1996?

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

This question was previously asked by the Honourable Senator on 29 March 2004 as Question on Notice 2776 and was answered on 3 August 2004. The answer is unchanged. A copy of that answer is attached.

(Question No. 2776)

[Senator Ludwig](#) asked the Minister for Justice and Customs, upon notice, on 29 March 2004:

(1) For each year since 1996, how many vessels has the Australian Customs Service (ACS) detected entering the Australian territorial sea without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities.

(2) For each year since 1996: (a) how many vessels that landed on Australian territory without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities has the ACS detected; and (b) in each case: (i) when was the vessel detected, (ii) where was the vessel when detected, and (iii) how did the ACS first become aware of the vessel's presence on the mainland.

(3) Does the ACS maintain a record of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected in Australia's territorial sea; if not, why not; if so, since 1996, have any unauthorised foreign flagged vessels been detected more than once.

(4) Can details be provided of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected more than once since 1996, showing: (a) the name of the vessel; (b) when and where it was detected; and (c) any action initiated by the ACS in relation to the vessels presence in the Australian territorial sea.

[Senator Ellison](#) —The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

(1) The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides that all ships have a right of innocent passage through territorial seas. In accordance with this Convention, there is no requirement for a foreign flagged vessel to seek authorisation from Australian authorities to enter the Australian territorial sea.

Under relevant legislation, including the Customs Act 1901, officers of the Australian Customs Service are able to exercise certain powers in relation to vessels and people suspected of unlawful activity within the Australian territorial sea.

These powers include the powers to detain, search and move a vessel or person.

The following table sets out the number of sightings of Foreign Fishing Vessels (FFVs) potentially fishing illegally in Australian waters, and the number of Suspect Illegal Entrant Vessels (SIEVs) detected in Australia's territorial seas since 1998-99:

Year	Foreign Fishing Vessels* potentially fishing illegally in Australian waters	Suspect Illegal Entrant Vessels detected in Australia's territorial seas
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* Note: The great bulk of FFVs are similar in construction and carry no distinguishing markings. Defence and Coastwatch aircraft are unable therefore to identify individual FFVs, and data relating to sightings of FFVs will inevitably include some repeat sightings of the same vessel during successive sorties.

(2)Vessels are not required to seek authorization to land at a proclaimed port within Australian Territory. They are required to notify the Australian Customs Service of impending arrival 48 hours before coming into a proclaimed port, and then have 24 hours after arrival to report to Customs.

Under s.58 of the Customs Act 1901, vessels seeking to enter any place other than a proclaimed port or airport, for example because of weather or other reasonable cause, must first obtain Customs permission. Customs does not keep records of all vessels that have landed in other than a proclaimed port or airport, other than those that are alleged to have landed for the purpose of either people smuggling or attempting to import prohibited goods.

The following vessels have landed on Australian Territory since 2000, allegedly for the purposes of committing such offences. Data on vessels landing prior to 2000 are archived and extraction of records would involve significant resources.

Date	Arrival Point	Circumstances
4/01/2000	Ashmore Islands	HMAS Wollongong sighted vessel aground on Ashmore Islands.
24/01/2000	247nm ENE of Sydney	Sighted by Coastwatch - drug operation
1/02/2000	Christmas Island	Vessel sighted as it was approaching the Christmas Island.
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6/03/2000	Ashmore Islands	Coastwatch sighted vessel in the process of unloading SUNCs by raft.
18/03/2000	Ashmore Islands (vessel not sighted)	Coastwatch sighted group of SUNCs on West Island of Ashmore Islands.
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1/10/2000	Ashmore Islands	ACV Wauri crew sighted SUNCs on West Island of Ashmore
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18/04/2001	Landed Exmouth (not sighted)	Western Australian Police at Exmouth advised apprehension of Suspect Unlawful Non-citizens.
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27/04/2001	Vessel tracked from air and intercepted 3/5/2001 at Moreton Island near Brisbane	Drug operation
3/05/2001	Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by Coastwatch aground in vicinity of East Islet
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(3) See my response to (1) above. There is no requirement for foreign flagged vessels in Australian territorial waters to be authorized. Records are kept of vessels intercepted committing an offence against relevant Border Protection legislation.

(4) See my response to (1) above. As there is no requirement for vessels to be authorized, records of this nature are not maintained.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 210

Senator Ludwig asked the following question on 2 December 2004:

Please supply a list of these detections, the date of detection, the location of the detected vessel, and the means by which the ACS first became aware of the vessels presence on the mainland.

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

This question was previously asked on 29 March 2004 as Parliamentary Question on Notice 2776 and was answered on 20 August 2004. The answer is unchanged. A copy of the reply is attached.

(Question No. 2776)

[Senator Ludwig](#) asked the Minister for Justice and Customs, upon notice, on 29 March 2004:

- (1) For each year since 1996, how many vessels has the Australian Customs Service (ACS) detected entering the Australian territorial sea without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities.
- (2) For each year since 1996: (a) how many vessels that landed on Australian territory without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities has the ACS detected; and (b) in each case: (i) when was the vessel detected, (ii) where was the vessel when detected, and (iii) how did the ACS first become aware of the vessel's presence on the mainland.
- (3) Does the ACS maintain a record of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected in Australia's territorial sea; if not, why not; if so, since 1996, have any unauthorised foreign flagged vessels been detected more than once.
- (4) Can details be provided of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected more than once since 1996, showing: (a) the name of the vessel; (b) when and where it was detected; and (c) any action initiated by the ACS in relation to the vessels presence in the Australian territorial sea.

[Senator Ellison](#) —The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

(1) The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides that all ships have a right of innocent passage through territorial seas. In accordance with this Convention, there is no requirement for a foreign flagged vessel to seek authorisation from Australian authorities to enter the Australian territorial sea.

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(2)Vessels are not required to seek authorization to land at a proclaimed port within Australian Territory. They are required to notify the Australian Customs Service of impending arrival 48 hours before coming into a proclaimed port, and then have 24 hours after arrival to report to Customs.

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16/12/2000 Boigu Island (Torres Strait)	Boigu Island Community Police advised Queensland Police of vessel arrival.
18/12/2000 Ashmore Islands	Coastwatch sighted vessel aground on sandbar east of East Island at Ashmore Islands.
6/01/2001 Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island
8/03/2001 Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted in the lagoon at Ashmore Islands by ACV Arnhem Bay.
24/03/2001 Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Wauri and HMAS Bunbury in the lagoon at Ashmore Islands.
25/03/2001 Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island
28/03/2001 Kerr Islet	Coastwatch aircraft sighted vessel aground at Kerr Islet in the Torres Strait.
18/04/2001 Landed Exmouth (not sighted)	Western Australian Police at Exmouth advised apprehension of Suspect Unlawful Non-citizens.
23/04/2001 Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
27/04/2001 Vessel tracked from air and intercepted 3/5/2001 at Moreton Island near Brisbane	Drug operation
3/05/2001 Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by Coastwatch aground in vicinity of East Islet
9/05/2001 Christmas Island	Vessel sighted in Christmas Island harbour.
20/05/2001 Ashmore Islands (vessel not sighted)	Lone person sighted by ACV Wauri on West Island
4/06/2001 Bathurst Island	Vessel reported by local resident
7/07/2001 Gold Coast	Drug operation
25/07/2001 338 nautical miles off Point Bluff	Sighted by Coastwatch - drug operation
4/08/2001 Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
13/08/2001 Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted at the entrance to Ashmore Islands lagoon by ACV Arnhem Bay
16/08/2001 Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
22/08/2001 Christmas Island	Vessel sighted at Christmas Island.
10/09/2001 Ashmore Islands	Vessel sighted by ACV Arnhem Bay on Ashmore Islands.
15/09/2001 Cocos Island	Vessel sighted at Cocos Island.
9/12/2001 Cocos Island	Vessel sighted at Cocos Island.
28/05/2002 Ashmore Islands (vessel not	Campfire sighted on Ashmore Islands by ACV

	sighted)	Arnhem Bay
9/04/2003	Dinghy landed at Boggaly Creek 14km west of Lorne Victoria	Sighted by Coastwatch - drug operation
1/07/2003	Port Hedland	Vessel reported by Port Authorities
4/11/2003	Melville Island	Vessel reported by Melville Islanders
4/03/2004	Ashmore Islands (vessel not sighted)	Vessel sighted by ACV Dame Roma Mitchell

(3) See my response to (1) above. There is no requirement for foreign flagged vessels in Australian territorial waters to be authorized. Records are kept of vessels intercepted committing an offence against relevant Border Protection legislation.

(4) See my response to (1) above. As there is no requirement for vessels to be authorized, records of this nature are not maintained.