

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 176

Senator Ludwig the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2005:

- a) How much Customs has collected from duty in each month since March 2005?
- b) Could you provide a full list of seized items that Customs has auctioned in 2004-05, as well as an aggregate total of the revenue raised?
- c) Could you indicate how many of the auctioned items were forfeited for breach of duty-free limits?
 - (i) Could you indicate the amount raised by these auctioned items?

The answers to the honourable Senator's questions are as follows:

- a) Please refer to Attachment A for monthly collections of Customs duty from March 2005.
- b) In 2004-05, Customs conducted two auctions, one in Western Australia and one in the Northern Territory. The auctions did not include any seized goods.

The majority of the goods were sold under section 218A of the *Customs Act 1901* (because the goods had been abandoned) or under section 96 of the *Customs Act 1901* (because the goods had been warehoused and rent or charges in respect of those warehoused goods was or were in arrears).

The total revenue raised from the auctions was \$58,558.25 (after deducting commissions and expenses and including GST). A full list of the auctioned items is at Attachment B.

- c) The auctions did not include any forfeited goods. It should be noted, however, that goods that exceed the duty-free concession limit are not 'forfeited'.

It would be a time-consuming task to identify which of the goods sold at the auction in Western Australia had exceeded the duty free concession limit, given that the records date back some years. Customs in Western Australia estimates that spirits (alcohol) that had been 'abandoned' by passengers would have accounted for around 15 per cent of the revenue from the auction.

In relation to the (smaller) auction in the Northern Territory, all but one of the goods had been 'abandoned' for exceeding the duty free concession limit.

ATTACHMENT A

a) How much Customs has collected from duty in each month since March 2005?

Month	Monthly Duty Collections * \$M
March 2005	\$378.5
April 2005	\$382.9
May 2005	\$339.3
June 2005	\$343.5
July 2005	\$390.8
August 2005	\$382.3
September 2005	\$354.6
October 2005	\$411.0

*Collections are measured on an accrual basis and net of duty refunds and drawbacks.

ATTACHMENT B

GOODS AUCTIONED IN 2004-05

(CAMERA) NIKON F60 SLR WITH LENS (INC CAMERA BAG)	2 X COGNAC OTARD
(COMPUTER HARDWARE) ETHERNET 2 SLOT NETWORK MODULE	COIL OF ALUMINIUM STRAPPING
(COMPUTER HARDWARE) PORTAL SERIAL WAN INTERFACE CARD	3 X COINTREAU
(COSMETIC JEWELLERY) BRACELETS X 139	COTES ON ROUSSILLON
(FIREARM ATTACHMENT) TELESCOPIC SIGHT	2 X COURRIERE NAPOLEON BRANDY
100 PIPERS SCOTCH WHISKY	CRATE OF ENGINE PARTS
2 X BADMINTON RACQUETS AND STORAGE BAG	CREME DE ANIS LA TOLEDA
2 X BONNIE SCOT SCOTCH WHISKY,	DOONA
2 X BOURBON JACK DANIELS	DRAMBUIE
14 X BOURBON JIM BEAM	ELYSEE WINE
2 X BRANDY THREE BARRELS	FISHING RODS
2 X BRANDY VICEROY	FRONT, REAR BUMPER BARS AND SIDE SCOOPS
2 X CARTONS OF DIGITAL VISION MOTION CLIPS	FRY PAN, STEAMER AND SAUCE PANS
2 X CARTONS OF LINEN	GALLIANO SAMBUCA LIQUEUR
2 X COGNAC REMY MARTIN	2 X GIN BOMBAY SAPPHIRE
2 X CRATE OF VODKA	5 X GIN GORDONS
2 X CYLINDERS	2 X GLASS TOP COFFEE TABLE
2 X DRUMS OF ACTIVATED COCONUT CARBON	2 X GLAYVA LIQUEUR
2 X FINGER BOARD GAMES	GLENMORANGIE MINIS
2 X GIN BEEFEATER	GRAN SOLERA SHERRY
2 X GRAND MARNIER	GRANTS WHISKEY
2 X PALLET OF GECKO RIDGE WINE	INDIAN RUM AND BRANDY
2 X PALLET OF PRAZNIK BANDY	INERT GAS BURNER
2 X RUM OP BUNDABERG	IPC GOLD COMPUTER HP DESKJET 820 CXJ PRINTER
2 X SHOE RACKS AND MAGAZINE RACKS	4 X JACK DANIELS OLD NO.7 WHISKEY
2 X UMBRELLAS	JAMESON IRISH WHISKEY
7 X WHISKEY JOHNNY WALKER BLACK	11 X JOHNNIE WALKER RED LABEL WHISKY
3 PIECE CANE LOUNGE	2 X JOSE CUERVO ESPECIAL TEQUILA
3 X CARTONS OF CROCKERY AND KITCHEN WARE	JVC COMPONENT STEREO
3 X CARTONS OF LP RECORDS	6 X KAHLUA LIQUER
3 X PALLET OF REDBOAR VODKA	PICTURE FRAMES AND ORNAMENTS
3 X ROLLS OF CARPET	KITCHEN BINS
3 X VODKA ABSOLUT	LA MAUNY
32 CTNS OF SWORDSMAN GIN	LES CAPACTERS
4 X PALLET OF SWORDSMAN GIN	LIQUEUR BAILEYS
5 X CARTONS OF ARABIC BOOKS	LIQUEUR BUTLERS
5 X PALLET OF SWORDSMAN RED	LIQUEUR CACIQUI

BOAR VODKA	
5 X SMIRNOFF VODKA	LIQUEUR CUARENTA Y TRES
7 X CARTONS OF T SHIRTS SOCKS BAGS AND NOVELTIES	LIQUEUR MO
7 X CTNS OF KEG DISPENSERS	LIQUEUR MOZART NOUGAT
7 X FOLDER CHAIRS	LIQUEUR RED COLOURS
8 X PALLET OF PRAZNIK VODKA	LIQUEUR RIOJA
2 X AALBORG EXTRA AKVAVIT	2 X MACERIS BRANDY
ABERLOUR WHISKEY	MALT LIQUEUR GLENTUMET
ABSOLUT CITRON	MINI BAR ALCOHOL
3 X ABSOLUT VODKA	MULITILIN MOTOR PROTECTION RELAY
AKROPOLIS OYZO	MUSCADOR ROSE WINE
AKVAVIT DANISH	2 X OUZO
2 X AMARULA LIQUEUR	PALLET OF BEER GLASSES
ARAEULA CREAM	PALLET OF KING OF SCOTTS
3 X ARAK BERAS	PALLET OF POLYPROPOLENE FILM
ASSORTED ELECTRONIC GAMES	PALLET OF SOUTH AFRICAN WORLD CUP RUGBY MAGAZINES
ASSORTED GAMES	PALLET OF STEEL ROLLERS
ASSORTED KITCHEN WARE	PANASONIC MULTI LASER DISC PLAYER AND MICROPHONE
AVALENCIA GINGER CREAM	PETTILANT DE RASIN
BACARDI LEMON CITRUS FLAVOUR SPIRIT	PLASTIC STORAGE UNIT
9 X BACARDI RUM	PORT DOWS
BAILEY IRISH CREAM	PORT LOMBARDI
BAILEY MINIATURE	PORT PENFOLDS TAWNY
BAILEYS LIQUEUR	PORTUGESE ALVARENGAS
BAILEYS ORIGINAL	QTY OF BOTTLE AND VASES
BARON VON SCHEUTERS BUTTERSCOTCH, SCHNAPPS	QTY OF CROCKERY
BAUZA ALCOHOL	QTY OF CUPS GLASSES AND BOWLS
BEVELLED EDGE GLASS TOP	QTY OF ENGINEERING MAGAZINES
BLACK AND WHITE WHISKY	QTY OF ORNAMENTS
BOMBAY SAPPHIRE LONDON DRY GIN	RARE JB SCOTCH WHISKIES
BONNIE SCOT SCOTCH WHISKY	RED WINE
BOURBON	RICARD ANISEED
BOURBON EARLY TIMES	RICE COOKER, GLASSES AND ORNAMENTS
4 X BOURBON S COMFORT	6 X ROBINSON VODKA
BOWMORE WHISKY	3 X RUM CAPT MORGAN
BOX OF ASSORTED PERFUMES	RUM CASTILLO GOLD
BOX OF SCREWS	RUM CASTILLO SILVER
BRANDY EMPERADOR	RUM GOODWILL LOCAL
BRANDY KWV	RUM SANG SOM
BRANDY ST AGNES	5 X RUM TANDUAY
BRANDY VETERANO	SAMBUCA OPAL VERA
8 X BUNDABERG BLACK RUM	SANYO MICROWAVE ELECTRIC JUG AND ELECTRIC FRYPAN
BUNDLE OF POLES WITH FITTINGS	SAUZA TEQUILA GOLD
BUSHMILLS MALT WHISKEY	SCHNAPPS ARCHERS PEACH

2 X CAMPARI	SCHNAPPS BUTTERSCOTCH
16 BOTTLES OF ASSORTED WINES	SCHNAPPS SCHONBRUNNER
CARTON OF ASSORTED KITCHEN WARE	SCOTCH BELL
CARTON OF BOOKS, JEWELLERY CASES AND MICROPHONE	SCOTCH BELLS TWIN PACK
CARTON OF CDS	SCOTCH GROUSE
CARTON OF CUTLERY	SCOTCH MALTS CLASSIC SIX
CARTON OF DAIHATSU PARTS	SCOTCH OLD ST ANDREWS
CARTON OF DETERGENT POWDER	SCOTCH VAT 69
CARTON OF DIALINES	2 X SCOTCH WHISKEY DEWARS
CARTON OF KENYA COFFEE	SET OF GOLF CLUBS
2 X CARTON OF LASER DISCS	SHARP VHS VIDEO SYSTEM
CARTON OF MATERIAL	SHERRY CROFT ORIGINAL
CARTON OF SEAT SQUABS AND ARMRESTS	SLIOUWITZ FAVORITO
CARTON OF SHOES	SONY TRINITRON TV
CARTONS OF CAPS	SOUTHERN COMFORT
CARTONS OF CAPS	2 X SPECIAL BLACK HAWK BRITISH SPIRIT
6 X CARTONS OF GLASS OIL AND VINEGAR POURERS	SPORTS BAG
4 X CARTONS OF GREETING CARDS	ST REMY NAPOLEON BRANDY
2 X CARTONS OF MINI PLASTIC FOOTBALLS	STOLICHNAYA VODKA
3 X CARTONS OF MINIATURE VASES	SUIT CASE AND STORAGE BOX OF ASSORTED CLOTHING
8 X CARTONS OF SAFETY VESTS	2 X TANDUAY RUM DARK
CHAMPAGNE BRUT	TOKAJI HUNGARIAN
CHAMPAGNE HEIDECK	4 TOSKA VODKA
CHAMPAGNE LANSON BRUT	VERMOUTH
CHAMPAGNE MOET AND CHA	VENEER BOOKCASE
CHAMPAGNE POLREMY BRUT	VODKA
CHAMPAGNE VEUVE	VODKA ABSOLUT
CHAMPANGE GORDON	VODKA COSSACK
CHAMPANGE MONTALUDON	VODKA MIX SIN GOLD
CHAMPANGE STYLE WINES	VODKA POPOV
CHINESE LANG JUI	5 X VODKA SMIRNOFF
2 X CHIVAS REGAL WHISKY	VOK CREME DE MENTH
CINZANO	WELTEROSE WINE
COAT STAND, 2 STANDARD LAMPS, SHOE RACK AND TABLE	3 X WHISKEY
COFFEE SERVICE AND ORNAMENTS	WHISKEY BLACK RUSH
COGNAC COURVOISIER	2 X WHISKEY CHIVAS REGAL
COGNAC L ELEGANT	WHISKEY GLAVYA
WINE CHARDONNAY SAINSB	WHISKEY HANKY B
WINE CHATEAU	WHISKEY KESSIER
WINE RED	WHISKEY MEKONG
WINE RED BARON VON VALE	WHISKEY TEACHERS
WINE RIESLING CAIN BRAE	WHISKEY THAI BRAND
WINE ROSE	WHITE CASTLE WHISKY
WINE SAINT MARC SAUVINGNE	WILD TURKEY KENTUCKY BOURBON

WINE SALTRAM CHARDONNA	2 X WINE
2 X WINE SHIRAZ	2 X WINE BERRINGER CAB SAV
WINE STORAGE CUPBOARD	WINE BIN 555
WINE VALPOLI CECCA	WINE BORGOVECCIO
WINE WHITE SPATIESE	2 X WINES BTLE FERMENTED AND CHAMPANGE
WINE YELLOW GL	YU LAN APPLE WINE