

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 89

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

Cruise vessels:

- a) Does Customs still conduct searches on cruise ships?
- b) Has Customs identified any implications for it, coming out of the Dianne Brimble case?

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

- a) Yes.
- b) The Australian Customs Service (Customs) risk assesses every commercial vessel in advance of its arrival in Australia, this includes cruise vessels. The assessment takes into account information and intelligence in relation to the full range of threats to border security. Vessels deemed to be a high risk are boarded at arrival and are subject to a range of compliance and enforcement activities that may include search activities.