

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 68

Senator Madigan asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2012:

On 27 May 2008, the Assistant Secretary of the Criminal Law Branch of the Attorney-General's Department, Karl Alderson, confirmed to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs that the Attorney-General's Department had formally referred war crime investigations to the Australian Federal Police. This referral occurred in the third week of January 2008.

1. What is the status of the AFP investigation? i.e. Is the investigation ongoing, referred to the DPP, etc...?
2. Have the AFP interviewed anyone in Indonesia?
3. Have the AFP interviewed anyone in East Timor?
4. Have the AFP interviewed anyone in Australia?
5. How much money has been spent on the investigation by the AFP so far?
6. Four years after a formal referral, what are the reasons for the delays?

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

1. The AFP's investigation of this matter remains ongoing.
2. No.
3. The AFP has undertaken inquiries overseas and is currently awaiting the results of those inquiries.
4. All Australian based witnesses have been identified and approached with a view to obtaining supporting evidence in relation to this matter.
5. The AFP has spent a total of \$470,382.57 (to date) on the investigation. Please refer to Attachment A for a break-down of this figure.
6. As this matter is ongoing, it would be inappropriate to comment further.

ATTACHMENT A: Expenses – Operation Solis

	Operation Solis - Expenses YTD - QoN May 12					
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Grand Total
Supplier Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,668.30	\$ 1,015.75	\$ 12,167.75	\$ 22,851.80
Employer Expenses	\$ 546.17	\$ 12,129.29	\$ 266,158.38	\$ 30,040.31	\$ 99,249.43	\$ 408,123.58
Legal Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,715.50	\$ 10,231.69	\$ 11,460.00	\$ 39,407.19
Grand Total	\$ 546.17	\$ 12,129.29	\$ 293,542.18	\$ 41,287.75	\$ 122,877.18	\$ 470,382.57