

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. 75**

**Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 16 October 2012:**

In relation to the International Deployment Group:

1. Question on Notice number 42, from the Budget Estimates round, asks about complaints made against members of the International Deployment Group.

In the answer it details that a total of 43 complaints were made against members deployed to the Solomon Islands, 4 of which were made by members of the public.

Compared with other deployments there appears to be an usually high number of complaints against AFP members.

- a. What is the reason for such a high volume of complaints?
  - b. Were they against 43 separate officers or were they 43 complaints that involved multiple officers?
2. Has any action been taken to follow up on these complaints?
  3. Can you provide a breakdown of the past 3 financial years of the numbers of AFP in each overseas deployment and how this has changed over the years?

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

1. a) The higher rate of complaints in the Solomon Islands is representative of the larger number of staff deployed in the Solomon Islands as opposed to other locations.

The only other comparable deployment is East Timor where AFP members are attached to the United Nations. As part of a United Nations mission, AFP members are subject to United Nations complaint processes in the first instance.

- b) The 43 complaints involved 43 separate members, over a three year period.

Of the 43 complaints, 33 were minor misconduct or management issues.

2. All complaints were resolved formally under the provisions of Part V, *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*.

3.

	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
Afghanistan	28	27	28
Cambodia	0	1	1
Cyprus	15	7	15
Timor-Leste – UN	49	50	50
Timor-Leste – TLPDP	33	25	43
Nauru	2	3	3
Papua New Guinea	16	14	12
Samoa	3	3	2
RAMSI (Solomon Islands)	129	132	198
Sudan	10	10	10
Tonga	3	5	3
Vanuatu	0	8	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>375</b>