In response to the Hamas Israel conflict, the Department of Home Affairs and Australian Border Force's (ABF) operational activities have identified travellers to the conflict region, which has included travellers to Israel to undertake military service with the Israeli Defence Force (IDF).

Information pertaining to whether Australian citizens are serving with foreign military forces may be received by the Department Home Affairs or ABF in the course of normal business and may be recorded in Departmental systems as required' but that it is not recorded in a way that can be reported in the manner sought."

The Department of Home Affairs and the ABF are aware of four (4) Australian citizens who have travelled outside of Australia since 7 October 2023 and who were suspected to have departed Australia to serve or attempt to serve with the IDF.

The ABF intervened with three (3) of the four (4) Australian citizens suspected of departing for Israel since 7 October 2023.

Notes:

1. Source: Department of Home Affairs, 2023 (internal documents).

Caveats:

- 1. This information is provided for the specific purpose of this request.
- 2. It is the responsibility of the area providing Department of Home Affairs information to external stakeholders to ensure that the disclosure is in accordance with the ABF Act, Australian Privacy Principles or other relevant legislation.

Released by Department of Home Affairs under the Freedom of Information Act 1952

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