

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2010-2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Question: PM14

Topic: Wikileaks - Assange's illegality

Asked By: Senator Trood

Type of Question: 101

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 15 April 2011

Number of pages: 1

Senator TROOD- Did the taskforce request the AFP to undertake an assessment as to Mr Assange's illegality?

Dr McCarthy - Not that I know. Not that I recall. That is a matter for the Australian Federal Police.

Senator TROOD -Can you tell us who it was that asked the AFP to undertake an assessment as to whether or not Mr Assange had been guilty of some offence?

Dr McCarthy -I might take that question on notice. I imagine it would have been the Attorney-General.

Answer: We have been advised by the Australian Federal Police that the Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department referred the matter relating to the publishing of classified United States of America's embassy cables on the WikiLeaks website to the Australian Federal Police.