

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 27 February 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/124) - Weapons and armoury - Weapons storage facilities in Canberra -

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Please provide a breakdown of the Department's weapons storage facilities in Canberra, including numbers of weapons stored and intended purpose of those weapons.

Answer:

The Department maintains two weapons storage facilities in Canberra.

Storage Facility 1 – This storage facility provides capacity for the storage of weapons and ammunition that have been seized at the border, or illegally imported into the country. This storage facility also provides storage capacity for operational weapons and ammunition used for training and acts as a logistics hub for the national distribution of operational firearms.

As at 4 April 2017, there were a total of 292 firearms stored in this facility. This includes:

- Six (6) Department issued operational Glock pistols held on behalf of ACT Operational Command
- Eight (8) Department issued operational Glock pistols held on behalf of Investigations Division
- 278 Firearms held on behalf of the ABF College. This includes items awaiting distribution or disposal.

As at 27 April 2017, in addition to the 292 operational ABF firearms stored, there was a total of 43 firearms being held in Storage Facility 1. This includes:

- Nine (9) seized firearms
- 34 firearms being held pending provision of permit for permission to import by a dealer or private owner.

Storage Facility 2 – This storage facility primarily stores weapons and ammunition used for the purpose of training Border Force Officers. This storage facility stores a number of operational weapons, moulded plastic training weapons and ammunition.

There are currently 337 firearms and 1305 other items, including Personal Defensive Equipment and other training aids, stored at this facility. It should be noted however that this number includes items awaiting maintenance, distribution or disposal.