

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014**

**IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

**(BE14/615) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders**

Senator Conroy (Written) asked:

In relation to the command structure which was provided to this committee, has the command structure of Joint Task Force 639 – the on-water portion of OSB – changed since the election?

- a. Are orders still issued by the CEO of Customs and Border Protection and the CDF?
- b. Have the people who provide orders to the Commander of Joint Task Force 639 changed since the election?

*Answer:*

The command structure of Joint Task Force 639 has not changed since the 2013 federal election.

- a. For the purposes of Australia's civil maritime law enforcement, Commander Border Protection Command (COMBPC), dual hatted as Commander of Australian Defence Force Joint Task Force 639 (CJTF639), is an officer of the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service and under the Chief Executive Officer's authority in terms of the enforcement of those laws. COMBPC, as CJTF639 is also under the authority of the Chief of the Defence Force for the conduct of the military vessels and Australian Defence Force personnel assigned to Border Protection Command.
- b. No.