

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 25 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/037) - Vietnamese take-back - Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 84) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I want to go back to some of the questions around the Vietnamese take-back—I think it was described that way—in April. You said that the individuals were held on the Customs vessel from 20 March to 18 April.

Major Gen. Bottrell: No, I did not say that.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: You told us that they were held from 20 March to 18 April.

Senator KIM CARR: He did not say which type of vessel.

Major Gen. Bottrell: That is correct. From 20 March—that is correct—they were intercepted.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Were they held on their own vessel or on the Customs vessel?

Major Gen. Bottrell: I would have to take that on notice to get you the specifics. There was a period of time when they would have been on their own vessel, and then there would have been a period of time—it may have been the same day, but I will have to take that on notice and get back to you. I should be able to do that very shortly.

Answer:

The Government does not comment on or disclose operational details where this would prejudice the outcome of current or future operations.