



Australian Government
Joint Agency Task Force
Operation Sovereign Borders

Customs House
5 Constitution Avenue
Canberra City ACT 2601

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Sophie Dunstone
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Dunstone

CLARIFICATION OF EVIDENCE

At the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing on 20 October 2014, I provided information to Senator Ludwig regarding the number of lifeboats used in operations. I wish to clarify that only three of the four lifeboat returns noted in my testimony were of the "large orange boat" form of equipment referred to by Senator Ludwig. The fourth, serial 11 on the table presented to the Committee, employed a smaller form of equipment better suited to the circumstances and safety considerations of the activity. I also wish to advise that not all ventures were returned to Indonesia. Serial 12 on the provided table was a transfer at sea back to Sri Lanka.

In response to a question from Senator Reynolds regarding a breakdown of arrivals by calendar year, which I was unable to complete at the time, I respectfully refer the Committee to the enclosed table.

Additionally, in line with previous releases of information, I respectfully advise that updates to information regarding arrivals and search and rescue incidents has been made publically available on the Operation Sovereign Borders website for the Committee's information (<http://www.customs.gov.au/site/operation-sovereign-borders>).

Yours sincerely

Angus J. Campbell DSC AM
Lieutenant General
Commander
Joint Agency Task Force
Operation Sovereign Borders

6 November 2014

Enclosure: Table of Illegal Maritime Arrivals by Calendar Year (2008-2014)

Illegal Maritime Arrivals by Calendar Year (2007-2014)

IMA Arrivals by Year ¹			
	SIEVS	Crew	IMAs
2007	1	0	4
2008	7	18	161
2009	55	126	2,574
2010	138	357	6,650
2011	70	171	4,622
2012	276	385	17,072
2013	302	653	20,719 ²
2014	1	0	164 ³
TOTAL	850	51,966	1,710

¹ Date IMAs were transferred to DIBP authorities. When arrivals from the same SIEV were transferred to DIBP authorities over more than one day, the day of the first arrival has been used.

² Includes 1 IMA who arrived by cruise ship in October 2013.

³ Includes:

- 2 IMA who arrived by cruise ship in January 2014;
- 2 medical transfers from sea in January 2014; and
- 3 persons returned to Papua New Guinea in September 2014 in accordance with our MOU.