

[REDACTED]

From: Portfolio Media
Sent: Wednesday, 26 August 2015 5:39 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; BRIDGER Maree; Portfolio Media; [REDACTED]; INGRAM Steve; [REDACTED]; JEFFRIES Mark; [REDACTED]; BOEKENSTEIN Guy; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: FOR INFO: Operation Fortitude Launch - Friday 28 Aug [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: 150828 TP Operation Fortitude.docx; 150828 MR Operation Fortitude.docx

Hello,

Here's a summary of an upcoming event in Melbourne.

Operation Fortitude

Operation Fortitude is a multi-agency operation which will combine a diverse team of transport and enforcement agencies with a single mission of protecting city goers.

The operation is being led by Victoria Police (VIC Pol) in collaboration with the Sherriff's department, Victorian Taxi Services Commission, Public Transport Victoria (PTV), Metro Trains, Yarra Trams and the ABF.

Six ABF officers will be conducting status checks on both nights alongside Victorian Taxi Directorate and VICPol officers at Southern Cross taxi rank and Flinders Street taxi rank.

There will be other sites in the CBD that will be attended by VICPol and Protective Services Officers (PSOs) and a booze bus on Wurundjeri Way, however ABF will only be positioned at the 2 taxi ranks.

Media

VICPol will be launching the operation on Friday 28th August at 2pm on the steps of Flinders Street train station in the Melbourne CBD.

All agencies have been requested to attend with a spokesperson and 1 uniformed officer and a media representative. [REDACTED], will attend the launch as the ABF spokesperson.

The attached talking points and media release have been developed to support the launch and promote the operation.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Communication and Media Branch | Executive Division
Department of Immigration and Border Protection

P: [REDACTED] | M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@border.gov.au

24-hour media line: 02 6264 2244



TALKING POINTS

Subject	Operation Fortitude
Date	28 August 2015
	Agency
Media Officer	[REDACTED]

ISSUE

Talking points for use by the ABF Spokesperson to launch the multi-agency Operation Fortitude in Melbourne on Friday 28 August.

The launch will be held at 2pm on the steps of Flinders Street Railway Station in the Melbourne CBD and will be attended by a spokesperson, uniformed officer and media representative from each agency participating in the operation.

[REDACTED] *will be the key spokesperson for the launch, with spokespersons from each agency only required to respond to questions directed to their agency if asked by the attending media outlets.*

TALKING POINTS

- For the first time the Australian Border Force (ABF) is joining forces with Victoria Police, Metro Trains, Yarra Trams, Sheriff's Office and Taxi Services Commission as part of Operation Fortitude.
- Tonight and tomorrow evening (Friday 28 and Saturday 29 August), all of our agencies will be out in force working together in the Melbourne CBD targeting everything from anti-social behaviour to outstanding warrants.

What role will the ABF play in this operation?

- ABF officers will be positioned at various locations within the Melbourne CBD speaking to individuals who we suspect may be in Australia illegally without a current and valid visa.
- While we are all from separate organisations, we have a common responsibility to keep people safe and ensure adherence to Australian laws which promote the secure and cohesive society we all strive for.

Why is the ABF participating in this operation?

- The ABF regularly conducts compliance activity to locate and detain individuals who are residing in Australia illegally.
- Individuals need to be aware of the conditions of their visa; those people who deliberately commit visa fraud should know it's only a matter of time before they're caught out.



Australian Government
**Department of Immigration
and Border Protection**



**Australian
BORDER FORCE**

How will ABF decide which individuals to target?

- We will be speaking with a range of individuals we come across as part of this operation.
- Our officers employ a range of techniques to determine whether a more in-depth assessment of a person's visa status is required.

Has ABF been involved in any similar operations in the past?

- The ABF regularly participates in inter-agency activity. This is the first time we've been involved in an inter-agency operation of this size and nature.
- We're very proud to be involved in the operation and to be able to contribute to helping each of our organisations achieve our common mission of promoting a secure and cohesive society here in Melbourne.

What will happen to people found to be in Australia unlawfully?

- Individuals who we suspect are in Australia unlawfully will undergo an interview to verify their current visa status.
- If we determine that an individual is here illegally and is not eligible for an Australian visa, they will be subject to the same legislation as all unlawful non-citizens and will be detained pending their removal from Australia.



Australian Government
 Department of Immigration
 and Border Protection



Australian
BORDER FORCE

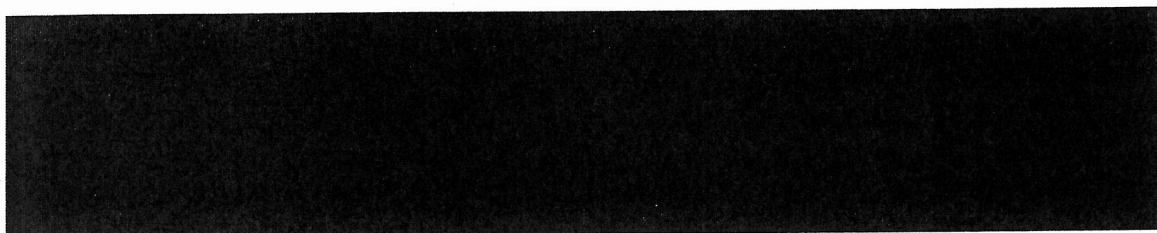
BACKGROUND (*not for public release*)

Operation Fortitude will combine a diverse team of transport and enforcement agencies with a single mission of protecting city goers.

The operation is being led by Victoria Police with the Sherriff's department, Victorian Taxi Services Commission, Public Transport (PTV), Metro Trains, Yarra Trams and the ABF.

On the evenings of Fri 28 Aug and Sat 29 Aug, six ABF officers will be conducting status checks alongside Vic Taxi Directorate and VICPol officers at Southern Cross taxi rank and Flinders Street taxi rank. There will be other sites in the CBD that will be attended by VICPol and Protective Services Officers (PSOs) and a booze bus on Wurundjeri Way, however the ABF will only be positioned at the 2 taxi ranks.

This is the first time ABF officers have been involved in an operation of this nature – VICPol hope to start conducting these multi-agency operations [redacted]. The following dates have been proposed for future operations to occur in line with major planned events across the Melbourne CBD to maximise impact and heighten safety:



POINT OF CONTACT (POC) (*This may be more than one office*)

POC Name	[redacted]
Title	[redacted]
Mobile	[redacted]
Landline	[redacted]
Date Cleared	11.57am, 24 Aug 2015

CLEARANCE:

Drafted by	Title	Time/Date
[redacted]	[redacted]	16:00, 20 Aug 2015

Cleared by	Title	Time/Date
[redacted]	[redacted]	11.57am, 24 Aug 2015
Don Smith	Vic/Tas Regional Commander	2.10pm, 26 Aug 2015



Australian
BORDER FORCE

Media Release

Friday 28 August 2015

ABF joining inter-agency outfit to target crime in Melbourne CBD

This weekend Australian Border Force (ABF) officers will for the first time join forces with a diverse team of transport and enforcement agencies to target crime in the Melbourne Central Business District (CBD) as part of Operation Fortitude.

Tonight and tomorrow evening (Friday 28 and Saturday 29 August 2015) Metro Trains, Yarra Trams, the Sheriff's Office, Taxi Services Commission and the ABF will join Victoria Police as part of the inter-agency operation.

With a particular focus on people travelling to, from and around the CBD, the group of agencies will work together to support the best interests of Melbournians, targeting everything from anti-social behaviour to outstanding warrants.

ABF Regional Commander Victoria and Tasmania, Don Smith, is proud the ABF will be participating in the operation.

"While the ABF regularly conducts a range of compliance field-work, this is the first time we've been involved in an inter-agency operation of this nature and we're very proud be able to support each of our organisations to achieve our common mission of promoting a secure and cohesive society here in Melbourne."

"ABF officers will be positioned at various locations around the CBD speaking with any individual we cross paths with," Mr Smith said.

"You need to be aware of the conditions of your visa; if you commit visa fraud you should know it's only a matter of time before you're caught out."

The inter-agency outfit will continue to work together on an ongoing basis to target crime in and around the Melbourne CBD to make the city a safer place for everyone.

Media opportunity

Operation Fortitude will be launched by representatives from each participating agency at 2pm today (Friday 28 August 2015) on the steps of Flinders Street Railway Station.

Media enquires

Australian Border Force Media (02) 6264 2244