

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### (SE16/009) - Travel to Syria or Iraq - Programme 1.1: Border Enforcement

Senator Macdonald, Ian (L&CA 44) asked:

CHAIR: I would be amazed if you are able to answer this question. I find this quite incredible but would you be able to tell me when Senator Carr last left Australia, what he wrote on his card? And where he was going and the purpose of where he was going?

Senator KIM CARR: I think I would not be engaged in war tourism!

CHAIR: I am not asking you, Senator Carr. I am asking Mr Pezzullo. I hope he would say, 'No, I don't give that away because that is a private citizen's information.'

Senator KIM CARR: No, I would be very surprised if I would be writing—

CHAIR: But I will wait for his answers. So can I ask you to get Senator Carr's information?

Senator KIM CARR: I am just popping down to Kurdistan to see if I can get myself a picture opportunity with a machine gun.

CHAIR: Senator Carr, please do not speak when others are asking questions! Mr Pezzullo, would you be able to give me that information?

Mr Pezzullo: In the ordinary course of events we would be loathe to provide private travel information, especially in relation, perhaps, to other senators—to other members of the committee. Our privacy obligations are matters that we take very seriously. I do not know that Senator Carr would want his private information disclosed in that fashion. Certainly, in the ordinary course of events we would not do that.

What I am saying is that in this rare and perhaps exceptional circumstance where the senator has asked me a direct question about whether we can answer these questions, we will look at the legal position. I doubt we will be able to disclose very much, but we will look at it on its merits.

CHAIR: What about Mr Rudd? Would you be able to give me that information about Mr Rudd?

Mr Pezzullo: He is a former parliamentarian and a former Prime Minister—

CHAIR: Of course.

Mr Pezzullo: who is a citizen who enjoys the same privacy protections as every citizen enjoys. Again, unless there is an overriding matter of direct public interest I doubt very much that we would be able to illuminate this committee with very much by way of his travel information.

CHAIR: Well, just in case you can: can I add to that, say, people like Mr Craig Emerson, who seems to travel a lot and Mr Gareth Evans, who seems to travel a lot. I would be interested to know where they went and what they wrote on their departure cards—where they were going and the purpose of it. So, again, I will add those to your names as well—people who are now private citizens, who really are not the subject of the Senate estimates committee inquiries, but if that is—

Mr Pezzullo: I will take all of those matters on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: How many of them have been going on war tourism? Take that on notice!

CHAIR: Senator Fawcett, over to you.

*Answer:*

The Hon. Dr Craig Emerson's most recent departure card prior to the October Senate Estimates hearings contained the following information:

1. Country of disembarkation: USA
2. Reason for travel: Business

The Hon. Gareth Evans' most recent departure card prior to the October Senate Estimates hearings contained the following information:

1. Country of disembarkation: USA
2. Reason for travel: Conference/convention