

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates 19-20 October 2009

Question: PM69(a-c)

Topic: Australian Army base terrorist plot

Type of Question: Hansard, F&PA 19 October p100

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Senator TROOD-... recent plot which was foiled with regard to the seeming attack on an Australian Army base...

[...]

Senator TROOD-[a] Can you tell me when the office was first advised about the knowledge of the plot, if I can call it that?

Mr Campbell-I would have to take that on notice.

Senator TROOD-Would you, and would you also take on notice [b] when the Prime Minister was first briefed about the matter?

Mr Campbell-Sure.

Senator TROOD-[c] And by whom he was briefed. That would be helpful.

Mr Campbell-Yes.

Senator Ludwig-We will see what we can provide. It will depend on the security classification of that information and what we can make available. I am sure that is what Mr Campbell was going to add.

Answer:

The Prime Minister, his office and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet were advised of the investigation into the alleged plot at an early stage and were advised of developments as appropriate and necessary. As the matter is now the subject of legal proceedings, it would be inappropriate to provide any further detail at this stage.