



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

11/1270

19 April 2011

Ms Julie Dennett  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on  
Legal and Constitutional Affairs  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Dennett

**Clarifications and corrections to Hansard**

I write concerning evidence provided by officers from the Attorney-General's Portfolio to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs at the Additional Budget Estimates hearing of 22 February 2011.

Following the hearing, officers from the Attorney-General's Portfolio who provided evidence to the Committee reviewed the proof copy of Hansard. Consequently, I wish to submit the attached corrections to Hansard and the following clarification on behalf of the Attorney-General's Portfolio.

Evidence of Mr Drennan and Mr Negus

In an exchange with Senator Brandis regarding the date on which the Australian Federal Police (AFP) commenced investigations into any possible criminal offences that may have been committed by Mr Julian Assange, on page 129 of the transcript Mr Drennan stated that the first whole-of-government task force on it commenced on 29 November. The AFP wishes to clarify that the task force actually commenced on 25 November.

Subsequently, Mr Negus gave evidence on page 130 of the transcript that the formal letter [the referral from the Attorney-General's Department relating to the Wikileaks website] "arrived on 30 November, the following day". The AFP can confirm that it received a referral letter from the Attorney-General's Department on 30 November 2010. However, the AFP wishes to clarify that Mr Negus's reference to "the following day" was based on Mr Drennan's earlier statement that the task force had commenced on 29 November, instead of 25 November.

The action officer for this matter is Anna Gordon who can be contacted on

Yours sincerely

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