

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION SERVICE

**Question No. 34**

**Senator Hanson-Young asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2010:**

Noting that intelligence received that a vessel may have departed for Australia and it does not come does not mean that it has necessarily been lost at sea: How often does ACBPS get information that a boat has left Indonesia which has not come up in its surveillance (that is, the number of times it gets reports of departures that do not quite reconcile with arrivals)?

**The answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

Australian Government agencies receive a range of reports about potential irregular immigrant maritime vessels travelling from and within Indonesian waters. These reports often do not definitively indicate points of departure or arrival for vessels, or potential departure or arrival times. Similarly reports may be received concerning ventures in various stages of preparation which sometimes do not eventuate or depart for Australia. Therefore, a reconciliation of reported departures from Indonesia with arrivals is not possible.