

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 40

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 26 May 2011:

Senator BRANDIS: When you speak of those matters I want you to focus specifically on the riots in March of this year. You might want to take this on notice, but to the extent to which you are able to give me an estimate I would like a response here and now please. What was the most recent occasion before the riots when you had an informal discussion with the minister in which the issue of the risks of violence on Christmas Island was raised?

Mr Negus: I would have to take that on notice. I should put it in some context. The discussions I have with the Minister for Home Affairs are more about the AFP resourcing required to support DIAC and Serco in their endeavours to manage the centre rather than the specific risk, because again that is outside his portfolio. It is about what the AFP is doing to support other agencies."

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

I have no record of an informal or formal discussion taking place between myself and the Minister for Home Affairs and Justice, around the topic of risk of violence on Christmas Island. To the best of my knowledge this was not discussed.