

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.1

Question No. 59

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

With reference to page 116 of the Annual Report and regarding the firearms import permits mentioned at page 116:

- (a) Are the weapons stamped with serial numbers at or before time of entry?
- (b) Is this documentation kept?
- (c) Does this include ammunition?
- (d) Please provide a breakdown of firearms by type.
- (e) Please provide a breakdown of firearms imports by purpose or intended use (eg military purchase, retail, law enforcement etc.)

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

- (a) Yes.

Schedule 6 Part 2 of the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* requires that in order for import permission to be granted for any firearm manufactured after 1900 that firearm must bear a unique serial number.

- (b) Yes.
- (c) No – there is no requirement for ammunition to be marked with a serial number in order to be imported.
- (d) See table at Attachment A.
- (e) See table at Attachment B.

Item Number	Description	Quantity
2	<p>Muzzle-loading firearm.</p> <p>Single shot centre fire rifle.</p> <p>Double barrel centre firing rifle.</p> <p>Repeating action centre fire rifle.</p> <p>Break-action shotgun/rifle combination.</p> <p>Repeating bolt action shot gun.</p> <p>Lever action shot gun.</p> <p>Unless</p> <p>(a) fitted, whether by original design or by modification, with a folding or detachable stock; or</p> <p>(b) capable of being fired when the stock is in the folded position or removed.</p>	3
3	<p>Self-loading rimfire rifle:</p> <p>(a) without a firearm magazine; or</p> <p>(b) fitted with a firearm magazine of a capacity no greater than 10 rounds.</p> <p>Self-loading shotgun:</p> <p>(a) without a firearm magazine; or</p> <p>(b) fitted with a firearm magazine of a capacity no greater than 5 rounds.</p> <p>Pump action repeating shotgun:</p> <p>(a) without a firearm magazine; or</p> <p>(b) fitted with a firearm magazine of a capacity no greater than 5 rounds.</p> <p>Unless</p> <p>(a) fitted, whether by original design or by modification, with a folding or detachable stock; or</p> <p>(b) capable of being fired when the stock is in the folded position or removed.</p>	534

ATTACHMENT A

Item Number	Description	Quantity
5	Firearm accessory for a firearm to which item 1, 2, 3 or 14A applies	6
6	<p>Self-loading centre fire rifle.</p> <p>Self-loading rimfire rifle fitted with a firearm magazine of a capacity greater than 10 rounds.</p> <p>Self-loading shotgun fitted with a firearm magazine of a capacity greater than 5 rounds.</p> <p>Pump action repeating shotgun fitted with a firearm magazine of a capacity greater than 5 rounds.</p> <p>Unless</p> <p>(a) fitted, whether by original design or by modification, with a folding or detachable stock; or</p> <p>(b) capable of being fired when the stock is in the folded position or removed.</p>	15
7	Firearm part of, or for, a firearm to which item 6 applies	4
9	<p>Handgun.</p> <p>Soft air handgun.</p> <p>Unless the firearm</p> <p>(a) has a fully automatic firing capability; or</p> <p>(b) resembles in appearance a sub-machine gun, a machine pistol or a handgun that has a fully automatic firing capability.</p>	2,213
10	Firearm part (other than a frame or receiver) of, or for, a firearm to which item 9 applies.	10
11	Firearm accessory for a firearm to which item 9 applies.	74

ATTACHMENT A

Item Number	Description	Quantity
12	Firearm, not being a firearm to which item 1, 2, 3, 6 or 9 applies.	264
13	Firearm part of, or for, a firearm, not being a firearm to which item 1, 2, 3, 6, or 9 applies.	284
14	<p>Single shot paintball marker designed exclusively to fire paintballs.</p> <p>Repeating action paintball marker designed exclusively to fire paintballs.</p> <p>Self-loading paintball marker designed exclusively to fire paintballs.</p> <p>A firearm part of, or for, a paintball marker mentioned in this item.</p> <p>Unless the firearm</p> <p>(c) has a fully automatic firing capability; or</p> <p>(d) resembles in appearance a sub-machine gun, a machine pistol or a handgun that has a fully automatic firing capability.</p>	18
15	<p>Detachable firearm magazine, having a capacity of more than 5 rounds, for:</p> <p>(a) self-loading centre-fire rifles; or</p> <p>(b) self-loading shotguns and pump-action shotguns;</p> <p>whether or not attached to a firearm.</p>	8,389
17	Firearm magazine, other than a firearm magazine to which item 15, or 16 applies, whether or not attached to a firearm.	10,720

ATTACHMENT A

Item Number	Description	Quantity
19	<p>Ammunition of the following kinds for a firearm to which item 1, 2, 3, 6, 9 or 12 applies:</p> <p>a) ammunition that has, as part of the components (either assembled or separate), a projectile known as any of the following kinds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) tracer; ii) frangible; iii) explosive; iv) incendiary; v) armour piercing; vi) penetrator; vii) sabot light armour piercing (SLAP); viii) flechette (being a combined collection of arrows or spears); <p>(b) handgun ammunition that is designed, advertised or capable of defeating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) soft body armour; or ii) opaque or glazed bullet resistant material. 	3,869,981
20	Ammunition for any firearm to which item 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12 or 14A applies.	28,239

ATTACHMENT A

Item Number	Description	Quantity
21	<p>A component of ammunition for a firearm to which item 1, 2, 3, 6, 9 or 12 applies, if the component is one of the following kinds of projectile:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) tracer;(b) frangible;(c) explosive;(d) incendiary;(e) armour piercing;(f) penetrator;(g) sabot light armour piercing (SLAP); <p>flechette (a combined collection of arrows or spears).</p>	455,000

Firearms

Purpose	Quantity
Government Use	2,705
Vertebrate Pest Controller	11
Transshipment	15
Licensed dealer	242
Film armourer	36
Sports shooting	22

Firearms parts and accessories

Purpose	Quantity
Use by Government – general use	393
Vertebrate Pest Controller	4

Ammunition

Purpose	Quantity
Use by Government – general use	4,353,149 rounds of ammunition
Transshipment	68 rounds of ammunition

Magazines

Purpose	Quantity
Use by Government – general use	19,017 magazines
Vertebrate Pest Controller	24 magazines
Film armourer	68 magazines