

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

Question No. 29

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2010:

In terms of boats in distress, can you provide an overview of the level and extent of this type of behaviour, including the number of instances? Are there more or fewer incidents of this type of behaviour than three years ago (2007)?

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

2007

In 2007 20% (5) of Suspected Irregular Entry Vessels (SIEVs) were provided assistance under *Safety of Life At Sea Convention* (SOLAS) obligations.

2010

Up to 18 October 2010 (inclusive) 14% (15) of SIEVs were provided with assistance under SOLAS obligations.