

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Tuesday, 10 September 2013 12:45 PM
To: s47F
Cc: PRICE Terry; s47F
Subject: Decision Framework for the Public Release of SIEV Arrivals [SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive]

s47F

I've discussed this issue with s47F is away this week and s47F is the s47F

As you and I discussed, my view is that we should be approaching media release in the same way we would for any other operation. From a purely operational point of view, we should not be releasing any information regarding posture, asset details etc inside a timeframe that may impact BPC operations (as per COMBPC's first parameter below).

I do not think we should over-engineer this with multiple considerations. If we are to take an approach based on the principle and consideration of operational security – we need to be consistent and straight forward. Therefore, no details about detection; no name of any ACV/RAN asset; no specific location (ie approx. 88 nm north of AI); and no specific timing. Under this rule, we would only release media once PII were transferred ashore (at the earliest) – and then only with limited detail. Example as follows:

This afternoon, 09 September 2013, 90 people were transferred by Border Protection Command to other government authorities at Christmas Island, following the interception of a suspected irregular entry vessel.

s47E (d)

I do not think this needs a great deal of adjustment for SAR operations. RCC should be directed by the JIATF not to mention air assets, HMA Ships or ACV by name in any press releases – only to note that BPC are supporting a SAR. At the SAR's conclusion – we could then go into more detail about the operation – but again, I'd be against exposing specific assets during current operational patrols. The fact that people will learn of certain details through RCC broadcasts, witnessing the assets at a certain place etc is inconsequential to the overall approach. IE – it is inevitable that we will lose control of certain information during operations – but that does not mean that we greatly exacerbate the problem but announcing it ourselves.

Our line for all current operations should simply be: *Border Protection Command does not comment on current operational information.*

The issue of when operations no longer become 'current' is one for further consideration. s47E (d)

For example, it could be that a scheduled release per week at a certain advertised time is the way to go.

Very few changes to the Admiral's suggested parameters, as follows:

- Border Protection Command does not comment on current operational information.
- The timing of any release must not prejudice the successful achievement of active operations.
- The content of any release will be subject to operational security considerations.
- The content of any release must not include any information that could prejudice current or future operations, including asset capabilities, posture, and tactics.

The timing of any release is a key issue. Ideally, I would schedule it for a once a week release at a specific time. If that is not palatable, I would limit it to once the transfer of PII to OGA has been completed.

Regards,

s47F | Director Operations | Border Protection Command | Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

s47F

From: JOHNSTON David [ADF]

Sent: Monday, 9 September 2013 1:19 PM

To: s47F

Cc: PRICE Terry; WATSON Ken (Defence); s47F

Subject: Decision Framework for the Public Release of SIEV Arrivals ~~{DLM-For-Official-Use-Only}~~

s47

Please work with s47F to provide to me by COB Wednesday, initial thoughts for the parameters that need to be considered for the release to the public of SIEV arrival notifications. This work is aimed at developing our thinking in order to be ready to advise either the JIATF Commander and / or the incoming government (noting their public statements about the release being subject to operational commanders' clearance).

To guide your thinking, the types of parameters I have in mind include:

- The content of any release must not include any information that might reveal asset capabilities, posture, tactics that could prejudice future operations.
- The timing of any release must not prejudice the successful achievement of active operations.
- The content and timing should be cognisant of information that may be accessible to the public, including through observations at shore transfer points, releases by other agencies eg RCC etc.

Over to you.

Regards,

David Johnston

Rear Admiral, RAN

Commander Border Protection Command

s47F

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 6:38 PM
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: FW: Interim media approach - SIEVs/SARs [DLM-For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: Transition media handling strategy V2.docx

Hi s47F

Following our discussion earlier, interim media approach attached for information and or comment.

Thanks, s47F

s47F | Manager Media & External Affairs
 Communication and Media
 Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 6:08 PM
To: s47F
Subject: RE: Interim media approach - SIEVs/SARs [DLM-For-Official-Use-Only]

s47F, ta, can we pls share with s47F as well for info. I'll have a look at the BPC doc overnight.

s47F
 Director Media & External Affairs
 s22

From: s47F
Sent: 18/09/2013 5:43 PM
To: [CONOLAN Teresa](#)
Cc: s47F; [Customs Media](#); s47F
Subject: Interim media approach - SIEVs/SARs [DLM-For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Teresa,

Attached is an interim approach for managing media enquiries regarding SIEV/SAR scenarios. Both AMSA and Defence support the approach. Also, the brief is with PSIAT for consideration.

For consideration and discussion with the DCEO please.

Thanks, s47F

s47F | Manager Media & External Affairs
 Communication and Media
 Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

s47F

TRANSITION MEDIA HANDLING STRATEGY FOR REPORTING SIEV/SAR ARRIVALS OPERATION SOVEREIGN BORDERS

Background

The incoming Government has indicated reporting of suspected irregular entry vessels (SIEV) arrivals will be an operational decision for the Commander of Operation Sovereign Borders.

This brief outlines an interim whole-of-government approach for SIEV related media enquiries while parameters for the public reporting of information related to SIEV arrivals are determined.

Situation

In the event of a SIEV search and rescue (SAR) situation, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is required to issue a shipping broadcast to vessels in the area. This information will be received by merchant vessels and will therefore be in the public domain where media outlets may become aware of SAR operations and report details.

Approach

In the event that a maritime arrival occurs the following transitional media arrangements are proposed.

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) is the lead agency for people smuggling matters, therefore Customs Media will coordinate all media enquiries related to SIEV arrivals and SAR operations involving potential SIEVs in the short-term. AMSA and other government agencies will direct media enquiries to Customs Media.

With regard to SIEV arrivals no details about detection, the name of responding assets, specific locations and specific timing of the operational activities involved will be provided.

Interim media arrangements

Interim media arrangements for the following scenarios apply to manage external media enquiries.

Partner agencies receive media enquiries about Operation Sovereign Borders:

- *Refer to Customs Media.*

AMSA is coordinating a SAR. AMSA media response:

- *Please contact Customs Media for all media enquires related to Operation Sovereign Borders, including search and rescue operations involving suspected irregular entry vessels.*

ACBPS response (SAR):

- *The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service can confirm there is an ongoing search and rescue operation underway (direction i.e. north, west, east) of (location i.e. Christmas Island). No further details are available at this time. More information will be provided in due course.*

BASARNAS is coordinating a SAR. Customs media response:

- *Australian authorities are aware of a vessel in need of assistance within close proximity to Indonesia. Australia is monitoring the situation but is not involved in any search and rescue operation at this stage.*

ACBPS media response (SEIV):

- *No details are available at this time.*

General media enquiries about Operation Sovereign Borders:

- Following consultation between Customs Media and Defence Media, it was agreed that general media enquiries received about Operation Sovereign Borders will be coordinated by ACBPS.

Clearances

Name	Title	Date cleared
s47F	Director Strategic Communications Defence	18/9/13
s47F	Manager, AMSA Media	18/9/13
For information		
	Minister's Office	
	DIAC Media	
	AFP	
	AGs	

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 8:34 PM
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: RE: Operational narrative - BPC [DLM-For Official Use Only]

Thanks s47F

Background wouldn't be provided but could perhaps be an if asked, but we'd need to consider that further – Minister will probably have a view!

Certainly will need other Q&As and happy to help.

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 8:27 PM
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: RE: Operational narrative - BPC [DLM-For Official Use Only]

s47F, ta, great start. We will fiddle with the language a little. Are you thinking the background would also be provided, or only used to assist answer Qs at the media conference? I think we will also need to start thinking about some standard Q&As s47E (d) t
 Some of these may well be for others in HQ OSB to contribute..

s47F

s47F

Director Media & External Affairs
 s22

From: s47F
Sent: 18/09/2013 5:41 PM
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: Operational narrative - BPC [DLM-For Official Use Only]

Hi s47F

As discussed this morning, attached is a draft document cleared (at this stage) by COMBPC with a suggested approach to the BPC contribution to the fortnightly Minister/3 Star OSB press conference, with the operational narrative. For your thoughts? Thanks.

s47F

s47F | A/g Director Governance and Command Support
 Border Protection Command | Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

s47F

s47F

From: JOHNSTON David [ADF]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 8:30 AM
To: PRICE Terry; [REDACTED] s47F [REDACTED] R
Cc: WATSON Ken (Defence); [REDACTED] s47F SMITH Don; [REDACTED] s47F
Subject: FW: Operation Sovereign Borders - Directions [SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive:Cabinet]

Team – Note the direction on SIEV media releases.

s47F – Start developing an operational narrative as incidents / intercepts occur that we will progressively update. This will form the basis of TPs that would be used at a periodic media conference to summarise operational activity.

Terry - Note the direction for further development of advice on [REDACTED] s47E (d) Please lead on the development of a document for me that:

- Describes the concept.
- Outlines the operational level risk assessment (drawn from the Min Brief)
- Describes the key tactical risks and our mitigation strategies [REDACTED] s47E (d)
- Provides a proposed implementation and timeframe [REDACTED] s47E (d)

This document is to be ready for my review by 1200 Thursday. It should draw on the body of work that we have already done, and be kept concise.

Additionally, take action to ensure that [REDACTED] s47E (d) are thoroughly briefed on the concept while they are in Darwin.

s47F

s22

Regards,
 David Johnston

Rear Admiral, RAN
 Commander Border Protection Command

s47F

From: PEZZULLO Michael
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 7:01 AM
To: QUAEDVLIEG Roman
Cc: GRANT Marion; CONOLAN Teresa; SMITH Don; NOBLE Rachel; PERRY Nigel; JOHNSTON David [ADF]; GROVES Steven; [REDACTED] s47F [REDACTED]
Subject: Operation Sovereign Borders - Directions [SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive:Cabinet]

Roman

Please ensure that the following directions are carried out today, in order to implement ACBPS elements of OSB:

1. Cease and desist forthwith the issuance of SIEV arrival media releases. The Minister and I are in discussion about a different public communications model, noting that OSB will be a maritime security operation, and not an immigration programme;
 - a. Please discuss alternative models with CoS MI&BP and Commander JATF (with whom I spoke last night), and come back to me;

s22



Thanks,

MP

Michael Pezzullo
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
Customs House, 5 Constitution Ave, Canberra City ACT 2601

s47F



s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 5:41 PM
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: Operational narrative - BPC [~~DLM-For-Official-Use-Only~~]
Attachments: Operational Narrative Minister Morrison.docx

Hi s47F

As discussed this morning, attached is a draft document cleared (at this stage) by COMBPC with a suggested approach to the BPC contribution to the fortnightly Minister/3 Star OSB press conference, with the operational narrative. For your thoughts? Thanks.

s47F

s47F | A/g Director Governance and Command Support
Border Protection Command | Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
s47F

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DRAFT

Operational Narrative of Suspected Irregular Entry Vessel arrivals 18 September 2013 to 2 October 2013

Talking Points

- Over the reporting period 18 September to 2 October 2013, four suspected irregular entry vessels (SIEVs) carrying 203 PII and five crew were responded to by authorities under Operation Sovereign Borders in the period 18 September to 2 October 2013.
- I reiterate that it is the Australian Government's position that no people arriving unauthorised by boat will be resettled in Australia.
- Of the four SIEVs that arrived over this reporting period, three were boarded outside of the Australian Contiguous Zone with the permission of the master, consistent with SOLAS obligations.
- All passengers on board the three SIEVs were transferred to Nauru or Manus Island.
- A fourth vessel returned to Indonesia following advice provided by a [Navy/Commonwealth] vessel.

Background

s47E (d)



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DRAFT

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DRAFT
s47E (d)



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DRAFT

s47F

From: JOHNSTON David [ADF]
Sent: Monday, 9 September 2013 1:19 PM
To: s47F
Cc: PRICE Terry; WATSON Ken (Defence); s47F
Subject: Decision Framework for the Public Release of SIEV Arrivals [DLM=For Official Use-Only]

s47F

Please work with s47F to provide to me by COB Wednesday, initial thoughts for the parameters that need to be considered for the release to the public of SIEV arrival notifications. This work is aimed at developing our thinking in order to be ready to advise either the JIATF Commander and / or the incoming government (noting their public statements about the release being subject to operational commanders' clearance).

To guide your thinking, the types of parameters I have in mind include:

- The content of any release must not include any information that might reveal asset capabilities, posture, tactics that could prejudice future operations.
- The timing of any release must not prejudice the successful achievement of active operations.
- The content and timing should be cognisant of information that may be accessible to the public, including through observations at shore transfer points, releases by other agencies eg RCC etc.

Over to you.

Regards,
David Johnston

Rear Admiral, RAN
Commander Border Protection Command

s47F

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Monday, 9 September 2013 1:30 PM
To: JOHNSTON David [ADF]
Cc: PRICE Terry; WATSON Ken (Defence); s47F
Subject: RE: Decision Framework for the Public Release of SIEV Arrivals [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Will do.

s47F A/g Director Governance and Command Support
 Border Protection Command | Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
 s47F

From: JOHNSTON David [ADF]
Sent: Monday, 9 September 2013 1:19 PM
To: s47F
Cc: PRICE Terry; WATSON Ken (Defence); s47F
Subject: Decision Framework for the Public Release of SIEV Arrivals [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

s47F

Please work with s47F to provide to me by COB Wednesday, initial thoughts for the parameters that need to be considered for the release to the public of SIEV arrival notifications. This work is aimed at developing our thinking in order to be ready to advise either the JIATF Commander and / or the incoming government (noting their public statements about the release being subject to operational commanders' clearance).

To guide your thinking, the types of parameters I have in mind include:

- The content of any release must not include any information that might reveal asset capabilities, posture, tactics that could prejudice future operations.
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Over to you.

Regards,
 David Johnston

Rear Admiral, RAN
 Commander Border Protection Command

s47F

From: s47F [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 12:11:36 PM UTC
To: SMITH Don; s47F [REDACTED]
Cc: CONOLAN Teresa; Customs Media; s47F [REDACTED]
Subject: OSB transition media handling strategy V2 [~~DLM=For Official Use Only~~]

All,

Please find attached updated (as of 2100 tonight) transitional media arrangements, including proposed holding lines, for approval. This includes additional info requested by DCEO BE about our media briefing intentions to assist with media expectation management.

Rgds

s47F [REDACTED]

s47F [REDACTED]

Director Media & External Affairs
Communication and Media
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
5 Constitution Ave
Canberra ACT 2600

s47F [REDACTED]

W: www.customs.gov.au

24 hour media line: (02) 6275 6793
Media inquiries: media@customs.gov.au

TRANSITIONAL MEDIA HANDLING STRATEGY FOR REPORTING SIEV/SAR ARRIVALS

OPERATION SOVEREIGN BORDERS

V 0.2 Updated 2100 18 Sept 13

Background

The incoming Government has indicated reporting of suspected irregular entry vessels (SIEV) arrivals will be an operational decision for the Commander of Operation Sovereign Borders (OSB).

Initial indications are such briefings may be held fortnightly at a current ACBPS/Border Protection Command (BPC) location.

This brief outlines an interim whole-of-government approach and proposed holding lines for SIEV-related media enquiries (particularly those involving a search and rescue (SAR) component) while more formal parameters for the public reporting of information related to SIEV arrivals are determined.

Situation

In the event of a SIEV SAR situation, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is required to issue a shipping broadcast to vessels in the area. This information will be received by merchant vessels and may therefore become public and media knowledge in advance of any official information being released by OSB.

Approach

In the event that a maritime arrival or incident occurs prior to the establishment of formal OSB media protocols, the following transitional media arrangements are proposed.

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) is the lead agency. Customs Media will coordinate all media enquiries related to SIEV arrivals and SAR operations involving potential SIEVs. AMSA and other government agencies will direct any media enquiries received to Customs Media.

Following consultation between Customs Media and Defence Media, it is agreed that general media enquiries received about Operation Sovereign Borders, including requests for interviews of senior OSB personnel, will also be coordinated by ACBPS.

Responses will be cleared through the Joint Agency Task Force arrangements.

As a general principle, no details will be provided about the method or nature of detection, the name of responding assets, specific locations or specific timings.

Interim media arrangements

Interim holding lines are proposed for the following scenarios:

Where partner agencies receive media enquiries about Operation Sovereign Borders:

- *Refer to Customs Media.*

Where AMSA is coordinating a SAR in relation to a possible SIEV, AMSA media will respond:

- *Please contact Customs Media for all media enquires related to Operation Sovereign Borders, including search and rescue operations involving suspected irregular entry vessels.*

ACBPS response in this scenario:

- *The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service can confirm there is an ongoing search and rescue operation underway (direction i.e. north, west, east) of (location i.e. Christmas Island). No further details are available at this time. More information will be provided in due course.*

Where BASARNAS is coordinating a SAR response to a possible SIEV, ACBPS response:

- *Australian authorities are aware of a vessel reportedly in need of assistance within close proximity to Indonesia. Australian authorities are closely monitoring the situation and are in contact with Indonesian authorities, but are not involved in any search and rescue operation at this stage.*

ACBPS response to requests to confirm operational responses, intercepts or reporting intentions:

- *The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service will not be providing operational updates during maritime security incidents or responses, and will not comment on operational activities associated with Operation Sovereign Borders.*
- *Arrivals of suspected irregular entry vessels will not be reported on an individual basis to protect operational information associated with, for example, the positioning of patrol and response vessels and aircraft.*
- *Operation Sovereign Borders will provide operational updates via media briefings on a fortnightly basis, or more frequently when required.*

ENDS

Clearances

Name	Title	Date cleared
Roman Quaedvlieg	DCEO BE	
Don Smith	NM PSTF	
s47F	Director PSTF	
s47F	Director Strategic Communications Defence	18/9/13
s47F	Manager, AMSA Media	18/9/13
For information		
	Minister's Office	
	DIAC Media	
	AFP	
	AGs	

s47F

From: PEZZULLO Michael
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 08:07
To: QUAEDVLIEG Roman
Subject: RE: Operation Sovereign Borders - Directions ~~[SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive:Cabinet]~~

Thanks Roman,

MP

Michael Pezzullo
Chief Executive Officer
 Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
 Customs House, 5 Constitution Ave, Canberra City ACT 2601

s47F

W: www.customs.gov.au

From: QUAEDVLIEG Roman
Sent: Wednesday, 18 September 2013 8:02 AM
To: PEZZULLO Michael; CONOLAN Teresa; SMITH Don; PERRY Nigel; JOHNSTON David [ADF]; GROVES Steven; ^{s47F} [REDACTED] BRISCOE Cindy; ^{s47F} [REDACTED]
Cc: GRANT Marion; NOBLE Rachel; ^{s47F} [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Operation Sovereign Borders - Directions ~~[SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive:Cabinet]~~

All,

^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [REDACTED] please progress tasking as outline below and if you need to speak with me, leave me a message and I will ring you ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} [REDACTED]. Please provide an e-mail back to me on progress against your tasking/s so I can consolidate them to brief the CEO this evening.

1. **CoS** – No further issuance of SIEV arrival media releases. Have ^{s47F} [REDACTED] and his team work up a strategy to deal with media questions on SIEV arrivals in the interim while an alternative media model is being developed.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

RQ

Roman Quaedvlieg

Deputy Chief Executive Officer | Border Enforcement

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Customs House | 5 Constitution Avenue, Canberra ACT 2601

s47F

W: www.customs.gov.au

From: PEZZULLO Michael**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 September 2013 7:01 AM**To:** QUAEDVLIIEG Roman**Cc:** GRANT Marion; CONOLAN Teresa; SMITH Don; NOBLE Rachel; PERRY Nigel; JOHNSTON David [ADF]; GROVES Steven; s47F

s47F

Subject: Operation Sovereign Borders - Directions [~~SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive:Cabinet~~]

Roman

Please ensure that the following directions are carried out today, in order to implement ACBPS elements of OSB:

1. Cease and desist forthwith the issuance of SIEV arrival media releases. The Minister and I are in discussion about a different public communications model, noting that OSB will be a maritime security operation, and not an immigration programme;
 - a. Please discuss alternative models with CoS MI&BP and Commander JATF (with whom I spoke last night), and come back to me;

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Thanks,

MP

Michael Pezullo
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
Customs House, 5 Constitution Ave, Canberra City ACT 2601

s47F



W: www.customs.gov.au