

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE  
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Senator Faulkner asked the following question at the hearing of 28 May 2002:**

What amount of time might be spent on countering people-smuggling?

**I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

AFP time attribution records indicate that in the financial year to 31 May 2002, the organisation has attributed 62,828 hours to the investigation of people smuggling.

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**Senator Faulkner asked the following question at the hearing of 28 May 2002:**

Identify any of the other Indonesian agencies that your agents work with, other than the Indonesian National Police.

**I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

The AFP Jakarta office, in pursuing organised people smuggling activities, works with the following Indonesian agencies:

Indonesian Immigration;  
Indonesian Navy; and  
Indonesian Army and Marines.

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**Senator Faulkner asked the following question at the hearing of 28 May 2002:**

Identify the frequency of the people smuggling strike team meetings for last year.

**I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

The Board of Management overseeing the Joint AFP/DIMIA People Smuggling Strike Team met on the following dates during 2001:

3 January;  
7 February;  
22 March;  
19 April;  
25 May;  
26 June;  
1 August;  
11 October; and  
22 November.

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**Senator Faulkner asked the following question at the hearing of 28 May 2002:**

What, if any, was the role of the strike team in relation to the 'Palapa' the occupants of which ended up on the *Tampa*?

**I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

The joint Australian Federal Police/Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs People Smuggling Strike Team received intelligence related to the organisation of the *Palapa 1* people smuggling venture. That information was disseminated to the following Commonwealth agencies:

- Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs;
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade;
- Coast Watch;
- Australian Customs Service;
- Department of Defence - DIO and Norcom; and
- Office of National Assessments.

The role of the Strike Team ceased once the *Tampa* entered Australian waters.

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**Senator Faulkner asked the following question at the hearing of 28 May 2002:**

Provide a copy of the original MOU and protocol with the Indonesian Police.

**I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

*The Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian Federal Police and the Indonesian National Police Concerning Cooperation in Law Enforcement* dated 5 August 1997, and the *Protocol under the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Indonesian National Police and the Australian Federal Police on the Targeting of the People Smuggling Syndicates Located in the Republic of Indonesia* dated 15 September 2000, are both operational documents.

The content of those documents was formed with the input of both the Australian Federal Police and the Indonesian National Police. As such, the documents are not solely the property of the Australian Federal Police and therefore cannot be released without the express permission of the Indonesian National Police at this stage.

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**Senator Faulkner asked the following question at the hearing of 28 May 2002:**

Does the protocol go to financial assistance?

**I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

The AFP funded the initiative.

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**Senator Faulkner asked the following question at the hearing of 28 May 2002:**

Provide details of any further developments in the AFP's work with Indonesian authorities in terms of substantive nuts and bolts outcomes following the Ministerial summit in February, including any arrangements with the Indonesian police or forces.

**I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

The AFP has appointed a project manager who is a full time member of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Inter-Departmental Committee on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crimes, chaired by the Ambassador for People Smuggling Issues;

The AFP project manager works with an AFP project team led by the General Manager International and comprising the Directors of Intelligence and International Operations. The team draws on a range of other relevant AFP areas for assistance including the Law Enforcement Cooperation Program (LECP) team.

Some of the projects undertaken specific to Indonesia are:

- Increasing the AFP Indonesian Liaison Officer capability with the future deployment of intelligence and operational skilled personnel;
- In April 2002 the AFP sponsored the visit of the Chief of Police Indonesian National Police (INP) for the Nusa Tenggara Timur Region, his deputy and the head of intelligence to Darwin and Canberra for Whole of Government briefings on People Smuggling issues relevant to this region of Indonesia. This region had historically played an important role in off shore disruption programs working closely with the AFP. This region was one of the key people smuggling staging points for embarkation to Australia. After a number of successful joint AFP and INP disruption operations there has been no departures of vessels to Australia for about twelve months.
- On the 13 and 14 June 2002 senior officers from the AFP and INP conducted their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual AFP INP Memorandum of Understanding Working Group meeting in Perth. The meeting identified common transnational crime threats and confirmed arrangements for the implementation of programs in areas including:
  - Operational training;
  - Criminal Intelligence training;
  - Provision of police equipment;
  - Officer exchange programs in intelligence, operations and training;

- On the 13 June 2002 the Commissioner AFP and Chief of the INP, Police General Da'i Bachtiar, signed a new MOU on transnational crime and cooperation. The MOU identifies three key areas for collaboration under intelligence sharing, joint operations and capacity building through cooperation. The MOU builds on previous MOUs and lists eight transnational crime types as common threats to both countries. The crime types include:
  - Terrorism
  - Trade in narcotics and other illicit drugs
  - Firearms trafficking
  - Sea piracy
  - Money laundering
  - People smuggling, trafficking in persons
  - Cyber crime
  - Transnational economic crime
  
- A protocol to the MOU will be written to address the gift by the Australian Government of five (5) runabout boats to combat the activities of persons involved in people smuggling and related transnational crime.
  
- Later this year a senior delegation of INP officers from intelligence, criminal investigations and training will visit Australia to develop a project plan with implementation strategies for the outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual AFP INP MOU Working Group Meeting;
  
- In August 2002 the AFP will sponsor the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Region Heads of Criminal Intelligence Working Group meeting in Kuala Lumpur. The meeting will build on strategies developed during the inaugural meeting in Bangkok in 2001. The AFP under the LECP funding arrangements will sponsor delegates from about nineteen countries including the INP.