

HIB Number: 000743

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Subject: MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT WHILST DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE
OF ALCOHOL – 17 NOV 10

Comment:
Action Area CJOPS

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HQJOC HIB 2010/15

HOT ISSUE BRIEF

ISSUE: MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT WHILST DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL – 17 Nov 10

SENSITIVITY: Media interest is likely. Alcohol related incidents remain topical in the Northern Territory.

KEY ISSUES:

- At 0745 on Wed 17 Nov 10, an Army member force assigned to Operation RESOLUTE, was involved in a motor vehicle accident near Darwin's CBD. The member crashed into a parked car and then departed the scene and subsequently reported to his place of duty. At the time of the incident the member was in uniform and was likely to have been seen by the public.
- Shortly afterwards, the member contacted NT Police and was subsequently taken into custody and moved to Darwin Police Station.
- The member was breath tested and returned a result over the prescribed legal limit. The member was subsequently charged by the NT Police. The member has been released and has been summonsed to appear in court on 13 Jan 11.
- A sailor, posted to HMAS ARMIDALE, has subsequently indicated he was a passenger in the vehicle at the time of the incident. The Sailor admitted to hitting his head in the incident and has been moved to Robertson Barracks Medical Centre for observation as a precaution.

- There is no operational impact to HMAS ARMIDALE as the sailor was borne additional for training.
- A Quick Assessment is being conducted into this incident.

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Date issued: 17 Nov 2010

TALKING POINTS

- An ADF member who is employed as part of the force protecting Australia's borders on Operation Resolute was involved in a road traffic accident in Darwin's CBD at approximately 0745 on 17 November 2010.
- The ADF member was subsequently interviewed by the Northern Territory Police and charged for driving whilst under the influence of alcohol.
- The member was released from police custody on 17 November and summonsed to appear in court on 13 January 2011.
- Defence has also commenced an internal review into the incident.