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Subject: ALLEGED VIDEO TRANSMISSION OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY AT THE
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY

Comment:
Action Area COM-ADFA

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HOT ISSUES BRIEF ADFA – 01/11

ISSUE: ALLEGED VIDEO TRANSMISSION OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY AT THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY

SENSITIVITY: This incident could be interpreted as being part of a broader problem in Defence involving inappropriate use of social media and communications technology.

KEY ISSUES:

- At 1645h on Thursday 31 March 2011, a midshipman at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) reported an inappropriate activity he had become aware of, but had not witnessed.
- The alleged act occurred during the evening of Monday 28 March 2011, and involved the video transmission of an act of sexual intercourse between two ADFA officer cadets in a room on base. The video was transmitted to another computer on base using the software application 'Skype'. Four officer cadets are alleged to have viewed the sexual act on the remote computer.
- The Quick Assessment of this incident indicates that the sexual intercourse was consensual, but the video transmission was not.

- The Australian Defence Force Investigative Service and the Australian Federal Police were informed of this alleged incident. They have advised that it does not constitute a civilian offence, and it is therefore an issue for ADFA to investigate under the auspices of the Defence Force Discipline Act.
- ADFA has commenced a disciplinary investigation into this alleged incident.

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