SENSITIVITY: High. The media is currently unaware of this incident. The South Australian Police have the primary carriage of this matter.

KEY ISSUES:

- On 9 October 2011, the South Australian Police executed searches at two locations and seized a large number of firearms, ammunition, inert grenades and firearms-related manuals. Two of these weapons were identified as types previously used by the Australian Defence Force, but not since the early 1990s.

- The South Australian Police has identified a person of interest in relation to the searches, but has not made an arrest as the person is overseas. South Australian Police have advised that they intend to arrest the person upon their return to Australia, likely this week.

- Information available to the South Australian Police initially indicated that the person of interest may have served in the Australian Defence Force.
• Inquiries by the Defence Security Authority with all three Services have confirmed that the person of interest does not have an Australian Defence Force service history. The Defence Security Authority has also confirmed that the person has not been employed as a member of the Australian Public Service within Defence or as a Defence contractor issued with a security clearance.

• The Defence Security Authority is obtaining detailed information on the weapons to determine whether any of the seized items were sourced from the Australian Defence Force.

• In support of the South Australian Police's ongoing efforts, Defence has been requested to keep this information 'close-hold' so as to not alert the person of interest prior to arrest.

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