From: s47E(c) on behalf of AIRTF Ministerial and Executive Coord
To: Wolski, Brett RADM; Ashworth, Karen AIRCDRE; Lewis, Angeline AIRCDRE
Cc: AIRTF Ministerial and Executive Coord; s47E(c)
Subject: 260605 - 15:19:21 - e-mail - s47E(c) Many - Senate Estimates QoNs 50 & 50 - Due to ASG Coord NLT 15 June 2026
Date: Friday, 5 June 2026 3:19:23 PM

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon,

Please be advised the verbal QoNs from CDF's exchange have been assigned to AIRTF for action.

The outlines of the questions to answer are as follows:

Q50 - Delivery of IGADF Afghanistan Command Accountability Report
Senator David Shoebridge
Thank you, Chair. Perhaps at the end of this round of questioning, if we have an answer to that question on Palantir and embedded numbers, if we could have those numbers at the end, but rather than delay, we might get started on just one question to you, Admiral Johnston, the IGADF in their preparation document for last round of estimates said this following the completion of the IGADF Afghanistan Inquiry. My office conducted an inquiry which examined issues of command accountability. I have delivered that inquiry to the Chief of the Defence Force. When did you get that delivered by the IGADF?
CDF, ADML David Johnston
Senator Patterson, Senator Shobridge. I've gone right around, Senator Shoebridge. I just need to check the timing, that may have been delivered to my predecessor, not me. I'm just not certain of the timing of the delivery report.
Senator David Shoebridge
Well, have you seen it?
CDF, ADML David Johnston
I would have to check the report itself and advise you of whether that was the case or not.
Senator David Shoebridge
Whether you'd seen it or not?
CDF, ADML David Johnston
Yes.
Senator David Shoebridge
We'll sure you remember, whether you saw a report from the IGADF about command accountability following the Afghanistan inquiry, a big issue about was the recommendation from Major General Brereton to not hold senior command to account. Do you remember that recommendation?
CDF, ADML David Johnston
I'd certainly recall the recommendation and the material that was in the Brereton report that provided that explanation and that judgment, yes.
Senator David Shoebridge
Yeah, but then apparently after that the IGADF undertook a whole separate inquiry into issues of command accountability and gave that to either you or your predecessor.
CDF, ADML David Johnston
And that's what I would have to check, Senator

Q51 - Copy of the IGADF Afghanistan Command Accountability Inquiry Report

Senator David Shoebridge

Can you provide this committee with a copy of the report to the inquiry that was delivered by the IGADF into command accountability.

CDF, ADML David Johnston

Senator, I would have to take that on notice as it is an Inspector General's report, not a report originated within the department.

Kind regards,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer
Afghanistan Inquiry Response Task Force (AIRTF)
Department of Defence

s47E(c Russell Offices | PO Box 7902 Canberra BC ACT 2610
s47E(c) s47E(d)

Website: Afghanistan Inquiry

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From: Wolski, Brett RADM
To: Budd, Wayne BRIG; AIRTF Ministerial and Executive Coord
Cc: Ashworth, Karen AVM; Lewis, Angeline AIRCDRE
Subject: 260611 - 14:39:57 - e-mail - B Wolski/Many - SEEKING CONSULT DUE NLT 1000 THURS 11 June 2026: 2026-27 Budget Estimates Question on Notice - Q50 + Q51
Date: Thursday, 11 June 2026 2:39:58 PM

[redacted]

Ack, thanks Wayne,

We will update the wording.

Brett

Brett Wolski
RADM, RAN
Head AIRTF

Afghanistan Inquiry Response Task Force
s47E(c) Russell Offices | ACT 2600

Ph s47E(c) Mob: s22
Email: s47E(c)
Website: https://www.defence.gov.au/about/reviews-inquiries/afghanistan-inquiry
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From: Budd, Wayne BRIG s47E(c)
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 2:27 PM
To s47E(d)
Cc: Wolski, Brett RADM s47E(c) ; Ashworth, Karen AVM s47E(c) ; Lewis, Angeline AIRCDRE s47E(c)
Subject: RE: SEEKING CONSULT DUE NLT 1000 THURS 11 June 2026: 2026-27 Budget Estimates Question on Notice - Q50 + Q51 [SEC=[redacted]]

[redacted]

G'Day Sir,

I have no problem with these responses.

s47C

s47C

Cheers,

Wayne
W.G. BUDD
BRIG
Assistant IGADF
Telephone s47E(c)
email: s47E(c)

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From: Budd, Wayne BRIG
To: Garrett, Tracy BRIG - IGADF
Cc: Gaynor, James MR 1 - IGADF
Subject: FW: SEEKING CONSULT DUE NLT 1000 THURS 11 June 2026: 2026-27 Budget Estimates Question on Notice - Q50 + Q51 [redacted]
Date: Friday, 12 June 2026 12:07:00 AM
Attachments: SQ26-000812.docx
SQ26-000815.docx

[redacted]

G'Day Tracy,

s47C

Cheers,

Wayne

W.G. BUDD
BRIG
Assistant IGADF
Telephone: s47E(c)
email: s47E(c)

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From: Budd, Wayne BRIG
To: AIRTF Ministerial and Executive Coord
Cc: Wolski, Brett RADM; Ashworth, Karen AIRCDRE; Lewis, Angeline AIRCDRE
Subject: RE: SEEKING CONSULT DUE NLT 1000 THURS 11 June 2026: 2026-27 Budget Estimates Question on Notice - Q50 + Q51 [redacted]
Date: Thursday, 11 June 2026 2:26:00 PM

[redacted]

G'Day Sir,

s47C [redacted]

[redacted]

Cheers,

Wayne
W.G. BUDD
BRIG
Assistant IGADF
Telephone: s47E(c)
email: s47E(c)

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From: s47E(c) IGADF
To: Budd, Wayne BRIG; Gaynor, James MR 1 - IGADF; Garrett, Tracy BRIG - IGADF; Jackson, Gemma MRS - IGADF
Subject: RE: Senate Estimates QoNs 50 & 50 - Due to ASG Coord NLT 15 June 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 9:08:14 AM
Attachments: 230215 - Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee Hansard - "Cultural inquiries" mentions tagged.pdf

OFFICIAL

Good morning all

As requested, I have dug out the relevant Estimates transcript and tagged the mentions of the 'cultural inquiry'. They appear on pages 87 to 89.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can find.

Warm regards
s47E(c)

s47E(c)
Executive Assistant to the Inspector-General
Office of the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force

Telephone: s47E(c)
Mobile: s22

Website: www.igadf.gov.au

IGADF acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia.
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From: Budd, Wayne BRIG s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 9 June 2026 11:51 PM
To: Gaynor, James MR 1 - IGADF s47E(c) Garrett, Tracy BRIG - IGADF s47E(c) Jackson, Gemma MRS - IGADF s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(c)
Subject: FW: Senate Estimates QoNs 50 & 50 - Due to ASG Coord NLT 15 June 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

G'Day Jim, Tracy and Gemma,

I have discussed this with Brett Wolski this afternoon. I note his deadline for Thursday.

s47E(c) has sent Tracy the draft FOI material.

s47C

Our Inquiry is not into Command Accountability.

The Directions were titled:

CDF-DIRECTED IGADF INQUIRY INTO THE CULTURAL CONTEXT IN WHICH COMMAND OVER SPECIAL OPERATIONS TASK GROUPS OR SPECIAL FORCES PERSONNEL WAS EXERCISED IN AFGHANISTAN

The Report was titled: IGADF INQUIRY INTO CULTURAL ISSUES WITHIN SPECIAL FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

s 47C

Cheers,
Wayne

W.G. BUDD
BRIG
Assistant IGADF
Telephone: s47E(c)
email s47E(c)

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CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE FORCE

Minute

s47E(d)

See distribution

s47E(d)

s47E(d)

5. My point of contact in relation to this matter is Director General Afghanistan Inquiry Response Task Force (DG AIRTF), BRIG Michael Scott s 4s47E(c) or s47E(c)

s22

Angus J Campbell
GEN
CDF

s47E(c)
PO Box 7900
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

29 Mar 23

Enclosures:
s47E(d)

Distribution

CA
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Legal Advisor to CDF
SO1 SIM-A

From: s47E(c)
To: Jackson, Gemma MRS - IGADF; Budd, Wayne BRIG - IGADF
Subject: 260720:1633 - [s47E(c) -[Multiple] Disclosure of the s47E(d)
Date: Monday, 20 July 2026 4:33:00 PM
Attachments: image001.jpg
2303151341 - Gaynor James MR 1 s47E(c) Brereton report holders" access to different versions of the s47E(d) msg

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

Hello Gemma and Sir,

My apologies for recalling my previous email – I found some more information so wanted to revise my requests below.

Thanks Gemma for your time on the phone this afternoon. As we discussed, I am writing with some questions regarding the IGADF's 'Inquiry into Special Forces Culture' s47E(d)
s47E(d)

As you would be aware, ADML Johnston was asked about the Inquiry report at Senate Estimates in Jun 26 (via questions from Senator David Shoebridge on 'the IGADF's Command Accountability Inquiry'). ADML Johnston was unaware of the Inquiry at that time and took the question on notice. s47E(d)
s47E(d)

s47E(d)

s47E(d)

Thank you both. Please feel free to reach out if you would like to discuss my request.

Kind regards,
s47E(c)

s47E(c)
CMDR, RAN

Legal Adviser to the Chief of the Defence Force

Department of Defence | Russell Offices s47E(c) Canberra, ACT
Skype for Business s47E(c) **Mobile** s22
s47E(c)

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~~OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE~~

~~Legal Privilege~~

Dear Sir,

QoN regarding 'Delivery of IGADF Afghanistan Command Accountability Report'

Following a series of questions from Senator (David) Shoebridge during Senate Estimates on 03 Jun 26, ADML Johnston cleared the QoN at **Flag A.** s 47C

s47E(d)

Yours aye,

From: s47E(c) on behalf of s47E(d)
To: s47E(c)
Cc: Senate Estimates
Subject: 260703:0748 - [Senate Estimates]- s47E(c) CDF QoNs for clearance
Date: Friday, 3 July 2026 7:48:42 AM
Attachments: Urgent - Request for legal advice from Senate Estimates Team SECOFFICIAL.msg
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hello s47E(c)

Please see s47E(mail below.

Status:

- QoN 50 – s 22 are waiting for B-checks. Is it possible to get these cleared ready for CDF clearance today?

s22

s22

Thank you in advance.

Kind regards,

s47E(c)
Parliamentary Liaison Officer
Senate Estimates and Parliamentary Business | Ministerial, Parliamentary and Cabinet Branch
Ministerial and Executive Coordination and Communication Division | Department of Defence
s47E(c)

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From s47E(c)
Sent: Thursday, 2 July 2026 7:26 PM
To: Senate Estimates s47E(d)
Subject: CDF QoNs for clearance [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi team,

Noting that CDF handover is next week, could someone please chase the following QoNs that Admiral Johnston has asked to clear:

s22			
50	SQ26-000812	David Shoebridge	Delivery of IGADF Afghanistan Command Accountability Report
s22			

Ideally, we would need them by COB Monday.

Thanks again.

Kind regards,
s47E(c

s47E(c)
Staff Officer to Admiral David Johnston AC RAN
Chief of the Defence Force

Phone s47E(c) *Mobile* s22
Location s47E(c) Russell Offices
Postal Address: PO Box 7900 Canberra BC ACT 2610
Email: s47E(c)
s47E(d)

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