LEX8203

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) To: **Media**

Ian Gerard; Lynn Bell; Global Watch Office; Consular Operations & Emergency Centre; \$22(1)(a) Cc: s 47E(d)

; s 47E(d)

/ Australians fighting in

Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today /

Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 11:02:43 AM

Attachments: image001.jpg

image002.png

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)}

The below response remains suitable. This has been cleared by AS CNB, Ian Gerard.

//

Attributable to a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade spokesperson

We understand many people feel distressed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but we urge Australians to heed the Australian Government advice to not travel to Ukraine. We urge all Australians to leave Ukraine, if it's safe to do so.

On background (for use in reporting, not attribution)

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not monitor the movements of Australians overseas.

Our law prohibits Australian citizens, Australian residents and holders of Australian visas from engaging in hostile activities overseas unless serving in, or with, the armed forces of a foreign country. Australians who travel to fight with a non-government armed group on either side of the Russian invasion of Ukraine may be committing a criminal offence.

DFAT Smartraveller advice remains at "Do Not Travel" for Ukraine, Russia and Belarus (see www.smartraveller.gov.au)

//

Kind regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Consular Operations Team B

Consular Operations Branch | Consular & Crisis Management Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate

 From:
 Ian Gerard

 To:
 \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

 Cc:
 \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: RE: For Clearance: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today /

Australians fighting in Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 10:05:45 AM Attachments: image001.jpg

image002.png

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Thanks, approved.

lan

Ian Gerard

Assistant Secretary

Consular Operations Branch

Consular and Crisis Management Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

ian.gerard@dfat.gov.au

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

www.dfat.gov.au

Web | Twitter | YouTube | Flickr

From: \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 9:56 AM **To:** lan Gerard < lan.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: S 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; S 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Subject: FW: For Clearance: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today,

Australians fighting in Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL]

(a)(ii)

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi lan

I have consulted with Desk, and we agree that the below response remains suitable – we don't have any new deaths that require an FMO background:

//

Attributable to a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade spokesperson

We understand many people feel distressed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but we urge Australians to heed the Australian Government advice to not travel to Ukraine. We urge all Australians to leave Ukraine, if it's safe to do so.

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) **To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii); <u>Geoff Bowan</u>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today / Australians fighting in

Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 9:48:47 AM

Attachments: image001.jpg image002.png

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Thanks, \$\frac{s \cdot 22(1)(a)(ii)}{2} - I think that the current response remains appropriate. Thanks for consulting.

Та

s 22(1)(a)(i

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Ukraine Section (UKS)

Eastern Europe Branch (ELB) | Europe and Latin America Division (ELD)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Phone: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 9:48 AM

To: S 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au> **Cc:** S 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Subject: FW: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today /

Australians fighting in Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

I suggest that the below response remains appropriate. We don't have anything further from a consular perspective to add but wanted to get Desk views.

Thanks s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Consular Operations Team B

Consular Operations Branch | Consular & Crisis Management Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

LEX8203 DECLASSIFIED BY DFAT AND RELEASED UNDER THE FOI ACT 1982

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To:

Cc:

Media; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
s 47E(d) ; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Ian Gerard; Lynn Bell; Global Watch Office; Consular Operations & Emergency Centre; s 4/E(d); s 22(1)(a)(ii)
RE: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today / Wastralians fighting in Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL] Subject:

Date: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 9:02:47 AM

image001.jpg image002.png **Attachments:**

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)}

Acknowledging receipt.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Consular Operations Team B

Consular Operations Branch | Consular & Crisis Management Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

T + s 22(1)(a)(ii) + M + s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate

s 22(1)(a)(ii) From: **Geoff Bowan** To:

FW: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today / Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL] Subject: / Australians fighting in

Date: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 8:25:00 AM

image001.png **Attachments:**

OFFICIAL

Hey Geoff

Suggest we bow out and leave this to CCD. Response looks fine.

If you agree, I will reply all and get this out of our hair.

Ta

s 22(1)(a)(i

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Ukraine Section (UKS)

Eastern Europe Branch (ELB) | Europe and Latin America Division (ELD)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

| s 22(1)(a)(ii) Phone: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii) - Duplicate

From: Consular Operations & Emergency Centre

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: FW: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today / Australians fighting in

Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 7:22:49 AM

Attachments: image001.png

image001.jpg image002.jpg

OFFICIAL

Just forwarding to you as duty officer as it came through at 7:00am but I'm guessing s 22(1)(a)(ii) will be all over it.

Consular Emergency Centre
Consular and Crisis Management Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Phone: 1300 555 135 or +61 2 6261 3305 (option 6)

Email: centre.conops@dfat.gov.au

smartraveller.gov.au | Twitter | Facebook

?

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From: Media <media@dfat.gov.au> Sent: Tuesday, 30 May 2023 7:03 AM

To: \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>;

s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Media < media@dfat.gov.au>; \$ 47E(d) @dfat.gov.au>; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>; Gerard, Ian <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>; Bell, Lynn

Operations & Emergency Centre < Centre. Conops@dfat.gov.au>; \$ 47E(d)

@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>;

s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

LEX8203	DECLASSIFIED BY DFAT AND RELEASED UNDER THE FOI ACT 1982
Subject: **Media enquiry for action** due to MLS 2pm today / Australians fighting in Ukraine [[SEC=OFFICIAL]	
OFFICIAL	
Good morning ^S 2	22(1)(a)(ii)
We've received t Australians fight	the below enquiry from asking for an update to our previous response on ing in Ukraine.
draft response to	not have an update to our previous response, but MLS would be grateful for a this enquiry by 2pm today, Tuesday 30 May to allow for FMO e let us know if this is unrealistic. We would also appreciate confirmation of equest.
It is a requirement that draft responses are cleared at SES level before they are returned to MLS. Please advise: name, title, and best contact number of the clearing SES.	
"attributable to should be reason "on background	at, media responses should be provided in prose (i.e. not talking points) and any a spokesperson for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade" quote nably short – the usual maximum is three lines. We can then provide more detail (not for attribution)" (meaning we cannot be quoted on this, but the journalist rmation in their reporting).
s 47E(d)	
	-
Warm regards, s 22(1)(a)(ii)	
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	

Media Liaison Officer | Media Liaison Section Communications Branch | Executive Division

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii) | Ms 22(1)(a)(ii) | Es 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au

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From:

Sent: Monday, 29 May 2023 8:53 AM **To:** Media media@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Australians fighting in Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.

Hello!

My name is . I asked these questions a few months ago and got the response below. Just double checking if anything has changed?

"Could tell me an estimate of how many Australians are in Ukraine fighting in the war? If so, do we know how many are fighting on either side?"

Thanks!



On Mon, Nov 14, 2022 at 5:58 PM Media < media@dfat.gov.au > wrote:

OFFICIAL



Thanks for your patience. Please find below response:

11

Attributable to a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade spokesperson

We understand many people feel distressed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but we urge Australians to heed the Australian Government advice to not travel to Ukraine. We urge all Australians to leave Ukraine, if it's safe to do so.

On background (for use in reporting, not attribution)

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not monitor the movements of Australians overseas.

Our law prohibits Australian citizens, Australian residents and holders of Australian visas from engaging in hostile activities overseas unless serving in, or with, the armed forces of a foreign country. Australians who travel to fight with a non-government armed group on either side of the Russian invasion of Ukraine may be committing a criminal offence.

DFAT Smartraveller advice remains at "Do Not Travel" for Ukraine, Russia and Belarus (see www.smartraveller.gov.au)

11

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Media Liaison Officer | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

P +s 22(1)(a)(ii)

dfat.gov.au | Twitter | Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn



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Note to media: Unless otherwise specified, the information contained in this email is for background only.

From:

Sent: Friday, 11 November 2022 5:43 PM

To: Media < media@dfat.gov.au >

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Australians fighting in Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.

Thank you * ^{22(1)(a)(i)} No worries if I don't get a reply before Tuesday morning, but obviously would mind getting it earlier either.

Have a nice weekend!



On Friday, November 11, 2022, Media < media@dfat.gov.au > wrote:

OFFICIAL



Thanks for your email.

We will look into this for you.

Regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Media Liaison Section

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii)

E media@dfat.gov.au

From: Counter Terrorism
To: \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cc: s 47F(1); Counter Terrorism

Subject: Latest Op REPARTEE Data

Date: Friday, 12 May 2023 12:31:52 PM

Attachments: MASTER - ABF Operation REPARTEE - List of ATONSI (P) v0.1 06JUN2022.XLSX

Good Afternoon,

Please find attached our current assessment of persons who have potentially travelled to the Ukraine region with updated movements and details. Apologies for the delay since we last sent this through.

As per previous advice, we cannot be definitive that these people have crossed into Ukraine and this report is provided for information only. It is not to be used in any subsequent reporting. It is purely an assumption based assessment and it will differ from AFP's numbers.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

s 47F(1)

A/g Inspector
Counter Terrorism | Special Investigations Branch
Customs Division
Australian Border Force
Ph: s 47F(1) @abf.gov.au

Counter Terrorism mailbox: \$ 47E(d) | SEC: \$ 47E(d)

Counter Terrorism out of hours: \$ 47E(d)

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From: s 22(1)(a)

To: s 47F(1) ; s 22(1)(a)
Cc: Counter Terrorism; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Latest Op Repartee data

Subject: RE: Latest Op Repartee data

Date: Wednesday, 1 March 2023 5:37:15 PM



Thanks \$ 47F(1) — appreciate the ongoing sharing.

One thing for you to note for your records is that those who are listed as deceased are still shown as OFFSHORE. I can confirm that bodies have been repatriated.

Kind regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Consular Operations Team B

Consular Operations Branch | Consular & Crisis Management Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M**s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Thursday, 9 February 2023 1:50 PM

Cc: \$ 47E(d) @abf.gov.au>

Subject: Latest Op Repartee data

Good afternoon \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

Please find attached our current assessment of persons who have potentially travelled to the Ukraine region with updated movements and details from this week. Apologies for the delay since we last sent this through.

As per previous advice, we cannot be definitive that these people have crossed into Ukraine and this report is provided for information only. It is not to be used in any subsequent reporting. It is purely an assumption based assessment and it will differ from AFP's numbers.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47F(1)

Inspector | Counter Terrorism Special Investigations Branch Customs Division

P: s 47F(1)

E: s 47F(1) @abf.gov.au

Counter Terrorism mailbox^{s 47E(d)} abf.gov.au |SEC: s 47E(d) Counter Terrorism out of hours: s 47E(d)

@amis.bpc.gov.au

Counter Fortenant out of floure.

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Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. The Department of Home Affairs and ABF respect your privacy and have obligations under the Privacy Act 1988.

Unsolicited commercial emails MUST NOT be sent to the originator of this email.

From: $\begin{array}{c} s \ 22(1)(a)(ii) \\ \text{To:} \end{array}$

Cc: <u>Lynn Bell</u>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: RE: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11 - Australians fighting in Ukraine

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Monday, 14 November 2022 3:07:17 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.jpg</u>

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a

CCD proposed response:

//

Attributable to a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade spokesperson

We understand many people feel distressed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but we urge Australians to heed the Australian Government advice to not travel to Ukraine. We urge all Australians to leave Ukraine, if it's safe to do so.

On background (for use in reporting, not attribution)

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade does not monitor the movements of Australians overseas.

Our law prohibits Australian citizens, Australian residents and holders of Australian visas from engaging in hostile activities overseas unless serving in, or with, the armed forces of a foreign country.

Australians who travel to fight with a non-government armed group on either side of the Russian invasion of Ukraine may be committing a criminal offence.

DFAT Smartraveller advice remains at "Do Not Travel" for Ukraine, Russia and Belarus (see www.smartraveller.gov.au)

//

Kind regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Assistant Secretary

Consular Operations Branch | Consular & Crisis Management Division

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii) **M**s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 14 November 2022 2:19 PM **To:** \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Lynn Bell <Lynn.Bell@dfat.gov.au>; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Media

<media@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11 - ______ - Australians fighting in Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

It looks like the journalist has a little bit of flexibility with this one.

Happy to have something back by COB today or first thing tomorrow morning.

Thanks.

s 22(1)(a

From: Media < media@dfat.gov.au >

Sent: Monday, 14 November 2022 2:13 PM

To:s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Lynn Bell < Lynn.Bell@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

<media@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11

Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL]

@dfat.gov.au>; Media

Australians fighting in

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

If you could aim to get it back to us by 4pm today, that would be great.

I'll see if the journalist has any flexibility with their deadline and revert.

Cheers,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | Media Liaison Section Communication Branch | Executive Division

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and emerging.

Sent: Monday, 14 November 2022 2:10 PM

To: Media < media@dfat.gov.au >

Cc: Lynn Bell < Lynn.Bell@dfat.gov.au >; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au >

Subject: FW: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11 - Australians fighting in

Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi MLS – can we please get an extension to the below request. I have only just seen this – working on it now.

Thanks \$ 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Consular Operations Team B

Consular Operations Branch | Consular & Crisis Management Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M**s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cc: \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Subject: FW: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11 - Australians fighting in

Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL] **Importance:** High

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

I've been tied up this morning. Just checking to see if CCD is aware of this one? I think this is best a CCD lead, but happy to chat if helpful.

Thanks

s 22(1)(a)(i)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Ukraine Section

Latin America and Eastern Europe Branch | Europe and Latin America Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Phone: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Media < media@dfat.gov.au >

Sent: Monday, 14 November 2022 2:02 PM
To: \$ 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Consular Operations & Emergency Centre < Centre.Conops@dfat.gov.au>; \$ 47E(d)

@dfat.gov.au>; Lynn Bell < Lynn.Bell@dfat.gov.au>; Media < media@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11 - Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Australians fighting in

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)} and team,

Grateful for an update on the progress of this response.

Warm regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | Media Liaison Section

Communication Branch | Executive Division

Ts 22(1)(a)(ii)

| Ms 22(1)(a)(ii)

Es 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au



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Thanks

From: Media < media@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 11 November 2022 6:00 PM
To:s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Consular Operations & Emergency Centre < Centre.Conops@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

@dfat.gov.au>; Lynn Bell < Lynn.Bell@dfat.gov.au>; Media < media@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11 -

- Australians fighting in

Ukraine [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL Dear s 22(1)(a)(ii) and colleagues One for Monday. MLS has received the below enquiry from regarding Australians participating in the war in Ukraine. I note we have previously provided advice on a similar line of questioning put to Home Affairs (attached). Welcome advice on whether this enquiry should also be referred to Home Affairs. Should you determine that DFAT should respond, I would welcome a draft response to this enquiry by 2pm Monday 14 November to allow for FMO clearance deadlines. I would also appreciate confirmation of receipt of this request. It is a requirement that draft responses are cleared at SES level. In terms of format, media responses should be provided in prose (i.e. not talking points) and the Minister's office prefers that we keep any "attributable" quote reasonably short – the usual maximum is three lines. We can then provide more detail "on background" (meaning we cannot be quoted on this but the journalist can use the information in reporting). For more guidance and tips, please read this fact sheet on the intranet. Regards s 22(1)(a)(ii) Media Liaison Section Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade **T**s 22(1)(a)(ii) | E media@dfat.gov.au From: **Sent:** 11 November 2022 17:08 To: Media < media@dfat.gov.au > Subject: [EXTERNAL] Australians fighting in Ukraine **CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender. Hi! and I'm a reporter with My name is

I'm wondering if you could tell me an estimate of how many Australians are in Ukraine fighting in the war? If so, do we know how many are fighting on either side?

Thanks!



OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

From: Consular Operations & Emergency Centre

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: FW: *Media enquiry for action* due 2pm Monday 14/11 - Australians fighting in Ukraine

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Friday, 11 November 2022 6:38:00 PM

Attachments: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

OFFICIAL

H ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)}

Forwarding for your information only as CNB DO.

Kind regards

Consular Emergency Centre

Consular Operations Branch | Consular and Crisis Management Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

24-hour Consular Emergency Centre +61 2 6261 3305 or 1 300 555 135 (option 6)

smartraveller.gov.au | Twitter | Facebook

s22(1)(a)(ii) - duplicate