

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

Budget Estimates Hearings 2003, 26 & 27 May 2003

**Question: PM26**

**Outcome 1, Output 3.2**

**Topic: SIEV X cable**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 155**

**Senator Faulkner asked: Did any of the officers who are listed as seeing the cable print a copy of the SATIN system?**

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question: PM27**

**Outcome 1, Output 3.2**

**Topic: SIEV X cable**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 157**

**Senator Faulkner asked: Was Ms Jones the only officer who printed a copy of the cable? How many copies were printed?**

**Answer:** No. Two copies were printed, one by Ms Pam Ward and one by Ms Ann Jones.

**Question: PM28-31**

**Outcome 1, Output 3.2**

**Topic: SIEV X cable**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 158**

**Senator Faulkner asked: Check with officer re timing of seeing cable – who it was shown to?**

**Answer:** The cable was one of a number of cables picked up from Records Management Unit by Mr Mathew Healey on 24 October 2001. Distribution of the cable was dependent on the workflow and availability of senior officers at the time and was not identical from a day to day. Neither Mr Healey or other relevant senior officers then within the Education, Immigration and Indigenous Policy Branch have any recollection of to whom this particular cable was shown.

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**Question: PM32**

**Outcome 1, Output 3.2**

**Topic: SIEV X cable**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 159**

**Senator Faulkner asked: Can we establish what action any of those officers took as a result of reading the cable?**

**Answer:** Relevant senior PM&C officers have indicated that it was normal practice for cables to be passed to more senior officers within the Education, Immigration and Indigenous Policy Branch. None of these officers can recall any specific action that was taken as a consequence of reading the cable.