

**Australia's Joint Offshore
Protection Command -
the Commander's view
with some vexing
questions**

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Command**

**Presentation to the
Maritime Law Association of Australia and
New Zealand**



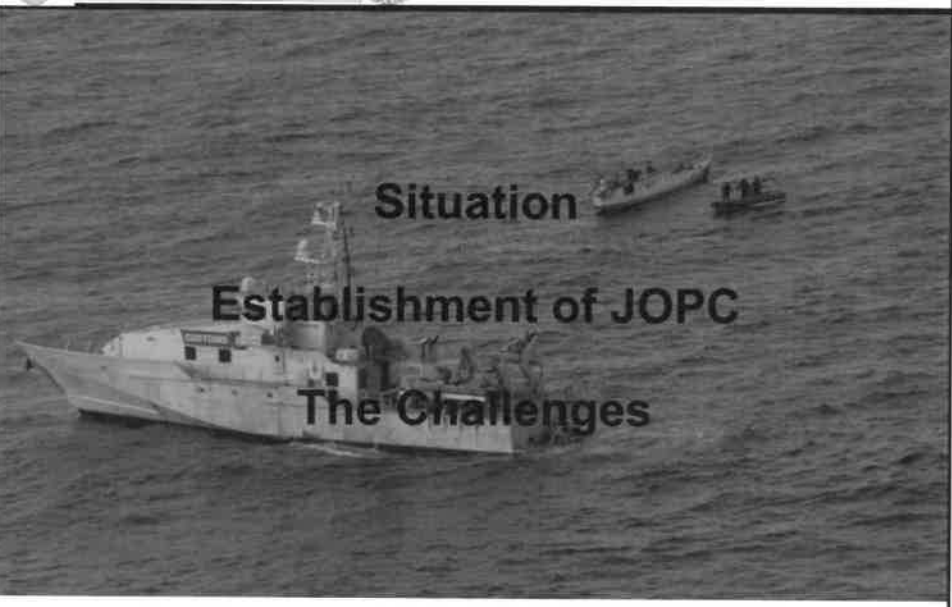
**Joint Offshore
Protection Command**



Rear Admiral Russ Crane RAN

06 October 2005

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Situation

Establishment of JOPC

The Challenges



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Situation – Imports and Exports • \$183 billion (2003/04) international sea freight (\$94 billion exports, \$89 billion imports) • 623 million tonnes (2003/04) maritime trade • Over 2 million (2004) containers imported through Australia's five principal ports			

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Situation – Australian registered vessels • 2 256 (as at 30 Jun 04) Australian registered fishing vessels over 24 metres in length • 5 805 (as at Jun 04) registered recreational vessels over 24 metres in length and many thousands of smaller vessels • 183 000 (2004) cruise ship passenger movements Situation – Vessel movements • 3 500 vessels (2003/4) and 9 265 separate voyages to Australia • 8 779 separate voyages to Australia, involving 3 103 ships (2001-02)			



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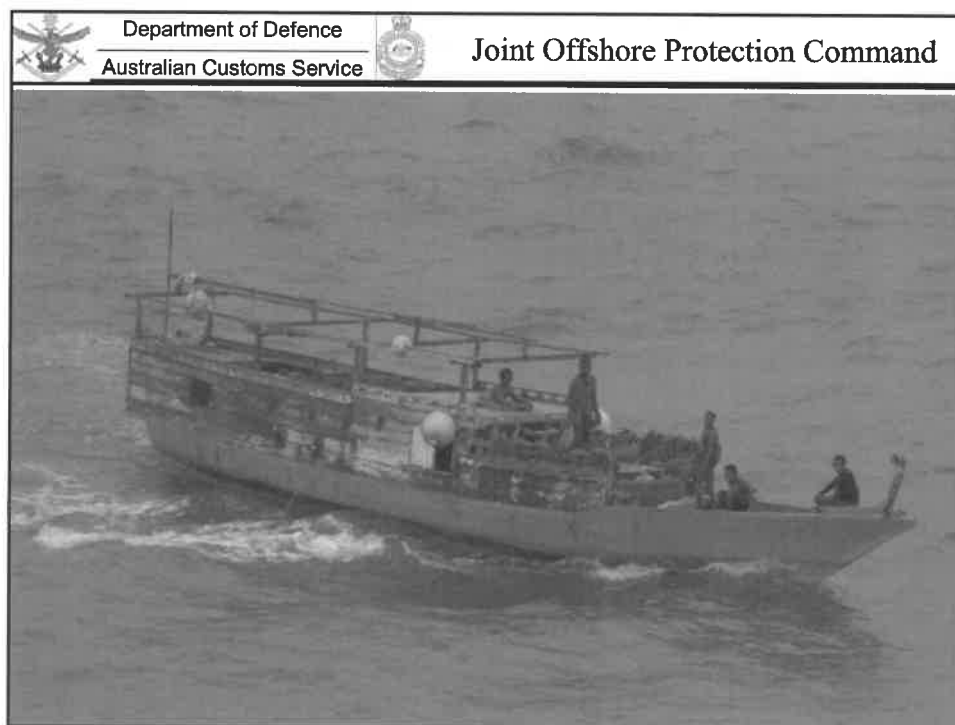
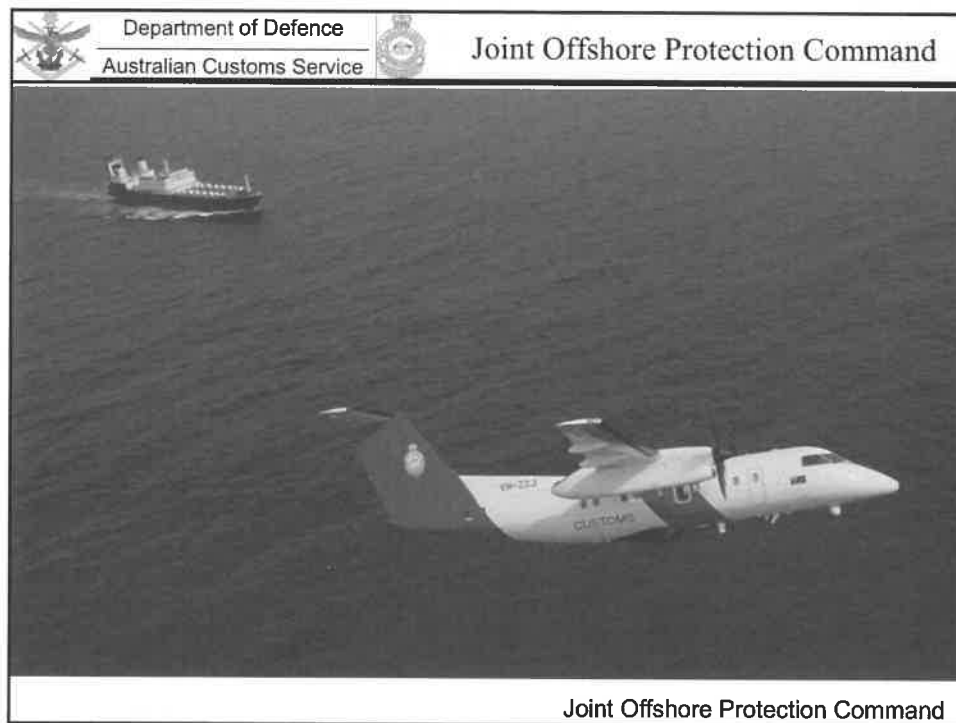
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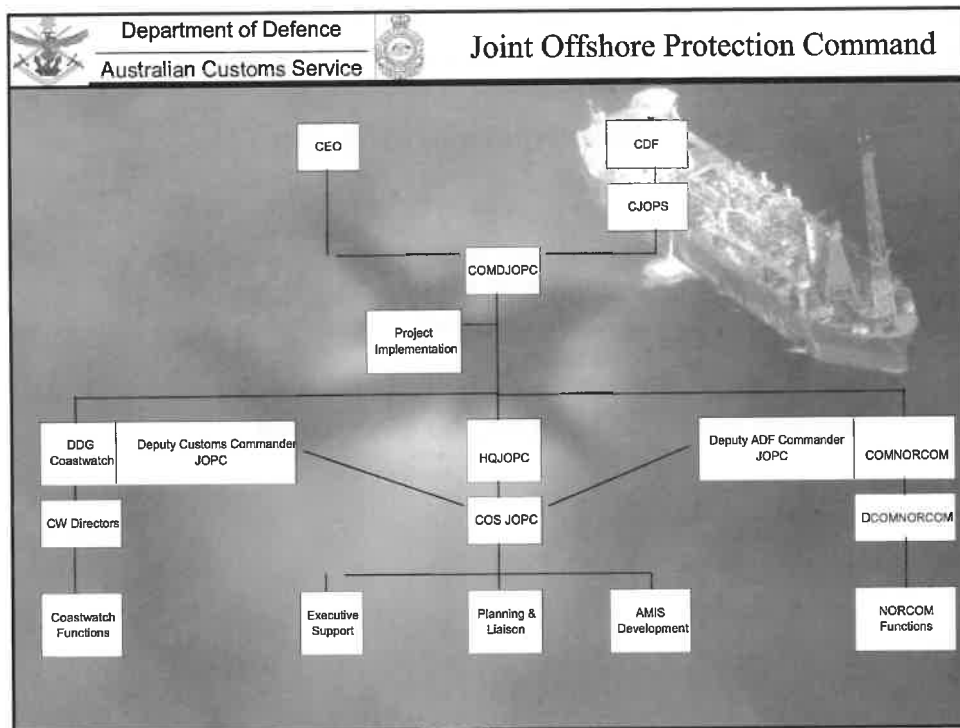


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TASKFORCE ON OFFSHORE MARITIME SECURITY • July – December 2004 • Led by Dept of Prime Minister and Cabinet • Recommendations reported to Cabinet			

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Key Recommendations • Australian Government take direct responsibility for offshore Counter-terrorism prevention, interdiction and response capabilities... • The CEO of Customs and CDF should be tasked with the establishment of a Joint Offshore Protection Command... • ...JOPC should be the lead agency for maritime response and interdiction in relation to offshore maritime security, complementing the existing civil maritime surveillance and regulatory and enforcement functions undertaken by Coastwatch.			

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Key Recommendations (con't) •A program of augmented security patrolling of OGI in the Timor Sea and the NW Shelf be established under the direction of the JOPC... •An Australian Maritime Identification Zone [now System] managed by JOPC be established...			

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JOPC - Why Joint? "...We live in an increasingly complex and interdependent environment...in recent years, issues have more consistently reached across traditional portfolio boundaries. [We] need to find ways to minimise any limitations associated with what could be described as the 'silo effect'..."			



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HQJOPC

Plan, mount and conduct operations and exercises such as ASPs and the offshore interdiction of ships.

Develop, implement and manage the Australian Maritime Identification System (AMIS)

Develop a command structure to strengthen planning, as well as C2 arrangements, to allow the more effective control of forces in the event that an incident moves from a law enforcement matter to a terrorist threat.

Liaise with Foreign, Commonwealth and State/Territory governments and agencies, as well as industry, on matters relating to border protection and maritime security.

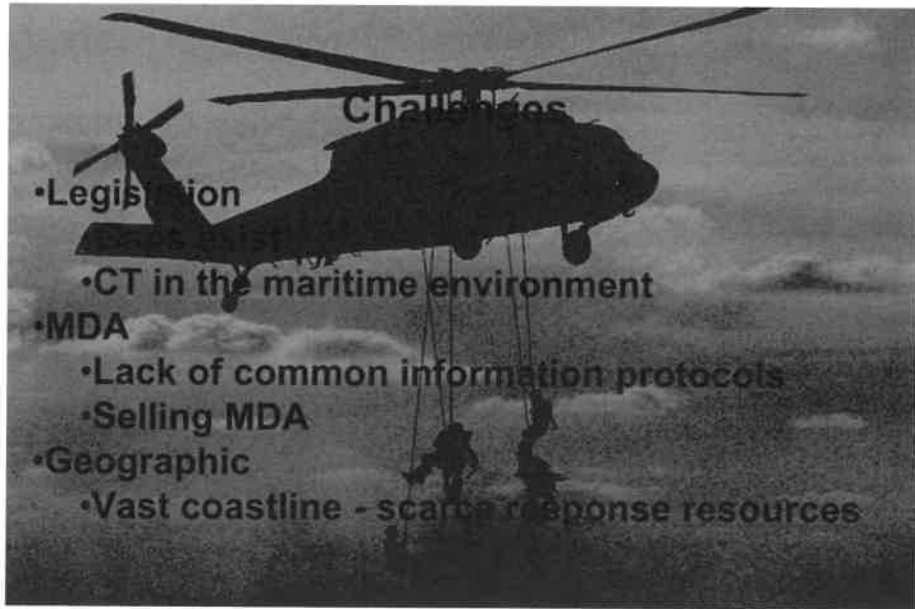
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Joint – other agencies • Australian Security Intelligence Organisation • Australian Federal Police • Australian Defence Force • Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry • Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service • Australian Customs Service • Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs • Department of Environment and Heritage Australian Maritime Safety Authority • Plus involvement of State and Territories			

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“Maritime Domain Awareness is the most pressing issue we have in the global war on terror” Admiral Vern Clark CNO Naval-NRO Conference 2005 “Space and Maritime Domain Awareness: The Sea Service's Perspective”			

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THE MARITIME DOMAIN “All areas and things of, on, under, relating to, adjacent to, or bordering on a sea, ocean, or other navigable waterway, including all maritime-related activities, infrastructure, people, cargo, and vessels and other conveyances”			

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MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS The effective <u>understanding</u> of anything associated with the maritime domain that could impact the security, safety, economy, or environment of a nation.			

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AMIS • AMIS is first and foremost about gathering and synthesizing large amounts of information. • In most cases the data is already collected within Australian agencies and all data provided is either voluntary or a condition of entry. AMIS should: • Be non – threatening to agencies – national and international; • Provide a mutual benefit – to region and the nation; and • Must be understood in the context of today's terrorist and security challenges.			

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 • Legislation • CT in the maritime environment • MDA • Lack of common information protocols • Selling MDA • Geographic • Vast coastline - scarce response resources			

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But the establishment of JOPC is a significant step in the right direction			
			