

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Ian Gerard
Sent: Friday, 16 August 2024 11:58 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Media; Elizabeth Le Bas
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii); Suzanne Pitson; Jason Robertson; s 22(1)(a)(ii) Diem Hetherington; Damien Dunn; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Nigel Stanier; s 22(1)(a)(ii) Julie Shams; Michael Growder; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington[SEC=OFFICIAL]
Categories: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

OFFICIAL

Thanks for this. I'll have to confirm tomorrow morning in the office s 47E(d)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 9:51:17 PM
To: "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>, "Elizabeth Le Bas" <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>, "Ian Gerard" <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Suzanne Pitson" <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>, "Jason Robertson" <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Diem Hetherington" <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>, "Damien Dunn" <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Nigel Stanier" <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Julie Shams" <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>, "Michael Growder" <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Liz/Ian

Further to MLS email. This is the first of three media enquiries and we can expect more.

We will send them all through for response. s 47C(1)

kind regards
 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g AS Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division

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

From: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 11:33 AM
To: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning Elizabeth and Ian,

We have received the below enquiry from Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph asking about various events held at Post Washington.

We are working to manage the journalist's deadline (which is 10am Saturday Canberra Time), but in the meantime we would be grateful for a response back as soon as feasible.

s 47C(1)

Our media enquiry template is below.

//

s 47E(d)

//

Warm regards,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Assistant Director | Media Liaison Section
Media and Communications Delivery Branch
Strategic Communications Division

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii) | E s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:media@dfat.gov.au)

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

From: Silmalis, Linda <linda.silmalis@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 10:55 AM
To: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry - The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column

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

Hello,

I just have been looking at the DFAT disclosure log and have some questions regarding three of them. There appears to be a lot of questions, but they are really "clarifications" to ensure what I write is accurate. I can just write from the documents. The Opposition claims Mr Rudd is using the embassy as a "party palace". If Mr Rudd would like to respond to that statement, I will include his reply.

1. FOI Reference number LEX11178

The documents include several invoices pertaining to the inaugural embassy of Australia Awards Gala 23 January 2024 event. My questions are as follows:

Q 1: Invoice No. EMBAUS20241 is to RGI Events for an amount \$185,034. **Was this entire paid for by taxpayers? Was any part of it covered by sponsors? If the latter, what is the breakdown? What services did RGI Events provide?**

Q 2: There is a receipt for a flight from LAX to DCA for AUD\$590.30. **Was this covered by taxpayers? Who was the passenger on the trip?**

Q 3: Another tax invoice is for \$10,560 AUD for the "Emcee". A separate tax invoice for the "Emcee" was for \$15,840. A press release by DFAT about the gala said the event included "Channel 10 Australia presenter Narelda Jacobs as Emcee". The two amounts total \$26,400. **Was this amount covered by the taxpayer?**

Q4: How many guests attended the gala? The media release also says how the "Embassy of Australia's Season of Opening Events was generously supported by:
Presenting Partner: Pratt Industries; Platinum Sponsor: Rio Tinto; Gold Sponsor: BHP; Silver Sponsor: Amazon Web Services; Travel Partner: Qantas Airways; Meat and Livestock Australia, Tourism Australia, and Bundaberg. **What did the sponsors contribute to the event?**

2. FOI Reference number LEX11175

... documents and invoices related to the function hosted in the Residence of the Ambassador of Australia to the United States in Washington D.C. to mark the visit of ACTU secretary Sally McManus in May 2024."

Q 1: There is an invoice for a Plated Dinner & Cocktail Reception on 5.20.2024 for \$1,100 and \$540, totalling \$1640. A separate invoice is to wine, totalling \$584. **Was this covered by the taxpayer?**

Q 2: Another invoice is for \$2,080 to Nellys Professional Staff. The invoice shows the amount is for 12 "Aus Res Butler Service". **Can I confirm the above events involved 12 butlers? Was there sole role to serve food?**

3. FOI Reference number LEX10891

Q: The documents contain emails relating to the purchase of a electric barbecue costing \$9,260.

An email from the supplier states: I am reaching out as I would like to enquire about purchasing a BBQ from your website for delivery to the

Australian Embassy in Washington DC. Q: Who paid for the BBQ? Is it for personal use or for functions and/or both? I note that it is for the L2 terrace. Were any modifications required ie sprinkler adjustments etc to accommodate the BBQ? Has it been used!

DEADLINE: Saturday 10am

Regards,
Linda

--

LINDA SILMALIS

Chief Reporter

Sunday Telegraph

2 Holt Street Surry Hills NSW 2010

Ts 47F(1) **Ms 47F(1)**

E linda.silmalis@news.com.au **W** www.dailytelegraph.com.au

Follow us online

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land in all states and territories on which we work and report. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging, and honour their history, cultures, and traditions of storytelling.

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee, you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments which does not relate to the official business of the sending company must be taken not to have been sent or endorsed by that company or any of its related entities. No warranty is made that the e-mail or attachments are free from computer virus or other defect.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 11:51 AM
To: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Liz/Ian

Further to MLS email. This is the first of three media enquiries and we can expect more.

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

kind regards
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g AS Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division
P s 22(1)(a)(ii) M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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

Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 11:33 AM

This section and pages 6-10 removed - duplicate email chain, s 22(1)(a)(ii) - see Document 1 from page 2

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 16 August 2024 4:28 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Elizabeth Le Bas; Media; Ian Gerard
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Suzanne Pitson; Jason Robertson; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Diem Hetherington; Damien Dunn; s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Nigel Stanier; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
; Julie Shams; Michael Growder; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Categories: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

OFFICIAL

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

Please see below our proposed overarching statement s 47C(1)

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director | US Political Section
US, UK and Canada Branch | Geostrategy and Partnerships Division
T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
E s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 3:19 PM
To: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) dfat.gov.au>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Yes thanks Liz. s 47C(1)

From: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 2:08 PM

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>

Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

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

Confirming receipt. s 22(1)(a)(ii) will send a proposed response to Post for consideration overnight.

s 47C(1)

Liz

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>

Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 11:51 AM

To: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Liz/Ian

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

kind regards
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g AS Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division

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

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

Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 11:33 AM

This section and pages 14-16 removed - duplicate email chain - s 22(1)(a)(ii) - see Document 2 from page 6

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Saturday, 17 August 2024 12:42 PM
To: Elizabeth Le Bas; Ian Gerard; Media
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii); Suzanne Pitson; Jason Robertson; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Diem Hetherington; Damien Dunn; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Nigel Stanier; Julie Shams; Michael Growder; Peter Sawczak
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi All,

With thanks for everyone's input, the below version will be provided to FMO for clearance shortly:

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Media Liaison Section
Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
P s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 11:48 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au

s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Sawczak <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Thanks s 22(1)(a)(ii) Have laptop now, so have updated pending Ian's agreement:

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 11:22 AM
To: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Sawczak <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Liz,

Thank you, s 47C(1)
 updated the first line as suggested, pending Ian's agreement.

. I've

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Media Liaison Section
 Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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

From: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 11:03 AM

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Sawczak <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thanks all.

It looks fine to me, but two thoughts - neither redlines.

s 47C(1)

Liz

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>

Date: Saturday 17 August 2024 at 10:47:33 AM

To: "Ian Gerard" <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>, "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>, "Elizabeth Le Bas" <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>, "Suzanne Pitson" <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>, "Jason Robertson" <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>, "Diem Hetherington" <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>, "Damien Dunn" <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>, "Nigel Stanier" <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>, "Julie Shams" <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>, "Michael Growder" <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thanks Ian.

This section and page 22 removed - s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Media Liaison Section

Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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

From: Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>

Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 9:53 AM

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien

Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams

<Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thanks s 22(1)(a)(ii) fine with me.

Thanks

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 at 7:20:14 PM
To: "Ian Gerard" <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>, "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>, "Elizabeth Le Bas" <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>, "Suzanne Pitson" <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>, "Jason Robertson" <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>, "Diem Hetherington" <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>, "Damien Dunn" <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>, "Nigel Stanier" <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>, "Julie Shams" <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>, "Michael Growder" <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi Ian and Liz,

A couple of suggested edits to the below, s 47C(1)

Also noting, the journalist has extended their deadline till 2pm today.

This section and pages 25-26 removed - s 47C(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Media Liaison Section

Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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

OFFICIAL

From: Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 8:26 AM
To: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi Liz and media team,

See below post's suggested response, which the Ambassador has cleared.

I've included background and FMO-only background with further context.

Happy to discuss any of this over the course of the evening, I know the journalists deadline isn't far off.

Ian

This section and page 29 removed - s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

Ian Gerard

Minister Counsellor

Strategic Communications

Australian Embassy, Washington DC

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

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

E: s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s 22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)

OFFICIAL

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

Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 9:33 PM

This section and pages 31-35 removed - duplicate email chain - s 22(1)(a)(ii) - see Document 2 from page 7
(note - due to timezones the other email is dated August 16, 11:33am)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Media
Sent: Saturday, 17 August 2024 2:25 PM
To: Ian Gerard; s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Elizabeth Le Bas
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Suzanne Pitson; Jason Robertson; s 22(1)(a)(ii) Diem Hetherington; Damien Dunn; s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Nigel Stanier; Julie Shams; Michael Growder; Peter Sawczak; Media
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon all,

For your awareness, we provided the below FMO-cleared response back to Linda Silmalis this afternoon.

//

Attributable to a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade spokesperson:

The Australian Embassy in Washington DC has, under all Ambassadors, used public diplomacy events to promote and build a better understanding of Australia and Australian Government policies in the United States. Hosting events that draw attendance from diverse, influential stakeholders is a core part of diplomacy and advancing Australia's policies, priorities and interests internationally.

In the 2023-24 financial year, the Embassy received USD775,000 in sponsorship from a number of companies for a series of events to mark the opening of the new embassy. A number of other organisations provided in-kind support.

All of the costs associated with the 23 January 2024 Australia Awards Gala, attended by around 200 guests drawn from Congress, the White House, the State Department, Pentagon, and business and industry leaders from the United States and Australia, were paid for using this sponsorship and support.

ACTU Secretary Sally McManus was not a guest at the evening reception on 20 May 2024. This event involved the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, which has been held by the Embassy over a number of years. It is common practice for embassies to host events involving the business community or labour organisations.

A BBQ at the Australian Embassy has been incorporated into the building's design since 2017, to service functions and events. Procurement of a commercial BBQ, which meets strict health and safety standards required under U.S. regulations, commenced in 2022. The BBQ was installed in July 2024, in accordance with government guidelines.

s 47E(d)

Warm regards,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Assistant Director | Media Liaison Section
Media and Communications Delivery Branch
Strategic Communications Division

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii) | E s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community.
We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

From: Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 11:48 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Sawczak <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thanks both.

s 47C(1)

Ian

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

Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 at 9:22:25 PM

This section and pages 38-49 removed - duplicate email chains - s 22(1)(a)(ii) - see Document 4 from page 20 (note - due to different timezones the other email is dated August 17, 11:22am)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Saturday, 17 August 2024 4:38 PM
To: Media; Elizabeth Le Bas
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Suzanne Pitson; Jason Robertson, s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Diem Hetherington; Damien Dunn; s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Nigel Stanier; Julie Shams; Michael Growder; Peter Sawczak; Ian Gerard
Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for clearance** Follow up The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi All,

s 47C(1)

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Saturday 17 August 2024 at 3:52:09 PM
To: "Elizabeth Le Bas" <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Suzanne Pitson" <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>, "Jason Robertson" <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Diem Hetherington" <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>, "Damien Dunn" <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Nigel Stanier" <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>, "Julie Shams" <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>, "Michael Growder" <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>, "Peter Sawczak" <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>, "Ian Gerard" <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: **Media enquiry for clearance** Follow up The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Liz and colleagues,

We have received a follow up email/request for clarification from the journalist.

We have drafted a possible response below, would be grateful for your review and clearance.

s 47C(1)

Warm regards,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Assistant Director | Media Liaison Section
Media and Communications Delivery Branch
Strategic Communications Division

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii) | E s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:dfat.gov.au)

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

From: Silmalis, Linda <linda.silmalis@news.com.au>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 3:17 PM
To: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry - The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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

CLARIFICATION SOUGHT:

1. Confirming MR Rudd was not interesting in a reply

2. The invoices in the FOI include a Plated Dinner & Cocktail Reception on 5.20.2024. Australian Ambassador (Plated Dinner) - 4.20.2024 Item Guests Total Quantity 20 Cost \$55.00 Price \$1,100.00 \$1,100.00 Australian Ambassador (Cocktail Reception) - 4.20.2024 Item Guests Quantity 45 Cost Price \$540.00 \$540.00

DFAT states how ACTU Secretary Sally McManus was **not a guest at the evening reception** on 20 May 2024.

So did Ms McManus attend the cocktail reception or plated dinner?

DFAT states how she went to an afternoon tea. Is this a separate event?? Or is this the plated dinner or cocktail reception?

Which of those events was the "evening reception for labour organisations from the United States."?

As is typical, Embassy representation funds were used to pay for all these events. CONFIRMING THESE ARE TAXPAYER DOLLARS

The Nelly's Professional Staff invoice inaccurately listed waitstaff as butlers. They served food and drinks and undertook general duties.

On Fri, 16 Aug 2024 at 11:25, Media <media@dfat.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Linda,

Confirming receipt of your enquiry.

Is there any flexibility with your deadline? Noting time zones, it may be difficult to meet.

Kind regards,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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

Media Liaison Section
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
P +61 2 6261 1555
dfat.gov.au | [X](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

From: Silmalis, Linda <linda.silmalis@news.com.au>
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 10:55 AM
To: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry - The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column

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

Hello,

I just have been looking at the DFAT disclosure log and have some questions regarding three of them. There appears to be a lot of questions, but they are really "clarifications" to ensure what I write is accurate. I can just write from the documents. The Opposition claims Mr Rudd is using the embassy as a "party palace". If Mr Rudd would like to respond to that statement, I will include his reply.

1. FOI Reference number LEX11178

The documents include several invoices pertaining to the inaugural embassy of Australia Awards Gala 23 January 2024 event. My questions are as follows:

Q 1: Invoice No. EMBAUS20241 is to RGI Events for an amount \$185,034. **Was this entire paid for by taxpayers? Was any part of it covered by sponsors? If the latter, what is the breakdown? What services did RGI Events provide?**

Q 2: There is a receipt for a flight from LAX to DCA for AUD\$590.30. **Was this covered by taxpayers? Who was the passenger on the trip?**

Q 3: Another tax invoice is for \$10,560 AUD for the "Emcee". A separate tax invoice for the "Emcee" was for \$15,840. A press release by DFAT about the gala said the event included "Channel 10 Australia presenter Narelda Jacobs as Emcee". The two amounts total \$26,400. **Was this amount covered by the taxpayer?**

Q4: How many guests attended the gala? The media release also says how the "Embassy of Australia's Season of Opening Events was generously supported by:
Presenting Partner: Pratt Industries; Platinum Sponsor: Rio Tinto; Gold Sponsor: BHP; Silver Sponsor: Amazon Web Services; Travel Partner: Qantas Airways; Meat and Livestock Australia, Tourism Australia, and Bundaberg. **What did the sponsors contribute to the event?**

2. FOI Reference number LEX11175

... documents and invoices related to the function hosted in the Residence of the Ambassador of Australia to the United States in Washington D.C. to mark the visit of ACTU secretary Sally McManus in May 2024."

Q 1: There is an invoice for a Plated Dinner & Cocktail Reception on 5.20.2024 for \$1,100 and \$540, totalling \$1640. A separate invoice is to wine, totalling \$584. **Was this covered by the taxpayer?**

Q 2: Another invoice is for \$2,080 to Nellys Professional Staff. The invoice shows the amount is for 12 "Aus Res Butler Service". **Can I confirm the above events involved 12 butlers? Was there sole role to serve food?**

3. FOI Reference number LEX10891

Q: The documents contain emails relating to the purchase of a electric barbecue costing \$9,260.

An email from the supplier states: I am reaching out as I would like to enquire about purchasing a BBQ from your website for delivery to the

Australian Embassy in Washington DC. Q: Who paid for the BBQ? Is it for personal use or for functions and/or both? I note that it is for the L2 terrace. Were any modifications required ie sprinkler adjustments etc to accommodate the BBQ? Has it been used!

DEADLINE: Saturday 10am

Regards,

Linda

--

LINDA SILMALIS

Chief Reporter

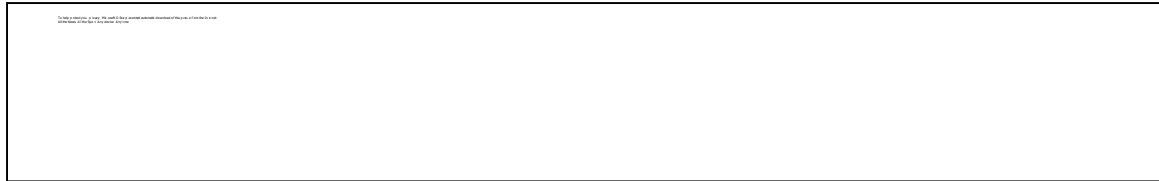


2 Holt Street Surry Hills NSW 2010

T **s 47F(1)** **M** **s 47F(1)**

E linda.silmalis@news.com.au **W** www.dailytelegraph.com.au

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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land in all states and territories on which we work and report. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging, and honour their history, cultures, and traditions of storytelling.



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--

LINDA SILMALIS

Chief Reporter



2 Holt Street Surry Hills NSW 2010

T **+s 47F(1)** **M** **s 47F(1)**

E linda.silmalis@news.com.au **W** www.dailytelegraph.com.au

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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land in all states and territories on which we work and report. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging, and honour their history, cultures, and traditions of storytelling.



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--000000000000ea5d54061fda2fe7-

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Sunday, 18 August 2024 7:48 AM
To: Ian Gerard; Elizabeth Le Bas; Media
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii); Suzanne Pitson; Jason Robertson; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Diem Hetherington; Damien Dunn; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Nigel Stanier; Julie Shams; Michael Growder; Peter Sawczak; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for clearance** Follow up The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: DFAT Early AM Press Brief - Sunday 18 August 2024

OFFICIAL

Hi All,

As the journalist has now published, propose we don't respond to these additional questions.

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director | Media Liaison Section
Media and Communications Delivery Branch | Strategic Communications Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
P s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, August 18, 2024 1:17 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Sawczak <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for clearance** Follow up The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi, I know it's late in Canberra but sending through clarification.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Hope that helps, sorry delay.

Ian

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au
Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024 at 2:42:52 AM
To: "Elizabeth Le Bas" <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>, "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Suzanne Pitson" <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>, "Jason Robertson" <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Diem Hetherington" <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>, "Damien Dunn" <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Nigel Stanier" <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>, "Julie Shams" <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>, "Michael Growder" <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>, "Peter Sawczak" <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>, "Ian Gerard" <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for clearance** Follow up The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Liz,

Thanks for this, please disregard my other email s 47C(1)

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: "Elizabeth Le Bas" <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Saturday 17 August 2024 at 4:37:20 PM
To: "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Suzanne Pitson" <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>, "Jason Robertson" <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Diem Hetherington" <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>, "Damien Dunn" <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Nigel Stanier" <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>, "Julie Shams" <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>, "Michael Growder" <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>, "Peter Sawczak" <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>, "Ian Gerard" <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for clearance** Follow up The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi all

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

Might be best to await Post's confirmation when they're back online later tonight.

Thanks

Liz

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

Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 3:52 PM

To: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>

Cc: Media <media@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a) @dfat.gov.au>; Suzanne Pitson <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>; Jason Robertson <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Diem Hetherington <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>; Damien Dunn <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; Nigel Stanier <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>; Julie Shams <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>; Michael Growder <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>; Peter Sawczak <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>; Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>

Subject: **Media enquiry for clearance** Follow up The Sunday Telegraph/The Sauce column [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Liz and colleagues,

We have received a follow up email/request for clarification from the journalist.

We have drafted a possible response below, would be grateful for your review and clearance.

s 47C(1)

Warm regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Assistant Director | Media Liaison Section
Media and Communications Delivery Branch
Strategic Communications Division

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s 22(1)(a)(ii) | **E** s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au

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*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community.
We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.*

From: Silmalis, Linda <linda.silmalis@news.com.au>

Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 3:17 PM

This section and pages 60-63 removed - duplicate email chain - s 22(1)(a)(ii) - see Document 6 from page 51

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Ian Gerard <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 11:59 AM
To: Elizabeth Le Bas <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: Re: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

s 47C(1)

From: "Elizabeth Le Bas" <Elizabeth.LeBas@dfat.gov.au>
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 at 9:48:12 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Ian Gerard" <Ian.Gerard@dfat.gov.au>, "Media" <media@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Suzanne Pitson" <Suzanne.Pitson@dfat.gov.au>, "Jason Robertson" <Jason.Robertson@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Diem Hetherington" <Diem.Hetherington@dfat.gov.au>, "Damien Dunn" <Damien.Dunn@dfat.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au, "Nigel Stanier" <Nigel.Stanier@dfat.gov.au>, "Julie Shams" <Julie.Shams@dfat.gov.au>, "Michael Growder" <Michael.Growder@dfat.gov.au>, "Peter Sawczak" <Peter.Sawczak@dfat.gov.au>
Subject: RE: **Media enquiry for action** deadline ASAP / Linda Silmalis / The Sunday Telegraph / Events at Post Washington [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Thanks s 22(1)(a)(ii) Have laptop now, so have updated pending Ian's agreement:

s 47C(1)

s 47C(1)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@dfat.gov.au](mailto:dfat.gov.au)>

Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 11:22 AM

This section and pages 65-77 removed - duplicate email chain - s 22(1)(a)(ii) - see Document 4 from page 20