



OFFSHORE FACILITY SECURITY PATROLS

Border Protection Command contributes to the protection of Australia's offshore facilities by conducting surface and aerial security patrols.

OVERVIEW

Border Protection Command (BPC) conducts surface and aerial security patrols around offshore facilities throughout Australia's Exclusive Economic Zone and in the Joint Petroleum Development Area. These patrols are conducted by Royal Australian Navy (RAN) ships, Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) aircraft, and Australian Customs and Border Protection vessels and contracted aircraft. Patrols are conducted on a regular but deliberately unpredictable basis. The patrols aim to deter, prevent or respond to illegal actions that may negatively impact production and/or endanger embarked employees.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING A SECURITY PATROL?

During each patrol, surface units will contact manned offshore facilities (both fixed and mobile) within the patrol area. Each offshore facility will

be asked to confirm that all is well and report any violations of their 500 metre safety zones or, in the Bass Strait, the "Area to be Avoided". The patrol unit will attempt to contact each offshore facility on its own working VHF radio channel or alternatively on VHF channel 16. Patrolling surface units will also attempt to gain clearance from the Manager prior to approaching within 2.5 nautical miles (nm) of a particular offshore facility, unless they are responding to a specific threat.

Surface patrols will challenge any unauthorised vessel located within 5 nm of an offshore facility and warn them to remain clear of that facility's 500 metre safety zone. If necessary, surface patrols have the authority to use all reasonable means to determine the intentions of any unauthorised vessel inside the safety zone and escort it out.

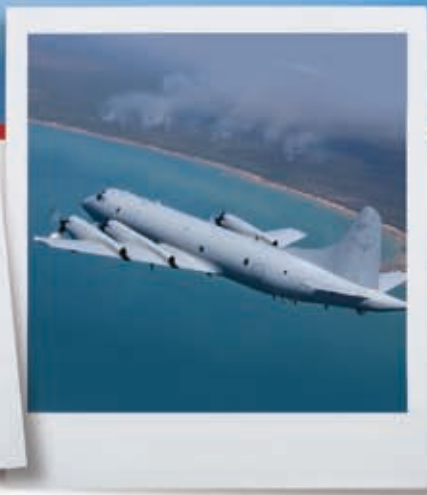
Aerial patrols will operate in a similar manner and, if necessary, call for surface support in response to a perceived threat.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE CONTACTED BY A SECURITY PATROL

When contacted by patrols, Offshore Facility Managers and Watchkeepers are asked to:

- ▶ provide all information requested, including confirmation that all is well and report of any safety zone violations
- ▶ provide details of any vessels authorised to operate in the vicinity of their safety zones
- ▶ raise any other security concerns that may exist onboard.

When patrol assets are not on scene, Offshore Facility Managers are also encouraged to contact any unauthorised vessels operating in proximity to their facility's safety zones and warn them to remain clear.



WHAT DOES BPC DO WITH THE PATROL INFORMATION?

Security patrols are conducted with the knowledge, support and cooperation of industry. Information obtained during patrols is used to enhance the security of offshore facilities and, importantly, the safety of embarked workers. Information relating to specific areas and facilities will be reported to the relevant owner company, including whether or not their call was acknowledged by the installation concerned.

BPC also maintains an ongoing intelligence assessment of threats to Australian offshore facilities to inform and guide security patrol planning.

REPORT SECURITY CONCERNS AND INCIDENTS

Offshore Facility Management should contact the patrol unit at any time if they have any security concerns and in particular if they sight/detect any unknown and unreported contacts or have any problems with a previously authorised vessel.

Security incidents or concerns should be reported to Border Protection Command as soon as possible via the Customs and Border Protection hotline on 1800 06 1800 (24 hours).



**CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION**
hotline
1800 06 1800
Report suspicious border activities



Border Protection Command Headquarters,
Customs House, 5 Constitution Avenue, Canberra, ACT 2600.
Telephone 1300 558 287.

Website: www.bpc.gov.au

