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Operation Bourscheid

Detective Leading Senior Constable s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Queensland Joint Counter Terrorism Team



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What is the Sovereign Citizen Movement?

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A sovereign citizen is someone who rejects the legitimate authority of the government they live under, including the police and other authorities.

<https://www.9news.com.au/national/what-is-a-sovereign-citizen-movement-beliefs-explainer/968ac369-a7bd-4a6d-9465-7bc2a1d13bdf>

Summary

- Operation BOURSCHIED is an AFP Queensland Joint Counter Terrorism Team investigation into a sovereign citizen movement in Australia.

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Timeline of rallies



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Police Action & Outcome



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Questions???

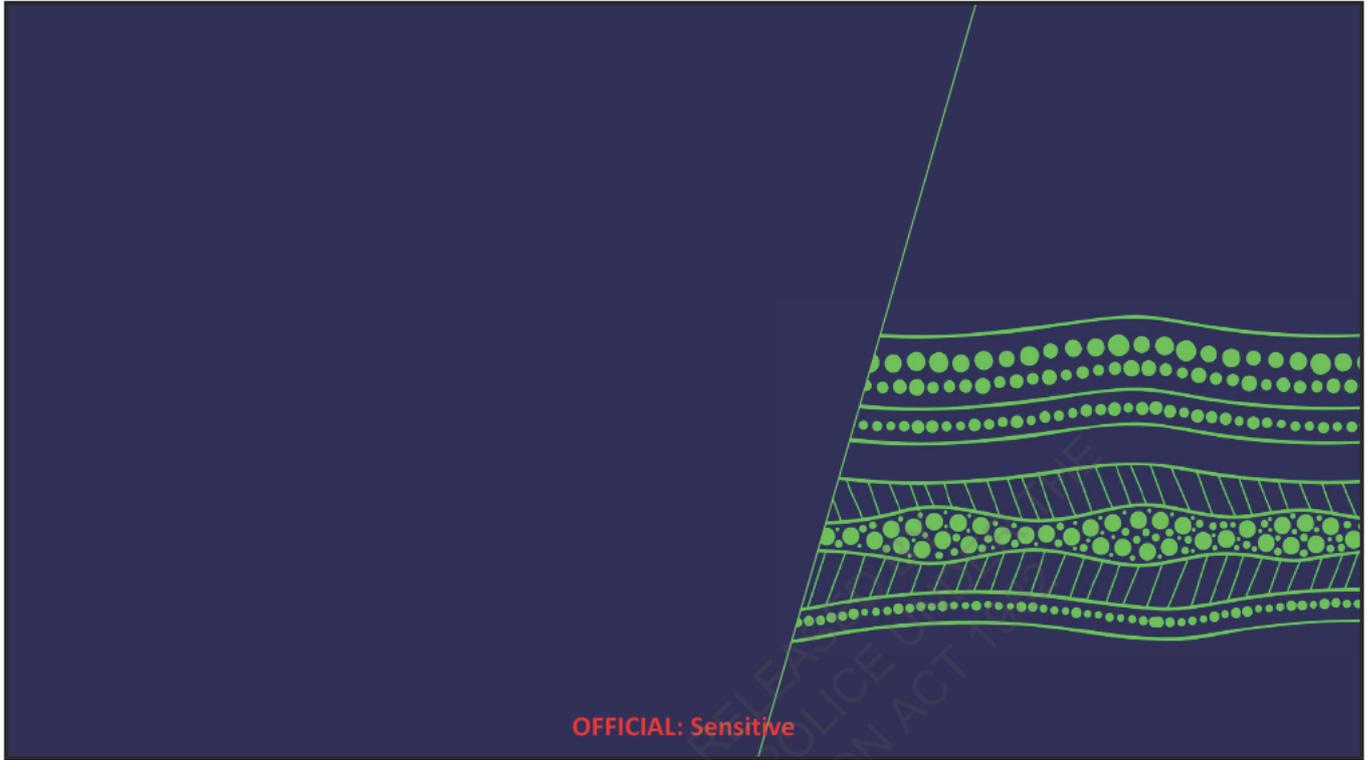
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Terrorism in Australia – Then and Now

UQ – Criminology and Global Security

Detective Senior Constable s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Federal Agent s 22(1)(a)(ii)

3 April 2025

Queensland Joint Counter-Terrorism Team (QJCTT)

afp.gov.au

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About me and others.....

Introduction – when we think about terrorism in Australia we think specifically about

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Whilst still a threat, law enforcement has been required to re-position itself to address the ever growing list of threats to public safety and security in Australia

- Australia's Law Enforcement Terrorism Response
- History of Terrorism in Australia
- The ongoing threat of Islamic Terrorism
- Violent extremist terminology
- Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE)
- Religiously Motivated Violent Extremism (RMVE)
- The Online threat

This presentation contains objectionable material. This can include (but is not limited to) text and/or visual material that depicts extremist material, some of which threatens violence and is sexist, homophobic, racist and anti-Semitic in nature.

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Overview and content warning:

- Australia's law enforcement CT response
- History of Terrorism in Australia
- The ongoing threat of Islamic terrorism
- Violent extremist terminology
 - Religiously motivated violent extremism (RMVE)
 - Ideologically motivated violent extremism (IMVE)
- IMVE:
 - Nationalist and racist violent extremism
 - NRVE in Australia and internationally
 - Symbols, texts and terminology
 - Case study: Atomwaffen Division
- RMVE:
 - Foreign Terrorist Fighters
 - Domestic threats
 - Case study: Operation BOLTON
 - Case study: Wieambilla shootings

The online threat

CT Investigations & Intelligence in the AFP

- HQ:
 - National and international focus
 - Target development
 - Terrorism financing
- Regional:
 - Joint Counter Terrorism Teams
 - Enduring Risk Investigations
 - Support to states



Australian Government
Australian Security
Intelligence Organisation

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AFP Counter Terrorism Intelligence in HQ (Canberra) and the regions.

- HQ:
 - National and international focus
 - Target development
 - Terrorism financing
- Regional:
 - Joint Counter Terrorism Teams
 - Enduring Risk Investigations
 - Support to states

Enduring Risk Investigations (ERI) is a part of the Counter Terrorism and Special Investigations (CTSI) Command. ERI was established to assess and mitigate the risk posed by High Risk Terrorist Offenders (HRTTO's) on their release from prison and the enduring risk posed by other entities of known CT interest no longer subject to active investigation.

ERI NSW comprises of four High Risk Terrorist Offender (HRTTO) Teams and one National Known Entity Management (NKEM) Team.

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Australian Government

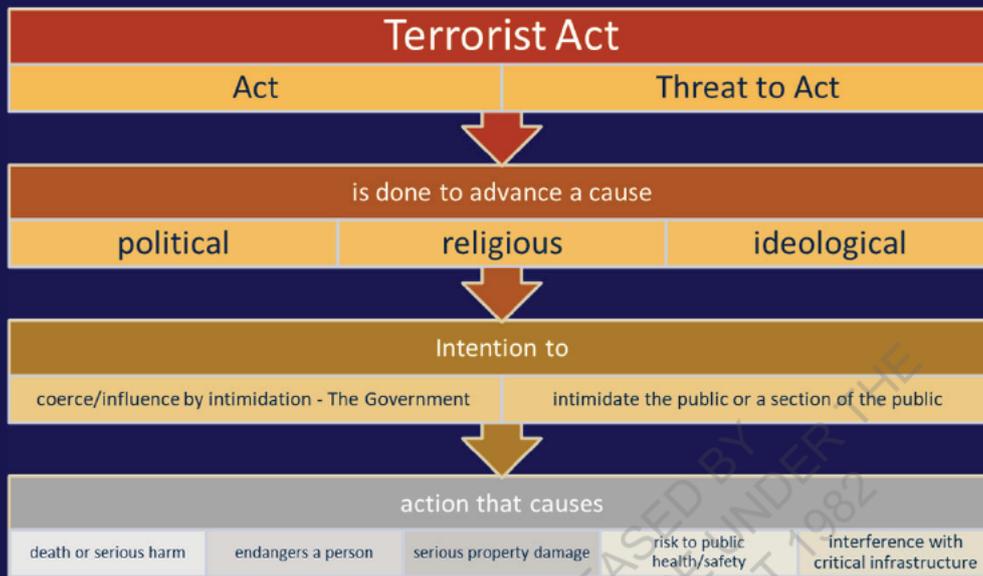
The JCTTs do not work in isolation, but draw on resources and capabilities of the participating domestic law enforcement, intelligence community and foreign partner agencies to facilitate greater intelligence sharing.

The JCTTs have access to a broad range of resources and legislative powers which serve as a force multiplier in the national security environment.

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Joint Counter Terrorism Teams (JCTTs) located in Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney, Darwin, Perth and Canberra comprise of AFP, state and territory police, and members drawn from security and law enforcement partners. The teams conduct investigations to prevent, respond to, and investigate terrorist threats and attacks in Australia.

In conjunction with its state and territory law enforcement and security counterparts, the CT function continues to devote significant resources to the investigation of persons and groups across Australia with a focus on allegations of terrorist activity and terrorist financing. The function also provides support to the prosecution of suspects in Australia.



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A terrorist act is an act, or a threat to act, that meets both these criteria:

- it intends to coerce or influence the public or any government by intimidation to advance a political, religious or ideological cause.
- it causes one or more of the following
 - death, serious harm or danger to a person
 - serious damage to property
 - a serious risk to the health or safety of the public
 - serious interference with, disruption to, or destruction of critical infrastructure such as a telecommunications or electricity network.

Criminal Code 1995 (Cth)



Division 80



Division 101—Terrorism



Division 102



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