

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 12:29 PM
To: McClure, Gail; Viellaris, Renee; s 22(1)(a)(ii) Sirec, Hilda
Cc: Media
Subject: RE: FOR URGENT ADVICE: Hamad images [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thanks so much.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

COORDINATOR
AFP NATIONAL MEDIA
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
AFP NATIONAL HQ

Tel: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Exts 22(1)(a)(ii) Mob: s 22(1)(a)(ii)



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From: McClure, Gail s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 12:11 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>; Viellaris, Renee s 22(1)(a)(ii) @afp.gov.au> s 22(1)(a)(ii) @afp.gov.au>; Sirec, Hilda s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>
Cc: Media <Media@afp.gov.au>
Subject: Re: FOR URGENT ADVICE: Hamad images [SEC=OFFICIAL]

H s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Approved - please proceed.

Kind regards
Gail

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>
Date: 11 February 2026 at 11:59:25 am AEDT
To: Viellaris, Renee s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>, s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>, McClure, Gail s 22(1)(a)(ii) @afp.gov.au>, Sirec, Hilda s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>
Cc: Media <Media@afp.gov.au>
Subject: FOR URGENT ADVICE: Hamad images [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi All,

As below, we are starting to receive media enquiries about the “anomalies” in the photo.

Noting any [REDACTED] s 47E(d) what are your thoughts on:

- The AFP released images to the media which were supplied by Iraqi authorities, who have Hamad in their custody in a secret location.
- The AFP has no further comment.

And in anticipation of follow-up questions and/or criticism relating to [REDACTED] s 47E(d) etc, we go with:

- The AFP has no comment.

Happy to discuss

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Coordinator
AFP National Media
[REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: [REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii) @news.com.au>
Date: 11 February 2026 at 10:23:03 AEDT
To: [REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>
Subject: Re: EMBARGOED until 9.30pm AEDT Tuesday 10 February 2026: AFP Commissioner Barrett statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii)

I've had a number of readers query whether the mugshot might be AI generated.

Is there any doubt about the photo?

Here is one email I got:

Dear [REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii)

This image appeared in The Australian today. I assume it was supplied to you by AFP:

Have a look at the height markers on each side of the perp:

- They are in feet and inches, while Iraq would have to be metric
- They are different on the two sides
- They are not internally consistent (jumping from 5'0" to 8'9", for example)
- The values are ridiculous (chummy was really 8 feet tall?)

I suspect someone pulled a swifty on AFP.

Hope you can find out what happened (I have told AFP Media of my concerns).

Regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

HWT Tower 40 City Road Southbank VIC 3006

PO Box 14999 Melbourne M V 1

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

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To inform, advocate and inspire

News Corp Australia

On Tue, 10 Feb 2026 at 21:52,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

afp.gov.au> wrote:

Evening All, We have sought approval to release an additional arrest image, which has been added to the Hightail link below with the statement. For information, both images have been provided to the AFP by Iraqi authorities. Please note the embargo of 9.30pm today (Tuesday 10 February 2026) has lifted. Happy to discuss if any further clarification is required. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) COORDINATOR AFP NATIONAL MEDIA CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AFP NATIONAL HQ Tel: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Ext: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Mob: s 22(1)(a)(ii) [Australian Federal

Police]<[https://urldefense.com/v3/http://www.afp.gov.au/;!!F0Stn7q!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEpe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HxD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeV_SMA5MU\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/http://www.afp.gov.au/;!!F0Stn7q!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEpe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HxD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeV_SMA5MU$)>

The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging. AFP Commissioner Krissy Barrett statement: Operation Carmen Editor's Note: A copy of two arrest photos are available via

Hightail<[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://spaces.hightail.com/space/j9xkWYxQtI;!!F0Stn7q!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEpe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HxD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVmH3_Vg4\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://spaces.hightail.com/space/j9xkWYxQtI;!!F0Stn7q!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEpe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HxD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVmH3_Vg4$)>.

The following statement is attributable to AFP Commissioner Krissy Barrett: Today, with permission of the National Centre for International Judicial Cooperation (NCIJC) in Iraq, the AFP has released arrest photos of Kazem Hamad. I want every offender connected to Hamad or his syndicate to look long and hard at the photos. And I want to be very clear – just because Hamad is in custody, the AFP's job is not done. Iraqi authorities made an independent decision in January to arrest Hamad after launching their own criminal investigation. The AFP can confirm Hamad remains in custody in a secret location in Iraq. The AFP is supporting this independent Iraqi investigation and is providing relevant operational information that relates to crimes the AFP believe Hamad or his syndicate have committed or directed in Australia. The AFP again travelled to Iraq last week to provide further assistance. Key investigative information was also shared with the AFP. While the Iraqi investigation continues, the AFP remains committed to Operation Carmen, our investigation into Hamad and his syndicate. The AFP suspects the syndicate is operating in five states and one territory in Australia. Due to Hamad's arrest, a lack of leadership, infighting, and dysfunction

within the syndicate is creating new opportunities for investigators attached to Operation Carmen. The AFP will use every partnership, capability, and legislative power to dismantle this dangerous syndicate and identify every single individual who is linked to this crime gang. The AFP will work closely with state and territory law enforcement agencies, which have had significant success in arresting, disrupting and charging alleged syndicate members. Members of the public who would like to share information about Hamad or the syndicate can call the National Security Hotline on 1800 123 400. Media enquiries: AFP Media: (02) 5126 9297 Connect with us: Follow our Facebook<[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.facebook.com/AusFedPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVCpg1cXI\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.facebook.com/AusFedPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVCpg1cXI$)>, Twitter<[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://twitter.com/AusFedPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVoryVt8U\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://twitter.com/AusFedPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVoryVt8U$)>, LinkedIn<[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.linkedin.com/company/162586/admin/_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVHcRKLWA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.linkedin.com/company/162586/admin/_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVHcRKLWA$)>, Instagram<[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.instagram.com/ausfedpolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeV9rIQAcA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.instagram.com/ausfedpolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeV9rIQAcA$)> and YouTube<[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.youtube.com/user/AustFederalPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVgDX0Pqk\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.youtube.com/user/AustFederalPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGfCEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVgDX0Pqk$)> pages to learn more about what the AFP does to keep Australia safe.

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 12:18 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: Media
Subject: RE: EMBARGOED until 9.30pm AEDT Tuesday 10 February 2026: AFP Commissioner Barrett statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

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

I will give you a call shortly, but our official response, which can be attributed to an AFP spokesperson is:

- The AFP released images to the media which were supplied by Iraqi authorities, who have Hamad in their custody in a secret location.
- The AFP has no further comment.

Thanks

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)
COORDINATOR
AFP NATIONAL MEDIA
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
AFP NATIONAL HQ
Tel: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Ext: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Mob: s 22(1)(a)(ii)



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From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @news.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 10:20 AM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>
Subject: Re: EMBARGOED until 9.30pm AEDT Tuesday 10 February 2026: AFP Commissioner Barrett statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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I suspect someone pulled a swiftie on AFP.

Hope you can find out what happened (I have told AFP Media of my concerns).

Regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

HWT Tower 40 City Road Southbank VIC 3006
PO Box 14999, Melbourne MC, VIC, 8001

T s 22(1)(a)(ii) M s 22(1)(a)(ii)
s 22(1)(a)(ii) news.com.au theaustralian.com.au



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News Corp Australia

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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COORDINATOR
AFP NATIONAL MEDIA
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
AFP NATIONAL HQ

Tel: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Ext: s 22(1)(a)(ii) Mob: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[Australian Federal

Police]<[The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging.](https://urldefense.com/v3/_http://www.afp.gov.au/_;!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdney_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXqD7J2JfPeV_SMA5MU$></p></div><div data-bbox=)

AFP Commissioner Krissy Barrett statement: Operation Carmen

Editor's Note: A copy of two arrest photos are available via

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The AFP suspects the syndicate is operating in five states and one territory in Australia.

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The AFP will use every partnership, capability, and legislative power to dismantle this dangerous syndicate and identify every single individual who is linked to this crime gang.

The AFP will work closely with state and territory law enforcement agencies, which have had significant success in arresting, disrupting and charging alleged syndicate members.

Members of the public who would like to share information about Hamad or the syndicate can call the National Security Hotline on 1800 123 400.

Media enquiries:

AFP Media: (02) 5126 9297

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Twitter<[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://twitter.com/AusFedPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVoryVt8U\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://twitter.com/AusFedPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVoryVt8U$)>,

LinkedIn<[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.linkedin.com/company/162586/admin/!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVHcRKLWA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.linkedin.com/company/162586/admin/!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVHcRKLWA$)>,

Instagram<[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.instagram.com/ausfedpolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeV9rIQAcA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.instagram.com/ausfedpolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeV9rIQAcA$)> and

YouTube<[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.youtube.com/user/AustFederalPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVgDX0Pqk\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.youtube.com/user/AustFederalPolice_!!F0Stn7g!BZCtSPSQrvMxpjqlqBGFcEPe3AA5ojoxdIY3YXurdny_N2_bbTxxhch9luWQCqSsu1HXD-LCRm7KZfbUgXgD7J2JfPeVgDX0Pqk$)> pages to learn more about what the AFP does to keep Australia safe.

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From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) aap.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 8:14 AM
To: Media
Subject: Re: Operation Carman supplied photos [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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

s 22(1)(a)(ii) Journalist

aap

Australian Associated Press

s 22(1)(a)(ii) aap.com.au | www.aap.com.au
M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

AAP acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands on which we live and work. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

On Wed, 11 Feb 2026 at 08:10, Media <Media@afp.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

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

For background and not for attribution: The AFP has published the photos as provided by Iraqi authorities.

Regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

AFP NATIONAL MEDIA
AFP Media 24/7 hotline: (02) 5126 9297



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From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @aap.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 6:50 AM
To: Media <Media@afp.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Operation Carman supplied photos [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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

In the photo of him holding the sign, the height chart appears out of sequence and scale. It suggests he could be up to nine feet tall. He also appears to have five fingers on one or both hands.

Many thanks,

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | Journalist

aap

Australian Associated Press

s 22(1)(a)(ii) aap.com.au | www.aap.com.au

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

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On Wed, 11 Feb 2026 at 07:45, Media <Media@afp.gov.au> wrote:

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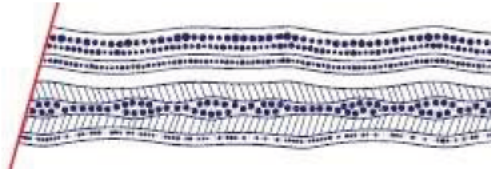
His 22(1)(a)(ii)

Can you please detail what you are referring to as anomalies.

Regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@aap.com.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@aap.com.au)>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 6:32 AM
To: Media <Media@afp.gov.au>
Subject: Operation Carman supplied photos

Hi AFP media team,

We've noticed some anomalies in the [photos](#) of Kazem Hamad.

Are you able to confirm they were provided by Iraqi authorities and weren't altered by AFP?

Many thanks,

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | Journalist



Australian Associated Press

s 22(1)(a)(ii) aap.com.au | www.aap.com.au

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

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) nine.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 9:48 AM
To: Media
Subject: Re: Kazem Hamad [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

9News Reporter

s 22(1)(a)(ii) [nine.com.au](mailto:Media@afp.gov.au)

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

On Wed, 11 Feb 2026 at 9:33 am, Media <Media@afp.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

H s 22(1)(a)(ii)

For background and not for attribution: The AFP has published the photos as provided by Iraqi authorities.

We have noted your interest in an interview and will come back to you if there is an opportunity.

Regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) nine.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 8:17 AM
To: Media <Media@afp.gov.au>
Subject: Kazem Hamad

Hello,

Hoping we can request for an interview with Commissioner Barrett or an AFP spokesperson today.

Also wanted to clarify if Iraqi officials released the mugshot? There's some discussion about it being AI generated?

Thank you,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)
9News Reporter
E22(1)(a)(ii) nine.com.au
M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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Pages 15 through 17 redacted for the following reasons:

s 22(1)(a)(ii), s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)
s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d), s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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الاسم : كاظم مالك حمد ربح الحجامي

الكنية : أبو سامر

الجنسية : عراقي + استرالي

تاريخ ومكان الولادة : 1984/3/26 ناصرية

رقم القضية : NO 2564

الجهة الطالبة : استراليا

نوع الجريمة : 28 مخدرات

الوضع القانوني : موقوف

تاريخ القبض ومكانه : 2026/1/21

الجهة المنفذة للقبض : مديرية مخدرات الكرخ (الشرطة)

Pages 19 through 44 redacted for the following reasons:

s 22(1)(a)(ii), s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)
s 33(a)(iii)
s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)
s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d), s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s 33(a)(iii)
s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)
s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d), s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s 33(a)(iii)
s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)
s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d), s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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