

Labor for Refugees



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Bill Shorten

Leader of the Opposition

and

Shayne Neumann

Shadow Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

Dear Opposition Leader & Immigration Minister

Labor for Refugees expresses concern and alarm at the latest events on Manus Island, with reports that the PNG Military shot live bullets at refugees living in the Manus Island Detention Centre site.

It is well known that the PNG population does not welcome the presence of refugees on Manus Island and tensions have been building for some time. It is important now to protect the refugees from further danger and risk to their lives.

Labor for Refugees notes that Shayne Neumann has called for a full investigation of these events. Labor for Refugees also calls on Bill Shorten to speak out and demand that Malcolm Turnbull and Peter Dutton immediately close the offshore detention centres, Manus Island and Nauru, and bring all remaining refugees to the Australian mainland. This is consistent with Labor policy. Kevin Rudd never intended that the offshore detention centres would remain open this long.

It is quite clear that refugees in offshore detention are in immediate danger. No refugee can be left in PNG or Nauru in the detention centre site or in the community.

Bill Shorten in the name of humanity and safety must act now.

Shane Prince and Robin Rothfield

National Convenors

Labor for Refugees