

FIREARMS SEIZED IN RAIDS ACROSS VICTORIA

Customs and Victoria Police officers seized a range of firearms, including automatic weapons and parts and a substantial quantity of ammunition, in raids in Melbourne and country Victoria.

The operation followed a Customs investigation that began when officers at the international mail centre in Sydney found parts for a semi-automatic handgun.

The undeclared parts were destined for a residential address in the Melbourne suburb of Carrum.

In partnership with Victoria Police Licensing Services Division and the Australian Crime Commission, Customs officers searched the house and located nine illegal and unregistered weapons, including semi automatic handguns.

Further warrant action in country Victoria netted eight handguns, seven long arms (rifles and shotguns) and a large amount of ammunition.

Investigations by Customs and Victoria Police are continuing.

"This is a warning to those seeking to circumvent the system by importing weapons and parts through the post - they will be found and further action will be taken," Customs Regional Director Victoria Jenny Peachey said.

