

Don't go to Borneo

AUSTRALIANS have been warned not to travel to the east coast of Malaysia's Sabah state amid reports terrorists were planning to kidnap foreigners.

"Australians are advised to avoid all travel to coastal resorts, islands and dive sites off the east coast of Sabah," the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said on its travel advisory website.

"We have received credible reports that terrorists are planning kidnapping attacks targeting resorts frequented by foreigners." Sabah is on Borneo.

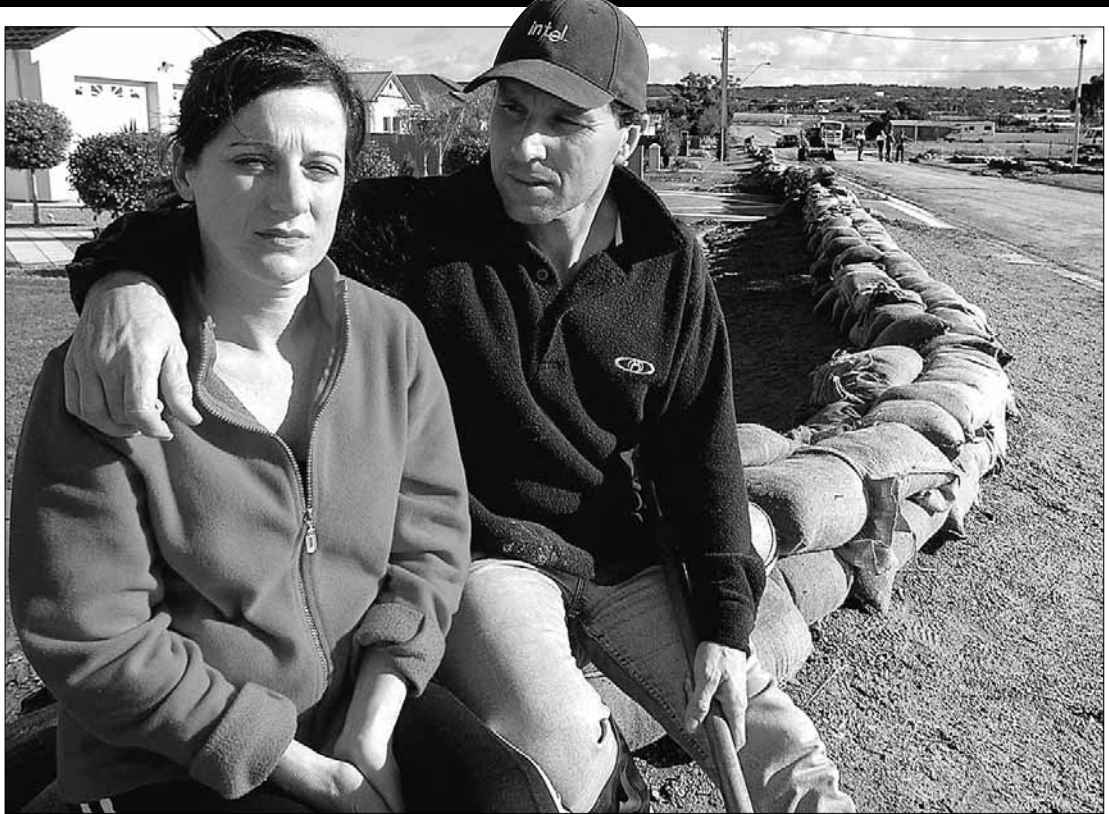
Deportee safeguard

A MEDICAL team is likely to head for Manila to assess the condition of wrongfully deported Australian citizen Vivian Alvarez if she is not returned by the end of this week.

Ms Alvarez was deported to the Philippines four years ago after Australian police failed to realise she was listed as a missing person.

Lawyers for Ms Alvarez are working to bring her back to Australia this week, but are assembling a medical team as a safeguard in case her return is further delayed.

RESIDENTS DEMAND EMERGENCY FUNDING FOR COUNCIL



UPSET: Lucy and Richard Frahm with sandbags outside their home which was under siege again.

Picture: TRICIA JOHNSON

Despairing flood victims wait for next disaster

By CARA JENKIN

MURRAY Bridge Council cannot guarantee residents on the town's floodplain that their homes will not be flooded again.

On Tuesday, officials met the Christian Rd homeowners to give an update on progress to resolve drainage issues.

Less than 24 hours later, residents were "dead unlucky" to receive another 60mm fall of rain and be flooded again, Mayor Allan Arbon said.

That was the fifth time in six months families were forced to fight floodwaters.

Mr Arbon said the latest flood could have been worse if not for council efforts.

"We've spent \$1.2 million to take water from Adelaide Rd and \$270,000 on a detention basin since December," he said. "I believe the benefit of that is it saved houses from going under this time."

"We've got a \$500,000 project for another detention basin to be put up for council approval in our budget on Monday night."

"We can't guarantee it won't happen again, but we're not going to sit on our hands."

Mr Arbon said the council was prepared

The Advertiser WATCH

THE PROBLEM

Water flows from Adelaide Rd in Murray Bridge and gathers on Christian Rd, where the stormwater system cannot cope. It flows over flood-mitigation dams and into private properties.

DAYS ON WATCH

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WHO'S RESPONSIBLE

NAME: Kevin Foley, who visited victims last year.
TITLE: Deputy Premier
PHONE: (08) 8226 1866.
EMAIL: treasurer@saugov.sa.gov.au
NAME: Allan Arbon
TITLE: Murray Bridge Mayor
PHONE: 0438 288 121 or (08) 8539 1100.
EMAIL: council@rcmb.sa.gov.au

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to borrow to pay for works, but State Government emergency funding "would be appreciated". A spokesman for Families and Communities Minister Jay Weatherill said his officers were doorknocking residents yesterday to determine if they qualified for an emergency \$700 grant similar to those

given to Karoonda residents after storms hit there this month.

Resident Robyn Webb just wants the problem solved so she can stop panicking. "I dreamt about tidal waves on Wednesday night," she said.

"We just don't want to live here anymore, but we've probably got no hope of selling."

Send us your weather photos

■ Do you have any photographs of the storm or the damage the wild weather caused this week?

■ Email your pictures in a jpeg format to TheAdvertiser@adv.newstld.com.au

"We believe council has done the best job it could, but I don't know what to do to fix it," he said. "We don't want to sell but, if we do in the next couple of years, we would want council to buy our house."

Rural Ave resident All yesterday was digging trenches to divert water from her home, cut off when water was pumped away from Christian Rd into her street. "Everyone was more concerned about the houses that were flooded before and didn't care about ours down here," she said.



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