



## **Submission No 24**

### **Inquiry into Australia's Defence Relations with the United States**

**Organisation:** Department of Defence

**Contact Person:** Mr Shane Carmody  
Deputy Secretary Strategy

**Address:** R1-5-B001  
Russell Offices  
Department of Defence  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**

Office of the  
Deputy Secretary Strategy

R1-5-B001  
Russell Offices  
Canberra ACT 2600

PH. 6265 2848  
Fax 6265 1599

DEPSEC S/OUT/2005/235

**Dr Margot Kerley**

Secretary

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Defence Sub-Committee

Parliament House

GPO Box 887

Canberra ACT 2602

Dear Dr Kerley

As requested in your letter on 20 September I have reviewed the Hansard transcript of my appearance before the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence And Trade inquiry into the Australia's Defence Relations with the United States on 9 September 2005. I have no amendments or corrections to this record.

During my appearance I took two questions on notice from the Committee. I offer the following answers to these questions:

1. **How many Al Muthanna Task Group (AMTG) personnel are dedicated to training activities?** I have been advised that the specific breakdown of AMTG personnel numbers and roles is currently classified. There is a risk that a personnel breakdown could be used to estimate the Task Group's force protection capability.
2. **What is Defence's awareness of, and involvement in, the DFAT visit program for US congressmen, senators and staffers to Australia?** Defence is working with DFAT to co-sponsor a limited number of visits to Australia by Congressional members and staffers where cross-portfolio interests are represented. These visits would involve calls on senior Defence officials, members of Parliament and visits to Defence establishments related to the Congressional delegation's area of responsibility.

If you have any questions about my testimony or questions on notice answers, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Carmody'.

Shane Carmody  
Deputy Secretary Strategy

7 October 2005