



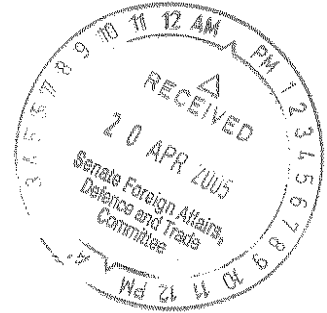
Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Deputy Secretary

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18 April 2005

Senator Sandy Macdonald
Chair
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and
Trade Legislation Committee
S1.57
Parliament House
ACT 2600



Dear Senator

I am writing in regard to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee Estimates hearing on 17 February 2005.

In response to a question by Senator Faulkner about whether any DFAT official ever visited Camp Cropper, I replied, "I am advised we have no record of any DFAT officers visiting Camp Cropper". My reply was in the context of any DFAT officer visiting Camp Cropper for the purposes of investigating Australian Iraq Survey Group staff concerns about detainee abuses. Subsequent to the Senate Estimates hearing, I was informed on April 14 2005 that an Australian Embassy official –the Consul-General– undertook a consular visit to Camp Cropper on 26 June 2004. The visit was unrelated to the detainee abuse issues.

Yours sincerely

(Doug Chester)