



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Office of the Deputy
Secretary Strategy

R1-5-B001
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600

DEPSEC S/OUT/2005/282

Dr Kathleen Dermody
Secretary
Senate Legislation Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Defence and Trade
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

I write to clarify and correct evidence that I gave to the Senate Legislation Committee 2005-06 budget supplementary estimates hearing on 2 November concerning dealings between the US and Australia regarding the US Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI).

In answer to a question from Senator Mark Bishop (page FAD&T 32 of *Proof Hansard 2 November 2005*), I stated that I was not aware as to whether the US had made any requests for demands of Australia in relation to GPOI. I have subsequently been advised that the US communicated information in this regard at the working level on 24 October 2005. Advice concerning this communication and our response was still in preparation at the time of my testimony.

In answer to a subsequent question from Senator Mark Bishop (page FAD&T 32 of *Proof Hansard 2 November 2005*), I stated that the Pentagon would manage GPOI. In light of detail that has been provided by the US, I can now advise that it is intended that the management of GPOI be shared between the US Department of State and the Pentagon, with the Department of State in overall control of the funding.

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC' with a large loop at the start.

Shane Carmody
Deputy Secretary Strategy

(02) 6265 2848

17 November 2005