Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 12-13 February 2007

Question: PM 59

Outcome 1, Output 3.2

Topic: Military Spending in Iraq

Direct on Notice:

Senator Evans asked:

Is PM&C aware of the cost of the Iraq military commitment?

If so, what is the most up-to-date total expenditure for the post-war occupation period for:

- Australian joint Task Force Headquarters
- OBJ- West
- Australian Army Training Team
- SecDet (Baghdad)
- C-130 detachment
- AP-3C detachment
- Naval contingent in the Arabian Sea
- The Tri-Service Force Level Logistics and Communications Group?

Does PM&C report expenditure to the Prime Minister and his Office on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, six-monthly or on an as-required basis?

Answer:

Yes. Information about the total cost of the Iraqi commitment is contained in Defence Portfolio Budget Statements and other publicly available documents. PM&C does not hold cost figures for individual contingent components.

PM&C provides briefs to the Prime Minister and his Office on Australia's military commitment to Iraq as required. Where relevant, those briefs include information on the costs associated with our military commitment.