

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Parliament Portfolio**

**Joint House Department**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, Monday 3 November 2003

**Question:** P9

**Outcome:**

**Topic:** Security Operational Order for Bush Visit

**Hansard Page:** 71-72

Senator Faulkner asked whether it was possible to see a copy of the "Operational Order" as it related to the matter of access criteria to the Press Gallery to cover the address by President Bush.

**Answer:**

The Parliamentary Security Service (PSS) Operational Order for the security arrangements covering the visit to Parliament House by US President Bush is "Security-In-Confidence" and contains details of operational security measures. It is inappropriate to table the complete document for public scrutiny.

The overall Security Plan and the PSS Operational Order was prepared by the Manager Security Operations (MSO) of the JHD Security Group and was signed-off by the Executive Leader (Security). All sections of the overall Security Plan and the Operational Order relating to the management of media have been extracted and are detailed below.

**From the Outline Security Plan**

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**Media**

A sizeable media contingent from both the United States and Australia will be covering the event. Mr Daniel Bolger is responsible for the coordination of media activities at Parliament House. An AFP Media Liaison Officer will assist the media outside Parliament House.

Media personnel and equipment are to be subjected to security screening. Authorised media will be identifiable either by a National Visits Media Card or an official visit identification badge or an APH Media Pass.

Visitor Services will provide Guides at the Senate & HoR Entrances to guide authorised media groups to the Marble Foyer and to the HoR Galleries as required.

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**From the Operational Order**

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**Media Gallery Screening (2 x PSS)**

- Conduct Access Control Operations to ensure that only authorised persons access the Media Gallery. Access restricted to APH Media Gallery Pass-holders (Yellow) or accredited journalists displaying a National Visits Media Card and an official visit badge / pin.
- Conduct Denial of Means operations using hand-held metal detector (HHMD) on all persons entering the Media Gallery.
- Take position at side of first row of Media Gallery and provide overwatch of Media Gallery with USSS Agent.

Note: 1 x USSS Agent to be granted access to Media Gallery.

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A list of accredited media authorised to cover the visit will be provided by the MSO.