

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

Budget Estimates Supplementary Hearings 2003-2004, 3-4 November 2003

**Question: PM 61**

**Outcome 1, Output 4.7**

**Topic: President Bush visit**

**Direct on Notice:**

**Senator Faulkner asked:**

- 1. How many special guests did the Prime Minister have in the chamber during the Bush Speech?**
- 2. How many special guests did the Prime Minister have in the chamber during the Hu Speech?**
- 3. How many special guests did the Deputy Prime Minister have in the chamber for both the Bush Speech and the Hu Speech?**
- 4. Why were their guests transported to Parliament by Commonwealth Car?**
- 5. How many were transported by Commonwealth Car?**
- 6. Did this occur both days?**
- 7. How much did the shuttle cost for non-Members of Parliament over the two days?**

**Answer:**

1. Information received from the Sergeant at Arms' office indicates that the Prime Minister had 35 guests in the chamber for President Bush's address.
2. Information received from the Sergeant at Arms' office indicates that the Prime Minister had 2 guests in the chamber for President Hu's address.
3. Information received from the Sergeant at Arms' office indicates that the Deputy Prime Minister had 5 guests in the chamber for President Bush's address and 6 for President Hu's address.
4. As the roadways leading to Parliament House had been shut down for security reasons prior to President Bush's address to Parliament, a number of guests who were also attending the informal luncheon at the Lodge were transported to Parliament House by coach from a central meeting point at the Hyatt Hotel. One couple was brought to Parliament House by Commonwealth Car due to a delayed plane flight.
5. Two.
6. No, only on 23 October as there were no entry restrictions to Parliament House on 24 October.
7. The shuttle coach service and Commonwealth car for guests for the address to parliament and for the informal luncheon cost \$ 1,430.56 (excluding GST).