



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Defence Materiel Organisation

Aerospace Systems Division
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HASD/OUT/2013/240

13 June 2013

Dr Kathleen Dermody
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

I write to correct evidence that I gave at the Budget Estimates hearing held on 3 and 4 June 2013 concerning Project AIR5276 Phase 8B, which is the Electronic Surveillance Measure (ESM) upgrade to the AP-3C Orion aircraft.

In answer to a question from Senator Humphries (page 66 of *Proof Hansard* 4 Jun 13), I stated that the first aircraft would be modified in February next year. It is relatively quick to then modify the fleet, so we should have the rest of the fleet modified within the next 12 months. This information was incorrect, the rest of the fleet should be modified within the next 20 months.

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

COLIN THORNE
Air Vice-Marshal
Head Aerospace Systems Division
Defence Materiel Organisation