

Department of Defence

Senate Economics References Committee

Inquiry into the Future Sustainability of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry - 22 July 2015

Question on Notice No. 5 - Visits to ASC with Japanese Delegations

Senator Conroy asked on 22 July 2015, Hansard page 49-50:

Senator CONROY: Mr Moore or Mr Dewar: did either of you go on any trips to the ASC with the Japanese delegations?

Mr Moore: Yes, I was present on a trip last year.

Senator CONROY: To the ASC?

Mr Moore: Yes.

Senator CONROY: And earlier this year?

Mr Moore: No.

Senator CONROY: I understand there was a major delegation, as I think the ASC described it as recently.

Mr Moore: The one last year was the one I attended.

Senator CONROY: And what was the date last year? This is the Japanese delegation coming to the ASC?

Mr Moore: I would have to check. I think it was around August

Response:

The date of the Japanese delegation visit to ASC Osborne last year was 26-27 August 2014.

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Question on Notice No. 7 - Discussions with Mr Shearer from PMO

Senator Conroy asked on 22 July 2014, Hansard page 53:

Senator CONROY: So you would have had discussions with Mr Shearer—by definition, that is what the trip was about.

Rear Adm. Sammut: Mr Shearer was involved in discussions, but we have not been discussing the program directly with Mr Shearer.

Senator CONROY: Mr Shearer has not had any discussions with you or anyone in your bid team?

Rear Adm. Sammut: Are we talking about the CEP process?

Senator CONROY: Yes.

Rear Adm. Sammut: No.

Senator CONROY: Has he had any discussions with Mr Moore or Mr Dewar? It is harder for you to identify whether he has been having conversations with Mr Baxter. Has he been having any conversations directly with either of you two?

Mr Dewar: No, he has not with me.

Mr Moore: No.

Senator CONROY: Are you aware if he has been having discussions with Mr Baxter?

Mr Dewar: I would need to look into that. I just do not know.

Senator CONROY: If you could take on notice whether or not Mr Shearer from the Prime Minister's office has been contacting Mr Baxter about this process.

Mr Dewar: Sure.

Response:

Yes. In his role as Deputy Secretary Strategy, Mr Baxter is responsible for coordinating the Defence White Paper and jointly overseeing the Force Structure Review and periodically discusses a range of defence issues with the Prime Minister's Office.