

Senate Economics References Committee

**Inquiry into the Future Sustainability of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry
22 July 2014**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Trips to Japan Mr Baxter

Question reference number: Question on Notice No. 1

Senator CONROY

Type of question: Hansard pages 45

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 07 August 2015

Question:

Senator CONROY: There have been a number of trips reported in the media—which certainly Mr Baxter has been named. Given that you head up this area underneath him, I am assuming you went.

Mr Dewar: I was not on those visits. I have been on separate visits to Japan.

Senator CONROY: How many visits did Mr Baxter make?

Mr Dewar: I do not have that number in front of me. Over what time period?

Senator CONROY: Over the last two years.

Mr Dewar: I would have to take that on notice

Answer:

Mr Baxter leads the Strategy Group, which includes International Policy Division and the Strategic Policy Division, the areas in Defence that manage Defence's relationships and engagement with foreign defence ministries. As such, his travel to any country will rarely be a single-issue visit and will involve discussions with senior officials – both Defence officials and others – on a range of strategic issues relevant to Australia and the Australian Department of Defence. Mr Baxter has travelled to Japan on the following occasions since joining the Department of Defence on 27 January 2014:

- 19-21 May 2014. The visit had two main purposes: to follow up on Prime Minister Abbott's visit to Tokyo in April 2014 on broadening defence and security cooperation with Japan and to discuss the Future Submarine Program.
- 1-3 September 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to attend a Senior Officials' meeting on the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access between the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force.

- 23-25 September 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to conduct broad defence engagement discussions, including possible cooperation on the Future Submarine Program.
- 15-17 October 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to accompany the then Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon David Johnston, during his visit to North Asia.
- 25-27 November 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was discussions on the Japanese Government's policies on possible cooperation on the Future Submarine Program. The visit included broader defence and security discussions with Defence on bilateral defence cooperation with Japan and trilateral defence cooperation between Australia, Japan and the United States and other officials.
- 27-29 January 2015. Predominant purpose of this visit was to conduct broad defence engagement discussions, including on the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access for the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force, and to discuss the Future Submarine Program.
- 26-28 February 2015. Predominant purpose of this visit was to conduct discussions with Japan on the Future Submarine Program following the announcement of the competitive evaluation process.
- 15-17 April 2015. Predominant purpose of this visit was to conduct discussions with Japan on the Future Submarine Program, but included broader defence and security discussions with Defence and other officials.
- 28 May-5 June 2015. Predominant purpose of this visit was to accompany the Minister for Defence, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP, on his visit to Asia.

Senate Economics References Committee

Inquiry into the Future Sustainability of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry - 22 July 2014

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Discussions with the Japanese Mr Moore

Question reference number: Question on Notice No. 2

Senator CONROY

Type of question: Hansard pages 46

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 07 August 2015

Question:

Senator CONROY: Have you been on other trips to Japan—let's say from October when the minister asked them to consider the submarine issue?

Mr Moore: Yes.

Senator CONROY: Were you involved in discussions with the Japanese about submarines on any of your trips?

Mr Moore: I personally did not have discussions with Japan. I have been present—

Senator CONROY: Let me refine that a little further. So you have been present while discussions about building submarines in Japan have taken place. When was that?

Mr Moore: On a number of occasions in past years.

Senator CONROY: Could you be a little more specific?

Mr Moore: I would have to take that on notice.

Senator CONROY: A month? You can come back to me with dates.

Mr Moore: It has been on a number of occasions. I would have to check exactly what the dates were.

Answer:

Mr Stephen Moore, as Director Japan, International Policy Division, has responsibility for the day-to-day management and implementation of Australia's broader defence engagement with Japan. His travel to Japan since commencing in the role in February 2014 has been to discuss and negotiate defence agreements, arrangements and forward work programs with Japan, and provide support to Defence senior officials as a subject matter expert. Since commencing in the role, Mr Moore has travelled to Japan for the following reasons:

- 18-22 February 2014. Attend a 2+2 Working Group Meeting, negotiating the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of Australia concerning the Transfer of Defence Equipment and Technology.
- 19-21 May 2014. The visit had two main purposes: to follow up on Prime Minister Abbott's visit to Tokyo in April 2014 on broadening defence and security cooperation with Japan and to discuss the Future Submarine Program.
- 18-20 June 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to conduct Australia-Japan Defence Policy Talks, supporting then acting First Assistant Secretary International Policy Division Mr Chris Birrer. Attended exploratory discussions on the Future Submarine Program in the margins of the Defence Policy Talks.
- 1-3 September 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to support Mr Baxter's attendance at a Senior Officials' meeting on the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access between the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force.
- 23-25 September 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to support Mr Baxter's broad defence engagement discussions, including possible cooperation on the Future Submarine Program.
- 6-9 October 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to attend a 2+2 Working Group Meeting to discuss the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access between the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force.
- 5-7 November 2014. Purpose of visit was to support Mr Scott Dewar's attendance at a 2+2 Senior Officials' Meeting to discuss the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access between the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force.
- 25-27 November 2014. Predominant purpose of this visit was to support Mr Baxter's discussions on the Japanese Government's policies on possible cooperation on the Future Submarine Program. The visit included broader defence and security discussions with Defence on bilateral defence cooperation with Japan and trilateral defence cooperation between Australia, Japan and the United States and other officials.
- 18-19 December 2014. Purpose of this visit was to attend a 2+2 Working Group Meeting to discuss the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access between the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force.
- 27-29 January 2015. Predominant purpose of this visit was to support Mr Baxter's broad defence engagement discussions, including on the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access for the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force, and discussions on the Future Submarine Program.
- 26-28 February 2015. Predominant purpose of this visit was to support Mr Baxter's discussions with Japan on the Future Submarine Program following the announcement of the competitive evaluation process.
- 15-17 April 2015. Predominant purpose of this visit was to support Mr Baxter's discussions with Japan on the Future Submarine Program, and broader defence and security discussions with Defence and other officials.
- 26-27 May 2015. Purpose of this visit was to attend a 2+2 Working Group Meeting to discuss the agreement to facilitate reciprocal access between the Australian Defence Force and the Japanese Self Defense Force.

Senate Economics References Committee

**Inquiry into the Future Sustainability of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry - 22
July 2014**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Submarine Discussions with Japan Mr Moore and Mr Dewar

Question reference number: Question on Notice No. 3

Senator/Member: Senator Conroy

Type of question: Hansard pages 46

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 07 August 2015

Question:

Senator CONROY: If we can stop trying to confuse the discussion about engagement with Japan on facilitating military transfers. I am trying to understand exactly when, where and what in relation to both your involvement, Mr Dewar, and Mr Moore's involvement in discussing submarines with Japan. If I can get an accurate time line that would be helpful.

Mr Moore: We will have to come back to you with that, Senator.

Answer:

Mr Scott Dewar has not travelled to Japan with the purpose of discussing Australia's Future Submarine.

Refer to Question on Notice No. 2 from the Senate Economics References Committee hearing of 22 July 2015, which outlines Mr Stephen Moore's travel.

Senate Economics References Committee

Inquiry into the Future Sustainability of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry 22 July 2014

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Submarine Discussions with Japan RADM Sammut

Question reference number: No. 4

Senator Conroy

Type of question: asked on 22 July, Hansard page 46

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 07 August 2015

Question:

Senator CONROY: I am assuming most of your visits have almost always been about the submarines in the last 12 or 18 months.

Rear Adm. Sammut: That is correct. We have been exploring the feasibility of submarine cooperation with Japan to determine whether they would be able to work with us as an international partner to design and deliver a future submarine.

Senator CONROY: How many times have you had those meetings and when did you start having those meetings?

Rear Adm. Sammut: They commenced in May last year. I will need to get for you a more definitive list from our records of all of our trips.

Senator CONROY: But you are clear that your first one was in May. I think that in previous evidence to Senate estimates—you might have been sitting there—Mr King indicated that he suddenly decided in February last year to go for a wander to Japan to begin the exploratory conversation.

Rear Adm. Sammut: I was not part of that travel.

Senator CONROY: You were not part of the February visits?

Rear Adm. Sammut: No.

Senator CONROY: So your first part of the discussion was in May.

Rear Adm. Sammut: It was around the May time frame. I will need to get more details to you on notice

Answer:

Rear Admiral Sammut, Head Future Submarine Program, has travelled to Japan seven times in the past 24 months. The first visit was in May 2014.

Senate Economics References Committee

**Inquiry into the Future Sustainability of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding
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ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Dr Cocking Interaction with Japanese

Question reference number: Question on Notice No. 8 -

Senator Xenophon

Type of question: Hansard pages 54-55:

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 07 August 2015

Question:

Senator XENOPHON: Were you involved in the choice of the research area, marine hydrodynamics?

Dr Cocking: It was joint, yes.

Senator XENOPHON: Can you tell me about the nature and level of the interaction you are having with the Japanese—and you can take this on notice—such as the seniority of the personnel, the number of people involved, the number of trips to Japan and their trips to Australia.

Dr Cocking: Could I take that on notice?

Senator XENOPHON: You could, yes, but have there been a number of trips, for instance?

Dr Cocking: Yes, there have, backwards and forwards.

Senator XENOPHON: Without picking on submarine numbers, was it less than eight or more than 12?

Dr Cocking: I think possibly in the order of 10, but that would be a big guess.

Senator XENOPHON: Ten is a good number for Dr White in terms of the continuous build! If you would take that on notice, I would be grateful.

Dr Cocking: Sure.

Answer:

Defence Science and Technology Group's (DST Group) interaction with Japan prior to 2009 was typically low-level and ad-hoc, involving a small number of visits by working-level Technical Research Development Institute (TRDI) and Japanese Space Agency (JAXA) teams to DST Group's facilities. The number of visits, the reasons and the personnel involved is provided in the following table. This table does not include visits by members of DST Group in support of SEA 1000. Those visits are covered in the response to Senate QoN 2484.

Trip	Date	Seniority of Personnel	Purpose
1	Nov 2009	Deputy Chief Defence Scientist Intelligence and Weapon Systems (DCDS IWS), Assistant Secretary Science Industry and External Relations (ASSIER)	Discussions on future co-operation at TRDI Headquarters
2	Mar 2010	<i>TRDI delegation 3 people</i>	<i>Familiarisation of Woomera test range</i>
3	Oct 2010	DCDS IWS	Discussions on future co-operation
4	Nov 2010	<i>Director General of TRDI plus 2 other people</i>	<i>Familiarisation of DST Group facilities and identification of possible areas for cooperation</i>
5	Nov 2011	DCDS IWS and ASSIER	Discussions on future co-operation
6	Feb 2012	FAS International Policy and ASSIER	Discussions on future co-operation
7	Mar 2012	<i>TRDI delegation of 4 people</i>	<i>Maritime Technical Workshop and visit to Woomera test range</i>
8	Jul 2012	Chief Defence Scientist (CDS) and ASSIER	Familiarisation and discussion of areas for future cooperation
9	Oct 2012	Chief Maritime Division, Research Leader, Group Leader, Junior Research Scientist	Exploration of potential collaborative activities, including marine hydrodynamics, lithium battery technology, land vehicle survivability
10	Mar 2013	<i>DG TRDI, Director of Office of Technology Research and Exchange Ministry of Defence (MOD), Cooperation Coordinator TRDI, Programs Coordinator TRDI</i>	<i>Information exchange/cooperative research meeting and agreement to explore areas of mutual interest in the Defence S&T domain</i>
11	May 2013	A/ASSIER	Technical working group meeting (co-chair)
12	Jun 2013	CDS and A/ASSIER	Discussion of future co-operation
13	Oct 2013	CDS	Discussion of future co-operation
14	Oct 2013	<i>DG TRDI, Regional Officer for Australian Affairs, Head Radar Research Section Sensor Research Division Electronic Systems Research Centre (ESRC) (TRDI), Director Development Division, Air Staff Office, MOD</i>	<i>Over the horizon radar review</i>
15	Dec 2013	A/ DG International and Government Relations	Technical working group meeting
16	Dec 2013	Research Leader Maritime Division, Group Leader; Junior Research Scientist	Marine Hydrodynamics project meeting
17	Feb 2014	<i>Head Hydrodynamics and Hydroacoustics Division Naval Systems Research Centre (NSRC) (TRDI), plus 3 other people (research scientists)</i>	<i>Marine Hydrodynamics project meeting</i>

18	Jun 2014	Executive Director Science International Engagement	Technical working group meeting (co-chair)
19	Jun 2014	Research Leader, Group Leader	Marine Hydrodynamics project meeting
20	Aug 2014	Chief Land Division	Discussion about land-based research
21	Sep 2014	Research Leader Maritime Division; Group Leader, Junior Research Scientist	Marine Hydrodynamics project meeting
22	Oct 2014	Deputy CDS Partnerships and Outreach, Chief National Security and Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Division (NSIRD); Research Leader Joint and Operations Analysis Division, Executive Director Science International Engagement	Discussions on future research co-operation
23	Apr 2015	<i>Chief Defence Scientist ESRC, Cooperation coordinator TRDI HQ, Senior research scientist Ground Systems Research Centre (GSRC) (TRDI), Research Scientist NSRC (TRDI)</i>	<i>Discussions on areas of future cooperation in Defence Science and Technology domain</i>
24	May 2015	CDS Chief Maritime Division, Research Leader, 2 Junior Research Scientists	Discussions with TRDI and attendance at MAST ASIA conference. CDS was a keynote speaker and Chief Maritime Div. is technical committee member
25	May 2015	Research Leader Maritime Division, Group Leader, Junior Research Scientist	Marine Hydrodynamics project meeting
26	May 2015	Executive Director Science International Engagement	Technical working group meeting (co-chair)
27	May 2015	Section leader NSIRD	Radar technical workshop and technical information exchanges
28	Jun 2015	Research Leader NSIRD	Radar and data fusion technical future co-operation discussions
29	Jun 2015	2 Research Leaders Land Division, Group Leader Weapons and Combat Systems Division	Vehicle occupant protection and active protection system technical future co-operation discussions