



**Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Defence Sub-Committee
Chairman, Hon Bruce Scott, MP**

CANBERRA

6 April 2004

**Australia's Defence Relations with the United States
BRISBANE PUBLIC HEARING: WEDNESDAY, 7 APRIL 2004**

The Defence sub-committee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade will conduct a public hearing in Brisbane as part of its inquiry into Australia's defence relations with the United States.

The hearing will be on Wednesday, 7 April starting at 9.00am in the Commonwealth Parliament Offices, Level 36, Waterfront Place, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane.

Since World War Two, Australia and the US have developed strong defence relations. In particular, the last decade has seen a new level of defence relations encompassing Australian involvement in the first Gulf War, the invoking of the ANZUS Treaty, and Australian involvement in US led coalitions in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The *Defence Update 2003* commented that Australia's alliance with the US 'remains a national asset' and the 'United States' current political, economic, and military dominance adds further weight to the alliance relationship.'

The sub-committee will examine the Australian-US alliance focusing on how it can be developed to best meet each nations' security needs both in the Asia Pacific region and globally.

The sub-committee will take evidence from the Dr Carl Ungerer, and Dr Rod Lyon and Ms Lesley Seebeck.

HEARING PROGRAM

**Wednesday, 7 April
Commonwealth Parliament Offices
Level 36, Waterfront Place
1 Eagle Street, BRISBANE**

9.00am Dr Carl Ungerer
9.45am Dr Rod Lyon and Ms Lesley Seebeck

For comment, contact Mr Bruce Scott, Chairman, on 6277 4949 or 0427 743 126.
For information, phone the sub-committee secretary, Mr Stephen Boyd on (02) 6277 2368 or visit the inquiry website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/usrelations/usindex.htm>.