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	Australian Government Department of Defence PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE 1 1 JUN 2004			Services & ire Group ions Division Offices (CP2 – 2 - 36) CT 2600
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Inquiry Secretary Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works Suite R1 119 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Courto

## MID-LIFE UPGRADE OF EXISTING CHANCERY AT THE AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

1. I refer to the Inquiry Secretary's letter of 2 June 2004 to Mr Barry Millar of this office concerning submissions to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works on the subject project.

2. The upgrade of the existing chancery in Wellington is a project being managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on an 'all of Government' basis. While Defence has been adequately accommodated in the past and has no intention of increasing its complement in the foreseeable future, the department has been closely consulted on its requirements in the new chancery and has taken the opportunity to rationalise its office accommodation.

3. Defence continues to support the project and is comfortable with meeting its share of the fitout costs.

4. My point of contact on overseas accommodation matters is Mr Barry Millar, telephone 6266 2503.

Yours sincerely

GEOFF DAVIS Assistant Secretary General Services

Tel: (02) 6266 2852

10 June 2004