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Contents

1	Meeting of Senate	3827
2	Petitions	3827
3	Notices	3827
4	Order of Business—Rearrangement	3828
5	Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—Extension of Time to Report	3829
6	Postponements	3829
7	Privileges—Standing Committee—Reference	3829
8	Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—Reference	3829
9	Defence—Missile Defence Program	3829
10	Women—World Breastfeeding Week	3830
11	Environment—Bushfire Mitigation and Management—Order for Production of Document	3830
12	Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Leave to Meet During Sitting	3830
13	Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee— Extension of Time to Report	3831
14	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Extension of Time to Report	3831
15	Free Trade Agreement—Australia and the United States of America— Select Committee—Final Report	3831
16	Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill 2004	3831
17	Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Interim Report—Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority	3832
18	Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Report—Australian Telecommunications Network	3832
19	US Free Trade Agreement Implementation Bill 2004 US Free Trade Agreement Implementation (Customs Tariff) Bill 2004	3832
20	Questions	3833
21	Questions on Notice—Answers and Explanation	3833
22	Sport—Drugs—Answers to Questions	3833

23	Auditor-General—Audit Report No. 6 of 2004-05—Document.....	3833
24	Defence—Missile Defence Program—Order for Production of Documents—Statement by Leave	3833
25	Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee— Report—Office of the Chief Scientist	3834
26	Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—62nd Report	3834
27	Documents.....	3834
28	Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Change in Membership.....	3834
29	Communications—Television and Radio—Local Content	3835
30	Government Documents—Orders of the Day—Consideration	3835
31	Committee Reports and Government Responses—Orders of the Day— Consideration.....	3836
32	Auditor-General’s Reports—Orders of the Day—Consideration	3838
33	Adjournment	3838
34	Attendance.....	3838

1 MEETING OF SENATE

The Senate met at 9.30 am. The President (Senator the Honourable Paul Calvert) took the chair and read prayers.

2 PETITIONS

The following 2 petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the senators indicated, were received:

Senator Allison, from 43 petitioners, requesting that the Senate amend any proposed legislation relating to Medicare to ensure that equitable access to doctors' services is preserved.

Senator Mason, from 202 petitioners, requesting that the Senate oppose the expansion of the definition of marriage beyond that of a union between a man and a woman.

3 NOTICES

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Ian Campbell): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Marriage Amendment Bill 2004 be now read a first time.

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett): To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matters be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 30 November 2004:

- (a) the provisions of the National Animal Welfare Bill 2003;
- (b) whether there is benefit in moving towards nationally uniform and enforceable animal welfare laws in Australia; and
- (c) whether current processes adequately ensure proper animal welfare standards in areas that come under Commonwealth jurisdiction, such as imports and exports of wildlife and other animals.

Senator Harris: To move on 11 August 2004—

- (1) That a select committee, to be known as the Select Committee on the Commercial 'Rape' of Small Business by Telstra, be appointed to inquire into and report by 25 November 2004 or, if the Senate does not meet on that day, the next sitting day after that day, on the following matters:

- (a) having regard to previous inquiries by Senate committees relating to the activities of Telstra and other wholly-owned subsidiaries, the new information that has come to light in relation to Network Design and Construction/National Network Solutions and Telstra management in Queensland, and the catastrophic damage being done to small business on a daily basis:
 - (i) whether any action should be taken urgently against the Chief Executive and Board of Telstra, employees or agents of Telstra's wholly-owned subsidiaries or Telstra employees in relation to actions against Telstra contractors, and
 - (ii) whether any criminal offence was committed in that regard; and
- (b) whether Telstra should be obliged to compensate, on a case-by-case basis, the small business contractors affected by the behaviour of Telstra, its employees or employees or agents of its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

- (2) That the committee consist of 7 senators, 3 nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 2 nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, 1 nominated from the group of independents and 1 nominated by the One Nation Party.
- (3) That the committee may proceed to the dispatch of business notwithstanding that not all members have been duly nominated and appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy.
- (4) That:
 - (a) the chair of the committee be elected by and from the members of the committee;
 - (b) in the absence of agreement on the selection of a chair, duly notified to the President, the allocation of the chair be determined by the Senate;
 - (c) the deputy chair of the committee be elected by and from the members of the committee immediately after the election of the chair;
 - (d) the deputy chair act as chair when there is no chair or the chair is not present at a meeting; and
 - (e) in the event of the votes on any question before the committee being equally divided, the chair, or deputy chair when acting as chair, have a casting vote.
- (5) That the quorum of the committee be a majority of the members of the committee.
- (6) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to send for and examine persons and documents, to move from place to place, to sit in public or in private, notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament or dissolution of the House of Representatives, and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken, and such interim recommendations as it may deem fit.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any such subcommittee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider, and that the quorum of the subcommittee be a majority of the members appointed to the subcommittee.
- (8) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and be empowered to appoint investigative staff and persons, including senior counsel, with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee, with the approval of the President.
- (9) That the committee have access to, and have power to make use of, the evidence and records of previous inquiries by Senate committees mentioned in paragraph (1)(a).
- (10) That the committee be empowered to print from day to day such documents and evidence as may be ordered by it, and a daily *Hansard* be published of such proceedings as take place in public. (*general business notice of motion no. 959*)

4 ORDER OF BUSINESS—REARRANGEMENT

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Ian Campbell) moved—That the order of general business for consideration today be as follows:

- (a) general business notice of motion no. 951 standing in the name of Senator Lundy relating to Australian content quotas for radio and television; and
- (b) consideration of government documents.

Question put and passed.

5 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Ferris, by leave and at the request of the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (Senator Payne), moved—That the time for the presentation of the report of the committee on the provisions of the Anti-terrorism Bill (No. 2) 2004 be extended to 6 August 2004.

Question put and passed.

6 POSTPONEMENTS

Items of business were postponed as follows:

General business notice of motion no. 957 standing in the name of Senator Nettle for today, relating to James Hardie Industries, postponed till 9 August 2004.

General business notice of motion no. 958 standing in the name of Senator Nettle for today, relating to an Airservices Australia contract for the manufacture and supply of fire engines, postponed till 9 August 2004.

7 PRIVILEGES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE

Senator Ridgeway, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved matter of privilege notice of motion no. 1—That the following matter be referred to the Committee of Privileges:

Having regard to the material provided to the President by Senator Ridgeway, whether there was any unauthorised disclosure of the private deliberations or the draft report of the Select Committee on the Free Trade Agreement between Australia and the United States of America, and, if so, whether any contempt was committed in that regard.

Question put and passed.

8 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REFERENCE

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Ian Campbell), at the request of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1—That the provisions of the following bills be referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee for inquiry and report as follows:

Crimes Legislation Amendment (Telecommunications Offences and Other Measures) Bill (No. 2) 2004 by 11 August 2004; and

Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2004 by 6 September 2004.

Question put and passed.

9 DEFENCE—MISSILE DEFENCE PROGRAM

Senator Allison, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 935—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) the proposed memorandum of understanding between Australia and the United States of America (US) on missile defence,
- (ii) the Senate resolutions of 29 June 2000, 1 March 2001, and 30 August 2001 on missile defence,
- (iii) that the use of nuclear weapons in space is prohibited by the Outer Space Treaty, signed by Australia in January 1967,

- (iv) Australia's support for the 13 steps in the final declaration of the 2000 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, and
- (v) that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and missile delivery systems is a serious international security issue; and
- (b) urges the Government not to sign the proposed 25-year missile defence research, development, trials and operation agreement with the US until and unless:
 - (i) a public inquiry has been conducted by a Senate committee, and
 - (ii) the agreement is approved by both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Question put and negatived.

10 WOMEN—WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK

Senator Stott Despoja, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 952—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges that 1 August to 7 August 2004 is World Breastfeeding Week, which is celebrated in over 120 countries; and
- (b) notes that:
 - (i) Breastfest 2004 will be celebrated simultaneously across the nation on Friday, 6 August 2004,
 - (ii) the theme for World Breastfeeding Week this year is 'Exclusive Breastfeeding: The Gold Standard: safe, sound and sustainable',
 - (iii) breastfeeding is the natural and normal way to provide optimal nutrition, immunological and emotional nurturing for the growth and development of infants, and
 - (iv) every woman has the right to be supported to breastfeed and not be discriminated against.

Question put and passed.

11 ENVIRONMENT—BUSHFIRE MITIGATION AND MANAGEMENT—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENT

Senator Brown, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 955—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the report of the Council of Australian Governments inquiry on bushfire mitigation and management was provided to the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) on or around 2 April 2004; and
- (b) requires the Minister representing the Prime Minister to table in the Senate, no later than 5 pm on Monday, 9 August 2004, the report of the inquiry.

Question put and passed.

12 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Knowles) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 949—That the Community Affairs Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 12 August 2004, from 4 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Commonwealth

Electoral Amendment (Preventing Smoking Related Deaths) Bill 2004, the exposure draft of the Tobacco Advertising Prohibition (Film, Internet and Misleading Promotion) Amendment Bill 2004 and the adequacy of the ACCC response to date on issues concerning tobacco.

Question put and passed.

**13 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—
EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT**

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 950—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on the administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J* be extended to 12 August 2004.

Question put and passed.

**14 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE REFERENCES COMMITTEE—EXTENSION
OF TIME TO REPORT**

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee (Senator Ridgeway) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 954—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee on the current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas be extended to 12 August 2004.

Question put and passed.

**15 FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—
SELECT COMMITTEE—FINAL REPORT**

Senator O'Brien, at the request of the Chair of the Select Committee on the Free Trade Agreement between Australia and the United States of America (Senator Cook), tabled the following report and documents:

Free Trade Agreement—Australia and the United States of America—Select Committee—Final report, dated August 2004, *Hansard* record of proceedings [13 vols], documents presented to the committee, answers to questions on notice, additional information and submissions [548].

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator O'Brien.

Senator O'Brien moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Harris in continuation.

16 TRADE PRACTICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2004

A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 658, dated 4 August 2004—A Bill for an Act to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974*, and for other purposes.

The Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin) moved—That this bill may proceed without formalities and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

Senator Minchin moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Mackay the debate was adjourned.

On the motion of Senator Minchin the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for a later hour.

**17 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—
INTERIM REPORT—ADMINISTRATION OF THE CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to order, Senator Eggleston, at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan), tabled the following report and documents:

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority—Interim report, dated August 2004, *Hansard* record of proceedings, documents presented to the committee and submissions [12].

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Eggleston.

Senator Eggleston, by leave, moved—That the Senate adopt the recommendation of the interim report that the committee conclude its inquiry into the administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority by reporting its findings as part of the report it makes to the Senate in accordance with standing order 25(21).

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

**18 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS
REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REPORT—AUSTRALIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS
NETWORK**

Pursuant to order, the Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee (Senator Cherry) tabled the following report and documents:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—The Australian telecommunications network—Report, dated August 2004, *Hansard* record of proceedings [19 vols], documents presented to the committee and submissions [150].

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Cherry.

Senator Cherry, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Lundy in continuation.

**19 US FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION BILL 2004
US FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION (CUSTOMS TARIFF) BILL 2004**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Defence (Senator Hill)—That these bills be now read a second time—*and on the amendment moved by Senator Nettle*:

Omit all words after “That”, insert “further consideration of the bills be deferred until after the Australia-United States free trade agreement has been subject to a review, with public input, of its environmental impacts, and a report of that review has been tabled in the Senate”.

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Ludwig in continuation.

Suspension of sitting: On the motion of the Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz) the sitting of the Senate was suspended till 2 pm.

At 2 pm—

20 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were answered.

21 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE—ANSWERS AND EXPLANATION

Senator Allison, pursuant to standing order 74, asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson) for an explanation of answers not being provided to the following questions on notice:

No. 3015 (notice given 16 June 2004)

No. 3016 (notice given 17 June 2004)

No. 3027 (notice given 22 June 2004).

Senator Patterson indicated that an explanation would be provided.

Senator Allison moved—That the Senate take note of the minister's failure to provide either an answer or an explanation.

Question put and passed.

22 SPORT—DRUGS—ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Senator Lundy moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp) to questions without notice asked by Senator Wong and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner) today relating to drug use in cycling at the Australian Institute of Sport.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

23 AUDITOR-GENERAL—AUDIT REPORT NO. 6 OF 2004-05—DOCUMENT

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) tabled the following document:

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 6 of 2004-05—Performance audit—Performance management in the Australian Public Service.

24 DEFENCE—MISSILE DEFENCE PROGRAM—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—STATEMENT BY LEAVE

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Troeth), by leave, made a statement relating to the order of the Senate of 4 August 2004 for the production of documents concerning the memorandum of understanding between the Governments of Australia and the United States of America relating to the program of cooperation on missile defence (*see entry no. 25, 4 August 2004*).

Statement by leave: Senator Brown, by leave, made a statement relating to the matter.

25 EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REPORT—OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SCIENTIST

Senator Crossin, at the request of the Chair of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee (Senator George Campbell), tabled the following report and documents:

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—Office of the Chief Scientist—Report, dated August 2004, *Hansard* record of proceedings, answers to questions on notice, additional information and submissions [22].

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Crossin.

Senator Crossin, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Brown in continuation.

26 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—62ND REPORT

Senator Kirk, on behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, tabled the following report and documents:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—62nd report—Treaties tabled on 30 March 2004, dated August 2004 and minutes of proceedings.

Senator Kirk, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Question put and passed.

27 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

Australian Communications Authority Act and Radiocommunications Act—Radiocommunications (Interpretation) Amendment Determination 2004 (No. 1).

Bounty (Ships) Act—Return for 2003-2004.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—Instrument amending list of—

Exempt native specimens under section 303DB, dated 7 June 2004.

Specimens suitable for live import under section 303EB, dated 22 June 2004.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statements describing property acquired by agreement under sections 40 and 125 of the Act for specified public purposes [2].

Military Superannuation and Benefits Act—Military Superannuation and Benefits Amendment Trust Deed 2004 (No. 2).

28 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Watson) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter requesting a change in the membership of a committee.

The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Coonan), by leave, moved—That Senator Bartlett be appointed as a participating member of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee.

Question put and passed.

General business was called on.

29 COMMUNICATIONS—TELEVISION AND RADIO—LOCAL CONTENT

Senator Lundy, pursuant to notice, moved general business notice of motion no. 951—That the Senate recognise the importance of maintaining local content quotas for free-to-air television, pay television and radio at their current levels and the role that these quotas play in ensuring that Australians continue to see and hear Australian faces and voices through their popular media.

Debate ensued.

At 6 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Denman was speaking.

30 GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS—ORDERS OF THE DAY—CONSIDERATION

The following orders of the day relating to government documents were considered:

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—A last resort?—Report of the National Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention, April 2004. Motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett) to take note of document debated. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Iraq: The path ahead—Discussion paper, June 2004. Motion of Senator Stott Despoja to take note of document agreed to.

Australian Maritime College—Report for 2003. Motion of Senator Watson to take note of document agreed to.

Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Report—Review of the operation of the universal service obligation and customer service guarantee under section 159A of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*, 7 April 2004. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

National Handgun Buyback Act 2003—Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and the States and Territories concerning the accountability and administrative procedures for the handgun buyback, 2003 (Amended). Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Treaties—*Bilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—Agreement, done at Melbourne on 10 May 2004, between Nauru and Australia concerning additional police and other assistance to Nauru. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett and agreed to.

Treaty—*Multilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—WIPO Copyright Treaty, adopted by the Diplomatic Conference at Geneva on 20 December 1996. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Treaty—*Multilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty, adopted by the Diplomatic Conference at Geneva on 20 December 1996. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Treaty—*Multilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, done at New York on 25 May 2000. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

United Nations—Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Human Rights Committee—Communication—No. 920/2000—Views. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

United Nations—Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Human Rights Committee—Communication—No. 1080/2002—Views. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

United Nations—Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Human Rights Committee—Communication—No. 1239/2004—Decision. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Productivity Commission—Report—No. 28—First home ownership, 31 March 2004. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Treaties—List of multilateral treaty actions under negotiation, consideration or review by the Australian Government as at June 2004. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Inquiry into Australian intelligence agencies—Report by Philip Flood AO, July 2004. Motion of Senator Bartlett to take note of document called on. Debate was adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

General business orders of the day nos 4, 6 to 8, 10 to 14, 22, 23 and 26 to 29 relating to government documents were called on but no motion was moved.

General business concluded.

31 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES—ORDERS OF THE DAY— CONSIDERATION

The following orders of the day relating to committee reports and government responses were considered:

Privileges—Standing Committee—119th report—Possible false or misleading evidence before the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ray)—That the Senate—

(a) endorse the finding contained at paragraph 1.23; and

(b) adopt the recommendation at paragraph 1.30,

of the 119th report of the Committee of Privileges—debated and agreed to.

Order for production of document: Pursuant to the recommendation in paragraph 1.30 of the 119th report of the Committee of Privileges, the following order for production of a document was agreed to:

That there be laid on the table by not later than 1 March 2005 a statement of measures taken by Telstra to ensure that its senior officers are appropriately trained in their obligations to Parliament, including the number and level of officers who have undergone such training and the dates of any such training.

Economics References Committee—Report—The structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Stephens) to take note of report debated and agreed to.

Free Trade Agreement—Australia and the United States of America—Select Committee—Interim report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Cook) to take note of report agreed to.

Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund—Joint Statutory Committee—Report—Examination of annual reports for 2002-03 in fulfilment of the committee's duties pursuant to s.206(c) of the *Native Title Act 1993*. Motion of Senator Ferris to take note of report agreed to.

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee—Report—Inquiry into the trafficking of women for sexual servitude. Motion of Senator Ferris to take note of report agreed to.

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—Report—Beyond Cole: The future of the construction industry: confrontation or co-operation? Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator George Campbell) to take note of report agreed to.

Community Affairs References Committee—Report—Hepatitis C and the blood supply in Australia. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator McLucas) to take note of report agreed to.

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee—Reports—CLERP (Audit Reform and Corporate Disclosure) Bill 2003—

Part 1: Enforcement, executive remuneration, continuous disclosure, shareholder participation and related matters

Part 2: Financial reporting and audit reform.

Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Chapman) to take note of reports debated and agreed to.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report—Near neighbours – Good neighbours: An inquiry into Australia's relations with Indonesia. Motion of Senator Ferguson to take note of report agreed to.

Privileges—Standing Committee—118th report—Joint meetings of the Senate and the House of Representatives on 23 and 24 October 2003. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ray) to take note of report agreed to.

Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters—Select Committee—Report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ludwig) to take note of report debated and agreed to.

Community Affairs References Committee—Report—A hand up not a hand out: Renewing the fight against poverty. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Hutchins) to take note of report agreed to.

32 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS—ORDERS OF THE DAY—CONSIDERATION

The following orders of the day relating to reports of the Auditor-General were considered:

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 56 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Management of the processing of asylum seekers: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Corrigenda. Motion to take note of document moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett). Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 2 of 2004-05—Performance audit—Onshore compliance – Visa overstayers and non-citizens working illegally: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bartlett and agreed to.

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 4 of 2004-05—Performance audit—Management of customer debt: Centrelink. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Ludwig. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Ludwig in continuation.

Orders of the day nos 1 to 21, 23 to 25, 27 and 29 relating to reports of the Auditor-General were called on but no motion was moved.

33 ADJOURNMENT

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Watson) proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 7.49 pm till Monday, 9 August 2004 at 12.30 pm.

34 ATTENDANCE

Present, all senators except Senators Conroy, Cook*, Evans, Murphy* and Sherry (* on leave).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate