

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Companion of the Order of Australia 1988

Senator: Senator Dean Smith

Question reference number: 15

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Question:

Senator SMITH: Could you also inquire about this for me. When Prime Minister Bob Hawke made the appointment of Prince Phillip to the Companion of the Order of Australia in 1988—I understand at that time it was the highest category in the Order of Australia—what communications were undertaken between the Prime Minister, the Governor-General and Buckingham Palace and when they were undertaken?

Ms Kelly: We can endeavour to do that, to the extent that our files will disclose that. I cannot guarantee the extent to which that will be outlined in the files. But we will make that inquiry. I know that we have those documents—those files—to hand.

Answer:

Under the Constitution of the Order of Australia, appointments to the Order as members in the Military Division are made by the Governor-General upon the recommendation of the Minister for Defence.