

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 22-23 May 2006

Question: PM 4

Outcome 1, Output 3.1

Topic: UN Oil-For-Food Programme investigation

Hansard Page: F&PA 81:

Senator Evans asked: Did they have copies of the documents you submitted?

Mr Lewis—I do not know, Senator. I am not sure.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—Is there someone here who can help us with that?

Mr Lewis—No, I do not know, Senator.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—And there is no-one here who can help us with that?

Mr Lewis—No.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—Perhaps you could take that on notice for me. Given that the Prime Minister's office knew of the nature of the documents, if not had copies, which is an open question, we can assume, I suspect, that therefore the 39 documents they submitted on 27 February were in addition. Otherwise, they would simply be resubmitting stuff you had already submitted.

Answer: The Prime Minister's Office was provided with a copy of the documents supplied to the inquiry by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The Prime Minister's Office was provided with these documents after they had been supplied to the inquiry by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.