

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 26 May - 27 May 2008



Question: PM109a

Outcome 1, Output 5.5

Topic: Prime Minister's Overseas Trip - Doctor

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: Was a doctor on board either the Prime Minister or media's plane during the Prime Minister's overseas trip that began on 27 March 2008?

Answer: No.

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Question: PM109b

Outcome 1, Output 5.5

Topic: Why was a doctor not taken on the Prime Minister's overseas trip

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: Why was a doctor not taken?

Answer: The decision was taken within the Prime Minister's Office.

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Question: PM109c

Outcome 1, Output 5.5

Topic: Who made the decision not to take a doctor on the Prime Minister's overseas trip

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: Who made the decision not to take a doctor?

Answer: The decision was taken within the Prime Minister's Office.

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Question: PM109d

Outcome 1, Output 5.5

Topic: Who took the plane seat normally reserved for a doctor

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: Who took the plane seat normally reserved for a doctor?

Answer: There is no seat reserved for a doctor. Party lists are compiled on the basis of relative needs and functions. Seating plans for the aircraft are determined after the party list has been finalised.

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Question: PM109e

Outcome 1, Output 5.5

Topic: How many staff travelled on the Prime Minister's overseas trip

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: How many of the Prime Minister's staff travelled on the trip?

Answer: 13.

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Question: PM109f

Outcome 1, Output 5.5

Topic: On which plane did staff travel

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: In which of the two planes used on the trip did staff travel? Please provide a breakdown of how many ministerial staff travelled in each plane

Answer:

Canberra – Washington	aircraft 1 - 8 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
Washington – New York	aircraft 1 - 9 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
New York – Washington	aircraft 1 - 9 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
Washington – Brussels	aircraft 1 - 8 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
Brussels – Bucharest	aircraft 1 - 8 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
Bucharest – London	aircraft 1 - 8 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
London – Beijing	aircraft 1 - 6 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
Beijing – Sanya	aircraft 1 - 7 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff
Sanya – Canberra	aircraft 1 - 7 staff	aircraft 2 - 2 staff

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Question: PM109g

Outcome 1, Output 5.5

Topic: Prime Minister's Overseas Trip - media conferences

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: How many media conferences did the Prime Minister participate in on the overseas trip? Please provide a list showing the date, time and location of each of the Prime Minister's media conferences during the Prime Minister's trip.

Answer: The Prime Minister participated in a range of media engagements throughout his itinerary. These were widely reported and copies of media releases, speeches and transcripts are available on the Prime Minister's website at www.pm.gov.au.