

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
Supplementary Budget Estimates 20 - 23 Oct 2008**



Question: PM40d

Topic: Apology to Mr L'Estrange

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Fifield asked: I understand that in the month of May, Air Chief Marshal Houston and Mr Michael L'Estrange were due to meet the Prime Minister but were kept waiting for some time. This was reported in The Australian newspaper on 21 June 2008.

What steps did the Prime Minister take to apologise to the French ambassador for what was a significant diplomatic snub, in that by keeping Mr L'Estrange waiting he was forced to miss an important diplomatic engagement with the French which he was due to host?

Answer: Please see answer to PM40a.