DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE

PAPER No. 102

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Joint Committee
of
Public Accounts—
Report of Activities
July 1986-June 1987

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Joint Committee of Public Accounts



THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

REPORT 281

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES
JULY 1986 - JUNE 1987

Commonwealth of Australia 1987 ISBN 0 642 12262 8

Printed in Australia by C J THOMPSON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra

DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

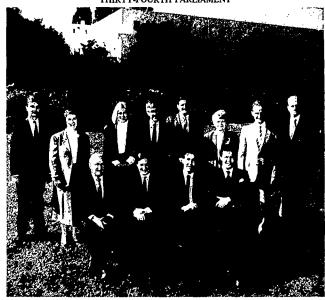
Section 8. (1) of the <u>Public Accounts Committee Act</u> 1951 reads as follows:

Subject to sub-section (2), the duties of the Committee are:

- (a) to examine the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Commonwealth including the financial statements transmitted to the Auditor-General under sub-section (4) of section 50 of the <u>Audit Act</u> 1901;
- (aa) to examine the financial affairs of authorities of the Commonwealth to which this Act applies and of intergovernmental bodies to which this Act applies;
- (ab) to examine all reports of the Auditor-General (including reports of the results of efficiency audits) copies of which have been laid before the Houses of the Parliament;
- (b) to report to both Houses of the Parliament, with such comment as it thinks fit, any items or matters in those accounts, statements and reports, or any circumstances connected with them, to which the Committee is of the opinion that the attention of the Parliament should be directed;
- (c) to report to both Houses of the Parliament any alteration which the Committee thinks desirable in the form of the public accounts or in the method of keeping them, or in the mode of receipt, control, issue or payment of public moneys; and
- (d) to inquire into any question in connexion with the public accounts which is referred to it by either House of the Parliament, and to report to that House upon that question,

and include such other duties as are assigned to the Committee by Joint Standing Orders approved by both Houses of Parliament.

FIFTEENTH JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS THIRTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT



(Senate Garden, Parliament House, April 1987)

Standing (left to right)
MR. M. I. TALBERG (Secretary), SENATOR THE HON. DAME MARGARET GUILFOYLE D.B.E., MRS. R. J. KELLY, M.F.,
SENATOR G. R. MAGUIRE, SENATOR J. O. W. WATSON (Vice-Chairman), SENATOR P. J. GILES, MR P. M. RUDDOCK, M.F.,
MR L. R. S. PRICE, M.P.

Scated (left to right)
MR J. G. MOUNTFORD, M.P., DR D. J. H. WATSON, M.P., MR R. E. TICKNER, M.P. (Chairman), MR A. J. DOWNER, M.P.

Absent SENATOR B. C. COONEY, MR B. J. CONQUEST, M.P., MRS H. MAYER, M.P., MR G. B. NEHL, M.P., DR A. C. THEOPHANOUS, M.P.

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

FIFTEENTH COMMITTEE (34th Parliament - dissolved 5 June 1987)

R E TICKNER, MP (Chairman)

SENATOR J O W WATSON (Vice-Chairman)

SENATOR B COONEY

B J CONQUEST, MP

SENATOR P J GILES

A J DOWNER, MP

SENATOR THE HON DAME

R J KELLY, MP

MARGARET GUILFOYLE, DBE

H MAYER, MP

SENATOR G MAGUIRE

J G MOUNTFORD, MP*

G B NEHL, MP

L R S PRICE, MP.

P M RUDDOCK, MP

DR A C THEOPHANOUS, MP

DR D J H WATSON, MP

*Ex-offico member being Chairman, House of Representatives Standing Committee on Expenditure

SIXTEENTH COMMITTEE (35th Parliament)

R E TICKNER MP (CHAIRMAN)

SENATOR J O W WATSON (VICE-CHAIRMAN)

K ALDRED, MP

SENATOR THE HON A GEITZELT

J BROWN, MP

SENATOR P GILES

SENATOR B BISHOP

E FITZGIBBON, MP DR J HEWSON, MP

SENATOR J MCKIERNAN

M LEE, MP

S MARTIN, MP

G NEHL, MP

P RUDDOCK, MP

THE HON G SCHOLES, MP

PREFACE

This Report continues the practice established in 1976 of informing the Parliament of the Committee's activities. The Committee considers that it should, as a statutory body, report regularly, although it has only limited administrative autonomy. The report also provides a convenient medium for the Committee to review its own activities and to suggest areas of public and financial administration which may require further review and reform.

The Report covers the financial year 1 July 1986—30 June 1987. It should be noted however that membership of the Committee lapsed on 5 June 1987 when Parliament was dissolved prior to the election in July. In these circumstances although there continued to be a Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee by virtue of its status as a Statutory Committee, it had no members.

In the period reviewed by this report the Committee presented 27 reports to Parliament. This number included such major inquiries as the discontinuance of the Efficiency Audit of Australia Post, the administration of the Commonwealth's property functions and the Department of Defence's computer acquisition. The Committee operated a total of seven sectional committees in order to conduct its inquiries and was strongly assisted in this by the four project teams which make up the structure of the Secretariat. The Committee's continuing ability to conduct such a broad range of inquiries will be significantly curtailed by the proposed new staffing arrangements for committees. This will see the Public Accounts Committee secretariat's permanent staff reduced from its present level of 15 to 5.

The Committee acknowledges, with great appreciation, the contribution made to its work by the members of the Committee's secretariat and the Committee's advisers. Additionally, we thank all those who gave us assistance, particularly officers from the Department of Finance, the Public Service Board and the Australian Audit Office.

We also express our appreciation for the work done by the Principal Parliamentary Reporter and his staff and other officers of the Parliamentary departments who have assisted the Committee in its activities.

The Committee pays tribute to Senator George Georges who resigned from the Committee on 18 February 1987. Senator George served on the Committee for over seven years. He was Vice-Chairman from November 1980 while in Opposition, and was elected Chairman in 1983. As Chairman, Senator Georges presented 61 reports to the Parliament on behalf of the Committee. The more important reports included Medical Fraud and Overservicing, HMAS Tobruk, Defence

Project Management, Job Seeker - Computer Acquisition by the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, and Project DESINE - Proposed Computer Acquisition by the Department of Defence.

The Committee would also like to pay tribute to Senator the Hon. Dame Margaret Guilfoyle DBB, who retired from the Senate on its dissolution in June. Senator Guilfoyle served on the Committee from the time she entered Parliament in 1971 until 1975 when she became a Minister, and again from 1983 until her retirement. She was an extremely active and effective member of the Committee, particularly in her recent role of chairing the ADP Sub-committee.

For and on behalf of the Committee.

R E Tickner, MP Chairman

M J Talberg Secretary Joint Committee of Public Accounts Parliament House Canberra 21 October 1987

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CHAPTER 1

THE COMMITTEE

Introduction

- 1.1 This Report to Parliament provides a summary of the major points contained in the Committee's reports tabled during the financial year 1986-87, issues arising out of inquiries and other matters which the Committee regards as significant.
- 1.2 The Committee considers that, like all other statutory authorities of the Commonwealth, it has a duty to present to the Parliament each year a comprehensive report which provides a convenient medium for the Committee to review its activities over the past year and to suggest areas in which improvements can be made in Commonwealth public administration and finance.

Background

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- 1.3 The Committee is constituted under the <u>Public Accounts</u> Committee Act 1951. It is one of five committees of the Parliament established by statute. The others are the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, the Joint Committee on Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings, the Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority and the Joint Committee on the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation. At the time of the dissolution of Parliament on 5 June 1987, there were 23 parliamentary committees other than committees dealing with 'domestic' issues within Parliament itself.
- 1.4 The concept of a public accounts committee is one of the features of the British Parliament inherited by the Australiam Parliament. Parliamentary procedures for considering public expenditure derive from the Westminster model of the mid-19th century. The key features were in place in 1861 when Gladstone completed what he called the 'circle of control' by the establishment of the Public Accounts Committee, shortly followed by a unified office of Comptroller and Auditor-General heading the Exchequer and Audit Departments. In 1895 a Public Accounts Committee was established in the colony of Victoria with duties very similar to those of the Committee established by the Commonwealth in 1913.
- 1.5 This original Commonwealth Public Accounts Committee was disbanded in 1932, said to be as an 'economy measure'. The Committee was re-established by the <u>Public Accounts Committee Act</u> 1951 which sets down the functions, constitution and powers of the Committee. The Committee met for the first time on 2 October 1952 and elected Emeritus Professor F E Bland CMG, MP as Chairman.

Membership

- 1.6 As a standing committee of Parliament, Committee members continue to hold office (subject to certain qualifications) until the end of the Parliament by which they were appointed.
- 1.7 The Committee comprises both Government and Opposition Members of Parliament. It is accepted practice that the majority of Committee members be from the Government party. The Chairman of the Committee is usually a Government member elected by the whole Committee and the Vice-Chairman is elected from the Opposition members. In the previous Parliament, of a total membership of 16, 5 members of the Committee were appointed by the Senate and 10 by the House of Representatives. The Chairman of the House of Representatives standing Committee on Expenditure was, ex officio, a member of the Committee.

Method of Operation

- 1.8 Under the terms of the <u>Public Accounts Committee Act</u>
 1951 the Committee may operate with absolute independence. This
 power was derived principally from Sections 6A (1) and 8(1)b of
 the Act:
 - 6A(1) The Committee may meet at such times and at such places within Australia as the Committee, by resolution, determines or, subject to any resolution of the Committee, as the Chairman determines...
 - 8(1)b to report to both Houses of Parliament, with such comment as it thinks fit, any items or matters in those accounts, statements and reports, or any circumstances connected with them, to which the Committee is of the opinion that the attention of the Parliament should be directed.
- 1.9 The usual practice is for the Committee to determine its own program of work and the inquiries it should undertake. Either House of Parliament may also refer any question in connection with the public accounts for inquiry and report, and other duties may both Houses of the Parliament.
- 1.10 The Committee's functions are, inter alia, to:
 - examine the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Commonwealth;
 - examine the financial affairs of authorities of the Commonwealth and intergovernmental bodies;

- , examine all reports of the Auditor-General; and
- draw the attention of the Parliament to any matters in the accounts of the Commonwealth, financial statements and reports of the Auditor-General.
- 1.11 Additionally, the Committee is required to report any alteration which it thinks desirable in the form of public accounts, the method of keeping them, or in the mode of receipt, control, issue or payment of public moneys.
- 1.12 The Committee scrutinises and regularly reviews the manner in which Commonwealth departments and statutory authorities estimate their financial requirements and expend the moneys allocated to them by Parliament. Its primary concern is with the cost effectiveness of policy rather than policy objectives. However, the Committee continues to be interested in analysing the process by which policy objectives are determined and whether efficient and effective administrative systems properly support these objectives. This interest in policy determination is reflected in the Committee's relationships with the Public Service Commission, the Department of Finance and the Australian Audit Office.
- 1.13 Through the operation of various sectional committees, the Committee is able to address several references concurrently. The Committee is required to hold its inquiry hearings in public and generally tables written submissions as evidence at these hearings. Under its Act the Committee may consider secret or confidential matters in camera.
- 1.14 The Committee is assisted in its inquiries by the Australian Audit Office, the Department of Finance and the Public Service Commission. Matters commented upon by the Auditor-General in his reports may be taken up by the Committee, with further information about his investigations being provided by the Auditor-General. In addition, specialist advisers and consultants, from both the public and private sector, provide technical advice to the Committee when required.
- 1.15 The Committee's requirement for written statements in advance of hearings has become standard procedure in the Committee's operations. The statements form the basis of evidence and enable the time taken for hearings to be kept to a minimum. The information, provided in advance, facilitates questioning and comprehension.

Evolution of Functions

1.16 As the scope and complexity of government administration has increased, particularly with the growth in the number and size of statutory authorities during the 1970s, the Committee's role has also been expanded by Parliament to meet the need for

increased scrutiny. In 1979 the Fublic Accounts Committee Act was amended to remove any doubts that the Committee could examine statutory authorities.

- 1.17 In recent years the Committee, along with the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Expenditure, has streamlined procedures for the review of efficiency audits. The Committees agreed that their respective terms of reference made the previous practice of formal reference by the House of Representatives unnecessary. Under its Act, the Public Accounts Committee was already required to examine all reports of the Auditor-General, including efficiency audits. The respective Committee Chairmen also agreed to share the reviews so as to avoid duplication of effort by their Committees.
- 1.18 In 1981 the Committee commenced the publication of discussion papers with the intention of increasing debate on significant issues. While these reports are authoritative in nature and have received official responses, they have not been produced in the usual way by submission and public evidence, but rather by survey of literature, presentation of prepared papers and discussion with interested groups or individuals. The Committee's four published discussion papers have been:
 - Report 184 Internal Audit in the Australian Public Service;
 - Report 192 Collection and Dissemination of Statistics;
 - . Report 199 The Form and Standard of Financial Statements for Commonwealth Undertakings; and
 - . Report 213 Income Maintenance Programs.
- 1.19 In June 1984 motions were moved in the House of Representatives and the Senate establishing the standing reference of proposed major purchases of ADP facilities by the Commonwealth to the Committee for investigation and report. This function now constitutes a significant part of the Committee's program. In December 1983, the passing of the Public Accounts Committee Amendment Bill allowed for the increase of the Committees membership by five, in anticipation of the need to deal with this reference. The Committee then established a sectional committee solely for this reference.

Chairmen of the Committee

1.20 Senator George Georges resigned as Chairman of the Committee on 18 February 1987 and was discharged from the Committee on 23 February 1987. He first became a member and Vice-Chairman of the Committee on 26 November 1980. Following the appointment of the Fourteenth Committee on 4 May 1983, he became

Chairman. The Committee accepted Senator Georges' resignation with regret and thanked him for his leadership, guidance and contribution to the work and status of the Committee. On 25 February 1987, Mr Robert Tickner, MP was elected Chairman. Mr Tickner had served on the Fifteenth Committee since it was appointed on 28 February 1985.

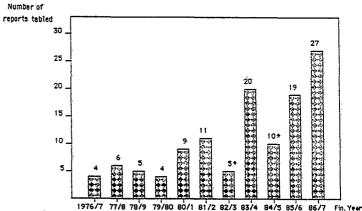
CHAPTER 2

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Reports of the Committee

- 2.1 In the 12 months from July 1986 to June 1987, the Committee produced 27 reports. Of these, nine related to Auditor-General's reports, including efficiency audits, two were reports of inquiries under the ADP reference and 13 were responses to previous reports, ie Department of Finance Minutes. The Committee also produced three other reports, not related to inquiries.
- 2.2 Figure 2.1 shows the number of reports tabled by the Committee each year over the past 11 financial years. The high output in this financial year (1986-87) was due to a number of factors. There was a larger than usual number of Finance Minutes presented this financial year but for the most part the increase was the result of an increase in the number of Auditor-General's Efficiency Audits reviewed and inquiries under the ADF reference.

FIGURE 2.1 COMMITTEE REPORTS TABLED 1976/77 - 1986/87



1710/1 1118 18/9 19/80 80/1 81/2 82/3 83/4 84/5 85/6 86/7 Fin.

Note: * Elections held during, 1982/83 and 1984/5 affected the number of reports tabled.

Source: Appendix E.

2.3 The remainder of this section comments upon reports in the following order:

Reports Arising from Auditor-General's Reports of General Audits undertaken

- Report 256 Forward Obligation of Government Expenditures
- Report 263 Aspects of Defence Equipment Support
- Report 270 Implementation of the Offsets Program
- Report 272 Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions

Reviews of Auditor-General's Efficiency Audits

- Report 250 Australia Post An Audit Discontinued
- Report 257 Administration of Quarantine Services
- Report 261 Review of Action Efficiency Audit
- Report 277 Four Efficiency Audits
- Report 280 Defence Science and Technology Organisation Task Cost Management

Inquiries under the ADP Standing Reference

- Report 254 Project DESINE Proposed Computer
 Acquisition by the Department of Defence
- Report 259 Department of Community Services Proposal to Acquire Computing Facilities

Response to the Committee's Reports - Department of Finance Minutes

- Report 258 Finance Minute on Report 229 Reports of the Auditor-General 1981/82 and September 1982
- Report 260 Finance Minute on Report 236 Medical Fraud and Overservicing - Pathology
- Report 265 Finance Minute on Report 232 Report of the Auditor-General 1983
- Report 266 Finance Minute on Report 239 Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance 1983-84
- Report 267 Finance Minute on Report 243 Review of Defence Project Management

- Report 268 Finance Minute on Report 244 Munitions Production Trust Account
- Report 269 Finance Minute on Report 247 Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance 1984-85
- Report 271 Finance Minute on Report 201 Administration of Bilateral Overseas Aid
- Report 273 Finance Minute on Report 240 Report of the Auditor-General 1984
- Report 274 Finance Minute on Report 233 Reports of the Auditor-General 1982-83 and September 1983
- Report 275 Finance Minute on Report 238 Public Hospitals in the Australian Capital Territory
- Report 276 Finance Minute on Report 250 Australia Post An Audit Discontinued
- Report 279 Finance Minute on Report 253 Proposed Computer Acquisition by the Australian Audit Office

Other Reports

- Report 255 Report of Activities January 1985 June 1986
- Report 262 Guidelines for Annual Reports
- Report 264 Public Accounts Committee and the Senate

Reports Arising from Auditor-General's Reports of General Audits undertaken

- 2.4 The Public Accounts Committee has a statutory duty to review the reports of the Auditor-General. These reports fall into two main categories traditional (or compliance) audits and efficiency audits. Traditional audits, generally known as financial and compliance audits or regularity audits, amount to checks as to legality of expenditure in the broadest sense, together with proper and correct accounting. In recent years these audits have become more comprehensive, including in their scope the adequacy of systems support and the achievement of objectives.
- 2.5 Committee inquiries may stem either directly or indirectly from the Auditor-General's reports or supplementary reports. The Committee, after reviewing the reports, may decide to inquire further into a specific matter mentioned in a report, or may choose to broaden the perspective of an inquiry to cover a wider area in the department or a similar function in a number of departments. These inquiries may lead in turn to other matters that the Committee feels warrant detailed investigation.

Report 256 - Forward Obligation of Government Expenditures

- 2.6 The Committee initiated an inquiry into the Forward Obligation of Government Expenditures following the finding, in the September 1985 Report of the Auditor-General, that significant weaknesses existed in several departments' forward obligations control systems.
- 2.7 The forward obligations system secures government approval to enter into expenditure commitments over a number of years and was introduced in its current form in 1976 to help rein in the rate of growth of government spending. The forward obligations procedures both allow departments to enter into future expenditure commitments and permit control of the extent of such commitments in order to limit budgetary 'lock-in'.
- 2.8 The Auditor-General found, among other things, that departments had not kept accurate records of forward obligation commitments, that monitoring by the Department of Finance was inadequate and that approved forward obligation limits had been substantially exceeded on a number of occasions.
- 2.9 The Committee concluded in its report that, while the forward obligations system was important for departments, it had limited value for overall budget strategy and control. The Committee also concluded that the purpose and operations of the system should be reviewed and redefined within a broader context than that adopted in the Auditor-General's September 1985 Report.
- 2.10 The Committee recommended that the regulatory framework arising from the review:
 - . specify that the system's main objective is to authorise departments to enter into certain categories of forward expenditure commitments; and
 - limit monitoring by the Department of Finance to cases where commitments may have a significant impact on overall budget outlays.
- 2.11 The Committee further recommended that the policy of devolving responsibility to departmental managers be given as much weight as possible in developing the details of the new regulatory arrangements. In particular, the Committee considered that the Department of Finance should monitor departments' global obligation limits rather than obligations at the program level.

Report 263 - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support

- 2.12 This report presented the findings of the Committee's inquiry into two aspects of Defence equipment support:
 - the supply of spares and ammunition (supply support); and

the provision of technical documentation for equipment operators and maintenance personnel.

Each aspect was dealt with in a separate volume of the report.

- 2.13 The inquiry was a follow up to the Review of Defence Project Management (Report 243) which noted shortcomings in the provision of initial spares and technical documentation and in equipment handover procedures in a number of major Defence projects.
- 2.14 In this inquiry the Committee found that while spares were generally sufficient to support current authorised operating and training levels, activities had on occasion been restricted by shortages. The Committee also doubted whether current stocks would be sufficient to support increased activity levels for some equipment items. Stocks of ammunition were not sufficient to meet the current practice and training allowances.
- 2.15 The Committee made 29 recommendations for action by the Department of Defence, the individual services, the Department of Finance and the Department of Local Government and Administrative Services to improve effectiveness and efficiency in the supply of spare parts and ammunition.
- 2.16 The second volume of the report, on Technical Documentation, presented the Committee's findings on the provision of technical documentation for equipment operators and maintenance.
- 2.17 This report made recommendations relating to the timeliness of supply of technical documentation, the adequacy of documentation and the revision and updating of technical documentation.
- 2.18 This volume also contained reports on a toxic gas accident on HMAS Stalwart and the Royal Australian Navy shipboard fire and gas control systems. The Committee believed that publication of the reports and responses was important in this instance because of public concern about accidents on HMAS Tobruk and HMAS Stalwart. The Committee considered that the Department of Defence should be publicly accountable on these matters.

Report 270 - Implementation of the Offsets Program

2.19 Report 270 presented the findings of the Committee's inquiry into the implementation of the offsets program. In 1984 two reports on the program were presented - the Auditor-General's Efficiency Audit on the Administration of the Offsets Policy and the report of the Committee of Review on Offsets (an independent committee of inquiry chaired by Sir Brian Inglis). The Government's acceptance of the majority of recommendations in the latter report that was the basis for the decision in January 1986 to make significant changes to the offsets program.

- 2.20 Under the offsets program major overseas suppliers who sell goods to the Commonwealth attract an offsets obligation to direct to Australian industry activities of technological significance, including manufacturing, export marketing and industrial research and development. In this way the Commonwealth can use its purchasing leverage to benefit Australian industry.
- 2.21 The offsets program's prime objective is to bring to Australian industry advanced technologies, skills and capabilities to meet goals of establishing internationally competitive activities within Australia and supporting industry defence capability objectives.
- 2.22 The Committee's findings centred on:
 - recognition that, as the offsets program impacts on only a small section of Australian industry, it was essential that Australian participation in the program be increased, both by increasing the number of Australian firms, particularly smaller firms, participating in the program, and by ensuring that overseas firms fulfil the offset obligation fully and in the agreed period;
 - concern about how technology transfer was valued when claimed as an offset;
 - examination of a number of administrative matters with recommendations made concerning the dual administration of the progam, lack of consultative mechanisms, and administrative discretion; and
 - concern about the inadequate record keeping of the offsets authorities and the distinct possibility that some outstanding obligations had not been fulfilled because of those poor records.
- 2.23 This last matter was of particular concern to the Committee. The Committee estimated that offsets obligations in the order of \$2 100 million could have been incurred in the period 1970-1980, although due to inadequate records it was not possible to either determine the amount with any certainty or ensure obligations were fulfilled.
- 2.24 The Committee was of the strong view that the success of the offsets program depended heavily on the completion of outstanding obligations. It recommended that the Department of Defence should report back to the Committee on work being undertaken to correct and update the records of the offsets authorities, together with work yet to be commenced, and the timetable for its implementation. The Committee also stated that it would continue to monitor the level and rate of discharge of all offsets obligations.

- Report 272 Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
- 2.25 In Report 241, Report of the Auditor-General 1983-84 and September 1984, the Committee concluded that many questions remained unanswered concerning the effectiveness of the Commonwealth's management of its extensive property holdings. The Committee was particularly concerned that, despite the creation of the Property Directorate in 1980, many of the problems identified in earlier reviews still existed. The Committee stated in that report that it would examine the wider issue of property management.
- 2.26 In general, the Committee concluded that the central problem with property administration appeared to be the complex and cumbersome procedures which had evolved as a result of the involvement of too many disparate organisations with overlapping areas of responsibility. This served to perpetuate and exacerbate delays in the delivery of property services. Further problems arose, both from the difficulties inherent in the budget process and from a lack of planning on the part of client departments.
- 2.27 The Committee felt that overall strategic control by a central co-ordinating body was necessary for the efficient functioning of property administration. However, allied to the retention of the central body was the streamlining of procedures, the precise determination of areas of responsibility and the devolution of financial responsibility and many of the more routine functions to clients.
- 2.28 The Committee felt that the central co-ordinating role currently performed by DOLGAS should continue to be the responsibility of that portfolio, with a Central Property Agency performing such a role where property matters are concerned.
- 2.29 The Committee therefore recommended that a Central Property Agency be the central body responsible for the administration of the Commonwealth's property functions, with overall policy control and responsibility for the management of the Commonwealth owned estate.
- 2.30 As a complement to the Central Property Agency, the Committee felt that there was a case for the devolution of full financial responsibility, including budget sponsorship, for property programs to clients.

Reviews of Auditor-General's Efficiency Audits

2.31 It is the statutory duty of the Public Accounts Committee to examine all the reports of the Auditor-General, including efficiency audits. However, some efficiency audits were examined by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Expenditure.

- 2.32 The Australian Audit Office received formal authority to conduct efficiency audits following amendment of the Audit Act in 1978. Efficiency auditing, as practised by the Audit Office, is concerned with the assessment of the efficiency of the administrative systems and processes employed by departments and agencies in the deployment and use of financial, staffing and other resources. It includes the procedures existing in the audited organisation for reviewing the efficiency and economy of its own operations in achieving the objectives specified by government.
- 2.33 When reviewing an efficiency audit, the Committee may examine both the substance of comments made in the Audit Office report as well as the manner in which the efficiency audit was carried out.

Report 250 - Australia Post - An Audit Discontinued1

- 2.34 This report outlines the findings of the Committee's 'Review of the Discontinuance of the Efficiency Audit of Australia Post Administration of Counter Services'. The efficiency audit of Australia Post's administration of counter services began in June 1980 and was discontinued by the then Auditor-General, Mr K F Brigden, in October 1984. It was one of the earliest efficiency audits conducted by the Australian Audit Office. It was also the longest and, to the end of financial year 1985/86, the most expensive.
- 2.35 Subsequent to the discontinuance of the audit, an informal draft report of the efficiency audit was disclosed to the media without authorisation. This resulted in allegations about the motives of the Auditor-General regarding his decision to discontinue the audit. On 20 June 1985 the Committee announced that it would review the circumstances surrounding the discontinuance of the efficiency audit of Australia Post's administration of counter services.
- 2.36 The Committee found that the duration of the efficiency audit could be attributed largely to serious management deficiencies which had existed in connection with the Efficiency Audit Division of the Australian Audit Office at the time of the audit. The Committee further found that the Auditor-General had the discretion to discontinue the efficiency audit. However, the Committee noted that the Auditor-General had yet to report reasons for discontinuance and cost details of the audit as required by the Audit Act 1901.
- 2.37 Certain other issues were raised during the inquiry which the Committee viewed as important. The terms of reference of this inquiry did not permit the Committee to undertake the detailed investigation that these issues warranted.

Report 257 - Administration of Quarantine Services

- 2.38 An efficiency audit was undertaken to review the effectiveness of the administration of quarantine functions by the Departments of Primary Industry and Health and controls exercised by those Departments over State Government agencies performing quarantine activities on the Commonwealth's behalf. The cost of providing quarantine services in 1984-85 was approximately \$36 million.
- 2.39 During the course of the initial audit, changes in the administrative arrangements occurred which included the transfer of some quarantine functions from the Department of Health to the Department of Primary Industry.
- 2.40 The Committee recognised that there would be a 'settling down' period for the Department of Primary Industry and a period of some uncertainty for the Department of Health (while the location of the functions of general quarantine was debated). Consequently the main aim of the inquiry was to review the management and organisational aspects of quarantine activities irrespective of their departmental location.
- 2.41 The Committee noted that many of the Auditor-General's criticisms of the administering departments' operating procedures had been addressed, with significant potential for improvements in the administration of quarantine services. Nevertheless the inquiry identified a number of areas that still required attention, the most important of which included:
 - full consultation with the states on the proposed Commonwealth/State Agreement;
 - the annual revision of fee schedules to ensure maximum cost recovery;
 - the integration of animal and plant quarantine functions; and
 - the requirement for a basic educational level and qualification for quarantine officers.
- 2.42 A number of other recommendations addressing the area of general quarantine were also identified.

Report 261 - Review of ACTION Efficiency Audit

2.43 Report 261 outlines the findings of the Committee's review of the Auditor-General's efficiency audit of Canberra's bus service, ACTION (Australian Capital Territory Internal Omnibus Network).

See p 29 below for Report 276 - Finance Minute on Report 250 and p 41 below for discussion of issues arising from this inquiry.

- 2.44 The Committee's report details findings and conclusions on a wide range of issues. These include:
 - performance standards:
 - strategic planning;
 - management information systems;
 - ACTION independence;
 - fare structures;
 - school bus services;
 - shift arrangements;
 - resource scheduling; and
 - bus acquisition policy.
- 2.45 The Committee noted that while the Auditor-General found ACTION to be providing services that are reliable, comfortable and generally of a high standard, there were significant problems which prevented ACTION maximising efficiency. The Committee was of the view that ACTION's lack of suitable information systems and its administrative location within the Department of Territories were fundamental to many of its problems. ACTION did not appear to have full control of and responsibility for its operations.
- 2.46 The Committee recommended that steps be taken to form ACTION into a ministerially accountable authority to serve the public transport needs of Canberra.
- 2.47 The Committee also made a number of more specific recommendations regarding ACTION's operations. The more important of these were:
 - that the relevant Government agencies develop a strategy and seek bodies wishing to school bus services;
 - that ACTION conduct a detailed examination of split shifts and part-time drivers in consultation with the Transport Workers Union;
 - that ACTION develop a methodology for estimating the economic life of its bus fleet, and use it to estimate the expected life of the various types of buses in its fleet; and
 - that ACTION record in its annual report progress towards incorporating the full cost of ACTION services in recommendations for fare variations.

Report 277 - Four Efficiency Audits

- 2.48 Report 277 reviewed four early efficiency audits of the Auditor-General. These were:
 - the administration of the <u>Export Development Grants</u> <u>Act</u> 1974 by the Export Development Grants Board;
 - the Special Youth Employment Training Program of the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations;
 - widows' pensions and supporting parents benefits of the Department of Social Security; and
 - service and disability pension schemes by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- 2.49 A significant period of time elapsed from the date the Auditor-General tabled his findings in these reports and the date of the request for the individual departments to provide submissions, and a number of events occurred in that period. These were:
 - the abolition of the Export Development Grants Board and the creation of the Australian Trade Commission which took over responsibility for the administration of the Export Market Development Grants Scheme;
 - . the introduction of a new integrated wage subsidy program called JOBSTART which subsumed the Special Youth Employment Training Program;
 - the introduction by the Department of Social Security of the direct credit method of payment for social security benefits and the wider implementation of the National Overpayments Action Plan by that Department; and
 - the replacement of the Repatriation Act with the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986, which has clarified the legislative provisions under which the Department administers the service pension and disability pension schemes.
- 2.50 These events meant that the Audit findings were of less ongoing relevance. The Committee noted that, in the case of the Special Youth Employment Training Program, Audit's findings and recommendations regarding the deficiencies of that program appeared to have had considerable impact on the revised JOBSTART program.
- 2.51 In view of the above, the Committee decided that departments concerned would not be required to respond via the Department of Finance Minute.

Report 280 - Defence Science and Technology Organisation - Task Cost Management

- 2.52 This report reviews the Auditor-General's efficiency audit on task cost management in the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO). The Auditor-General's report revealed inadequacies in procedures for estimating, allocating and controlling the use of resources within DSTO. These inadequacies combined with the absence of an effective management information system at DSTO's central office, reduced management's ability to monitor and control the deployment of resources effectively at laboratory level.
- 2.53 DSTO has been the subject of several reviews since 1979 with the result that at the time of the audit DSTO was addressing a number of shortcomings identified by the Auditor-General. The Committee noted that the Department of Defence had action, or was taking action, on the Auditor-General's recommendations.
- 2.54 During inspections of the five major DSTO research laboratories, in Melbourne and Salisbury, South Australia, a range of matters were raised with the Committee including the maketing of DSTO's research and development. Two of the options proposed to overcome the Department of Defence's shortcomings in this area were:
 - AEROTECH a private company which would have the skills to act as an agent for the Aeronautical Research Laboratories (ARL) with the aerospace industry. It would retain a percentage of the gross revenue generated by contracts it had arranged and the balance would provide the resources for the AEROTECH programs undertaken by ARL and other sub-contractors; and
 - The 'Ferret' System similar to a system operating in the UK Ministry of Defence. Representatives of private companies would work in DSTO laboratories looking for research and development tasks with commercial potential. The companies would arrange with industry to develop and manufacture the technology with a percentage of the resulting profit going to the laboratory.
- 2.55 The Committee recommended the implementation of the AEROTECH proposal, provided that the company be viable. It also recommended that the Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce investigate the UK system and its applicability to Australian conditions.

Inquiries under ADP Reference

2.56 In June 1984 Parliament gave the Committee a reference on major ADP acquisitions by Commonwealth departments and authorities staffed under the <u>Public Service Act</u> 1922. This lapsed with the dissolution of Parliament in December 1984 but was renewed in mid 1985 when it was made a standing reference to the Committee.

- 2.57 The intention, as explained by the Minister for Finance when he moved the motion in 1984, was to have independent scrutiny of proposals outside the Budget cycle and well before commitment of financial and other resources. The issues listed for particular attention included:
 - needs;
 - costs and benefits;
 - . risks;
 - employment considerations;
 - . Australian Industry Participation; and
 - industrial issues.
- 2.58 Under the current terms of reference, following agreement to a proposal by the Minister concerned, Cabinet refers the matter to the Public Accounts Committee for review and report. In examining acquisition proposals, the Committee undertakes detailed investigations which may involve public hearings inspections and the receipt of expert advice. The departmental secretary is expected to appear at hearings to answer questions on the system and its expected impact on the department. The issues listed above are used as a basis for the Committee's review. On completion of its investigations, the Committee reports to Parliament. It may also report to Parliament during the inquiry.

Report 254 - PROJECT DESINE - Proposed Computer Acquisition by the Department of Defence

- 2.59 Report 254 presents the findings of the Committee's examination of proposed administrative computer facilities by the Department of Defence and in particular, a proposal for Project DESINE, (Defence ADP Systems Integrated Network Environment).
- 2.60 Project DESINE involves the expenditure of more than \$300 million, including the costs of 3300 work years of development effort over the next 10 years. The Department of Defence proposed:
 - to decentralise administrative computing systems and to establish a standard computing environment for those systems (the DESINE Strategy);
 - to implement two major redevelopment projects, under the DESINE Strategy, called the Supply and Manpower Systems Redevelopment Projects; and
 - to establish a five year period contract with a prime contractor to set up a standard computing environment and to supply equipment and software for these major redevelopment projects.

- 2.61 The Committee concluded that, given the size, complexity and duration of the DESINE redevelopment projects, the only satisfactory approach was to plan, cost/benefit justify, obtain funding approval and implement each sub-project of the DESINE projects in turn. To this end the Committee recommended that a phased implementation and procurement strategy be adopted for Project DESINE. The Committee believed that the initiation of each sub-project should be considered in the light of a review of the preceding sub-projects.
- 2.62 The Department of Defence proposal involved the letting of a single period contract for the supply of a 'network architecture' to provide the basis for its computing standards, followed by implementation quantities of equipment and software conforming with those standards.
- 2.63 The Committee recommended that a two-stage tendering process be employed to ensure that a satisfactory 'network architecture' was supplied and satisfactory standards established before large quantities of equipment were purchased.
- 2.64 The Committee believed this recommendation would reduce the risk of major cost overruns, increase competition in the tendering for separate supply requirements and increase the opportunity for Australian firms to participate in the project.
- 2.65 The Committee believed that Project DESINE offered major opportunities for the development of the Australian computing industry and recommended that special measures be taken to ensure this opportunity was not missed.
- 2.66 The Committee also reviewed two other, quite separate, proposals by the Department of Defence to purchase computing equipment for the Office of Defence Production and to purchase small, stand-alone computing systems. The Committee gave qualified support to the former but did not support the latter proposal.
- Report 259 Department of Community Services Proposal to Acquire Computing Facilities $\,$
- 2.67 The Department's proposal involved the acquisition of a distributed computing network comprising minicomputer processors for each state and territory office linked to a moderately sized mainframe or two minicomputer processors in its Central Office. Microcomputer workstations would be linked to the host computer in the state or territory to provide access for staff. The proposal was estimated to cost about \$20 million for hardware and system software over three years and a further \$6.1 million per annum for other costs.
- 2.68 The report notes that the Committee's initial review of the Department's submission identified several major areas of concern about the proposal. These were communicated to the Department which subsequently provided supplementary information to the Committee.

- 2.69 The Committee's primary concerns related to:
 - definition of the system requirements;
 - consideration of options for meeting system requirements; and
 - . estimates of costs.
- 2.70 The Committee also had concerns about a general presumption in the Department of Community Services' submission that it had a right to an 'autonomous' computing capability simply by virtue of its existence as a department.
- 2.71 The Committee concluded that the Department had not demonstrated that its preferred option was cost effective and concluded further that there were other less ambitious, less costly, and potentially more cost effective options which the Department could have evaluated.
- 2.72 The Committee considered that Cabinet funding approval should not be given to the Department of Community Services to acquire computing facilities until detailed studies recommended in the report had been completed and the Department had demonstrated to Cabinet that it was proposing the most cost effective means of meeting its information requirements.
- 2.73 The Committee noted in the report that in its review of previous ADP acquisition proposals it had found repeated attempts by the Committee to elicit satisfactory answers and information from proponent departments had generally not justified the associated time and effort expended by the Committee. The Committee stated that in future it would take the view that if initial submissions to the Committee were not satisfactory, and the subsequent communication of the Committee's concerns to the proponent departments did not elicit a satisfactory response, the Committee would report its views to Parliament without further delay.
- 2.74 In the case of the Department of Community Services' proposal, the Committee decided that it should state its outstanding concerns to Parliament to enable the Department to respond to these concerns in a further submission to Cabinet as soon as possible.

Response to the Committee's Reports - Department of Finance Minutes

2.75 Under a procedure introduced in 1978, the Government provides a response to most parliamentary committee reports within three months of the presentation of such reports. The Public Accounts Committee uses what is termed a Department of Finance Minute procedure for the formal presentation of the Government's response to a Committee report. This was established in 1952.

- 2.76 As soon as a Committee report has been tabled, the Minister for Finance refers it to his Department which co-ordinates the preparation of a response to the Committee.
- 2.77 While the Committee often makes specific suggestions and recommendations, it appreciates that other factors not canvassed in its inquiry may need to be taken into account when responding to a report. If the Committee is satisfied with the response it receives, it tables the Department of Finance Minute, together with its own comments, as a Committee report. However, the Committee may seek further information prior to presenting a report to Parliament.
- Report 258 Finance Minute on Report 229 Reports of the Auditor-General of 1981/82 and September 1982.
- 2.78 Report 229 covered 18 issues in 11 departments. The most significant issues were the inactive internal audit function of the Department of Communications, disagreement between the Australian Dairy Corporation and the Australian Audit Office over audit fees, and telephone rental concessions, which concerned the Departments of Social Security, Veterans' Affairs, and the Australian Telecommunications Commission.
- 2.79 The Committee was generally satisfied with the response to Report 229, but qualified this by requesting the Auditor-General to further review some issues relating to the Department of Communications internal audit function in his next report to Parliament.
- Report 260 Finance Minute on Report 236 Medical Fraud and Overservicing Pathology
- 2.80 This was the last report of the Committee's medical fraud and overservicing inquiry. The Committee welcomed the introduction of legislation to tackle pathology laboratory accreditation, the creation of mechanisms to review the performance of excessive pathology services and the revision of s.129 of the Health Insurance Act, which covers false statements for Medicare benefits.
- 2.81 The Committee noted that the Finance Minute contained insufficient detail relating to the underlying management systems required to implement the above changes.
- Report 265 Finance Minute on Report 232 Report of the Auditor-General May 1983
- 2.82 Report 232 contained the results of audits into matters affecting the Departments of Aviation, Communications, Industry, Technology and Commerce, Local Government and Administrative Services, Primary Industry, Social Security and Trade.

- 2.83 Two items raised important questions concerning the functions of the Auditor-General, particularly in relation to commercially trading public enterprises. These were the Australian Industry Development Corporation's purchase and subsequent delayed sale of a Sydney apartment and Qantas Airways sale of the Wentworth Hotel and the sale of shares in Qantas Wentworth Holdings Limited.
- 2.84 The Committee felt that the differing perception of the role of the Auditor-General and the bounds of his responsibilities needed clarification. However, at the time (1985) the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Expenditure was undertaking an inquiry into the general issue of efficiency reviews in the public sector. The Committee felt that it would decide whether or not to pursue the matter after examination of that report, which has not yet been presented.
- 2.85 The Committee has been receiving regular advice from the Minister for Social Security outlining the measures aimed at reducing social security overpayments, and the results of the implementation of such measures.
- 2.86 These measures collectively form the National Overpant Action Plan, which is an integrated approach to the prevention, detection, investigation, calculation and recovery of overpanments. It involves:
 - clearing up as much of the existing debt as possible;
 - · preventing future overpayments; and
 - improving the means of identifying and investigating fraud and overpayments.
- 2.87 The Committee noted that comparative figures on overpayments and recoveries over the last three financial years showed an overall increase in the level of recoveries as a result of an increase in the percentage of written-off debts. The Committee was concerned that the Department demonstrate the improvement that the implementation of the new procedures would have on the level of recoveries vis-a-vis overpayments without the relatively high level of write-off evident in 1985/86 and requested the Department to provide to the Auditor-General quarterly reports on the effects on recovery of overpayments as a result of the National Overpayments Action Plan.

- Report 266 Finance Minute on Report 239 Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance 1983-84
- 2.88 Report 239 dealt with the use of the Advance to the Minister for Finance for 1983-84. The Committee examined three items in detail:
 - . Department of Defence Salaries;
 - Department of Education and Youth Affairs Grants, Subsidies and Allowances to Independent Schools; and
 - Department of Territories and Local Government -Salaries.
- 2.89 In responding to the report, the Department of Defence stated that pay office staff had been thoroughly briefed on Departmental requirements and were counselled about their failure to follow procedures for promptly remitting tax instalments. The Department also advised that tax remittances were now up to date and that improvements in costing and financial management systems now provide greater management control of these matters.
- 2.90 Under revised administrative arrangements, responsibility for payment of grants, subsidies and allowances to non-Government schools in the ACT was transferred to the Department of Territories and Local Government in December 1985. The Department advised that territorial recurrent grants were now needs based, rather than being based on statistical information from the states. This meant that problems caused by the late submission of this information would no longer occur.
- 2.91 In relation to the last item, the Department of Territories and Local Government advised that remedial action had substantially improved salaries management and noted that it was not necessary to draw on the Advance in 1984-85 or 1985-86.
- Report 267 Finance Minute on Report 243 Review of Defence Project Management
- 2.92 This report presented the Government's response to the Committee's report on the management of major capital equipment acquisitions by the Department of Defence. The Committee made 68 recommendations, 50 of which were accepted.

- 2.93 The Committee was concerned that a number of important recommendations were not accepted or only partially accepted. These relate to:
 - . the scrutiny of major Defence equipment proposals:
 - contracting matters;
 - the selection of senior project management personnel; and
 - reporting to Parliament on the Defence capital equipment program.
- 2.94 The Committee claimed the reasons advanced for the rejection or qualified acceptance of these recommendations were unsatisfactory and strongly urged that the recommendations be reconsidered.
- 2.95 The Committee stated that it intends to monitor Defence project management, in particular the following two measures to be taken by the Department:
 - action to reduce the unacceptably long recruitment lead times for civilian project managers and staff in the Department; and
 - the Department's proposed investigation of the feasibility of introducing a comprehensive resource costing system.

Report 268 - Finance Minute on Report 244 - Munitions Production Trust Account

- 2.96 Report 268 contains the response to Report 244, which was the result of an inquiry into the Munitions Production Trust Account (MPTA) following unfavourable comments in the Auditor-General's September 1984 Report.
- 2.97 The MPTA was a holding account which financed the production of munitions by enabling factories to be reimbursed for production in advance of payment from the Department of Defence or overseas customers. The Committee found that the MPTA had not been managed well over recent years with financial records being loss and important procedures not followed. The Committee concluded that there was no cogent reason for continuing the MPTA and recommended that it be abolished and a report on consequential arrangements produced. The Committee also recommended that the level of reporting on trust accounts be improved so as to provide more detailed information to Parliament on their financial operations and position.

- 2.98 The Departments of Finance and Defence agreed with the recommendation to abolish the MPTA and set out in their response the action they proposed to take. With respect to the recommendation concerning reporting on trust accounts, the Department of Finance referred to proposed changes to the 'Guidelines for the Preparation of Departmental Annual Reports'. The guidelines are analysed in the Committee's 262nd Report.
- Report 269 Finance Minute on Report 247 Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance 1984-85
- 2.99 Report 247 detailed the use of the Advance to the Minister for Finance for 1984-85. The Committee investigated in detail the following two items:
 - . Department of Aviation Aerodrome Local Ownership Plan Maintenance Grant; and
 - Department of Defence Defence Shipbuilding Other Expenses.
- 2.100 The Department of Aviation sought additional funding from the Advance because of the rendering of accounts under the Aerodrome Local Ownership Plan which had not been predicted. The Department subsequently reviewed and enhanced the process of estimating and monitoring expenditure under the plan.
- 2.101 The Department of Defence obtained additional funding from the Advance in order to reimburse a revenue shortfall in the Williamstown Dockyard trust account. The Committee was not satisfied that the criteria for use of the Advance, ie to meet urgent and unforeseeable expenditures, were met in this case. The fact that the Department's Central Office was unaware of the likelihood of a very large shortfall until May 1985 indicated a disturbing lack of liaison between the Williamstown Dockyard, the Office of Defence Production (which was responsible for the Dockyard) and the Department's Central Office.
- 2.102 The Department advised that resource management procedures were now in place which would improve controls over revenue and expenditure. The Committee noted that it would again look at the operation of the Williamstown Dockyard trust account when it came to review the Auditor-General's March 1986 Report.
- Report 271 Finance Minute on Report 201 Administration of Bilateral Overseas Aid
- 2.103 The Committee's comments in this report were brief due to the occurrence of significant administrative and policy changes in the area of overseas aid. This area had also been the subject of parliamentary and Government inquiries before the presentation of this report to the Parliament.

- 2.104 The most important items dealt with in the report are arrangements for grants to Papua New Guinea and the re-organisation of the Australian Development Assistance Bureau to give it greater autonomy within the Department of Foreign Affairs.
- Report 273 Finance Minute on Report 240 Report of the Auditor-General March 1984
- 2.105 Report 240, tabled on 28 November 1985, dealt with 19 issues relating to 16 departments and statutory authorities. The items raised in the Committee's earlier report largely elicited a satisfactory response in Report 273. Of the outstanding matters the most significant were telephone rental concessions to pensioners and the National Biological Standards Laboratory (NBSL).
- 2.106 In Report 240 the Committee expressed concern that the matter of telephone rental concessions to pensioners remained unresolved. The Committee was satisfied with the discount voucher system being introduced, but recognised that the system needed to be tested in practice. The Committee was aware of concerns expressed by representative organisations.
- 2.107 In relation to the NBSL, the Committee was concerned that insufficient and inadequate resources prevented the laboratory from carrying out its functions effectively. This, together with other available information, prompted the Committee to embark upon a public inquiry into the NBSL.
- Report 274 Finance Minute on Report 233 Reports of the Auditor-General 1982-83 and September 1983
- 2.108 Report 233, tabled on 29 May 1985, contained the results of the Committee's inquiry following audits into the Attorney-General's Department, the Departments of Administrative Services, Aviation, Finance, Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Industry and Commerce, Territories and Local Government, and Transport and the Australian Taxation Office. The Committee also examined the fraudulent negotiation of cheques and the recovery of outstanding revenue, debts and overpayments.
- 2.109 Generally the Committee was satisfied with the undertakings offered by departments. In its reponse to the Finance Minute, the Committee highlighted a number of matters requiring further attention:
 - the Committee undertook to examine further some aspects of the administration of the <u>Bankruptcy Act</u> 1966 by the Attorney-General's Department;
 - the Committee will continue to review progress in the implementation of recommendations regarding the administration of the dividends and interest withholding tax;

- two matters of providing feedback about cases of fraudulent negotiation of cheques referred to the Australian Federal Police were yet to be completed;
- the Committee noted that the Department of Finance had undertaken to provide to the Committee results of a survey of departments' cash management practices, in response to the Committee's recommendation that there be guidelines for the recovery of outstanding revenue, debts and overpayments.
- Report 275 Finance Minute on Report 238 Public Hospitals in the Australian Capital Territory
- 2.110 Report 238, tabled on 25 November 1985, outlined the findings of the Committee's inquiry into an efficiency audit on the administration of public hospitals by the Australian Capital Territory Health Authority.
- 2.111 The Committee was satisfied with the response to this report. Of the 27 recommendations for action to improve planning of hospital services, clinical administration and hospital resource management, 25 were implemented, or were in the process of being implemented, by the Authority. The other two recommendations, one referring to review of liaison arrangements and the other regarding the processing of by-laws, were rejected by the Authority on the grounds that:
 - the liason arrangements were not considered to be excessive; and
 - .- the absence of by-laws was not considered to be an impediment to the management of Authority hospitals.
- 2.112 The Committee noted that new admission and discharge policies have been adopted and guidelines on elective admission priorities have been introduced. Two new committees have also been established in the clinical administration field and community representatives are now included on the Authority and its Boards. The Committee also noted that the Authority was installing two new computer systems. The Computerised Administrative Hospital Information System (CAHIS) would enable the Authority to compare length of stay figures for major resource consuming operations and conditions to identify potential inefficiencies. The Human Resources Management System (HRMIS) would enable the Authority to review staff usage in relation to workload and identify details of staff usage in individual departments.

- Report 276° Finance Minute on Report 250 Australia Post An Audit Discontinued 2
- 2.113 The Committee was generally satisfied with the Response to Report 250, with eight of its ten recommendations accepted. However, the Auditor-General took a different view to the Committee in respect of the reporting provisions of s 48F (1) of the Audit Act 1901, to which the other two recommendations referred.
- 2.114 The Committee noted the circumstances surrounding this particular audit and acknowledged that a number of operational and administrative changes had occurred in the Australian Audit Office since that time. However, the Committee is of the view that, as a matter of principle, all efficiency audits should be the subject of a report and accordingly reiterated its initial conclusions.
- Report 279 Finance Minute on Report 253 Proposed Computer Acquisition by the Australian Audit Office
- 2.115 Report 279 contains the response to Report 244, which was the result of the Committee's first inquiry under the terms of its ADP standing reference.
- 2.116 While the Committee concluded that the acquisition proposed by the Australian Audit Office (AAO) was justified, the recommendations of Report 253 emphasised the need for greater scrutiny of ADP acquisition proposals both by senior management of the proponent agency and by the co-ordinating agencies involved. The report also stressed the responsibilities of the heads of acquiring organisations, and of the Department of Finance, to ensure that the performance and benefits of these facilities were monitored and periodically reviewed.
- 2.117 The Committee was generally satisfied with the response but was concerned that the Department of Finance did not see a greater role for itself in monitoring the performance of ADP projects once funding had been approved. The Committee also felt that supplementary information provided by the AAO concerning post implementation review of the proposed facilities was insufficiently detailed. The Committee expects the Department of Finance to pay close attention to the conduct of this review when further funding is requested.
- 2.118 Report 253 also contains recommendations concerning the 'Guidelines for ADP Acquisition', promulgated by the Department of Local Government and Administrative Services. The guidelines were still being revised when Report 279 was presented and the Committee will consider them at a later date.

For Report 250 see p 14. This issue is also canvassed in more detail in the following chapter - see page 41 below.

Other Reports

2.119 These reports are generally of a procedural or administrative nature or in response to statutory requirements other than under the Public Accounts Committee Act. In past years the Committee has also drawn the Parliament's attention to significant issues by means of discussion papers. These reports are not subject to responses in the form of Department of Finance Minutes.

Report 255 - Report of Activities January 1985 to June 1986.

- 2.120 Report 255 documented the Committee's activities for the eighteen month period 1 January 1985 to 30 June 1986. It contained brief summaries of the reports tabled during the period together with details of the history, role and activities of the Public Accounts Committee.
- 2.121 The report noted the Committee has faced an increasing workload over the last few years and in particular, throughout the period reviewed in this report. Because the demands on Members and Senators are considerable, the Committee endeavoured to modify its method of operation to deal with this increasing workload. An example is reviewing some matters raised in reports of the Auditor-General by submission only.

Report 262 - Guidelines for Annual Reports

- 2.122 This report provides comments and recommendations by the Committee on guidelines for the preparation of Departmental Annual Reports, in accordance with s.25 of the Public Service Act 1922.
- 2.123 On 1 September 1986 the Prime Minister forwarded the proposed guidelines, to replace the 1982 guidelines, for consideration by the Committee. The guidelines reflect changed requirements as a result of the Government's recent Public Service reform measures such as the financial management improvement program, industrial democracy and equal employment opportunity.
- 2.124 The Committee recommended the inclusion in the guidelines of several clauses which it believed would increase the accountability of departments and place emphasis on the performance aspects of departmental activities.

Report 264 - Public Accounts Committee and the Senate³

2.125 Report 264 examined the question of concurrent sittings of the Public Accounts Committee and the Senate. It was presented in order to make known the Committee's position on this question, which was raised in a report of the Senate Standing Orders Committee tabled in the Senate on 6 October 1983.

2.126 Disagreement had arisen because of Senate Standing Order 300, which states that no Select Committee may sit during sittings of the Senate. There are no such restrictions in the House of Representatives Standing Orders. The report of the Senate Standing Orders Committee Claimed that the Public Accounts Committee must adhere to this Standing Order. Legal advice from three authoritative sources indicated that the Committee, being a statutory committee, is bound only by its own statutory requirements under the Public Accounts Committee Act 1951.

Other Activities

- 2.127 In addition to tasks associated with specific inquiries and reports, the Committee was involved in seminars and meetings with the goals of:
 - increasing awareness of the role of public accounts committees and related issues of public sector accountability; and
 - broadening the Committee members' and Secretariat staff's knowledge of relevant issues.
- 2.128 The Committee has a further responsibility of reviewing amendments to the <u>Audit Act</u> 1901. All proposed amendments are submitted by the Department of Finance, prior to inclusion in any legislation, for the Committee's approval. This is in accord with Section 8(1)(c) of the Public Accounts Committee Act 1951.

1987 Biennial Conference of Public Accounts Committees

- 2.129 The Fifth Biennial Conference of Commonwealth and State Public Accounts Committees was held in Sydney in May 1987. The theme of the conference was 'Government A Big Business'. The Conference agenda dealt with a number of issues relating to the public sector, including:
 - accounting standards;
 - . accountability;
 - accrual accounting:
 - asset replacement; and
 - improving the financial decision making and accountability of government.
- 2.130 The conference was attended by some 65 delegates, observers and guest speakers, including observers from Queensland. Mr R Tickner (Chairman), Senator J Watson (Vice-Chairman), and Mr P Ruddock represented the Committee at the conference. Mr Talberg (Secretary), Ms Malmberg and Mrs Mills from the Secretariat also attended.

This issue is canvassed in more detail in the following chapter - see p 35 below.

- 2.131 Mr Tickner addressed the conference on the activities of the Committee since the last conference (July 1985). He spoke on the Standing Reference on Major ADP Acquisition Proposals, discussing the Committee's role, current inquiries and past reports. He also explained the nature of this reference, in that the ADP proposals are examined before their implementation, rather than from the traditional ex-post standpoint. Mr Tickner also priefly discussed major reports including Medical Fraud and Overservicing, Review of Defence Project Management, Review of the Commonwealth's Property Functions and the Implementation of the Offsets Program.
- 2.132 The Queensland delegates addressed the conference on progress being made towards the establishment of a public accounts committee in their state parliament. Queensland parliamentarians who support establishment of a public accounts committee have used contacts made with other committees and information gathered from them to further debate on the issue. The delegates stated that a climate has developed in their state in which there is a freer exchange of information between political parties about matters relating to the campaign for the establishment of a public accounts committee. The other delegates to the conference, including the Commonwealth, gave their full support to the delegates from Queensland in their efforts to bring about the establishment of a public accounts committee in that state.

Visit by the Executive of the Institute of Chartered Accountants

- 2.133 On Wednesday 1 April 1987, the Secretariat received a visit by Mr Geoff Cohen, Mr Ken Spencer and Mr Vic Prosser, respectively President, Deputy President and Executive Director of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, to discuss a number of matters of mutual interest to the Institute and the Public Accounts Committee.
- 2.134 High on the agenda was the issue of accounting standards. The Committee's 199th Report A Discussion Paper on the Form and Standard of Financial Statements for Commonwealth Undertakings and the subsequent Finance Minute (Report 210) resulted in the establishment of a new body, the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board. Discussion centered around extending the standards to government departments and any implications for taffing and training. This led to the financial reporting aspects of the Committee's 262nd Report on Guidelines for Departmental Annual Reports.
- 2.135 Other matters of interest were the procedures for appointing auditors to various government agencies, including the Auditor-General's Office itself, and the availability of specialist advice to the Committee, either through the Public Service Board's Interchange Scheme or on a consulting basis.

Briefing on US ADP Acquisition Procedures

- 2.136 As background to its ADP Standing Reference, the Committee was briefed on 6 May 1987 by Mr John Allan, Program Manager, IBM Asia Pacific and Americas Group. Mr Allan met the Committee as part of an assignment to visit most world countries to explain the United States Federal Government acquisition process, including tender evaluation models.
- 2.137 The briefing covered the changing role of the General Services Administration (GSA) in the acquisition of Federal Government information systems as well as the changes to the Brooks Act, the legislation which governs the acquisition process. Mr Allan noted that:
 - the GSA had responsibility for formulating and distributing regulations and directives to Government agencies. The agencies had responsibility for the actual purchase of equipment;
 - the evaluation process had developed from one where cost was the sole determinent to a flexible model which allowed for consideration of a wide range of management and technical issues. Potential tenderers were fully informed of the basis on which their tenders would be evaluated; and
 - decisions were appealable.

CHAPTER 3

ISSUES ARISING FROM THE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES

General Matters

3.1 In addition to those issues related to specific inquiries or duties of the Committee (detailed later in this chapter) were some matters which affected the Committee's operations in general.

Public Accounts Committee and the Senate

- 3.2 In October 1983 the Senate Standing Orders Committee (SOC) reported to the Senate on a number of matters, including whether the Public Accounts Committee could hold meetings while the Senate was sitting. The Public Accounts Committee disagreed with the findings of the SOC. The Committee believed the issue affected the ability of the Committee to perform its functions and decided that it should make its opinion known formally.
- 3.3 The basis of the disagreement was that the Senate believed that the Committee had no right to sit during Senate sittings without the authority of the Senate. On the other hand, the Committee believed it had a statutory right, under s.6A(1) of the <u>Public Accounts Committee Act</u> 1951, to sit whenever it determined.
- 3.4 The Committee was of the view that it would encounter extreme difficulties in arranging sufficient meetings to enable it to carry out its program without coinciding with Senate sittings. Prior to September 1983 the Committee, as a matter of courteey, had sought the Senate's authority to sit during Senate sittings but authority was not always given. The Committee's practice of seeking authority ceased in September 1983.
- 3.5 The matter was brought to a head on 17 September 1986 when a public hearing of the Committee was adjourned prematurely after a message was received from the President of the Senate that it was not lawful for the Committee to meet while the Senate was in session.
- 3.6 The SOC's argument that the Committee was not entitled to sit without the Senate's authority was based on Senate Standing Order 300 which states:

A Select Committee may adjourn from time to time, and, by Order of the Senate, from place to place; and

may sit on those days over which the Senate is adjourned; but no Select committee may sit during the sittings of the Senate.

- 3.7 However, the Committee believed it had legislative authority to determine when it sits under sub-section 6A(1)of the Public Accounts Committee Act 1951 which provides:
 - 6A(1) The Committee may meet at such times and at such places within Australia as the Committee, by resolution, determines or, resolution of the Committee, as the Chairman determines, but shall not meet at any place outside Australia.
- 3.8 The Committee obtained advice on this matter from the Attorney-General's Department, the then Attorney-General, Senator the Hon. Gareth Evans QC, and the Hon. Justice Paul Toose CBE QC. All opinions were to the effect that the Committee is not a select committee of the Senate and that therefore Senate Standing Order 300 does not apply to it. The opinions advised that the Committee is a statutory committee and, accordingly, is regulated solely by the terms of the statute under which it was established.
- 3.9 A problem has never arisen with the House of Representatives on the question of concurrent sittings because that House has no standing order similar to Senate Standing Order 300 and maintains a policy of allowing committees to meet while it is sitting.
- 3.10 In its report 'The Fublic Accounts Committee and the Senate', the Committee stated that in view of the legal advice it had received and its heavy workload, the Committee believed it had no option but to meet at such times as it deemed necessary. Further, it expressed the hope that the Committee's meeting times would not inconvenience the Senate, and both the Committee and the Senate would be able to carry out their functions effectively.
- 3.11 This report was tabled in Parliament on 19 March 1987. During debate, the recommendations were endorsed by both current and past members of the Committee. The Senate debate on the report was adjourned pending a response to the report from the Senate Standing Orders Committee. To date, the Committee has not been advised of a response.

Departmental Submissions and Responses to Recommendations

3.12 During the past year the Committee has again felt it necessary to comment on matters relating to the interaction between the Committee and departments. Specifically, the quality of submissions to the Committee has again been raised, and the Committee also felt it necessary to express concern about departmental responses to its recommendations.

- 3.13. In Report 255, Report of Activities January 1985- June 1986, the Committee commented that some submissions had provided inadequate or ambiguous information. The Committee had therefore been obliged to seek additional clarifying information from departments and to question witnesses in great detail at hearings. The Committee further stated that ambiguous or generalised responses were a serious affirent to the principle of parliamentary accountability, and also that in some cases the poor standard of submissions had slowed the inquiry process. This was particularly so with some ADP proposals.
- 3.14 The Committee again raised this issue in Report 259 Department of Community Services-Proposal to Acquire Computing Facilities. In this inquiry the Committee had a need for supplementary information. In the preface to this report, the Committee commented on the general standard of submissions and stated that in future the Committee would be taking the view that if initial submissions to the Committee were not satisfactory, and the subsequent communication of the Committee's concerns to the proponent departments did not elicit a satisfactory response, the Committee would report its views to Parliament without further delay.
- 3.15 With regard to responses to Committee recommendations, the Committee took the opportunity during the tabling speech for Report 273, the Finance Minute on Report 240, to express its serious concern at the length of time taken to respond to the findings in Committee reports and the growing number of matters which remained outstanding. The Committee expressed particular concern that in some instances departments were taking an inordinate amount of time to deal with specific and immediate administrative problems identified by the Committee, particularly when raised previously by the Auditor-General. Accordingly, the Committee stated that it expects a more determined effort from departments to ensure timeliness in dealing with and responding to the findings of the Committee.

Additional Committee Duties

3.16 As well as those duties set out in section 8(1) of the Fublic Accounts Committee Act 1951, the Committee has been assigned duties under other Acts of Parliament. These matters were reported on in the Report of Activities January 1985 - June 1986 (Report 255). Progress on these matters is as follows.

Guidelines on the Format and Content of Annual Reports

3.17 Annual reports of Commonwealth Government departments are prepared under sub-section 25(6) of the <u>Public Service Act</u> 1922 and must be in accordance with guidelines from time to time presented to Parliament by the Prime Minister after approval by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts.

- 3.18 On 27 November 1986 the Public Accounts Committee tabled its 262nd Report, on guidelines for annual reports. This report was prepared after the Committee received proposed guidelines from the Prime Minister to replace the 1982 guidelines. The Committee received revised draft guidelines from the Prime Minister on 27 May 1987 requesting that the Committee consider the revised guidelines.
- 3.19 The Committee noted that until certain amendments were made to the <u>Audit Act</u> 1901 it would not be possible to incorporate some of the Committee's recommendations on financial reporting requirements as set out in its 262nd Report. As it is likely that the guidelines will need further modifications during the phasing-in period of the new financial reporting arrangements, the Committee will comment further on those modifications at the appropriate time.
- 3.20 Further, the Committee was strongly of the view that departments and authorities should report in their annual reports on reviews by the Auditor-General and parliamentary committees. These reports should include recommendations made by these bodies and any action taken to address the recommendations. The Committee believed that such a requirement would enhance the public accountability of the administration and would be a particularly valuable and timely follow-up mechanism. The Committee recommended that this requirement be included in the revised guidelines and forwarded to departments prior to the preparation of 1987-88 annual reports. The Committee was pleased to note that this recommendation was adopted and has approved the revised guidelines.

Primary Industry Statutory Marketing Authorities

- 3.21 Since the Committee's Report of Activities for 1985-86, legislation providing each authority with the option of appointing a commercial auditor as its external auditor has now been passed with regard to six of the eleven authorities. These are:
 - the Australian Dairy Corporation;
 - . the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation;
 - . the Australian Pork Corporation;
 - . the Australian Wheat Board;
 - the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation; and
 - the Australian Wool Corporation.

- 3.22 The Committee has not as yet been required to consider the proposed appointment of a commercial auditor to any of the above authorities. However, the Committee is aware that the Australian Wheat Board has called for tenders for the position of external auditor, while the Australian Dairy Corporation has opted for audit by the Auditor-General.
- 3.23 Legislation to establish the Australian Horticultural Corporation and abolish the Australian Apple and Pear Corporation is currently before the Parliament.
- 3.24 Amendments to the enabling legislation of the Australian Canned Fruits Corporation, the Australian Dried Fruits Corporation, the Australian Tobacco-Board are under consideration.

Committee Review of ADP Matters

Review of ADP Acquisition Proposals

- 3.25 The Committee's standing reference to investigate and report on proposed acquisitions of ADP facilities by Commonwealth departments or authorities staffed under the <u>Public Service Act</u> 1922 continued to be an important task for the Committee.
- 3.26 The Committee's investigations of acquisition proposals focused on the following issues:
 - needs of departments/authorities;
 - . costs and benefits:
 - . risks:
 - employment considerations:
 - participation by Australian industry; and
 - industrial issues.
- 3.27 In the period under review the Committee reported on two major acquisition proposals. Summaries of these reports can be found in Chapter 2 of this report. The two reports are:
 - the proposed computer acquisition by the Department of Defence, known as Project DESINE (Report 254);
 and
 - the proposed computer acquisition by the Department of Community Services (Report 259).
- 3.28 In addition, the Committee tabled its report (Report 279) on the Government's response to the Committee's Report 253, the Committee's report on the proposed computer acquisition by the Australian Audit Office.

3.29 The tabling of Reports 254 and 259 produced a mixed reaction within the Public Service and the computer industry in general. A view was expressed that the Committee's work in the ADP acquisition area was a cause of delay in executing such projects. While the Committee noted such comments about its work under the standing reference it was firmly of the view that its reports highlighted matters of concern to the government and public service managers. The Committee originally undertook to report on ADP acquisition proposals within three months of receipt of an organisation's submission. The Committee's record of achievement is shown by the table below:

Acquisition Proposal (Department)	Submission Received	Report Tabled	length of inquiry (months)
Dept. Veteran's			
Affairs Australian	24.10.85	12.6.86	7.3
Audit Office DESINE -Dept	26.2.86	11.6.86	3.2
of Defence Dept Community	23.4.86	25.9.86	5.0
Services	8.7.86	23.10.86	3.2

- 3.30 The Committee has striven to meet its three month inquiry limit and believes it has performed well given its finite resources and heavy workload. In addition to investigating acquisition proposals the Committee has simultaneously conducted at least two other ADP inquiries, viz the monitoring of the Department of Social Security's Stratplan project and a review of Job Seeker a computer acquisition program by the former Department of Employment and Industrial Relations.
- 3.31 While confident of the value of the work performed under the standing reference, the Committee was not comfortable with its involvement in the executive decision making process of Government through the standing reference. The Committee therefore wrote to the Minister for Finance, Senator Walsh, advising him that the Committee would initiate an inquiry into the ADP acquisition process which would also review the role of the Committee. The Committee had conducted a similar inquiry into ADP acquisition in the Public Service in 1978.
- 3.32 Subsequently, the Minister for Finance advised the Committee that the Department of Finance had commenced a review of the standing reference. The Minister noted that it was always envisaged that decisions regarding acquisition procedures would rest with the Government and not the Committee.
- JCPA, Report 174 Acquisition of ADP Systems in the Public Service, Parliamentary Paper No 341/1978.

- 3.33 The Minister further noted that the Committee was able to conduct its reviews in a way open to few other bodies in the Commonwealth sector and in so doing achieved a further objective of enhancing the Parliament's ability of prior scrutiny of major capital expenditure proposals.²
- 3.34 To date both the Department of Finance and the Committee have made some progress in their respective reviews. However, both now await Cabinet consideration of a review of the ADP acquisition process by the Efficiency Scrutiny Unit, which commenced in January 1987.

ADP Staffing

- 3.35 A recurrent problem in acquisition proposals noted by the Committee has been the shortage of qualified and skilled ADP personnel. The problem has two main aspects in that not only is it difficult for departments to attract staff, but it is also difficult for them to retain those staff. The Committee has noted with some alarm the burgeoning growth in departments' use of private contractors, many of whom resign from the Public Service to become contractors.
- 3.36 During the period under review the Committee has monitored developments in the ADP staffing area and, in particular, noted steps taken by the former Public Service Board and other departments to resolve the issue within the context of the Public Service.

Efficiency Audits - The Auditor-General's Obligation to Report

- 3.37 The Committee and the Auditor-General disagreed over the obligation of the latter to report to Parliament. This issue arose from the Committee's Report Australia Post An Audit Discontinued (Report 250).
- 3.38 The Committee's conclusions in Report 250 in relation to the reporting provisions of s.48F (1) of the Audit Act 1901 were:
 - the former Auditor-General should have presented a report on the efficiency audit of Australia Post under s. 48F (1); and
 - the Auditor-General should comply with s.48F and s.48G of the <u>Audit Act</u> 1901 as is relevant to the efficiency audit of Australia Post - Administration of Counter Services.

PAC File A5/1/1 Part 4 Standing Reference on Major ADP Acquisitions - Correspondence.

- 3.39 On 28 May 1987 the Committee tabled its Report 276, the response to Report 250. In this response the Auditor-General stated that he considered that there are no unfulfilled requirements imposed on the Auditor-General by the Audit Act in relation to the discontinued audit. In the Annual Report of the Australian Audit Office 1985-86 the Auditor-General referred to advice from the Attorney-General's Department to the previous Auditor-General and the Committee. This advice stated that there was no obligation to table a report until the Auditor-General had directed his mind to the relevant issues and the efficiency audit must have proceeded to a stage that had produced results to be reported.
- 3.40 This was contrary to advice given to the Committee by the Hon. Justice Toose, CBE QC, legal adviser to the Committee. This advice was that if an audit was discontinued it was a result under the Act and therefore should be reported.
- 3.41 The Committee concluded that the previous Auditor-General should have reported under s.48F(1). In not today so, the Auditor-General had accepted the oral advice of a senior officer in the Attorney-General's Department, which he considered to be his legal adviser. The Attorney-General's Department later confirmed this advice to both the Committee and the Department of Finance. The Committee noted, however, that neither the previous nor the current Auditor-General had sought formal legal advice on whether the Auditor-General could discontinued an efficiency audit.
- 3.42 The Committee noted the circumstances surrounding this particular audit and acknowledged that a number of operational and administrative changes have occurred in the Australian Audit Office since that time. However, the Committee remains of the view that, as a matter of principle, all efficiency audits should be the subject of a report and accordingly reiterates its initial conclusions.

Implementation of Committee Recommendations

- 3.43 Earlier in this chapter comment was made about departments' responses to Committee recommendations. However, in many cases they are taken up, resulting in major changes to Government activities. The Government Aircraft Factories are an example of such a change.
- 3.44 When presenting Report 242, the response to its report on the Government Aircraft Factories (Report 188), on 6 December 1985 the Committee stated that it believed the Government Aircraft Factories should be removed from departmental constraint and established as a statutory corporation. It went on to comment that the factories would have to become much leaner, more efficient organisations and to substantially increase their workload.

- 3.45 On 15 December 1986, the Minister for Defence, the Hon. Kim Beazley MP, announced the establishment of Aerospace Technologies Pty Ltd, a company wholly owned by the Commonwealth which had been formed to take over the operations of the Government Aircraft Factories. The Company's Board of Directors, under the Chairmanship of Sir Brian Inglis, comprised business, union and Government representatives. In making the announcement, the Minister said that the establishment of a company would give it the best chance of matching the financial, management and marketing techniques of other companies in the industry.
- 3.46 He went on to say that the prime purpose of the change, was to produce a more cost-effective organisation, thus freeing funds for other defence priorities. He also said the Government would leave Aerospace Technologies of Australia Pty Ltd as free as possible to manage its own affairs and to break with the practices and attitudes that had caused difficulties in the past.



Mr P Ruddock, MP, Senator J Watson, Mr J Eaves (Dep. Principal), Mr M Talberg, (Secretary, PAC), Brother B Bulfin (Principal), Father T Crowley (Parish Priest), Mr A Morgan (EDS Placement, PAC), Mr J Poad (Architect), Mr R Price, MP, Mr T Keogh (Catholic Education Office) and students during an inspection of Patrician Brothers College, Sydney, in connection with the inquiry into Capital Grants to Non-government schools.



Mr R Price, MP and Mr P Kemmis, Consultant, being briefed by officers of the Taxation Office, Melbourne, as part of the inquiry into the purchase of ADP equipment by the Taxation Office.

rocessing area of the axation Office, albourne.





Mr P Kemmis, Consultant and Mr R Price, MP being briefed by officers of the Taxation Office, Parramatta.

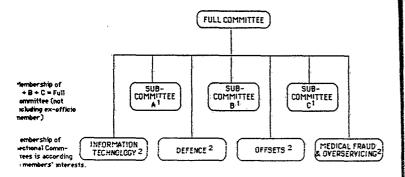
CHAPTER 4

OPERATIONAL DATA

Current Inquiries

- 4.1 As at 30 June 1987 the Committee had the following matters to consider:
 - . Amendments to the Audit Act
 - Appointment of an independent auditor for the Auditor-General's Office
 - . Appointment of Auditors for Statutory Marketing Authorities
 - Auditor-General's reports on Efficiency Audits:
 - Australian Wool Corporation Property Operations
 - Export Inspection Services Administration of Meat Inspection
 - Administration of Capital Grants to Non-Government Schools
 - Defence PISCES (Principal Item Stock Control and Entitlement System)
 - Army Mapping
 - Parliament House Construction Authority
 - Offshore Petroleum Royalties and Excise
 - Australian Customs Service Licensing of Agents
 - Australian Government Publishing Service
 - Defence RAAF Ammunition
 - Explosives Ordnance, compliance with NATO Safety Standards
 - Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for . Finance:
 - Appropriation Acts 1985-86
 - Appropriation Acts 1986-87

FIGURE 4.1 COMMITTEE/SECTIONAL COMMITTEE STRUCTURE



ote: 1. Sub-committees review Reports of the Auditor-General, including efficiency audits

2 Sectional committees conduct specific inquiries or groups of inquiries (including ADP Reference)

<u>cretariat support</u>: Senior Project Officers have responsibility for inquiries, assisted by Project Officers.

(See Figure 4.2 for Secretariat staffing structure.)

- Finance Minute on Report No 241 Reports of Auditor-General 1983/84 and September 1984
- Proposed Furchase of Automatic Data Processing Facilities by any Commonwealth Department or Authority of the Commonwealth staffed under the Public Service Act 1922:
 - Australian Taxation Office
 - Department of Housing and Construction
- . Review of 1985 Reports of the Auditor-General
- Review of 1986 Reports of the Auditor-General
- . Review of 1987 Reports of the Auditor-General
- National Biological Standards Laboratory
- Stratplan Department of Social Security ADP Re-equipment Program
- . ADP Staffing

Meetings July 1986 - June 1987

4.2 The Committee held 28 meetings of the full Committee and 90 meetings of sectional committees during the Financial Year 1986-87. The meetings and the main subjects discussed at each are listed in Appendix B.

Sectional Committees

In order to deal with a large number of inquiries in an efficient manner, the Committee divided into three sectional committees, known as Sub-Committees A, B and C to deal with most general inquiries, for example Auditor-General's reports and efficiency audits. It also used a system of Sectional Committees with more specific areas of interest. The Information Technology committee was established to deal with the standing reference on ADP acquisitions and the other committees conducted inquiries or groups of inquiries into particular topics. During the period covered by this report the sectional committee on Medifraud and Overservicing completed its inquiries and presented its final report; the committee on Offsets was established, conducted its inquiry and presented its report, and the committee on the National Biological Standards Laboratories was established, although it did not commence its inquiry before the Parliament was dissolved. The Defence sectional cosmittee continued its inquiries on a number of matters and presented three reports during the period.

4.4 At the start of the financial year, the Committee divided into two sectional committees known as Sub-Committees and B. However, on 18 March 1987, the Committee decided that its heavy workload would be better managed if it divided into three sub-committees. Below is listed the membership of Sub-Committees A and B for the period 1 July 1986 - 18 March 1987 and Sub-Committees A, B and C for the remainder of the financial year, followed by the membership of the sectional committees:

Sub-Committee A (until 18 March 1987)

Senator G Georges (Chair until 18 Pebruary 1987)
Mr R Tickner MP (Chair from 25 February 1987)
Mr A Downer MP
Mrs R Kelly MP
Mr G Nehl MP
Mr A Rocher MP (until 23 September 1986)
Dr A Theophanous MP
Dr D Watson MP (from 23 September 1986)
Senator B Cooney
Senator the Hon. Dame Margaret Guilfoyle DBE

Sub-Committee B (until 18 March 1987)

Senator J Watson (Chair)
Mr B Conquest MP
Mrs H Mayer MP
Mr P Ruddock MP
Mr R Price MP
Mr R Tickner MP (until 25 February 1987)
Senator P Giles (from 23 February 1987)
Senator G Maquire

Sub-Committee A (from 18 March 1987)

Mr R Tickner MP (Chair) Mr A Downer MP Mrs R Kelly MP Mr G Nehl MP Senator B Cooney

Sub-Committee B (from 18 March 1987)

Senator J Watson (Chair) Mr B Conquest MP Mrs H Mayer Mp Senator P Giles Senator G Maquire

Sub-Committee C (from 18 March 1987)

Mr R Frice MP (Chair)
Mr P Ruddock MP
Dr A Theophanous MP
Dr D Watson MP
Senator the Hon. Dame Margaret Guilfoyle DBE

Information Technology

Senator the Hon. Dame Margaret Guilfoyle DBE (Chair until 18 February 1987)
Mr R Price MP (Chair from 18 February 1987)
Mr B Conquest MP
Mr A Downer MP
Dr A Theophanous MP (until 18 February 1987)
Mr R Tickner MP (until 25 February 1987)
Senator B Cooney (from 26 March 1987)

Defence Project Mangement

Mrs H Mayer MP (Chair) Mr G Nehl Mp Mr P Ruddock MP Mr A Rocher MP (until 23 December 1986) Senator B Cooney Senator G Maguire

Medical Fraud and Overservicing (until 20 November 1986)

Mrs R Kelly MP (Chair) Mrs H Mayer MP Mr P Ruddock MP Dr A Theophanous MP Senator G Georges Senator J Watson

Offsets (from 19 September 1986 - 30 April 1987)

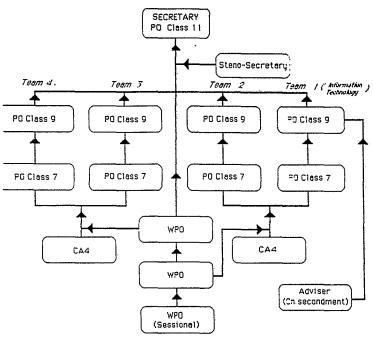
Dr A Theophanous MP (Chair)
Mr A Downer MP
Mrs H Mayer MP
Mr P Ruddock MP
Dr D Watson MP (from 23 September 1986)

NBSL (from 6 May 1987)

Mr R Tickner MP (Chair)
Mrs R Kelly MP
Mr G Nehl MP
Mr P Ruddock MP
Senator P Giles

FIGURE 4.2

SECRETARIAT STAFFING STRUCTURE *



Total Staff = 15 (+ adviser)

* During parliamentary sitting periods research staff numbers are increased by secondment/EDS/Interchange/Admin Traines exhemes (usually an additional 2 staff are provided).

Staffing of the Committee Secretariat

4.5 The permanent staff engaged with the Committee as at the 30 June 1987 were:

Secretary: Mr M Talberg
Deputy Secretary: Ms K Malmberg
(PO Class 9)

Senior Project Officers: Mrs R Mills (PO Class 9) Mr T Rowe

Mr P Stephens (acting)

Project Officers: Mr J Craig
(PO Class 7) Mr P Jackson
Mr A Lomp

Mrs L Noakes (acting)

Clerical Assistants: Mrs Y Huddleston

Mr V Jones

Steno-Secretary: Mrs L Brennan

Word Processing Ms C Cooney
Operators: Miss L Gillies
Mrs J Wilkinson

- 4.6 Several staff members were on extended leave or unattached from the Secretariat in order to undertake various projects. Ms A Cronin was studying for a Graduate Diploma in Public Policy at the Australian National University and Mr M Kelly was studying for a Masters degreee in Economics at the University of New England. Dr D Capp was on extended leave for the purposes of self-development and travel.
- 4.7 The Committee continued its policy of seconding officers directly from various departments and accepting officers participating in the Public Service Board's Executive Development Scheme, Interchange Program and Administrative Trainee Program. Such secondments and placements assist the Committee, provide parliamentary experience and broaden the participant's work experience. The secondments during the 12 month period were:

Ms C Clune - Department of Science
Mr D Erbacher - Bureau of Statistics

Miss A Hemmings - Department of the Special Minister

of State

Mr J Murray - Department of Health
Ms J Stead - Department of Defence

Mrs A Walker - Industries Assistance Commission



PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

Centre row: Ms C Clune, Mrs L Brennan, Mrs R Mills, Mr P Jackson

Mr V Jones, Mr J Craig, Mr A Morgan, Mr A Lomp, Mr J Murray, Ms K Malmberg, Miss L Gillies Back row:

Mrs K Buckley

Front Row: Mrs Y Huddleston, Mr M Talberg (Secretary)
Mrs J Wilkinson, Mr T Rowe
(Senate Garden, April 1987)

4.8 Participants in Public Service Board Schemes during the period were:

Mr A Dobes - Public Service Board (Administrative

Trainee Program)

Mr D Forte - Department of Local Government and
Administrative Services (Executive

Development Scheme)

Mr A Morgan - Department of Community Services (Executive Development Scheme)

Mr I Penrose - Shell (Interchange Program)

4.9 The Committee expresses its thanks to all seconded officers and their parent organisations for the valuable assistance given.

- 4.10 However, the Committee also wishes to express its concern about the continuing policy of the House of Representatives in relation to the financing of secondments, particularly as it affects expert advisers on information technology matters. The seconded officers assist the Committee in its inquiries by providing additional research resources within the Secretariat. The House of Representatives policy has been that the lending agency continues to pay all salaries and allowances of these officers, thus providing a free resource to the Secretariat. It has become increasingly difficult for the Committee to obtain secondees under the current staffing and financial restraints applying to government agencies. Arguments that Departments and Authorities benefit by having officers work in the Secretariat, while valid, are no longer being accepted by the agencies who must carry the burden, both in staffing numbers and financially.
- 4.11 As in previous years, the Committee appointed a panel of advisers to assist it with inquiries which require specialised knowledge. Under current Committee arrangements all advisers are required to liaise with the Committee through the Secretariat. The Committee's advisers during the 12 month period were:

Legal Matters - The Hon. Mr Justice P B Toose, CBE QC

Commonwealth/

State Relations - Mr J Howard, John H Howard and

Associates (Consultants)

Marine

Engineering - Mr R J Parkinson, R J Parkinson & Co

(Marine Engineers, Naval Architects and

Surveyors)

Information Technology

4.12 A panel of consultants was formed in December 1985 from which advisers were selected as required. The membership of the panel for the period under review was as follows (those consultants used during the period are marked with an asterisk):

D Angelora	David Angelora & Associates
P Mason	Astech Professional Consulting Services
A Smithies	Coopers & Lybrand W D Scott
P Okkerse	Coopers & Lybrand W D Scott
G Failes	Coopers & Lybrand W D Scott
J Aiken	Compass Consulting Services
J Buczkowski	Compass Cousticing Selaices
	George Close & Associates
D Pridmore	Computer Sciences of Australia
E Cowled	Computer Utilities (Industrial)

A Harlow Pty Ltd
Disc International Pty Ltd
F O'Brian Disc International Pty Ltd
Gurner Durac Ltd

B Gurner Durac Ltd

D Hind Ernst & Whinney Services Pty
T Hoore Ernst & Whinney Services Pty
*R Kassel E & R Holdings

T Houseley Housley Communications Consultants
Pty Ltd
I Jackson I D Jackson and Associates Pty Ltd

*P Kemmis
D Craney
Logica Pty Ltd
Logica Pty Ltd
A McLachlan
Logica Pty Ltd
Logica Pty Ltd
A McLachlan
Logica Pty Ltd
A McLachlan
Logica Pty Ltd
Consultants Pty Ltd
O & O Systems Consultants
F A Consulting Services
A D Stefano
Parkhill Lithgow & Gibson

C Grant Peat, Harwick, Mitchell Services
R Poole Bob Poole & Associates
M Sprange Price Matcheuse Communication

M Sprange Price Waterhouse Government Liaison Services The Qube Mangement Group

A Sinclair
K van Klink
A Richards
J Heathcote
*L Laurence

A Sinclair
Software Sciences
Systematics Pty Ltd
Touche Ross Services
Vonaldy Pty Ltd

A Usher A Usher and Associates
*P MacGregor P K MacGregor and Associates

In addition the Committee expresses its appreciation to Mr Daryl Erbacher and Mr Jim Murray, officers seconded to the secretariat to assist the Committee with technical advice on information technology matters.



APPENDIX A

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Newlands Street, Parkes, A.C.T. 2600 Telephone: Canberra 63 2222 Telex: 62639

Contact Officer: K. Wong Telephone: 632448

Reference:

The Secretary
Joint Parliamentary Committee
of Public Accounts
Parliament Bouse
CANBERRA ACT 2600

OUTSTANDING DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE MINUTES

In accordance with agreed arrangements, the following status report on outstanding Department of Finance Minutes is submitted for the Committee's information:

. 248th Report - Auditor-General's Report - April 1985 Tabled: 10 June 1985;

The Finance Minute has been finalised and signed by our Secretary but, by convention, it is unable to be transmitted from our Minister to the Committee until a Chairman is appointed.

249th Report - ADP Acquisition - RGH Tabled: 12 June 1986;

Relavant departments and authorities have responded to our reguest for comments on the recommendations and conclusions of the Report. The Finance Minute is currently being finalised.

. 252nd Report - ADP Acquisition - DEIR - "Jobseeker"
Tabled: 13 June 1986:

All the relevant departments have responded to our request for comments on the recommendations and conclusions contained in this Report. The (former) Department of Employment and Industrial Relations has been requested to provide further information.

 254th Report - ADP Acquisition - Defence - "Desine" Tabled: 25 September 1986;

All the relevant departments have responded to our request for comments on the recommendations and conclusions due on 10 January 1987. The Department of Defence has been requested to provide further information.

22 SEP 1987 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS 256th Report - Forward Obligation of Government Expenditures

Tabled: 15 October 1986:

The Department of Finance Steering Committee on. Forward Obligations, which has included in its terms of reference the matters raised by the Committee in Report 256, has recently finalised its report and its. recommendations will be considered by Cabinet after the Budget, following which the Department will respond to the Committee. Other relevant departments have responded to our request for comments on particular recommendations.

257th Report - Administration of Quarantine Services Tabled: 22 October 1986:

All relevant departments and authorities have responded to our request for comments on the recommendations of the Report. The Department of Primary Industries and Energy has been requested to provide further information.

259th Report - ADP Acquisition - Department of Community Services Tabled: 25 November 1986:

Relevant departments and authorities have responded to our request for comments on the recommendations of the Report. The Finance Minute is currently being finalised.

261st Report - Review of ACTION Efficiency Audit Tabled: 27 November 1986:

The former Minister for Territories was asked to examine the conclusions and recommendations of the Report by 13 April 1987. A reply was received on 17 March 1987 but it noted that the majority of the Committee's recommendations made reference to the Department of Territories/National Capital Development Commission Joint Study and that further advice would be provided when the Joint Study report became available. The final report was released early in August and the Department is now preparing an updated response.

262nd Report - Guidelines for Annual Reports Tabled: 27 November 1986:

All relevant departments and authorities have responded to our request for comments on the recommendations of the Report with the exception of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C). The revised Guidelines for the Preparation of Departmental Annual Reports, which were prepared by

PM&C and which largely adopt the recommendations of Report 262, will be tabled by the Prime Minister after the Budget. PM&C will provide a formal response to the Report shortly thereafter.

263rd Report - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support -Volume One - Spares and Ammunition Tableg: 28 November 1986:

Relevant departments were requested to supply comments on the recommendations of the Report by 13 March 1987. A response has not yet been received from the former Department of Local Government and Administrative Services and further information has been sought from the Department of Defence. Follow-up action has been taken.

. 263rd Report - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support -Volume Two - Technical Documentation 28 April 1987: Tabled:

The Minister for Defence was asked to supply comments on the recommendations of the Report by 24 August 1987 and a response was received on 2 September 1987. The Finance Minute is currently being prepared.

270th Report - Implementation of the Offsets Policy Tabled: 30 April 1987:

The relevant departments, authorities and committees were requested to supply comments on the recommendations contained in this report by 16 July 1987. A number of departments have requested an extension to this deadline. Due to the election and subsequent administrative rearrangements, no follow-up action has been taken.

272nd Report - Administration of Commonwealth Property Functions Tabled: 4 May 1987:

Relevant departments and authorities were requested to supply comments on the recommendations of the Report by 24 August 1987. However, as many of the recommendations relate directly to issues covered in the Public Service Board Property Review, we have granted extensions to all departments concerned until after the Government has considered that Report.

PUBLIC ACOUNTS-COMMITTEE MEETINGS 1 JULY 1986 - 30 JUNE 1987

4

280th Report - Defence Science and Technology Organisation: Task Cost Management Tabled: 2 June 1987:

Relevant departments and authorities have been requested to provide comments on the recommendations of the Report by 31 August 1987. Follow-up action has been taken.

/(. Word for D.A. Shand First Assistant Secretary Financial Management and Accounting Policy Division /4 Septemper 1987

			*****	Main Chilaine
Meeting No.	Type	Date	Place	Main Subject
39	Defence	21. 7.86	Carberra	Public Hearing - Dept of Defence
40	Defence	22. 7.86	Carberra	Public Hearing - Dept of Defence, "In-Camera" Hearing Dept of Defence
13	Sub-Committee 'A'	22. 7.86	Canberra	Forward Chligations
11	Sub-Committee 'B'	22. 7.86	Canberra	Public Hearing ACTION
12	Sub-Committee 'B'	12. 8.86	Perth	Inspection Metropolitan Passenger Transport Trust (MTT)
13	Sub-Committee '3	13. 8.8	6 Perth	ACTION, MTT, Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
37	Full	20. 8.8	6 Camberra	Australia Post, Report 250
27	ADP	21. 8.8	6 Canberra	Jobseeker, Review of Standing Reference, Defence Acquistion Proposal, Dept of Veterans' Affairs, Tender by Dept of Special Minister of State.
41.	Defence-	21. 8.	36 Camberra	Terms of Reference, Inquiry Program, Draft Report
28	ADP	27. 8.	86 Sydney	Stratplan, Australian Industry Policy, Defence Report, IBM
14	Sub-Committee	'B' 9.9.	86 Camberr	a Public Hearing - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions. List of Submissions
14	Sub-Committee	'A' 10. 9	.86 Cambern	ra. Quarantine
38	Full	10. 9	.86 Camber:	ra Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program - Draft Program
15	Sub-Committee	10. 9 פי	.86 Camber	ra Public Hearing - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
42	Defence	12. 9	9.86 Jervis Bay	Inspection of BMAS Success

Meeting No.	Туре	Date	Place	Main Subject
29	ADP.	15. 9.86	Camberra	Draft Report 254 Project DESINE
16	Sub-Committee 'B'	17. 9.86	Canberra	Public Hearing — Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
39	Full	17. 9.86	Canberra.	Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program
30	ADP	18. 9.86	Canberra	Department of Community Services Draft Report. Jobseeker submission from Wang on Report 252
1	Offsets	19. 9.86	Canberra	Program Briefing, Terms of Reference
17	Sub-Committee 'B'	22. 9.86	Canberra	Public Hearing - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Function
40	Full	22. 9.86	Canberra	Meeting times of the Committee during sittings of the Senate
31	ADP	24. 9.8	6 Canberra	Draft Report 259 outline, Department of Community Services. Report 254 tabling speech
2	Offsets	24. 9.8	6 Canberra	In-Camera Hearing - Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program. Proposed Program
43	Defence	25. 9.8	6 Camberra	Finance Minute on Report 243
41	Full	25. 9.8	6 Canberra	a Draft Report on Quarantine, Report No 257. Secondments to the Committee. Finance Minute on Report 229 Draft Report. Finance Minute on Report 243
18	Sub-Committee *!	B' 2.10,	36 Sydney	Public Hearing - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions. Inspections of owned and leased premises. Private meeting with DOIGAS

Meeting No.	Type	Date	Place	Main Subject
3	Offsets	6.10.86	Cariberra	In-Camera Bearing - Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program
32	ADP	7.10.86	Canberra	Draft report 259, Department of Community Services - Proposal to Acquire Computing Facilities
42	Full	8.10.86	Canberra	Draft report on Response to Pathology Report 236. Evidence of Mr Farrell, Offsets In-Camera evidence to be made public
33	ADP	8.10.86	Camberra	Briefing on Jobseeker Contract
19	Sub-Committee 'B	9.10.86	i Canberra	Public Hearing - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
43	Full .	9.10.8	6 Canberra	Draft Report 259 Department of Community Services' Proposal to Acquire Computing Facilities Draft Report 258 - Finance Minute on 229th Report. Report of Activities January 1985 - June 1986. Minutes of Previous meetings
44	Defence	10.10.8	36 Canberra	Shipboard Fire and Gas Control Systems. Basic Pilot Trainer Project from Millicer Aircraft Pty Ltd
. 44	Full	13.10.	86 Camberr	Reports and Minutes of Previous meetings ADP Sectional Committee. Draft Report of Activities January 1985 - June 1986. Printing delays medical fraud and overservicing
20	Sub-Committee	'B' 13.10	.86 Camber	ra Public Hearing - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions. Draft outline of Report

Meeting	Туре	Date	Place	Main Subject	
No- 4	Offsets	15.10.86	Camberra	"In-Camera" evidence by Mr Farrell on 24.9.86 made public. In-Camera Hearing - Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program. Public Hearing - Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program	
5	Medifraud	15.10.86	Camberra	commentary on Dr Edelsten's submission	
34	ADP	16.10.8	6 Canberra	A Stratplan, Jobseeker, Australian Taxation Office, Revised Guidelines for Submissions, Review of ADP planning and procurement in APS, Secondees	
21	Sub-Committee	'B' 20.10.	86 Canberr	Commonwealth's Property Functions	
6	Medifraud	20.10.	.86 Canber	Pathology Report 236 and the commentary on Dr Edelsten's submission	
22	Sub-Committe	e'B' 20.10	.86 Canbe	praction of Inquiry and Draft Report - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions	
44	full	22.1	0.86 Canbe	erra Meeting times of the Committee during sittings of the Senate, Draft Report on Response to Pathology Report 236	
2	3 Sub-Committ	cee 'B' 22.	10.86 Canb	Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions	
:	5 Offsets	23.	.10.86 Can	the Offsets Program	
	7 Medifraud	23	.10.86 Can	Draft Report on Response to Pathology Report 236 and commentary on Dr Edelsten's Submission	

Meeting	Type	Date	Place	Main S	
No. 45	Defence	24.10.86	Carberra	Draft Defend	Report - Aspects of ce Equipment Support
24	Sub-Committee 'B'	5.11.86	Sydney	Admin Commo	Reports - istration of the istration of the investif's Property icons, ACTION iconsy Audit
6	Offsets	6.11.8	e Shqueh	Inqu: Offs	amera Bearing - iry into the ementation of the ets Program
46	Defence	6.11.8	6 Sydney	Defe	t Report - Aspects of ence Equipment Support
46	Full	10.11.	86 Camberra	-	torian Auditor-General, ft Report on Medical ud and Overservicing
25	Sub-Committe 'E	10.11.	.86 Canberr	Adn Cor	oft Report - ninistration of the mnonwealth's Property notions
7	Offsets	12.11	.86 Camber	in Of	-Camera hearing - Inquiry to the Implementation of the fisets Program
35	ADP	13.1	1.86 Camber	ti	OP Staffing Shortages in he APS, Defence Report 254
47	Defence	13.1	1.86 Cambe	ם	raft Report - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support
47	Full	17.	11.86 Canbe	1	Response to Report 236 - Medical Fraud and Overservicing - Pathology, Victorian Auditor-General
8	Offsets	17.	11.86 Canb	erra	In-Camera hearing - Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program
2	26 Sub-Committ	ee 'B' 17	.11.86 Card	berra	Draft Report — Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
	9 Offsets	T.	3.11.86 Car	berra	Public hearing - Inquiry into the Implementation of the Offsets Program

eeting	Type	Date	Place	Main Subject
27	Sub-Committee 181	20.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - ACTION Efficiency Audit
48	Defence	20.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support
28	Sub-Committee 'B'	20.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - ACTION Efficiency Audit
49	Defence	21.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support
48	Full	24.11.86	Canberra	Minutes of Previous Meetings, Draft Report - Guidelines for Annual Reports, ACTION
29	Sub-Committee 'B'	24.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
49	Full	26.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - Defence Equipment Support
10	Offsets	26.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report outline - Inquiry into Offsets
30	Sub-Committee 'B'	26.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
36	ADP	27.11.86	Canberra	ADP Staffing, Stratplan
50	Full	28.11.86	Canberra	Draft Report - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
51	Full	18. 2.87	7 Canberra	Resignation of Chairman, Amendments to Audit Act, Committee Program, Sectional Committee Arrangements, Efficiency Audits, Draft Reports - Response to Report 232 (Auditor-General's Report 238 (Public Bospitals in the ACT), Response to Report 239 (Advance to the Minister for Finance 1983-84), Response to Report 244 (Munitions Production Trust Account), Response to Report 247 (Advance to the Minister for Finance 1984-85)

Meeting No.	Туре	Date	Place	Main Subject
50	Defence	18. 2.87	Canberra.	Draft Report - Response to Defence Project Management Report
11	Offsets	19. 2.87	Camberra	Draft Report - Inquiry into Offsets
37	ADP	19. 2.87	Canberra	ADP Standing Reference, Stratplan, ADP Staffing Shortages in the APS, Current Acquisition Proposals - Australian Tax Office, DHC, PISCES Efficiency Audit, Guidelines for Submissions
51	Defence	23. 2.87	Canberra	Draft Report - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support Volume 2: Technical Documentation (PAC Report 263)
31	Sub-Committee 'B	23. 2.87	/ Canberra	Revised Draft Report - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
52	Full	25. 2.8	7 Canberra	Replacement Member, Election of Chairman, Committee arrangements, Draft Reports - Report of Activities, Public Accounts Committee and the Senate, Response to Report 253 (Defence Project Management)
52	Defence	25. 2.8	37 Canberra	Defence Science and Technology Organisation: Task Cost Management
38	ADP	26. 2.	37 Canberr	a Sectional Committee Chairman, Dept of Finance Review, Efficiency Scrutiny Unit review
12	Offsets	26. 2.	87 Canberr	a Draft Report - Inquiry into the Offsets Program
13	Offsets	26. 2.	.87 Canberr	a Draft Report - Inquiry into the Offsets Program

Meeting No.	Type	Date	Place	Main Subject
53	Full	18. 3.87	Camberra	Staff, Sectional Committee Arrangements, Efficiency Audits, Minutes, RAIPA Autumn Seminar, Observers, Outstanding Finance Minutes, Prisoners' United Trust, PAC Conference, IAC, Response to Report 232 - A-G's Report of May 1983, Response to Report 238 - Public Bospitals in the ACT
14	Offsets	18. 3.87	Canberra	In-Camera evidence given by Mr A G Stuart, OTC (Australia) be published
39	Information Technology (previously ADP)	19. 3.87	Camberra	Acquisition Proposal — Australian Tax Office, Block Review, ADP Reference/ Reports, Guidelines for Submissions, Stratplan, Statement by Minister for Defence on Report 254, DBC and Tax Office — Acquisition Proposal
53	Defence	23. 3.87	Canberra	Draft Report - Aspects of Defence Equipment Support Volume 2: Technical Documentation (PAC Report 263)
15	Offsets	23. 3.8	7 Camberra	Draft Report - Inquiry into the Offsets Program
54	Full	25. 3.8	7 Canberra	Finance Minute on 232 (A-G's Report May 1983), Report 263 Volume 2 - Defence Equipment Support, Draft Report - Offsets, Finance Minute on 201 (Bitateral Overseas Aid), Minutes, Tabling of Reports, In-Camera evidence given by Mr A G Stewart, OTC be published
54	Defence	26. 3.8	7 Canberra	Inspection of DSTO's laboratories
40	Information Technology	26. 3.	37 Canberra	a ADP Reference/Review, Computer Acquisition - DEC and Tax, Stratplan
32	Sub-Committee '	в' 30. 3.	87 Canberr	a Draft Report - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions

Meeting No.	Type	Date	Place	Main Subject
1	Sub-Committee 'C'	1. 4.87	Canberra	Capital grants to Non- Government Schools
55	Full	1. 4.87	Canberra	Minutes, Tabling Arrangements, Project DESINE, Defence Personnel Management
33	Sub-Committee 'B'	1. 4.87	Canberra	Revised draft - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
41	Information Technology	2. 4.87	Canberra	Acquisition Proposal — Tax Office, Finance Minute on Report 253, Inglis Report
55	Defence	6. 4.8	7 Melbourn	e Inspections of DSTO Laboratories
56	Full	7. 4.8	7 Salisbur Sth Aust	y Inspections of DSTO Laboratories
42	Information Technology	13. 4.8	37 Parramat	ta Inspection of Social Security Office
43	Information Technology	22. 4.	87 Melbour	ne Inspection of the Australian Tax Office
34	Sub-Committee '	B' 24. 4.	87 Canberr	a Revised Draft Report - Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Functions
2	Sub-Committee '	C* 27. 4.	.87 Canber	Non-Government Schools
56	Full	29. 4	.87 Canber	of the Commonwealth Studenty Functions, Senate and the PAC, Parliament House Construction Authority, Commonwealth Moneys PAC Conference, Committee System, Staff Travel, Committee Photograph
44	Information Technology	30.	4.87 Canbe	rra Committee and the Senate, Public Hearing - Australian Taxation Office

Meeting No.	Type	Date	Place	Main Subject
57	Full .	6. 5.87	Canberra	Parliament Bouse. Construction Authority, Finance Minutes - Report 233 (A-G's 1982/83 and Sept. 83), Report 238 - Public Bospitals in the ACT, Report 240 - A-G's March 1984, Report 241 - A-G's 1983/84 and September 1984, Report 250 - Australia Post, NESE, Efficiency Audit
45	Information Technology	7. 5.87	Canberra	Stratplan, Draft Report on Finance Minute to Report 253, Computer Acquisition - Tax Office, and DBC, Standing Reference
48	Full	11. 5.87	Canberra	Parliament House Construction Authority, PAC Conference, Finance Minutes - Report 241 A-G's Report 1983/84 and September 1984, Report 253 Computer Acquisition by AAO
57	Defence	11. 5.87	Canberra	Draft Report - DSIO
58	Defence	13. 5.87	Canberra	· Draft Report - DSTO
3	Sub-Committee 'C'	13. 5.87	Canberra	Public Hearing - Inquiry into Capital Grants to Non-Government Schools
46	Information Technology	13. 5.8	7 Canberra	Computer Acquisition - Tax Staffing, Stratplan
47	Information Technology	14. 5.8	7 Canberra	Public Hearing - Stratplan
4	Sub-Committee 'B'	18. 5.8	7 Sydney	Inspection of Patrician Brothers and Christian Community High School
59	Full	25. 5.8	7 Canberra	Sectional Committee Arrangements, Auditor- General's Reports
50	Sub-Committee 'C	25. 5.8	7 Canberra	Capital Grants to Non- government Schools
48	Full.	25. 5.8	37 Canberra	Computer Acquisition - Australian Tax Office, CSO staffing shortages in the APS
60	Full	27. 5.	87 Canberr	Minutes, Draft Report - DSTO, Committee's Program

Meeting No.	Type	Date	Place	Main Subject
6	Sub-Committee 'C'	27. 5.87	Canberra	Public Hearing - Inquiry into Capital Grants to Non-government Schools
61	Full	1. 6.87	Canberra	Computer Acquisition - Australian Tax Office, Stratplan, PAC Conference, References
62	Pull	3. 6.87	Camberra	Filming of Committee, Minutes, Guidelines for Annual Reports, Visit of German Industralist, Retirement of Senator Guilfoyle

APPENDIX C

MEMBERS OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY CONCITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

First Series (1914-1932)

First Committee

Appointed 5 December 1914

Chairman: Matthew Charlton, M.P. Vice-Chairman: John Thomson, M.P.

Senator Thomas Jerome Kingston Bakhap Senator Albert Edward Howarth Blakey Senator the Honorable James Charles Stewart

Llewelyn Atkinson, M.P.
Reginald John Burchell, M.P.
The Honorable James Mackinnon Fowler, M.P.
Dr William Maloney, M.P.

Second Committee

Appointed 25 September 1917 (Senate) and 21 September 1917 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: John Thomson, M.P. Vice-Chairman: Matthew Charlton, M.P.

Senator Thomas William Crawford Senator the Honorable John Earle Senator George Fairbairn Senator Allan McDougall

Llewelyn Atkinson, M.P. James Howard Catts, M.P. James Edward Fenton, M.P. The Honorable Alexander Poynton, M.P.

Third Committee

Appointed 29 April 1920 (Senate) and 30 April 1920 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: The Honorable James Mackinnon Fowler, M.P. Vice-Chairman: James Edward Fenton, M.P.

Senator Thomas William Crawford Senator the Honorable John Earle

Senator Allan McDougall

Senator Lt.-Col. William Kinsey Bolton, C.B.E., V.D.

Senator Richard Buzacott

Senator John Dunlop Millen James Garfield Bayley, M.P. William Montgomerie Fleming, M.P. Norman John Oswald Makin, M.P. John Henry Prowse, M.P. John Edward West, M.P. Matthew Charlton, M.P.

Fourth Committee

Appointed 1 March 1923 (Senate) and 9 March 1923 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: James Garfield Bayley, M.P. James Edward Fenton, M.P.

Senator Benjamin Benny

Senator Lt.-Col. William Kinsey Bolton, C.B.E., V.D.

Senator Richard Buzacott

Senator Harold Edward Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M.

Senator Hattil Spencer Foll

Senator Walter Kingsmill Senator John Dunlop Millen

Senator Edward Needham

James Aitchieson Johnston Hunter, M.P.
Norman John Oswald Makin, M.P.
Walter Moffitt Marks, M.P.
Thomas Faterson, M.P.
John Henry Prowse, M.P.
John Elward West. M.P.

Fifth Committee

Appointed 22 January 1926

Chairman:

Senator Walter Kingsmill

Senator Hattil Spencer Foll Senator John Blyth Hayes, C.M.G. Senator Albert Alfred Hoare Senator Charles Stephen McHugh Senator Edward Needham

Charles Lydiard Aubrey Abbott, M.P.
Grosvenor Arundell Francis, M.P.
Sydney Lane Gardner, M.P.
John Henry Lister, M.P.
Parker John Moloney, M.P.
Thomas Paterson, M.P.
John Henry Prowse, M.P.
Edward Charles Riley, M.P.
The Honorable Sir Granville de Laune Ryzie, K.C.M.G., C.B., V.D., M.P.

Sixth Cramittee

Appointed 7 February 1929 (Senate) and 14 February 1929 (House of Representatives)

Chairman:

Grosvenor Arundell Francis, M.P.

Senator John Blyth Hayes, C.M.G. Senator Albert Alfred Hoare Senator Walter Kingsmill Senator William George Thomson, V.D.

Frank Anstey, M.P.
Francis Michael Forde, M.P.
Sydney Lane Gardner, M.P.
Albert Ernest Green, M.P.
Roland Frederick Herbert Green, M.P.
John Henry Prowse, M.P.

Seventh Committee

Appointed 22 November 1929

Chairman:

Percy Edmund Coleman, M.P.

Senator John Blyth Hayes, C.M.G. Senator Albert Alfred Hoare Senator Michael Rapheal O'Halloran

Joseph Benedict Chifley, M.P. Josiah Francis, M.P. Sydney Lane Gardner, M.P. Roland Frederick Herbert Green, M.P. The Honorable James Allan Guy, M.P. Georre Pévin Yates, M.P.

Committee disbanded in 1932

Second Series (1952 - 1986)

First Committee

Appointed 25 September 1952

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: Professor Francis Armand Bland, M.P.

Senator Condon Bryan Byrne

Senator Shane Dunne Paltridge

Senator the Honorable Harrie Stephen Seward

Gordon Anderson, M.P. Frank Crean, H.P. Francis John Davis, M.P. Allan Shallcross Hume, M.P. Hugh Allan Leslie, M.P. Albert Victor Thompson, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr N.R. Caffin

Second Committee

Appointed 11 August 1954

Chairman:

Professor Francis Armand Bland, M.P.

Vice-Chairman: Senator Condon Bryan Byrne

Senator Shane Dunne Paltridge

Senator the Honorable Harrie Stephen Seward

Senator Ivy Evelyn Wedgwood

Gordon Anderson, M.P. Frank Crean, M.P. Francis John Davis, M.P. Allan Shallcross Hume, M.P. Hugh Allan Leslie, M.P. Albert Victor Thompson, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr N.R. Caffin

Mr P.H. Bailey (from March 1955)

Third Committee

Appointed 22 February 1956 (Senate) and 16 February 1956 (House of Representatives)

Chairman:

Professor Francis Armand Bland, C.M.G., M.P.

Vice-Chairman: Albert Victor Thompson, M.P.

Senator Archibald Malcolm Benn

Senator the Honorable Harrie Stephen Seward

Senator Harrie Walter Wade Senator Ivy Evelyn Wedgwood Lance Herbert Barnard, M.P. James Francis Cope, M.P. Francis John Davis, M.P. Alan Shallcross Hume, M.P. Hugh Alan Leslie, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr P.H. Bailey

Mr R.C. Davey (from June 1957)

Fourth Committee

Appointed 19 February 1959 (Senate) and 24 February 1959 (House of Representatives)

Chairman:

Professor Francis Armand Bland, C.M.G., M.P.

Francis John Davis

Vice-Chairman: Albert Victor Thompson, M.P.

Senator Archibald Malcolm Benn Senator Harrie Walter Wade Senator Ivy Evelyn Wedgwood Senator Gerald Colin McKellar

Archibald Ian Allan, M.P. Leslie Harry Ernest Bury, M.P. James Ford Cairns, M.P. Richard Cleaver, M.P. James Francis Cope, M.P. Anthony Sylvester Luchetti, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr R.C. Davey

Mr T.H. Cranston (from August 1960)

Pifth Committee

Appointed 6 March 1962 (Senate) and 7 March 1962 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: Francis John Davis, M.P. Albert Victor Thompson, M.P.

Senator Archibald Malcolm Benn Senator Thomas Charles Drake-Brockman, D.F.C.

Senator Gerald Colin McKellar Senator Ivv Evelyn Wedgwood

Archibald Ian Allan, M.P. James Francis Cope, M.P. Dominic Eric Costa, M.P. Charles Robert Kelly, M.P. Raymond Harold Whittom, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr T.H. Cranston

Sixth Committee

Appointed 4 March 1964 (Senate) and 5 March 1964 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: Vice-Chairman:

Richard Cleaver, M.P. James Francis Cope, M.P.

Senator Thomas Charles Drake-Brockman, D.F.C. Senator Joseph Francis Fitzgerald Senator James Joseph Webster Senator Ivy Evelyn Wedgwood

John Simon Cockle, M.P. Dominic Eric Costa, M.P. Wylie Talbot Gibbs, M.P. Peter James Nixon, M.P. Leonard James Reynolds, M.P. Joseph Clement Leonard Sexton, M.P. Raymond Harold Whittorn, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr T.H. Cranston

Mr D.N. Reid (from May 1964)

Seventh Committee

Appointed 22 February 1967

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: Richard Cleaver, M.P.

Senator Joseph Francis Fitzgerald

Senator James Joseph Webster Senator Dame Ivy Evelyn Wedgwood

Frederick Walter Collard, M.P. James Francis Cope, M.P. James Donald Mathieson Dobie, M.P. Edmund Maxwell Cameron Fox, M.P. George Henry Gray, M.P. Donald Scott Jessop, M.P. Edward William Peters, M.P. Tan Louis Robinson, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr D.N. Reid

Eighth Committee

Appointed 25 November 1969

Chairman:

The Honorable James Donald Mathieson Dobie,

M.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Bruce William Graham, M.P. Christopher John Hurford, M.P.

Senator Joseph Francis Fitzgerald

Senator Margaret Georgina Constance Guilfovle

Senator Alexander Greig Ellis Lawrie Senator James Joseph Webster

Senator Dame Ivy Evelyn Wedgwood

Senator Ronald Edward McAuliffe

Frederick Walter Collard, M.P.

James Francis Cope, M.P.

Leslie Herbert Irwin, C.B.E., M.P. Alan William Jarman, M.P.

John Alexander Pettitt. M.P.

The Honorable Ian Louis Robinson, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr D.N. Reid

Ninth Counittee

Appointed 1 March 1973

Chairman:

Christopher John Hurford, M.P.

Senator Ronald Edward McAuliffe Alan William Jarman, M.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Senator Joseph Francis Fitzgerald

Senator Margaret Georgina Constance Guilfoyle

Albert Evan Adermann, M.P. Frederick Walter Collard, M.P.

Michael John Randal MacKellar, M.P. Vincent Joseph Martin, M.P.

Peter Frederick Morris, M.P.

Leonard James Reynolds, M.P.

The Honorable Ian Louis Robinson, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr J.A. Agnew

Mr T. Devine (from October 1973)

Tenth Committee

Appointed 16 July 1974

Chairman: Senator Ronald Edward McAuliffe
Vice-Chairman: Bruce William Graham, M.P.

Senator Margaret Georgina Constance Guilfoyle

Senator Donald James Grimes

Frederick Walter Collard, M.P. David Miles Connolly, M.P. Stephen Augustus Lusher, M.P. Vincent Joseph Martin, M.P. Peter Frederick Morris, M.P. Leonard James Reynolds, M.P.

Secretary: Mr T. Devine

Eleventh Committee

Appointed 4 March 1976 (Senate) and 3 March 1976 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: David Miles Connolly, M.P. John Lindsay Armitage, M.P. The Honorable Frank Crean, M.P.

Senator Peter Erne Haume Senator Malcolm Arthur Colston Senator Milivoj Emil Lajovic Senator Anthony John Messner

The Honorable Kevin Michael Cairns, M.P.*
The Honorable James Donald Mathieson Dobie, M.P.
The Honorable Ransley Victor Garland, M.P.*
Urquhart Edward Innes, M.P.
Stephen Augustus Lusher, M.P.
Vincent Joseph Martin, M.P.
James Robert Short, M.P.

Secretary: Mr T. Devine

Mr M.J. Talberg (from September 1977)

Twelfth Committee

Appointed 22 February 1978 (Senate) and 1 March 1978 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: David Miles Connolly, M.P.
Vice-Chairman: Vincent Joseph Martin, M.P.

Senator Malcolm Arthur Colston Senator George Georges Senator James Bernard Keeffe Senator Milivoj Emil Lajovic Senator Anthony John Messner Senator John Odin Wentworth Watson

John Lindsay Armitage, M.P.
James Mark Bradfield, M.P.
John Joseph Brown, M.P.
Alan Glyndwr Cadman, M.P.
The Konorable Kevin Michael Cairns, M.P.*
Barry Owen Jones, M.P.
John Charles Kerin, M.P.
Stephen Augustus Lusher, M.P.
Frank Lionel O'Keefe, A.M., M.P.

Secretary:

Thirteenth Committee

Appointed 26 November 1980

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: David Miles Connolly, M.P. Senator George Georges

Mr M.J. Talberg

Senator Milivoj Emil Lajovic Senator John Odin Wentworth Watson

James Mark Bradfield, M.P.
Kim Christian Beazley, M.P.
Alan Glyndwr Cadman, M.P.
Michael John Duffy, M.P.
Roslyn Joan Kelly, M.P.
Stephen Augustus Insher, M.P.*
Peter Donald Shack, M.P.
Grant Ernest John Tambling, M.P.
Dr Andrew Charles Theophanous, M.P.

Secretary:

Mr M.J. Talberg

Fourteenth Committee

Appointed 4 May 1983 (Senate) and 5 May 1983 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: Senator George Georges Alan Glyndwr Cadman, M.P.

Senator the Honorable Dame Margaret Georgina Constance Guilfoyle,

D.B.E.+

Senator Graham Ross Maguire Senator Margaret Reynolds+

Senator John Odin Wentworth Watson

Roslyn Joan Kelly, M.P.
Lewis Kent, M.P.+
Dr Richard Emanuel Klugman, M.P.+
Peter John McGauran, M.P.+
Helen Mayer, M.P.
Leo Boyce McLeey, M.P.
Frank Lionel O'Keefe, A.M., M.P.
Gary Francis Punch, M.P.
Dr Andrew Charles Theophanous, M.P.
Peter Nicholson Duckett White, M.C., M.P.

Secretary:

Mr M.J. Talberg

+ appointed 8 December 1983

Pifteenth Committee

Appointed $\underline{26}$ February $\underline{1985}$ (Senate) and $\underline{28}$ February $\underline{1985}$ (House of Representatives)

Chairman:

Senator George Georges (elected 25 February

1987)
Robert Edward Tickner (elected 25 February

Vice-Chairman: 1987)

izman: Alan Glyndwr Cadman, M.P. (until 29 November 1985) Senator John Odin Wentworth Watson (elected 19 February 1986)

Senator Barney Cooney Senator Patricia Jessie giles (from 24 February 1987) Senator the Honourable Dame Margaret Georgina Constance Guilfoyle, D.B.E. Senator Graham Ross Magnire

Bryan Joseph Conquest, M.P. (from 15 April 1986)
Alexander John Gosse Downer, M.P. (from 23 May 1986)
Roslyn Joan Kelly, M.P.
Relen Mayer, M.P.
Leo Boyce McLeay, M.P.* (until 14 February 1986)
John Graham Mountford, M.P.* (from 14 February 1986)
Garry Barr Nehl, M.P.
Leo Roger Spursay Price, M.P.
Cary Francis Punch, M.P. (until 23 May 1986)
Allan Charles Rocher, M.P. (until 23 September 1986)
Phillip Maxwell Ruddock, M.P. (from 29 November 1985)
John Randall Sharp, M.P. (until 15 April 1986)
Andrew Charles Theophanous, M.P.
David John Hopetoun Watson, M.P (from 23 September 1986)

Secretary:

Mr M.J. Talberg

* ex-officio - being Chairman, House of Representatives Standing Committee on Expenditure

Sixteenth Committee

Appointed 7 October 1987 (Senate) and 8 October 1987 (House of Representatives)

Chairman: Vic-Chairman:

Robert Edward Tickmer, MP Senator John Odin Wentworth Watson

Senator Bronwyn Kathleen Riahop Senator the Hon Arthur Thomas Geitzelt Senator Patrica Jesseie Giles Senator James Philip McKeirnan

Kenneth James Aldred, MP
Robert John Brown, MP
Eric John Fitzgilbon, MP
John Robert Hewson, MP
Michael John Lee, MP
Stephen Faul Martin, MP
Garry Barr Nehl, MP
Ghilip Marwell Ruddock, MP
The Hon Gordon Glen Denton Scholes, MP

Secretary:

Mr M J Talberg

APPENDIX D

LIST OF REPORTS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMUTTEE: 1915 - 1931

Title	Date_of	Parliamentary
	Presentation	Paper No.
The Small Arms Factory, Lithgow, New South Wales	27 May 1915	131 of 1914-15
The Commonwealth Naval Dockyard, Cockatoo Island, New South Wales	28 Oct 1915	224 of 1914-15
The Expenditure Incurred in Connexion with the S.Y. "Aurora" of the Shackleton Expedition, at the Comnowealth Naval Dockyard, Cockatoo Island, Sydney	10 May 1916	287 of 1914-15-16
Stationery, Printing, and Advertising Accounts of Commonwealth Departments	11 May 1916	288 of. 1914-15-16
Stationery, Printing, and Advertising Accounts of Commonwealth Departments	13 Sep 1916	320 of 1914-15-16
Stores and Supplies for Commonwealth Requirements	13 Sep 1916	319 of 1914-15-16
Commonwealth Public Works Department	8 Dec 1916	350 of 1914-15-16
Manner of Submitting the Estimates, the Budget, and the Treasurer's Financial Statement	1 Mar 1917	371 of 1914-15-16-17
First General Report	27 Sep 1917	28 of 1917
Papuan Oil-Fields	17 Jan 1918	33 of 1917-18
Expenditure in Connexion with Establishing Naval Bases	13 Jun 1918	91 of 1917-18
Expenditure on Premises in the Capital Cities Owned and Rented by the Commonwealth for Office Accommodation	19 Nov 1918	113 of 1917–18

Title	Date of Presentation	Parliamentary Paper No.
Commonwealth Finance: (a) Credit Balances; (b) Method of Departmental Payments.	12 Dec 1918	120 of 1917-18
Commonwealth Railways	8 Oct 1919	180 of 1917-18-19
Second General Report	13 May 1920	30 of 1920
Commonwealth Shipbuilding	17 Nov 1920	75 of 1920
The Purchase of Saw-Mills and Timber Areas in Queensland	26 Nov 1920	82 of 1920
Transactions of the War Service Homes Commissioner with Mr J.T. Caldwell	6 Apr 1921	83 of 1920-21
The Purchase of Saw-Mills and Timber Areas	20 May 1921	113 of 1920-21
War Service Homes Commission (New South Wales)	6 Jul 1921	121 of 1920-21
War Service Homes Commission (Tasmania)	27 Oct 1921	149 of 1920-21
War Service Homes Commission (Western Australia)	4 Nov 1921	151 of 1920-21
War Service Homes Commission (Queensland)	5 Dec 1921	164 of 1920-21
War Service Homes Commission (Victoria)	29 Jun 1922	11 of 1922.
War Service Homes (South Australia)	30 Jun 1922	12 of 1922
War Service Homes Commission	27 Jul 1922	32 of 1922
Sugar	15 Sep 1922	48 of 1922
Sugar	13 Oct 1922	68 of 1922
Third General Report	13 Jun 1923	5 of 1923
Expenditure Upon Air Services	4 Jul 1923	19 of 1923
War Service Homes Disposals	22 Aug 1923	42 of 1923
Lithgow Housing Scheme	28 Mar 1924	59 of 1923-24
Canberra Housing	2 Apr 1924	58 of 1923-24
Expenditure on Munitions Supply	9 Jul 1924	88 of 1923-24

<u>Title</u>	Date of Presentation	Parliamentary Paper No.
Expenditure on the Royal Australian Naval College and the Royal Military College	20 Aug 1924	99 of 1923-24
Certain Transactions between the Co-operative Estates Limited, of Hobart, and the War Service Homes Commission	3 Oct 1924	129 of 1923-24
Expenditure on Oil Exploration, Development, Refining, Etc, in the Commonwealth and Papua	21 Aug 1925	34 of 1925
Fourth General Report	4 Mar 1926	10 of 1926
Expenditure on Oil Exploration, Development, Refining, Etc, in the Commonwealth and Papua	3 Mar 1926	11 of 1926
Expenditure on Oil Exploration, Development, Refining, Etc, in the Commonwealth and Papua	25 Mar 1926	18 of 1926
Commonwealth Government Shipping Activities - Interim Report	11 Aug 1926	66 of 1926
Pacific Islands Shipping Facilities	23 Mar 1927	97 of 1926-27
Commonwealth Government Shipping Activities, including Cocokatoo Island Dockyard	28 Sep 1927	132 of 1926-27
Communications between Tasmania and the Mainland	9 Nov 1927	131 of 1926-27
Transport Facilities within the Federal Capital Territory	22 Mar 1928	221 of 1926-27-28
Housing and Building Costs Generally in the Federal Capital Territory	19 Sep 1928	261 of 1926-27-28
Fifth General Report	7 Mar 1929	13 of 1929
Temporary Employment in the Commonwealth Public Service	22 Aug 1929	38 of 1929
Agricultural and Pastoral Leases in the Federal Capital Territory	13 Dec 1929	18 of 1929

Title	<u>Date of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parliamentary Paper No.
Claim of Charles Dean and Others, trading under the name of Henry Dean and Son, against the War Service Homes Commissioner for compensation to cover losses alleged to have been sustained as the result of extensions and alterations made to their works to provide hricks for the erection of War Service Homes	4 Apr 1930	52 of 1929-30
The General Question of Tasmania's Disabilities	7 Aug 1930	108 of 1929-30
Finance of South Australia as Affected by Federation	17 Jun 1931	239 of 1929-30-31
The Finance of Tasmania as Affected by Federation	17 Jun 1931	238 of 1929-30-31

LIST OF REPORTS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE: 1952-1987

	<u> </u>						
<u>No of</u> Report	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	<u>Parlia-</u> mentary <u>Paper No</u>	Treasury Minute - Report No			
1	Supplementary Estimates 1951-52	6 Mar 1953	160 of 1951-52-53	9 16			
2	Variations in Annual Appropriations under Section 37 of the Audit	26 Mar 1953	176 of 1951-52-53	3 16			
	Act 1901-1952						
3	Administrative Arrangements Order together with Treasury Minute on 2nd Report of Committee 1952-53	15 Sep 1953	201 of 1951-52-53	9 16			
4	Department of National Development	25 Sep 1953	207 of 1951-52-53	*			
5	Department of Works	6 Oct 1953	208 of 16 1951-52-53				
6	Department of External Affairs	22 Oct 1953	211 of 1951-52-53	16			
7	Administration of Sales Tax	20 Oct 1953	212 of 16 1951-52-53				
8	Parliamentary Procedure in the House of Representatives on the Supply and Appropriation Bills	20 Nov 1953	2 of 1953-54	16			
9	'Stephan' Prefabricated Buildings together with Treasury Minutes on 1st and 3rd Reports of the Committee and Statements on the Privileges and Immunities of the Members of the Committee	1 Dec 1953	9 of 1953-54				
10	Department of National Development: Further Report	21 Dec 1953	213 of 1951-52-53	*			
11	Joint Coal Board: Plant and Equipment	7 Apr 1954	10 of 1954	16			

No of Report	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute - Report N
12	Postmaster-General's Department	13 Apr 1954	14 of 1954	.19
13	The Form and Content of the Financial Documents Presented to the Parliament: Progress Report	8 Apr 1954	11 of 1954	**
14	Supplementary Estimates and Variations under Section 37 of the Audit Act 1901—1953 for the year 1952-53	7 Apr 1954	12 of 1954	16'3
15	Repatriation Department	13 Apr 1954	13 of 1954	16
16	Treasury Minutes on Reports of the 1952-54 Joint Committee of Public Accounts	2 Nov 1954	36 of 1954-55	*
17	Miscellaneous Inquiries: The Cleaning of Commonwealth Offices: the Steam Raising Plant operated by the Department of Works at Repatriation Hospitals; the Use of State Estate Duty Assessments for Commonwealth Estate Duty Purposes; Grants to Quasi-Governmental and Public Organisations; the Committee and Public Scrutiny	4 Nov 1954	30 of. 1954-55	27
18	The Form and Content of the Financial Documents Presented to the Parliament - Part 1 - The Budget Speech; the Estimates of Receipts and Expenditure and the Appropriation Bills	11 Nov 1954	37 of 1954-55	101 -
19	Treasury Minute and Comments of Postmaster-General's Department on 12th Report of the 1952-54 Joint Committee of Public Accounts - Postmaster-General's Department	5 May 1955	97 of 1954-55	*

No of Report	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute Report No
20	Supplementary Estimates and Variations under Section 37 of the Audit Act 1901- 1954; Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1953-54	24 May 1955	67 of 1954-55	27
21	Australian Aluminium Production Commission - Part I	2 Jun 1955	69 of 1954-55	67
22	Australian Aluminium Production Commission - Part II	27 Oct 1955	69A of 1954-55	67
23	Department of Civil. Aviation: Progress Report	27 Oct 1955	120 of 1954	*
24	Department of Civil Aviation	13 Jun 1956	29 of 1956-57	
25	Supplementary Estimates and Variations under Section 37 of the Audit Act 1901-1955: Comnonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1954-55	22 May 1956	43 of 1956-57	44
26	Commonwealth Office of Education	26 Sep 1956	45 of 1956-57	44
27	Department of the Interior: Acquisitions Program together with Treasury Minutes on 17th and 20th Reports	9 Apr 1957	3 of 1957-58	53
28	Supplementary Estimates and Variations under Section 37 of the Audit Act 1901-1955: Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1955-56	4 Oct 1956	47 of 1956-57	44
29	The Defence Services and the Estimates	30 Oct 1956	72 of 1956-57	57
30	Being an Epitome of the Reports of the 1st Committee and of the relevant Treasury Minutes	28 Mar 1957	2 of 1957-58	*

No of Report	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute - Report No	<u>No of</u> Report	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute Report No		
31.	Advance to the Treasurer: Presentation of Supplementary Estimates	21 May 1957	13 of 1957-58	33	44	Treasury Minutes on the: 25th Report - Supplementary Estimates and Variations under	26 Nov 1959	112 of 1959-60	*		
32	Department of Health: Canberra Abattoir	10 Sep 1957	36 of 1957-58	44		Section 37 of the Audit Act 1901-1955: Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for					
33	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer and variations under Section 37 of the Audit Act 1901- 1957: Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1956-57	9 Oct 1957	39 of 1957-58			year 1955-56; 26th Report - Commonwealth Of of Education; 28th Report - Supplementary E and Variations under Section the Audit Act 1901-1955; Comm Consolidated Revenue Fund for year 1955-56;	stimates 37 of onwealth the				
34	The Trust Fund	4 Dec 1957	69 of 1957-58	108		32nd Report - Department of H Canberra Abattoir; 33rd Report - Expenditure fro		lth:			
35	The Northern Territory Administration: Interim Report	5 Dec 1957	71 of 1957-58	*		Advance to the Treasurer and Variations under Section 37 of the Audit Act 1901-57: Com Consolidated Revenue Fund for					
36	The Northern Territory Administration - Part I	29 Apr 1958	25 of 1958	57		1956-57; and 40th Report - The Finance Sta					
37	The Northern Territory Administration - Part II	14 May 1958	26 of 1958	57	45	Index to the 1st to the 41st Reports of the Committee	3 Dec 1959	114 of 1959-60	*		
38	Index to the 1st to the 34th Reports of the Committee	14 May 1958	24 of 1958	*	46	Outstanding Claims - Sections 36(2) and 51(f) of the Audit Act 1901-1959	10 Mar 1960	2 of 1960-61	51		
39	Project 590 - St Mary's	15 May 1958	28 of 1958	* .	47	Broadcasting and Television Services - Underspending of	18 Aug 1960	57 of 1960-61	57		
40		19 Aug 1958	39 of 1958	44		Capital Works and Service Division - No.58 - Item 1					
41	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer: Common- wealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1957-58	25 Sep 1958	65 of 1958	51	48	Treasury Regulation 52 (Second Report)	30 Aug 1960	58 of 1960-61	61		
42	Treasury Regulation 52	8 Oct 1958	60 of 1959-60	48	49	Form of Estimates - Miscellaneous Services	11 Oct 1960	62 of 1960-61	53		
43	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer - Commonwealth Consolidated	19 Nov 1959	78 of 1959-60	57	and	The Reports of the Auditor-General - Financial Year 1958-59					
	Revenue Fund 1958-59					Part I	8 Nov 1960	84 of 1960-61	65		
						Part II	30 Nov 1960	89 of 1960-61	63		

No of Report	<u>Title</u>	Date of Presentation	Perlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute - Report No
51	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer - Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1959-60 and Treasury Minutes on 41st and 46th Reports	15 Nov 1960	85 of 1960-61	57
53	The Reports of the Auditor- General - Financial Year 1959-60	23 Aug 1961	65 of 1961	65
54	Form of the Estimates: Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works and Other Services Involving Capital Expenditure	6 Sep 1961	70 of 1961	72
55	Form of the Estimates Part I — Schedule of Salaries and Allowances Part II — Deduction and Transfer Items	4 Oct 1961	87 of 1961	99
56	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer - Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1960-61	18 Oct 1961	112 of 1961	61
57	Treasury Minutes on the: 24th Report - Department of Civil Aviation; 29th Report - The Defence Servand the Estimates; 36th Report - The Northern Ter Administration - Part I; 37th Report - The Northern Ter Administration - Fart II; 43rd Report - Expenditure from to the Treasurer - Commonwealt Consolidated Revenue Fund 1956 47th Report - Broadcasting and Services - Understanding of Ca and Service Division - No, 58 51st Report - Expenditure from to the Treasurer - Commonwealt Revenue Fund for the year 1959 Treasury Minutes on 41st and 4	114 of 1961	•	
58	The Reports of the Auditor- General - Financial year 1960-61	25 Oct 1961	115 of 1961	67

No of Report	· · ·	<u>Date of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute - Report No
59	Index to the 1st to the 58th Reports of the Committee	27 Nov 1962	151 of 1962-63 r.	*
60	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer - Commonwealth Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1961-62	27 Nov 1962	152 of 1962-63	65
61	The Reports of the Auditor-General - Financial year 1961-62 Dept of the Aumy - Examination and Certific - Accounting procedures Dept of Air - Bramination and Certific - Accounting procedures Dept of the Interior - But Repatriation Dept - amenda - The Appropriation Act - Mc Canberra Electricty Supply Dept of Customs and Excise - Petroleum Excise Regulal - Duty-free Petroleum Processes - Diesel Fuel Tax - General and Treasury Minutes on the: 48th Report - Treasury Regulation (Second Report); as 56th Report - Expenditure from Advance to Treasurer - Common Consolidated Revenue Fund for year 1960-61	cation of Overseas cation of Overseas cation of Meteorolog ments of regulatic mitions Factories cations hucts for Commonwa and mealth	3 Vouchers By Sons 3 Trust Account	72 ::s
62	The Budget (Financial Documents)	27 Aug 1963	243 of 1962-63	65
63	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer (Appropriation Act 1962-63) and Treasury Minute on the 52nd R - Reports of the Auditor-Gene Financial year 1958-59, Part	ral -	305 of 1962-63	65
	•			

No of Report	Title	Date of Presentation	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute - Report No	No of Recort	
64	Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1962-63	23 Apr 1964	43° of 1964-65-66	76		. Dep
	Attorney-General's Dept Reporting Branch Salar: Administrative Expenses Patents, Trade Marks as Commonwealth Police For Buildings, works, fitt: Dept of National Develop Administrative Expenses Division of National Me Bureau of Mineral Reso Special Mineral Survey Dept of Social Services Central Administration State Establishments Buildings, works, fitt: Dept of Social Services Administrative expenses Hobasy, Indonesia Repairs and Maintenano Dept of Interior Real Estate Mangement News and Information B ACT Services ACT Police Other Repairs and Main Capital works and serv Dept of Supply Salaries Administrative expense Commonwealth Railways Trans-Australia Rail Central Australia Rail Central Australia Rail Seat of Govt. Railway Capital works and serv Dept of the Navy Administrative expense Equipment and stores Dept of Air Administrative expense Equipment and stores Perforces overseas Equipment and stores Parliamentary Library Administrative expense Administrative expense Administrative expense Equipment and stores Perforces overseas Equipment and stores Parliamentary Library Administrative expense Administrative expense Administrative expense Administrative expense Administrative expense Administrative expense	and Designs cre Salaries ings and furniture sapping urces (NT) ings and furniture s e ureau tenance ices s and general serv Administrative exp serce (Trade Descri	rices rices enses			Treasum 50th Re of the Financi 53rd Re Auditor Form Re 62nd R (Finan 63rd R to the 1962-6 52nd R The Re Genera 1962-6
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No of Report	Title	<u>Pate of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute - Report No
	. Dept of Territories - Salaries - Administrative expense - Northern Territory Adm - Northern Territory (Ca	inistration	,	٠
65	Treasury Minutes on the: 50th Report - The Reports of the Anditor-General - Financial Year 1958-59 Part 53rd Report - The Reports of Anditor-General - Financial Year 1959-60; 60th Report - Expenditure for the Advance to the Treasurer Commonwealth Consolidated Re Fund for the year 1961-62; 62nd Report - The Budget (Financial Documents); and 63rd Report - Expenditure for to the Treasurer (Appropriat 1962-63) and Treasury Minute 52nd Report	the com c - evenue com Advance cion Act	45 of 1964-65-66	*
66	The Reports of the Auditor- General - Financial year 1962-63 Dept of Interior - Advances for the Purci Construction of House - Accounting - Hotels and Guest Hous - Parks and Gendens Sec - Furniture and Equipme Dept of Territories - Sundry Debtors - Assets and Property R - Construction of Dwell Capitals works and se Dept of Supply - Accounting for Clothi Engine Works Activiti - Costs of Maintaining Commonwealth Stores sup Dept of Trade - Accounting at oversee - Temporary Advances - Special Appropriation - Recording and Recover	hase or es es tion - Canberra nt in Public Schoo legister lings Financed from rvices ling Factory and les Capacity of Factor pply and Tender Bos as posts.	ies	72

lo of leport	Title	<u>Pate of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Fina Minu Repo
	Dept of Primary Industry Expenditure of Excess Repayment and Advances Dept of Territories Business undertakings Housing Commission The Corporation of the Internal Audit (Papua	of Amounts Author and Public Utilit City of Darwin	ies .	
67	Treasury Minutes on the: 21st Report - Australian Aluminium Production Commiss - Part I; 22nd Report - Australian Alu Production Commission - Part II; and 58th Report - The Report of Auditor-General - Financial Year 1960-61	minium	127 of 1964-65-66	*
68	Expenditure from Advance to the Treasurer (Appropriation Act 1963-64) Dept of Interior Surveys News and Information F. National Capital Devel ACT General Services CSIRO Dept of Air — Administrative expense Salaries Administrative expense Salaries Capital Works and Serv Dept of Trade and Indust Salaries Tariff Board Dept of Primary Industry Administration of Comm Division of Agricultur Dept of the Treasury Salaries Administrative expense Superannuation Branch Bureau of Census and S Government Printer Dept of Works Administrative expense Repairs and maintenand Northern Texritory ger	tive Expenses and ses overseas posts vices cry remerce (Trade Descal Economics es Statistics	1	79

of ort	<u>Title</u>	<u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	<u>Finance</u> <u>Minute</u> - <u>Report No</u>
69	Index to the 1st to the 68th Reports of the Committee	8 Apr 1965	195 of 1964-65-66	*
70	The Reports of the Auditor- General - Financial year 1963-64	8 Apr 1965	160 of 1964-65	79
71	The Northern Territory Administration	23 Sep 1965	206 of 1964-65-66	99
72	Treasury Minutes on the: 54th Report - Form of the Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works and Other Services Involving Capital Expenditure; 61st Report - The Reports of the Auditor-General - Financial Year 1961-62 and Treasury Minutes on the: 48th and 56th Reports; and 66th Report - The Report of th General - Financial Year 1962-		208 of 1964-65-66	79
73	The Department of Social Services	21 Oct 1965	221 of 1964-65-66	91
74	Expenditure from Advance to the Trassurer (Appropriation Act 1964-65) Dept of External Affiars - Administrative expenses - Salaries Dept of Health - NT Healt! Dept of the Navy - Adminis General Services Prime Minister's Dept - Mi of the Opposition and Par Dept of Trade and Industry Services	n Services strative Expenses inisters of State rliamentary Partic	, Leaders es and Staffs	88
75	Expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1964-65 . CSIRO — Works and Services — Investigations — Grants to research organ	8 Dec 1965 nisations	249 of 1964-65-66	91

No of Report	Title	<u>Pate of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	Parlia- mentary Paper No	Finance Minute - Report No	No of Report	<u>Title</u>	<u>Pate of</u> <u>Presentation</u>	<u>Parlia-</u> <u>mentary</u> <u>Paper No</u>	<u>Finance</u> <u>Minute -</u> <u>Report No</u>
	Dept of External Affairs International developms Salaries Administrative expenses Buildings, works, equipoverseas posts Dept of Immigration - Ass Dept of the Interior Electoral branch News and Information B ACT Services	s overseas posts ment and furnitu sisted migration	re,	i i		Prime Minister's Dept - Office - UK Dept of Trade and Indust - Accounting - overseas - Sundry Debtors - Adjustment of Advance Dept of the Treasury - Taxes written off Defence Services Proc in the USA	ry offices s	' s '	
	Dept of National Develops Forestry and Timber Bu River Murray Commission Dept of the Navy — Expens Dept of Shipping and Trai Dept of Trade and Industr South American Shipping Tariff Board Dept of Works Buildings, Works, fitt:	reau iliture by NCDC isport - Railway ry g Service			79	Treasury Minutes on the: 68th Report - Expenditure in Advance to the Treasurer (Appropriation Act 1963-64); 70th Report - The Reports of the Auditor-General - Financial Year 1963-64; ar 72nd Report - Treasury Minut on the 54th, 61st and 66th I	od Les	275 of 1964-65-66	*
	Dept of Customs and Exc - Repairs and Maintenance and Interior	cise			80	Department of Customs and Excise - Excise Control Procedures	31 Mar 1966	276 of 1964-65-66	90
76	Treasury Minute on the 64th Report - Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1962-63	9 Dec 1965	250 of	*	81	The Supplementary Report of the Auditor-General - Financial year 1964-65 (The Canberra Community Hospital)	18 Aug 1966	319 of 1964-65-66	95
78	Treasury Regulation 53 The Report of the Anditor-General - Financial year 1964-65 Dept of the Anny - Store Accounting Attorney-General's Dept and Registration Offices ACT Dept of External Affairs - Accounting - overseas - Sundry Debtors - Dist Australians Dept of the Interior - News and Information - Parks and Gardens Sec Postmaster-General's Dept of Stores	- Courts in the offices ressed Bureau tion	250 of 1964-65-66 274 of 1964-65-66	95	82	Expenditure from the Advance to the Treasurer (Appropriation Act 1965-66). Dept of Air — — Temporary and exempt employees — Office requisites an etc Attorney-General's Dept — High Court — Travel (Courts and Registrat Jurors' and Witnesse — Courts office (NT) — and Casual employees Dept of Civil Aviation (CSINO) — Rostage, telegram an services — Agricultural research — Information and publ — Physical research	expenses ion Offices s' fees Temporary -salaries it telephone	352 of 1964-65-66	95

No of Report	Title	Date of Presentation	Parlia- mentary Paper No	<u>Pinance</u> <u>Minute</u> Report 1
	- Administration of (Trade Description Prime Ministers Dept Communication Univers Public Service Bos Dept of the Senate Salaries Printing et Inter-Parliamentar Dept of Social Servic Temporary and casu	al employees ctive clothing ins th - African ings ce er expenditure and telephone salaries of locally - Bureau of lopment - Bureau try and telephone servite commerce s) Act so of Education cities Commission and y Union conferences al employees al amployees al and telephone servite the try union conferences as and telephone servite	Cess:	
83	The National Capital Development Commission	11 Oct 1966	351 of 1964-65-66	97
84	Expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1965-66. Dept of External Affa - Economic Developm the Colombo Flan - Capital Works and overseas posts Dept of Housing War S Homes Relief Trust Ac	airs ant under Services, Service	350 of 1964-65-66	130

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89	The Sixth Committee	27 Oct 1966	363 of 1964-65-66	*			
90	Treasury Minute on the 80th Report - Department of Customs and Excise - Excise Control Procedures	18 May 1967	32 of 1967	•			
91	Treasury Minutes on the: 73rd Report - The Department of Social Services; 75th Report - Expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1954-65; and 87th Report - The Report of the Auditor-General - Financial Year 1965-66	5 Oct 1967	139 of 1967	*			
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* not applicable n.p. not yet presented

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126	Treasury Minute on the 107th Report - Subscriber Trunk Dialling Telephone Facilities (SID)	18 Feb 1971	261 of 1971	*

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132	Treasury Minute on the 115th Report - Expenditure from the Advance to the Treasurer (Appropriation Acts 1968-69)	5 Aug 1971	138 of 1971	*	
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176	The Report of the Auditor- General - Financial Year 1977-78	6 Nov 1979	277 of 1979	185				
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177	Finance Minute on Reports 168 - Expenditure from the Advance to the Treasurer (Appropriation Acts - 1976-77 173 - Expenditure from the Act to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1977-78)		276 of 1979	*				
178	Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1978-79) Dept. Defence - Naval Con - Variation in Estimates - Replacement Weapons & A - Fuels - Defence Cooperation, In - Defence Research Salari - Dept. Foreign Affairs - U Expenditure - Dept. Science & the Envir	286 of 1979	180					
179	Annual Report 1979	5 Sept 1980	260 of 1980	*				
180	Finance Minutes on Reports: 171 - The Report of the Auditor-General - Financial Year 1976-77; and 178 - Expenditure from the Ad to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1978-79)	28 Aug 1980. vance	261 of 1980	*				
181	Canberra Commercial Development Authority	28 Aug 1980	225 of 1980	214				
182	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme - Chemists Remuneration	16 Sep 1980	233 of 1980	206				

^{*} not applicable n.p. not yet presented

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183	Finance Minutes on Reports: 174 - Use of ADP in the Commonwealth Public Sector - Acquisition of Systems in the Public Service; and 175 - Use of ADP in the Common Public Sector - the MANDARA P.	»wealth	234 of 1980	*
184	Internal Audit in the Australian Public Service - A Discussion Paper	11 Feb 1981	1 of 1981	211
185	Finance Minute on Report 176 - The Report of the Auditor-Ge - Financial Year 1977-78		67 of 1981	*
186	Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1979-80) Dept. Finance - Expenditur Governor-General's Warrand Dept. Social Security - Ac Expenses Dept. Transport - Salaries Dept. Veterans' Affairs - Benefits	re in Excess of iministrative	64 of 1981	217
187	Reports of the Amittor- General - Financial Year 1978-79 Dept. Defence - Repair & (Aircraft Dept. Primary Industry - A of Foreign Fishing Vessel Dept. Social Security - Persions & Benefits Overse	Apprehension syment of	65 of 1981	218
188	Annual Report 1980-81	27 Oct 1981	235 of 1981	*
189	Airport Fire Tenders	27 Oct 1981	259 of 1981.	219
190	Inquiry into Petroleum Royalties and Excise	27 Oct 1981	236 of 1981	215
191	Commonwealth Government Financial Administration — A Handbook	10 Nov 1981	211 of 1981	*
192	Collection and Dissemination of Statistics - A Discussion Paper	10 Nov 1981	237 of 1981	207

^{*} not applicable n.p. not yet presented

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193	Reports of the Auditor- General 1979-80 and March 1981	20 Apr 1982	84 of 1982	220
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194	Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1980-81) Australian Federal Police Administrative Expenses Dept. Defence - Medical & Depts. Finance & Defence - Disaster Relief Dept. Industry & Commerce Capacity Maintenance	Dental Services Natural	85 of 1982	208
195	Finance Minute on Report 172 - Financing and Administration of Property owned or leased Overseas by the Commonwealth Government	20 Apr 1982 e	86 of 1982	*
196	The Australian War Memorial Conservation and Curatorial Functions	27 Apr 1982	87 of 1982	221
197	Coal Export Duty	29 Apr 1982	88 of 1982	205
198	Department of Industry and Commerce - Government Aircraft Factories	4 May 1982	93 of 1982	242
199	The Form and Standard of Financial Statements for Commonwealth Under- takings - A Discussion Paper	28 Oct 1982	255 of 1982	210
200	Annual Report 1981-82	9 Dec 1982	446 of 1982	*
201	Efficiency Audit - Administration of Bilateral Aid	10 Nov 1982	315 of 1982	271
202	The Selection and Development of Senior Managers in the Commonwealth Public Service	28 Oct 1982	311 of 1982	245

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203	Medical Fraud and Overservicing - Progress Report	9 Dec 1982	445 of 1982	212
204	Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1981-82) Government Printer - Loss Student Assistance Progra Childron Dept. Capital Territory Allowances Dept. Aviation - Air Serv	ams - Isolated - Salaries and	177 of 1983	235
205	Finance Minute on Report 197 - Coal Export Duty	20 Oct 1983	148 of 1983	*
206	Finance Minute on Report 182 - Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme - Chemists Remune		248 of 1983	*
207	Finance Minute on Report 192 - Collection & Dissemination of Statistics - A Discuss Paper	on.	228 of 1983	*
208	Finance Minute on Report 194 - Expenditure from the Advato the Minister for Finan (Appropriation Acts 1980	ance nce	226 of 1983	*
209	Reports of the Auditor- General - 1980-81 . Dept. Social Security - Assistance for Homeless - National Benefits Syste . Dept. Finance - Expendit of Governor-General's Was - Closing of Accounts at	s Persons em ure in Excess rrant	247 of 1983	230
210	Finance Minute on Report 199 The Form and Stdandards: Financial Statements for Commonwealth Undertaking A Discussion Paper	for	245 of 1983	*
211	Finance Minute on Report 184 - Internal Audit in the Australian Public Service A Discussion Paper		236 of 1983	*

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212	Finance Minute on Report 203 - Medical Fraud and Over- servicing - Progress Repor	15 Nov 1983 t	251 of 1983	*
213	Income Maintenance Programs; Volume 1 - A Discussion Paper Volume 2 - Program Description	1 Dec 1983	308 of 1983 321 of 1983	246
214	Finance Minute on Report 181 - Canberraa Commercial Development Authority	6º Dec 1983	310 of 1983	*
215	Finance Minute on Report 190 - Inquiry into Petroleum Royalties & Excise	30 Nov 1983	319 of 1983	*
216	Joint Committee of Public Accounts - Annual Report 1982-83	8 Dec: 1983	314 of 1983	*
217	Finance Minute on Report 186 - Expenditure from the Advanto the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts)	òe :	312 of 1983	*
218	Finance Minute on Report 187 - Reports of the Auditor-General Year 1978-79		313 of 1983	*
219	Finance Minute on Report 189 - Airport fire tenders	15 Dec 1983	315 of 1983	*
220	Finance Minute on Report 193 - Reports of the Auditor-Gene 1979-80 and March 1981	14 Dec 1983 eral	316 of 1983	*
221	Finance Minute on Report 196 - The Australian War Memoral Conservation and Curatorial Functions		317 of 1983	*
222	Report of the Auditor- General - March 1982 . Dept. Defence - Mobile Radio Terminals - HMS Tobruk - Helicopters for FFG's . Dept. Health - Commonwealth Medical Ben Dept. Home Affairs & Envir - Norfolk Island Administra	onment.	318 of 1983	231

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	. Department of Primary Indu - Levies, Taxes and Charge . Dept. Social Security - Commonwealth Rehabilitat Service	96 -		
223	HMAS Tobruk	7 Mar 1984	65 of 1984	227
224	Excise and Deferred Customs Duties	10 Oct 1984	229 of 1984	234
225	Stratplan - Department of Social Security ADP Re-equipment Program, Volume I - First Report; Volume II - Appendices to First Report; Occupational Health and Safety Aspects of VDU Use	18 Oct 1984	269 of 1984 268 of 1984	237
226	Report of Activities July 1983 - December 1984	9 May 85	198 of 1985	*
227	Finance Minute on Report 223 - HMAS Tobruk	10 May 85	181 of 1985	*
228	Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1982-83) Dept. Aviation - Office Req Expenditure Dept. Defence - Salary and Mature of Salary : CMF and C Dept. Transport - Administra Fuel, Light and Power	163 of 1985	251.	

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229	Reports of the Auditor-General - 1981-82 and September 1982 Dept. Communications - Int-Australian Telecommunica Dept. Defence - Cockatoo I - Repair and Refit of Subm. Dept. Education & Youth Af-Secondary Allowance Sche Overpayment Procedures - Curriculum Development O Dept. Foreign Affairs - Im Dept. Industry & Commerce & Accounting - Australian Industry Developt. Primary Industry - A and Pear Corporation	tions Commission sland Dockyard arines fairs mes antre ternal Audit - Cargo Control lopment Corporatio	184 of 198	5 258			- Adult Secondary Educ Scheme - Curriculum Developme - Dept. Finance - Superammation Fund Dept. Foreign Affairs - Passport Issue & Coc Dept. Industry & Comm - Australian Industry Corporation Dept. Primary Industry Trust Account Moneys Dept. Social Security - Recovery of Overpay - Issue of Replacemen Dept. Trade and Resou Finance and Insurance	ent Centre Investment Trust ntrol arcs Development y - Investment of ments t Cheques rose - Export	
	- Australian Dairy Corpora Dept. Science & Technology Industrial Research & Deve Incentives Dept. Social Security - Internal Audit - Telephone Rental Concess Dept. Territories & Local - Darwin Cyclone Tracy Rel Dept. Treasury - Australia Posting and Transfers - Australian Taxation Offi Instalments Dept. Veterans' Affairs - Concessions to Pensioners	- Australian lopment ions to Pensioners Government ief Trust Fund n Taxation - Offic ce - Company Tax				233	Reports of the Auditor-1982-83 and September 1: Dept. Administrative: - Australian Governme. Attorney-General's De - Banknuptcy Act 1966 Dept. Aviation - Air Navigation Char Operators - Departmen Dept. Finance - Closu Accounting Office - Regional Office, Da Reconcile Drawing Aco Dept. Immigration & E - Adult Migrant Bhuca Dept. Industry & Comm	983 Services nt Publishing Service pt. ges - Domestic Airlin tal Residences re of Geneva rwin - Failure to ount thic Affairs tion Program	208 of 1985
230	Finance Minute on Report 209 Reports of the Auditor-Gener 1980-81		180 of 198	35 265			- Warehousing . Dept. Primary Industr - Computerised Account . Dept. Territories & L	y ting System ocal Government	
231	Finance Minute on Report 222 Report of the Auditor-Genera March 1982		209 of 198	35 *			- National Sports Cen Dept. Transport Tasmanian Freight E Dept. Treasury	qualisation Scheme	
232	Report of the Auditor- General - May 1983 Dept. Administrative Servi - Special Broadcasting Ser Dept. Aviation - QANTAS Ai Dept. Defence - The Minehu Catamaran - Repair and Maintenance of	vice rways Limited nter f Navy Ships	204. of 198	35 265			- Expenditures in Exc the Governor-General Australian Taxation O - Authorisation of Re - Dividends and Inter Fraudulent Negotiatio Recovery of Outstandi and Overpayments	ffice funds est Witholding Tax n of Cheques	
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	was sampled	130	* Not appl .p. not yet * Received Presents	presented: I but not yet	:			131	* Not applical n.p. not yet pres * * Received but Presented

plicable n.p. not yet presented * * Received but not yet Presented

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235	Finance Minute on Report 204 Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1981-82)	23 Aug 85	. 251 of 1985	*	•
236	Medical Fraud and Overservicing - Pathology	11. Sept 85	264 of 1985	260	
237	Finance Minute on Report 225 Stratplan - Department of Social Security ADP re-equipme program		276 of 1985	275	•
238	Public Hospitals in the Australian Capital Territory	25 Nov 85	361 of 1985	275	241 Re Ge an
239	Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Approxiation Acts 1983-84) . Dept. Defence Support . Dept. Education & Youth Affe. Dept. Territories & Local G	irs	358 of 1985	. 266	
240	Report of the Auditor— General March 1984 Dept. Defence — Major Excerv Dept. Defence Support — Manu of Munitions Dept. Employment & Industria Unemployment Benefit Adv Public Sector Training Payments Dept Finance Treasury Remote Imput/On Centralised System For I of Drawing Accounts (RECO) Dept. Foreign Affairs — ADAI Humanitarian Assistance & Dir ADAB — Dessicated Cocom Dept. Health — National Bio Standards Iaboratory (NESL) Dept. Housing & Construction Departmental Accounting System & Central Office ADP B Dept. Immigration and Ethnic — Adult Migrant Education Dept. Social Security	cise ifacture Il Relations inistration - Salary Apple System (TRI seconciliation B - Emergency saster Relief at Factory - Tong togical and Information vironment Control Affairs	(O)		
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Dept. Treasury - Recovery of Tax - Australian Taxation Office - Wool Tax Dept. Veterans' Affairs - Checue Production and Distribution - Telephone Rental Concessions to Pensioners Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) - Hiring and Flying of Aircraft Australian National Railways Commission - Acquisition and Development of Computer Based Systems Report of the Auditor-14 Nov 85 351 of 1985 eneral - 1983-84 and September 1984 Dept. Administrative Services - Property Directorate - Property Management Information Systems Dept. Defence/Defence Support - Navy Weapons - Laser Airborne Depth Sounders (LADS) Dept. Defence Support - Munitions Production Trust Account - Internal Audit Dept. Education & Youth Affairs - Central Administration of Student Assistance Programs Dept. Finance - Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme - Employer Contributions by Approved Authorities or other Bodies Deot. Health - Internal Audit Dept. Housing and Construction - General Works Division - Australian Capital Territory Dept. Industry & Commerce - Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme - Coal Excise Levy Dept. Resources and Energy - Internal Audit Dept. Social Security - Invalid Pensions - Recovery of Overpayments - Departmental Protective Security Dept. of Territories and Local Government ~ Financial Statements Outstanding - Industrial Wages Payroll System Dept. of Veterans' Affairs - ADP System Development - Pension Overpayments and Other Debtors - Procurement and Supply Finance Minute on Report 198 6 Dec 1985 458 of 1985 Department of Industry and Commerce - Government Aircraft factories

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mentary

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* Not applicable n.p. not yet presented * * Received but not yet Presented 133

* Not applicable
n.p. not yet presented
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243	Review of Defence Project Management . Volume 1 Report	20 Feb 1986	18 of 1986	267
244	. Volume 2 Project Analysis Munitions Production Trust Account	19 of 1986 19 March 1986	32 of 1986	268
245	Finance Minute on Report 202 - The Selection and Development of Senior Managers in the Commonwealth Public Service	26 May 1986	107 of 1986	*
246	Finance Minute on Report 213 - Income Maiantenance Programs	27 May 1986	109 of 1986	*
247	Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1984-85) . Dept. Aviation . Dept. Defence	29 May 1986	110 of 1986	269
248	Report of the Auditor- General-April 1985 Dept. Community Services Children's Services Program Dept. Defence Pave Tack Target Designation Dept. Employment and Industrication Adult Wage Subsidy Scheme Dept. Finance Commonwealth Superannuation Contributions by Approved Autition Other Bodies Dept. Health National Acoustic Laborato Central Register of Medica Dept. Housing and Construction Payments to States for House Payments to States for House Dept. Immigration and Ethnic Refugee and Special Humani Dept. Social Security Family Allowance Family Income Supplement Recovery of Overpayments Double Orphans' Pensions Dept. Territories Administration of the Comm	on System Lal Relations n Scheme - Employ thorities or ries 1 Practitioners on sing Assistance Affairs tarian Programs	133 of 1986	n.p.

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	. Dept. Veterans' Affairs - National Computer Centre - Pension Overpayments and C Aussat Pty Ltd Australian National Airlinee Australian National Gallery Australian National Universi Australian Shipping Commissi	::Commission		
249	Proposed Computer Acquisition for Repatriation General Hospitals	12 June 1986	135 of 1986	n.p.
250	Australia Post - An Audit Discontinued	17 Sept 1986	236 of 1986	276
251	Finance Minute on Report 228 - Expenditure from the Advance t Minister for Finance (Appropri Acts 1982-83)	othe "	111 of 1986	*
252	JOB SEEKER - Computer Acquisition by the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations	13 June 1986	134 of 1986	n.p.
253	Proposed Computer Acquisition by the Australian Audit Office	11 June 1986	132 of 1986	279
254	Project DESINE - Department of Defence Computer Proposal	25 Sept 1986	245 of 1986	n.p.
255	Report of Activities - January 1985 to June 1986	18 March 1987	198 of 1986	*
256	Forward Obligation of	15 Oct 1986	260 of 1986	n.p.
257	Government Expenditure Review of Efficiency Audit - Quarantine Services	22 Oct 1986	267 of 1986	n.p.
258	Finance Minute on Report 229 - Reports of the Auditor-General 1981-82 - September 1982	21 Oct 1986	262 of 1986	*
259	Department of Community Services Computer Acquisition	23 Oct 1986	272 of 1986	n.p.

* Not applicable
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* * Received but not yet
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260	Finance Minute on Report 236 - Medical Fraud and Overservicing - Pathology	20 Nov 1986	338 of 1986	ř *
261	Review of Efficiency Audit - ACTION	27 Nov 1986	356 of 1986	n.p.
262	Departmental Annual Report - Guidelines	27 Nov 1986	341 of 1986	n.p.
263	Aspects of Defence Equipment Support Vol 1	28 Nov 1986	340 of 1986	n.p.
*	Vol 2 Technical Documentation	28 April 1987	107 of 1987	n.p.
264	Public Accounts Committee and the Senate	19 March 1987	75 of 1987	*
265	Finance Minute on Report 232 Report of the Auditor-General - May 1983	6 May 1987	116 of 1987	*
266	Finance Minute on Report 239 Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1983-84)	24 March 1987	76 of 1987	*
267	Finance Minute on Report 243 Review of Defence Project Management	26 March 1987	83 of 1987	*
268	Finance Minute on Report 244 Munitions Production Trust Account	25 March 1987	79 of 1987	*
269	Finance Minute on Report 247 Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1984-85)	31 March 1987	·82 of 1987	*
270	Implementation of the Offsets Program	30 April 1987	108 of 1987	n.p.
271	Finance Minute on Report 201 Efficiency Audit - Administration of Bilateral Ai	5 May 1987 d	109 of 1987	*
272	Administration of the Commonwealth's Property Function	4 May 1987	110 of 1987	n.p.

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273	Finance Minute on Report 240 Report of the Auditor- General - March 1984	12 May 1987	118 of 1987	*
274	Finance Minute on Report 233 Reports of the Auditor- General 1982-83 and September 1983	26 May 1987	138 of 1987	*
275	Finance Minute on Report 238 Public Hospitals in the Australian Capital Territory	27 May 1987	139 of 1987	*
276	Finance Minute on Report 250 Australia Post - An Audit Discontinued	28 May 1987	141 of 1987	
277	Four Efficiency Audits - Special Youth Employment Training Program - Administration of the Export Development Grants Act 1974 by the EDG Board - Administration of Widow's Pension and Supporting Perent's Benefit Programs by the Department of Social Security - Administration of the Disability Pension and Service Pension Schemes. by the Repatriation Commission and the Department of Veterans' Affairs	2 June 1987	162 of 1987	n.p.
279	Finance Minute on Report 253 Proposed Computer Acquisition by the Australian Audit Office	2 June 1987	161 of 1987	*
280	Defence Science and Technology Organisation - Task Cost Management	2 June 1987	160 of 1987	n.p.

^{*} Not applicable
n.p. not yet presented
* * Received but not yet
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