
Sent: Saturday, 27 September 2008 12:02
To: White Paper
Subject: WWW Submission: 1. Strategy/International [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

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Submission: Sea Lines of Communication is a traditional and somewhat misunderstood term for the trade routes used by shipping engaged in international trade. The subject may be more readily understood if we refer to trade shipping routes and focal areas adjacent to terminal ports and then narrows and straits through which shipping is constrained to ply

The point of this subject for the Defence White Paper is that it is central to continuing survival of the Australian nation and our accustomed standard of living that this international trade shipping continues largely without interference. Naturally there will always be a degree of uncertainty from natural events and from unavoidable depredations such as piracy. An increase in that level of interference, especially if intentionally caused by forces inimical to Australia, would affect the Australian economy

In a plausible scenario, as such interference increased, the effects on Australia would become deeper and more pervasive. The Australian Government would be expected to act to counter such interference, and that would require, inter alia, the intervention by components of the Australian Defence Force.

There have been some analysts who have said recently that such interference would be countered by others, notably by the countries with whom Australia trades as their economies would also be affected. Others say that the task is too great and thus Australia must rely on the US Navy to do the work for us. I say this a cowardly view that would never be supported by the Australian community at large

I agree to my submission being published on the Defence website

I agree to my submission being quoted in the Community Consultation Report