



N° LGB 03/98

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's note N° 59 dated 29 April 2003, requesting permission to enter the Exclusive Economic Zone and Territorial waters of Australia to undertake marine scientific research, with the vessel "Melville" between 28 May and 15 July 2003.

The Department has the honour to inform the Embassy, that the Australian Government, in accordance with the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* has approved marine scientific research by the "Melville" and welcomes the offer of the Scripps Institution to provide bathymetric data along the tracks of the *Melville* to Geoscience Australia. The Department has the honour to remind the Embassy that, in accordance with Australia's Foreign Research Vessels Guidelines and Article 249(b) and (d) of the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*, it is a condition of approval that the results of any research be made available to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade as soon as practicable.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

CANBERRA  
27 May 2003

