

AUSTRALIA

1. Passengers. See the DOD Foreign Clearance Guide available at <https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil/fcg.cfm>. From the left column select Pacific, South Asia, and Indian Ocean and then Australia.
2. Cargo:
 - a. Government. When military equipment is shipped into Australia for combined exercises or training or other activities approved by the Australian Government, Australian Customs and the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service must be advised at least four weeks in advance of the arrival at the First Port of Entry (FPE) and four weeks before departure at the Last Port of Departure (LPD).
 - b. Military weapons destined for exercises approved by the Australian Government are exempted from normal import and export restrictions (Australian Regulation 3A Customs Regulations 1956 – Prohibited Import), but other goods subject to controls, such as drugs and pharmaceuticals, are not exempt. These require a permit issued by the authority. All weapons and equipment must be clearly manifested. At the time of importation, the US Defense Force must be the owner of the goods or a member/employee of that defense force must have been issued those goods.
 - c. The export of goods from Australia is controlled by laws and Government policies to:
 - (1) Prohibit the export of certain goods either absolutely or conditionally; and
 - (2) Record Australia's international trade.

Total prohibition applies to the export of protected wildlife, some heritage items and other dangerous goods. Goods that are conditionally prohibited from export may not be exported unless all export permits are obtained from the permit-issuing agency. Further, goods may not be exported, or loaded on a ship or aircraft for export (some exemptions apply) and Customs has given approval to export by means of a "cleared" Export Clearance Number.
 - d. All export consignments greater than Australian Dollars (AUD) \$2000 in value will require an export entry. Ships or aircraft may not depart from Australia unless Customs has issued a Certificate of Clearance. A certificate will not be issued unless all Commonwealth requirements concerning the ship or aircraft and its cargo have been met.
3. Personal Property and POVs. Customs is responsible for the clearance of all unaccompanied effects from overseas. The member/employee can clear unaccompanied effects. The member/employee can appoint a nominee to clear the effects or use a customs broker. In order to clear goods, the following steps need to be taken:
 - a. Complete a Form B534, Unaccompanied Personal Effects Statement, Figure 1;
 - b. Provide passport;
 - c. Provide detailed packing list.
4. Duty free concessions applying to alcohol, tobacco, and other articles that arrive accompanied through Customs do not apply when the same goods arrive as unaccompanied effects. Additionally, customs duty and taxes are payable on goods acquired as gifts.
 - a. Any motor vehicle imported into Australia must have a vehicle Import Approval issued by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.
 - b. Duty free concessions for personal effects, HHG and motor vehicles arriving in Australia for USA SOFA personnel are controlled by Customs By-Law 9940005.

- c. Cargo not related to military exercises must go through the formal entry process, when the value exceeds AUD \$250.
 - d. Information may be obtained at <http://www.dotars.gov.au/> or by e-mail at Vimports@dotars.gov.au.
5. Firearms/Weapons – Australian Regulation 3A Customs (Prohibited Import) 1956 for import and Regulation 13E (2) Customs (Prohibited Exports) control the import and export of firearms in Australia.
- a. Firearms and weapons owned and imported by the US Military for participation in combined exercises or other activities approved by the Australian Government are exempt all permit requirements for both import and export. These goods must be manifested and cleared through Customs. At the time of importation, the US military must be the owner of the equipment.
 - b. Personal equipment including military souvenirs, firearms or dangerous weapons, including trophies/displays or military souvenirs not owned by the US military is subject to normal customs requirements.
6. Modes of Shipment:
- a. Military Air or Sea. Cargo arriving or exiting by military airlift or sealift is to be reported at FPE on an uncoded and legible manifest. The manifest must show the intended port of destination.
 - (1) Cargo moved to a subsequent port for clearance is moved under Customs control and must be reported at the destination port for clearance. Customs entries are not required for foreign Defense Forces participating in military exercises approved by the Australian Government.
 - (2) At the time of importation, the US Defense Force must be the owner of the goods or a member/employee of that defense force must have been issued those goods. All weapons and equipment must be clearly manifested.
 - (3) Customs Prohibited Imports and Prohibited Export Regulations exempt specified visiting foreign Defense Forces from import and export permits for certain defense goods when such forces arrive in Australia to participate in activities approved by the Government (such as combined exercises and training) and when they depart from Australia.
 - (4) Permits for all other goods subject to controls (e.g., drugs and pharmaceuticals) will be required from the authority. A manifest is to be produced at the LPD to confirm export of the cargo. The Australian Customs Service may examine the cargo on importation and/or exportation.
 - (5) Personnel. Upon arrival at all airports, a passenger list must be provided to Customs. The list must include full name, date of birth, gender, and passport/visa number/confirmation that the passenger holds an Electronic Travel Authority. Duty passengers covered by SOFA can enter Australia on military ID and movement orders (individual or collective).
 - (6) Spouses and/or dependants of US armed forces member/employee covered by SOFA must present a valid passport and either movement orders or a certificate stating that the person is a spouse or dependant and is accompanying or joining that member/employee. Spouses and/or dependants who comply with these requirements are cleared to hold a Special Purpose visa under the Migration Regulations.

- (7) Upon departure, outgoing military aircraft must produce one copy of the cargo manifest and a copy of passenger list. Normal immigration processing applies to passengers (e.g., Outgoing Passenger Card and passport). Military ID is an acceptable travel document for passengers on orders.
 - b. Commercial Air. Advanced passenger information must be provided to Customs for expected flight movements at least 48 hours prior to arrival and 24 hours prior to departure. All passengers must have the following:
 - (1) Passport or military ID;
 - (2) Completed Incoming Passenger Card.
 - c. Documents are returned after processing.
 - (1) Goods imported into Australia by commercial airline will be reported electronically to Customs by the handling agent or freight forwarder.
 - (2) For Customs reporting purposes, the airline company or local handling agent requires the following information: full details of the consignor, consignee, and description of the goods, value, and origin.
 - (3) For Customs clearance purposes, the minimum documentation required to be submitted with customs import entries or Informal Clearance Documents includes an air way-BL, invoices, and any other papers (including packing lists, insurance documents) relating to the shipment.
7. The Customs Act of 1901 requires importers to retain commercial documents relating to a transaction for five years from the date of entry. These documents may be required for Customs audit purposes. The goods will remain in a Customs licensed depot until Customs and Quarantine clearance has been completed and the goods released.
8. There are severe penalties for not declaring prohibited or restricted items and goods on which duty or taxes are due.
9. Refer to the Customs website <http://www.customs.gov.au/> for further information on items which must be declared on arrival.
10. Commercial Ocean Vessel Shipments. Goods imported into Australia and exported from Australia by ship are treated in the same manner as air cargo above.



AUSTRALIAN
CUSTOMS SERVICE

UNACCOMPANIED PERSONAL EFFECTS STATEMENT



- This is a legally binding document and may be used as evidence.
- This statement must be completed in English (block letters), with all errors and alterations to be initialled.

WARNING

Do **not** carry drugs. Penalties for drug offences in Australia are severe. A **false or misleading** statement to a Customs Officer is an **offence** and may involve heavy penalties, including forfeiture of any goods concerned.

NOTICE

The Privacy Act 1988 says we must tell you why we are collecting this information, how we will use it and whether you have to give it to us. This information is required to ensure travellers comply with Australian Customs, Quarantine, Health, Wildlife and Currency laws. We require this information under the Customs Act 1901, the Quarantine Act 1908, the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982 and the Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988. Customs also need the information to calculate the right amount of duties and taxes. Any questions you do not answer will be asked by a Customs or Quarantine Officer. The Australian Customs and Quarantine Services are not permitted to disclose this information or any supplementary information you give, except when authorised or required by law.

Please complete the following details			
Given names		Family name	
Address and telephone number of intended or actual Australian residential address		Date of birth	
Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Passport number	Country of issue	
Persons covered by this statement: <input type="checkbox"/> Myself <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse		Name of spouse	
Spouse passport number		Number of children under 18 years of age	
How I arrived or intend to arrive in Australia			
On (airline flight number or ship name)		At (port or airport)	
Date, or estimated date, of arrival		Country of departure	
For returning residents only			
Other countries visited		Period of absence from Australia	
How my personal effects arrived or will arrive			
<input type="checkbox"/> By Mail; or <input type="checkbox"/> By Air; or <input type="checkbox"/> By Sea (if by air or sea then complete below)			
The (number of packages)		consigned to me have arrived or are due to arrive:	
On (airline flight number or ship name)		At (port or airport)	Date, or estimated date, of arrival
Container number	Sea Bill or Air Waybill number	Name of local business handling your personal effects	
Clearing your personal effects			
You may clear your personal effects or pay a licenced Customs Broker to clear them for you. Alternatively, you may nominate somebody else (eg a family member or friend) to act on your behalf. If you wish to nominate somebody else, you must fill in the details of your nominee in the space provided below.			
Family name		Given names	
Address		Phone number	
Your nominee will need to produce one of the following forms of identification when clearing your goods through Customs.			
Driver's licence number	Place of issue	Or	Passport number
			Country of issue
Declaration			
I declare that the above particulars are to the best of my knowledge true and correct.			
Signature of owner			Date

B534 (6/00)

Figure 1. Form B534, Unaccompanied Personal Effects Statement