

Greetings,

Congratulations on your assignment to Australia! The 337th Traffic Management Office (TMO) is your one stop shop for any transportation questions you may have.

This email will provide you with pertinent information concerning shipping your household goods (HHG) and privately owned vehicles (POV) to Australia; while not all inclusive, the key is to convey the major points to you.

### **Household Goods:**

1. Attached you will find a document titled **“Australia Country Instructions”**. Based on your assignment and where you will be stationed determines your mode of shipment. We advise you to provide this document to your Transportation/Personal Property counselor in order to ensure your HHGs are shipped to your assignment location by the proper mode of shipment. Methods of shipment vary to the different territories and you could experience significant delays in delivery if your HHGs are routed to Australia incorrectly.
2. Thoroughly review the attached document titled "Australia General Country Instructions" for personal property/POV information pertaining to Australia.
3. Australia is very strict on what they allow to be imported, review the attached "AQIS Prohibited Items Pamphlet"
  - Christmas Ornaments and artificial plants pose the biggest problem to our inbound members – any ornament/wreath with pinecones, nativity scenes that have “Spanish moss” on them, etc.
  - Dirty Golf clubs, dirty shoes, outdoor equipment such as BBQ’s and lawnmowers as well as toys all pose issues and are held by AQIS for cleaning. Should AQIS deem that any of your property is a risk you will be charged a fee for destruction or a fee to clean the item in question the choice is yours.
  - If in doubt ask the question, it is far better to ask and be sure rather than have to pay a considerable amount of money to have your property destroyed or cleaned by AQIS!
4. Generally speaking, Transit times for HHG shipments to Australia is approximately **90 days**, transit times may vary depending on military air and sealift availability.
5. Once your household goods arrive in country, the shipment will undergo a customs and quarantine (AQIS) inspection. **This process normally takes about 2-4 weeks**. Please read the Australian Quarantine Restrictions thoroughly.
6. Prior to your shipment arriving in country, the attached B534 (Unaccompanied Personal Effects) Statement, will need to be completed for each shipment that you have arriving in country; your original signatures are required on this form. If you plan to arrive in country prior to your property arriving in country, you will be able to turn in your B534 while in-

processing. If your property is expected to arrive in country prior to you arriving in country please contact our office for guidance.

**Privately Owned Firearms:**

Australian gun laws are very stringent and we "STRONGLY" recommend that you do not ship firearms. Any weapon capable of firing a projectile is considered a firearm (paintball guns). If an unauthorized firearm is included in your HHGs (which includes any firearm not identified on your B534), you will absorb all additional fees incurred due to the shipping an unauthorized firearm.

**Privately Owned Vehicles: (SOFA status members only)**

You are entitled to ship **one POV or one motorcycle to Australia; motorcycles included with your HHGs shipment constitute as your one POV.**

A vehicle import approval (VIA) is required in order to register your vehicle. A VIA is also required for any off road vehicles or trailers being imported.

The VIA application and instructions are attached. **Disregard the \$50.00 application fee!**

Processing of the Vehicle Import Approval application normally takes between 30 and 45 days. You do not have to wait until your POV arrives to Australia to apply for this document. You may apply as soon as you obtain your PCS orders.

Transit times for POVs to Australia is approximately **90 days**, transit times from Hawaii may vary depending on available vessels, please be aware that there no direct routes from Hawaii to Australia.

It is in your best interest to thoroughly review all of the attachments. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact this office for clarifications at [337asuf.lgt@us.af.mil](mailto:337asuf.lgt@us.af.mil) or DSN: 315-366-5681.

We look forward to helping you with all your Transportation needs.

//signed/mld/24 Mar 13//  
FABIAN GONCALVES, MSgt, USAF  
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