21 April 2004
Small business to benefit from Navy ship visit

Darwin small businesses will benefit from the five-day rest and recreation visit of the USS John S McCain, Defence Support Minister Paul Henderson said.

The USS John S McCain is due to arrive in port tomorrow.

“It’s estimated that each sailor on R’n’R visits to Darwin spends about $200 a day, so with 300 sailors arriving tomorrow that’s a $300,000 injection into our small businesses like hotels, restaurants and tour companies,” Mr Henderson said.

“Add to that the resupply, refuel and minor repair works of the ship to be carried out, and this visit presents a real boost to the Darwin economy.

“Darwin receives more port visits from the US Navy than any other Australian port, and I will be encouraging Commander Kevin Campbell to return to Darwin again in order to see the benefits to small business continue into the future.”