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APSNet for 20051212

Austral Peace and Security Network (APSNet)

Monday 12 December 2005

Bi-weekly report from the Nautilus Institute at RMIT, Australia.

1. [Downer Signs Contentious ASEAN Treaty](#)
2. [Australia, Japan Discuss Iraq Exit](#)
3. [Nuclear Agency Fears France Will Return Spent Rods Too Soon](#)
4. [Australia Alone In Climate Change View](#)

1. Downer Signs Contentious ASEAN Treaty,
Connie Levett, Age, 2005-12-11The Association of South-East Asian Nations, made signing the [non-aggression treaty](#) a non-negotiable prerequisite to joining the summit.Of related interest:China Opts To Stay On The Sidelines, Colleen Ryan (Shanghai) and Greg Earl (Tokyo), AFR*, 2005-12-10Regional rivalries and background machinations make it likely that the high hopes for the [East Asia Summit](#) will be dashed.
*subscription required
2. Australia, Japan Discuss Iraq Exit,
AAP, Australian, 2005-12-10Japan and Australia agreed today to work together over their strategies for Iraq, after the two nations extended their [military missions](#) in the war-torn nation.Of related interest:Eating Crow Is The Only Inexpensive Way Out Of Iraq, Allan Behm, Australian, 2005-12-10It is clear that the [war in Iraq](#) is a strategic debacle. The country is fractured by an inter-communal civil war where Sunni and Shia are settling ancient scores and an

anti-US insurgency that serves to unite them. Its situation is desperate.

3. Nuclear Agency Fears France Will Return Spent Rods Too Soon,
Amanda Hodge, Australian, 2005-12-09 ANSTO wants assurances that France will not return spent fuel rods to Australia until the Government has built its nuclear waste dump, after the French court found the company Cogema had acted illegally by accepting [Australia's nuclear waste](#) without obtaining permission to reprocess it.
4. Australia Alone In Climate Change View,
AAP, SMH, 2005-12-11 Australia is more isolated in its stance on [climate change](#) after a UN meeting breathed new life into the Kyoto Protocol on global warming, conservationists say. contact editor: Jane Mullett jane.mullett@rmit.edu.au

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