



Australian Government

Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

**INQUIRY INTO RECOGNITION OF SERVICE WITH
OPERATION LAGOON 1994**

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LETTER OF TRANSMISSION

Inquiry into Recognition of Service with Operation LAGOON 1994

Senator the Hon. David Feeney
Parliamentary Secretary for Defence
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Parliamentary Secretary,

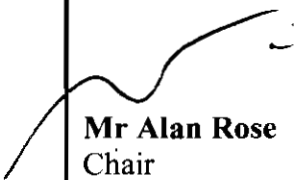
I am pleased to present the report of the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal on the *Inquiry into Recognition of Service with Operation LAGOON 1994*.

The inquiry was conducted in accordance with the Terms of Reference. The panel of the Tribunal that conducted the inquiry arrived unanimously at the findings and recommendations set out in its report.

In accordance with the *Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal Procedural Rules 2011*, a copy of this report will be published on the Tribunal's website – www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au – 20 working days after the day this report is provided to you.

I would be grateful for advice on your response to this report when available.

Yours sincerely



Mr Alan Rose
Chair
Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

9 November 2012

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal shall inquire into and report on recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force who served with Operation LAGOON in 1994.

In particular the Tribunal is to examine the relevant evidence and consider the nature and context of the service in relation to the criteria for an Australian award, particularly whether it is appropriate that an Australian Service Medal is awarded.

The Tribunal is to determine its own procedures, in accordance with the general principles of procedural fairness, when conducting its inquiry as set out in these Terms of Reference. In this regard the Tribunal may interview such persons as it considers appropriate and consider material provided to it that is relevant to these Terms of Reference.

The Tribunal is to report, in writing, to the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence on the findings and recommendations that arise from the inquiry.

In making its findings and formulating its recommendations the Tribunal is to arrive at a fair and sustainable response to current and future claims for recognition. It is to maintain the integrity of the Australian honours system and identify any consequential impact any finding or recommendation may have on that system.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal (the Tribunal) is established under the *Defence Act 1903* (the Act). Section 110UA of the Act sets out the functions of the Tribunal which includes inquiring into matters concerning honours or awards for eligible service. Section 110W of the Act provides that the Minister for Defence may give the Tribunal a direction in writing to hold an inquiry into a specified matter. The Tribunal then must hold an inquiry into that specified matter and report with recommendations the Tribunal considers appropriate, to the Minister.
2. On 18 March 2011 the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, Senator the Hon David Feeney, requested the Tribunal review the merits for medallic recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force for service in Operation Lagoon in 1994.
3. The relevant medal for the Tribunal's inquiry is the Australian Service Medal.
4. This reference was undertaken by the following members of the Tribunal:

Dr Jane Harte (Presiding Member)
Mr Adam Bodzioch
Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)
5. The Tribunal considered 15 submissions from members of the public and organisations and took oral evidence from eight persons.
6. When considering the eligibility of individuals for medallic recognition and the eligibility criteria for the relevant medal, the Tribunal carefully examined the basis on which the medal had been created and the circumstances in which it had been awarded. It paid heed to the integrity of the Australian system of honours and awards and the consequential impact any finding or recommendation might have on that system.

THE TRIBUNAL'S FINDINGS

7. After considering the evidence presented, the Tribunal is satisfied that Australian Defence Force personnel who served with Operation Lagoon (Op Lagoon) in 1994 are not eligible for the Australian Service Medal for that service, specifically because:
 - The Tribunal finds that the decision at the time that no ASM be awarded for Op Lagoon was consistent with contemporary processes. There is no evidence of any injustice demonstrated in this decision.
 - The Tribunal finds that Op Lagoon had not been declared for medallic recognition after proper consideration. There are no grounds for deeming by the Chief of the Defence Force of the day because that can only occur after an operation has been prescribed and approved. Op Lagoon was never prescribed and approved.

- In regard to the classification of nature of service, the Tribunal finds that the classification 'non-warlike' is appropriate for Op Lagoon. Should a review of the nature of service be initiated at the Ministerial or CDF levels due to new and compelling information being presented, the only alternative outcomes would be a downgrade to 'peacetime' service or an upgrade to 'warlike', neither of which could be supported.

RECOMMENDATION

8. The Tribunal recommends that it be determined that members of the Australian Defence Force who served with Operation Lagoon in 1994 (as referred to in the Terms of Reference) are not eligible for the Australian Service Medal.

REPORT

Conduct of the Inquiry

1. The Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal (the Tribunal) is established under the *Defence Act 1903* (the Act). Section 110UA of the Act sets out the functions of the Tribunal which includes inquiring into matters concerning honours or awards for eligible service. Section 110W of the Act provides that the Minister for Defence may give the Tribunal a direction in writing to hold an inquiry into a specified matter. The Tribunal then must hold an inquiry into that specified matter and report with recommendations the Tribunal considers appropriate, to the Minister.

2. On 18 March 2011 the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, Senator the Hon David Feeney, requested the Tribunal review the merits for medallic recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force for service in Operation Lagoon in 1994.

3. The Terms of Reference for the inquiry appear earlier in this report.

4. The inquiry was undertaken by the following members of the Tribunal:

Dr Jane Harte (Presiding Member)
Mr Adam Bodzioch
Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

Steps taken in the inquiry

5. After a preliminary meeting of the Tribunal on 16 March 2011, the inquiry formally commenced on 7 May 2011 with advertisements being placed in the major newspapers nationally giving notice of the inquiry and calling for submissions.

6. At about the same time, the Tribunal wrote to key organisations advising of the inquiry and inviting them to make a submission. The Tribunal also wrote to persons and groups who had previously made representations to the Minister and to the Directorate of Honours and Awards, seeking recognition for Australian military service in Operation Lagoon (Op Lagoon). The Tribunal also sought a submission from the Department of Defence.

Written Submissions

7. Fifteen written submissions were received by the Tribunal as a result of the advertisements in May 2011.

8. Thirteen of these submissions were from individuals who claimed that they and their compatriots should be entitled to medals for their service with Op Lagoon. Two submissions from organisations (the Returned & Services League of Australia and the Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association) also offered support to the Op Lagoon applicants.

9. In addition to the submissions listed above, the Tribunal received a submission from the Department of Defence.

10. The Tribunal met on 6 June and 28 November 2011 to consider these submissions.

Appearances before the Tribunal

11. Three people appeared at a hearing conducted by the Tribunal on 20 December 2011, including a representative from the Defence Department, plus one via telephone conference.

12. On 23 January 2012, a further hearing was conducted, during which three people appeared plus one interviewed via telephone conference.

13. The witnesses who appeared before the Tribunal are listed at Appendix I.

Other information obtained by the Tribunal

14. At the conclusion of the hearings, the Tribunal decided to approach all of the senior officers involved in Op Lagoon at the time to ascertain what their views on medallic recognition were and in particular whether there was any evidence that service in Op Lagoon had been deemed eligible for medallic recognition either in planning or in the immediate aftermath of the operation. Responses from the Land Commander and Assigned Joint Commander¹, the Combined Force Commander², and as advisors to the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF) who were not in the direct chain of command, the Assistant Chief of the Defence Force - Operations (ACOPS)³ and the Chief of the General Staff⁴ of the day were subsequently received. The CDF of the day, Admiral Beaumont, passed away in 2004.

15. The Tribunal met again on the 27 March 2012 to deliberate and decide whether further information was needed. As a result, a number of questions were put to the Nature of Service Branch of the Department of Defence. These questions were:

- *Has a review of the nature of service ever been conducted for Operation Lagoon?*
- *If a review has been conducted, what were the results?*
- *What triggers a review and what might be involved in such a review?*

16. A response (refer to paragraph 48) from the Director General of the Nature of Service Branch was received by the Tribunal in May 2012.

17. Further meetings of the Tribunal was held on 30 July 2012 and 28 September 2012 (by telephone conference) to consider the matter further and to make a final decision.

¹ Major General Peter Arnison AC, CVO (Retd), written response

² Major General Peter Abigail (Retd), oral submission, 23 January 2012

³ Major General J.M. Connolly, AO, CSC (Retd), written response

⁴ Lieutenant General John Gray AC (Retd) , written response

Historical Background

18. The Solomon Islands to the east of Papua New Guinea (PNG), comprise part of the region of Melanesia. The colonial history of the Solomon Islands involves, most prominently, Germany and Great Britain and through its neighbouring interests, Australia. People from these nations as well as earlier European visitors to the region noted the rich and diverse culture of the islanders, in addition to describing them as being in a constant state of warfare with their neighbours.⁵

19. The island of Bougainville, although geographically part of the Solomons (independent since 1978), is politically a province of PNG (independent since 1975). Bougainville and Buka Island together are referred to as the North Solomons Province of PNG.

20. Not only was the region rich in culture, the discovery of copper in the early 1960s led to the development of the Panguna open-cut mine in the mountainous central area of Bougainville in the early 1970s. What was initially a Conzinc Rio-Tinto of Australia (CRA) enterprise was developed by a subsidiary company, Bougainville Copper Limited (BCL), which was jointly owned by CRA and Broken Hill Consolidated⁶. This discovery and subsequent mining of copper made Bougainville a particularly important asset.

The Civil War on Bougainville

21. In the early 1980s a secessionist movement began on Bougainville. In 1988 the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA), led by Francis Ona, increased its attacks on local opponents who did not want secession. The BRA also established the Bougainville Interim Government (BIG). The Papua New Guinea Defence Force (PNGDF) was sent to defeat the BRA but failed to do so. Hostility developed, involving kidnap, murder and ambush between those representing different interest groups as well as criminal elements. Expatriate staff working at the Panguna Mine left Bougainville with their families and the mine's operations were suspended when threats of sabotage became realistic. The PNG Government then took responsibility for securing the mine site.

22. In 1994 Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan proposed a peace conference to halt a war in which almost 10,000 people had died. A ceasefire was agreed to and the conference began. Violations of the ceasefire occurred from the first day of the conference. In one violation the senior BRA delegates on their way to the conference were fired upon (one assistant to a delegate was wounded). The key figures of the BRA then refused to attend and the now pointless conference was called off by Chan.

Service of Australian Defence Force Personnel in Op Lagoon 1994

23. Operation Lagoon in October 1994 was the first combined South Pacific region peacekeeping operation commanded by the Australian Defence Force (ADF). The force was called the South Pacific Peace Keeping Force (SPPKF). Other participating nations were New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and Vanuatu. The mission was

⁵ Bowd, R.E., *Doves Over the Pacific*, Australian Military History Publications, Canberra, 2007

⁶ BCL is now owned by Rio Tinto Ltd, the PNG Government and shareholders.

to protect the 1994 peace conference on Bougainville which it was hoped would bring an end to a six year civil war.

The South Pacific Peace Keeping Force

24. The 1,070 member SPPKF performed its mission for the four days the conference ran. With the aim of keeping a low Australian profile emanating from BRA suspicion of Australia's bias towards the Government of Papua New Guinea, the SPPKF functioned in two parts. On shore was a force of 390 personnel (from New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and Vanuatu) which performed the peacekeeping duties. In HMAS *Tobruk* and *Success*, with a few at shore bases in various parts of Bougainville and Buka Islands, were 647 ADF personnel (mostly RAN). These provided operational, administrative and logistical support to the non Australians actively involved in the peacekeeping role. The plan called for no more than 50 Australians to be on land at any one time but it is not known if this was adhered to. It does appear that the majority of ADF personnel did not go ashore.

The Australian Service Medal Regulations

25. The Australian Service Medal (ASM) Regulations were set out in the Schedule of Letters Patent of 13 September 1988. These Regulations state that:

3. the Governor-General, on the recommendation of the Minister, may declare a non-warlike operation, in which members of the Defence Force are, or have been on or after 14 February 1965, engaged, to be a prescribed operation for the purposes of these Regulations.

Conditions for the award of the Medal

"4. (1) The Medal may be awarded for service in or in connection with a prescribed operation.

(2) The conditions for the award of the medal are the conditions determined by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister.

(3) Any subsequent award of the Medal to the same person shall be made in the form of a further clasp to the Medal.

(4) The persons to whom the Medal may be awarded are-

a) persons who served in a prescribed operation as members of the Defence Force, and

(b) persons included in a class of persons determined by the Minister, for the purposes of this regulation.

(5) The Medal may not be awarded except to a person who fulfils the conditions for the award of the Medal."⁷

26. The ASM is normally awarded for 30 days' eligible service but there have been occasions when it has been awarded for a period of less than 30 days and on one occasion, a minimum of 90 days.

⁷ Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No 5, 330, 2 November 1988.

Summary of Arguments presented to the Tribunal

27. Fifteen of the 15 individual and organisational submissions received by the Tribunal were supportive of the award of the ASM for service with Op Lagoon. One of these submissions was supportive subject to the award falling within the normal rules of the day. Another was ambivalent as long as all personnel involved were given the award should the Tribunal decide that Op Lagoon service is eligible.

28. All but one of the eight witnesses appearing before the Tribunal either in person or via telephone were supportive of the award of the ASM for service with Op Lagoon.

29. The submission, supplementary and verbal evidence at the Hearing from the Department of Defence confirmed the original decision to not support the award of an ASM for service with Op Lagoon.

Argument 1 for the Claimants

30. The majority of the claimants and their advocates hold that they should be awarded the ASM with Clasp 'SPPKF' or 'Bougainville' because there is precedent in awarding the ASM for periods of time of less than 30 days.

Evidence before the Tribunal

31. Of 53 post 1975 deployments for which an ASM was awarded, 30 days is the required period of service except for four which require 90 days⁸, four which require seven days and one which has yet to be determined. It appears not to be the case that requirements for the awarding of the ASM have eased since Op Lagoon in 1994, as two of the seven day award operations began before Lagoon and two after. These operations were Multinational Deployment in the Persian Gulf in 1990-1991⁹, Operation Blazer in Iraq between 1991 and 1998¹⁰, Operation Pollard in Iraq in 1998¹¹ and Operation Astute in East Timor in 2006¹².

32. Op Lagoon was planned to last 21 days with 16 to be spent in the theatre of operations, but the collapse of the conference and withdrawal of the SPPKF meant that the great majority of ADF personnel were in the theatre of operations for between 14 (Army) and 21 (Navy) days.

⁸ The reason for the 90 day requirement was to align with United Nations medals for the same operations.

⁹ Australia's contribution to the 1991 Gulf War centred around a Naval Task Group which formed part of the multi-national fleet in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman, under Op Damask. In addition, medical teams were deployed aboard a US hospital ship and a naval clearance diving team took part in de-mining Kuwait's port facilities at the end of the war. The ASM Clasp 'KUWAIT' qualifying period was 1 day.

¹⁰ In April 1991 Resolution 687 imposed a peace agreement and disarmament provisions on Iraq and established a UN Special Commission. The United Nations Special Commission was tasked with locating and supervising the destruction of Iraqi nuclear, chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction capabilities. Australia deployed between 2 and 6 ADF personnel and scientific experts to UNSCOM on three to six month tours. The qualifying period for ASM Clasp 'IRAQ' was 7 days.

¹¹ Multinational deployment to the Middle East. Qualifying period for ASM Clasp 'Iraq' was 7 days.

¹² ADF commitment to bring security, peace and confidence to Timor-Leste. The qualifying period for ASM Clasp 'TIMOR LESTE' was 7 days.

33. The Tribunal made a concerted effort to investigate whether there had been discussion and deliberation about prescribing and approving Op Lagoon for medallic recognition at the time. The Tribunal sighted documents which give evidence that an ASM was considered by senior officers at the time, including the CDF.¹³ However, a decision was taken, at the time to not award the ASM.

The Tribunal's Findings

34. There is evidence that the ASM has been awarded for service of periods of time less than 30 days, both before and post Op Lagoon. The Tribunal finds that although there was an element of risk involved in service with Op Lagoon, the scale and nature of the operation does not equate to those of the operations for which a period of less than 30 days was a prerequisite.

35. Evidence from those in the chain of command and acting as advisors to the CDF of the day, indicates that the act of deciding whether there should be medallic recognition for Op Lagoon followed correct process through the chain of command. There is evidence that the CDF of the day did consider medallic recognition.

36. The Tribunal finds that the decision at the time that no ASM be awarded for Op Lagoon was consistent with contemporary processes. There is no evidence of any injustice demonstrated in this decision.

Argument 2 for the Claimants

37. The Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association (APPVA) believe the ASM should be awarded for Op Lagoon. They point to ASM regulations which state that the 30 day qualifying period:

"may be deemed by the Chief of the Defence Force or his delegate to have been established notwithstanding that the member has not met the qualifying periods described" and "the Chief of the Defence Force or his delegate in exercising his discretion to deem under subparagraph (c) (iv) shall take into account whether service in relation to the prescribed operation;

a) was terminated owing to the death, evacuation due to illness or injury or other disability due to service, of a member as described above;

b) was terminated due to Government or Defence Force reasons; or

c) was terminated due to foreign Government or foreign Defence Force reasons."¹⁴

38. The APPVA argument is that the Chief of the Defence Force is at liberty to deem that ADF personnel who served on Op Lagoon are eligible for the award of the ASM.

39. Additionally, the APPVA argue that the operation was shortened due to Government or Defence Force reasons (a combined Australian and Papua New Guinea decision), hence adding further credibility to the deeming of a period of less than 30 days for an ASM appropriate in this case.

¹³ Defence files 94/27354 & 94/27354/P4

¹⁴ ADM Regulations, quoted in the APPVA submission.

Evidence before the Tribunal

40. In the Defence submission¹⁵ it is contended that whether or not the withdrawal of personnel with Op Lagoon was a Government or Defence initiated decision, or because the peace talks had collapsed and the reason for being deployed in the area had simply disappeared, should have nothing to do with the award of an ASM. It is further stated that:

*"...awarding the ASM under this provision, is intended to apply to individual circumstance and not to a whole deployment or withdrawal of a deployed force or unit. Circumstances may arise where an individual is withdrawn from an operation before completing the requisite qualifying service..... or a planned posting might be advanced due to unforeseen circumstances. These individuals may then be considered for the award of the ASM."*¹⁶

41. To qualify for the ASM a particular operation has to be prescribed and approved as a declaration by the Governor General on recommendation from the CDF and the responsible Defence Minister. For Op Lagoon there is no instrument of declaration to prescribe the operation. In oral evidence provided by a Defence witness, it was highlighted that a deeming cannot occur unless the operation was prescribed.

42. Deeming provisions allow the CDF or delegate to award a medal to an individual who does not qualify for a stipulated period of service.

The Tribunal's Findings

43. The Tribunal finds that Op Lagoon had not been declared for medallic recognition after proper consideration.

44. The Tribunal finds that the CDF of the day properly considered medallic recognition for Op Lagoon and that there was no fault with the process in making this decision. To change that thinking retrospectively would impact on the integrity of the Australian Honours and Awards System. There is no evidence of any injustice demonstrated in this decision compared with contemporary or near contemporary decisions.

45. There are no grounds for deeming by the CDF because that can only occur after an operation has been prescribed and approved. Op Lagoon was never prescribed and approved.

Argument 3 for the Claimants

46. Thirteen of the 15 submissions received by the Tribunal described the serious nature of Op Lagoon service; in particular, that the threat was real and that live ammunition was issued. There is evidence of at least one occasion during which troops were fired upon, namely a helicopter from the 817 Squadron sustaining damage from ground fire. The operation was such that two units of Australian Special forces were deployed with the force.

¹⁵ Received under cover of Minute VCDF/OUT/2011/319 dated 24 June 2011.

¹⁶ Ibid, p3

Evidence before the Tribunal

47. Documents sighted by the Tribunal during the course of deliberations including the Rules of Engagement¹⁷, orders relating to Op Lagoon¹⁸ and which confirmed that there was an expectation that ADF personnel serving with Op Lagoon would need to protect themselves from threat.

48. On advice from the Nature of Service Branch of Defence, the nature of service of Op Lagoon in 1994 is 'non-warlike'¹⁹. Non-warlike operations are defined as those military activities short of warlike operations where there is risk associated with the assigned task(s) and where the application of force is limited to self defence. Casualties could occur but are not expected. These operations encompass but are not limited to:

"Hazardous. Activities exposing individuals or units to a degree of hazard above and beyond that of normal peacetime duty such as mine avoidance and clearance, weapons inspections and destruction, Defence Force Aid to the Civil Authority, Service protected or assisted evacuations and other operations requiring the application of minimum force to effect the protection of personnel or property, or other like activities.

Peacekeeping. Peacekeeping is an operation involving military personnel, without powers of enforcement, to help restore and maintain peace in an area of conflict with the consent of all parties. These operations can encompass but are not limited to:

- *activities short of Peace Enforcement where the authorisation of the application of force is normally limited to minimum force necessary for self defence- activities, such as the enforcement of sanctions in a relatively benign environment which expose individuals or units to 'hazards' as described above under hazardous;*
- *military observer activities with the tasks of monitoring ceasefires, re-directing and alleviating ceasefire tensions, providing 'good offices' for negotiations and the impartial verification of assistance or ceasefire agreements, and other like activities; or*
- *activities that would normally involve the provision of humanitarian relief'*²⁰

¹⁷ 2002/7992/3

¹⁸ 94/27354/P3

¹⁹ 94/27354/P4

²⁰ Notes:

1. Humanitarian relief in the above context does not include normal peacetime operations such as cyclone or earthquake relief flights or assistance.
2. Peacemaking is frequently used colloquially in place of peace enforcement. However, in the developing doctrine of peace operations, peacemaking is considered the diplomatic process of seeking a solution to a dispute through negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation or other peaceful means.
3. Peacetime is routine operations short of warlike or non-warlike.

The Tribunal's Findings

49. The Tribunal is of the view that Australian casualties could have occurred during Op Lagoon and that personnel may have felt that they were in danger. In fact live fire was used against Australian assets. However, relevant authorities did not consider the nature of the operation was such that would make it eligible for medallic recognition. Although Op Lagoon may have been defined as hazardous service for the purpose of veterans' entitlements, this does not impinge on the medallic recognition of this operation.

50. In regard to the classification of nature of service, the Tribunal finds that the classification 'non-warlike' is appropriate for Op Lagoon. Should a review of the nature of service be initiated at the Ministerial or CDF levels due to new and compelling information being presented, the only alternative outcomes would be a downgrade to 'peacetime' service or an upgrade to 'warlike', neither of which could be supported²¹.

Conclusion of eligibility for award of the medal

51. To qualify for the ASM, a particular operation has to be prescribed and approved as a declaration by the Governor General on recommendation from the CDF and the responsible Defence Minister. For Op Lagoon there is no instrument of declaration to prescribe the operation.

52. The Tribunal concludes that contemporary decision making process at the time when consideration was given for the award of an ASM for Op Lagoon was fair and appropriate. There is no evidence of injustice.

RECOMMENDATION

53. The Tribunal recommends that it be determined that members of the Australian Defence Force who served with Operation Lagoon in 1994 (as referred to in the Terms of Reference) are not eligible for the Australian Service Medal.

²¹ Information provided by the Nature of Service Branch.

Appendix 1 – List of Submissions

The Tribunal received 15 submissions from the following individuals and organisations:

Name and Organisation (as applicable)

Chief Petty Officer Rodney Bismire
Squadron Leader John Bowden
Lieutenant Martin Burton RAN
Lieutenant Commander Al Byrne, RAN
Commander Martin Campbell
Mr Paul Copeland, Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association
Major General Bill Crews (Retd), Returned and Services League of Australia
Mr Paul Ellis
Lieutenant Commander Richard Foster RAN
Warrant Officer Class 2 Raymond Hunt
Chief Petty Officer Steven McClintock
Commodore Jim O'Hara RAN
Mr Michael Pert OAM
Lieutenant Colonel Peter Read
Commander John Wells RAN (Retd)

Information was sought and received from the following organisation and individuals:

Department of Defence, Lieutenant General D. Hurley, Vice Chief of the Defence Force
Department of Defence, Commodore Paul Kinghorne RAN, Director General of the Nature of Service Branch,
Lieutenant General John Grey AC (Retd)
Major General Peter Arnison AC, CVO (Retd)
Major General J M Connolly AO, CSC (Retd)

APPENDIX 2 – Tribunal Meeting and Hearing Dates and Witnesses

16 March 2011

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member:

Dr Jane Harte

Members:

Mr Adam Bodzioch

Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

6 June 2011

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member:

Dr Jane Harte

Members:

Mr Adam Bodzioch

Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

28 November 2011

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member:

Dr Jane Harte

Members:

Mr Adam Bodzioch

Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

20 December 2011

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member:

Dr Jane Harte

Members:

Mr Adam Bodzioch

Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

Witnesses

Mr Pat Clarke, Director of Honours and Awards, Department of Defence

Mr Paul Copeland, Immediate Past President, Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association

Mr Reuben Bowd

Mr Rod Bismire (via telephone conference)

23 January 2012

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member: Dr Jane Harte
Members: Mr Adam Bodzioch
Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

Witnesses

Rear Admiral Ken Doolan RAN (Retd), National President, Returned and Services League of Australia

Commodore Jim O'Hara RANR (via telephone conference)

Major General Peter Abigail (Retd)

Squadron Leader John Bowden (via telephone conference)

27 March 2012

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member: Dr Jane Harte
Members: Mr Adam Bodzioch
Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

30 July 2012

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member: Dr Jane Harte
Members: Mr Adam Bodzioch
Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)

28 September 2012 (via telephone conference)

Tribunal Members

Presiding Member: Dr Jane Harte
Members: Mr Adam Bodzioch
Vice Admiral Don Chalmers AO RAN (Retd)