



THE HON. DR MIKE KELLY AM MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support

Friday, 16 July 2010

42/10

Defence Honours and Awards Tribunal report – inquiry into recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force for service in Papua New Guinea after 1975

The Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, the Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP, today announced the recommendation of the independent Defence Honours and Awards Tribunal inquiry into recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force for service in Papua New Guinea after 1975.

The Report recommended that no general medallic recognition should be given to Australian Defence Force members who have served in Papua New Guinea after 16 September 1975.

“The release of this report fulfils an Australian Government election commitment to review this service,” said Dr Kelly.

“I acknowledge that former and current Australian Defence Force members who served in Papua New Guinea after Independence may be disappointed by this recommendation,” Dr Kelly said

“The inquiry into this matter and the Tribunal’s report demonstrates the Government’s commitment to the independent review of long-standing Defence honours and awards issues.”

The Tribunal’s full report is available at www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au. Further information on Defence honours and awards is available at: www.defence.gov.au/medals/

Media contacts:

Elyse Gatt (Dr Mike Kelly): (02) 6277 4840 or 0437 502 246