Parliamentary Secretary for Defence – Inquiry into eligibility for the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

25 March 2013

Parliamentary Secretary for Defence, Senator David Feeney, today announced the independent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal will inquire into eligibility for the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal was instituted by the former Government of the Republic of Vietnam for service during the Vietnam War. The award was offered to a range of countries that assisted that Government during the Vietnam War, including Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Australia accepted this award and has issued it to members of the Australia's Defence forces and approved philanthropic organisations that it has assessed as eligible ever since.

"I have asked the Tribunal to review how the eligibility criteria for this award have been applied over time, look at unresolved issues relating to these criteria, and to make recommendations on how future claims for this award should be administered," Senator Feeney said.

Submissions to the inquiry will close on Friday, 31 May 2013.

The Tribunal can be contacted through its website: http://defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au/ or in writing to:

Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

CP2-3-061

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