



Australian Government

Defence Honours & Awards Tribunal

Inquiry into recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force for service in Papua New Guinea after 1975

Terms of Reference

The Defence Honours and Awards Tribunal shall inquire into and report on recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) for service in Papua New Guinea after 16 September 1975.

In conducting its inquiry the Tribunal shall:

- (a) have regard to the terms and objectives of the *Australian Service Medal 1945-75 Regulations* and the *Australian Service Medal Regulations*;
- (b) consider the claims of ADF members for recognition of their service in PNG after 16 September 1975;
- (c) consider any other material relevant to these claims;
- (d) consider the possible impact of recognition for ADF service on the recognition of other Australian Government service, such as Australian Federal Police service, in PNG after 1975; and
- (e) make findings and recommendations as to the eligibility of ADF members serving in PNG for the ASM or the granting of any other form of recognition for their service.

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 Support on its 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 and also maintain the integrity of the Australian honours system and identify any consequential impact any finding or recommendation may have on that system.

Submissions to the Tribunal close on Monday, 23 November 2009.