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17 April, 2022

Signed On : <https://defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au>

Submission to Inquiry - Mr James Thompson Morrison

Part 1 – Name of Inquiry

Name of Inquiry *

Rifle Company Butterworth Inquiry.

Part 2 – About the Submitter

Title or Rank *

Mr

Surname *

Morrison

Given Names *

James Thompson

Postal Address *

Email Address: *

Primary Contact Number *

Secondary Contact Number

Is the Submission on behalf of an organisation? If yes, please provide details:

Yes, Rifle Company Butterworth Review Group

Part 3 – Desired outcome

Provide a summary of your submission:

As a Captain I was the 2IC of B Company 1 RAR Composite deployed to Butterworth for duty as a Quick Reaction Force to defend the Butterworth Air Base from November 1980 to February 1981. My personal weapon was an M16. The members of that Company had a briefing where it was explained that the Malaysian Government still considered the Communists to be active and they had emergency powers in force. All members of the Company were DP1 as part of the Operational Deployment Force of the ADF. All members understood our role; that it was not for us to guard the base but to be reaction force to a perceived or actual attack on the base. It was explained to all of us that if there was an attack we were to be prepared to use lethal force. It was also explained that in the use of that force we may sustain casualties. Prior to deployment the members of the Company were heavily involved in rehearsing how to react to a threat and how to neutralise that threat. During deployment these skills were practiced regularly on a daily basis and on an irregular basis by reacting the QRF without warning. The QRF had a specific time to react. At no time did I not believe that there may come a time that I would have to use lethal force and with the use of that lethal force I would be in harm's way. This applied to all of the soldiers for whom I was responsible.

Part 4 - Your submission and Supporting Documentation

Part 5 – Consent and declaration

✓ I consent to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal making my submission publicly available.

✓ I also consent to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal:

- using information contained in my submission to conduct research;
- providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation considered by the Tribunal to be appropriate; and
- providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation the subject of adverse comment in the submission;
- using content in my submission in its report to Government.

The Tribunal will decide which person or organisation is appropriate, and this may include:

1. persons or organisations required to assist with the inquiry; and
2. persons or organisations with an interest in the inquiry.

✓ I declare that the information I have provided is correct.

Name

James Thompson Morrison

Date

16/04/2022 /

Mr James Thompson Morrison
(Awaiting Signature)

Signature Certificate

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