



## SUBMISSION TO INQUIRY

This form must cover a submission to the inquiry

Name of Inquiry

Tribunal for Rifle  
Company Butterworth July 2022

### About the Submitter

Title or Rank:

235911 Private J. H. Redgrave

Surname:

Redgrave

Given Names:

JAMES HARVEY

Postal Address:

[Redacted]

Email Address:

[Redacted]

Preferred contact number:

Mobile:

[Redacted]

Home or other:

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

N/A

### Desired Outcome

Provide a summary of your submission.

That The Service of Rifle Company Butterworth be recognised as Australian Active service. As The postings to RCB must be considered as "Warlike" given The incidents described in my submission which I would like The Tribunal with its powers to look at The Borneo incidents in more detail.

Please attach your submission and any supporting documentation

please \*

### Consent and Declaration

- 1 ☒ I **consent** to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal making my submission publicly available.  
OR

- ☐ I **do not consent** to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal making my submission publicly available. My reasons are:


- 2 I also **consent** to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal:
- a. using information contained in my submission to conduct research;
  - b. providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation considered by the Tribunal to be appropriate;
  - c. providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation the subject of adverse comment in the submission; and
  - d. using content in my submission in its report to Government.

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

- a. persons or organisations required to assist with the inquiry; and
- b. persons or organisations with an interest in the inquiry.

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

Signature:


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Print name:

JAMES HARVEY REDGRAVE
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Date:

25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
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### Lodging your submission

Further information, including the inquiry's Terms of Reference can be found at [www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au](http://www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au)

Once you are satisfied with your submission, return this form and all supporting documents

#### By Post:

Defence Honours and Awards  
Appeals Tribunal  
Level 1, 5 Tennant Street, Fyshwick  
Locked Bag 7765  
CANBERRA BC ACT 2600

#### By Email:

[dha.tribunal@defence.gov.au](mailto:dha.tribunal@defence.gov.au)

If you wish to speak with someone regarding your submission phone **02 6266 1019**

**DEFENCE HONOURS & AWARDS  
APPEALS TRIBUNAL**





Date 25<sup>TH</sup> April 2022

To Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal  
Level 1, 5 Tennant Street, Fyshwick  
Locked Bag 7765  
Canberra BC ACT 2610

E-mail address:  
[DHA.Tribunal@defence.gov.au](mailto:DHA.Tribunal@defence.gov.au)

### **Submission to Tribunal for Riffle Company Butterworth July 2022**

My tour at Riffle Company Butterworth started with a distinct smell approximately 3000 feet in the air prior to landing at Air Base Butterworth. That smell, we later found out to be open sewage drains mmm. On our departure we all had to give a stool sample and I remember quite clearly we all had salmonella within it but were unaffected by the bacteria, I guess 12 weeks of open air drains and food prepared above them toughens up your insides

We spent half our tour out bush (48 days), yet whilst at Air Base Butterworth we had an incident which sent the base into lockdown and on high alert. A male insurgent let of a mortar and then blew himself up close to our quarters at the southern end of the Air Base.

At the time I didn't think much of this but given the events at the time= **1988 Malaysian constitutional crisis** (also known as the **1988 judicial crisis**) This incident was meant to create some sort of propaganda or exposure of some nature to an issue or remnants of the communist block.

I travelled from Butterworth to Kuala Lumpur to visit my cousin [REDACTED] and there was a distinct mistrust of westerners on the public transport. I spent a week in the capital and it was intense and people were very nervous. I have a deep understanding of what was really going on at that time.

I also remember when we were on exercise in Borneo that several incidents took place around the region we exercised with the Malaysian military. Not to mention the outbreak of cholera that killed several in the Kota Ballou area.

On a personal note I just learnt after thirty three years that I'm entitled to the Australia Service Medal South East Asia with Clasp for this warlike service.. (Thanks for letting me know) I now know that from early 1990's every serving member each six months has a search done to see if they are entitled to a medal or award.( It can't be that hard to do the same for those prior)?

Also a friend of mine Private [REDACTED] who toured in this tour then went on to be discharged and then subsequently diagnosed with bipolar and other mental health issues. I have read and now believe that the malaria tablets that we had to take whilst there and prior to and after may have played a part in his mental health conditions. For all I know they affected me too! (part of concealment and deflection).It's no wonder we have little trust and faith in Governments and Government Organisations

I guess what I'm trying to say here is that yes this was a little warlike and there were real threats and as a result most of us carry these with us today and have to find out ourselves what we are entitled to. It's a poor look and one that needs to be addressed and where possible repaired.

Yours Sincerely

James Redgrave [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

# BOOTS COMPANY IN 1988

1988 has been a year of challenge for the company, which it met in a true professional manner. We were once again the winners of the Battalion Swimming Carnival and achieved for the first time a clean sweep in the Military Skills Competition. The company experienced a number of highs and lows during the training year. The highest point of the year was the three months tour of duty at Air Base Butterworth in Malaysia.

Activities conducted during the tour included a combined exercise with the Malaysians, battle shooting and field firing at Pulada and watermanship training on Penang Island.

The most memorable time of the tour was the combined exercise which was conducted in the State of Sabah around the Kota Kinabalu and Kota Belud areas.

Advancing 60 km on foot over some very mountainous terrain in three days using the main North South road was not our idea of fun. The axis had more civilian traffic than the Sydney Harbour Bridge at peak hour.

The Pulada phase was three weeks of battle shooting, range practices and field firing. All members of the company received benefit from the realistic and demanding battle ranges. In all, the company spent 48 days in the field during the three month tour. Nevertheless, we survived and put in some very worthwhile and useful training.

Along with the hard training came some hard playing and the company enjoyed some very worthwhile playing in Bangkok, Phuket, Singapore and Haadji.

On our return to the Battalion in June, we had a couple of days off before getting back into the swing of things and participating in the Battalion Birthday Parade (which we weren't meant to be in).

At the same time, we sent the bulk of the Victoria Barracks Guard contingent to Sydney. Furthermore, during this time the company was put through the Military Skills competition, which, I am happy to say, the company took out in a clean sweep:

Champion Section - 6 Sect (Cpl Bond)

Champion Platoon - 12 Pl (Lt Griffiths)

Champion Company

July included the company's live-fire defence assessment, EXERCISE SUPERSHOT, which went very well. On this exercise the sun didn't shine, the rain didn't stop and the disruptive pattern japa didn't keep us dry. However it was noted by the battalion fashion co-ordinator, Lt Griffiths, "that they looked very nice in the bush".

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Night shoot at Pulada

Although we were soaked, in true infantry style we soldiered on and finally, in the stillness of the night, the company was let loose on an unsuspecting ply-wood enemy. Our thanks go to the OPSO for planning a very realistic exercise.

Exercise 'BAY ROMP' was the next training activity. The company was herded onto HMS Tobruk with the rest of the battalion and we set sail for Moreton Bay. We now know how the convicts felt with the First Fleet, "being on half rations, no portholes and being continually left below decks", was this in fact to be the Bi-centennial Re-enactment?

The company's talents were next put to the test on Exercise Deep Thrust. It taught the soldiers how to combine their talents as human moles and mountain goats. Everywhere we were required to dig in, it was high and rocky. The exercise also included movement by LCM8 and Assault craft and culminated with an assault gap crossing onto Townsend Island.

On this exercise, Doc Moore covered himself with glory. When evacuating a seriously concussed soldier from 1 Div Int Coy by stretcher, the casualty tried to swallow his tongue on a number of occasions. It was only the Doc's quick thinking that averted a life threatening situation. Well done Doc!

October saw the return of the CQMS SSGT Chatfield after being on course for six months. We were worried that he may not have been remembered, but this fear was soon allayed, when LCol Nolan was heard to shout "Oh, my God!".

The company welcomes Staffie back just in time to say goodbye, as he is posted to the West in November.

October also saw part of the company on Exercise 'Swift Eagle' and the remainder supporting the Subject 2 for CPL course at

Wide Bay. Once both activities had concluded, the company was given 9 days stand-down. This action dispelled the rumour that stand-down is like the Olympics, and only comes around every four years.

To all those soldiers who left the company in 1988, thanks for the memories especially you 'Checkly', and we hope to see you back with Boots Company in the near future.

For those who have joined the company in 1988 and those remaining, we look forward to some more stand-down, ERL and some Californian sun.



"Hello...Jenny Craig?"



12 Pl at play

## BOOTS COMPANY SPECIAL AWARDS

\* To 10 Platoon who drank the most Mekong whiskey and had the least number of Social diseases. 'Could the two be related?'

\* To 11 Platoon, for the most motorcycle accidents while at Phuket. They did in fact bring back one or two without injury.

\* To 12 Platoon, who had the most constructive relationships with the indigenous kind. 'Who was in fact involved in the bizarre love triangle with a blond English Wildebeest?'

\* To the OPSO, who was heard to say, "the company had it easy by being in Butterworth". No one ever did tell the OPSO that the company spent 48 days in the field over the three months stay.

\* To our CQMS, Staff Sergeant Bob ---

?--- What was his name?



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