

SUBMISSION TO INQUIRY

This form must cover a submission to the inquiry

Name of Inquiry	RCB DHAAT INQUIRY

About the Submitter

Title or Rank:	MR (EX-SGT) REGT NO 222868
Surname:	ROSE
Given Names:	GEOFFREY JOHN
Postal Address:	
Email Address:	
Preferred contact number:	Mobile:
	Home or other:
Is the Submission on behalf of an organisation? If yes, please provide details:	SELF

Desired Outcome

Provide a summary of your submission.	SEE ATTACHED STATEMENT

Please attach your submission and any supporting documentation



### 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:

*Geoffrey John Rose*

Print name:

GEOFFREY JOHN ROSE

Date:

27/06/2022

### 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:

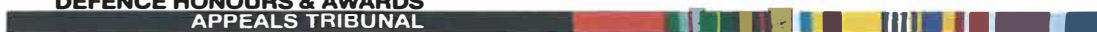
Defence Honours and Awards  
Appeals Tribunal  
Level 1, 5 Tennant Street, Fyshwick  
Locked Bag 7765  
CANBERRA BC ACT 2600

#### By Email:

dha.tribunal@defence.gov.au

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

**DEFENCE HONOURS & AWARDS  
APPEALS TRIBUNAL**



My name is Geoffrey John Rose and I enlisted into the Army on 30th January 1973. I attended Kapooka, NSW, for Basic Training then was sent to the Infantry Centre in Ingleburn then Singleton for Initial Employment Training as an Infantry soldier, on completion at my training in July 1973, I was posted to 3rd Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR) at Kapyong Barracks Woodside in South Australia. My posting in 3RAR was to 2 Platoon, A Company as a Rifleman. On 27th November 1973, A Company was sent to RAAF Base Butterworth as part of the Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB) rotation until 3rd March 1974.

Before we were sent to Butterworth we attended a Jungle Warfare Course at the Jungle Training Centre at Canungra (JTC) to familiarise us with patrolling/contacts in conditions that we could expect once we arrived in Malaysia. As other parts of our pre-deployment administration, we were required to complete a "Will and Testament" which was held at CARO (Central Army Records Office), briefings showing us effects of gunshot wounds and we practiced first aid for treating bullet wounds.

I was employed as a Section Rifleman in 2 Section, 2 Platoon and my primary weapon was the L1A1 SLR. Other members of the section carried the appropriate weapon for the designated position within the Section – M16, Bren Gun M203 (Grenade Launcher). While in Butterworth the company's heavy weapons and ammunition were available from the Q Store/Armoury. When my section was designated as the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) we carried the appropriate live ammunition for the weapons that we carried. While in Butterworth we had numerous DP1 checks – ensuring we had all our issued equipment and it was in serviceable condition at all times.

We were briefed when we arrived at Butterworth about where we were safe to go, where to avoid and those places we were not to go. We had a full tour of the RAAF Base, including the perimeter fences that was where we would be going to when on duty as QRF if there was a breach in the Perimeter fence and we saw all the signs that warned trespassers would be shot. The Malaysian soldiers on guard at the Base Entrances all carried loaded weapons. We were told not to leave the Base alone, always to travel with our mates.

While at RCB we continued our weapons training, patrolling and riot control actions. All training we participated in was at the RAAF Base, we did have weapons firing both at the RAAF Base and at the Malaysian Army Range – which we travelled to by truck. While in transit to the range we were issued with live ammunition, and as we spent the night at the range we had picquets posted who always had live ammunition loaded on their weapons. At no time while we were in Butterworth did we do any training with the Malaysian Armed Forces.

When I consider the actions that we performed, including the carrying of live ammunition, after all the briefings and training that we had both before and after arrival in Butterworth, I consider that we performed the duties of an Australian soldier who was not in a training environment. This was not what we were expecting before we arrived in Malaysia, but as we all had to sign Official Secrets Act paperwork, nothing that occurred while we were at RCB Butterworth has been disclosed by me to anyone until now.

If required I am prepared to give further oral evidence (personally or by telephone) before the Independent Inquiry.