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Submission to Inquiry - MR John, Laurence Nolan

Part 1 – Name of Inquiry

Name of Inquiry *

DHAAT Inquiry 31

Part 2 – About the Submitter

Title or Rank *

MR

Surname *

Nolan

Given Names *

John, Laurence

Postal Address *

[REDACTED]

Email Address: *

[REDACTED]

Primary Contact Number *

[REDACTED]

Secondary Contact Number

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

No

Part 3 – Desired outcome

Provide a summary of your submission:

I have deployed to RCB 3 times, 28 Aug - 03 Dec 86 Bravo Coy 6 RAR as a rifleman, 02 Mar - 01 Jun 88 Delta Coy 6 RAR and 30 Nov 89 - 07 Mar 90 Bravo Coy 6 RAR as a section 2IC, on all deployments I carried an SLR on my first 2 deployments and an F88 on my third deployment, the rest of the Company carried normal small arms weapon as per the allocation in the publication 'The Infantry Battalion. The pre-deployment training for each deployment was slightly different but they all basically started with section then platoon level dry, blank and live fire attacks culminating in a company exercise in either jungle or open country. We also covered legal aspect such as ROE/OFOF, everyone had to memorize how to say HALT OR I WILL SHOOT in Malaysian and our rights if we had to carry out that warning. All the time we had to make sure that we all had a current will, we were fit for overseas deployment both medical and dental, all our financial matter were covered and every one was DP1. In the last few weeks before deployment every one received in country briefs, explained the procedures that occur on the airbase such as the QRF, operation of the spotlight on the QRF vehicle, working on an airbase, the lighting system on the control tower, strip clearance for the first two deployments, final checks packings and given pre-deployment leave. Finally in the last couple of days they conducted final checks and gave us our final briefs, I can remember on my first deployment we were told that our job on deployment was to protect Australian assets and personal in Malaysia even if it takes lethal force, we were warned that that

whilst at Butterworth if you were charged you would go under a different punishment scale as it was classified as warlike service according to the Army. I felt that RCB should be re-classified as active service for the following, • During all the pre-deployment training and whilst in country was focused on stopping insurgents destroying Australian assets and protecting live using lethal force if under attack. • It has been recognized by the Army therefore the government as active service soldiers were punished under Military law as active service. • During my 34 year of service I have never gone through the same procedure to go on Exercise in Australia or overseas. • The job that RCB conducted is similar to that were and are being conducted by Air Defense Guards/Security Force now that is recognized as Active Service. What I want from the inquiry are, • Qualifying service for VEA entitlements, and have the RCB declared under the Defense Act an active service area. • Australian Active Service Medal with a Malaysia clasp. • Infantry Combat Badge or Army Combat Badge, and • Returned from Active Service Badge (RASB).

Part 4 - Your submission and Supporting Documentation

File Attached:

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

John Nolan

Date

15/07/2022 /



Signed by MR John, Laurence Nolan

Signed on: 16 July, 2022

Signature Certificate

Document name: Submission to Inquiry - MR John, Laurence Nolan

