

SUBMISSION TO INQUIRY

This form must cover a submission to the inquiry

Name of Inquiry: DEFENCE HONOURS AND AWARDS APPEALS TRIBUNAL

About the Submitter

Title or Rank: CPL
Surname: ALLFORD
Given Names: GREGORY JOHN
Postal Address: [Redacted]
Email Address: [Redacted]
Preferred contact number: Mobile: [Redacted], Home or other: [Redacted]
Is the Submission on behalf of an organisation? If yes, please provide details: [Redacted]

Desired Outcome

Provide a summary of your submission. SUMMARY ATTACHED

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:

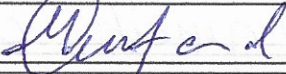
- a. using information contained in my submission to conduct research;
- b. providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation considered by the Tribunal to be appropriate;
- c. providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation the subject of adverse comment in the submission; 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:



Print name:

G ALLFORD

Date:

13 FEB 2023

Lodging your submission

Further information, including the inquiry's Terms of Reference can be found at 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**

APPEALS TRIBUNAL



G J Allford
[REDACTED]

02 February 2023

RE: RCB/RAAF Butterworth Submission

To whom it May Concern,

I served with 75 SQN at Air Base Butterworth between February 1971 to November 1973 as an Instrument Fitter. My service record was [REDACTED] CPL G, J Allford.

Primary function was to ensure the mirage aircraft of 75 SQN were at operational capability at all times both in flight line and maintenance.

In that period I also transited to Tengah Air Base (Singapore) many times.

As part of essential personnel my family and myself were housed in Tan Sai Gin a few minutes from the base.

At times during this tour we were at operational ready due to warnings of activity by insurgents and was required to do numerous weapons training sessions at the range.

There was one occasion when I was put on night base security patrol in late November 1972 when insurgents blew up a bridge 7 or so kilometres from the base. I know of this intimately as I was briefed by an ADG Officer given an SLR with full live magazine and told to protect the flight line and fuel compound.

At one time during a patrol whilst moving from the fuel depot to the flight line I saw a movement in the shadows as there were areas that were poorly lit. Rather than yell berhenti I yelled "Halt Who Goes there" twice and from out of the shadows came a Malaysian security guard pointing a machine gun at me. I heard a click (which haunts me to this day) not knowing if the safety was going on as due to the heightened alert the Malaysian guards always had their guns cocked and safety off. A few nights later a RAAF security dog was released from the handler due to a perceived threat. This really unnerved me from that time on.

This was extremely nerve racking as I had no army patrol experience just simply told if you see someone that you access as a threat yell out Berhenti, Berhenti, Berhenti (stop, stop, stop) and shoot to kill. If gunfire was heard help would come. I can tell you this was extremely challenging knowing what the Malaysian security personnel are like and with previous warnings and information of insurgency action.

This situation extended for a period until the danger was de-escalated.

Off the base the families did receive some threats for the Malaysian security particularly at the transition stage of security forces.

I am prepared to give this and possible further oral evidence if given the opportunity to appear before an independent enquiry.

Regards
Greg Allford

