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28 April, 2023

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

## Submission to Inquiry - CPL Richard Charles Wilkes

### Part 1 – Name of Inquiry

**Name of Inquiry \***

Medallic recognition for service with Rifle Company Butterworth

### Part 2 – About the Submitter

**Title or Rank \***

CPL

**Given Names \***

Richard Charles

**Surname \***

Wilkes

**Post-nominals (if applicable)**

[REDACTED]

**Street Number and Name \***

[REDACTED]

**Suburb \***

[REDACTED]

**Postcode \***

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Email Address: \***

[REDACTED]

**Primary Contact Number \***

[REDACTED]

**Secondary Contact Number**

[REDACTED]

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

### Part 3 – Desired outcome

**Provide a summary of your submission:**

Sirs I served with 8 RAR 1971 to around 1974 during in mid 1972 my company was posted to Butterworth Malaysia (RCB), one of the first companies of the 8 RAR for a 3 month rotation tour of duty. Prior to posting the company was briefed by the Battalion officers on the rules of engagement for the deployment, I understood these rules in part to be: . the protection of the Butterworth airbase & the protection of ADF personnel from potential CT insurgency . Patrolling inside of the Base Wire & not to shoot unless shot at .if CT were KIA inside/

across the wire they were to be placed outside the wire Further: During my service at RCB i was assigned to lead / undertake armed escort duties with RAAF MPs. These Duties included the escort a convoy of ammunition to be met at the border of Singapore & Malaysia and from there escort to Butterworth. The duties were the protection of RAAF personnel & the convoy. I along with one other private, were armed with live ammunition and issued with the rules of engagement to protect the convoy from CT insurgents and to use our weapons if fired on. The escort travelled armed and stayed in heavily guarded fortified police compounds overnight I submit that requirement for an armed (with live ammunition) escort indicates that the risk to the convoy was considered high ( enough for an armed escort.) and that the members of the escort were exposed to that risk and the circumstances surrounding the convoy. I would argue the circumstances in the country (Malay ia) at the time of my po ting and the rule of engagement particularly relating to convoy dutie constitute warlike duties Sincerely Richard Wilkes

## 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**

Richard Wilkes

**Date**

28/4/2023

CPL Richard Charles Wilkes  
(Awaiting Signature)

[Redacted text]

LEGALLY SIGNED USING  
**WP**signature

[Redacted text]



[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

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