



THE DEPARTMENT OF  
THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

**IDC ON HONOURS AND AWARDS FOR DEFENCE FORCE PERSONNEL**

Date: 30 July 2001, 9am  
Venue: Dept of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**AGENDA**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Papers/advice</b>
1	S22 Irrelevant	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8	S22 Irrelevant	
	2) UN Dag Hammarskjold Medal Developments (DPMC)	
	S22 Irrelevant	

PN3

*N Kelly*

*6/7*

ACTION: DEP P M AND CABINET  
COPY NO. 1

**INWARD CABLE**

C.UN11160 MCCUDDEN GARY  
TOR 08.51 6.7.01

*P on next  
needs of the  
IDC on base  
H...*

IN DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

C.UN11160 1857 05.07.01

TO.  
RR CANBERRA

FM. UN NEW YORK CDEF REF. C.UN10364 C.UN10368

U N C L A S S I F I E D

*6/7*

UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL (DHM)

START OF SUMMARY

REFTELS ADVISED THAT THE UN SOUGHT DETAILS FROM MEMBERS STATES IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESSING OF DHM TO THE NEXT OF KIN (NOK) OF PERSONNEL KILLED IN UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (PKO). ADVICE IS SOUGHT ON THE STATUS OF THE ACTIONS SOUGHT IN REFTEL UN10364. FURTHER INFORMATION OBTAINED IS THAT NOK OF PERSONNEL KILLED IN THE KOREAN WAR AND ON MULTINATIONAL PKOS ARE INELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE DHM.

END OF SUMMARY

PLEASE PASS TO DFAT (INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS BRANCH), DEFENCE (HONOURS AND AWARDS) AND AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE (EXTERNAL POLICING DIVISION)

1. DISCUSSIONS ON THE DHM WITH DPKO OFFICIALS CLARIFIED THAT:
  - A. AS THE KOREAN WAR WAS NOT A UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATION (PKO), NOK OF THOSE KILLED ARE INELIGIBLE.
  - B. THE DHM WILL BE AWARDED ONLY FOR PERSONNEL KILLED ON UN PKOS, NOT MULTINATIONAL PKOS THAT OPERATE UN SECURITY COUNCIL MANDATE. THUS THE NOK OF AUSTRALIA'S UNIFIED TASK FORCE IN SOMALIA (UNITAF) CASUALTY ARE INELIGIBLE.
2. DISCUSSIONS ALSO REVEALED THAT STOCKS OF THE CRYSTAL ELLIPSOID HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AND PRESENTATIONS HAVE BEGUN.
3. POST REQUESTS CONFIRMATION THAT ACTIONS ARE ONGOING TO:
  - A. CONFIRM THE DETAILS OF THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN POLICE MEMBERS IDENTIFIED IN UN10364.
  - B. ESTABLISH WHETHER ANY OTHER AUSTRALIAN MILITARY, CIVILIAN POLICE OR CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ARE ELIGIBLE, AND

ACTION: DEP P M AND CABINET  
COPY NO. 1

**INWARD CABLE**

2-C.UN11160

C. OBTAIN GOVERNOR GENERAL CONSENT FOR THE AWARD TO BE MADE TO THE NOK OF THE NAMED INDIVIDUALS.

MD. 00DC0465AA1FAD1D5ADAAA8B80BA8884CF57

OD. POTTER

SUBJECT: FBB, OGFF, OGFCH

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE  
AUST FEDERAL POLICE  
DEP DEFENCE  
DEP P M AND CABINET

INFO: PRIME MINISTER                    MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MINISTER FOR TRADE                MIN DEFENCE  
DIO                                    ONA  
+++

IN  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

From: 47F  
To: "Pat.Clarke@defence.gov.au".API.DPMC  
Date: 6/8/01 11:54am  
Subject: SEC: UNCLASSIFIED RE: Dag Hammarskjold Medal

Pat

Given the nature of the proposed UN honour (memento), it would not be appropriate for it to be denied to the families of Australian personnel killed on United Nations peace-keeping operations. However, as discussed at our meeting in January, we would need to revisit this matter should the Dag Hammarskjold Medal be extended back to the those killed in action during the Korean War given that that conflict was not a peace-keeping operation.

We would also wish to observe the underlying protocols contained in the Guidelines concerning the Acceptance and Wearing of Foreign Honours and Awards by Australians and give the Governor-General the opportunity to be informed of the proposed awarding/presentation of the Dag Hammarskjold Medal prior to its presentation to the families concerned.

We see this Medal as a "death in service" medal made to the families of those concerned and not as a foreign service medal to recognise peace-keeping.

47F  
Adviser  
Awards and National Symbols  
Tel: 47F  
47F

>>> Clarke, Pat 06/07/01 10:24am >>>  
G'day 47F

Do you have any comments on this. The only concern that Defence has is the ramifications that would result in respect of suggestions for a medal to those who are killed or injured whilst in service, an then any flow-on from Defence to those organisations to which the National Medal is awarded. Having said that, we also understand the politics behind needing to probably accept the offer of the award as we are a member nation of the UN.

Would welcome any comments you may have before responding.

Regards

Pat

-----Original Message-----  
From: Culleton, COL John  
Sent: Thursday, 7 June 2001 9:37  
To: Capus, Di  
Subject: Dag Hammarskjold Medal

Di

In January this year the UN sent all Missions a Note saying that it was offering the Dag Hammarskjold Medal (an engraved glass memento rather than a medal) to the families of all personnel killed in UN PKOs. Cables UN10364 and UN10368 refer.

47F [REDACTED] in DFAT called an IDC which Pat Clarke attended on behalf of Defence. A number of follow up questions were asked of me as a result of the IDC that were answered over time. 47F [REDACTED] has since moved I believe and the issue has dropped off the radar.

Before I fire a cable into DFAT on the issue, I would appreciate any knowledge you or Pat may have on the issue, especially if Defence does not want the issue raised. (I would hope this was not the case as the momento is small compensation for the family and, despite the name, could not be construed as double dipping on medals.)

Dave Potter  
ADA UNNY

CC: matthew neuhaus

ITEM 3 SERIAL 4



THE DEPARTMENT OF  
THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

TELEPHONE: (02) 8271 8111  
FACSIMILE: (02) 8271 8414

3-5 NATIONAL CIRCUIT  
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

To:

47F

Official Secretary to the Governor-General

Facsimile: 6281 3197

47F

Director, Honours Secretariat  
Government House

Facsimile 6283 3620

Mr Pat Clarke CSM  
Acting Director, Honours and Awards  
ADF Personnel Executive

Facsimile: 6265 1798

47F

Acting Chief of Protocol, DFAT

Facsimile: 6261 3455

47F

Australian Federal Police Headquarters

Facsimile: 6275 7432

**IDC ON HONOURS AND AWARDS TO DEFENCE FORCE PERSONNEL**

This note is to confirm the arranged meeting on Tuesday, 16 January 2001 at 10 am to discuss the *United Nations Dag Hammarskjold Medal* that the UN proposes to issue to personnel who have lost their lives on UN peacekeeping operations.

Attached is a copy of two cables received from our UN mission in New York on this matter.

The venue for the meeting is the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, 3-5 National Circuit, Barton.

The meeting will work to reach a whole of government approach to this matter and any ramifications for the Australian system of honours and awards. It may be appropriate to put the IDC's recommendations/views to the Prime Minister for endorsement.

The contact officer is 47F on telephone 47F. Your participation is appreciated.

47F

47F

Chairman

IDC

10 January 2001

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL - KOREAN WAR**  
Printed by Meegan Foster - 09:53 AM Tuesday, 9 January 2001

1/2

O.UN10368 1750 05.01.2001 UNC UPDATE

TO.  
RR CANBERRA/

FM. UN NEW YORK/ DE /REF O.UN10364

U N C L A S S I F I E D

UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL - KOREAN WAR

REFERENCE CABLE UN10364, OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE 339 AUSTRALIAN  
MILITARY KILLED IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT (1950-56) WOULD ALSO BE  
ELIGIBLE. NO DETAILS FOR THESE PERSONNEL, HOWEVER, ARE KNOWN AT POST.

MD. 4A4D56589DEE37512D05A60F9FD02723A7F3

XC. O.UN10368  
CM. POTTER

XC.

CM. POTTER  
++AMENDED VERSION++

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

AUST FEDERAL POLICE

INTERNAT

DEP DEFENCE

DEP P M AND CABINET

DEP ATTORNEY GENERAL +++

ACTION: FRB

IOB

SEC DEPSEC-SPENCER DEPSEC-DAUTH DEPSEC-PAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS EXB

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**UNCLASSIFIED**

UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL  
Printed by Meegan Foster - 09:53 AM Tuesday, 9 January 2001

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O.UN10364 1735 05.01.2001 UNC UPDATE

TO.  
RR CANBERRA/

FM. UN NEW YORK/ FA

U N C L A S S I F I E D

UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL

START OF SUMMARY

UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL (SG) HAS ISSUED THE CRITERIA FOR THE POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL TO PERSONNEL WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIFE DURING SERVICE ON UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.

END OF SUMMARY

1. POST HAS RECEIVED THE REGULATIONS FOR THE AWARDING OF THE UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL (ST/SGB/2000/15). THIS MEDAL WILL BE POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED TO MEMBERS OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES, BEFORE OR AFTER 1 DEC 2000, DURING SERVICE WITH A PEACEKEEPING OPERATION UNDER THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE UN. THE FOLLOWING SUMMARISES KEY ELEMENTS OF THE REGULATION.

2. DESCRIPTION. THE MEDAL WILL BE A CLEAR COLOURLESS LEAD GLASS CRYSTAL ELLIPSOID, MONAIED WITH THE NAME AND DATE OF DEATH OF THE RECIPIENT, THE UN LOGO AND AN INSCRIPTION "THE DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL: IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE", RESTING ON A CUSHIONED BLACK VELVET BASE WITH A BLUE UN RIBBON AFFIXED.

3. ELIGIBILITY. ALL PERSONNEL OF MILITARY, POLICE OR CIVILIAN COMPONENTS OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES DURING SERVICE IN SUCH PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, EXCEPT IN CASE OF DEATH ARISING FROM MISCONDUCT OR CRIMINAL ACTS DURING ASSIGNMENT WITH THE UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATION. THERE IS NO ASSOCIATED 'MINIMUM' QUALIFYING PERIOD.

4. PROCEDURE FOR AWARD. REQUESTS FOR AWARD SHALL EMANATE FROM THE SG. HE MAY AWARD THE MEDAL BASED ON INFORMATION IN THE UN ARCHIVES. HE SHALL ALSO CONSIDER REQUESTS FROM PARTICIPATING STATES.

5. AWARDING OF THE MEDAL. AWARDS OF THE MEDAL TO NEXT OF KIN (NOK) FOR MILITARY AND POLICE MEMBERS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PARTICIPATING STATE. THE PROCEDURE OF THE AWARD IN THIS CASE SHALL BE AGREED UPON BETWEEN THE SG AND THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED. AWARDS OF THE MEDAL TO NOK FOR CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF

**UNCLASSIFIED**



## UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL

Printed by Meegan Foster - 09:53 AM Tuesday, 9 January 2001

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PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS WILL BE MADE BY SG OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE.

6. POST COMMENT. WHILE AN AUTOMATED PROCESS MAY EVENTUALLY BE ESTABLISHED, DPKO HAS ADVISED THAT IN THE INTERIM MEMBER STATES SHOULD SUPPLY THE NAMES OF PERSONNEL THEY BELIEVE ARE ELIGIBLE. NOMINATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE NAME, RANK AND SERVICE NUMBER (IF KNOWN) AND THE DATE OF DEATH. RECORDS HELD AT POST INDICATE THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL SHOULD BE ELIGIBLE (POSTHUMOUSLY):

- A. 47F [REDACTED]
- B. 47F [REDACTED]
- C. 47F [REDACTED]
- D. 47F [REDACTED]
- E. 47F [REDACTED]
- F. 47F [REDACTED]
- G. 47F [REDACTED]

7. WE ASSUME AUSTRALIA WILL WISH TO SECURE THE AWARDS FOR SUBSEQUENT PRESENTATION TO NOK. REQUEST CONFIRMATION OF PERSONNEL DETAILS IN PARA 6 AND LIKE DETAILS FOR ANY ADDITIONAL PERS YOU MAY IDENTIFY. REQUEST IN PARTICULAR CLARIFICATION OF WHETHER 1 RAR BN GP WAS UNDER UN COMMAND WHEN 47F [REDACTED] 47F - OUR RESEARCH SUGGESTS THAT THE UNIFIED TASK FORCE IN SOMALIA WAS NOT UNDER UN COMMAND AT THIS TIME. WE HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY AUSTRALIAN CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED BUT CLEARLY THIS WARRANTS INVESTIGATION.

MD. F3A93040A6126853AE5CC1850563C679A33E

XC. O.UN10364

CM. POTTER/CULLETON

XC.

CM. POTTER/CULLETON

++AMENDED VERSION++

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

AUST FEDERAL POLICE

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UNITED NATIONS DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL  
Printed by Meagan Foster - 08:53 AM Tuesday, 9 January 2001

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DEP DEFENCE

DEP P M AND CABINET

DEP ATTORNEY GENERAL     +++

ACTION: PRB

IOB

SEC DEPSEC-SPENCER DEPSEC-DAUTH DEPSEC-FAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS EXB

PPI FAS(ILD) UNC

**UNCLASSIFIED**

## HONOURS-IN-CONFIDENCE

15994  
PE 98-32844

HDRE 29/01

## BRIEF FOR CDF

## UN DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL

## BACKGROUND

1. The UN Secretary General has approved the establishment of the Dag Hammarskjold Medal for personnel who have lost their lives serving on UN operations (FLAG A). The medal has been offered by the UN to Australia to recognise seven personnel (five military, two police) who have died in peacekeeping operations since 1966 as well as the 339 who died during the Korean War.

## CURRENT POLICY

2. Current Government foreign awards policy has underlying principles by which foreign awards may be accepted. Principles which affect this case are:

- a. **UN activities.** Being a Security Council function, Australia would rarely be in a position to register opposition to accept an award of the UN recognising service in UN operations.
- b. **Foreign Awards for Campaign Service.** It has always been Australian Government policy that only one foreign service medal will be recognised for operational or campaign service in conjunction with any Australian award for the same service. In respect of UN service, UN Service Medal always takes priority over any other foreign award.
- c. **The Equivalence Rule.** Each foreign honour or award, prior to being submitted for approval, is subject to an equivalence test against honours and awards within the Australian system. Where an equivalence cannot be established, the honour or award will not be submitted for approval. However, it is accepted that direct equivalents cannot always be drawn between Australian and foreign honours and awards and each case will be assessed on its own merits.

3. Being principles only, they may be disregarded should the Government decide to do so under certain circumstances. However, any disregard of the principles should be treated with care and all implications of doing so considered.

## COMPLEXITIES OF RECOGNITION FOR DEATH IN SERVICE

4. There has been considerable lobbying to Government in recent times for a medal recognising death and disability in service, particularly as a result of the Blackhawk accident in Townsville in 1996 and the more recent HMAS WESTRALIA accident in WA.

5. Recognition for death in service has never been a tenet of the honours and awards systems of the United Kingdom, from which the Australian system was derived, nor is there

## HONOURS-IN-CONFIDENCE

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an award in the New Zealand or Canadian systems. The US has the Purple Heart which is awarded for death or injury resulting from operational service in an active area of operations.

6. It is considered that there would be substantial difficulty in administering such an award, ie. who would be eligible and where would the line be drawn. For example, should a person be eligible who dies or is made invalid by their own hand, dies in a car accident on a weekend or has already been recognised for their service by a long service medal or operational service medal. (A person on operational service who dies or whose service is terminated as a result of that service, qualifies for the operational award.)

7. Due to the complexities involved, the IDC on Defence Honours and Awards in 1999 decided that if such an award was to be considered, it should be for death in service only. However, the Committee also recognised the wider implications of establishing such a medal across those organisations to which the National Medal is awarded such as police forces, ambulance services, fire services, state emergency services and the like. It also recognised that there would be a strong case to go back as far as the end of WW II which would pick up those who died in all operations since. As a result, it preferred that Defence pursue the matter on its own and any wider impact on other services be monitored by the IDC for separate consideration at a later date.

8. To date, the matter has not been pursued by Defence. It is recognised that service terminated by death in World Wars I and II was commemorated by an award of a badge to the next of kin. It is considered that a similar system, perhaps a badge and certificate of appreciation or a commemorative souvenir and certificate would be more appropriate than a medal, if the matter were to be pursued. It is also considered that Australia has no precedent on which to establish a medal recognising death or disability in service, regardless of arguments that the US have the Purple Heart.

### IMPLICATIONS OF ACCEPTING THE DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEDAL

9. Australia could accept the Dag Hammarskjold Medal on the basis that UN Medals would normally be accepted under the principle at para 2.a. above, albeit that there is no compulsion to do so. However, the purpose of the medal does not meet the principles at b. and c. of only one foreign award being accepted for operational or campaign service nor there being an equivalent in the Australian system.

10. Should Australia accept the award, there will no doubt be a resurgence in the lobby to have a medal recognising death in service, both generally and in non-UN operations on a basis of equity. If this was to occur, Korean War veterans' groups would no doubt lobby for the award of the Australian medal on the basis of equity for members killed in that conflict, and probably win due to political reasons. This would then allow an entitlement of up to five medals to those deceased members for that one conflict alone.

11. A further complicating factor is that the acceptance of the Dag Hammarskjold Medal could be seen by some veterans' groups as accepting a second foreign award for operational service and give rise to lobbying for additional awards so far not accepted, eg. the Liberation of Kuwait Medal - Kuwait Government, on top of the accepted Liberation of Kuwait Medal - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In addition, the argument would again rise for similar recognition across all the emergency services for peacetime activities.

HONOURS-IN-CONFIDENCE

HONOURS-IN-CONFIDENCE

CONCLUSION

12. The Chairman of the IDC on Defence Honours and Awards has convened a meeting for Tues 16 Jan 01 to discuss the offer of the Dag Hammarskjold Medal to Australia with a view to reaching a whole of government approach to the matter and any ramifications for the Australian system of honours and awards.

13. It is proposed that Defence recommend to the IDC that the medal should not be accepted by Australia. It is not compelled to do so and the overall ramification, if it were accepted, would be a further erosion of the Australian honours and awards system generally.

*S.V.L. Willis*

S.V.L. WILLIS  
MAJGEN  
HDPE

12 Jan 01

*Discussed with A/CDF*

AGREED/~~NOT~~AGREED

D.M. MUELLER  
LTGEN  
A/CDF

Jan 01

*Put forward the argument but stated CA, UK, NZ etc agree we should fall into line.*

*[Signature]*  
HDPE

*15/1*



# CDF/VCDF

## CORRESPONDENCE - ACTION

Code: A - Action I - Information C - Comments D - Draft Reply G - Discuss F - Filing

Appointment	Code	Action Remarks
HOPE		<del>Personnel</del>
		Note personnel.
		G 5/1
	I	Discussed at IDC on 16 Jan.
		NAV view is that we probably will have
		no choice. They are probably right.

## Minutes

Interdepartmental Committee on Honours and Awards  
to Defence Force Personnel

30 July 2001

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	47F [REDACTED]
Government House	47F [REDACTED]
Department of Defence	Air Commodore Roxley McLennan AM, LTCOL Paddy Devine, Patrick Clarke CSM

Item	Substance/Outcome	Action/Result
1	Minutes of Previous Meeting	Minutes of last IDC accepted without change.
2	Business Arising S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
3	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
	S22 Irrelevant	

	S22 Irrelevant	
4	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
5	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant



	S22 Irrelevant	
6	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
7	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant

	S22 Irrelevant	
8	<b>Other Business</b> S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
	<b>2) UN Dag Hammarskjold Medal</b>  The IDC noted progress by agencies to identify personnel who will be eligible for the proposed new medal. When names are known, government to be advised of initiative and appropriate approval to be sought under the foreign award guidelines.	
	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant

	S22 Irrelevant	
	S22 Irrelevant	S22 Irrelevant
	Meeting Closed 11:30am	