



# DEFENCE INSTRUCTIONS (ARMY)

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Department of Defence (Army Headquarters)  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

19 April 2001

Amendments to Defence Instruction (Army) listed below are issued by my command pursuant to section 9A of the *Defence Act 1903*.

P.J. COSGROVE  
Lieutenant General  
Chief of Army

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## ISSUE NO PERS 2/2001

### Amendment

PERS 97-5 *Infantry Combat Badge*  
AMDT NO 1  
**Complete Revision**

### Cancellation

DI(A) PERS 97-5 ISSUE NO PERS 45/96 of 23 SEP 96 is cancelled.

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**Note:** Instructions for filing and maintaining DI(A) are contained in DI(G) ADMIN 01-1 (filed as DI(A) ADMIN 1-3).

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# INFANTRY COMBAT BADGE

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Infantry Combat Badge (ICB) is awarded to a serving member of the Australian Army for service as an infantryman in warlike operations.

## AIM

2. The aim of this instruction is to detail the policy and procedure applicable to the ICB which has been instituted for recognition of infantry service in warlike operations.

## Definitions

3. **Service as an infantryman.** In this instruction, service as an infantryman means service as a member of the Royal Australian Infantry Corps (RA Inf) in an infantry posting in an Australian or allied Infantry Battalion, Independent Rifle Company, Commando Regiment, Special Air Service Regiment or such other Australian unit as may be designated by the Chief of Army.

4. **Operations.** 'Operations' is defined as service in an operational area in respect of which a campaign star or medal for active service has been awarded.

## Authorisation to wear the badge

5. Each eligible member may be awarded the badge on one occasion only. The following may grant authority to wear the badge:

- a. Commanding Officer (CO) of an Australian Infantry Unit in which a member is serving at the time at which they complete their qualifying service; and
- b. Head of Corps Royal Australian Infantry (HOC RA Inf) (through SO2 Ceremonial—Army Headquarters (SO2 Ceremonial AHQ)) for retrospective cases (see [annex A](#)) and cases involving other corps and allied infantry units.

## Description

6. The badge, finished in bronze, is in the form of a bayonet surrounded by a laurel wreath. It is approximately 28 mm wide and fixed to the uniform by means of pins and clutch grips. A miniature of the badge is available for wearing on mess dress.

## Eligibility

7. Except as provided in [paragraphs 8.](#) to 10, the ICB may only be awarded to a serving member of the Australian Army who has given, either continuous or aggregate, 90 days satisfactory service as an infantryman in warlike operations.

8. The badge may also be awarded, in the following special circumstances, to a member of the RA Inf, who:

- a. except as regards length of service, satisfies the requirement of [paragraph 7.](#) and who, in respect of service as an infantryman, has been decorated for gallantry, wounded in action, or evacuated from the theatre of operations because of a disability (not self-inflicted) attributable to that service;
- b. while a member of the Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam (AATTV), served with an operational infantry unit of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, provided also that this service complied with the provisions of [paragraph 7.](#) or subparagraph [8.a.](#); and
- c. serves in a conflict either with Australian forces or on exchange, but where that conflict is less than 90 days, but in all other circumstances the nature of the conflict would qualify for the ICB, with the approval of HOC RA Inf.

9. The badge may also be awarded to a member of a corps other than RA Inf in the following circumstances:

- a. Where service with AATTV was at least equivalent to that which entitled RA Inf members to receive the badge, individual cases are to be decided by HOC RA Inf.
- b. Where the member is posted to an infantry unit and gives service in operations at least equivalent to that which entitles an infantry corps member of the same unit to receive the badge, individual cases are to be referred to HOC RA Inf.
  - (1) In these cases the CO of the infantry unit must deem the service to have been indistinguishable from eligible RA Inf associates and provide a recommendation and supporting evidence to HOC RA Inf.

10. The badge may be awarded to colonels commandant/honorary colonels and officers of cadets who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria.

11. In retrospective cases it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide all necessary documentation, including the recommendation of the CO during the period for which eligibility is claimed. Inadequate documentation will result in the award being denied.

### Designated areas of qualifying service

12. The qualifying periods, areas of operational service and infantry units which saw service in those areas since 1950 are listed in [annex A](#).

### Action by Units

13. The grant of approval to wear the badge is to be authorised as follows:

- a. **To RA Inf members on operational service.** Forward POR/RO2 to Soldier Career Management Agency (SCMA) using the keyword AWARD for each member on operational service as they complete their qualifying service.
- b. **To non RA Inf members.** Units are to send applications to HOC RA Inf (through SO2 Ceremonial AHQ) for verification. HOC RA Inf will advise of success or otherwise and inform SCMA as appropriate.

### Action by Soldier Career Management Agency

14. SCMA is to take action as follows:

- a. **For members on operational service.** On receipt of POR/RO2 (see subparagraph 13.a.), annotate the member's record and issue a POR/RO2 promulgating the award.
- b. **For other serving members.** On receipt of successful applications from HOC RA Inf (see subparagraph 13.b.), issue a POR/RO2 promulgating the award for Australian Regular Army members and forward a verification advice to the applicable APA/member's unit for General Reserve members.

### Issue of the badge

15. Two badges are to be issued at public expense to members approved to wear it. Units are to hold sufficient stocks of the badge to enable initial free issues and subsequent replacements to be made. Replacement badges will be issued at the member's expense.

16. All eligible members discharged prior to receipt of the badge who, while serving, made individual or unit applications in the terms of this instruction are to receive an issue of one badge.

**Wearing of the badge**

17. The ICB is to be worn by eligible serving members of the Australian Army and may be worn by eligible ex-Army members, who subsequently join other uniformed organisations whose dress regulations permit the wearing, in uniform, of military awards. Eligible retired members may also wear the ICB, with the appropriate uniform, when attending military functions.

18. The badge is worn on the left breast, centrally placed one centimetre immediately above the medal ribbons or medals, with all orders of dress. On mess dress and mess dress white jacket a miniature of the badge is to be worn. The badge is worn with the bayonet pointing upwards and is not to be polished. For members entitled to wear another award badge, ie Badges Flying/Parachute Instructor, on the left breast, the ICB is to be worn one centimetre above the Badges Flying/Parachute Instructor.

**Forfeiture and restoration**

19. Should any member forfeit campaign stars or medals then the ICB shall also be forfeited.

20. On the restoration of forfeited campaign stars or medals then the forfeited ICB shall also be restored.

**Annex:**

A. [Infantry Combat Badge—qualifying service since 1950](#)

**Sponsor:** SO2 Ceremonial AHQ



## INFANTRY COMBAT BADGE—QUALIFYING SERVICE SINCE 1950

Serial	Campaign	Star or Medal Award	Data Eligibility	Inf Units
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1	Korea	Korea Medal	01 July 1950 – 27 July 1953	1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR
2	Malaya	General Service Medal with clasp MALAYA	16 June 1948 – 31 July 1960 (Malaya) 16 June 1948 – 31 January 1959 (Singapore)	1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR
3	Borneo	General Service Medal (1962) with clasp BORNEO	24 December 1962 – 11 August 1966	3 RAR 4 RAR 1 SAS Sqn 2 SAS Sqn
4	South Vietnam	General Service Medal (1962) with clasp SOUTH VIETNAM  Vietnam Medal (Eligibility for the Infantry Combat Badge terminated on 20 December 1972 when Australian troops ceased duties in Vietnam)	24 December 1962 – 28 May 1964  29 May 1964 – 27 January 1973	AATTV  AATTV 1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR 4 RAR 5 RAR 6 RAR 7 RAR 8 RAR 9 RAR 1 SAS Sqn (less one tp) 2 SAS Sqn (less one tp) 3 SAS Sqn (less one tp) 1 ATF Def Pl
5	Malaysia	General Service Medal (1962) with clasp MALAY PENINSULA	17 August 1964 – 12 June 1965	3 RAR
6	Kuwait	Australian Active Service Medal	17 January 1991 – 28 February 1991	RA Inf Pers Serving in Qualifying Zone
7	Somalia	Australian Active Service Medal	10 January 1993 – 21 May 1993  Land Components of UNOSOM2— 01 May 1993 to present  Air Components of UNOSOM2— 01 May 1993 to present	
8	Cambodia	Australian Active Service Medal	20 October 1991 – 07 October 1993	

Serial	Campaign	Star or Medal Award	Data Eligibility	Inf Units
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
9	Malay/ Thai Border	Australian Active Service Medal	01 August 1960 – 16 August 1964	
10	East Timor	Australian Active Service Medal	Operation FABER (under international OP STABILISE)—16 September 1999 to 23 February 2000  Operation WARDEN—16 September 1999 – 10 April 2000  Operation TANAGER—commenced 20 February 2000 to present	
11	Bosnia (Balkans)	Australian Active Service Medal	12 January 1992 – 24 January 1997	
12	Kosovo (Balkans)	Australian Active Service Medal	12 January 1992 – 24 January 1997	