

R 260459Z OCT 01  
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TO AIG 3600  
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SUBJ: AWARD OF THE ASM WITH CLASP -MIDDLE EAST- FOR NORTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENTS.

A. DHA MINUTE 2001/16465 OF 10 OCT 01.

1. FOLLOWING RECENT REVIEWS, SERVICE IN RAN SHIPS IN THE NORTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN (NWIO) DEPLOYMENTS FROM 1SEP80 TO 31JUL86 HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR THE AWARD OF THE ASM WITH CLASP -MIDDLE EAST-. THE QUALIFYING PERIOD IS 30 DAYS IN THE AREA OF OPERATIONS WHICH IS DEFINED AS, QUOTE THE AREA NORTH OF 10 DEGREES NORTH AND WEST OF 75 DEGREES EAST, THAT IS, THE ARABIAN SEA INCLUDING THE GULF OF ADEN, GULF OF OMAN AND PERSIAN GULF UNQUOTE. ELIGIBLE DEPLOYMENTS TO THE NWIO ARE:

SEP-NOV 1980 HMAS STALWART, HMAS SUPPLY, HMAS DERWENT, HMAS MELBOURNE, - *ND*  
HMAS OTAMA, HMAS PERTH  
JAN-MAY 1981 HMAS PERTH  
MAR-AUG 1981 HMAS BRISBANE  
JUL-DEC 1981 HMAS HOBART  
MAR-AUG 1982 HMAS PERTH  
AUG-NOV 1982 HMAS ADELAIDE  
MAR-JUN 1983 HMAS CANBERRA  
MAY-JUL 1984 HMAS BRISBANE  
MAY-JUL 1985 HMAS ADELAIDE, HMAS SYDNEY  
MAY-JUL 1986 HMAS PERTH, HMAS CANBERRA

2. THE APPROVAL WAS MADE ON THE BASIS THAT THE UNITS INVOLVED WERE DIRECTED TO PROVIDE A NAVAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATE, AS REQUIRED, WITH THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND ROYAL NAVY FORCES IN THE WATERS OF THE MIDDLE EAST. THIS SERVICE WAS EQUALLY, IF NOT MORE, HAZARDOUS THAN THAT FOR WHICH THE ASM 1945-75 WITH CLASP -FESR- WAS AWARDED FOR RAN SERVICE WITH THE FAR EAST STRATEGIC RESERVE 1955-71. ACCORDINGLY, THIS MEETS WITH PRINCIPLE NO 3 OF THE 1993/94 COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO DEFENCE AND DEFENCE RELATED AWARDS WHICH STATES:

QUOTE - TO MAINTAIN THE INHERENT FAIRNESS AND INTEGRITY OF THE AUSTRALIAN SYSTEM OF HONOURS AND AWARDS CARE MUST BE TAKEN THAT, IN RECOGNISING SERVICE BY SOME, THE COMPARABLE SERVICE OF OTHERS IS NOT OVERLOOKED OR DISREGARDED - UNQUOTE.

3. ANY SERVING OR FORMER ADF MEMBERS WHO CONSIDER THEY MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ASM WITH CLASP -MIDDLE EAST- FOR THIS SERVICE WILL NEED TO APPLY TO THE RELEVANT SERVICE MEDALS SECTION AS FOLLOWS (AWARDS WILL NOT BE MADE AUTOMATICALLY):

A. ADF MEDALS SECTION (NAVY), R1-1-D005, DEPT OF DEFENCE, CANBERRA, ACT, 2600.  
APPLICATIONS MAY BE MADE IN WRITING BY LETTER, OR BY USE OF THE FORM QUOTE - APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUE OR REPLACEMENT OF DEFENCE FORCE MEDALS AND AWARDS - UNQUOTE. THESE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE DEFWEB SITE UNDER THE RESOURCES AREA OF HONOURS AND AWARDS AT ADDRESS [www.defence.gov.au/dpf](http://www.defence.gov.au/dpf)

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST REFLECT THE APPLICANT'S SERVICE NUMBER, RANK, FULL NAME, DATE OF BIRTH AND CURRENT POSTAL ADDRESS.

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