CHAPTER 16

OPERATIONAL SERVICE AWARDS16

Overview

16.1 Chapters 16 – 26 includes eligibility criteria for operational service awards under the Australian Honours System. These awards are described in Volume 2, Chapter 16. The Imperial operational/campaign awards are described in Volume 2, Chapter 6.

Eligibility criteria

16.2 When medals or clasps are introduced, a determination is made that specifies all aspects of eligibility. These criteria are not negotiable and unless they are fulfilled applications for medals can not be approved. From time to time amendments may be made to determinations to reflect changed conditions. Normally an updated determination will revoke earlier determinations and will incorporate all previously published conditions.

16.3 The following chapters include the criteria from determinations together with some amplifying information, but the determinations or regulations remain the authority for eligibility.

Summary of campaign and operational awards

16.4 Details of campaign and operational service medals that have been awarded for the period up to 1945 are in Volume 2, Chapter 6.

16.5 A summary of campaign and operational service medals awarded since 1945, including Australian, Imperial, foreign and multinational, grouped by geographical location, is in Annex A.

Third country deployments

16.6 Definition. A third country deployment (TCD) is when a member on a long-term administrative or exchange posting overseas is deployed with host country forces to an operational area.

16.7 Approval process. The process for approving TCD is as follows:

   a. Relevant Head of Australian Defence Staff/Defence Attaché liaises with Strategic Operations Division (SOD).

   b. SOD forwards a submission to the Minister for Defence who approves or declines the submission.

   c. If the submission is approved, SOD issues approval to the relevant Head of Australian Defence Staff/Defence Attaché detailing:

      (1) the operation to which members are assigned;

      (2) location;

      (3) start dates and end dates; and

      (4) the nature of service (which determines the conditions of service package, including awards, which may be made).

16.8 Application for awards. When the member applies for an award for service performed during a third-country deployment they must supply a copy of the TCD confirmation plus a certification from the unit they were attached to verifying their involvement in the particular operation. This must include the locations and dates of involvement with sufficient detail to allow assessment of compliance with the relevant award determination. Incomplete or inadequate applications will be returned to the originator for completion. The member’s PMKeyS Operations Log must be up-to-date. The serving member application is attached in Annex B.
16.9 Confirmation of TCDs can be obtained from Joint Operations Command Operations Administration website. HQJOC.Pers@defence.gov.au (add ‘FOR TCD Manager’ in text).


Annexes:
A. Medals awarded for campaign and operational service after 1945 grouped by geographical location
B. Serving Member Application