CHAPTER 18

AUSTRALIAN ACTIVE SERVICE MEDAL 1945–1975

Introduction

18.1 The Australian Active Service Medal 1945–1975 (AASM 1945–1975) provides recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF), and certain other persons who may be determined by the Minister, who rendered service in certain operations, declared to be a prescribed warlike operation during the period that commenced on 3 September 1945 and ended on 13 February 1975. A description of the medal is contained in Volume 2, Chapter 16.

Definitions

18.2 The following definitions apply:

a. **Minister** is the Minister for Defence.

b. A **warlike operation** is an operation that has been declared to be a prescribed warlike operation by the Governor-General.

APPLICATION AND PROCESSING PROCEDURES

Individual applications

18.3 Personnel who believe that they have an entitlement to a medal are to apply to Directorate of Honours and Awards (DH&A) providing full details of their service including all available written evidence. Wherever possible, **Form AD 807—Application for the Issue of Medals and/or Clasps** (section one only) is to be used. An electronic copy of the form can be obtained from the DH&A website at [www.defence.gov.au/medals](http://www.defence.gov.au/medals). After verification, consolidated schedules setting out the names of those being recommended for awards will be forwarded to the Governor-General for consideration.

18.4 In the case of deceased members, applications are to be made in accordance with the procedures for granting of unissued medals detailed in Chapter 45—‘Granting of unissued service awards of deceased members’.

Issue of awards

18.5 Following the Governor-General’s approval of an award, arrangements will be made for the engraving and the dispatch of the medals to applicants.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Authority


Clasps

18.7 The AASM 1945–1975 is initially awarded with an appropriate clasp which identifies the service being recognised. Subsequent qualifying service in different prescribed warlike operations is recognised by the awarding of additional clasps. Additional service in a prescribed warlike operation for which a medal or a clasp has already been awarded does not attract any additional award entitlements. Clasps issued with the AASM 1945–1975 are listed in Annex A.
Eligible persons

18.8 Medals and clasps may be awarded to the following personnel who served in a prescribed warlike operation:

a. a member or a former member of the ADF; and

b. a person, included in a class of persons determined by the Minister.¹

Qualifying service

18.9 Qualifying service for the medal and clasps are determined on an operation by operation basis. Annex A details the applicable start and end dates, the required period of qualifying service and the CAG reference for the relevant regulations.

Regulations and determinations

18.10 CAGs and determinations detailed in this manual can be viewed at www.defence.gov.au/medals.

Wearing of medals

18.11 When wearing uniform, medals are to be worn in accordance with single-Service dress regulations. The order of wearing of medals is detailed in Chapter 4, Annex A.

Record keeping

18.12 The regulations for the AASM 1945–1975 require that a register of awards is maintained. DH&A maintains this register and also records the details of members’ awards on their personal records (PMKeyS) or DH&A records as appropriate.

Cancellation and reinstatement

18.13 The Regulations provide that the Governor-General may cancel the award of a medal and may reinstate an award so cancelled. Any proposal under this provision that a medal award should be cancelled or that a cancelled medal award should be reinstated is to be submitted to DH&A for consideration and action in accordance with the provisions detailed in Chapter 46—‘Forfeiture and restoration of Service Awards’.

Annex:

A. Eligibility criteria for Australian Active Service Medal 1945–1975 clasps issued to date

¹ Normally, medals are only awarded to members of the ADF. However, Regulations allow the Minister to make a determination that other persons are eligible for the medal and/or a particular clasp. On occasions when the Minister has made a determination, eligibility has generally been extended only to foreign defence force personnel on exchange or posting with the ADF and Defence accredited members of approved philanthropic organisations.