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		DECISION BRIEF FOR CDF (Through VCDF) RETROSPECTIVE FORCE ASSIGNMENT OF TOUR DE FORCE MEMBERS TO OP TANAGER - DEC 2000	
Group/Service: VCDFE - MSC		Reference: EC23-001989	
For information: HMSC, DCJOPS, FASPS, ASPPEC, DCAF, DCA		Due date: Routine	

Purpose

1. The purpose of this brief is to address s47E(d) of ADF band members who deployed to East Timor on OP TANAGER for Tour de Force concerts between 14 Dec 00 and 19 Jan 01.

Recommendations

2. Recommend that you:
- a. **note** a review into band members who were part of the *Tour de Force* concert party in East Timor in Dec 00 was undertaken to assess if the members should be retrospectively FA to OP TANAGER - s47E(d)

NOTED / PLEASE DISCUSS

- b. **agree** a further body of work is to be undertaken to review all FET conducted in overseas operational areas since 1999 s47E(d)

AGREED / NOT AGREED / PLEASE DISCUSS

- c. **agree** a decision on the retrospective FA s47F be deferred until a comprehensive review is completed; and

AGREED / NOT AGREED / PLEASE DISCUSS

s22  Stephen G Chappell AVM HMSC 10 Jun 23	a. NOTED / PLEASE DISCUSS b. AGREED / PLEASE DISCUSS c. AGREED / PLEASE DISCUSS d. APPROVED / PLEASE DISCUSS
	Angus J Campbell GEN CDF Jul 23
	Contact Officer:
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Tel: s47E(d)
Tel: CDRE Dezentje, s47E(d)

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2 of 6

- d. **approve** the holding response MINREP at [Enclosure 1].

APPROVED / NOT APPROVED / PLEASE DISCUSS

Key points

3. On 20 Mar 23, the s47F wrote to MINDP obo s47F regarding retrospective FA of s47F to OP TANAGER for s47F deployment with the Air Command Band on the *Tour de Force* concerts to East Timor in Dec 2000. s47F

4. Nature of Service Directorate (NOSD) initial investigation into the deployment for the Dec 00 to Jan 01 *Tour de Force* concerts identified a nominal roll s47E(d) who were to deploy as part of the concert party to East Timor. The roll comprises members from s47E(d)

5. NOSD identified the following:

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3 of 6

Background

10. A 26 Jul 00 Minute from the Directorate of Personnel Support and Amenities to HQAST discussed the concept of the December concert tour to East Timor and stated that the concert party would enter Timor [*sic*] assigned as *visitors*. The same Minute said the December concert should achieve the stated purpose of Forces Advisory Committee on Entertainment (FACE) concerts by providing a welcome welfare and morale boost to deployed forces to East Timor, at the special time of Christmas.

11. HQAST Admin Instruction 09/2000 dated 04 Dec 00 states the series of concerts known as the *Tour de Force* coordinated by FACE (comprising of the Air Command and 1 RAR Bands plus civilian contract artists and support staff) would be conducted in East Timor in Dec-00 in order to ensure troops have as much welfare support as possible during the Christmas period.

12. s47E(d)

The Air Command Band deployed to East Timor 14-29 Dec 00 while the 1 RAR Band deployed 14 Dec 00 - 18 Jan 01.

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14. HQAST *OP TANAGER Visit Policy*, signed by COMAST in Feb 00, provides criteria to categorise personnel deploying to East Timor. The policy made a distinction between *Supplementation Personnel*, being personnel FA for a short period to directly support achievement of Australian objectives in East Timor; and *Visitors*, being all other personnel deploying to East Timor. *Supplementation Personnel* attracted OP TANAGER warlike conditions of service, carried weapons and were subject to OP TANAGER ROE. *Visitors* did not attract OP TANAGER warlike conditions of service, were not FA, did not carry weapons and applied ADF peacetime ROE.

15. ADF members deploying over 14 days were required to undertake force preparation and could be FA as augmentation teams as *Supplementation Personnel*. Band members completed the necessary force preparation for their deployment. *Supplementation personnel* were to carry weapons; however, band members did not as they were provided a protection element.

16. HQAST directed that visits to East Timor were to be funded by respective Groups, yet the concert tour was funded by HQAST which indicated that HQAST staff believed the concert tour supported the mission of OP TANAGER.

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Pages 4 and 5 of 6 removed on the grounds that the information is exempt under sections 47E of the FOI Act.

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6 of 6

Consultation

29. s47E(d) [REDACTED], Defence Tax Management Office, Defence Finance Group
30. s47E(d) [REDACTED] Veterans and Families, Directorate of Honours and Awards
31. s47E(d) [REDACTED], Director Liability and Service Eligibility, Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Prepared by: s47E(d) [REDACTED]

Cleared by: DNOS – s47E(d) [REDACTED]

Enclosure

1. Draft MINREP MC23-001707

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FORCE ASSIGNMENT STATUS OF FORCE ENTERTAINMENT TOURS ON WARLIKE OPERATIONS

Background

- In response to a MINREP from the s47F to MINDP on 20 Mar 23, the Nature of Service Directorate (NOSD) undertook a review into the force assignment (FA) status of individuals that performed on Forces Entertainment Tours (FET) s47E(d)
- Precedence for retrospective FA was cited following approval s47F s47F
- Current policy, per HQ JOC Operational Support Library (OSL) Part 2, Vol 1, Chap 1.1, stipulates members conducting forces entertainment are assigned to the operation as *visitors*.
- A Minute from Directorate of Personnel Support and Amenities to HQAST dated 26 Jul 00 advised the concert party for the 2000 Tour de Force FET would be assigned to the operation as *visitors*.
- Personnel assigned as *visitors* to a *warlike* operational area are not entitled to the conditions of service and veteran benefits associated with being FA for operational duty.
- For this review, s47E(d) s47E(d)
- s47E(d)

Force Assignment Status

- Members who are FA or assigned for *temporary duty* on a *warlike* operation are entitled to additional veterans' benefits.
- Members who were FA or assigned for *temporary duty* on *warlike* operations prior to 2014 received the Australian Active Service Medal (AASM) with the correlating "clasp" and the Returned from Active Service (RAS) Badge. Since 2014, members are issued with the Australian Operational Service Medal (AOSM) with correlating "clasp" and Operational Service Badge (OSB), providing they are in the operational area for 30 days of continuous or aggregated service.

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- Members who are assigned as *visitors* or have no s47E(d) entry have no entitlement to additional veterans' benefits or medallic recognition. The exception being individuals with 30 days of continuous or aggregated service in the operational area, who are awarded the AOSM and "clasp".
- An initial review into the assignment status of FET members who performed as part of a Tour de Force for OP TANAGER in Dec 2000 s47E(d)

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- A further review into FETs conducted on overseas *warlike* operational areas between 2000 and 2022 s47E(d)

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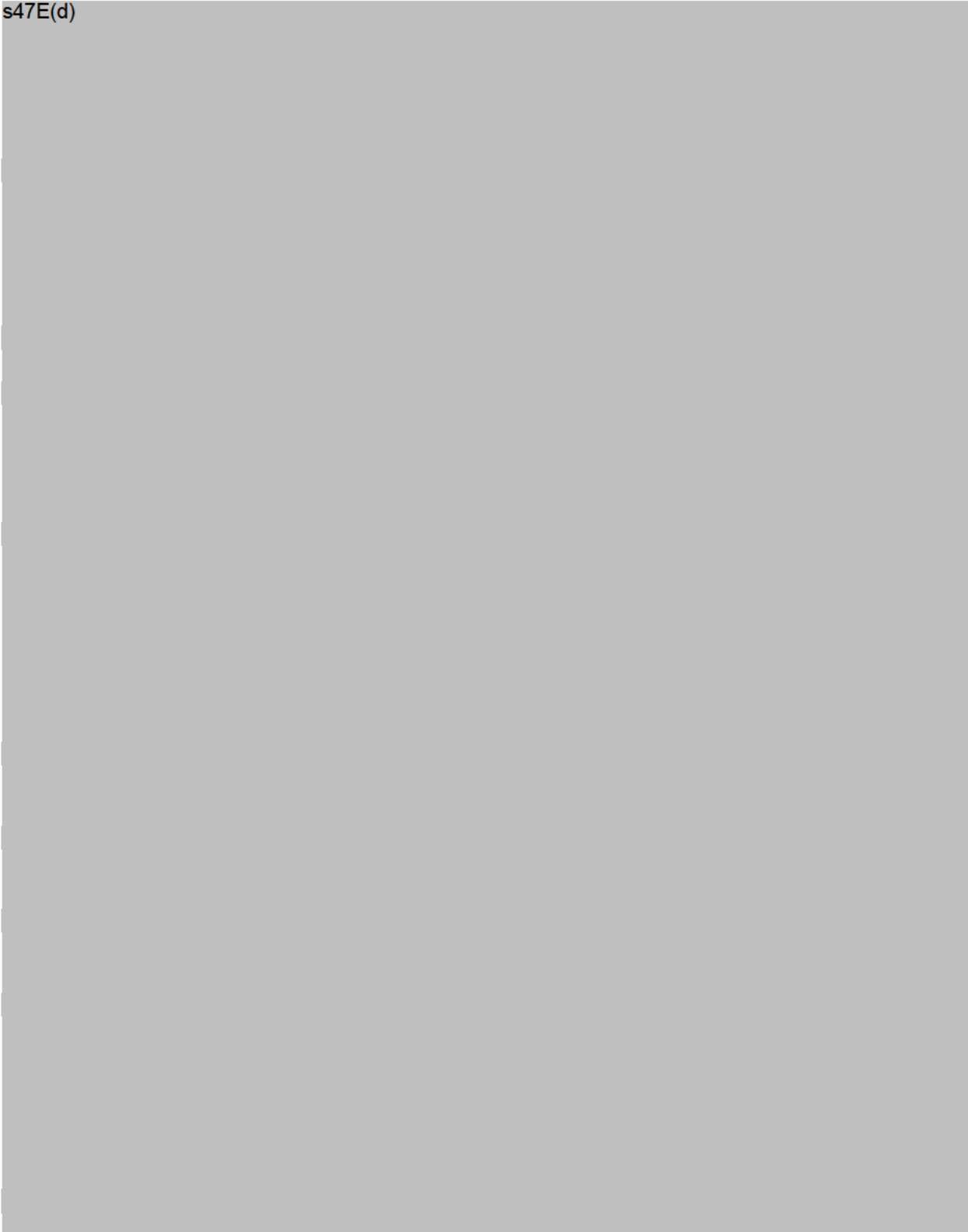
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- Current policy states members conducting forces entertainment are assigned to the operation as *visitors*. Policy in 2000 stated members of the concert party would be assigned as *visitors*.

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The outcome of the second review echoed the findings from the initial snapshot review. s47E(d)

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Clearance	Name	Appointment	Date and time
Drafted by	s47E(d)	D/Dir NOS	21 Nov 23
Cleared by	CDRE Don Dezentje, RAN s47E(d)	DGMSC	Nov 23