



APPLICATION FORM

*SEEKING APPROVAL TO ACCEPT
MILITARY AWARDS PREVIOUSLY CONFERRED OR OFFERED
TO AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE PERSONNEL
BY
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DURING THE VIETNAM WAR*

Please return to:

Project Officer (US/SVN/Cambodian Foreign Awards)
Operations Section
Awards and Culture Branch
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

HELPLINE: (02) 6271 5620

USA

GUIDANCE NOTES

HISTORY

During the Vietnam War, various Australian military personnel were offered US military awards for either a particular act of gallantry or meritorious service supporting the allied war effort in Vietnam. At the time Australians were not allowed to officially accept or wear foreign awards.

New foreign award guidelines now allow acceptance and wearing of foreign honours by Australian citizens in most circumstances. These changes flow from a recommendation made to the Australian government by the Committee of Inquiry into Defence and Defence Related Awards in 1994.

As a result, the Australian and US Governments are working together to provide, to Australian recipients, the US military awards earned during the Vietnam War; and to have all such US awards officially recognised and approved by the Governor-General.

Helpful information

ADF service in Vietnam will be validated through military records before any application is processed to seek official approval. Applications will be passed to the US authorities for their action.

Requests from family members of veterans killed during, or who have died since, the Vietnam War or who are too ill to make an application in person, will be considered.

The Australian government will not issue foreign award insignia. Whilst it is the responsibility of the person applying for official approval to obtain any such medals, the US authorities will likely issue an (officially recognised) award if this has not already been conferred.

Applicants should provide documentary evidence that an award was conferred/offered by the United States Government. The preferred forms of documentary evidence are:

Applicants should provide documentary evidence that an award was conferred/offered by the United States Government. The preferred forms of documentary evidence are:

- US Orders which award the medal to the Australian Serviceman; or
- US Certificate for the award with date and order number; or
- US signed recommendation for the award. Note: this form of documentary evidence (on its own) does not hold the same weight as the above documentation and could cause a lengthy delay with US Personnel Command processing your request.

How to Complete this Form

Please print in capital letters on the form. Attach copies of ADF service records where available (eg posting orders, discharge certificates etc).

Application Category

Please indicate on the application form which of the following categories this application falls under:

- A** Applicant has received US Medal and has Documentary Evidence (as described above); or
- B** Applicant has Documentary Evidence (as described above) but has not received a Medal.

APPLICATION FORM

FOR APPROVAL TO ACCEPT MILITARY AWARDS PREVIOUSLY CONFERRED OR OFFERED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Please tick appropriate box:

Unit Citation

Note: *all requests for permission to accept and wear Unit Citations are processed by the Australian Department of Defence (DoD). Your request for permission to accept and wear Unit Citations will be forwarded to DoD for processing and direct reply to you.*

Medal

US Award conferred: _____

Indicate when and where the award was conferred:

Note: Where recognition of MULTIPLE awards is sought, the details of EACH awards should be given including identifying whether the award is a Unit Citation or a Medal. If the above space is insufficient, additional information can be appended on a separate page.

1. Details of awardee (Recipient of the Award(s))

Surname: _____ Given Names: _____

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / _____ Place of Birth: _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone Number (____) _____

2. Details of applicant (recipient for the award (s))

Surname: _____ Given Names: _____

Relationship to awardee: _____

Is the awardee still living: (tick box) yes no

Postal address: _____

_____ Post code _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

3. Awardee's Australian Defence Force Service details

Service number: _____ Rank (in Vietnam) _____

Rank (on discharge) _____

(tick box) RAN

ARMY

RAAF

Ship/Unit/Squadron (in Vietnam) _____

4. Documentary evidence (mandatory) copies attached yes

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(iii) _____

5. Any general comments

6. Signature

Declaration

Information provided in this application will be disclosed to other government agencies to validate your service and process your application. Use and disclosure of your personal information is in accordance with the attached *Information Privacy Principles 1, 2, 3, 10 and 11* under the (Commonwealth) *Privacy Act 1988*.

I declare that: a: The details I have given on this form are complete and correct; and
b: I have read and understand the attached *Information Privacy Principles 1, 2, 3, 10 and 11*.

.....
Please print your full name

.....
Signature

..... / /

Date

Information Privacy Principles (section 14 of the *Privacy Act 1988*)

IPP 1 - Manner and purpose of collection of personal information

The information must be necessary for the agency's function and collected fairly and lawfully.

1. Personal information shall not be collected by a collector for inclusion in a record or in a generally available publication unless:
 - (a) the information is collected for a purpose that is a lawful purpose directly related to a function or activity of the collector; and
 - (b) the collection of the information is necessary for or directly related to that purpose.
2. Personal information shall not be collected by a collector by unlawful or unfair means.

IPP 2 - Solicitation of personal information from individual concerned

This is often called an IPP 2 notice. The agency must tell you the purpose of the collection, any laws which give them authority to collect the information and who they usually disclose or give the information to.

Where:

- (a) a collector collects personal information for inclusion in a record or in a generally available publication; and
- (b) the information is solicited by the collector from the individual concerned;

the collector shall take such steps (if any) as are, in the circumstances, reasonable to ensure that, before the information is collected or, if that is not practicable, as soon as practicable after the information is collected, the individual concerned is generally aware of:

- (c) the purpose for which the information is being collected;
- (d) if the collection of the information is authorised or required by or under law - the fact that the collection of the information is so authorised or required; and
- (e) any person to whom, or any body or agency to which, it is the collector's usual practice to disclose personal information of the kind so collected, and (if known by the collector) any person to whom, or any body or agency to which, it is the usual practice of that first mentioned person, body or agency to pass on that information.

IPP 3 - Solicitation of personal information generally

The information must be relevant, up to date and complete. The collection of the information must not be unreasonably intrusive.

Where:

- (a) a collector collects personal information for inclusion in a record or in a generally available publication; and
- (b) the information is solicited by the collector:

the collector shall take such steps (if any) as are, in the circumstances, reasonable to ensure that, having regard to the purpose for which the information is collected:
- (c) the information collected is relevant to that purpose and is up to date and complete; and
- (d) the collection of the information does not intrude to an unreasonable extent upon the personal affairs of the individual concerned.

continued overleaf →

IPP 10 - Limits on use of personal information

Outlines the rules about keeping accurate, complete and up to date personal information; using information for a relevant purpose; and only using the information for another purpose with your consent unless special circumstances apply such as health and safety or law enforcement.

1. A record-keeper who has possession or control of a record that contains personal information that was obtained for a particular purpose shall not use the information for any other purpose unless:
 - (a) the individual concerned has consented to use of the information for that other purpose;
 - (b) the record-keeper believes on reasonable grounds that use of the information for that other purpose is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the life or health of the individual concerned or another person;
 - (c) use of the information for that other purpose is required or authorised by or under law;
 - (d) use of the information for that other purpose is reasonably necessary for enforcement of the criminal law or of a law imposing a pecuniary penalty, or for the protection of the public revenue; or
 - (e) the purpose for which the information is used is directly related to the purpose for which the information was obtained.
2. Where personal information is used for enforcement of the criminal law or of a law imposing a pecuniary penalty, or for the protection of the public revenue, the record-keeper shall include in the record containing that information a note of that use.

IPP 11 - Limits on disclosure of personal information

Sets out when an agency can disclose personal information about you to someone else, for example another agency.

1. A record-keeper who has possession or control of a record that contains personal information shall not disclose the information to a person, body or agency (other than the individual concerned) unless:
 - (a) the individual concerned is reasonably likely to have been aware, or made aware under Principle 2, that information of that kind is usually passed to that person, body or agency;
 - (b) the individual concerned has consented to the disclosure;
 - (c) the record-keeper believes on reasonable grounds that the disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the life or health of the individual concerned or of another person;
 - (d) the disclosure is required or authorised by or under law; or
 - (e) the disclosure is reasonably necessary for the enforcement of the criminal law or of a law imposing a pecuniary penalty, or for the protection of the public revenue.
2. Where personal information is disclosed for the purposes of enforcement of the criminal law or of a law imposing a pecuniary penalty, or for the purpose of the protection of the public revenue, the record-keeper shall include in the record containing that information a note of the disclosure.
3. A person, body or agency to whom personal information is disclosed under clause 1 of this Principle shall not use or disclose the information for a purpose other than the purpose for which the information was given to the person, body or agency.

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