



Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

RE: Killed-In-Service Clasp Campaign Kerry Danes 30 March 2021 – Addendum Number 3 – 25 October 2021

Mr Stephen Skehill

Tribunal Chair

Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

Sir,

I want to thank the panel for allowing me and my wife Kay to present our submission and two addendums to the Inquiry seeking to establish recognition for Australian Defence Force (ADF) members who have been killed, wounded or injured in or as a result of service.

In this addendum (number 3), I would like to clarify my position on retrospective recognition for the three esteemed classes of sacrifice being considered by the Tribunal and offer a solution to ensure the ultimate sacrifice of all our fallen is recognised equally.

✓ I consent to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal making my submission publicly available.

✓ I also consent to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal:

using information contained in my submission to conduct research; providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation considered by the Tribunal to be appropriate; and providing a copy of my submission to a person or organisation the subject of adverse comment in the submission; using content in my submission in its report to Government. The Tribunal will decide which person or organisation is appropriate, and this may include: 1. persons or organisations required to assist with the Inquiry; and 2. persons or organisations with an interest in the Inquiry.

✓ I declare that the information I have provided is correct.

With respect,

Kerry

Warrant Officer Class 1 (Retd) Kerry Danes, CSM

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Addendum to Original Submission: 30 March 2021

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Category - Recognition for Next of Kin from 03 September 1945

The next of kin of those members killed in service prior to 03 September 1945 were afforded Imperial recognition for their family sacrifice. In consideration of this, we have no objection for this element under consideration to only be backdated to 03 September 1945.

Category - Injured of Wounded in Service from 03 September 1945

Although we feel that the medal sets of all members who have served should reflect their personnel sacrifice in service, we would concede only to have this backdated to 03 September 1945 if this was the overwhelming opinion from those who gave evidence to the Tribunal.

Category - Ultimate Sacrifice from 03 March 1885

We remain resolute in our position that the ultimate sacrifice of ALL our fallen should be recognised equally. Therefore, this category of the Tribunal's consideration should be backdated to 03 March 1885 to align with the National Records of the Australian War Memorial. In our opinion, this best reflects Nationalism that is a time-honoured practice on National Days of Remembrance, such as those undertaken at the Australian War Memorial and War Memorials across the Nation.

On 17 August 2021, the Prime Minister of Australia confirmed his opinion and that of the Government concerning service and sacrifice when he said in an interview, "it does not matter which battle, which conflict in where our uniform has been worn, we honour all who step up in our name, we honour the men and women who in Andrew Hastie's words 'run to the sounds of the guns because that is what we ask of them.'"

Request

In the event additional administration and cost prohibit the acceptance of creating medallic recognition for those 98.4 per cent (101,263) Australians who died in service before 03 September 1945, then we respectfully request the Tribunal allow us to utilise corporate (private) sponsorship solutions to generate medallic recognition for those individuals because from our survey, it was overwhelmingly evident there was support for all our fallen to be equally recognised. Corporate pledges have already been offered to cover the cost of medallic recognition for those who have died in service since 03 March 1885. Platypus Outdoors Group Pty Ltd has offered to support the manufacturing of the medallic clasps. Respective National Return Services League would be, in my opinion, best placed to present them to the member's approved next of kin.

Cams Cause, a not-for-profit organisation strives to honour and remember the amazing life of Corporal Cameron Baird VC MG, and has generously offered to provide administrative support to fundraising events, and to utilise their tax-free donation status in support of the Killed In Service Clasp campaign. www.camscause.org/about/