

## Recognition of Military Service as Warlike Australian Army Rifle Company Butterworth 1970 - 1989

## Dear Prime Minister,

We refer to our 20<sup>th</sup>January 2016 letter of a personal request to you, and to Michael McCormack's reply on your behalf dated 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

The reason we contacted you personally was our belief that service in Butterworth, Malaysia has not been properly recognised. We believe the evidence to support our assertion has not been considered properly and vital elements of it have been ignored.

Again we are disappointed with Michael McCormack's decision as with others that continue to deny us the right to challenge the accuracy of your advisors' advice and their continued failure to consider all the facts revealed in our submissions.

Since 2006, despite our numerous requests to meet with your officers and present our supporting documents, we have been denied the opportunity to have our full evidence considered and to have contrary claims made by your advisors challenged. For Governments that pride themselves on evidence-based decision making and transparency our experience proves this to be a falsehood during those requests.

We respectfully draw your personal attention to this matter where since 1973 successive Australian Governments have deceived the Australian people by publicly promoting RCB's deployment as for training with the Malaysian Armed Forces only when its real deployment reason was for a protective and strategic purpose, thereby denying the RCB troops their rightful entitlements.

Our evidence shows that the deception was perpetrated by the Department of Defence Committee in January 1973 and specifically executed by the Australian Military and its Nature of Service Branch since. Their witnesses at <u>the RCB House of</u> <u>Representatives' Petition Committee Hearing in October 2015</u> ignored the strategic nature of the RCB deployment and gave incomplete and misleading evidence on certain matters that, we believe, deliberately misled that Committee and thereby the Parliament. We ask that you personally intervene with the appointment of an external and independent inquiry into the matter.

Failing that we reserve our right to take whatever further actions we deem appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

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Attachments:

- 1. Executive Summary
- 2. Timeline of Key Events RCB Deployments
- 3. Comparison Table
- 4. RARA Endorsement Letter
- 5. Video Trailer The Deception