

From: "Ken Marsh" <kenswampymarsh@gmail.com>
Date: 23 Feb. 2018 18:06
Subject: Your Response to Senator Burston re Mohr Report.
To: "Marise Payne" <senator.payne@aph.gov.au>
Cc:

Dear Defence Minister

On 24 July 2017 I wrote to you regarding service at Butterworth and your response to Senator Burston in which you said the Mohr Review focused on medallic recognition. In response I referred you to Mohr's TOR that referenced both repatriation and medallic entitlements. It is my view Minister that you mislead the Senate.

In your response dated 16 October 2017 you said your 'statement that there was a focus on medallic recognition acknowledges that the majority of the Mohr Review Report relate to medals.'

Minister, your statement is demonstrably incorrect. Mohr made something like 58 recommendations, roughly two thirds of which neither recommended medals or repatriation benefits.

Of the specific recommendations for repatriation benefits, medals, or both:

- 12 include both repatriation and medallic entitlements;
- 3 recommend the award of the AASM where repatriation entitlements already existed; and;
- 3 recommended the award of the ASM only.

The above excludes recommendations for civilians.

Contrary to your statement the overwhelming number of relevant recommendations were to confer repatriation and medallic entitlements consistent with Mohr's Terms of Reference.

The clear and compelling evidence is that Defense continue to mislead on the matter of Butterworth service during the Second Malaysian Emergency. Their obfuscation is quite clear to any person willing to consider the evidence objectively.

The public expect their elected members, and especially ministers, to be honest with them. Minister I feel that your credibility will become increasingly questioned while ever you maintain without question the position taken by your Department on this matter.

Yours Sincerely

Kenneth N Marsh.

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