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Army Standing Instruction (Personnel), Part 11, Chapter 4

CHAPTER 4

INFANTRY COMBAT BADGE

The Chief of the General Staff (Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Daly KBE, DSO) added that, whilst he appreciated the views expressed, it was to be borne in mind that the proposed badge was meant to be a visible distinction for the infantryman and was not a general combat badge. He said the other corps had their responsibilities and neither their worth nor performance, were in question. However he could not accept that an infantry award should be granted to members of other corps unless they qualified for it as infantrymen.

Minute 7/1970 of the Military Board of 23 January 1970

ROLE OF THE INFANTRY

4.1. The role of the infantry is to seek out and close with the enemy, to kill or capture him, to seize and to hold ground, to repel attack, by night and day, regardless of season, weather or terrain.

INTRODUCTION

4.2. The Infantry Combat Badge (ICB) is awarded to a member of the Royal Australian Infantry Corps (RA Inf) for service as an infantryman, in the infantry role, in warlike operations.

PURPOSE

4.3. The purpose of the ICB is not to acknowledge combat duties but to recognise infantrymen who are force assigned on the Operational Manning Document (OMD) to an operation and employed in infantry roles of a combat team/battle group on warlike operations. The award recognises the unique role and the particular training, skills and hardships attendant upon service as an infantryman. In exceptional circumstances, the ICB may be awarded to members of other corps.

AIM

4.4. The aim of this chapter is to detail the policy and procedure applicable for the issue of the ICB.

DEFINITIONS

4.5. Part 1, [Chapter 3](#) – *Army Standing Instruction (Personnel) Glossary of common terms* contains common terms and definitions used throughout this chapter. Annex A provides a list of definitions and abbreviations that apply to this chapter

ELIGIBILITY

4.6. To be eligible to be issued the ICB, a member must:

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- a. have given satisfactory service as an infantryman in accordance with Annex A, paragraph 1.f and g
- b. have served either a continuous or an aggregate of 90 days satisfactory service on warlike operations for a single deployment or operation
- c. have not been previously issued the ICB.

Exceptional circumstances

4.7. The Approval Authority may approve the issue of the ICB to members on exchange/attachment duties for service with allied units, who meet the criteria detailed in paragraph 4.6.

4.8. The Approval Authority may approve the issue of the ICB in the following circumstances:

- a. where a member satisfies the requirement of sub-paragraph 4.6.a. but fails to meet the requirement in sub-paragraph 4.6.b. due to being:
 - (1) killed in action (KIA)
 - (2) wounded in action
 - (3) evacuated from the theatre of operations because of a disability (not self-inflicted) attributable to that service
 - (4) required to leave the theatre for service reasons (eg escort body) and subsequently fails to serve a period of 90 days.
- b. where a member served in a conflict either with Australian forces or on exchange, but where that operation was less than 90 days, but in all other circumstances the nature of the conflict would qualify for the ICB.

4.9. The CA may alter the eligibility criteria depending on the operation or deployment.

Designated areas of qualifying service

4.10. The qualifying periods, areas of operational service and infantry units that saw service in those areas since 1948 are listed in Annex B.

AUTHORISATION AND APPROVAL TO WEAR THE BADGE

4.11. **Approval under normal circumstances for current operations.** The following responsibilities apply in granting authority to wear the badge where the criteria are clearly met:

- a. **For RA Inf members with an Infantry Combat Team/Battle Group.** Where the issuing of the badge to an individual clearly lies within the eligibility requirements outlined in paragraph 4.6 and Annex B, the RA Inf CO or

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Officer Commanding (OC) (for a detached infantry sub-unit) of the deployed unit may approve the issue of the ICB. The form to be used in this circumstance is in Annex C.

b. **For RA Inf members with a non-infantry Combat Team/Battle Group.**

Where the issuing of the badge to an individual clearly lies within the eligibility requirements outlined in paragraph 4.6, the unit CO/OC recommends to the Approval Authority, through Chief Joint Operations (CJOPS). The form to be used in this circumstance is in Annex D.

4.12. **Approval under exceptional circumstances for current operations.** The following responsibilities apply in granting authority to wear the badge where the criteria are not clearly met:

- a. the member's deployed CO can propose the issue of the ICB
- b. the CJOPS will be the recommending authority for the issue of the ICB in exceptional circumstances
- c. the application is to be referred to the Approval Authority. HOC will advise the deployed unit (or home unit) and member of the result. The deployed unit (or home unit) is responsible for arranging the issue of the ICB to the member.

4.13. In exceptional circumstances only, the ICB may also be approved for issue to a member of a corps other than RA Inf, where the member is posted to an infantry corps coded position in an infantry unit, and on operations, the member gives service which is indistinguishable from that which entitles an infantryman of the same unit to receive the ICB. The member's CO, in making a recommendation to the Approval Authority for the approval to wear the ICB to a non-RA Inf member, must deem the member's operational service to be indistinguishable as defined in Annex A, paragraph 1.d.

4.14. The application form to be used in this circumstance is in Annex E.

RETROSPECTIVITY

4.15. **Currently serving.** In retrospective cases for current serving members it is the responsibility of the applicants' current unit to provide all necessary documentation, including the recommendation of the CO during the period for which eligibility is claimed. Inadequate documentation will result in the award being not approved. The application form to be used in this circumstance is in Annex F.

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4.16. **Ex-serving.** The issue of the ICB is retrospective to Malaya 1948. The ICB will only be issued retrospectively to an ex-serving applicant who was a member of the RA Inf at the time of his eligible service. The badge will not be issued to the family of deceased ex-members unless the member was KIA or Died of Wounds.

4.17. In exceptional circumstances only, the ICB may also be issued to a member of a corps other than RA Inf, serving with the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV) if the following criteria are satisfied:

- a. where service with AATTV was equivalent to that which entitled RA Inf members of AATTV to receive the badge
- b. while a member of the AATTV, served with an operational infantry unit of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, provided also that this service complied with the provisions of paragraph 4.6 or sub-paragraph 4.8.a.

ADMINISTRATION

Description

4.18. The badge, finished in bronze, is in the form of a bayonet surrounded by a laurel wreath. It is approximately 28 mm wide and fixed to the uniform by means of pins and clutch grips. A miniature of the badge is available for wearing on mess dress.

Basis of issue

4.19. Two badges are to be issued at public expense to all eligible serving members. Officers and senior non-commissioned officers are also entitled to one miniature ICB at public expense. Units are to hold sufficient stocks of the badge to enable initial free issues and subsequent replacements to be made. Replacement of badges is at the member's expense. Units can indent for the number of ICB required through the Q system using NSN 8455-66-037-4356.

4.20. One badge is to be issued at public expense to all eligible ex-serving members. HOC is to hold sufficient stocks of the badge to enable issue at the time of approval of the award. Approved applicants will be sent their ICB entitlement to the nominated postal address. Replacement of the ICB is at individual expense and may be purchased from the RA Inf Corps Shop or most militaria shops.

Wearing of the badge

4.21. The ICB is to be worn by eligible serving members of the Australian Army while in uniform. The badge may be worn by eligible ex-service members, who subsequently join other uniformed organisations whose dress regulations permit the wearing, in uniform, of military awards. Eligible retired members may also wear the ICB, with the appropriate uniform, when attending military functions. On those occasions where medals may be worn on civilian clothes, the ICB may also be worn. Members of Services other than Army are to apply to their Service Chief for permission to wear the ICB once issued.

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4.22. The badge is worn on the left breast, centrally placed one centimetre immediately above the medal ribbons or medals, with all orders of dress. On mess dress and mess dress white jacket a miniature of the badge is to be worn in the same location. The badge is worn with the bayonet tip pointing upwards and is not to be polished. For members entitled to wear another award badge, ie Badges Flying/Parachute Instructor, on the left breast, the ICB is to be worn one centimetre above the Badges Flying/Parachute Instructor. If previously issue with the Army Combat Badge, it is replaced by the ICB.

Recording on PMKeyS

4.23. The deployed Infantry unit (or home unit) HQ is responsible to create a consolidated list of eligible personnel (Annex C) and forward the certified information to HOC for recording in PMKeyS. SO2 HOC RA Inf has been designated by DGPER-A as the person authorised to record ICB recipient data under Recognised Achievements in PMKeyS.

Forfeiture and restoration

4.24. Should any member forfeit campaign stars or medals, then the ICB shall also be forfeited. Upon restoration of forfeited campaign stars or medals, the forfeited ICB shall also be restored.

Annexes:

- 4A Definitions
- 4B [Infantry Combat Badge qualifying service since 16 June 1948](#)
- 4C [Infantry Unit Commander's approval to wear the Infantry Combat Badge](#)
- 4D [Application for currently serving members of a non–infantry Combat Team/Battle Group to be issued the Infantry Combat Badge](#)
- 4E [Application to be issued the Infantry Combat Badge under exceptional circumstances](#)
- 4F [Application to be retrospectively issued the Infantry Combat Badge—currently serving member](#)

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ANNEX 4A

DEFINITIONS

1. For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions apply:
 - a. **Approval authority.** The Approval Authority is the Head of Corps Royal Australian Infantry (HOC RA Inf) unless otherwise stated.
 - b. **Combat Team/Battle Group.** This is a tactical grouping of combat arms, combat support and combat service support elements based on an infantry, armour, artillery, aviation or combat engineer headquarters (HQ).
 - c. **Force assignment and OMD.** Individuals are force assigned to a particular operation, eg Operation Catalyst and subsequently employed against a serial in an OMD as a component of that operation, eg Al Muthana Task Group, Security Detachment Baghdad or Special Operations Task Group. The OMD specifies the basic requirements of each position and the employment category of the individual.
 - d. **Indistinguishable service.** Indistinguishable service means service as an infantryman, having previously completed a course of infantry training agreed by the Commanding Officer (CO)/Chief Instructor of the School of Infantry and who has otherwise met the criteria for the award of the ICB.
 - e. **Member.** Any full-time member of the Permanent Force or Reserve member, who was undertaking a SERVOP C arrangement at the time of deployment.
 - f. **Service as an infantryman.** Service as an infantryman means service as a member of the RA Inf, fulfilling the role of infantry as described in [paragraph 4.1](#). The member must be force assigned to and employed in an infantry position on warlike operations with any of the following:
 - (1) an RA Inf Battalion
 - (2) an Independent Rifle Company
 - (3) an infantry Combat Team/Battle Group
 - (4) a Commando Regiment
 - (5) the Special Air Service Regiment
 - (6) a Special Operations Task Group
 - (7) a non-infantry Combat Team/Battle Group
 - (8) an allied/coalition Infantry Battalion
 - (9) any other Australian unit as designated by the Chief of Army (CA).

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- g. **Satisfactory service.** All service will be considered satisfactory unless assessed otherwise by the recommending officer. Unsatisfactory service is to be determined on a case-by-case basis by the recommending officer. All incidents of unsatisfactory service must be documented.
- h. **Warlike operations.** Warlike operations are defined as service in an operational area that was declared warlike for the purposes of the award of the Australian Active Service Medal or has been declared warlike for the purposes of the award of the Australian Operational Service Medal (OSM). The ICB will not be granted for deployments where the Australian Service Medal was awarded or unless the operation has been declared warlike for the purposes of the award of the OSM

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ANNEX 4B

**INFANTRY COMBAT BADGE QUALIFYING SERVICE SINCE
16 JUNE 1948**

Serial	Campaign	Star or Medal Award	Eligibility	Units
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1	Malaya	General Service Medal (GSM) with clasp MALAYA	16 June 1948 – 31 July 1960 (Malaya) 16 June 1948 – 31 January 1959 (Singapore)	1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR
2	Korea	Korea Medal	01 July 1950 – 27 July 1953	1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR
3	Borneo	GSM (1962) with clasp BORNEO	24 December 1962 – 11 August 1966	3 RAR 4 RAR 1 SAS Sqn 2 SAS Sqn
4	Thai/Malay Border	Australian Active Service Medal (AASM) with clasp THAI/MALAY	01 August 1960 – 16 August 1964	1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR
5	South Vietnam	GSM (1962) with clasp SOUTH VIETNAM Vietnam Medal	24 December 1962 – 28 May 1964 29 May 1964 – 20 December 1972	AATTV AATTV 1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR 4 RAR 5 RAR 6 RAR 7 RAR 8 RAR 9 RAR 1 SAS Sqn 2 SAS Sqn 3 SAS Sqn 1 ATF Def PI
6	Malaysia	GSM (1962) with clasp MALAY PENINSULA	17 August 1964 – 12 June 1965	3 RAR
7	Kuwait	AASM with clasp KUWAIT	17 January 1991 – 28 February 1991	Exchange RA Inf personnel serving in Qualifying Zone

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Serial	Campaign	Star or Medal Award	Eligibility	Units
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
8	Bosnia (Balkans)	AASM with clasp BALKANS	12 January 1992 – 24 January 1997	Exchange RA Inf personnel serving in Qualifying Zone
9	Kosovo (Balkans)	AASM with clasp BALKANS	12 January 1992 – 24 January 1997	Exchange RA Inf personnel serving in Qualifying Zone
10	Somalia	AASM with clasp SOMALIA For service only within Somalia	OP SOLACE 10 January 1993 – 21 May 1993 Land Components of UNOSOM 2	1 RAR SASR
11	Rwanda	AASM with clasp Rwanda For service only within Rwanda	OP TAMAR (UNAMIR) 06 August 1994 – 23 August 1995	A Coy 2/4 RAR, B Coy 2 RAR and other RA Inf personnel under command CO Australian Medical Support Force (AMSF)
12	East Timor	AASM with clasp EAST TIMOR OP WARDEN personnel only require 60 days to qualify All other personnel require 90 days to qualify	OP FABER/STABILISE 16 September 1999 – 23 February 2000 OP WARDEN 16 September 1999 – 10 April 2000 OP TANAGER 20 February 2000 – 19 May 2002 OP CITADEL 20 May 2002 – 18 August 2003	SASR 1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR 4 RAR 5/7 RAR 6 RAR

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Serial	Campaign	Star or Medal Award	Eligibility	Units
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
13	Afghanistan	AASM with clasp ICAT OP SLIPPER personnel require only 60 days to qualify For service only within Afghanistan	OP SLIPPER 02 December 2001 – 05 December 2002	SFTG
14	Iraq	AASM with clasp IRAQ OP FALCONER personnel require only 30 days to qualify OP CATALYST personnel require 90 days to qualify For service only within Iraq	OP FALCONER 20 March 2003 – 15 July 2003 OP CATALYST 16 July 2003 - 31 July 2009	SFTG SECDT Rifle PI AMTG OBG–W
15	Afghanistan	AASM with clasp ICAT OP SLIPPER personnel require 90 days to qualify For service only within Afghanistan	OP SLIPPER 19 July 2005 onwards	SOTG RTF Rifle Coy Gp MRTF MTF Bn TG (1 RAR 2 RAR 3 RAR 5 RAR 5/7 RAR 6 RAR 7 RAR 8/9 RAR)

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ANNEX 4C

INFANTRY UNIT COMMANDER'S APPROVAL TO WEAR THE INFANTRY COMBAT BADGE

PMKeyS No	Rank	Initials	Name	Unit	Operation	Operational Manning Document	Employment	Dates in AO
8123456	PTE	MP	Bloggs	X RAR	SLIPPER	RTF	Rfn ECN 343	01 Jan – 01 Jun XX

I certify that the personnel whose names are listed above have met the criteria for the Infantry Combat Badge in accordance with [Army Standing Instruction \(Personnel\) Part 11, Chapter 4—Infantry Combat Badge](#) in that they are members of the Royal Australian Infantry Corps, posted or force assigned to an infantry position in an infantry unit on warlike operation for 90 days or other duration as authorised by the Chief of Army and grant approval to be issued the Infantry Combat Badge.

OC/CO Signature

OC/CO Signature block

Date:

APPLICATION FOR CURRENTLY SERVING MEMBERS OF A NON-INFANTRY COMBAT TEAM/BATTLE GROUP TO BE ISSUED THE INFANTRY COMBAT BADGE

PMKeys No	Rank	Initials	Name	Unit	Operation	Operational Manning Document	Employment	Dates
8123456	PTE	MP	Bloggs	X RAR	CATALYST	SECDT	Rfn ECN 343	01 Jan – 01 Jun XX

I certify that the personnel whose names are listed above have met the criteria for the Infantry Combat Badge in accordance with [Army Standing Instruction \(Personnel\) Part 11, Chapter 4—Infantry Combat Badge](#) and are recommended to be approved to be issued the Infantry Combat Badge.

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OC/CO Signature

OC/CO Signature block

Date:

CJOPS Signature

CJOPS Signature Block

RECOMMENDED/NOT RECOMMENDED

Date:

HOC Signature

HOC RA Inf

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED

Date:

**APPLICATION TO BE ISSUED THE INFANTRY COMBAT BADGE
UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

PMKeyS Number:

Army Number:

Last Name:

Given Names:

Rank:

Corps:

Operation Name:

Operational Manning Document Employment:

Dates deployed: From To

Combat Element/Unit served with:

Justification for permission to be issued the Infantry Combat Badge:

Based on the stated service and the justification given, I propose that the above member be eligible to wear the Infantry Combat Badge under the exceptional circumstance provision of [Army Standing Instruction \(Personnel\) Part 11, Chapter 4—Infantry Combat Badge](#)

OC/CO Signature

OC/CO Signature block

Date:

CJOPS Signature

CJOPS Signature Block

Date:

RECOMMENDED/NOT RECOMMENDED

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HOC RA Inf Signature

HOC RA Inf Signature Block

Date:

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED

**APPLICATION TO BE RETROSPECTIVELY ISSUED THE INFANTRY
COMBAT BADGE—CURRENTLY SERVING MEMBER**

PMKeyS Number:

Army Number:

Last Name:

Given Names:

Rank:

Operation Name:

Operational Manning Document Employment:

Dates deployed: From to

Combat Element/Unit served with:

Justification for permission to be issued the Infantry Combat Badge:

The following supporting documents are attached:

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| PMKeyS printout of your operational service record (circle one)? | Yes | No |
| Copy of the Operational Manning Document (circle one)? | Yes | No |
| Posting order to the operation (circle one)? | Yes | No |
| Statutory declaration detailing your operational service history (circle one)? | Yes | No |

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Based on the stated service, the justification given and the supporting documents provided, the above member is eligible to wear the Infantry Combat Badge in accordance with [Army Standing Instruction \(Personnel\) Part 11, Chapter 4—Infantry Combat Badge](#)

RECOMMENDED/NOT RECOMMENDED

OC/CO Signature

CO Signature Block

Date:

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED

HOC RA inf Signature

HOC RA inf Signature Block

Date: