

**TO THE HONORABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of ex members of Rifle Company Butterworth draws to the attention of the House:

- That approximately 9000 members of Rifle Company Butterworth, Malaysia (RCB) of the Australian Army, 1970-1989, in the period of the Second Malaysian Emergency, have been consistently denied the appropriate level of medallic recognition and veteran entitlements by Defence. These troops were deployed to provide a Protective and Quick Reaction Force , but this was veiled as training operations for political and intelligence reasons;
- We therefore request the House to recommend a review be undertaken to enable reclassification of service by the RCB 1970-1989 from peacetime to warlike and grant qualifying service for VEA entitlements and medallic recognition and have those serving in RCB at Butterworth Air Base declared under the Defence Act as an active service area.
- We contend that Defence in assessing our claims has not applied consistent standards, been misleading with its facts, not considering key data provided, denying natural justice, rewriting history in retrospect and basing their decisions on budgetary constraints, rather than recognition of service at the appropriate level.