

## AUSTRALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ARMY

R1-4-B004, CANBERRA ACT 2600

Mr Mark Fraser Deputy Official Secretary to the Governor General Government House CANBERRA ACT 2600

9617,2010 OFFICE OF THE 2 9 JUL 2010 GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Dear Mr Fraser

Thank you for your e-mail of 7 July 2010 concerning correspondence from Colonel Harry Smith (retd) expressing a request to have the Unit Citation for Gallantry (UCG) written citation and streamer presented on 17 August 2010. This advice follows previous correspondence to Mr Stephen Brady, also concerning Colonel Harry Smith (retd), from Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie. A copy of this letter is enclosed for your information.

As you are aware there will be the presentation of awards to individuals and the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, for actions during the Battle of Long Tan.

Army is supportive of the individual awards and the insignia, with the Federation Star, for the UCG, being presented to the Long Tan Veterans on Long Tan Day, 17 August 2010, by her Excellency, the Governor General.

The UCG streamer is the award presented to the unit, in this case the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment. These streamers are not awarded to an individual. The Ceremonial Manual states that, *The streamer of a distinguished Unit Citation, awarded by a foreign government and approved by Army Headquarters, is to be attached to the guidon or Regimental Colour of the entitled unit at all times (section 5.24 Distinguished Unit Citation Streamers). It also states that Guidons and Colours are to be marched both on and off parades with the streamer in place. When new Guidons or Regimental Colours are presented they are done so with a new streamer.* The presentation of the streamer needs to be presented to 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, and placed onto their colours at the time of presentation.

As previously advised to Mr Brady, the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, is currently deployed in Afghanistan and will not be complete at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera until November 2010. Therefore it is Army's view that the appropriate time for the presentation of the UCG to the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment should take place on Long Tan Day, 17 August 2011.

It is unclear how the perception of Army sponsored travel to the Government House investiture on 17 August 2010 for Veterans of Long Tan began. There is no capacity within Army funding of this travel.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely

STUART YEAMAN AM Colonel Acting Chief of Staff Army Headquarters

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