

12 JUNE 2002

**DEFENCE FORCE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

**SPECIALIST OPERATIONS ALLOWANCE**

**MATTER NO 4 OF 2002**

**STATEMENT**

ON 28 MAY 2002 THE DEFENCE FORCE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL HEARD SUBMISSIONS AND EVIDENCE FROM THE ADF AND OTHER PARTIES REGARDING THE INTRODUCTION OF ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF 4RAR (COMMANDO) AND TAG EAST. THESE SUBMISSIONS WERE PART OF THE BROADER PROCEEDINGS RELATING TO A NEW SPECIALIST OPERATIONS ALLOWANCE.

HAVING REGARD TO THOSE SUBMISSIONS AND THE EVIDENCE, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT THE ALLOWANCES SOUGHT FOR 4RAR COMMANDO AND TAG EAST ARE APPROPRIATE AND, ACCORDINGLY, ARE APPROVED, WITH THE EXCEPTIONS IDENTIFIED BELOW. THE NATURE OF THE WORK OF THOSE WHO WILL RECEIVE COMMANDO AND TAG EAST ALLOWANCES CAN BE COMPARED WITH THAT UNDERTAKEN BY ADF MEMBERS WHO ARE IN RECEIPT OF SPECIAL ACTION FORCES ALLOWANCE (SAFA).

WE HAVE DECIDED THAT TWO ELEMENTS OF THE ADF PROPOSAL FOR COMMANDO AND TAG EAST SHOULD NOT BE INTRODUCED AT THIS TIME. THE FIRST IS THE EXTENSION OF THE DISABILITY PAYMENT FOR HIGH ALTITUDE PARACHUTE OPERATIONS (HAPO). THE SECOND IS THE INTRODUCTION OF A MINOR DEPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE ON WHICH WE ARE AWAITING FURTHER SUBMISSIONS.

THE NEW RATES OF THE ALLOWANCE FOR COMMANDOS AND TAG EAST WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON AND FROM THE DATES SOUGHT BY THE ADF AND AGREED BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE PARTIES. DETERMINATIONS GIVING EFFECT TO OUR DECISION SHOULD BE LODGED WITH THE TRIBUNAL'S SECRETARIAT WITHIN SEVEN DAYS.

THE OTHER ELEMENTS OF SPECIALIST OPERATIONS ALLOWANCE ARE STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE TRIBUNAL.

WE WILL INCLUDE THE REASONS FOR OUR DECISION AS PART OF OUR SPECIALIST OPERATIONS ALLOWANCE DECISION WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED WHEN THE MATTER IS FINALISED.