

DEFENCE FORCE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

MATTER NO 15 OF 2007

**REVIEW OF
SPECIAL ACTION FORCES ALLOWANCE
AND
SPECIAL OPERATIONS ALLOWANCE**

STATEMENT

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) sought the amalgamation of Special Action Forces Allowance (SAFA) and Special Operations Allowance (SOA) into a new allowance titled Special Forces Disability Allowance (SFDA). Changes to a number of the rates were also proposed.

The Tribunal inspected the work of members of 4 RAR (Commando) at Holsworthy on 30 October 2007. During the inspection the Tribunal viewed a number of demonstrations and static displays.

The Tribunal was briefed on the work of members of Special Operations Command by the Commander Special Operations, Major General M Hindmarsh and his staff and the Commanding Officer Special Air Service Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel D McDaniel, at Swanbourne, Western Australia on 30 November 2007.

With the benefit of a detailed written submission on the proposed allowance supported by comprehensive briefings we have decided to approve the new allowance and changes to the rates as sought. This structure applies a holistic approach to the work of Special Forces members and the disabilities associated with that work. We are satisfied that the new structure provides appropriate relativities for the work at the 6 tiers.

The date of effect for the new allowance and rates shall be on and from 13 December 2007.

The ADF should lodge a draft determination with the Tribunal Secretariat within seven days.