



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Defence People Group

Directorate of Honours and Awards
PO Box 7952
Department of Defence
CANBERRA BC ACT 2600

DH&A/OUT/2020/052
BN19930822

Major D.W. Harding RFD ED (RETD)

17 Homestead Drive
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Dear Major Harding

Thank you for your telephone call on 7 August 2020, confirming your receipt of my letter, dated 31 July 2020.

I understand your intention was to advise me that you would no longer be pursuing your request to wear the Republic of South Vietnam Armed Forces Honour Medal (1st Class) for your service in Vietnam.

Following our conversation, I can confirm that you described the Republic of South Vietnam Armed Forces Honour Medal (1st Class) and detailed how you received it.

I have spoken to a colleague of mine, and he has confirmed the practice you described did occur. The then Republic of Vietnam government identified eligible Australian Defence Force members for the award and then sent them to Australia. Normally the award was registered in service records, however, in some circumstances this did not occur. The award was then posted to the recipient.

With this information, I can now confirm that Defence acknowledges you have received the Republic of South Vietnam Armed Forces Honour Medal (1st Class) and as the award is on the approved schedule to wear list, you are authorised to wear it alongside your other medals.

I apologise in the delay it has taken to confirm your eligibility to wear the award, and would like to thank you for your service.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on 0458 990 070.

Yours sincerely

Allison Augustine
Assistant Director
Policy and Tribunal Management

// August 2020