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GEORGE R.

ROYAL WARRANT.

THE AUSTRALIA SERVICE MEDAL 1939-45.

George the Sixth, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, to All to whom These Presents shall come:

Greeting:

WHEREAS We in Our Government of the Commonwealth of Australia have taken into Our Royal consideration the services rendered during the War of 1939 to 1945 by all members of the Australian Armed Forces and Australian Mercantile Marine and by civil members of the Royal Australian Air Force Reserve as aircrew in Australian registered civil aircraft in operational areas, who, when their country was in danger, answered the call and saw service in their country's defence;

And whereas We are desirous of recognizing this service to the Commonwealth of Australia;

We do by these presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors institute and create a new Medal.

1. The Medal shall be designated and styled "The Australia Service Medal 1939-45".

2. The Medal shall be circular in form and of nickel silver, an alloy of copper, nickel and zinc, and shall on the obverse bear the Crowned Effigy of the Sovereign, and on the reverse the coat of arms of the Commonwealth of Australia, surrounded by the words "The Australia Service Medal 1939-45".

3. The persons eligible for the Medal shall be those of Our faithful subjects and others, male and female, who, between the 3rd September, 1939, and the 2nd September, 1945, rendered the required service in the Australian Armed Forces, in the Australian Mercantile Marine, or as civil members of the Royal Australian Air Force Reserve who served as aircrew in civil aircraft in operational areas.

4. Representatives of philanthropic bodies, official press correspondents, official photographers and other civil personnel attached to the Armed Forces in an official capacity for full-time duty in uniform shall also be eligible.

5. Eligibility shall not be affected by the grant of any other general award for service in the war of 1939-45.

6. Only those who have received, or would be entitled to receive, an honorable discharge shall be eligible.

7. The period of qualifying service for full-time duty shall be eighteen months, at home or overseas. For this purpose any period of continuous training shall count as full-time duty. In the case of members of the Australian Mercantile Marine, it shall be a requirement that the eighteen months shall have been served at sea. In the case of civil aircrew personnel eligible for the Medal, it shall be a requirement that they shall have made at least three separate flights over, or three or more landings in, military operational land areas, this rule being waived only in favour of those whose full-time service of less than eighteen months was brought to an end by death due to service or by disability due to service.

8. The period of qualifying service for part-time duty shall be three years, provided that where full-time service of less than eighteen months has been rendered, the period of full-time service shall count doubly towards the part-time service qualification, and provided also that defence duty must have been performed on at least sixty days during the service.

9. Full-time service for a lesser period than eighteen months, or part-time service for a lesser period than three years, if brought to an end by death due to service, or by disability due to service, shall qualify for an award.

10. The Medal shall be worn on the left breast suspended by a khaki ribbon, one and a quarter inches in width, edged dark blue and light blue respectively, each nine thirty-seconds of an inch wide, with two intervening red stripes, each one sixteenth of an inch wide. The ribbon shall be worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder.

11. The Medal shall be worn immediately after the War Medal issued by Us in recognition of service during the Second World War.

12. It shall be competent for Our Governor-General for the time being to cancel and annul the award to any person of the above Medal, and thereupon the name of such person in the Register shall be erased, but it shall be competent for Our Governor-General to restore any Medal which may have been so forfeited.

13. It is ordained that it shall be competent for Our Governor-General for the time being to make regulations to carry out the purposes of this Warrant.

Given at Our Court at St. James's on the thirtieth day of August One thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-nine in the thirteenth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

J. B. CHIFLEY
Prime Minister.