




Australian Operational Service Medal (Special Operations) Instrument 2023

I, ANGUS JOHN CAMPBELL, Chief of the Defence Force, make the following Declaration under subsection 4(4) of the *Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation 2012*.

Dated 20th November 2023



General
Chief of the Defence Force

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1 Name

This instrument is the *Australian Operational Service Medal (Special Operations) Instrument 2023*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after signature.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under the subsection 4(4) of the *Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation 2012*.

4 Revocation

This instrument revokes the *Australian Operational Service Medal (Special Operations) Declaration 2019*.

5 Definitions

In this Instrument:

member means an ADF member or an allied foreign Defence Force member.

Regulation means the *Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation 2012*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this Instrument are defined in section 2 of the Regulation, including the following:

- (a) ADF member;
- (b) allied foreign Defence Force member;
- (c) Chief of the Defence Force;
- (d) Defence Force;
- (e) eligible service;
- (f) medal.

6 Declaration – Eligible service

1. For subsection 4(4) of the Regulation, service is eligible service if the member is force assigned for duty on a special operation declared under subsection 3(3A) of the Regulation and meets one of the following.
 - a. The service is rendered by an ADF member on deployment that meets both of the following.
 - i. The service is within the operational area.
 - ii. The service is during the period specified by the Chief of the Defence Force.
 - b. The service is rendered by an allied foreign Defence Force member as a part of the Australian element that meets both of the following.
 - i. The service is within the operational area.
 - ii. The service is during the period specified by the Chief of the Defence Force.
2. If a member was force assigned for duty on a special operation, but did not meet the period specified by the Chief of the Defence Force because the member died or was evacuated due to a service-related injury, illness or disability, the member is taken to have met the period of service specified for the special operation.

7 Conditions under subsection 4(5) of the Regulation

An ADF member or allied foreign Defence member is not eligible for an award of the Australian Operational Service Medal (Special Operations) for service during the same period for which they receive one of the following medals:

- a. The Australian Operational Service Medal.
- b. The Australian Service Medal.
- c. The Australian Active Service Medal.

8 Transitional provision

1. This section applies to a member who meets both of the following.
 - a. The member was performing a period of service that would have counted towards the Australian Service Medal with Clasp 'SPECIAL OPS' up to and including 31 October 2019.
 - b. The member was performing a period of eligible service for the Australian Operational Service Medal (Special Operations) on 1 November 2019.
2. The period of service under paragraph 1.a is taken to be eligible service for the purpose of Australian Operational Service Medal (Special Operations).