Australian Operational Service Medal (Greater Middle East Operation) Instrument 2015

I, General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Ret’d), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, make the following instrument.

Dated 17th April 2015

Sir Peter Cosgrove
Governor-General

By His Excellency’s Command

Darren Chester
For Minister for Defence
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1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the Australian Operational Service Medal (Greater Middle East Operation) Instrument 2015.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day it is signed.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation.

4 Definitions

In this instrument:

ADF member means a member of the Defence Force.

Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation means the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation set out in the Schedule to the Letters Patent dated 22 May 2012 given under the Great Seal of Australia.

Defence Force means the Defence Force constituted under Part III, Division 1 of the Defence Act 1903.

Operational Duties means duties which make a direct contribution to the achievement of an operational mission.

Previous Instrument means the Australian Operational Service (Greater Middle East Operation) Instrument 2014 made on 4 September 2014 by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

5 Revocation

Revoke the Previous Instrument.

6 Declared operations

For subsection 3(1) of the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation, the Greater Middle East Operation is a declared operation comprising the following operations in the following areas and within the following dates:

(a) Operation MANITOU, involving the activities of ADF members that commenced on 1 July 2014 within the area comprising all waters, ports, areas within 10 kilometres of such ports, and superjacent airspace, of the following:

(i) the Persian Gulf;
(ii) the Gulf of Aden;
(iii) the Red Sea;
(iv) the Arabian Sea;
so far as the area is north of latitude 11 00 S and west of longitude 68 00 E;

(b) Operation ACCORDION, involving the activities of ADF members that commenced on 1 July 2014 within the area comprising the land territory, internal waters and superjacent airspace of Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

(c) Operation OKRA, involving the activities of ADF members that:

(i) commenced on 1 July 2014 and ended on 8 August 2014 within the area comprising the land territory, internal waters, territorial seas and superjacent airspace of Bahrain, Qatar, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates as the waters and superjacent airspace of the Persian Gulf; and

(ii) commenced on 9 August 2014 within the area comprising the land territory, internal waters, territorial seas and superjacent airspace of Albania, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Montenegro, Poland, Qatar, Romania and the United Arab Emirates, and the waters and superjacent airspace of the Persian Gulf.

(d) Operation HIGHROAD, involving the activities of ADF members that commenced on 1 January 2015 within the area comprising the land territory, internal waters and superjacent airspace of Afghanistan.

7 Eligible service

(1) For paragraph 4(1)(a) of the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation, service is eligible service if:

(a) the service is given by an ADF member on deployment during the period of the Greater Middle East Operation; and

(b) the service occurs on 30 days during one or more such deployments, whether or not the service continues throughout the whole day and whether or not the 30 days are continuous; and

(c) the conditions determined for the service in section 7 of this instrument are met.

(2) The service mentioned in paragraph (1)(b) of this section may be given on one or more operations that comprise the Greater Middle East Operation.

(3) If an ADF member gave service of a kind mentioned in paragraph (1)(a) of this section, but did not satisfy paragraph (1)(b) of this section because the member died or was evacuated due to service-related injury, illness or disability, the service given is taken to have occurred on 30 days during the deployment.

8 Conditions

For paragraph 4(3)(b) of the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation, and paragraph 6(1)(c) of this instrument, the following conditions are determined in relation to service:

(a) the service must be given while the ADF member giving the service is force assigned for Operational Duties on one or more operations that comprise the Greater Middle East Operation; and
(b) no other period of eligible service can have been completed during the deployment during which the service is given.

Notes: 1. The effect of paragraph (a) of this section is to exclude service involving non-operational duties such as: participation in training activities, exercises and conferences (with no planning objectives); liaison visits; lessons learnt/fact finding activities; and command/staff visits.

2. The effect of paragraph (b) of this section is that an ADF member may be awarded only one Australian Operational Service Medal with the ribbon Greater Middle East Operation or accumulated service device per deployment.

9 Eligible service—additional period of qualifying service

For paragraph 4(1)(b) of the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation, service (the subsequent service) given by an ADF member on a deployment is eligible service that is an additional period of qualifying service for the purposes of paragraph 6(2)(c) of that Regulation if:

(a) the ADF member has previously completed at least one period of eligible service within the meaning of section 6 of this instrument on a previous deployment; and

(b) the subsequent service is eligible service within the meaning of section 6 of this instrument.

10 Ribbon for medal and form of accumulated service device

(1) For section 12 of the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation, the ribbon denoting the Greater Middle East Operation is 32 millimetres wide and has a central black stripe, flanked by mid green and light blue stripes of equal width, edged with light sand stripes.

(2) For section 12 of the Australian Operational Service Medal Regulation, the accumulated service device for the Greater Middle East Operation is in the form of an Arabic numeral of antique-silver finish 8 millimetres high (width to match in proportion to the specific number).