



New Zealand Special Service Medal (Erebus) Regulations 2006

Anand Satyanand, Governor-General

Pursuant to the Royal Warrant (SR 2002/224) dated 23 July 2002 instituting and creating the New Zealand Special Service Medal, the Governor-General of New Zealand, under authority delegated by Her Majesty The Queen, makes the following regulations.

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REGULATIONS

1. Title

These regulations are The New Zealand Special Service Medal (Erebus) Regulations 2006.

2. Commencement

These regulations come into force on the day after the date of their notification in the *Gazette*.

3. New Zealand Special Service Medal (Erebus)

The New Zealand Special Service Medal (Erebus) is awarded subject to the Royal Warrant and to these regulations.

4. Purpose

The purpose of the New Zealand Special Service Medal (Erebus) is to recognise the extremely difficult and very unpleasant, hazardous, and extreme circumstances associated with Operation Overdue, being the New Zealand Police recovery and identification operation launched in the aftermath of the Erebus crash involving -

- a. the following physical risks:
 - (i) the debris, wreckage debris, and contaminated wreckage trail from the Erebus crash at the Erebus crash site:
 - (ii) the extreme climatic conditions at the crash site:
 - (iii) the hazardous physical location of, and conditions at, the crash site:

- b. the following psychological risks:
 - (i) body recovery:
 - (ii) victim identification:
 - (iii) the scale of the tragedy of the Erebus crash:
 - (iv) the fact that some of the victims of the Erebus crash were personally known to those providing services in the aftermath of the crash.

5. Interpretation

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, -

body recovery includes the recovery of personal effects

crash site means the north slope of Mount Erebus, Ross Island, Antarctica

Erebus crash means the crash of Air New Zealand DC-10-30 ZK-NZP Flight TE901 on the north slope of Mount Erebus, Ross Island, Antarctica on 28 November 1979.

6. Eligibility

(1) The following persons are eligible for the medal:

- a. all persons who were involved, at any time between 29 November 1979 and 12 December 1979, -
 - (i) at the crash site with body recovery work; or
 - (ii) at the crash site with the provision of support for body recovery work; or
 - (iii) with supply or support flights to and from the crash site for body recovery purposes; or
 - (iv) at Williams Field at McMurdo Station with the processing or packing of victims' remains and personal effects from the Erebus crash for transportation to New Zealand:
- b. all persons who were involved, at any time between 6 December 1979 and 12 February 1980, at the mortuary located at the Auckland University School of Medicine, with the identification of bodies from the Erebus crash in any of the following capacities:
 - (i) pathology:
 - (ii) dental:
 - (iii) embalming:
 - (iv) morticians:
 - (v) as part of the police victim identification team:
- c. all persons who were involved, at any time between 29 November 1979 and 12 December 1979, at the crash site with investigation work as to the cause of the Erebus crash.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, subclause (1)(a) and (c) apply both to New Zealanders and citizens of the United States of America and other countries.

7. Ribbon

The ribbon is to be 32 mm in width and composed of 7 stripes: dark blue, light blue, white, black, white, light blue, and dark blue.

8. Delegation

The Chief of Defence Force or an officer authorised by the Chief of Defence Force may award the medal to any eligible person who, in the judgement of the Chief of Defence Force or the authorised officer, qualifies for the award of the medal.

9. Forfeiture and restoration

The Chief of Defence Force or an officer authorised by the Chief of Defence Force may -

- a. cancel or annul the conferment of the medal on a person; and
- b. if the conferment of the medal on a person has been cancelled or annulled, restore the medal to that person.

Dated at Wellington this 6th day of November 2006.

Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Issued under the authority of the Acts and Regulations Publication Act 1989.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 30 November 2006.

These regulations are administered by the New Zealand Defence Force.