

## Researching Australian military service Indonesian Confrontation, 1963–66

### Overview of the conflict

Australian military history overview: Indonesian Confrontation 1963–66  
[\[www.awm.gov.au/atwar/confrontation\]](http://www.awm.gov.au/atwar/confrontation)

### Nominal rolls

Neil C. Smith, *Nothing short of war: with the Australian Army in Borneo 1962–66* (Gardenvale, Vic: Mostly Unsung Military History Research and Publications, 1999): pp. 109–81.  
 Arranged alphabetically, it includes initials rank and units in which they served.

<b>4RAR</b>	<p><i>Our secret war: the 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, defending against Indonesian Confrontation 1965–1967</i> (McCrae, Vic: Slouch Hat Publications, 2000): pp 200–07.</p> <p>Alphabetical list of 4RAR members serving in Sarawak, April–September 1966, gives surname, initials, service number, sub-unit, awards and whether they had also served in Vietnam.</p>
<b>Special Air Service</b>	<p>David Horner, <i>SAS: phantoms of the jungle, a history of the Australian Special Air Service</i> (Sydney: Allen &amp; Unwin, 1989): pp. 481-87</p> <p>Nominal roll that gives full name, rank and service number, squadron and previous service in Malaya, Vietnam, Korea, etc.</p>

### Personal service records

Service records of those who served with Australian forces are held by the National Archives of Australia. You can apply to the National Archives for copies of personal service records, [\[reftracker.naa.gov.au/reft100.aspx?key=06PostWarDefRef\]](http://reftracker.naa.gov.au/reft100.aspx?key=06PostWarDefRef).

### Those who died while serving

The Roll of Honour [\[www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people?roll=Roll%20of%20Honour\]](http://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people?roll=Roll%20of%20Honour) records the names of service men and women who died during or as a result of service with Australian military forces. The Roll of Honour introduction provides detailed information about Roll of Honour eligibility [\[www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/honour-rolls/roll-of-honour\]](http://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/honour-rolls/roll-of-honour).

### Where they served

<b>Army</b>	<p>War diaries were kept by the commanding officer of the unit to record their daily activities and location. The war diaries are held in the Official records series AWM95, which have been digitised and are available for viewing online <a href="http://www.awm.gov.au/collection/records/awm95/">[www.awm.gov.au/collection/records/awm95/]</a>.</p>
<b>Royal Australian</b>	<p>Reports of Proceedings (ROPs), known earlier as “Letters of Proceedings”, are summaries of a ship’s or shore base’s activities. The</p>

<b>Navy (RAN)</b>	reports were submitted by commanding officers to the Chief of Naval Staff. To identify relevant ROPs in the Memorial's collection, search RecordSearch [ <a href="http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/search/">www.naa.gov.au/collection/search/</a> ] using the name of the ship in keywords and AWM78 in the Series Number field. These records can be viewed in the Research Centre. Some ROPs have been digitised and are available for viewing online [ <a href="http://www.awm.gov.au/learn/understanding-military-history/navy-reports">www.awm.gov.au/learn/understanding-military-history/navy-reports</a> ].
<b>Official history</b>	Official histories are a detailed chronological record of all services and all theatres of conflict: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Dennis and Jeffery Grey, <i>Emergency and Confrontation: Australian military operations in Malaya and Borneo 1950-1966</i> (Allen and Unwin and the Australian War Memorial: Sydney, 1996) Volume 5 of <i>The Official History of Australia's Involvement in Southeast Asian Conflicts 1948-1975</i> deals with Australian military involvement of all three services in the Malayan Emergency and Indonesian/Malaysian Confrontation.</li> </ul>

For further information refer to our guide *Researching the history of a unit* [[www.awm.gov.au/research/guide/unit-history](http://www.awm.gov.au/research/guide/unit-history)].

## Medals and awards

Refer to our research guides:

- Campaign and service medals [[www.awm.gov.au/research/guide/campaign-medals](http://www.awm.gov.au/research/guide/campaign-medals)]
- Australian military honours and awards [[www.awm.gov.au/research/guide/honours](http://www.awm.gov.au/research/guide/honours)]

## Where to look for photographs

- Collections Search [[www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/](http://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/)] gives access to images of photographs held by the Memorial.
- Trove [[trove.nla.gov.au](http://trove.nla.gov.au)] can search photographs and other images held by a range of major Australian libraries, archives and other cultural institutions.