



BARRY FLEMING TEP

Mr Christopher J. Edge
Honours Secretariat
Room 1/62
Old Admiralty Building
London, SW1A 2PA

11th August 2006

Dear Chris,

**PINGAT JASA MALAYSIA (PJM)
MALTA GC 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL 1992**

I was interested to read that Prince Philip is entitled to wear the above Malta medal - and a well deserved medal it is, of course.

I have been told, and I'd be grateful if you could confirm or otherwise, that the Malta Medal:

1. Is a medal from a Commonwealth country, and
2. was approved for wear by the Queen 50 years after the event, on the 'unrestricted' recommendation of the HD Committee, and
3. Was an obligatory double medal situation (it was a requirement that British applicants had to be eligible for the Africa Star).

You will appreciate why I am asking these questions. The Malta medal was granted unrestricted status not that long ago (about the same time as the Russian Medal which was also granted unrestricted status 50 years after the event and British applicants had to be eligible for a British medal in order to qualify - more enforced double medalling). Yet the PJM, which does not require any applicants to be eligible for any other (British or otherwise) medal, is not granted permission to be worn (which condition only applies to British citizens).

If you refer to our Rebuttal sent to you on the 21st June, we rebut the twin myths of double medalling and the 5-year 'rule' and we refer to the Malta and Russian medals. But is there another reason? In the context that the MoD have destroyed many relevant service records, *is the PJM rejected for wear for the very reason, ironically, that this honourable medal does not impose a double medal rule thus making it much more difficult to check service records (via existing and readily available Medal Rolls) and is fair to all?* Your comments will be gratefully received.

I very much hope that this 'anomaly' will be taken into account when considering the Rebuttal, the Ministerial Statement and the recommendation. As I have written elsewhere, would it not be more equitable to release the formal permission that is currently being withheld - formal permission for all British citizens to wear this medal with the Queen's approval? For most, it will be their only medallic acknowledgement of their service to Malaysia.

I very much hope that you have this information in mind when considering our case put to you in the Rebuttal and also in our Petition to the Queen.

Thank you.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely



Barry Fleming