



(This article was produced by the Canberra-based Executive of the RAASC Vietnam Plaque Dedication Committee whose members also created the RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association)

RAASC Vietnam Plaque Dedication – 26 March 2010

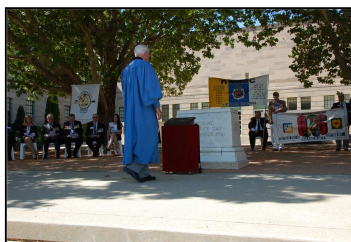


RAASC Vietnam Plaque Production Team

Plaque Concept:	Russ Morison, David Evans, Bruce Manning
Design, Content and Layout:	David Evans, Russ Morison, Bruce Manning, Ray Brown
Drafting:	David Evans
Symbols:	RAASC Badge, Flags & Map by Megan Horsfall
Liaison and publicity:	Russ Morison, Bruce Manning
Bronze:	AWM/Arrow Bronze P/L

The concept for the plaque came about in 2006 with a rough layout from Russ Morison and David Evans. David Evans took up the chief role of designing and drafting the numerous versions of the plaque until the final version was produced at the end of 2009. During this process, much consultation took place on the wording content with former members of the Royal Australian Army Service Corps and with the Australian War Memorial. It was strongly felt by the team that all units of the Corps should be displayed and this resulted in the many drafts that were produced until the final which was submitted and approved by the Australian War Memorial.

The Dedication on 26 March 2010 was the culmination of this considerable effort and was a great success. Our thanks go to all those involved and to the untiring efforts of our Membership Officer, Christina Luff.



RAASC Vietnam Plaque Production Team 2006-2010



Left to right: Bruce Manning, Russ Morison, Ray Brown, David Evans – 26 March 2010

Background of the Plaque

The RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association was formed during the Long Tan weekend in August 2006 with the purpose of bringing together members of the three platoons:

21 Supply Platoon (66-67), 25 Supply Platoon (68-72) - Vung Tau
Det 52 Supply Platoon (67-71) - Nui Dat.

The Association is also open to logistic and headquarters veterans from all conflicts from Vietnam to the present. We are keen to act as a resource to support Reunion planning and networking activities.

The Association Executive approached the Australian War Memorial (AWM) to investigate the laying of a plaque to honour our members. We discovered that the AWM has a Plaque Dedication Program, the purpose of which is to allow individual unit associations the opportunity to commemorate their active wartime service. Some of the guidelines include:

- Associations may seek to have a plaque laid and proposals put forward by their governing body.
- The Memorial encourages a dedication service also providing an opportunity for a unit reunion.
- Associations are encouraged to contribute their design ideas. A Guide to Production and Design of Commemorative Plaques is provided to the Association by the AWM.
- A unit is considered to be an RAN ship, Army battalion (700 members or equivalent) or RAAF squadron.

This latter guideline was a dilemma for us as the scope of our project had just enlarged from 350 members to something in the order of 3500 soldiers who wore the gold RAASC lanyard that deployed. Some 2500 members served in RAASC Corps units, another 1000 in non Corps units, and 50 RAASC members who served in the highly decorated AATTV.

From 2006 onwards we approached every RAASC-RACT Association seeking their agreement and input to a design that would represent all the RAASC units and sub units in theatre. Twelve designs later, the plaque you now see represents those who served in Corps units and RAASC members who served in non Corps units.

