

Text of Citation for award of Mentioned-in-Despatches to Major John M. Stewart

Major John Stewart was commissioned on 7th June 1952 and was allotted to the Royal Australian Infantry. He was posted to 9th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment on 25th December, 1967 and arrived in Vietnam on 5th November 1968.

As Officer Commanding Administrative Company, Major Stewart not only commanded his company but he was also responsible for the daily maintenance of the battalion and the defence of the battalion base area when the battalion was deployed on operations.

With such diverse responsibilities, Major Stewart worked long hours to achieve and maintain the high standards he required in the battalion rear area. The example he set, together with his firm leadership and hard work, produced an organisation which was exemplary in its capacity to support the battalion on operations, whilst still carrying out all the other tasks required.

The echelon system which Major Stewart developed was outstanding in its efficiency and in the speed of response with which it could meet all demands placed upon it. He showed great enterprise and ingenuity in dealing with all difficulties which confronted him from time to time.

By his purposeful and boundless energy, combined with his organisational ability and thoroughness, Major Stewart has earned the respect of the whole battalion and all who have worked with him.