Defence Force Amendment Regulations 1999 (No. 2) 1999 No. 235

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

STATUTORY RULES 1999 NO. 235

Issued by the Authority of the Minister for Defence

Defence Act 1903

Defence Force Amendment Regulations 1999 (No. 2)

The *Defence Force Regulations 1952* ("the Principal Regulations"), made under the *Defence Act 1903*, prescribe various matters relating to the organisation and administration of the Navy, Army and Air Force.

Part IXA of the Act contains provisions dealing with issues involving the forces of other countries. These issues include powers of attachment and mutual command, and power in relation to illegal absentees. Subsection 116A(2) of the Act, which is contained in Part IXA, provides that a reference in that Part to a country in relation to which a provision of that Part applies shall be read as a reference to a country declared by the regulations to be a country in relation to which that provision applies.

Regulation 44 of the Principal Regulations lists a number of countries that are declared to be countries in relation to which each provision of Part IXA of the Act applies.

This Statutory Rule includes countries participating in the current multinational operations in East Timor. Only provisions in Divisions 1 (Interpretation) and 3 (Absentees without leave) of Part IXA of the Act apply to the new countries. Provisions in Divisions 2 (Attachment of Personnel and Mutual Powers Of Command) and 4 (Miscellaneous) do not apply to the new countries.

This Statutory Rule comes into operation on the date of gazettal.