



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Australian Chief of Air Force Receives Prestigious Military Med

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Minister for Defence RADM (NS) Teo Chee Hean congratulating AIRMSHL Houston on receiving the medal.

Australia's Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal (AIRMSHL) Allan Grant Houston, received the prestigious Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) [Meritorious Service Medal (Military)] from Minister for Defence, Rear-Admiral (NS) Teo Chee Hean, at the Ministry of Defence this morning. AIRMSHL Houston was awarded the medal in recognition of his significant role in strengthening bilateral ties between the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF).

Throughout his military career, AIRMSHL Houston has contributed significantly towards promoting closer co-operation between the RAAF and the RSAF. As Director, Air Force Policy in 1992, he offered invaluable support and assistance for the establishment of the RSAF Flying Training School at the RAAF Base Pearce. Later, as Commander, Integrated Air Defence System from 1999 to 2000, he made an important contribution to the development of the Five Power Defence Arrangements and, by extension, to the security of Singapore.

Since assuming his appointment as the Chief of Air Force of the RAAF in June 2001, AIRMSHL Houston has actively encouraged more co-operation and interactions between the two air forces through a wide range of professional military activities including exercises,

exchange programmes, and the formation of the bilateral Air Working Group, which explores opportunities for enhancing bilateral co-operation. These interactions have strengthened the friendship between the RAAF and the RSAF, and have also enhanced the inter-operability and professionalism of the two air forces.

Earlier today, AIRMSHL Houston called on RADM (NS) Teo, Chief of Defence Force Major-General (MG) Ng Yat Chung, and Chief of Air Force MG Lim Kim Choon. AIRMSHL Houston also visited Sembawang Air Base yesterday.



Chief of Royal Australia Air Force, AIRMSHL Allan Grant Houston, with his Meritorious Service Medal (Military).