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Operational Matters

ATTACHMENTS

ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE

OP0041 Application for Freedom of Entry to the City of Greater
Geraldton

28 May 2013



FREEDOM OF ENTRY TO THE CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON

PROPOSAL & BRIEF

PRODUCED BY:
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711SQN EXECUTIVE INSTRUCTOR
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FOREWORD

This document has been made to briefly outline the act of freedom of entry to a city by a Royal Australian Air Force or Australian Air Force Cadet Squadron. It includes the history of Freedom of Entry and the official procedure to which it is to be conducted in accordance with the Manual of Ceremonial AAP 5135.002 chapter 10.



SCOPE

1. This document will outline the following information for granting 711 Squadron the freedom of entry to the City of Greater Geraldton (Freedom of entry).
 - a. The history of Freedom of Entry and the official procedure.
 - b. A brief overview of local AAFC and RAAF history.
 - c. The proposed date and parade route.
 - d. The change of official title from 711 Squadron to 711(City of Greater Geraldton) Squadron.
 - e. The approval of a unit logo to reflect the freedom of entry. This logo will then be used on the new Squadron banner and Squadron Uniform Patch.
 - f. The key contacts for this proposal.

HISTORY (“FREEDOM OF ENTRY”)

REF: AAP 5135.002

2. The granting of the ‘Freedom of Entry to a City’ to a military unit is a ceremony that has very old origins. The early history of Europe shows that walled cities and trained soldiers protected citizens from death or capture by marauding armies. The right of entry to a city by outside soldiers was therefore rarely granted by authorities. When such grants were made, much ceremony was associated with the privilege, demonstrating the pride of the unit concerned, and the trust bestowed by the citizens. Cities are no longer walled nor do they train their own armies. However, for geographical and other reasons, strong links are forged between RAAF units and the cities where they are stationed. Today, a ‘freedom’ indicates the pride the local municipality has in its long associations with the RAAF unit involved, and is reflected in the traditional format of the ‘freedom’ parade.
3. Having been granted a ‘freedom’ the unit or establishment should exercise that right on a regular basis every 12 to 24 months. The exercise of the ‘freedom’ should coincide with a date that has meaning to the city, unit or establishment.
4. Where the term RAAF (Royal Australian Air Force) is used it should be seen to also include the AAFC (Australian Air Force Cadets)

PROCEDURE OVERVIEW

REF: AAP 5135.002

5. 711 SQN has been involved in the planning of the Sunshine Festival Parade with the Sunshine Festival committee and will continue to offer support and guidance as required. The committee have shown a great interest in incorporating the freedom of entry into the parade.
6. The ceremony of granting the ‘freedom’ ceremony will take the following format:
 - a. The parade forms up on an area adjacent to the town hall. The cased Colour/s are marched to their positions on the flank of the parade. *To coincide with the Sunshine festival parade this may instead take place at the parade form up point being the Geraldton Port Authority car park.*

- b. The mayor and official party arrives and the mayor inspects the parade.
- c. The mayor addresses the parade; the town clerk reads the scroll proclaiming the ‘freedom’, and the mayor then presents the scroll to the parade commander.
- d. The parade commander replies to the mayor's address.
- e. Swords are drawn; the Colour is uncased and marched on parade.
- f. The parade advances in review order and gives a general salute to the citizens of the city.
- g. The parade marches past the reviewing officer and continues on toward the town hall or other predetermined point for the ‘exercising the right of freedom of entry’. *This will be done as part of the sunshine festival parade.*
- h. The parade is stopped at a point just prior to the town hall by the senior police officer and permission to pass is given.
- i. The parade marches past the town hall and the mayor takes the salute.
- j. The parade is dismissed. *The parade will be dismissed at the conclusion of the sunshine festival parade.*

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF LOCAL AAFC AND RAAF HISTORY

7. 711 Squadron AAFC (Formerly 11 Flight AIRTC) was established in Geraldton, Western Australia in February of 1993 by AIRCDR (Retired) D. Hitchins.
8. Geraldton also has rich military history, most notable as the home to *RAAF Station Geraldton* and *No. 4 Service Flying Training School* during the Second World War.
9. 711 Squadron is currently an active organisation within the City of Greater Geraldton community by being involved with events such as:
 - a. Valley View Vintage fly in
 - b. Geraldton Heritage Day
 - c. Australia Day
 - d. ANZAC Day Parades
 - e. Sunshine Festival and the
 - f. Boating and Camping show
10. 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of the Squadron making it an important occasion in the Squadrons history.
11. The aim of the Australian Defence Force Cadets, which includes the AAFC is “By predominantly voluntary effort, to better equip young people for community life by fostering initiatives, leadership, discipline and loyalty through training programmes which are also designed to stimulate an interest in a particular arm of the Defence Force.”
12. 711 Squadron will continue to foster and grow its current involvement with the City of Greater Geraldton community. The squadron will actively seek to develop the youth of the City of Greater Geraldton.

PROPOSED DATE, TIME & PARADE ROUTE

13. The current proposed date is for the 6th October 2013 at 1200hrs to coincide with the Sunshine festival parade. The Freedom of entry parade will follow the same route as the festival parade to avoid additional road closures.
14. Specific times as per current Sunshine Festival Program:
 - a. 12.00 pm - Marshall at the boat trailer car park on the foreshore near Geraldton Port Authority building
 - b. 1.00pm - The parade will travel along Marine Tce, Lester Ave, Cathedral Avenue, turn right into Carson Terrace and right into Maitland Park.
15. See annex A for a map of the current route.

SQUADRON TITLE

16. Once Freedom of Entry has been granted the official title of 711 Squadron (Midwest) will be changed to 711 (City of Greater Geraldton) Squadron. This will be used in all future correspondence and documents that will include the Squadron title. The Squadron banner and uniform patch will be also reflect the new title subject to logo approval by the AAFC.

SQUADRON LOGO DESIGN AND AAFC APPROVAL

17. Once Freedom of Entry has been granted 711SQN also seek to change and develop their current banner and SQN patch to represent the new relationship with the city. The new banner will be used on ceremonial occasions including graduation parades. The SQN patch will be worn on the uniform by members to show pride of the SQN to which they belong. This logo will be approved by the Australian Air Force Cadets HQ.
18. The logo proposed for 711SQN has symbolism on many levels representing both the Squadron, history of the city and future direction of the cadets. The Logo will include the following items to symbolise its past, present and future.
 - a. AVRO AIRCRAFT. The Avro Anson was the primary aircraft used by 4SFTS during WWII and as such became the aircraft mascot for the city. The AVRO also represents the aviation training offered by the squadron to the cadets.
 - b. SETTING SUN. The sun setting over the ocean signifies the western coastal location of Geraldton. The sun is also a sign of strength representing the power given to youth to grow, learn and lead.
 - c. OCEAN. The ocean represents our coastal location and also the importance of the aquaculture industry to the region.
 - d. SUN/DOME. The sun image also represents the "Dome of Souls". The dome is part of the memorial to the crew of the HMAS Sydney II and can be seen on its hilltop home from most of the Geraldton CBD and many suburbs.

- e. CLEAR SKY. The clear sky image represents a metaphorical ‘clear direction’ for cadets to travel and also signifies our aviation heritage.
- f. MAROON BORDER. The maroon colouring signifies the links to mining in the region.

19. See annex B for Logo images.

CONTACTS

- 20. The primary contact for this proposal is Leading Aircraftsman (AAFC) Hayden Spencer. Mobile: 0427625020 Email: hayden.spencer2@aafc.org.au
- 21. The secondary contact for this proposal is Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) David Power. Mobile: 0417179736 Email: david.power@aafc.org.au

ANNEXES

- 22. List of annexes:
 - a. Map of proposed parade route
 - b. Squadron Logo and Patch images

ANNEX A



Current proposed Sunshine Festival Parade route.



711 Squadron logo/Round Patch. (Colour)



711 Rectangular Patch. (Colour)



711 Rectangular Patch. (Subdued)