An Australian soldier who was decorated for bravery during the Malaya Emergency, has been killed in action in Vietnam.

He was Warrant Officer Class 2 (WO2) Maxwell Powell Hanley, 31, married, of Reynella, South Australia.

WO2 Hanley was a member of the Australian Army Training Team in Vietnam, and was killed by 57 mm recoilless rifle fire during an operation with South Vietnamese troops.

As a corporal with 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, in Malaya in 1958 he was awarded the Military Medal.

His citation states that he commanded an ambush party of three including himself, which killed three terrorists and wounded another, in a gun fight on a rubber estate at Sungei Siput, Perak.

He had waited until the terrorists were five yards away before springing the ambush. The ambush was followed by the surrender of three terrorists, including the wounded man.

During a year of Malaya operations he had showed himself as a resolute, calm and determined leader and an example to his fellow soldiers.

List A

Further Information

Canberra - Maj. Allan S. Hinds (65-4061) (49-6030)

Other States - PRO at Command HQ

21 February 1967