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See Distribution

Reference: HQBF/525/5

Date: 12 November 2008

**CALLING NOTICE FOR THE ROYAL ENGINEERS GIBRALTAR FREEDOM WEEKEND
GIBRALTAR 13-15 MARCH 2009**

1. **Introduction.** You are cordially invited, both serving and former members of the Corps of Royals Engineers to celebrate the formation of the Soldier Corps in Gibraltar in 1772 and all the Freedom of the City bestowed on the Corps in 1992. This event will be held in Gibraltar between 13 -15 Mar 09. The event will be organised by the serving RE personnel in Gibraltar, with support from the REA Gibraltar Branch.

2. **Location.** The scheduled events will take place in various locations throughout Gibraltar. Locations of functions and other key landmarks are shown on the Location Plan at Annex A. Please not that the WOs' and SRs' Mess is now located at Devils Tower Camp.

3. **Event Format.** A full and varied programme is planned for the weekend; in summary the format of the event is as follows:

a. **Meet and Greet.** A Meet and Greet function will be held from 1530-1800 hrs Fri 13 Mar 08 at the WOs' and SRs' Mess Devils Tower camp. This will include light refreshments and the REA Gibraltar Branch raffle. It is an informal function.

b. **Freedom Dinner and Dance.** The Freedom Dinner is scheduled for 1930 hrs until late on Sat 14 Mar 08 at the WOs and SRs Mess Devils Tower Camp. Entertainments will be provided and the evening will cost approx £20 per head. Dress will be lounge suits for the gentlemen and cocktail dresses for the ladies. Return transport will be provided for guests.

c. **Thanksgiving Church Service.** A Thanksgiving Church Service will be held at Kings Chapel on Sun 15 Mar 08 at Kings Chapel. The Command Chaplin will lead a multi-denomination service of thanksgiving for the RE. REA Branch Standards are most welcome. Timings TBC and will stated on the Administration Instruction.

d. **Informal Farewell Gathering.** The final event of the weekend will be an informal social gathering from 1900-2359hrs on Sun 15 Mar 07 again at the WOs' and SRs' Mess Devils Tower Camp. The REA raffle will be drawn and entertainment plus a buffet supper

will be provided. Transport will be under own arrangements. The cost is approx £10 per head and dress code will be smart casual (no jeans).

e. **Tunnel Tour.** Supplementary to the event it is intended to include a Tunnel Tour. This arrangement is expected to take place on the morning of Sat 14 mar 08. Details and receipt of monies will be at the Meet and Greet. The expected cost is between £5-£8 each.

4. **Application Form.** An application form for all the events listed above are attached at Annex B. To help the event organisers in every respect please ensure your applications are received by 13 Feb 09. The event organisers cannot be held responsible for late submissions. The address for submissions is shown on the application forms. Please note that monies will be taken at the Meet and Greet function, please do not send cheques.

5. **Travel from UK and Overseas.** Guests are to make their own arrangements for travel to and from Gibraltar. British Airways, Easyjet and Monarch fly into Gibraltar from Gatwick, Luton and Manchester. Other airports within the vicinity of Gibraltar include Jerez or Malaga and suggested carriers include Easyjet, Ryanair, Flybe, Thomsonfly, British Airways, Monarch and others. Both airports have car hire facilities.

6. **Accommodation.** Unfortunately there is no military accommodation available for the weekend, therefore use of local hotels or staying with friends is recommended. Local hotels include:

The Bristol Hotel Gibraltar	Tel: 00350 20076800
The Caleta Hotel Gibraltar	Tel: 00350 20076501
The Cannon Hotel Gibraltar	Tel: 00350 20051711
The Continental Hotel Gibraltar	Tel: 00350 20076900
The O'Callagahn Hotel Gibraltar	Tel: 00350 20070500
The Queen's Hotel Gibraltar	Tel: 00350 20074000
The Rock Hotel Gibraltar	Tel: 00350 20073000
The Iberostar Hotel La Linea Spain	Tel: 0034 956 691211

7. **Medical.** Guests are to ensure they have appropriate Medical Insurance arranged before travelling. UK Citizens are able to use the services at St Benard's Hospital when in possession of a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). Access to medical services will be denied otherwise. EHIC can be obtained online at www.dh.gov.uk/travellers or Tel: 0845 60602030. There will be emergency medical cover arranged for the events. Please ensure adequate arrangements are in place for family notification..

8. **Disabled Access.** The tourist attractions and the older buildings within Gibraltar have limited disabled access. Arrangements will be in place to cater for disabled persons where necessary. Of those attending the weekend please indicate on the application forms attached of any special requirements that the event organisers can assist with.

9. **Finance.** Gibraltar's currency is pounds sterling and has its own notes and coins which, cannot be used in the UK on your return. There are familiar bank names within Gibraltar such as Natwest, RBS and Barclays. Natwest and RBS cashpoints will issue UK pounds sterling. Most retail outlets, hotels, etc accept credit , debit cards and also Euros. Euros are required for Spain.

10. **Welfare.** The event organisers will be able to offer advice on welfare matters but guests must treat the weekend as you would travelling abroad anywhere else in the world and make necessary arrangements for any known welfare matters.

11. **Travel and Subsistence.** Unless on official duty serving REs attending will not be eligible for Travel and Subsistence claims nor trooping flights for the event.

12. **Additional Information.** Additional information about the event not included on this Calling Notice can be obtained through the Event Manager, of whom details are below. Applicants will receive a comprehensive Administration Instruction prior to the event. Otherwise your questions/concerns will be duly answered at the Meet and Greet.

Contact details for the Event Manager:

RE Freedom Weekend Event Manager
WO1 S R Morley RE
Room 10
HQBF
BFPO 52

Tel Civ: 00350 20055372
Tel Mil: 923 198 531 5372

Fax Civ: 00350 20055489
Fax Mil: 923 198 531 5489

Email: morleys@a.dii.mod.uk

13. On behalf of the Senior Royal Engineer on the 'Rock' Lt Col Mark Burnett OBE RE, we very much look forward to your company to celebrate with us the formation of the Soldiers Corps within its birthplace here in Gibraltar.

S R MORLEY
WO1 RE
Event Manager RE Freedom Weekend

Annexes:

- A. Location Plan.
- B. Application Form RE Freedom Weekend 2009.

Distribution:

Controller REA* All REA Branches
RHQ RE*

Copy to:

SO1 J4 Infra*
DE FM*
DEFM5*
DEPM2*
Serco - SSgt Kersey*
SSgt Pritchard*
REA Gibraltar Branch Secretary*

Send Application Form to:

RE Freedom Weekend Event Organiser
WO1 S R Morley RE
HQBF
BFPO 52
Middlesex, HA4 6DQ

ANNEX B TO
HQBF/525/5
DATED 12 NOV 08

Tel Civ: 00350 20055372

Tel Mil: 923 198 531 5372

Email: morleys@a.dii.mod.uk (unsigned Email applications will be accepted)

EVENT APPLICATION FORM FOR THE ROYAL ENGINEERS FREEDOM
WEEKEND 2009

Applicant:

Number (if applicable).....Rank/Status.....

Former Rank Whilst Serving..... Date of Birth.....

Full Name.....

Any specialist requirements i.e. disabled access.....

Any specialist dietary requirements.....

Postal details: (Where you want to receive tickets and Administration Instruction)

House Number/Name..... Street.....

Town/City..... County.....

Postcode..... Country

Guest(s): (use continuation sheet of multiple guests)

Number (if applicable).....Rank/Status.....

Former Rank Whilst Serving..... Date of Birth.....

Full Name.....

Any specialist requirements i.e. disabled access.....

Any specialist dietary requirements.....

Continued overleaf

Events Attending:

Please tick

Meet and Greet - 1400-1730 hrs Fri 13 Mar 09

Tunnel Tour – TBC Sat 14 mar 08 (Cost between £5-£8 each)

Dinner and Dance – 1930 hrs Sat 14 Mar 09 (Cost approx £20 per person)

Church Service – 1130-1230 hrs Sun 15 Mar 09

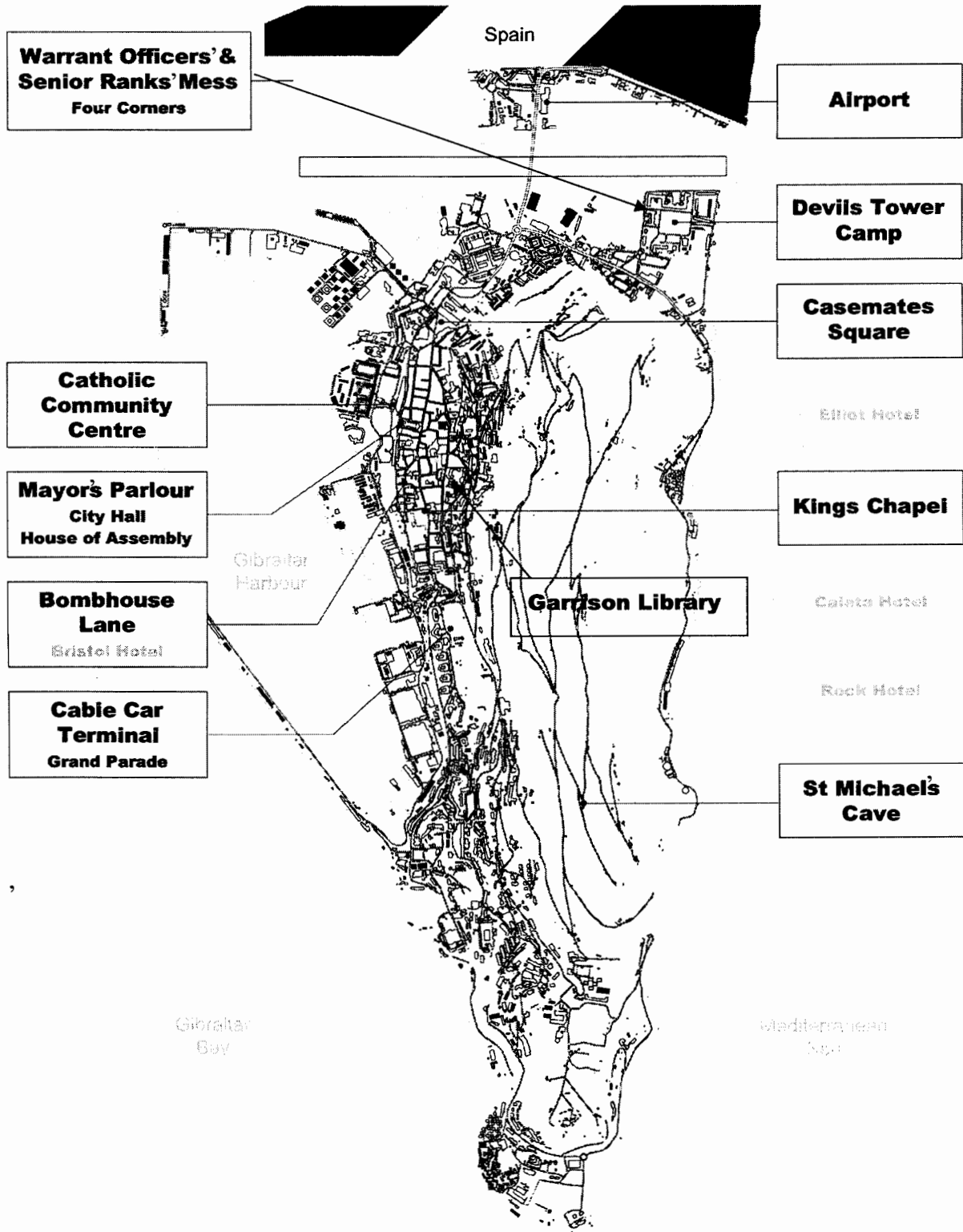
Farewell Function – 1930 hrs Sun 15 Mar 09 (Cost approx £10 per person)

Note: When box ticked it is assumed you and all your guests will be attending that event unless stated otherwise i.e. x1 x2 x3, etc.

Applicant's Signature..... Date.....

'Monies will be received at the Meet and Greet on Fri 13 Mar 09, please do not send cheques or money through the post.'

LOCATION PLAN



Royal Engineers Freedom Weekend

Meters 400 200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600