

FROM: 90th TFS

24 August 1968

SUBJECT: Outstanding Forward Air Controller Performance

TO: DCO

C

504th TASG

IN TURN

1. It is my pleasure to commend the outstanding performance of another fine Forward Air Controller for a job well done. Please express my personal thanks to DAVID 36 for his professional leadership in directing DICE 15 flight on 24 August 1968.

2. Upon returning to Bien Hoa after being scrambled from the alert pad both Maj Stewart and Lt Narsavage commented to me concerning the professional manner in which DAVID 36 had directed their mission. The DICE flight arrived at the rendezvous, 10 km southwest of Binh Tuy, and made contact with DAVID 36. During his pre-strike briefing, DAVID 36 clearly described the target area and specifically pointed out that heavy ground fire could be expected. Even though the wingman was having trouble with his radio, DAVID 36's description and directions were clearly understood and there was never any question in the mind of the DICE concerning the target. Because the mission was flown at all times with a high overcast, additional demands were put on David 36 to coordinate the strike with the flare ship. However, this additional responsibility was handled with cool professionalism and exacting precision. After satisfying himself that the fighters had clearly identified the target, DAVID 36 put in his first mark, calling for the lead aircraft to "Hit my smoke". As the wingman rolled in behind his leader, he received intense automatic weapons fire (30/50 cal) from at least five sites just to the west of the target under attack. DAVID 36 quickly reoriented the air strike and coordinated with the flare ship to place the remaining ordnance on the gun positions. This called for a rapid re-briefing for the entire flight. These changes were accomplished quickly and effectively by DAVID 36, and the flight was able to shift to the new target almost immediately and maintain pressure on the enemy positions. Although he was himself continually exposed to the hostile groundfire, DAVID 36 remained in place to mark the target for the DICE fighters. His courage and determination in directing the fighters was an inspiration to everyone involved in the strike. Because of the intense groundfire and darkness over the target area, no BDA could be reported. However, DAVID 36 was forwarded, crediting the DICE flight with 50% and 70% BDA. His outstanding BDA attests to the fine job done by DAVID 36 in coordinating this difficult strike in the face of such demanding circumstances. Because of his efforts, the DICE were able to have a very successful combat mission.

3. Because of his superior airmanship and outstanding direction of fighter aircraft against the hostile enemy, Captain DAVID 36 is highly commendable air leader to be on the example and intelligent in his actions.

FROM: 22 Tac Air Spt Sq (C)

28 October 1968

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

TO: AL0, 21 Division

1. It's a great pleasure for me to forward the attached letters of appreciation for presentation to David 36. He is to be congratulated for performing in an outstanding performance which reflects credit upon himself and the 22 Tac Air Spt Sq.

2. Please pass to him my personal appreciation for two fine performances.


DAVID M. SHARP, Lt Col, USAF

Commander

2 Atch

1. Ltr, 504 TASG (C), 13 Oct 68 w/2 Atch.
2. Ltr, 604 SOSq, 15 Oct 68.