



OFFICE OF THE AIR COMMANDANT

RAAF Element HQAFV
PWMAO Building
12 Tran Quoc Toan
CHON N
APO 96243

26th March 1971

Lt Col S.M. SPILSETH
Commander
39th AFRS
Cam Ranh Bay
APO 96326

Dear Colonel,

On my own behalf and on behalf of all those in my Command here in South Vietnam, I wish to thank you, your crew, and your Squadron for the part you played in the rescue of the crew of Magpie 41 on Monday 15th March 1971.

We had more or less given the crew up for lost after 24 hours on the ground with nothing heard, despite your ceaseless and untiring efforts. Your notification that you had established voice contact with both crew members was one of the most welcome pieces of information we have ever had. The smooth way in which the subsequent very difficult rescue was co-ordinated reflects great credit on your crew, Squadron, and on the entire USAF SAR organization in RVN.

Thank you again for all your help. I will be returning to Australia in the next few weeks. If you can make it to Saigon in the near future I would welcome the opportunity to meet you and quaff a few ales.

Sincerely,
[Signature]