

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

3 January 1967

PHƯỚC TUY PROVINCE
Phước Mỹ, Viet Nam

To General Jackson
Commanding General
For Royal Australian
Task Force, Pleiku

Dear General Jackson,

There has been tremendous progress in Phước Tuy Province towards our ultimate goal of peace and prosperity since the arrival of the First Australian Task Force in May 1966. You and the members of your command have shown a great and sincere interest in the advancement of the people of Phước Tuy Province by the implementation of ambitious civic action projects and self-help programs. The results of your civic action programs will remain for many years to attest to the help and friendship displayed by you and the members of your Task Force. Your military activities within the Province have been outstanding, high lighted by the decisive defeat of the Viet Cong at Song Tam on 19 August 1966, and the numerous highly successful cordon and search operations, which netted many Viet Cong captives without sustaining a single friendly casualty. Through your personal support of combined Australian and Sector operations, you have enabled our troops to achieve noteworthy victories, thereby increasing the moral of Sector forces and their will to combat the Viet Cong. You proved by your prompt reaction to requests for assistance of your infantry, artillery and mechanized force, that Sector could always depend on the maximum assistance from you in the time of need. Your forces have saved many lives by the provision of immediate evacuation by helicopter thereby demonstrating your sympathy for the plight of Vietnamese military and civilian casualties. The support of the helicopter has also allowed our forces to penetrate deeper into Viet Cong territory with the knowledge that they will be evacuated immediately if required. We, the people of Phước Tuy Province, extend to you our heartfelt thanks for your personal interest in our struggle for peace. You and your men together with other allied forces have shown the world your belief that freedom is of paramount importance to all people. You have done much to help Phước Tuy Province take a long stride toward a long sought after peace. Your personal drive, interest and sympathy for our people shall go down as a milestone in the history of the Province. We extend to you upon your departure, our deepest gratitude and best wishes for the future.

Lt. Col. L. S. Orr, DFC
Province Chief Pleiku



L. S. Orr