

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE



Commendation

(GOLD)

8184963 WING COMMANDER LYLE HOLT

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

I commend you for your outstanding service as the Military Assistant to the Chief of the Election Task Force, Headquarters International Security Assistance Force from May to October 2009.

In assisting the chief to co-ordinate force support for the 2009 Afghanistan Presidential and Provincial Council elections, you were an outstanding staff officer, completely committed to achieving the very best results possible. You were consistently highly productive despite time pressures and often ambiguous circumstances, and occasionally, limited guidance.

You successfully engaged with a multitude of military, civilian, government and international community organisations. You were readily able to balance the complex strategic and political imperatives bounding the International Security Assistance Force Afghanistan mission with the practical necessities of executing the time sensitive and high profile Election Task Force mission.

You demonstrated considerable self confidence and maturity in the presentation of your views and recommendations to a wide range of officers and staff, while maintaining an appropriate blend of professional courtesy and conviction. Furthermore, you demonstrated a strong sense of compassion when you assisted a wounded serviceman following a suicide attack on the Headquarters International Security Assistance Force compound.

You were pro-active and confident and an excellent representative of the Australian Defence Force. You had a cheerful and optimistic outlook and set an outstanding example for your subordinates and peers. Your achievements are of the highest order and in keeping with the finest traditions of the Royal Australian Air Force and the Australian Defence Force.

2nd May 2010

M. EVANS, AO, DSC
Lieutenant General
Chief of Joint Operations