

LETTERS

Dear Commissioner,

With the official visit by Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of York over, I wanted to take an early opportunity to thank you for the tremendous assistance given by the Close Protection Officers, Detective Sergeant Rob Hunter and Acting Sergeant Lex Manning.

During this visit in particular, there were a great many demands placed on them, especially involving some family disruption because of the length of time involved, and I wanted to pay a special tribute to them in that regard. At all times, they carried out their duties with singular distinction and both were extremely supportive in the visit organisation.

Again, my sincere thanks for their efforts which I know were very much appreciated by Their Royal Highnesses as well as by me and the other members of my team.

Yours sincerely,
M.J. Hazell
Assistant Secretary, Special Visits Unit
The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Dear Commissioner,

Sergeant Ian Tucker of V.I.P. Protection was recently assigned to the visit to Australia of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn of Thailand. As Australian Equerry to the Crown Prince, I accompanied his party throughout the visit and was in constant contact with Sergeant Tucker. I was so impressed by the diligence, sensitivity and attitude of Sergeant Tucker during this complex and often difficult visit, that I have been swayed to taking this unusual (for me) step of formally registering my gratitude for the excellent choice of assignment.

Sergeant Tucker proved to be an intelligent, amiable and helpful "protector" and I thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated his company.

His approach to his task was both refreshing and noteworthy, a fact that was conveyed to me personally by the Crown Prince on several occasions.

It would be appreciated if these compliments were brought to the attention of Sergeant Tucker's direct

superiors within the Australian Federal Police. I would actively seek the assistance of Sergeant Tucker on any future tasks of this nature.

Yours sincerely,
Derek Leslie,
Lieutenant Colonel,
Department of Defence.

Dear Commissioner,

During the recent visit of the British Parliamentary Delegation to Australia, our security was in the hands of Senior Constables Danny Pugh and Laurie Fayle while we were in Canberra. Mr Pugh also accompanied us to Sydney up to the time of our departure.

It is the wish of my delegation to let you know how much we appreciated the services of these two officers. They were unobtrusive and yet always close at hand. They were courteous, pleasant and efficient. We were much indebted to them and we feel that you should know this.

We are grateful to you for the steps that you took to ensure our security. This helped us to relax and to enjoy in full our visit to your wonderful country.

Yours sincerely,
Sir Bernard Braine, M.P.
House of Commons, London.

Dear Commissioner,

Now that the Guest of Government Visit Program for the Bicentennial year is completed, I write to thank all those officers of the Australian Federal Police who made a contribution to a program that was extremely full, complex and demanding.

We believe that overall the program was a significant success and realised the objectives of the Commonwealth Government in initiating it as part of the Bicentenary. The provision of close personal protection, where this is required, is a most important aspect of arrangements for visits by guests of the Government and the service given by your officers in this area has been of a very high order throughout the year.

We have also been extremely grateful for the co-operation extended to us by those concerned with policing arrangements in the Australian Capital Territory. Moreover, their performance has been uniformly high and has on a number of occasions been

commented upon in commendatory terms by the visitors.

I take the opportunity to wish you all the compliments of the season and look forward to a continuation of our collaboration in 1989.

Yours sincerely,
Duncan Anderson
Assistant Secretary
Ceremonial and Hospitality Branch
The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Dear Commissioner,

Thank you for the excellent intelligence support for the trackdown and seizure of the sailing ketch "Nova" and the arrest of two of her crew. This vessel is suspected of attempting to smuggle twelve tons of marijuana into the United States. Had it not been for your help, the culprits would have escaped with their means and profits intact.

At several points in the investigation, all leads had run out — we had reached a wall. The expert help of your liaison in Honolulu, Eric Curtis, helped us to scale these obstacles. He uncovered fresh nuggets of information from sources not available to us, leading ultimately to the arrest of two suspects and the seizure of the twenty-metre ketch "Nova" by the Royal Fiji Police.

I am indebted to the Australian Federal Police for your outstanding contribution to our operations. We have proven the viability of integrated efforts as envisioned by the South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference. I look forward to future endeavours together.

Sincerely,
W.P. Kozlovsky
Rear Admiral,
U.S. Coast Guard Coordinator,
National Narcotics Border Interdiction System,
Western Pacific Region.

It is with deepest regret that we have learned of the recent violent death of Assistant Commissioner Colin Winchester.

We would appreciate on our behalf, if you would pass on our sincere sympathy to Assistant Commissioner Winchester's family.

Superintendent A.W. Sedler,
O.I.C. Contract Policing Branch,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police,
Ottawa.