

25 MAY 1959

WDG

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCHRIEVER

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation for Support on Recent DISCOVERER
Capsule Search to Commander-in-Chief, Royal Norwegian
Air Force

1. The attached letter of appreciation to the Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Norwegian Air Force is forwarded for your approval and further transmission to General White for signature.
2. The letter is both timely and appropriate in expressing our sincere appreciation for their effort in support of the DISCOVERER II capsule search at Spitsbergen, Norway.

Original Signed
O J. RITLAND

1 Incl
Ltr to RCAF,
Oslo, Norway

O. J. RITLAND
Brig General, USAF
Commander



AIR FORCE BALLISTIC MISSILE DIVISION
HEADQUARTERS
AIR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Air Force Unit Post Office
Los Angeles 45, California

In reply address both communication and envelope to:

WDZ

18 May 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL RITLAND *JM*

SUBJECT: Letters of Appreciation for Support on Recent Discoverer Capsule Search to Commander-in-Chief, Royal Norwegian Air Force, Area Commander, Northern Norway and the Commander, Air Rescue Service

1. The subject and attached letters of appreciation are forwarded for your review and approval.
2. The letter to Commander-in-Chief, Royal Norwegian Air Force is to be forwarded to General White, after your approval, for transcription to USAF stationery and appropriate signature.
3. The latter two of the subject letters of appreciation can be forwarded directly from AFBMD upon your approval and signature.
4. The text of each letter expresses the sincere feeling of appreciation which this office holds for the respective support and services accorded the Discoverer Program.

Richard D. Curtin

3 Incls

1. Ltr to RNAF, Oslo, Norway
2. Ltr to Area Comdr, N. Norway
3. Ltr to Comdr ARS

RICHARD D. CURTIN
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Commander
Military Space Systems

Letter to be signed by Gen. Schroeder

1st General Roger T. McInfield
Commander in Chief
Royal Norwegian Air Force
Honningsvåg, Oslo, Norway

Dear General McInfield:

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude, to you and your staff, for your excellent efforts in support of the United States Air Force in the recent search mission for Discoverer II.

It is regrettable that we were unable to give you more advanced notice of our arrival since personnel under your command, who were already carrying a heavy work load by regular assignment, were suddenly burdened with the additional support of our activities. I am told, however, that each individual undertook these additional duties with a spirit of enthusiasm and worked unceasingly for the success of a mutual and common end. This important provision of prompt, effective, and enthusiastic local assistance, rendered by Royal Air Force personnel, was most gratifying and of inestimable value to the United States Air Force.

The high confidence level in the thoroughness of the search for Discoverer II, is a direct reflection of your voluntary co-operation and support under less than ideal conditions. Our project personnel have expressed great pride in their association with your people and feel that the relationship engendered obligates in particular to assure the utmost dispatch in not leaving the matter.

My Project Officer informs me that certain individuals made contributions of such outstanding value as to warrant personal mention. They are:

General Thorkle-Johann, Air Commander, North Norway

Colonel J. Chr. K. Ebbesen, Wing Commander, Hede Air Base,

Norway

It is with great personal satisfaction and appreciation that I tender this letter to you indicating my observations and acknowledgement of your dedicated energy, your warm friendship, and your traditional Norwegian hospitality.

Sincerely,

WBZWF IZ 11 May
Capt. Fruge 3045

25 MAY 1959

Major General E. Tutte-Johnsen
Area Commander, Northern Norway
Bodo Air Base, Norway

Dear General Tutte-Johnsen:

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude for your excellent effort in support of our recent search mission for Discoverer II.

During the planning, operational, and terminal phases of this program, your people were most helpful in assisting with support problems peculiar to this mission. While many unusual tasks were imposed on your Bodo Air Base Center Agencies, our request for support was always courteously received and the resulting actions were prompt and effective.

The performance of the truly outstanding officer is manifested by incidents illustrating consistently good judgment, cooperation, and leadership in the execution of his assigned duties. Comparative appraisal of over-all performance will indicate what individual merits justification of the recognition "truly outstanding." I was informed by Lt Col Mathison, who was my senior representative at Bodo Air Base, that he observed the following named Norwegian Air Force Officers, during the period April 17 to April 25, 1959, and I wish to apprise you of his acute awareness of their prominent contribution to the handsome and orderly dispatch of the Search Program. Lt Col Mathison stated categorically that each of the following is a "truly outstanding officer!"

Ebbesen, J. Chr., Colonel, Wing Commander, Bodo Air Base

Lunde, K., Major Deputy Wing Commander, Bodo Air Base

Pettersen, A., 1st Lt., Air Transport Officer, Bodo Air Base

The United States Air Force tenure at Hødd Air Base and Spitzbergen is memorable and interesting, and, justifies in full measure my original high estimate of the Norwegian courtesy, friendship, and hospitality. It is with great personal satisfaction that I tender this letter, indicating my observations of a job well done.

Original Signed
O J. RITLAND

O J. RITLAND
Brig. Gen. USAF
Commander

WIZWF
Capt. Frøge

IZ 11 May
3045

25 MAY 1959

Brigadier General Thomas J. Dabose
 Commander, Air Rescue Service
 Orlando Air Force Base, Florida

Dear General Dabose:

I have long been aware of your excellent performance in the profession of rescue service in all parts of the world. It is, therefore, very gratifying for me to forward this letter as evidence of my appreciation for your contributions in our recent search mission for DISCOVERER II, at Spitzbergen, Norway.

Your high state of operational readiness, your efficient administrative activities, and your immediate response to our call engendered rapid participation by selected elements of your command. I understand that simultaneous to receipt of the affirmative message by the Norwegian Government for our entry to Norway, your rescue service aircraft started landing procedures at Bodo Air Base, Norway. Further, within a few hours thereafter, your personnel had completely manned and staffed a search control center and had orderly dispatched aircraft for the search mission.

Lt Colonel Mathison, my senior representative at Bodo, Norway, informed me that certain individuals made contributions of such outstanding value as to warrant personal mention. They are:

Tatum, T. F., Colonel, Deputy Commander, Air Rescue Service, Europe

Evan, Ernest G., Lt Colonel, 67th Air Rescue Service, Prestwick, Scotland

Athersage, Arthur L., Lt Colonel, 53rd Air Rescue Service, Keflavik, Iceland

Krafft, E., Major, Operations Officer, 3rd Detachment, Ramstein, Germany

Vette, A. R., Major, Asst OPS Officer, 67 ARS, Prestwick,
Scotland.

My sincere thanks to you and those members of your command
who participated in the Search Program.

Original Signed
O. J. RITLAND

O. J. RITLAND
Brig. Gen., USAF
Commander