



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 1606TH AIR BASE WING (MAC)
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO 87117

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

CC

29 NOV 1983

SUBJECT:

Letter of Appreciation

TO: 1608 SPS (Sergeant Arturo Acosta)

1. The following message is quoted from General John W. Vessey, Jr., Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. "I want to congratulate each of you on a superb performance of duty in rescuing over 500 American citizens and in assisting the small island nation of Grenada regain its freedom. In less than 48 hours, you planned and executed a very complex joint operation, which included land, sea, and air forces. In a word, you were magnificent. You accomplished every mission and secured all objectives, and you did it with professionalism, pride, courage, and with extraordinary care and compassion for the civilian population. Your actions demonstrated to the world that American military forces are well trained, ready, and can react quickly and decisively. As you now depart for other missions in Lebanon, or return to home stations, or remain in Grenada to finish the job, know that your actions were in the highest traditions of the United States Armed Forces. The citizens of Grenada appreciate what you have done, the American students you rescued are grateful for your sacrifice, and your country is proud of you. Well done."

2. I want to add my congratulations to every airman deployed in support of the operation in Grenada. Your actions have again proven the dedication and high level of professionalism that we see on a daily basis from our personnel assigned to Kirtland. You were called on to participate in a humanitarian effort of national importance. The danger was real; the situation was unknown. Yet you responded quickly and professionally--and you performed magnificently. You've truly earned the respect and admiration of all of us. Thanks for a job well done.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David W. Scott".

DAVID W. SCOTT, Colonel, USAF
Commander