



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE  
AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Department of Defence, R1-6-C059, CANBERRA ACT 2600, AUSTRALIA

OCAF/OUT/2009/1581

**Editor,**  
Herald Sun Newspaper  
PO Box 14999  
Melbourne City MC VIC 8001

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write at the request of Ms Kerryn Herbert, the sister of the late Flying Officer Michael Herbert, regarding the story published on page 2 of your 31 July 2009 edition entitled 'Viet War pilots found at last'.

Ms Herbert has asked I advise you the article contains factual errors that have caused her profound distress and that I correct the record with you. Specifically, the fourth paragraph of the story states that a villager discovered the wreckage of the aircraft in April of this year and that the subsequent investigation team included Mr Jim Bourke from Operation Aussies Home.

Please be advised that the wreckage was located by an Australian Defence Investigation Team in April 2009 based on information obtained from local villagers, former Vietnamese military personnel, DSTO modelling, and extensive Army History Unit research. The Defence team that recently returned from Vietnam did not include Mr Jim Bourke.

**H. EHLERS**  
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24 August 2009