

35 SQUADRON – WALLABY UPDATE

WGCDR Scott "Teddy" Egan

As Commanding Officer 35 Squadron, I am writing to all those within the 35 Squadron Association to provide you some insights into where the C-27J Spartan Capability is headed in 2021.

This year we continue face challenges induced by a continuing COVID-19 environment. We are assisting and engaging both in our remote Australian communities and throughout the South West Pacific. We are adapting and shifting our identity in parallel to a re-defined Final Operating Capability. Finally, we remain ready to respond to National Security or humanitarian requirements anywhere within our region.

The C-27J Spartan is currently supporting Australia's response to COVID-19. We will continue to heavily engage and assist in Australia's remote communities, as well as throughout the South West Pacific. We are flying in support of Operation Solania in the Solomon Islands currently and plan to return to Papua New Guinea where 35 Squadron has recently been established as the "sister squadron" to the PNG Defence Force Air Transport Wing.

We are in the process of re-shaping our identity in parallel to new Defence direction on the future roles for the C-27J Spartan while using the opportunity for greater recognition of the *Wallaby Airlines* heritage produced by the Caribou. We currently plan to reveal our new identity in late March.

I thank the 35SQN association for their continued support and hope to generate a reception at Amberley for you all as COVID restrictions ease towards the end of the year.

Kind Regards

Scott Egan, CSC

CO 35SQN

