

008 003A
FM AGNF
DE ADMJ 003A
02/0280Z
FM HEATH
TO COCKS

HEREWITH COPY MALLIS TX.
FM ADMJ ANRC GERN
DE JJPL 031A
23/2315Z
FM E K MALLIS
TO ADMJ/D COCKS, ET. AL.
INFO ANRC/W E LARKIN
ANRC/R LESLIE
GSRM/A BELCHER, CODE TN
DLD/W H PAYLEY/W K VICTOR/R S LATHAM

IT IS WITH A STRONG FEELING OF NOSTALGIA THAT I OBSERVE THE FINAL CLOSURE OF DSS 41. OVER A DECADE AGO, I WAS ASSIGNED AS PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DSS 41. THIS STATION BROKE THE PATTERN OF A SINGLE STATION TRACKING NETWORK AND ESTABLISHED THE FOUNDATION FOR THE DSN AS WE KNOW IT TODAY. ITS FIRST ASSIGNMENT WAS RANGER I AND IT HAS SEEN MANY SPACE-CRAFT SINCE. IN THOSE EARLY DAYS THERE EXISTED ONLY A LOOSE CONFEDERATION OF ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE. THIS WAS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE JPL PERSONNEL ON MY PROJECT TEAM. THIS HAS NOW EVOLVED INTO A WELL-DEFINED AND INTEGRATED ORGANIZATION CAPABLE OF ACCOMPLISHING MUCH LARGER AND MORE COMPLICATED PROJECTS. THERE WERE SOME FINE AUSTRALIANS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT: INCLUDING BILL METTYEAR, THE FIRST OF SEVERAL EXCEPTIONAL STATION DIRECTORS. FROM ITS INCEPTION, DSS 41 HAS PERFORMED IN AN OUTSTANDING MANNER. NEVER ONCE DID JPL HAVE TO ADMONISH THE STATION TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE. IN FACT, ON MANY OCCASIONS, WE WERE ABLE TO USE THE PERFORMANCE OF DSS 41 AS A GOAL FOR OTHER DSN STATIONS TO ASPIRE TO.

I CAN ONLY ATTRIBUTE THIS TO A LONG SUCCESSION OF STATION PERSONNEL WHOSE CAPABILITIES AND ATTITUDE WERE OUTSTANDING. THIS HAS CONTINUED RIGHT TO THE END, AT WHICH TIME IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SO EASY TO LET DOWN.

I WISH TO ALL THOSE PERSONNEL WHO HAVE SERVED THE STATION IN THE PAST AND THOSE FEW WHO ARE LEFT, SUCCESS IN THEIR CONTINUING CAREERS. I AM SPEAKING FOR EVERYONE IN THE JPL DSN ORGANIZATION WHEN I SAY THAT WE HAVE BEEN PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN A PART OF THE DSS 41 STAFF. AN ERA HAS ENDED.
REGARDS.

02/0235Z JAN 73 ADMJ