

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL LAL'S FAREWELL MESSAGE

New Delhi: Pausa 25, 1894(Saka)
January 15, 1973

On relinquishing the office as Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal P.C. Lal, has sent the following message to all Air Force personnel:

"I am this afternoon handing over charge of the office of Chief of Air Staff to Air Marshal O.P. Mehra. Tomorrow I retire from service.

During my 33 years with the Air Force, I have been greatly impressed by the sense of unity and service amongst its members. The IAF is a truly national force, into which are gathered from all parts of our land men of intelligence, skill and courage. They serve our country loyally and well, and many have given their lives for its sake.

I am proud to have served in the Air Force, and to have had the honour of leading it at a time of great events. I thank all of you for the ready support that you have given me, no matter how difficult the task, in peace or in war. You will, I am sure, do the same under the able command of my successor.

Goodbye and Jai Hind"

KSN/MSS(2197)