

Highlights ARRS History

NOTE: USAF Fact Sheet ,Aerospace Rescue and Recovery, Feb 1966, PP 11-13 contains a section on highlights.

1964

11 Apr 64 Pararescuemen of the 76th Air Rescue Sqdn, Hickam AFB, Hawaii rescued two civilian pilots who ditched a Lockheed Ventura. The para-rescue men administered first aid for ~~shock~~ shock and exposure as well providing liferaft.

29 Jan

Eight pararescuemen recovered seven camera cassettes from the main booster of a Saturn 5 rocket that had ejected 470 miles down range on the Atlantic Missile Range. The operation required eight ARS Acft and 80 men- it was the largest recovery effort to date.

1 Jan

Air ⁿescue assumed the responsibility for recovering balloons and their payloads launched by the 59th Weather Recon Sqdn.

1962

20 Mar

The helicopter Det at Ernest Harmon AFB, Labrador rescued 11 lost sealers, This action won for the Det a letter of commendation from the RCAF.

23 Apr

Det 36, CARC, Laredo AFB, Texas flew 26 sorties to rescue 43 adults and 35 children from Columbia Mexico. The people had been stranded 24 hours by flash floods that swept their town.

August 1962

The Air Force Missile Test Center, Patrick AFB forwarded a letter to Headquarters AFSC which stated in part "... because of the outstanding performance and cooperation evidenced by ARS, we do not intend to pursue an AFMTC ~~para~~ pararescue capability any further...."

1959

7 June 1959

Capt. Merle A. Clappsaddle of the 58th Air ⁿescue Sqdn, Wheelus AFB, Tripoli, Libya recieved the Distinguished Flying Cross for his crew's rescue of seven survivors of a downed USAF C-47. Flying an SH-19 with Captain Wilbert W. Laud as Co-Pilot and S/Sgt James N. Potter as Pararescueman the Captain made ~~xxx~~ the decision to effect the pick up of all seven survivors at one time. The decision was made because of the extremely perilous condition of the survivors and the possibility that remaining survivors may not again be located because of high winds and 30 foot waves. The ARS helicopter grossly overloaded was only able to fly above the waves and had only ~~xxx~~ little fuel left.