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Detachment 5
Pacific Air Rescue Center
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
APO US Forces 96337

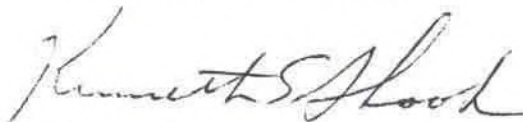
REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Det 5 PARC

3 April 1965

SUBJECT: Narrative Report of Mission Number 277 Det 3 31 March 65

TO: DOARO

Supplemental Narrative Report on Det 3 PARC Mission 277 on 31 March 1965. Major Shook's crew was notified of a SAR incident at 0925L. We were airborne at 1000L and were briefed that a man had been spotted in a life raft at 2010N 10737E. With vectors from land and airborne radar we arrived over the scene at 1130L. The downed pilot was being covered by Navy A1E's and F8U's from nearby carriers. After extensive water evaluation, Capt Richardson pilot made an open sea landing. While taxiing to life raft, the pilot indicated that he had an injured arm. Approximately 20 feet away SSgt Stone pararescue man jumped into the water and pulled the life raft to the aircraft. The F8A pilot was Cmdr William N. Donnelly from the USS Coral Sea. He was shot down on the 29th of March. After a successful take off the HU-16 landed at Danang AB at 1410L. Crew members on the HU-16 were Maj Kenneth L. Shook, Rescue Crew Commander, Capt David K. Richardson, Pilot, Lt Jack O. Slocombe, Navigator, SSgt David E. West, Flight Engineer, A2C Robert M. Shimamoto, Radio Operator, SSgt Richard N. Stone, Pararescue, A2C Robert J. Lubbers, Pararescue.



KENNETH L. SHOOK
Major, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

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Det 3 PARC

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MISSIONS

RESCUERS

LOCATIONS

SURVIVORS

Name Aircraft

Name Served Aircraft

5-PARC-70-8 Feb
3-PARC-128-11 Feb
3-PARC-187-2 Mar

Capt Hartley HH-43F
Capt Richardson HU-16B
Maj La Dou HU-16B
Maj Ingraham HH-43F
Capt Freedman HH-43B
Lt Phelan HH-43F
Capt Kelly HH-43B

1607N - 10812E
1728N - 10848E
1743N - 10634E
1706N - 10640E
1615N - 10525E
1720N - 10655E
1604N - 10340E

Maj Hung VNAF A1H
LT Majors USN A4C
Lt Cullen USA F-100
Capt Baird USAF F-105
Maj Panas USAF F-105
W/O Van Phu VNAF A1H
Capt Spagnola USAF F-105

3-PARC-252-22 Mar
3-PARC-266-26 Mar

Maj Waechter HU-16B
Maj Shook HU-16B
Lt Phelan HH-43F

1758N - 10638E
1758N - 10635E
1620N - 10823E

LCol Risner USAF F-105
CDR Shugart USN A4E
LT Wangman USN F8U

3-PARC-277-29 Mar*
3-PARC-283-31 Mar

Maj Shook HU-16B
Capt Strayer HH-43B

2010N - 10737E
1717N - 10545E

CDR Donnelly USN F8U
Capt Bigoness USAF F-100

3-PARC-319-9 Apr

Capt Reichardt HU-16B

1854N - 10541E

LCDR McNeil USN A4C

3-PARC-393-27 Apr

Capt Rodenberg HH-43B

1727N - 10445E

LTJG Wilkes USN A1H

3-PARC-428-7 May

Capt Reichardt HU-16B

1935N - 10605E

Maj Lambert USAF F-105

3-PARC-433-8 May

Capt Reichardt HU-16B

1753N - 10705E

LT Wilson USN RF8A

3-PARC-448-12 May

Capt Ballinger HH-43B

1655N - 10443E

Capt Schneider USAF F-105

3-PARC-469-17 May

Capt Hepp HH-43B

1905N - 10442E

Capt Taliaferro USAF F-105

3-PARC-493-23 May

Capt Richardson HU-16B

1840N - 10600E

Maj Hernan USAF F-105

4-PARC-269-28 May

Capt Boyles HH-43F

1048N - 10640E

USA UH-1B

3-PARC-529-1 Jun

Capt Brunner HU-16B

1847N - 10609E

LT Field USN F8

5-PARC-313-2 Jun

Capt Hartley HH-43F

1611N - 10808E

Capt Lockhart USAF HH-43F

SSgt Kilpatrick
A2C Smith

* Recovered on 31 March

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ARSH-65

SECRET

204

SECRET

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Source: [illegible] 201 7017

7017 B100-307 0101010

15-60

15-60

SECRET

200

SECRET

Number				Aircraft			8 saved			Total			
Det	ARC	Sq	Msn	Date	HC-16	HH-43	HH-2	USAF	USN	USA	Fgn	Indiv	Accumu-
											MM	Man	lative
5	PARC		70	8 Feb		1					1	1	1
3	PARC		128	11 Feb	1				1			1	2
3	PARC		187	2 Mar	1	4		4			1	5	7
3	PARC		252	22 Mar	1			1				1	8
3	PARC		266	26 Mar	1	1			2			2	10
3	PARC		277	29 Mar	1				1			1	11
3	PARC		283	31 Mar		1		1				1	12
3	PARC		319	9 Apr	1				1			1	13
3	PARC		393	27 Apr		1			1			1	14
3	PARC		428	7 May	1			1				1	15
3	PARC		433	8 May	1				1			1	16
3	PARC		448	12 May		1		1				1	17
3	PARC		469	17 May		1		1				1	18
3	PARC		493	23 May	1			1				1	19
4	PARC		269	28 May		1				1		1	20
3	PARC		529	1 Jun	1				1			1	21
5	PARC		313	2 Jun		4		4				4	25
3	PARC		562	8 Jun		1		1				1	26
3	PARC		568	9 Jun		2		2				2	28
3	PARC		600	23 Jun		1		1				1	29

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On March 31st I happen to be on alert, it was late afternoon, maybe 5 p.m., when a Maj. Panas ejected from his 100 or 105 I don't know which, As we got ready take off a radio message from Hq. In Saigon, cancelled the mission until the next day, it was to late to get fighter coverage. We shut down and I turned to Romish and said we might catch hell tomorrow, I think we might as well get loaded and enjoy tonight, We had just ordered our second drink when Capt. Davis came in, He was pissed, and said if we were willing he'd go right now, The pilot had his beacon on and cover aircraft knew his position, it was real dark by the time we got there, and he had landed in rice patty next to a village, they had a large bon fire and we had a good landing area, our plan was to have Romish was to cover the left side and I'd cover the right and assist the pilot if he needed help, the only help he needed was for me to hold his bowl of soup while he got in, we were very close to Hanoi, but the natives were friendly, April 65 things started to get rough, I was glad I was leaving just as soon as my replacement arrived, and around 5 April, Dennis Kraft and Roy [Shirer???], I had my bags packed and leaving just as soon as the plane unloaded its cargo, I pointed out the section an what all the buildings were, and we had about 1 hour on the ground, As I got on the plane they were carrying there bags to the ops building to check in. before they were there 5 minutes, a plane went down and they jumped on the chopper and went on a mission, I spent a few days getting back to the states and I walked into the section at Hamillton AFB the first thing they wanted to know if I'd seen Roy [S] then I found out he was in the Hospital and had beat me back to the states, his first mission he took a hit in the ass and air evac back. Well that's my story and I;m sticking to it. If I can be any help just let me know. E.J Farmer.

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first mission he took a hit in the ass and air evac back. Well that's my story and I;m sticking to it. If I can be any help just let me know. E.J Farmer.

14 Sept 99

Hi Dennis,

Hope this letter finds you in good health. I think I spoke with you at the last PJ reunion about a book that I am writing about PJ's in Vietnam. EJ Farmer mailed me the enclosed letter. It mentions you and another PJ named Roy (last name uncertain). Could you fill in any details on this mission?

If you have access to e-mail, please reply to me at

If you use the post office my address is

7440 Margaret Circle
Anchorage, AK 99518

In case you did not get a copy of the handout I passed out at the reunion, I've included another one. If you have any info you would like included in the book please send it to me.

I have a web site out explaining the project and its status. It's URL is
home.gci.net/~rlapointe

I would appreciate any help you could provide in identifying the PJ that was listed as WIA in EJ's letter.

Bob