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m. (S) On 7 May 1965 an HU-16 on precautionary orbit over the Gulf of Tonkin received an emergency transmission from the wingman of a USAF F-105 in distress. As the HU-16 turned to the direction of the distressed aircraft, notification of bail out was received. The bail out had taken place approximately 10 miles off the coast of North Vietnam. Although there were numerous strikes being conducted over a large area of North Vietnam at that time, the HU-16 was prepositioned by the 3d ARPS to cover what in their estimation was the highest risk mission taking place. Due to this prepositioning the HU-16 was able to arrive at the incident scene as the pilot was still descending in his parachute. The HU-16 pilot noted that numerous hostile junks were in the immediate area that the pilot would land in. The HU-16 then directed fighters in the area to go in low and keep the junks away from the downed pilot. The HU-16 then jettisoned its drop tanks and was in final approach as the parachute hit the water. The hostile junks surrounding the downed aircraft were so numerous that it was necessary for the fighters to clear a path for the HU-16 to land. Disregarding the fact that their unarmed HU-16 would be as defenseless as the proverbial sitting duck while on the water, the HU-16 landed and water landed through the ring of junks to the pilot's position. He was safely brought on board, and once more it became necessary for the fighters to clear a path through the approaching junks by sinking several of them in order for the HU-16 to takeoff.

n. (U) On the following day, 8 May 1965, this same heroic crew repeated their performance by recovering another pilot under very similar circumstances from the sea off the coast of North Vietnam.

o. (U) On 17 May 1965 an F-105 pilot reported his wingman had been hit by ground fire and bailed out over North Vietnam. The Joint Search and Rescue Center received the report through the HU-16 orbiting near the incident site and scrambled two HH-43 helicopters that were prepositioned at a forward base. As the helicopters proceeded toward the bail out location the intensity of the ground fire increased. They were advised by the fighters capping the survivor that the area was extremely "hot", and several of the fighters had already been hit. Knowing full well that their unarmed, slow flying helicopter would make an easy target, they proceeded to the survivors position. The fighters attempted to suppress ground fire as the helicopter was forced to hover at 100 feet while lowering the hoist to the downed pilot. While the survivor was being hoisted into the helicopter it was necessary for the crew to hold off approaching ground personnel. They did this utilizing the only weapons they had, pistols and rifles. The uninjured pilot was safely brought on board and following the hazardous return journey was returned to his unit.

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(2) HH-43B missions: 29 sorties were flown for a total of 9:10 hours. Pilot was TDY in SEA for the entire month. Another pilot was DMIF for several days. During this time the host base tactical flying schedule necessitated alert range from 0300 to 1500 daily. This resulted in an extremely heavy workload for these pilots present for duty.

(3) HC-54 missions: Two HC-54 aircraft and crews from the 36th ARS and ARS augmented the squadron during the month. These aircraft flew a total of 7 sorties for 127:50 hours in support of 31st ARS mission responsibility.

(4) HC-97 missions: One HC-97 aircraft and crew from 76th ARS augmented squadron in May. 14 sorties were flown for a total of 123:10 hours in support of 31st ARS mission responsibility.

(5) Two pararescuemen were sent to Guam to complete Flotation Collar training for Gemini IV.

(6) All TDY aircraft withdrawn to support Gemini IV on 30 May. This unit continued to support Gemini with four pararescuemen on station.

Missions of special interest during May follows:

(1) Helicopter Air Evacuation Mission 31-242-5 May 1965. Received call from Det 2 PARC Joint Search and Rescue Center at 1235L requesting air evacuation of Philippine National employee at Crew Valley Range with a possible ruptured appendix. Alert helicopter airborne at 1250L, picked up patient and departed for hospital at 1257L. The helicopter landed at the hospital landing site at 1257L and discharged patient. Crew: RCC Capt Larry C Evans, CP Capt Marvin Lamer, HM ALC James F Burns, MT SSgt Donald J Glassford (USAF Hospital Clark).

(2) Helicopter Air Evacuation Mission 31-247-6 May 1965. At 1910L, ARS received call from Det 2 PARC Joint Search and Rescue Center that an injured Navy man at Bataan Oil Terminal required air evacuation. Alert helicopter airborne at 2015L after a fuel delay, landed at Bataan at 2050L, departed at 2055L. Helicopter arrived at Clark Hospital landing site at 2135L. Crew: RCC Capt Marvin Lamer, CP Capt Larry C Evans, HM TSgt Forrest W Farley, MT ALC Charles A Sullivan (USAF Hospital Clark).

F-105

(3) On 7 May 1965 an HU-16 aircrew performed a combat rescue mission in the territorial waters, to pick up a USAF pilot downed by enemy fire. While on a precautionary orbit mission the crew received a distress call from the wingman pilot who had just ejected. The crew proceeded immediately to the scene, arriving while the pilot was still descending in his chute. At this time a sea landing was made and landing accomplished simultaneously with that of the downed pilot. The survivor was taken aboard just fifteen minutes after bailing out, given first aid treatment and returned to the deployment base. The crew has been recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross. Crew: RCC Capt Richard F Reichardt, CP David W Haines, N Capt Alexander F Stewart, AM SSgt Paul E Lucier, RO ALC Robert M Shimamoto (76th ARS), PJ's TSgt William V Vargas and SSgt Donald G Smith.

31ST AIR RESCUE SQUADRON
AIR RESCUE SERVICE (MATS)
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96274



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TO: 31ARSA

22 June 1965

ECT: Monthly Historical Report (RCS: AU-D5(ARS) 1 - 31 May 1965)

TO: Hq ARS (ARCOI)
Orlando AFB Fla

1. NAME OF UNIT: 31st Air Rescue Squadron
2. REPORTING PERIOD: 1 May thru 31 May 1965
3. STATION: Clark Air Base, Philippines
4. ASSIGNMENT: 31st Air Rescue Squadron
Headquarters Pacific Air Rescue Center
Air Rescue Service
Military Air Transport Service
5. COMMANDER: Lt Col Karol F Rybos
Regular Commander

Lt Col Gardner W Kendall
Previous Commander
6. MISSION: To operate and maintain assigned search and rescue equipment to search for, locate and recover personnel and / or aerospace hardware in support of Air Force and other agencies in global air and space operations including research and development.
7. OPERATIONS: Flying time for the month of May was as follows:

<u>TYPE A/C</u>	<u>MISSION</u>	<u>TRAINING</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
HU-16B	373:25	19:30	4:25	397:20
HH-43B	9:10	60:35	3:05	72:50
HC-54	127:50			127:50
HC-97	123:10			123:10
TOTAL	633:35	80:05	7:30	721:10

a. Squadron mission activity again increased to a new high of 633:35 and 119 sorties.

(1) HU-16 missions: Two HU-16 aircraft and crews were deployed in SEA during the month of May. A total of 59 sorties were flown for 373:25 hours. Of this total 315:30 hours and 48 sorties were combat support in SEA.

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Mission				Aircraft			Persons Saved			Totals			
Det	ARC	Sq	Msn	Date	HU-16	HH-43	HH-3	USAF	USN	USA	Fgn Mil	Indiv Msn	Accumulative
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		630	23 Jun		1		1				1	29

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MISSIONS

RESCUERS

LOCATIONS

SURVIVORS

Name

Aircraft

Name

Servlbe

Aircraft

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

Capt Hartley
Capt Richardson
Maj La Dou
Maj Ingraham
Capt Freedman
Lt Phelan
Capt Kelly

HH-43F
HU-16B
HU-16B
HH-43F
HH-43B
HH-43F
HH-43B

1607N - 10812E
1728N - 10646E
1743N - 10634E
1706N - 10640E
1615N - 10525E
1720N - 10655E
1604N - 10340E

Maj Hung
LT Majors
Lt Cullen
Capt Baird
Maj Panas
W/O Van Phu
Capt Spagnola

VNAF
USN
USA
USAF
USAF
VNAF
USAF

A1H
A4C
F-100
F-105
F-105
A1H
F-105

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

Maj Waechter
Maj Shook
Lt Phelan

HU-16B
HU-16B
HH-43F

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

LCol Risner
CDR Shugart
LT Wangman

USAF
USN
USN

F-105
A4E
F8U

3-PARC-277-29 Mar*

Maj Shook

HU-16B

2010N - 10737E

CDR Donnelly

USN

F8U

3-PARC-283-31 Mar

Capt Strayer

HH-43B

1717N - 10545E

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

LT Field

USA

UH-1B

3-PARC-529-1 Jun

Capt Brunner

HU-16B

1847N - 10609E

SSgt Kilpatrick

USAF

F8

5-PARC-313-2 Jun

Capt Hartley

HH-43F

1611N - 10808E

Capt Lockhart

USAF

HH-43F

A2C Smith

* Recovered on 31 March

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