

FROM: Det 6, 38th Air Rescue Sq, APO San Francisco 96227 20 Dec 65

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report

TO: Hq Air Rescue Service, Orlando AFB, Fla 32513

1. Mission number: 6-1064-19 Dec 1965.
2. SAR alerted by: Bien Hoa Tower.
3. SAR aircraft used: 2/HF-43F.

Members of Rescue Helicopter Were:

RCC	Captain Edwin A. Hemmingson	Det 6, 38th ARS
CP	Captain Maurice G. Kessler	Det 6, 38th ARS
IEH	TSgt Richard A. Conner	Det 6, 38th ARS
RS	SSgt Leon Pullwood	Det 6, 38th ARS

Members of Cover Helicopter Were:

RCC	Captain Dale L. Potter	Det 6, 38th ARS
CP	Captain Harold D. Salem	Det 6, 38th ARS
HM	AIC Gerald C. Hammond, Jr.	Det 6, 38th ARS
RS	AIC William H. Pitsenbarger	Det 6, 38th ARS

4. Reaction time from initial notification to pickup: 0:45.
5. CAP assistance:
 - a. 2 USAF O-1 aircraft - Rescap.
 - b. 2 Army UH-1B helicopters - Rescart.
6. Area and type of pickup: Hoisted Stokes litter pickup from hostile, heavily wooded area, trees 100-120 feet high, coordinates 1039N - 10711E.
7. Signalling equipment used to locate survivor: Smoke grenades.
8. Survivors name: SP-4, Jimmie Hunt, "B" Company, 2-18.
9. Summary of events: At 1315L hours, 19 December 1965, Bien Hoa Tower called on the telephone with information that U.S. Army personnel Southeast of Bien Hoa were requesting a hoist recovery/med evac for one (1) casualty. The information had been passed from a ground FM station to a USAF O-1 capping the scene, and had then been retransmitted to Bien Hoa Tower. It was necessary to request information required for mission planning (such as distance, extent of injuries, security of area, etc.) via relay back through this extended chain of communications. Meanwhile,

DECLASSIFIED

ORIGINATOR (Typed Name and Grade)

ACTION AGENCY

PHONE NUMBER

TYPIST'S INITIALS

DATE PREPARED

a U.S. Army HH-43 light fire team (punchip flight) was requested from 38th SARCC for Rescort. At the same time we were given air strike information coordinates to check out. During this period of time special equipment (stokes litter, power saw, etc.) were loaded aboard the helicopter and refueling was requested. The first HH-43F was scrambled at 1335L, the second (top cover ship) following shortly thereafter. The lead HH-43F rendezvoused with one USAF C-1 who led the way to the pickup scene. The remaining C-1 had stayed to cap the incident site located 29 NM Southeast of Tien Hoa Air Base. Approximately two minutes prior to reaching the scene, the Rescort HH-43 helicopters intercepted the rescue helicopters. The U.S. Army ground party was located without difficulty in an area heavily wooded with trees 100-120 feet high. No ground fire was observed. Army personnel on the ground indicated they knew how to "rig" a stokes litter for hoisting, so the litter was lowered without putting a paramedic on the ground first. During the actual process of raising the casualty to the helicopter the stokes litter began to spin violently, more violently than any of the personnel on board either helicopter had ever seen. Had it not been for the skill and competency of the hoist operator, severe difficulties might have been encountered with the remainder of the recovery. However, with the assistance of the paramedic he was able to overcome the problem and the remainder of the process was uneventful. The survivor was on board the helicopter and on his way to the hospital by 1400L. During the return flight to the hospital, the paramedic determined that the casualty had sustained a severe wound in the leg and was suffering from shock, so he administered a Dextran Solution I.V. to him. The patient was delivered to the 173rd "Maah" area hospital at 1425 hours.

10. Comments: The Rescort, Rescort and Communications/Information relay were outstanding. Support and coordination arranged for by the 38th SARCC was excellent. An EIR will be submitted on the unsatisfactory performance of the hoisted stokes litter as soon as the matter has been thoroughly investigated to determine the probable cause.

EDWIN A. HENNINGSON
Captain, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

Cy to: PARC, 38ARS

FROM: Det 6, 38th Air Rescue Sq, APO San Francisco 96227 20 Dec 65

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report

TO: Hq Air Rescue Service, Orlando AFB, Fla 32813

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3. SAR aircraft used: 2/HH-43F.

Members of Rescue Helicopter Were:

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CP	Captain Maurice G. Kessler	Det 6, 38th ARS
HM	TSgt Richard A. Cannon	Det 6, 38th ARS
RS	SSgt Leon Fullwood	Det 6, 38th ARS

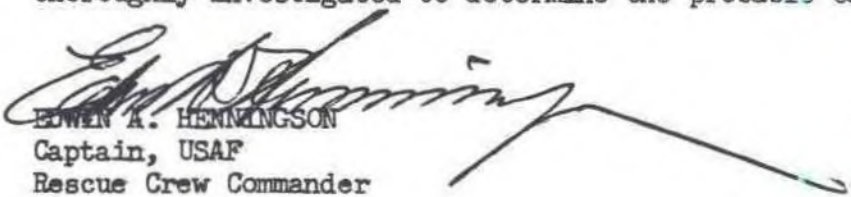
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a U.S. Army UH-1B light fire team (gunship flight) was requested from 38th SARCC for Rescort. At the sametime we were given air strike information coordinates to check out. During this period of time special equipment (stokes litter, power saw, etc.) were loaded aboard the helicopter and refueling was requested. The first HH-43F was scrambled at 1335L, the second (top cover ship) following shortly thereafter. The lead HH-43F rendezvoused with one USAF O-1 who led the way to the pickup scene. The remaining O-1 had stayed to cap the incident site located 29 NM Southeast of Bien Hoa Air Base. Approximately two minutes prior to reaching the scene, the Rescort HH-1B helicopters intercepted the rescue helicopters. The U.S. Army ground party was located without difficulty in an area heavily wooded with trees 100-120 feet high. No ground fire was observed. Army personnel on the ground indicated they knew how to "rig" a stokes litter for hoisting, so the litter was lowered without putting a paramedic on the ground first. During the actual process of raising the casualty to the helicopter the stokes litter began to spin violently, more violently than any of the personnel on board either helicopter had ever seen. Had it not been for the skill and competency of the hoist operator, severe difficulties might have been encountered with the remainder of the recovery. However, with the assistance of the paramedic he was able to overcome the problem and the remainder of the process was uneventful. The survivor was on board the helicopter and on his way to the hospital by 1400L. During the return flight to the hospital, the paramedic determined that the casualty had sustained a severe wound in the leg and was suffering from shock, so he administered a Dextran Solution I.V. to him. The patient was delivered to the 173rd "Mash" area hospital at 1425 hours.

10. Comments: The Rescap, Rescort and Communications/information relay were outstanding. Support and coordination arranged for by the 38th SARCC was excellent. An EUR will be submitted on the unsatisfactory performance of the hoisted stokes litter as soon as the matter has been thoroughly investigated to determine the probable cause.


EDWIN A. HENNINGSON
Captain, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

Cy to: PARC, 38ARS

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ARSH-65

ARSH-65

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MISSIONSRESCUERSLOCATIONSSURVIVORSNameAircraftNameServiceAircraft

38-1167-26 Nov

HH-43B

30NM SW Tan Son

6 Soldiers

USA

UH1B

Nhut

38-1174-28 Nov

Maj Higginson

HU-16B

20 NM NE Thanh

LTJG Harrington USN

F8E

Hoa

9-38-1-28 Nov

Capt McFarlane

HH-43F

1403N - 10802E

USAF

F4C

Capt Hill

HH-43F

5 NM NE Pleiku

USAF

F4C

38-1188-2 Dec

Capt Murden

HH-43F

1139N - 10632E

LTJG Schmitt

USN

F4B

LTJG Potter

USN

F4B

6-38-1059-7 Dec

Capt Kessler

HH-43F

1054N - 10648E

Capt O'Conner

USAF

01E

7-38-682-13 Dec

Lt Brown

HH-43F

1528N - 10740E

MSgt Forrester

USMC

UH1B

38-1220-15 Dec

HU-16B

2040N - 10724E

USAF

F-105

6-38-1065-19 Dec

HH-43F

1039N - 10711E

1 Soldier

USA

38-1236-20 Dec

Maj Dewitt

HU-16B

2055N - 10715E

Capt Ruffo

USAF

F-105

38-1239-21 Dec

Capt Butera

HH-3

1752N - 10543E

Capt Sullivan

USAF

F-105

6-38-1068-21 Dec

Capt Nadler

HH-43F

1044N - 10704E

1 Soldier

USA

7-38-681-29 Dec

HH-43F

1537N - 10815E

1 Pilot

USMC

HE1E

4 Marines

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

SECRET