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28. 38ARS-1236-20 Dec 65 (C). Capt John Ruffo was forced to eject from his F-105 after being hit by ground fire. He landed in a bay about one half mile off the North Vietnamese coast, and approximately the same distance from several islands. The survivor came under small arms fire from both the islands and the mainland. His day flare was spotted by the HU-16 crew which immediately water landed. The rescue technician jumped into the water and aided the survivor aboard. There was intense ground fire directed at the HU-16 at this time, and there were also numerous junks in the area. In order to take off, the HU-16 pilot, Major William Devitt, had to thread his way through the junks, and between two islands. As most of the fire seemed to be coming from the islands he directed RESCAP aircraft to bomb them, and as this was in progress the HU-16 took off. Immediately following take off the rescue technician, SSgt Dudley Peckingspaugh, treated the survivor for burns and shock, he was transferred to the waiting ambulance upon landing at Danang.

29. 38ARS-1239-21 Dec 65 (S). The HC-54 on prepositioned orbit was notified by a P-105 that his wingman had ejected over North Vietnam. As the HC-54 headed toward the incident site, two HH-3's were scrambled from Nakhon Phanom, Thailand, along with A1E escort. The A1E's spotted the chute and a pen flare while the HH-3's were hovering above the clouds at 5000 feet. After looking without success for a hole to let down through, the HH-3 pilot, Capt Butera, asked the A1E pilot to give radio steers so as to place them over a valley. They entered the clouds at 5000 feet and did not break out until they were less than 1000 feet above the terrain. Soon after, the chute was spotted, and the helicopter came to a hover over the side of a mountain covered by trees 60 feet high. The hoist was lowered and the pilot recovered. Due to the terrain a straight ahead take off was necessary although this meant flying directly over a village. Two bursts of automatic weapons fire were aimed at the HH-3 as it passed over the village. The two A1E's immediately returned the fire successfully suppressing it. The survivor was taken to Udorn AB, Thailand. 25

30. Flying activities for mission listed in paragraphs 3 through 29.

<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF SORTIES(ARS)</u>	<u>OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>TYPES AND NR</u> <u>ARS ACFT LOST</u>	<u>ARS MENWIA,</u> <u>KIA, MIA</u>
6-898-50Oct 65	18	31 Bt1 Cas*		
6-929-90Oct 65	6	3 B1t Cas*		
33-1027-120Oct 65	6	1 F105 Pilot ✓		
39-1055-22Oct 65	2	1 A1E Pilot		
38-1073-28Oct 65	4	2 F-4B Crew ✓		
38-1081-30Oct 65	9	7 UH1B crew		
38-172-1 Nov 65	1	13 P2V Crew and Pax		
38-1084-1 Nov 65	2	1 RF101 Pilot ✓		
38-1088-1 Nov 65	4	1 A4C Pilot		

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33rd ARS Hist, Oct-Dec 1965

Mission # 1234-20 December 1965 Continued

CREW RCC Captain Creighton W. Frost
 CP Captain Daniel J. Bigelow
 NAV 1st Lt Richard E. Reno
 RO ALC Anthony S. Yocabet
 FM TSgt Warren R. Prouty
 Pararescueman ALC Thomas F. Bradley

(f) Mission # 1236-20 December 1965. 2 Sorties HU-16
 Pilot rescued: Captain John S. Ruffe, Mt. Morris, New York. While on orbit, HU-16 crew responded to May-Day call from Wingman of distressed aircraft. Distressed aircraft had been hit by hostile fire, one (1) was on fire, and the pilot had bailed-out. HU-16 was Radar Vectored to general area by friendly ship. In vectoring the HU-16 had to overfly a known hostile Anti-Aircraft gun emplacement into area of numerous small hostile islands. Smoke and an oil slick from the downed aircraft were observed. As the HU-16 turned towards oil slick, the survivor's Orange Day smoke flare was observed. The rescue aircraft remained under continuous hostile fire after it penetrated into the chain of islands. An open sea landing was made on the second pass, and without taking the engines out of reverse the HU-16 backed up to the survivor, rescued him, and took off. Take-off was across swells with a cross wind because of the proximity of the islands. Rescap neutralized two islands that were within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of the take-off path. Survivor was suffering from facial and hand burns. After First Aid had been administered, survivor expressed his views of the rescue. He thought that because of the intense hostile fire, the HU-16 was not going to land after the first pass. The HU-16 sustained no damage.

CREW is attached to the 33rd from the 48th ARS on TDY except Pararescue.

RCC	Major William P. DeWitt	48th ARS
CP	Captain Maurice F. Golden	48th ARS
NAV	Captain James H. Hill Jr.	48th ARS
RO	SSgt Bobby B. Hathaway	48th ARS
FM	ALC Dean F. Stough	48th ARS
Pararescueman	SSgt Dudley R. Peckinpugh	33rd ARS

(2) Summary of Combat Missions.

Mission	Number of Sorties	Combat Objectives	Type & Number of ARS Acft Lost	Number of ARS Men Lost Missing or Wounded in action
1084-1 Nov 65	2	1	0	0
1111-7 Nov 65	2	1	0	0
1174-28 Nov 65	2	1	0	0
1220-15 Dec 65	2	1	0	0
1234-20 Dec 65	2	1	HU-16 51-7161 Damaged	0
1236-20 Dec 65	4	4	0	0

33rd ARS Hist, Oct-Dec 1965

(c) Mission # 1174 - 23 November 1965. 2 Sorties. HU-16 Pilot rescued from Gulf of Tonkin: Lieutenant Junior Grade Frank Harrington, Bennington, Vermont. Rescue crew responded to May-Day call from the pilot of distressed aircraft. Vectors to area of bail-out were accomplished by the navigator using the APX-28 and homing in on the Wingman. Survivor was five miles from shore and in vicinity of hostile junks. An open sea landing, rescue and take-off were accomplished. Survivor was not injured and HU-16 sustained no damage.

Crew attached to 33rd from 58th ARS on TDY except for Pararescueman.

RCC	Major Glenn A. Higginson	58th ARS
CP	Captain Frank J. Linseisen	58th ARS
NAV	1st Lt Carl F. Lemon	58th ARS
RO	SSgt William O. Muckoles	58th ARS
FM	TSgt Lyle E. Martinie	58th ARS
Pararescueman	TSgt Raymond J. Hawco	33rd ARS

(d) Mission # 1220-15 December 1965. 2 Sorties HU-16 Pilot rescued from Gulf of Tonkin: Captain Harry D. DeWitt, Moscow, Idaho. While on orbit, Rescue crew responded to May-Day call from an aircraft. Same aircraft transmitted a Tacan fix of the downed pilot. Using the Tacan fix and Radar vectors from the friendly ship, the HU-16 proceeded to area arriving in 14 minutes. An oil slick was sighted with seconds later Captain Nicholas sighting a pen gun flare. An open sea landing was made in a Sea Condition of IV, 3 miles from the closest hostile island. Due to the fact that the survivor was injured, both the pararescueman and the survivor were pulled to the aircraft on a line. While crew was trying to install Jato bottles in the rough sea, the HU-16 came under hostile artillery fire or a high caliber Anti-Aircraft gun. The Rescue flew towards the island and drew the fire away from the HU-16. An open sea take-off with three (3) Jato bottles was made. Fourteen minutes had elapsed from landing to take-off. First Aid was administered to the survivor suffering from a dislocated left knee and facial cuts. HU-16 had sustained no damage.

CREW	RCC	Captain Mansel E. Nicholas	
	CP	1st Lt Raymond M. Bauer	
	NAV	Captain Joel Ruiz	
	RO	ALC John L. Williams	
	FM	SSgt Harold W. Bayer	
*	Pararescue	SSgt Larry A. Barnes	AF Unk 31st ARS

F-105 (e) Mission # 1234-20 December 1965. 2 Sorties. HU-16 Rescue HU-16 damaged by hostile ground fire while on low level search mission in hostile area near islands. Aircraft lost its water capability, but otherwise remained airworthy. There were no injuries to crew.

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ARSH-65

ARSH-65

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MISSIONS

RESCUERS

LOCATIONS

SURVIVORS

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>		<u>Name</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>
38-1167-26 Nov		HH-43B	30NM SW Tan Son Nhut	6 Soldiers	USA	UH1B
38-1174-28 Nov	Maj Higginson	HU-16B	20 NM NE Thanh Hoa	LTJG Harrington	USN	F8E
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		

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