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approximately ninety days. Two HH-43's were involved in aircraft accidents not resulting in aircraft damage. Minor injuries were incurred by one crew member. The 3ARRGP experienced three ground accidents during this period resulting in injuries to two personnel.

(12) During the period of this history the aircraft assigned to the 38 ARRS were operationally ready 83.3% of the time. The 16.7% of time not operationally ready were contributed to 6.9% NOR(M) and 9.8% NORS. There are several underlying factors which are responsible for the above mentioned not operationally ready time. First, the aircraft are in a combat theatre located approximately 8000 miles from the main supply source, the United States. This creates a very extended "pipeline" and often causes logistical problems. Second, transportation of aircraft parts and spares throughout South Vietnam and Thailand is a problem because of availability of aircraft for this purpose. Third, several of our detachments are located at bases which were constructed and put in operation in a short period of time. This resulted in undermanned supply points for brief period, however, at this time we are receiving complete support from all host bases.

(13) The missions flown by the crew members of the 38 ARRS expose them continually to enemy action and hostile fire. The 87 combat saves attributed to this Group from January thru March could not have been possible without the continued acts of heroism and bravery on the part of these devoted members of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service. Proof of their gallantry is contained in their records. During this reporting period members of the 38 ARRS have been recommended for 10 Silver Stars, 54 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 110 Air Medals, 8 Purple Hearts, and 10 Commendation Medals. To date, we have received approval for 1 Silver Star, 15 Distinguished Flying Crosses of which one was presented to SSgt Leon Fullwood by Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey during his recent visit to Vietnam, 34 Air Medals, 4 Purple Hearts and 8 Commendation Medals. The men of the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group are very proud of this record and consider it a distinct privilege to serve in this organization so that "Others May Live".

b. (C) Missions: Combat/Non-Combat

(1) Combat:

Det 1-3-2-24 Jan

(C) Two USMC F-4B aircraft last reported position over Hue, RVN. 3ARRGP conducted search utilizing 6 USMC UH-34 helicopters. Poor weather and mountainous terrain hampered search. No electrical or visual contact made with missing aircraft. Mission was suspended.

Det 1-3-3-31 Jan 1966

(U) USAF F-105 pilot downed in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of North Vietnam. Pilot was recovered less than 250 yards off the coast when an HU-16 landed and the pararescueman dove into the water, swam to the raft, and brought the pilot back to the HU-16. The entire operation was conducted under heavy barrage of fire from the shore which came within five feet of the men in the water.

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