

FROM: Det 6, 38th Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Sq, APO US Forces 96227

SUBJECT: Narrative Report (Mission 6-38-86-8 May 66) 9 May 1966

TO: 3d Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Gp, (JSARC), APO US Forces 96307

1. At 1308, I was notified by Army flight following thru GCA and Bien Hoa Tower that an Army chopper was down at XT 173474 with 3 or 4 survivors. We refueled both helicopters and were airborne at 1315, proceeding to a spot 292°/47 NM from Bien Hoa. No difficulty was encountered enroute. Weather was 2000 feet scattered with 15 miles visibility at Bien Hoa, enroute and in the target area. We arrived in the area at 1400 and completed the first hoist/stokes litter pickup at 1405. The survivor was removed from the stokes litter and the litter was lowered for a second-wounded soldier. He was loaded into the litter and apparently died at that time since he was removed from the litter and a second seriously wounded soldier was loaded into it. He was hoisted to the helicopter and loaded inside. We then followed a O-1F to the Tay Ninh landing area and offloaded the wounded at the clearing station. Meantime, the second HH-43F picked up two more seriously wounded by hoist/stokes litter. SSgt Milsten, the rescue specialist was lowered by forest penetrator to assist in the litter loading. The second HH-43F flew to the clearing station and offloaded the wounded. The first HH-43F returned to the area and removed three more wounded plus SSgt Milsten via hoist/forest penetrator and then flew them to the clearing station. The first helicopter returned to recover 2 KIA's via hoist/stokes litter. After offloading them at the clearing station, both HH-43F's refueled and returned to Bien Hoa AB. First crew recovered 5 wounded and 2 KIA's for 5 combat saves. Second crew recovered 2 wounded for 2 combat saves. Original objective was a downed helicopter but later proved to be seriously wounded U.S. Army personnel. Nine sorties were flown by 2 HH-43F helicopters for 5:15 flying time. Crew coordination was excellent, as usual. Sidewinder 10, the USAF O-1F and Dustoff 101, the Army UH-1B helicopter provided excellent support throughout the mission. Radio discipline was good. The objective was located via the ARA-25 and smoke grenades. No hostile fire encountered.

2. ARS Crewmembers were:

First helicopter

RCC	Capt	Charles P. Nadler
CP	Capt	Raymond L. Murden
HM	ALC	Thomas C. Story
RS	ALC	Henry J. O'Beirne

Second helicopter

RCC	Capt	Edwin A. Henningson
CP	1st Lt	Charles R. Sweet
HM	TSgt	Kenneth L. Perkins
RS	SSgt	David E. Milsten

Charles P. Nadler

CHARLES P. NADLER, Captain, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander