

DECLASSIFIED

REG #35946

#30

FROM: Det 7, 38th ARRSq

22 September 1966

Subject: Mission Narrative Rpt #1-3-66

4/7

TO: 3d ARRGp (RGOP)

On 19 September 1966, 0950 hours, the primary LBR crew was notified of a downed RB-57 Aircraft near Chu Lai, Vietnam. Det 1, 3ARRGp had coordinates as 15° 17' North 108° 37' East which was approximately 210° at 11 miles from channel 50. The Firebird was serviced with full main tanks and was enroute to above location at 1000 hours. The secondary alert crew was called to provide escort.

Radio contact was maintained with the Rescue Coordinate Center on VHF and Landshark Alpha who had assumed control of mission. Landshark Alpha advised Pedro 96 that a Marine helicopter, Pedro 1, had been into crash site and found one (1) KIA and picked up two helmets. Pedro 1 could not find the other pilot but assumed he was in main wreckage. Pedro 96 continued to crash site to continue the search for the other pilot.

Pedro 96 arrived at crash site at approximately 1038hrs to find no other aircraft in the area. The wingman of the downed aircraft, FAC aircraft and Marine helicopters had returned or been deviated.

Pedro 96 made a low pass over wreckage to confirm there were no survivors and try to locate the remaining crew members. The other pilot was spotted in a rice patty about 175 yards from the wreckage and only 20 yards away from his ejection seat. Since we did not draw any ground fire on the low pass, I decided to land near the body for recovery. It was apparent the pilot could not have survived the crash as he was still in his half opened parachute. Pedro 96 was on the ground for minimum time with Pedro 95 flying high cover.

After the remains were recovered, Det 1 requested we try to find out disposition of the other pilot and try to bring both pilots back to DaNang AB.

Landshark Alpha informed Pedro 96 that the first KIA had been taken to the Marine hospital at Chu Lai. Pedro 96 and 95 diverted to Chu Lai for the remains and to refuel before returning to DaNang. Both deceased were returned to DaNang Air Base at 1202 hours and turned over to the Air Force medical personnel. Five (5) sorties/3:45 hours.

Crew: RCC	<u>Pedro 96</u> Marcum	<u>Pedro 95</u> Stevenson
	Jacox	Kelly
	Williams	Wilson
	<u>Tobey</u>	<u>Hillyard</u>

FOR THE COMMANDER

Lawrence F. Marcum
LAWRENCE F. MARCUM, Capt., USAF
RCC

GROUP-4

Downgraded at 3 year intervals;
Declassified after 12 years.

DECLASSIFIED

IA

attach 1

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
Or Changed to *Unclass*
By Authority of *CDR*
(Date) *14/3/78*

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE AIR MEDAL
(FOURTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

TO

JOHN F. TOBEY

Airman First Class John F. Tobey distinguished himself by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight as a Pararescue Specialist on an HH-43F Helicopter in Southeast Asia on 19 September 1966. On that date, Airman Tobey participated in a rescue mission of the pilots of a B-57 downed by hostile ground fire. Although hostile forces were in the area, and it was likely they had set a trap, Airman Tobey, without hesitation, left the safety of the helicopter to render medical aid. The professional skill and airmanship displayed by Airman Tobey reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

SEPTEMBER 18

Combs & Jeffers up north. Saboniel
on 43 alert.

SEPTEMBER 19

Tracy & Combs north. Tobey
on 43 alert

Tobey scrambled for B-51
Crash 53 miles south west of D. Nang.
Arrived scene approx. 10:15.
Appeared to be a V.C. trap as a Marine
chopper had been in and had no sightings
of second man (they picked up one) We
spotted second man in rice paddy,
surrounded by tall grass and brush. He
was lying on ground with parachute
streamers out behind. Made a fast pass
and went in. Landed and Williams
and I threw him on stretcher and loaded
him on board. Took off, and at 500 ft
altitude spotted 25-30 enemy within
 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of incident site, moving
in other direction. No hope for pilot,
parachute failed to open.