

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
37th AEROSPACE RESCUE AND RECOVERY SQUADRON (MAC)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96337



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: 37th OPS

5 September 1966

SUBJECT: Mission Report Number 1-3-56

TO: 3rd ARRG (RGRC)

Cub/29

1. At 0742L while over the Gulf of Tonkin, at the southern orbit point, we received a radio call from "Cricket" control advising "Pintail 2" was down. We immediately contacted "Pintail Lead" on "Guar" to obtain a DF bearing and also to verify the emergency information. "Pintail Lead" reported a good chute and beeper and that he was circling over the downed pilot in the water.
2. I increased to climb power and arrived in the area at 0751L sighting the pilot almost immediately at 1805N/10625E.
3. We made two passes over him, marking him with a dye marker grenade on the first one, and then landed alongside him at 0757 approximately five hundred yards off the main land beach. Immediately upon and just after I had committed the Pararescuer to the water, we began to draw heavy enemy mortar fire, the first and nearest of which, landed approximately 40 yards ahead and slightly to the right of the aircraft.
4. As the navigator and flight mechanic were pulling the pararescue man, and the survivor back into the aircraft the co-pilot contacted the rescap (Flamingo Flight), which had arrived just as we touched down. We directed them to hit the beaches and a nearby island as a fire suppression measure.
5. At 0758L we had both the survivor and pararescue man on board and immediately started the take-off. Due to the proximity of the hostile shore, and since the wind and water conditions were not limiting factors, we took off slightly downwind to the S.E. This direction put the maximum distance between us and the hostile ground fire which now included small arms and automatic weapons fire. The ground fire continued throughout and subsequent to the take-off run. Take-off was effected at 0759L and we immediately proceeded to Danang AB, landing at 0910L.
6. The downed pilot's name is Captain Edward Skowlon from Cheshire Mass. The following personnel were the crew members aboard the HU-16B.

Capt	Duane A. Miller
Capt	Walter C. Hickman
Capt	Harold G. King
SSgt	Gerald L. Jones
ALC	Robert Johnson
SSgt	William C. Sutton

Aircraft Commander
Co-Pilot
Navigator
Radio Operator
Flight Mechanic
Para-Rescue Technician

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

Or Changed to *UNCLAS*

By Authority of *GDS*

By *[Signature]* (Date) *17 May 75*

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DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS
RECLASSIFIED AFTER 10 YEARS

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7. This letter is classified confidential to protect the details of a combat aircrew recovery operations in enemy waters.

for *Walter S. Johnson, Lt/Col*
DUANE A. MILLER, Captain, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
Or Changed to *UNCLASS*
By Authority of *ERS*
By *RL* (Date) *12/1/77*

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT# 16

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The following documentation is an attempt to verify the number of saves recorded by the 37 ARRS. The historian, Captain Campbell has researched all existing sources within his control and unless any direct discrepancies are found this document shall be considered official.

<u>SAVE NO</u>	<u>SURVIVOR'S NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SERIAL NO</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>
1	Dieter Dangler	Lt JG-N	UNK	20 Jul 66	Sq Scrapbook
2	James E. Mitchell	Capt-AF	UNK	27 Jul 66	Sq Scrapbook
3	E. Dobbs	Capt-AF	UNK	5 Sep 66	2-3-107 M.N.
4	Phillip E. O'Brian	LtCol-AF	UNK	8 Sep 66	1-3-59 M.N.
5	H.J. Knoch	1/Lt-AF	UNK	16 Sep 66	1-3-64 M.N.
6	D.D. Giers	1/Lt-AF	UNK	16 Sep 66	1-3-64 M.N.
7	Alan K. Batherford	Capt-AF	UNK	17 Sep 66	1-3-65 M.N.
8	Richard Hasecrans	Capt-AF	UNK	11 Nov 66	2-3-128 M.N.
9	Gordon F. Bradburn	Col-AF	UNK	16 Nov 66	1-3-86
10	Charles Smith	LtCol-AF	UNK	16 Nov 66	1-3-86
11	Kulmayer	Capt-A	UNK	20 Dec 66	Sq Scrapbook
12-17	UNK	UNK-N	UNK	11 Jan 67	1-3-08
18	William O. Mayfield	Maj-AF	UNK	15 Jan 67	1-3-13
19	Frank L. Trochak	Maj-AF	UNK	15 Jan 67	1-3-13
20	Michael W. Mulvany	AlC-AF	UNK	15 Jan 67	1-3-13
21	William P. Tracey	SSgt-AF	UNK	15 Jan 67	1-3-13
22-26	UNK	UNK-N	UNK	15 Jan 67	1-3-12
27	Eugene R. West	Capt-AF	UNK	28 Jan 67	1-3-20
28	Robert C. Mays	Capt-AF	UNK	2 Mar 67	1-3-34

Reds Gun Down 4 Planes In Action Over N. Vietnam

SAIGON (UPI) — Communist antiaircraft gunners shot down four American jets within 24 hours, U.S. spokesmen said Monday.

Four fliers aboard three of the planes — shot down Sunday near Hanoi — were reported as missing in action.

The pilot of the fourth plane — downed Monday — was rescued less than an hour after he parachuted 15 miles west of Dong Hoi.

The losses brought to 361 the

number of American planes reported downed over north Vietnam.

In other action over north Vietnam, U.S. planes flew 134 missions hitting petroleum storage and supply areas and transportation facilities.

Thunderchief pilots destroyed a surface-to-air missile (SAM) site, 25 miles northwest of Hanoi Sunday.

The pilots attacked the site with rockets and 20mm cannon

fire, hitting one SAM as it sat on its launcher.

First Lt. Peter K. Foley, 24, of Spring Lake, N.J., said cannon fire and rockets hit the missile. It shot across the ground and exploded.

Air Force F-105 and F-4C pilots left the Dao Quang petroleum storage area in flames after a strike.

Capt. Jimmy L. Goode, 35, of Oklahoma City, led the last strike on the oil dump, 35 miles north. (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)



★★★ EDITION

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4 Downed—

(Continued From Page 1)

east of Hanoi.

Goode said the area was on fire after the two previous strikes.

"When our flight pulled away the whole area was a raging inferno of billowing smoke and fire rising to 10,000 feet."

Ten miles north of Hanoi, four flights of Thunderchiefs and Phantoms hit the Nguyen Khe petroleum dump. Lt. Col. Robert E. Wayne, 40, of Garden City, N.Y., led Thunderchief pilots who set off nine secondary explosions.

Col. William C. McGlothlin, 42, of Corsicana, Tex., led F-4C pilots on a strike against a military camp 42 miles southeast of Dong Hoi. The crews were credited with destroying 10 buildings and damaging 10 others in addition to four antiaircraft sites in the camp.

In other strikes over north Vietnam, Air Force pilots destroyed or damaged two SAM sites, 18 buildings, 14 bridges, 10 antiaircraft gun positions, 10 trucks, six rail cars, five barges, three radar sites, two ferry complexes and one river ford.

The U.S. Navy flew 60 missions over north Vietnam.

Returning pilots reported destroying or damaging one SAM site, 24 bridges, 35 barges, 25 trucks, 8 railroad cars, 9 buildings, two junks damaged, three bridge by-passes and one flak site.

Marine pilots flew five missions in north Vietnam.

In the Republic of Vietnam, U.S. pilots flew 356 sorties during the day, attacking Viet Cong camps, concentrations and fortifications.

Successful Rescue 5 September 1966

Jolly Green 24 A/C 65-12786 Low Bird

P. Capt. Kenneth D. Murphy
C.P. 1/Lt. John E. Halligan
H.M. A1C William T. Lowe
R.S. A1C Hanon Combs

Jolly Green 15 A/C 65-12783 High Bird

P. Capt. David E. Dickey
C.P. Capt. Thomas R. Johnson
H.M. SSGT. Earl E. Chambers
R.S. SSGT. William P. Tracey, Jr.

Rescue performed under fire. J.G. 24 took a hit in the main spar of the main rotor blade.