

DECLASSIFIED

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DATE	RESCUE NUMBER	SURVIVOR	TYPE AIRCRAFT	SERVICE	LOCATION	JOLLY GREEN CREW	UNDER ENEMY FIRE
28 Feb	229	Capt Basel	F-105	USAF	Laos	Capt Greer Maj Oderman Sgt Berry Sgt Duffy	Yes
6 Mar	230 231	Capt Marler Maj Benziger	B66	USAF	Thailand	Maj Oderman Maj Reagan Sgt Otero Sgt McComb	No
6 Mar	232	Capt Lewark	B66	USAF	Thailand	Maj Orsini Capt Holt Sgt Grau Sgt Fraboni	No
11 Mar	233 thru 268	Classified	EVACUATION OF L.S. 85		Laos	Maj Haynes Maj Yuhas Sgt Berry Sgt Fraboni	No
11 Mar	269 thru 294	Classified			Laos	Maj Oderman Maj Williams Sgt Cole Sgt McComb	No
25 Mar	295	Sgt Hill	C123	Laos	USAF	Capt Richardson Maj Yuhas Sgt Peele Sgt Fraboni	No
30 Mar	296 297	LtCol Johnson Maj Doran	02	Laos	USAF	Lt Platt Maj Yuhas Sgt Berry Sgt King	No
30 Mar	298 299	Maj Marquardt Capt Hodges	F-111	Thailand	USAF	Maj Oderman Capt McKinley Sgt Hannegan Sgt Boles	No

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C. SIGNIFICANT MISSION

AIR FORCE HELICOPTER CREW RESCUES MARINES

Da Nang (7AF) -- Air Force pararescueman Airman First Class John F. Tobey, 25, of Gilbertsville, N. Y., spent some anxious moments in a mine field as he waited to be picked up after assisting in the evacuation of a seriously injured Marine who had tripped a French laid mine, yesterday (March 25).

Three U. S. Marines were on patrol near the top of the 2,200 foot peak of Monkey Mountain, when the forward scout stepped on a French mine which had been laid in the early 1950s. His two companions froze in place after the incident, uninjured, but trapped in the field.

Airman Tobey and other members of the HH-43F 'Pedro' rescue helicopter crew assigned to Detachment 7, 38th Aerospace and Recovery Squadron at Da Nang air base, were scrambled to the scene.

After being lowered to the ground from the hovering helicopter, Airman Tobey administered first aid to the injured man and prepared him for movement into the rescue litter.

The Marine was lifted into the helicopter where further treatment was given by Captain Harold R. Harsin, 30, of Indianapolis, a flight surgeon assigned to the 366th USAF dispensary at Da Nang.

As soon as the wounded man was on board, the helicopter flew directly to the Naval Support Activity at nearby Marble Mountain, leaving Airman Tobey and the other two Marines in the mine field.

Another helicopter from Da Nang was dispatched and picked up the airman and the Marines. The Marines were dropped off on safe ground at Marble Mountain and the pararescueman was returned to the Da Nang flightline where he rejoined his crew.

Other crew members aboard the rescue helicopter were First Lieutenant William T. Seahorn, 25, of Battle Mountain, Nev., pilot, Captain Donald D. Sams, 26, of Herminston, Ore., co-pilot and Airman First Class Edward L. Thorpe, 25, of Long Beach, Calif., helicopter flight mechanic.

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NOTE: This item has been cleared for release by MACV.

Gilbertsville airman aids rescue team

Star
5/27/77

SAIGON (AP) — There stood Airman 1.C. John F. Tobey, 25, of Gilbertsville, N.Y. — right in the middle of the mine field.

It started with three marines on patrol of Monkey Mountain near Da Nang. One stepped on a mine. His two companions froze in their tracks, an Air Force account said Saturday.

Tobey, a pararescueman, arrived with an Air Force evacuation helicopter and descended on the litter hoist. The injured man was lifted aboard.

Tobey and the two Marines dared not move after the helicopter left with the wounded man.

Minutes later, another helicopter arrived, picked up all three men as it hovered over the mine field, and returned them to safety.

Names of the Marines were not given.



JOHN TOBEY

He didn't move

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE AIRMAN'S MEDAL

TO

JOHN F. TOBEY

Airman First Class John F. Tobey distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life near DaNang Air Base, Republic of Vietnam on 25 March 1967. On that date, Airman Tobey volunteered to be lowered into a mine field to render aid and assistance to a Marine who had stepped on an abandoned mine. Upon reaching the victim, he administered extensive medical aid and prepared the patient in a stokes litter to be hoisted aboard the rescue aircraft. The exemplary courage and heroism displayed by Airman Tobey reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

Busy March At Da Nang

Rescuemen Save 18 In Month

DA NANG — Rescue crews from the 37th and Detachment 7, 39th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadrons here were busy during March, flying a total of eight lifesaving missions, and picking up a total of

18 survivors of bailouts, crashes and mishaps.

Flying both HH-3E Jolly Green Giant and HH-43F Huskie helicopters, Da Nang rescue personnel ranged from the Demilitarized Zone in the north,

to the top of nearby Monkey Mountain in the south, in their air pickup efforts.

Air Force and Marine aviators were plucked from precarious situations while floating in the South China Sea, after bailing

out of their crippled aircraft, and after spending days hiding in the jungle a scant mile or two south of the DMZ.

Two U.S. Marines and six members of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam owe their safety to another Jolly Green Giant crew, which flew to the 5,000-foot level of a mountain nine miles north of Khe Sanh, where a Marine helicopter had crashed and burned.

A tricky rescue at best, Maj. William O. Mayfield, 39, of Owensboro, Ky., pilot of the rescue helicopter, had to dump the majority of his reserve fuel to make the climb to the peak, and literally "fell" off the mountain after effecting the eight-man pickup, seeking lower altitudes where his helicopter could support the weight of the rescued party.

While picking up a wounded marine helicopter crewman some two miles south of the DMZ, an HH-3E piloted by Maj. Adrian D. Youngblood, 33, Hedley, Tex., was subjected to intensive hostile automatic weapons fire.

The helicopter was hit six times, losing its utility hydraulic system and a portion of the electrical system as well. Although forced to withdraw from the area, Captain Youngblood successfully completed his rescue mission, by delivering the wounded man to a nearby medical facility.

An HH-43E Huskie pararescueman had a few bad moments during the closing days of the month, when after being lowered into an abandoned French mine field to treat a Marine who had tripped one of the old but still deadly devices, he was "stranded" there.

Since time was the most important factor in saving the wounded man's life, as soon as the Marine could be hoisted into the hovering Huskie, he was whisked away to the Marine medical facility at nearby Marble Mountain.

Pararescueman A1C John F. Tobey, 25, Gilbertsville, N.Y., was left standing in the mine field. A few moments later, another rescue helicopter lifted him to safety, and returned him to Da Nang.



RESCUE CHOPPER—An Air Force HH-3E Jolly Green Giant rescue helicopter like the one pictured above successfully rescued an F-105 Thunderchief pilot April 14. The helicopter is just one of many rescue aircraft that are scrambled into action when word is received that an aircraft is down in Vietnam. (AIR FORCE PHOTO)

MARCH 1967