

CHAPTER V

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Mission 12-38-13, 3 Jul 67. Mission Narrative.

a. At 1110L, 3 Jul 67, Det 12, 38ARRS received a call from Khanh Hoa Sector (FAC Control) advising us that contact had been lost with Army O-1, Sea Horse 38, who was directing Naval fire on Hon Hoa peninsula fifteen miles North of Nha Trang. The Detachment Commander assumed the role of Mission Commander and called DASC Alpha requesting a ramp check of all Army airfields in the area. He then phoned Coastal Surveillance and requested an airborne communications search. The Rescue Crew Commander ordered the primary recovery aircraft prepared for the possible recovery mission.

b. At 1130L, Khanh Hoa sector called to confirm that the aircraft was missing and presumed to be down on the peninsula or in the surrounding water. Three O-1 aircraft in the general vicinity were directed to proceed to the peninsula and search the immediate area of the Naval shelling. Det 12 was notified at 1145L that Air Force O-1, Walt 30, had located two survivors by the red smoke flares they had ignited. Pedro 98 was airborne and enroute at 1150L and Pedro 99, the secondary aircraft, launched about two minutes later.

c. Communications was established between the two rescue aircraft and the two O-1 aircraft circling the survivors via UHF and FM radio. While the helicopters were enroute, the Mission Commander called for

gunship cover since the area has long been a haven for the Viet Cong. After flying for approximately ten minutes, Pedro 98 sighted the circling O-1 aircraft and asked for an estimate of the security condition of the area. Negative hostile fire was reported and, feeling that haste was necessary for the survival of the downed crewmembers, the RCC decided to make the recovery as soon as possible. Gunship cover was not available, but naval fire could be called upon if necessary.

d. Walt 30 marked the position of the survivors with a smoke rocket and Pedro 98 made a tight, circling approach to the area while evaluating the wind and terrain. The survivors made themselves conspicuous at the edge of a clearing, and Pedro 98 landed very nearby. One survivor had a superficial cut on his forehead, but both appeared to be in excellent condition; except for mild shock.

e. The survivors quickly boarded the helicopter and the RCC immediately took-off for Nha Trang. Pedro 99, who had been flying cover during the recovery, followed immediately. Both survivors were deposited at the 8th Field Hospital and the mission terminated at 1230L.

2. Mission 12-38-14, 13 Jul 67.7 Mission Narrative.

Det 12, 38ARRS, was informed by the Nha Trang control tower through the crash phone network at 1455L that a VNAF U-17 had crashed on the beach just as he turned out of traffic. The alert helicopter, Pedro 98, was airborne within two minutes and enroute to the scene of