

CUTS RISK OF BLAST

Jets in Vietnam Use Plastic Foam

By JACK JONES, Daily News Staff Writer

Plastic foam first used in the fuel tanks of racing cars at Indianapolis is now being used in Air Force planes in Vietnam to help cut down the risk of fire and explosion.

The foam is now being tested for possible use to improve safety in civilian airplanes and may become standard for all aircraft and possibly even automobiles.

Aeronautical Systems Division at Wright-Patterson Air Force base disclosed Wednesday that the foam is now being used in Vietnam. Up to now this application has been classified.

OFFICIALS conducted a dramatic demonstration at the Wright field gun range showing how the foam prevents explosion and fire when a fuel tank is hit by an incendiary bullet.

A similar test with an unprotected fuel drum resulted in a resounding blast.

Officially, the Air Force said that the fuel tanks of Jolly Green Giant HH-3E rescue helicopters in Southeast Asia are

now using the foam to reduce fire and explosion hazards.

HOWEVER it was learned that steps are under way to equip all Air Force aircraft in Southeast Asia with the new protection as soon as possible.

Eventually all Air Force planes are expected to use the new technique.

Officials said the Navy and Army are keeping in close touch with the Air Force program.

They are expected to adopt the technique.

THE FEDERAL Aviation administration is testing the foam for application to civilian planes, especially airliners.

While liners are not normally exposed to gunfire, the foam in the fuel tanks also acts to retard splashing and spewing of fuel in a crash and reduces the fire hazard, officials said.

#105-111 21 August 1967

RCC Captain Dunn
RCCP Major Trochak
FE TSgt Tindal
RS A2C Duffy

Captain Dunn and his crew successfully extracted seven wounded Marines from Happy Valley on this mission. Our Jolly Green hovered for thirty minutes to accomplish this job.

#112 - 21 August 1967

RCC Captain Dunn
RCCP Major Trochak
FE TSgt Tyndal
RS A2C Eyrich

Another scramble for Captain Dunn and his alert crew. The mission was to rescue and extract a wounded Marine southeast of DaNang. Our crew was successful again, making a total of eight extractions in one day.

37ARRS History, July - September 1967

(26) 1-3-25, 20 Aug 67. Jolly Green 28, while on alert at Da Nang AB, was scrambled to a position ten nautical miles southwest of Da Nang AB. While enroute to recover the two wounded Marines, their status was changed to killed in action. The deceased were recovered and returned to Charlie Medical Center, Da Nang AB.

(27) 1-3-26, 21 Aug 67. Jolly Green 25 was directed on a medical evacuation of seven wounded Marines eleven nautical miles Southeast of Da Nang AB in support of Pedro. Two USMC UH-1E's aided in suppressing ground fire as the personnel were recovered and taken to the NSA.

(28) 1-3-27, 21 Aug 67. Later, Jolly Green 25 was scrambled on a medical evacuation of one wounded Marine, eleven nautical miles Southeast of Da Nang AB. He was recovered and taken to NSA.

(29) 1-3-128, 22 Aug 67. Jolly Green 26 scrambled from Da Nang AB alert on a wounded Marine, eleven nautical miles Southwest of Da Nang. Ground fire was suppressed by USMC UH-1E and the recovery was accomplished. PFC Russel W. Naugle, 2336710, was taken to NSA.

(30) 2-3-61, 23 Aug 67. Jolly Green 10 and 26 were scrambled from Da Nang AB, on a downed F-105 pilot who was 10 nautical miles south of Dong Hoi, NVN. Jolly Green 27 and 15 had also scrambled from Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, Thailand. Jolly Green 27 received heavy ground fire attempting the pickup and was forced to withdraw because of battle damage. Air Force A-1E's flying escort called in other fighters to help sterilize the area. Then Sandy 7 (A-1E) laid a smoke screen for the pickup. Jolly Green 10 went in for the pickup and had to lower the pararescueman on the hoist to rescue the survivor who had a fractured back. The survivor was 1Lt M. A. Silva, 397th Ftr Sq, Ubon RTAFB, Thailand.

(31) 1-3-129, 24 Aug 67. Jolly Green 07 was scrambled on the medical evacuation of one Marine, twelve nautical miles Southwest of Da Nang AB. L/Cpl Ortha Lee Modger, 2306603, was recovered and taken to NSA where he was reported dead on arrival.

(32) 1-3-131, 26 Aug 67. Jolly Green 26 and 28 were scrambled from Quang Tri on two pilots from a downed Air Force F-100, just north of the DMZ. Navy A-1E's provided escort duty. Because of heavy enemy defenses, the pilot didn't use any visual signals. However, he was able to lead Jolly Green 28 to his position by giving directions over his survival radio. Jolly Green 28 received ground

JOLLY GREEN GIANT CREW RESCUES EIGHT MARINES

An Air Force HH-3E Jolly Green Giant rescue crew assigned to the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group detachment at Da Nang air base made two trips into enemy infested jungles, 19km (12 miles) southwest of their base, to rescue eight wounded Marines—one of whom was seriously wounded, yesterday (Aug. 21).

Shortly after noon yesterday, the rescue crew was scrambled to pick up the Marines. Piloted by Captain Charles R. Dunn, 29, of Babylon, N.Y., the Jolly Green Giant flew to the area, where it hovered for 35-minutes taking seven Marines aboard.

The pickup zone was in thick jungle. Marine UH-1 Huey gunships fired machine guns and rockets into nearby enemy positions and kept the enemy soldiers from firing at the Air Force rescue crew. "We were hovering 10 feet above the treetops," said Major Frank L. Trochak, 44, of McAllen, Tex., co-pilot of the Jolly Green, "and still had to let out 175 feet of cable to reach the ground."

"The Marines were tied to the hoist. We couldn't bring them up on litters because of the dense foliage."

After getting the seven wounded aboard the Jolly Green crew flew to the Naval Support activity hospital near Da Nang. They then returned to the air base. Less than an hour later, they were scrambled to the same area to pick up another wounded Marine.

Before they arrived over the pickup zone, the Huey gunships had raked the enemy positions again to silence the ground fire. The second pickup was made without incident, and the Marine was also taken to the Navy hospital.