

MISSION NARRATIVE REPORT: (Mission #10-38-49, 14 Nov 67)

Det 10, 38 ARRSq was notified by Navy Operations CTF 116 at 0846Z of requirement for helicopter hoist recovery of one wounded personnel from River Patrol Boat, "Handlash Alpha". Operations further stated that the PBR was withdrawing from action against the enemy near Tan Dinh Island (125 degrees/17 nautical miles from Binh Thuy) and proceeding up the Bassac River for rendezvous in a secure area. A "Seawolf" helicopter, light fire team had been requested and was already enroute to provide cover for the recovery. Pedro 91 was airborne at 0848Z and Pedro 39 followed at 0854Z to provide rescap. After initial radio contact was established enroute with "Handlash Alpha", Pedro 91 lost FM transmission contact and further mission coordination was relayed thru Pedro 39. Arriving at rendezvous at 0902Z, Pedro 91, under cover of "Seawolf 16" and two additional helicopters (Gunship), made a stokes litter, hoist recovery of the wounded individual and proceeded direct to the 9th Infantry 3d Field Hospital at Dong Tam. While enroute patient was examined and found to have multiple shrapnel wounds of the head and leg. He was treated to prevent shock by the pararescue crew member and turned over to hospital personnel upon landing at 0943Z. Pedro was refueled at Dong Tam Air Field and returned to home station arriving at 1029Z. Despite the loss of FM capability by Pedro 91, coordination of all participating units was outstanding on FM radio. Pedro 39, as rescap, was invaluable in relaying pick-up information to and from the PBR. No hostile ground fire was encountered. One combat save.

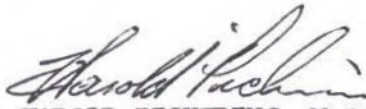
CREWS: (All Assigned to Det 10, 38th ARRSq)

Pedro 91:

RCC - Maj Harold Pickering
RCCP - Capt William J Haugen
FE - Sgt James A Crawford Jr
PJ - Sgt Ronald K Sholes

Pedro 39:

RCC - Capt Donald E Van Meter
RCCP - Capt Albert E Tollefsen
FE - SSgt William L Crawford
PJ - A1C James L Parks


HAROLD PICKERING, Major, USAF
Commander