

Narrative Mission Report

(6-38-63-19 Nov 67)

1. At 1540L, 19 November 1967, this unit was notified by the Bien Hoa control tower that a USAF F-100 had crashed during a bombing run 55 miles northwest of Bien Hoa. Two HH-43's were fully fueled and Pedro 97 was off by 1550L and Pedro 77 departed at 1555L. The two aircraft rendezvoused five miles north of the base and proceeded as a flight to the scene of the accident.
2. Pedro 97 established contact with a Forward Air Controller, Rod 06, who was circling the crash site. His transmissions enabled the rescue helicopters to home in on the exact location of the downed F-100. Also in the area was a flight of two F-100's and two Army helicopter gunships which provided cover for the HH-43's.
3. The crash scene, a small clearing in a semi-jungle area, was reached at 1640L. As Pedro 97 made a low reconnaissance pass over the still burning wreckage, a team of 50 ARVN ground troops reached the area and secured the surrounding terrain. The F-100 pilot's body was found still in the ejection seat 30 yards south of the wreckage. As tall tree stumps in the clearing prevented a landing, Pedro 97 lowered a pararescueman to the ground by hoist to prepare the body for recovery. A litter and rubberized body bag were then lowered to the pararescueman. When the body was ready for pick up, Pedro 97 assumed a ten foot hover and hoisted the litter into the helicopter and then recovered the pararescueman.
4. The recovery was completed at 1700L and both helicopters returned to Bien Hoa, terminating at 1740L. The body was then released to

(6-38-63-19 Nov 67 Cont.)

medical authorities.

CREWMEMBERS

PEDRO 97

Captain	Charles W. Burridge	RCC
Major	Lawrence W. Heflin	CP
SSgt	Richard D. Almond	FE
Sgt	Roger A. Porter	RS

PEDRO 77

Captain	James A. Darden	RCC
Lt Col	Robert J. Kavanagh	CP
SSgt	Donald S. Kearton	FE
AlC	Terrence A. Treutel	PS