

FROM: Det 2, 37ARRS/Captain Cayler/2687

29 November 1967

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative (2-3-93, 25 Nov 67)

TO: Det 2, 37ARRS (Operations)
Det 2, 37ARRS (Commander)
3rd ARRG (RCRC) APO S.F. 96222

1. This report is submitted in accordance with AFISM 55-2, 3rd ARRG Supplement 1, dated 15 June 1967.

2. At 1545 on November 25, 1967 Jolly Green 71 and Jolly Green 16 were scrambled from a forward site to recover the survivors of a downed helicopter at 3030/95NM of channel 79. After takeoff, Sandy aircraft escorted the helicopters to the crash site, which had been located by Sandy 1 and 2. During the time they were enroute, two (2) Air America H-34 helicopters arrived at the crash site, and picked up eight (8) personnel, one of which was dead on arrival. Sandy lead directed Jolly Green 71 to proceed directly to the crash site and initiate a low altitude search with Jolly Green 16 maintaining a high cover station. The downed aircraft was spotted resting on a sandbar of a river with steep mountains on either side. At this time it had not been definitely established that there were remaining survivors, as Sandy aircraft could not establish radio contact with the H-34s. Upon reaching the area, Jolly Green 71 was unable to detect signals or movement on the ground. The H-34s were still in the area, and during a momentary radio contact, it was determined that there was one crewman left on the ground. The survivor had no signaling devices, but managed to attract the helicopter crew's attention by waving his shirt. The survivor was located on the side of a mountain above the crash site. The immediate area around the survivor was covered by high elephant grass, and patches of heavier jungle. A hoist pickup was made from approximately 200 feet, and Jolly Green 71 and 16 departed the area with Sandy escort to return to their home bases. The survivor was in excellent condition, and related that he attempted to signal the helicopter by firing his weapon, and was fired upon. No hostile fire was noted by Jolly Green 71. Because of the distance involved, Jolly Green 71 and 16 had to refuel from Crown Two Tanker Aircraft enroute to home station. Jolly Green 71 arrived at Udorn RTAFB at 1945, and the survivor was delivered to qualified medical personnel. Radio discipline was good throughout the mission.

3. The survivor was Glen Wood.

4. Crew of Jolly Green 71:

- a. Captain Russell L. Cayler, RCC.
- b. Lt. Colonel Garland A. York, RCCP.
- c. Sgt Edward J. Koebernik, FE.

- d. TSgt Kerry Kelly, RS.
- e. Sgt Larry E. Palmer, RS.
- f. SSgt James O. Hubright, AP.

Russell L. Caylor
RUSSELL L. CAYLER, Captain USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

as the Pararescueman descended. A new rigging is being developed that hopefully should make this idea feasible. It did prove however, that the hoist could not be used above fifty knots. A message was sent later from WRAMA restricting the use of the hoist from any forward motion.

Captain Cayler was again on the scene on 25 November 1967 when he made the first HH-53B pickup in a hostile environment. No enemy fire was directed at the aircraft. An American civilian pilot was rescued. The location is classified.

Aerial Photographers were placed on the HH-53B as crew members in December to photograph actual combat action. This program has been highly successful with many fine photographs being taken.

On 27 December 1967 a group of five (5) officers and twelve (12) maintenance people commanded by Major Frederick M. Donohue traveled to Vung Tau, RVN to ferry the remaining two (2) aircraft to Udorn.²

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2. TAB 4. Type-written message to COMUSBJ/3ARRGP Tan Son Nhut, RVN.