

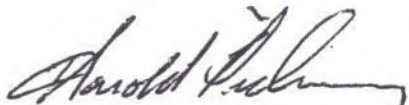
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MISSION NARRATIVE REPORT: (Det 10, 38th ARRSq Mission #10-38-45, 4 Nov 67)

At 0246Z, Det 10, 38 ARRSq received a request for helicopter evacuation of two US Navy River Patrol Boat (PBR) crew members wounded by enemy action while engaged in operations on the Cau Ke Canal. Navy Operations, the requestor, advised that PBR's, "Handlash Bravo and Handlash Delta," each with one wounded aboard, were withdrawing from the canal for rendezvous at a safe area on the Bassac River. Pedro 91 was airborne at 0250Z and was notified immediately after takeoff that a light fire team of two US Navy helicopters was enroute to the rendezvous point to provide suppressive fire cover. Pedro 91 arrived on scene at 0314Z and made a mid-stream pick-up from "Handlash Bravo" of one crew member with an upper leg wound at 0318Z utilizing the stokes litter. The second crew member, who suffered a hand wound, was recovered from "Handlash Delta" at 0322Z by hoist sling. Both wounded were treated by the pararescueman aboard Pedro 91 enroute to the hospital. Flying a circuituous route, due to extensive artillery operations along the direct flight path, Pedro 91 arrived at Dong Tam at 0353Z where patients received advanced medical treatment. Pedro 91 refueled and departed immediately for home station arriving at 0445Z. Gunship helicopters were requested by Navy Operations at time of initial notification in accordance with previously developed procedures and both helicopters were on scene at Pedro's arrival. Ideal gunship cover was provided thru utilization of a tight circular orbit at approximately 300 feet altitude with 180 degree spacing of the two helicopters. Supplemental cover was provided by two additional PBR's on scene during recovery operations. Recovery coordination, effected exclusively on FM radio, was excellent and boat procedures were in accordance with previously tested and published instructions. Negative hostile fire was encountered - two combat saves.

CREW: (All assigned to Det 10, 38th ARRSq)

Rescue Crew Commander: Major Harold Pickering
Rescue Crew Co-Pilot: Capt Albert E. Tollefsen
Flight Engineer: SSgt William L. Crawford
Pararescueman: Sgt Gary G. Harold



HAROLD PICKERING, Major, USAF
Commander