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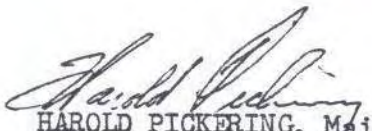
MISSION NARRATIVE REPORT: Det 10, 38th ARRSq (#10-38-01, 4 Jan 68)

Det 10, 38th ARRSq received notification from US Navy, River Operations Center, Binh Thuy, RVN at 0558 GMT that three Navy personnel had been wounded in River Patrol Boat (PER) action approximately 23 NM east northeast of Binh Thuy AB. Due to the serious condition of two of the wounded, PER, "Wood Holly 4", was with drawing to the district town of Cai Nhum for evacuation rendezvous. Pedro 91 departed Binh Thuy AB at 0601Z configured for the usual hoist-stokes litter pick-up but confirmation that a secure landing area was available at the town made this procedure unnecessary. Arriving over the town at 0619 GMT, Pedro 91 landed in a small field marked by signal smoke adjacent to a Vietnamese Army installation. One evacuee, suffering from a severe open head wound, was in critical condition and in danger of strangling because of profuse head bleeding. Another was in shock from loss of considerable blood as the result of an upper leg wound. Both wounded, under the circumstances, were on litters and loading was accomplished in minimum time. The third person, with apparently a minor wound, was not evacuated due to limited cabin space. US Navy personnel, who assisted in patient loading, concurred in this decision and Pedro 91 departed the area at 0623 GMT. The pararescueman aboard Pedro administered continual aid to the patients enroute to the US Army 9th Infantry Hospital at Dong Tam. Primary efforts were expended keeping the airway of the head wound patient clear in addition to reducing the bleeding from the wound. The flight engineer ably assisted in these actions and attempted to keep the other patient calm. Both patients were delivered directly to the operating room immediately upon landing at the hospital heliport at 0639 GMT. Pedro 91 departed the hospital at 0644 GMT and refueled at Vinh Long AB. Light ground fire was encountered enroute to home station where mission terminated at 0801Z. No damage to aircraft or injury to aircrew sustained. Two combat saves. Overall mission coordination was excellent.

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

Pedro 91:

RCC - Major Harold Pickering
RCCP - Capt Leslie E Johnson
PJ - A1C James L Parks
FE - SSgt Gordon L Browning


HAROLD PICKERING, Major, USAF
Commander

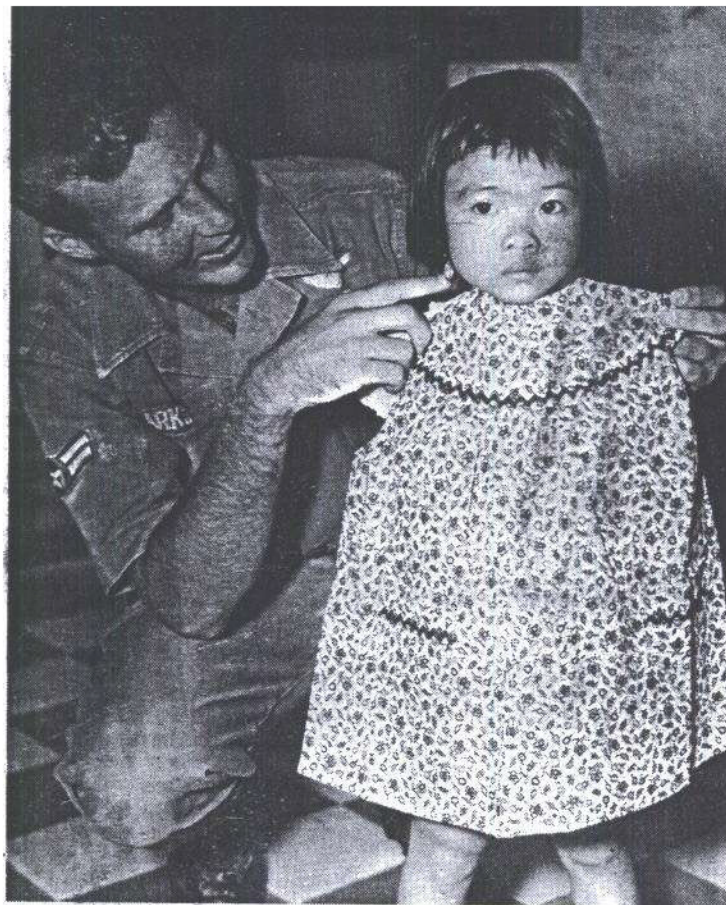
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PJ PROFESSIONALISM. It takes about a year of rugged, tough, precise training to become a pararescueman (PJ) with the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service and many times the young men in training wonder if its really worth it. Young PJ A1C James L. Parks found out early in the game. The 20-year-old ARRSman was PJ on Pedro 91, an HH-43F Huskie flying out of Det 10, 38th ARRSq at Binh Thuy AB, VN, early last Thursday morning when they received notification that a U.S. Navy River Patrol Boat had withdrawn from hostile operations and was proceeding for a rendezvous with an evacuation chopper. The patrol boat made its way to the district town of Cai Nhum and moved the wounded sailor to a secure landing area adjacent to a Vietnamese Army Post for the pickup. Pedro 91 picked up the two most seriously wounded, one in critical condition with an open head wound and who was experiencing severe breathing difficulties. They had to fly a circuitous route to the area to avoid enemy artillery. Maj. Harold Pickering and his HH-43 rescue crew ran into light enemy gunfire after refueling at Vinh Long AB but returned to home station without suffering any damage. Parks was cited for the "superb effort of the pararescueman aboard to maintain with one hand a clear throat airway on the head wound patient while controlling the bleeding with the other hand. He was a major factor in the success of the mission."

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A NEW DRESS—A1C James L. Parks, 20, Sarasota, Fla., a pararescueman with Detachment 10, 38th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, receives a cool response from one of the orphans at the De La Province orphanage. Men from Binh Thuy AB, helped the children in many ways, by building classrooms and donating clothes, food and toys. (USAF PHOTO)