

Rescuemen Save 6 People During One Busy Night

BINH THUY An HH-43 Huskie helicopter crew of Detachment 10, 38th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Binh Thuy AB, made six combat saves within a three-hour period one night recently. In Southeast Asia, the Huskie is nicknamed Pedro by the crews.

The first save was made when the crew rescued four downed Army UH-1 Huey helicopter crew members and a wounded U.S. Army soldier, 5 miles southwest of Can Tho.

The second combat save was accomplished at 1:45 a.m. about three hours after the first, by the same crew. They picked up an F-100 Supersabre pilot from the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, Bien Hoa AB, who was shot down by enemy ground fire 1 mile north of Binh Thuy.

Making both saves were Pedro crew members, Captains Lawrence W. Conover, San Francisco, aircraft commander; Leslie E. Johnson, Bruce, Tenn., pilot; TSgt. Kenneth Logan, Roanoke, Va., flight engineer, and A1C Larry D. Michelson, Dixley, Calif., pararescuer, who was on his second mission after one month in country.

The first save, of the downed Army Huey from the 2nd Medical Detachment, Song Bang Airfield, was made after the Air Force Pedro crew, preparing to land at Binh Thuy, received a "MAYDAY" call from the downed crew.

When the Pedro arrived at the scene, a Navy Sea Wolf helicopter was already there and provided air cover for the rescue. Enemy fire was received from about 50 meters on her side of the chopper during the rescue but the save was made without incident.

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