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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
37TH AEROSPACE RESCUE AND RECOVERY SQUADRON (MAC)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96337



REPLY TO
ATTN OF. 370

SUBJECT: MISSION NARRATIVE REPORT (1-3-21, 13 Mar 68)

Classified by 5147C24
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 5/14/74

16 March 1968

TO: 37C *1/4*
3rd ARRGp (JSARC)
IN TURN

(41)

1. (U) This report is submitted IAW ARRSN 55-2/3rd ARRGp Sup 1 dated 15 June 1967.

2. (C) At 0801Z Jolly Green 22 was scrambled by Quang Tri Tower on the imminent bailout of Warpaint 306 (a USN A-4) at 250°/23/Ch 85. JG 22 was airborne at 0805Z and due to TACAN problems was vectored to the scene by Waterboy after climbing to VMC on top at 6000' MSL. Enroute to the scene the bailout position was refined to 243°/23/Ch 85. At approximately 16°30N/106°40'E, while flying over a broken ceiling, Jolly Green 22 encountered heavy AAA fire of undetermined caliber. Evasive action was taken and after one minute the firing ceased. The aircraft appeared to be intact and the mission was continued. In the target area were three O-2s, Covey 681, 666 and an unknown plus one unidentified O-1. Covey 681 was on-scene commander and notified Jolly Green 22 that the survivor was in good shape and negative hostile activity had been observed. Arriving on scene at 0830Z, Jolly Green 22 was directed to the survivor's position by Covey 666 and established voice contact with him. Upon command, a smoke flare was deployed and JG 22 established a hover over the survivor at approximately 50' utilizing surrounding trees for masking. The survivor was exceptionally calm and had no problems entering the forest penetrator unaided. JG 22 departed the area at 0837Z with Covey 666 leading around known hostile positions. Enroute to Channel 94, while under vector control by Waterboy, JG 22 once again came under AAA fire when a cloud break developed at the far north corner of Ashau Valley. Evasive action was again taken and firing ceased as the Flight Engineer returned fire and the aircraft dodged into the cloud layer. The aircraft was not damaged and JG 22 continued on to Channel 94 terminating the flight at 1005Z.

3. (C) Radio discipline and crew coordination throughout the mission were outstanding. Covey 681 and 666 did an excellent job in bringing Jolly Green 22 over the survivor and leading him out of the area. The Flight Engineer showed ingenuity in fashioning a makeshift safety pin for the forest penetrator when it was discovered missing and also great courage by exposing himself at the cabin door to return ground fire. Weather enroute was 2000' with tops at 5500'. Weather in the target area was clear.

4. (C) The survivor was Lt Robert E. Curtis, USN 682043, VA-144, USS Kittyhawk, CVA-63.

Pen not penetrator GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year
intervals; declassified
after 12 years

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5. (U) Crewmembers of Jolly Green 22:

RCC Captain Charles R. Dunn
RCCP Captain Richard C. Yeend Jr
FE SSgt Gordon T. Greever
RS A1C Ricky D. Hindman

Charles R. Dunn

CHARLES R. DUNN, Captain, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

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Mission Narrative

13 March 1968

While flying Crown 5 on 13 March 68, a mayday call was received from War Paint 317 that his wingman War Pain 304 was ejecting due to battle damage, time 1615H- position 245/23/85. Crown 5 was at this time approx 100 miles from the scene. The wing man stayed in the area and directed a FAC Covey 681 to the chute. Also in the area at this time was Covey 628 and 666. ALH's were requested for Queen and were launched from channel 107. Cover aircraft at this time were Red Dog 4/105's and Raven 306. A tanker was provided by Waterboy which was Bear 12P. Covey 681 could not find the survivors near the chute. Covey 666 then spotted the survivors and made voice contact at 1630. Jolly Green 22 had been scrambled at 1620 and was due in a area at 1640. There were no enemy toops seen in the areaso JG 22 was cleared in for the pick up at 1645. A successful pick up and return to channel 94 was made. Covey 666 had the JG out of the area and at this time all SAR forces were released. No problem was ~~enc~~ encountered in control of this mission.

John P. Svec, Capt, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

Dillman	Marvin O.	MAJ.
Rogers	Donald E.	Capt.
Taylor	Billie R.	SGT
Suiter	Harold B.	TSGT
clarkson	charles W.	MSGT
Varret	charles J	MSGT

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Verret	Charles J.	MSGT

~~SECRET~~

Names of the survivors are unknown.

(16)(U) 1-3-21, 13 Mar 1968. At 0810Z Jolly Green 22 was scrambled from Quang Tri to recover the pilot of a USN A-4 down twenty-three (23) miles southwest of Khe Sanh, RVN. Heavy enemy AAA was encountered enroute to, during, and returning from the pickup. Cover was provided by four (4) USAF FAC O-2s. Voice contact was established with the survivor and he informed the SAR forces there was no enemy activity in his immediate vicinity. Jolly Green 22 made the pickup and recovered Lt Robert E. Curtis, USN 682043, VA-144, USS Kittyhawk. The SAR forces then recovered to DaNang.

(17)(U) 1-3-22, 14 Mar 1968. On this date Jolly Green 22 and 27 from Quang Tri and Jolly Green 07 and 03 from DaNang were scrambled to attempt the recovery of a USAF F-4C crew downed by hostile fire seventeen (17) miles southwest of Hue, RVN. RESCORT was provided by several flights of USAF F-4C under the direction of USMC FAC O-1E. At 0335Z the FAC reported visual contact with the front seat pilot on the ground and requested a Jolly Green go in for the recovery. Jolly Green 27 began an approach to this survivor and came under extremely heavy automatic weapons fire. Jolly Green 27 took evasive action and exited the area while suppressive fire was laid in around the survivor. The FAC then reported voice contact with the backseat pilot and Jolly Green 27