

FROM: Det 6, 38th ARRS, APO 96227 (Charles W. Burrige, RCC)

21 March 1968

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report (6-38-10 20 March 68)

TO: Det 6C
38th ARRS C
3rd ARRGp (JSARC)
IN TURN

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1. This report is submitted in accordance with ARRSM 55-2/3rd ARRGp Sup 1, dated 15 June 67.

2. At 1405Z (1905L) this unit was notified by JSARC that an O-1 had gone down at 350 radial/22 miles Bien Hoa Tacan. No other information was available and we were told to contact III DASC. III DASC reported that Sidewinder 32 had crashed at XT-670 457. Sidewinder 35 was orbiting the crash site, a Spooky flare ship was being dispatched and they requested an HH-43F to pick up any survivors. RESCORT was requested from Det 14. They reported that they could not provide one but could cover our LBR during the rescue effort. Pedro 95 launched at 1430Z (1930L) after further information from III DASC indicated that the crash site was secure, and an Army UH-1 gunship would be available. Radio contact was established with Sidewinder 35 who had been orbiting the crash site for about thirty minutes. He confirmed that there was no enemy activity on the ground. He directed Pedro 95 over the O-1 which was in a dense forest that bordered a dirt road. Trees were 10 to 20 feet high with a few as high as 60 feet. The vegetation was so thick that the wreckage could be seen only when passing directly overhead. The fire that started on impact had burned itself out and only a few glowing embers and small grass fire marked the site. A hover was established a few feet over the tree tops and the pararescueman was lowered on the forest penetrator. In a few minutes he reported on the URC-10 radio that he had found a survivor near the wreckage. The survivor had crawled out of the burning O-1 shortly after impact. The only part of his clothing and equipment remaining was a gun belt with a .38 revolver and about twenty rounds of ammunition. Though badly charred the ammunition had not exploded. The pararescueman estimated he had third degree burns over 90 percent of his body. The forest penetrator was hoisted aboard and a semi-rigid litter was lowered. The survivor was strapped into the litter and lifted aboard. The pararescueman continued to search the area in hope that the other occupant had survived. A positive identification of the wreck was made by locating the tail section that had not been burned. A five minute search of the area was unsuccessful in locating the other crew member and the pararescueman was hoisted aboard on the forest penetrator. During the time of hover over the crash site (approximately 15 minutes) the support rendered by other aircraft was outstanding. The Army UH-1 gunship continually orbited at about 200 feet probing the forest with a search light watching for any enemy activity. Sidewinder 35 directed the flare drop by the Spooky aircraft. The Army UH-1 led Pedro 95 to Lai Khe Army airfield and they landed on the runway next to a DUSTOFF UH-1. One look at the survivor by the DUSTOFF crew and they decided not to waste time transferring him to their aircraft. They took off and led Pedro 95 to the hot spot in front of Lai Khe Army Field Hospital.

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located about one-half mile from the airfield. The survivor was taken to the hospital by the medics who were waiting at the landing pad. Shortly after arriving at the hospital the survivor died. Pedro 95 returned to Bien Hoa. Shortly after arrival it was learned that an Army ground party had found the body of the other crew member of Sidewinder 32 under the wreckage.

3. A total of 1 hour 50 minutes was logged.

4. The recovered pilot was Captain Bruce A. Couillard, 19th Tactical Air Support Sq.

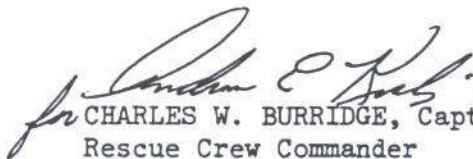
5. Det 6 crewmembers were:

Capt Charles W. Burrridge, RCC

Major Andrew E. Kralj, RCCP

SSgt James P. Baldwin, FE

AlC Charles R. Ingulli, RS


for CHARLES W. BURRIDGE, Captain, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

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was - survivor had died. Returned to base. ~~2120~~ ²¹²⁰

Commander of O-1 and officers wanted details.

We were notified that second body was found
under crash - body completely non identified.

Comment - Radio UAC 57 worked great!

* Semi-rigid - ripped - unknown cause.
Both KIA's identified.

* ACR - 2220 UH1A went down just off base.

No injuries Huey picked up ^{3 souls}. We picked
up pilot and 3 radios on board. Flew
him to Bien Hoa, Sparten Area.

2250 - Returned.

1 LBR 2 ACR.