

Crown helps save Colonel From Sea

DA NANG AB—"They're real professionals and did great job," said Col. David W. Winn, 44, after an HH-3 Jolly Green Giant crew from the 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Sq. at Da Nang plucked him from the South China Sea following his ejection from his damaged F-105.

Winn was flying a combat mission over the southern panhandle of North Vietnam when his aircraft was hit by flak. "After I was hit, I pulled off the target and headed out to sea. When the aircraft became unflyable, I ejected," said Winn.

The Jolly Green crew commanded by Capt. John B. McTasney was airborne within five minutes of the alert call.

"The Crown aircraft (HC-130E rescue coordinating aircraft) had already spotted the pilot, and we were hovering over him about two minutes after he hit the water. There were 3- to 4-foot waves but it was pretty calm so we set down in the water," said McTasney.

Sgt. Angus C. McDougall, the helicopter's pararescueman, jumped out of the Jolly Green and swam to Winn. After pulling him to the helicopter, he untangled the parachute lines and hooked the rescue hoist to the

pilot's parachute harness. The hoist operator, A1C Hoyle Sykes, 21, hauled Winn into the helicopter. Sykes, who also serves as the Jolly Green's flight engineer, was participating in his first rescue operation.

"There was a pretty strong undertow," said McDougall as he described his fifth rescue. "I had to get a pretty good hold on the pilot and the side of the Jolly Green until he was pulled up. After I got the colonel's equipment aboard, I climbed into the helicopter and administered first aid."

"It was a real smooth rescue," said Capt. William B. Byrd Jr., 28, co-pilot aboard the Jolly Green. "The pararescueman as flight engineer did a fine job getting the man into the helicopter."

Winn, assistant deputy commander for operations with the 355th Tactical Fighter Wg., was treated at the Da Nang base hospital for minor cuts and bruises.