

DECLASSIFIED

7c

FROM: Det 9, 38 ARRS(Maj Pfadenhauer/2824)

29 Apr 1968

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report (9-38-05, 26 Apr 68)

TO: ~~9-380~~ Hoff 29 Apr 68

3JSARC
FMQA IN TURN
A/AR

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

2. At approximately 1310Z, 26 Apr 68, Pleiku Tower notified Detachment 9 of an aircraft downed by ground fire approximately four miles west of the base. The status of the crew was unknown, however the downed aircraft was burning. Pedro 74 departed to the scene with the FSK while Pedro 98 followed approximately five minutes later.

a. Upon arrival it was learned that the aircraft had been a CH-47 with 12 persons on board. The aircraft had been totally destroyed at ground impact and all occupants killed. The main fuselage had broken into two large pieces. The aft section including the engine compartments was burning furiously. The FSK was landed and discharged on the fire, however, it was impossible to extinguish the burning magnesium. The front portion of the fuselage was laying nearby with at least two bodies trapped inside. Other bodies and portions thereof were scattered throughout the impact area. Pedro 98 was approaching bingo fuel so one body was unloaded and transported to the 71st Evacuation Hospital on our way to our operations area. Pedro 98 brought two remains to the 71st Evacuation Hospital on their way back to rescue operations. The remaining bodies were to be recovered by a ground party on the scene.

b. The complete operation was conducted in a remote area with illumination provided by flares dropped by an AC-47, Spooky 21. Flare coverage was considered outstanding.

c. The fire suppression kit was left at the incident site until daylight since the area was not secure and recovery was considered too hazardous during darkness. It was retrieved at approximately 0730 hours 27 April.

3. There were no survivors.

4. Crewmembers of Pedro:

Pedro 74 (low)

Pedro 98 (high)

RCC - Maj Richard C. Pfadenhauer
RCCP - Maj Robert A. Bunton
FE - SSgt Harril E. Barber
RS - ALC David E. Thompson

RCC - Maj Donald L. Lajeunesse
RCCP - Lt Col H. O. Hoppe
FE - Sgt Spencer J. Watson
RS - Sgt Luther T. Jones

Richard C. Pfadenhauer
RICHARD C. PFADENHAUER, Major, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

Hoch 7
