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FROM: 7-38C (Major William E. Cline, 6541)

1 May 1968

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report (1-3-43, 1 May 1968) (U)

TO: 38C *EP*
3JSARC
IN TURN

56A

1. (U) This report is submitted IAW ARRSM 55-2/3ARRGP Sup 1, dtd 15 June 1968.
2. (C) Narrative.

The Det 7 alert crew was scrambled by the Rescue Coordination Center, OL-1 (Queen) at 0540L, 1 May 1968, on a double bailout approximately 8 miles East of DaNang AB in the South China Sea. Pedro 93 was airborne at 0544L and proceeded East. A few minutes after take-off, beeper and voice contact was made with Swoop 158, the pilot of a Marine A-6 who, with his co-pilot, had bailed out and had landed in the water approximately 3 miles off shore. Since it was still completely dark, Swoop 158 was requested to light a flare, which was immediately sighted about one mile due East of Pedro 93. A night-drift flare was prepared with the plan to drop it near the survivors while Pedro 93 orbited waiting for daylight. At this time, Spooky 12 informed Pedro 93 that he was overhead and could provide high intensity flares, if desired. This seemed satisfactory and the crew of Pedro 93 proceeded to drop the night-drift flare, completed the pre-hoist procedures, and affected the pickup of both pilots. Crew coordination was excellent. Weather and sea-state not a factor effecting this rescue except for a haze condition which precluded the use of the helicopter flood lights. The pickup of the two pilots would have been delayed approximately one half hour if it were not for the support of Spooky 12 in providing flare coverage. Total flight time for Pedro 93 was 18 minutes. Some difficulty was experienced in holding a steady hover over the water, due to the darkness. However, the high intensity flares enabled the rescue effort to commence immediately, regardless of the darkness, which was absolute. The smoke-drift flare activated on schedule and was of invaluable aid in providing a good reference for hover over the water.

3. (C) Survivors: E.J. Fickler, 093094, Capt, USMC, VMA 242, DaNang AB, RVN; G.H. Christionson, 091730, Capt, USMC, VMA 242, DaNang AB RVN.

4. (U) Crewmembers of Pedro 93:

RCC	Major William E. Cline
RCCP	1/Lt Michael L. Walker
FE	Sgt William P. Owens
RS	Sgt Charles P. Vogeley

GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year
intervals; declassified
after 12 years

William E. Cline
WILLIAM E. CLINE, Major, USAF
Commander

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SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 Dec 84

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