

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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



370

10 JUL 1968

MISSION NARRATIVE REPORT (1-3-69, 8 July 68) (U)

99

37C

JSARC

IN TURN

1. (U) This report is submitted in accordance with ARRSM 55-2/3ARRGp SUP 1, dated 15 Apr 68.
2. (C) On 8 July 68, JG 24 was on airborne alert while conducting Hi-Drink practice with a navy destroyer call sign Astronaut. At 0256Z, the Rescue Specialist saw an aircraft crash in the water approximately 7NM from JG 24. A large column of smoke rose and JG 24 proceeded to the scene. Whale 534-1 (AH F-4B) transmitted on guard that he was circling the two survivors in the water. They both were in their rafts and appeared alright. Covey 263 (AF O-2) also arrived and orbited the position of the downed crew. JG 24 made a water landing and picked up the first survivor at 0301 and completed the pick up of the second survivor at 0305. The pick up of both survivors was made without difficulty. JG 24 landed at CH77 at 0321Z.
3. (C) The downed aircraft was an F-4B call sign Whale 534. The pick-up point was 050/12 CH77. Weather was clear and the sea state was 0.
4. (C) Crew coordination was excellent. Of special note was the alertness of the Rescue Specialist who contributed greatly to the rapid completion of the rescue by his sighting of the crash prior to radio notification.
5. (C) The survivors of Whale 534 were:
LTCOL E. R. Howard 052072
UMFA-122
Capt R. D. Hess 092082
UMFA-122
6. (C) The crew of JG 24 was:
RCC Capt Walter R. Blackwell
RCCP Capt Richard Griffiths
RCCP Capt Gerald W. Moore
RCCP Maj Russell G. Mills
FE SSgt James A. Bowers
RS Sgt Steve M. Northern

Classified by _____
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 51 Dec 74

Walter R. Blackwell
WALTER R. BLACKWELL, Capt, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

GROUP 1
Downgraded at _____
intervals, declassified
after 12 years

Summary Report 1-3-69, 8 July 1968

At 0256Z, 8 July 1968, Jolly Green 24, while refueling from a Navy ship, observed an aircraft crash into the Gulf of Tonkin. An AH-F4 reported the position of the survivors while Jolly Green 24 was enroute. Jolly Green 24 landed on the water and picked-up the first survivor at 0301Z and the second at 0305Z. Survivors were delivered to the medical facilities at DaNang AB, RVN. Survivors were: LtCol E. R. Howard, 052072, UMFA-122 and Capt R. D. Hess, 092082, UMFA-122.