

125A

FROM: Det 8, 38ARRSq (8-380)

1 Sep 1968

SUBJECT: Rescue Narrative Report (8-38-018-8244)

TO: 3ARRGp (30)

1. The following information is submitted IAW ARRSM 55-2, 3ARRGp Sup 1.

a. Det 8, 38ARRSq was initially notified at 0638Z, 31 Aug 68, by 12TFW Command Post of a suspected bailout 15 NM E. of Cam Ranh Bay AB. Confirmation was received from Cam Ranh Bay AB Control Tower at 0639Z, visual sighting of smoke over the sea on 070° Radial of Cam Ranh TACAN approximately 15 NM away. The alert helicopter, Pedro 51, was immediately refueled to bring fuel up from alert load of 500 lbs and launched at 0645Z. The secondary aircraft, Pedro 04, was launched at 0650Z acting as high bird in expectation of a search mission. No difficulties encountered. Slight delay caused by necessity of refueling in anticipation of search.

b. Helicopters were directed into bailout area by Cam Ranh Tower. No radio transmission from downed crew received at any time. Red smoke from MK 13 flares sighted when about two miles from area of oil slick.

c. Weather not a factor. However, 6-8 Ft sea swells and twenty knot wind increased difficulty of getting survivors into rescue sling.

d. No support other than high bird, Pedro 04, used.

e. Radio contact maintained with Cam Ranh Tower until helicopters were both in pickup area. Mission completed on SAR Frequency 364.2MC.

f. Pedro 51 arrived in pickup area, 12°00'N, 109°28'E, at 0655Z.

g. N/A

h. One survivor appeared dazed, it was subsequently learned that he was not able to deploy survival kit and raft until after landing in water. Other survivor OK. Both made all possible effort to help.

i. Recovery made by using hoist and rescue sling. Pararescueman deployed in water when survivors had difficulty freeing equipment lines in order to don rescue sling. Two survivors recovered, both appeared unharmed.

j. Pedro 51 and Pedro 04 departed area at 0710Z.

k. Pedro 51 landed at 12th USAF Hospital at 0720Z. Pedro 04 diverted to cover another LBR mission with the FSK. Pedro 04 terminated at 0720Z. Pedro 51 landed at Pedro Pad at 0725Z, terminating mission.

6/11

l. N/A

m. N/A

n. N/A

o. N/A

p. N/A

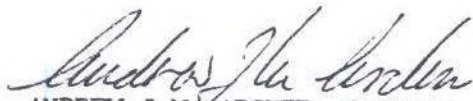
2. Crew members were:

a. Pedro 51 -

RCC Capt A. Archer,
RCCP Capt J. Smariga,
FE Sgt J. Simmons,
RS ALC D. Goodlett,

b. Pedro 04 -

RCC Capt P. Gissing,
RCCP Capt P. Connelly,
RS TSgt J. Fernandez,
FE SSgt B. Marshall,



ANDREW J.M. ARCHER, Captain, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

Mission 8-38-018-8244: Detachment 8's alert crew commanded by Capt Andrew J.M. Archer was initially notified at 1438, 31 August 1968 by the 12th Tactical Fighter Wing Command Post of a bailout of an F-4C crew 15 miles east of the base in the South China Sea. Pedro 51 scrambled and arrived in the area of the crash at 1455. The two survivors were located in rafts adjacent to the oil slick. The F-4C pilot, 1st Lt George A. D'Angelo, 559th Tactical Fighter Squadron, had difficulty untangling the parachute and harness line, so the Pararescueman, A1C Donald H. Goodlett was deployed in the water to lend assistance. He quickly freed the pilot and a successful hoist recovery was made by Sgt James W. Simmons, Flight Engineer. The aircraft commander, Lt Col Paul A. Kauttu, of the 559th Tactical Fighter Squadron, also had trouble with his entangled equipment. Airman Goodlett was again lowered into the water where he freed the survivor. Successful pickup was completed at 1510. Rescue Crew Co-pilot was Capt John P. Smariga. The recovery was complicated by eight foot seas, and this was known shark-infested water. This mission constituted two non-combat saves.³

Mission 8-38-019-8252: The 12th Central Security Control notified the Detachment 8 alert crew commanded by Captain Peter J. Connelly at 0020, 9 September 1968 that a Vietnamese woman, Lam Thi Mau, was experiencing a difficult childbirth and required medical evacuation to the Ba Ngoi helipad to undergo

3. Mission Report Number 8-38-018-8244