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SUPPORTING DOCUMENT 15

44.

(C) At 0745Z, 3 Dec 68, Jolly Green 04 and Spads 11 and 12 were scrambled from strip alert at Da Nang AB, RVN, and instructed to proceed to Kham Duc. JG 33 was airborne alert and rendezvoused with JG 04 as it turned out of traffic and headed south, feet wet. Enroute it was learned that Redeye 22, an Army Mohawk, had been shot down approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Kham Duc. Redeye 20 was over the scene and had spotted two parachutes. He established radio contact with the survivors and was attempting to locate their position when the Spads arrived on scene. No enemy activity had been noted in the immediate area and the guns that were believed to have shot down Redeye 22 were out of range to the south, so the Spads requested the Jolly Green's come direct to the site. The Jolly Greens went feet dry just below the Song Cua Dac River and proceeded towards the site, above the scattered clouds. As the JG's approached the mountains the clouds became a solid overcast and Spads advised that the JG's should approach under the clouds. The JG's descended and received DF homing cuts, from Spad 11, on way to the area. The JG's arrived in sight of Kham Duc airstrip at approximately 0820Z and were directed to hold north of the Dok Mi river until the Spads laid a smoke screen. JG 04 turned north and the crew prepared the aircraft for the pickup. The Spads laid the smoke screen and before the Jolly Greens could set up an orbit point, Spad 11 cleared JG 04 in for the rescue attempt. JG 04 initiated a descent, dumped fuel and jettisoned the external fuel tanks. Spad 11 escorted JG 04 into the deep ravine and marked the area with a smoke rocket. As JG 04 descended into the ravine the crew spotted the two personnel parachutes and Spad 11 requested Redeye 1 to ignite a smoke flare, however he did not immediately comply and JG 04 made a slow 360° turn above the chutes and again requested smoke. When Redeye 1 popped the smoke JG 04 executed a 180° side approach to a high hover over him. The Spads continued to deliver ordnance into the surrounding areas and JG 33 orbited above the scene. As Redeye 1 was being hoisted aboard JG 04, its Rescue Specialist sighted Redeye 2 waving a flag approximately 200 feet off the aircraft's left side. He was located on the extremely steep slope of a ravine wall and in very dense jungle growth. He had the helicopter in sight but could not move from his position. When Redeye 1 was aboard, 0825Z, JG 04 hovered up over Redeye 2 and began to hoist him aboard. The high bird, JG 33, then observed a ZPU gun position beneath his orbit position and advised the Spads and JG crews. When Redeye 2 was clear of the trees JG 04 started a vertical climb until the survivor was on board, 0831Z, then rolled the nose over and exited the area to the east, away from the reported gun position. The survivors were in good condition with minor cuts and scratches from the parachute landing, and were treated by the RS. The Spads escorted the JG's until feet wet and all forces recovered at Da Nang AB at 0910Z. The crew coordination on board the JG's and the coordination between the Spads and the JG's was excellent, which allowed the expeditious recovery of the downed Redeye crewmembers.

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