

FROM: RCC

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report (10-38-010-9019)

EM
10 JAN 69

TO: 10-38C

38C

3rd ARRGp (JSARC)

YOR

1. This report is submitted IAW ARRSM 55-2 and 3rd ARRGF Sup 1, 11 Jul 68.
2. Pedro 39 and crew had just landed from a previous Medevac Mission when they received another request from Navy Operations at 2235L for Pedro's assistance in accomplishing a pickup of several WIA's. Pedro 39 tookoff at 2240L enroute to coordinates WS 620 797 which was an outpost northwest of Cao Lanh, RVN. While enroute to coordinates, several positions of ground fire were observed by Pedro Crew. Pedro 39 arrived over the landing zone at 2315L at an altitude of 4000 feet. The area was very hostile so while Pedro 39 was orbiting over the area, the crew donned their "Iron Maidens" and prepared for descent and approach. Pedro 39 continued to orbit until the area was secure and wounded had been brought to the landing zone. At this time Pedro 39 had air cover and support from "Seawolf 55" and his counterpart. Pedro and Seawolf were in radio contact on Fox Mike along with "Gonzales 04" and "09", the two PBR's that came under attack. The PBR's had taken several rounds of B-40 Rockets and numerous small arms fire. Pedro 39 made a spiraling descent into the area which had been marked by a Strobe Light. Pedro and Crew were on the ground approximately 10 minutes while trying to onload four seriously wounded Sailors; however, due to limited space in the copter Pedro could only handle three WIA's. The three most critically wounded were place aboard the aircraft in a very efficient manner by the PJ and the Flight Engineer, immediate medical assistance was begun by the PJ and the Flight Engineer. The WIA's were suffering from Chest Wounds and several severe shrapnel wounds. One WIA appeared to have taken a direct hit with a B-40 Rocket in his hip area. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the 29th Medevac Hospital at Binh Thuy. Pedro 39 departed the area at 2335L enroute to the 29th Hospital and arrived there at 2400 Hours. At this time the aircraft was shutdown to assist in offloading the wounded personnel. Pedro 39 departed the 29th at 0005L, 20 Jan 69 and terminated at 0020L. Two combat saves were accredited to Pedro Operations. Three sorties for 1.5 total flying time. Ground fire in the area was heavy. No aircraft damage.
3. The two survivors names were:

Paul T. Hunt, E-3, USN

James W. Mildenstein, E-6, USN, Assigned to River Division 554.

4. Pedro Crew Members, (Pedro 39):

RCC Capt John L. Debevec
RCCP Capt Cecil A. Jessee
FE MSgt John G. Regan
PJ Sgt Lonnie G. Conner


JOHN L. DEBEVEC, Capt, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander