

FROM: Det 11, 38 ARRSQ

19 January 1969

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report (11-38-001-9014) (U)

TO: 3ARRGP (JSARC)

THRU: 38 ARRSQ (380)

1. This report is submitted IAW ARRSM 55-2, 3ARRGP Sup 1, 15 April 1968.

2. At 1212L, 14 January 1968, the 31st USAF Dispensary at Tuy Hoa AB, RVN, notified Det 11 that they had a patient who required immediate evacuation to the 91st Army Medical Evacuation Hospital at Phu Hiep AF, RVN. Pedro 05 scrambled, landing at the dispensary helipad at 1215 L. During the final approach to the pad both pilots observed a bright electrical arc, similar to a welding arc, in the vicinity of a transformer bank adjacent to the paddat the rear of the dispensary. A closer examination revealed an electrical fire developing in the high voltage wires to the transformers. During the transition to a hover Capt Fogg notified Tuy Hoa Tower of the fire and requested that fire trucks be dispatched to the scene. Upon landing SSGT King departed the helicopter with the aircraft's fire extinguisher to stand by. He assisted dispensary personnel in extinguishing the fire with a CO₂ fire extinguisher. Simultaneously the patient, suffering from a pneumothorax, was loaded aboard the helicopter by Airman Fatka and two medical assistants who accompanied the patient during the flight. Prior to completion of on-loading the fire equipment arrived on scene. Pedro 05 departed the dispensary at 1220L. Enroute Capt Nicholson alerted the emergency ward to have personnel awaiting the patient at the Dust Off pad. The patient, USAF SGT Howard L. Givens, was required to breathe oxygen from a portable oxygen system throughout the mission for life support. SSGT King and AMN Fatka assisted in offloading the patients and transferring them to the medical attendants at the hospital. The mission terminated at Tuy Hoa Air Base at 1240L. Dr. Sorkin of the 31st USAF Dispensary credited the detachment with a save.

Crewmembers were:

RCC Capt Daniel A. Nicholson

RCCP Capt Henry P. Fogg

FE SSGT Leroy W. King

PJ A1C Paul E. Fatka

Daniel A. Nicholson

Daniel A. Nicholson, Capt, USAF
Rescue Crew Commander

Approved:

Morgan A. Downing

Morgan A. Downing, Maj, USAF
Commander