

Det 11, 38th ARPSQ, Hist., Jan-Mar 1969

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11-38-008-12 Feb 69 - the detachment operations was notified by the 39th ARPSQ operations officer that an aircraft had crashed approximately 35 miles west/northwest of Tuy Hoa AB. The type of aircraft was unknown. Pedro 24 launched immediately and arrived in the approximate area 20 minutes later. While enroute radio communications had been established with Crown 6, an HC-130 aircraft orbiting the area. As Pedro 24 arrived at the scene, the downed aircraft was sighted by an O-2 aircraft. Pedro 24 received vectors from the pilot of the O-2 aircraft and hovered over the wreckage. The downed aircraft was a U.S. Army O-1. Both crewmembers were trapped inside the fuselage. The pararescueman from Pedro 24 was deployed to free the trapped crewmembers. He discovered that one of the men was deceased. The survivor and the deceased were hoisted aboard the helicopter using the semi-rigid litter. The pararescueman was then hoisted aboard and Pedro 24 flew to Phu Hiep AAF. One combat save.

Sorties and flying time: 2/1.9

Crewmembers were:

RCC Capt William F. Austin

RCCP Maj Morgan A. Downing

FE SSgt Leroy W. King

PJ ALC Ian T. Burr

11-38-009-18 Feb 69 - the detachment was notified at 1630 that a U.S. Army UH-1 helicopter had crashed approximately 25 miles southwest of Tuy Hoa AB and that five people were trapped inside. Pedro 05 launched immediately however, Pedro 24 was awaiting a functional check flight and was not released for the mission until 1800. Pedro 05, upon

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arrival at the scene, lowered the pararescueman and a firefighter from a 100 foot hover. The area was hostile and sporadic groundfire was received. U.S. Army helicopter gunships provided suppressive fire. Three of the trapped survivors were freed immediately and were hoisted aboard by Pedro 05. Because of their serious condition they were transferred to a U.S. Army UH-1 helicopter which had landed in a clearing approximately 5 miles from the crash site. In the meantime, one survivor and one deceased were picked up by an Army helicopter. Pedro 05 returned to the crash scene but was unable to pick up any more people because of a low fuel state. The helicopter returned to Tuy Hoa. In the interim, Pedro 24 was enroute and arrived at the scene shortly before dark. One crewmember, the firefighter from Pedro 05, was picked up but the pararescueman, Sgt. Michael E. Fish, could not be picked up because of insufficient power. The pararescueman spent the night on the ground. He administered first aid to the man still trapped inside the downed helicopter and was credited with personally saving the man's life. Pedro 24 and 05 launched at 0620 on the 19th and flew directly to the scene using vectors from Tuy Hoa Approach Control. Pedro 05 hovered over the crash shortly after U.S. Army helicopter gunships arrived on the scene. Once again sporadic small arms fire was received. Pedro 05 lowered a flight engineer and a firefighter equipped with additional crash access equipment. They freed the last trapped survivor in 15 minutes and Pedro 05 hoisted the injured man aboard plus the two crewmembers and one U.S. Army ground team member. They departed the scene. Pedro 24 which had departed the area to refuel, was enroute back to the scene. In the interim, a U.S. Army UH-1 helicopter picked

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up the detachment pararescueman and one deceased U.S. Army ground team member. Then they departed the scene and Pedro 24 moved over the site to pick up the final two ground team members. The mission was closed at 0930, 19 Feb, when Pedro 24 delivered the last two survivors to Phu Hiep AAF. 7 combat saves. Sorties and flying time: 13/11.3

Crewmembers were: 18 Feb 69

Pedro 05

Mission #1

RCC Capt Daniel A. Nicholson

RCCP Capt Charles T. Wohlneck

RS SSgt Norman F. Reeves

PJ Sgt Richard E. Evans

PJ Sgt Michael E. Fish

Pedro 24

RCC Capt Henry P. Fogg

RCCP Major Edgar R. Whitney

FE SSgt Leroy W. King

RS SSgt Robert A. McAllister

19 Feb 69

Pedro 05

Mission #1

RCC Capt Daniel A. Nicholson

RCCP Maj Edgar R. Whitney

FE TSgt Thomas B. Margagliano

FE SSgt Leroy W. King

RS SSgt Robert A. McAllister

Mission #2

RCC Capt Daniel A. Nicholson

RCCP Capt Charles T. Wohlneck

PJ Sgt Richard E. Evans

Mission #2

RCC Capt Daniel A. Nicholson

RCCP Maj Edgar R. Whitney

FE TSgt Thomas B. Margagliano

RS Sgt Michael E. Fish

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Pedro 24

RCC Capt William F. Austin

RCCP Major Morgan A. Downing

FE SSgt Raphael C. Martin

PJ Sgt Richard E. Evans

In addition, the detachment flew 24 Medical Civic Actions Program (MEDCAP) flights. These flights transport a medical team of the 31st USAF Dispensary at Tuy Hoa AB, to three outlying U.S. Army outposts. Using these camps as a base, the medical team was able to treat the villagers in the surrounding areas. An estimated 35,000 people are thus accorded medical attention which would otherwise not be available to them. The same three outposts were used each week: Cung Son (25 miles west of Tuy Hoa AB), Tuy An (15 miles north of Tuy Hoa AB), and Song Cau (25 miles north of Tuy Hoa AB). These flights are scheduled to continue, three per week, for an indefinite period. (See photograph #4)

The following table reflects the unit flying time for the quarter.

<u>Mission</u>	<u>Sorties/Flying Time</u>
Intercept	163/46.7
Search and Rescue/Recovery	56/24.0
Miscellaneous (Base Support and MEDCAP)	264/124.3
Training	96/67.2
Maintenance	<u>11/5.6</u>
Total	590/267.8