

FROM: Det 8, 38ARRS

21 February 1969

SUBJECT: Rescue Narrative Report

TO: 3ARRGp(30) *JP JS*

1. The following narrative report is submitted IAW ARRSM 55-2, 3ARRGp Sup 1, for Mission 8-38-006-20 Feb 69.

2. While flying a local training flight, the crew of Pedro 51 at 0835Z noticed 2 men frantically waving at the helicopter. They had stamped out "Help" in the sand and pointed to a cement bunker built on some rocks nearby. The area was just south of Cam Ranh Bay AB, coordinates 11°57'N, 109°17'E and in a secure area. The sky was nearly clear and the wind was 150° at 11 knots so the weather was not a factor. Pedro 51 landed on the beach near the bunker and TSgt Fernandez, the pararescueman, was deployed to determine the nature of the emergency. It was then learned a man had fallen from the top of the bunker, to the rocks at its base approximately 20 feet below. Pedro 51 launched again to try to find his exact location among the rocks. He was located on the rocks below and was partially in the water. TSgt Fernandez examined him and determined that he had no apparent fractures, however he had abrasions all over his body, an open head wound and was unconscious. The extent of his internal injuries was unknown. SSgt Burchett, the flight engineer, Capt Smariga, the co-pilot, and the 2 men who initially alerted the helicopter, aided TSgt Fernandez in loading him onto the semi-rigid litter and carrying him to the awaiting helicopter. He was loaded at 0850Z and flown directly to the 12th USAF Hospital at Cam Ranh Bay AB where he was off loaded at 0855Z. Pedro 51 returned to the Pedro Pad at 0900Z.

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