

Det 7, 38ARRS, Hist, Jan - Mar 1969

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As soon as Pedro moved back the fire flamed up and the ground crew had much difficulty in finally bringing it under control. During this time Pedro remained in the immediate vicinity to provide quick evacuation in case any of the firemen were injured while fighting the fire. The FSK and fireman were not deployed so a mission number was not assigned.

3. Mission 1-3-036, 25 Mar 69. Detachment 7 was notified by telephone call from tower at 0231Z that an Army observation aircraft with crew of two had been shot down in Elephant Valley approximately 10-12 miles N.W of DaNang. Tower requested that Pedro scramble immediately and they would notify Queen and scramble the "Spads". Pedro 69 got airborne as quickly as possible and contacted Queen and Pedro 93 who was already airborne on a local training flight. Pedro 93 had been monitoring the radio talk and was already in the vicinity of the crash and in radio contact with Black Ace 02, the wingman. Pedro 93 scouted the area and no sign of enemy activity was noted. Pedro 69 moved in immediately after reaching the area and established a hover over the only clearing through which hoist pick-up would be possible. The PJ was lowered to assist the survivors and a hover was maintained for 15 minutes while the pick-ups were made using the forest penetrator. The Vietnamese observer was lifted first, followed by a double lift of the PJ and U.S Army pilot. Only 25 minutes had elapsed from notification to pick-up. The two crewmembers were released to the Naval Support Activity Hospital attendants. The cause of the crash could not be confirmed.

4. Mission 7-38-029, 29 Mar 69. The secondary crew was transporting a local Civic Action Team to a native Leprosarium on the morning of 29 March 69. The unit had been providing such transportation twice each week for the preceding 3 weeks in a continuing Civic Action project of construction