

FROM: Det 7, 38th ARRS (Capt Johnson/3440)

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative/7-38-029-29 MAR 69

29 MAR 1969

TO: 3ARRGP/JSARC *LEG*

1. On 29 Mar 69 Det 7 was scheduled for a local miscellaneous mission. We were providing transportation for a local civic action team going to a native Leprasorium. The location of the Leprasorium is 16° 11 N by 108° 10 E. The team was building houses for the inhabitants. Pedro 93 departed DaNang AB at 0115Z with the first load of passengers, all were locally assigned military personnel. Pedro 93 arrived at the Leprasorium at 0135Z without incident, offloaded the passengers and returned to DaNang for a second trip. Pedro 93 returned to the Leprasorium on the second trip and landed at 0150Z. There are no communications available at this site and nothing appeared amiss to the crew on approach. After landing and off loading of passengers we did notice that no one was in sight with the exception of an officer we had left earlier rapidly approaching the helicopter. He then notified us that they were under small arms fire and had been pinned down. We then on loaded personnel without arms and left armed personnel on the ground. Small arms fire was noted by the Pedro crew while on loading the passengers. The fire was coming from a position approximately 200 meters north of the Leprasorium in the area of a railroad track. Upon departure Pedro 93 drew small arms fire from the same area. Pedro orbited $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south and at 1500 feet and contacted Queen on SAR frequency. Queen was filled in on the existing situation and a gunship was requested for assistance if any were available in the area. A small naval landing craft was also at the Leprasorium bringing in supplies. The other military personnel were planning to leave with the naval landing craft. Pedro 93 then returned to DaNang with five passengers. Pedro 69 was alerted and returned along with 93 to the Leprasorium. An additional nine personnel were evacuated without incident or further small arms fire. Enroute to DaNang Pedro 69 contacted, by loud hailer, a small naval swift boat and he departed north to offer any additional help if possible. Apparently only military personnel were being fired on. Pedro 69 and 93 returned to DaNang and terminated. Inspection of both helicopters revealed no damage of any type. The first five personnel evacuated under small arms fire were claimed as saves. 4/30

2. A. The crew of Pedro 93 was as follows:

RCC: Capt Johnny R. Johnson, Det 7, 38th ARRS

RCCP: Capt Henry E. Hooke, Det 7, 38th ARRS

FE; Sgt Brian D. Morris, Det 7, 38th ARRS

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B. The crew of Pedro 69 was as follows:

RCC: Capt Robert S. Henderson, Det 7, 38th ARRS

RCCP: Maj Roy L. Huffman, Det 7, 38th ARRS

FE: SSgt Kenneth R. Jones, Det 7, 38th ARRS

PJ: MSgt Glenwood C. Wilkinson, 37th ARRSq

C. Names of personnel evacuated:

Capt Cliff E. Lambert, 20th TASS, DaNang AB

Capt Serg Chernay, 20th TASS, DaNang AB

Capt Joseph G. Conrad, 366 CES, DaNang AB

Sgt Paul W. Niehoff, 366 STS, DaNang AB

Sgt David Baker, (Org. Unk.)

3. This report is submitted in accordance with 3ARRGPSUP-1 to ARRSM 55-2.

Johnny R. Johnson
JOHNNY R. JOHNSON, Capt., USAF
Rescue Crew Commander