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4 May 1969

FROM: 37(0)

SUBJECT: MISSION NARRATIVE REPORT (1-3 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 69) / 3 ARRGP

TO: 37C

3rd ARRGP (JSARC)
IN TURN

SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS.

DECLASSIFIED ON 31 Dec 75

1. (U) This report is submitted IAW ARRSN 55-2/3 ARRGP Sup 1 dated 15 June 1968.

2. (C) At 1030Z 2 May 69 Crown 6 alerted crews at Quang Tri that Navy A-7, call sign CANYON PASSAGE 413 was down at 225/34/Channel 103. Jolly Greens 33 (low) and 28 (high) scrambled from 103 and proceeded to 220/20/109 to rendezvous with Spads 11 and 12. Mistys 61 and 71 and Nail 13-0 were on scene. Weather condition in route were VFR with broken clouds over the rescue area at approx 7500 feet MSL and darkness was rapidly approaching (official sunset 1105Z). Pressure altitude of survivor was reported by Misty to be 3400 feet, temperature of 25C, and wind was calm. JGs 33 and 28 arrived on scene at 1110Z. No ground fire had been reported by Misties, Nail FAC or Spad 11 and 12 so JG 33 descended immediately to prepare for the rescue. Nail fac initially flew over the survivor and JG 33 made one pass to reconfirm power required and power available for hover. It was determined that extra equipment would have to be jettisoned to permit hovering at that density altitude (5400 feet). Items discarded included water rescue and survival gear, tools, smoke flares and personal parachutes and body armor of the crew. Due to the fact that the sun had set and the sky was now overcast it was necessary to immediately commence the approach. The survivors chute was located by the crew of JG 33 and a hover was established over the survivor at 1117Z. Four minutes later the survivor was onboard and the SAR forces departed the area toward channel 103 to proceed feet wet to channel 77. Due to forecast south winds JG 33 elected to land at channel 103 for fuel, then proceed to 77, arriving at 1245Z where survivor was taken to the AF dispensary for post rescue medical examination.

3. (U) Survivors name: Lcdr Wm J. O'Conner, USN. Organization: Attack Squadron 105, USS Kitty Hawk

4. (U) JOLLY GREEN CREW MEMBERS:

JOLLY GREEN 33

AC	Major	Anthony F. Argo
CP	Lt Col	Homer H. Howell Jr.
FE	MSgt	Charles L. Manes
RS	SSgt	Eugene L. Nardi

JOLLY GREEN 28

AC	Major	Watson D. Burnfield
CP	Lt Col	Richard G. Willis
FE	Sgt	Karl H. Chunn
RS	Sgt	Thomas T. Winters

Anthony F. Argo
ANTHONY F. ARGO, Maj, USAF
Aircraft Commander

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GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year
intervals; declassified
after 12 years

Atch 3

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SUPPORTING DOCUMENT # 5

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MISSION NARRATIVE 1-3-47, 2 May 1969

(C) At 1030Z 2 May 1969, Crown 6 alerted crews at Quang Tri that a Navy A-7, call sign Canyon Passage 413 was down at 225/34/Ch 103. Jolly Greens (JG) 33 (low) and 28 (high) scrambled from Ch. 103 and proceeded to 220/20/109 to rendezvous with Spads 11 and 12. Mistys 61 and 71 and Nail 13-0 were on scene. Weather condition enroute was VFR with broken clouds over the rescue area at approximately 7500 feet MSL and darkness was rapidly approaching (official sunset 1105Z). Pressure altitude of the survivor was reported by Misty to be 3400', temperature of 25°C, and wind was calm. JGs 33 and 28 arrived on scene at 1110Z. No ground fire had been reported by Mistys, Nail FAC or Spad 11 and 12 so JG 33 descended immediately to prepare for the rescue. Nail FAC initially flew over the survivor and JG 33 made one pass to reconfirm power required and power available for hover. It was determined that extra equipment would have to be jettisoned to permit hovering at that density altitude (5400 feet). Items discarded included water rescue and survival gear, tools, smoke flares and personal parachutes and body armor of the crew. Due to the fact that the sun had set and the sky was now overcast it was necessary to immediately commence the approach. The survivors chute was located by the crew of JG 33 and a hover was established over the survivor at 1117Z. Four minutes later the survivor was aboard and the SAR forces departed the area toward channel 103 to proceed feet wet to Channel 77. Due to forecast south winds JG 33 elected to land at Channel 103 for fuel, then proceed to Ch 77, arriving at 1245Z where the survivor was taken to the AF dispensary for post-rescue medical examination.

(U) Survivors name: Lcdr Wm J. O'Connor, USN, Attack Squadron 105, USS Kitty Hawk.

(U) Jolly Green Crewmembers:

JOLLY GREEN 33

AC Major Anthony F. Argo
CP LtCol Homer H. Howell Jr.
FE MSgt Charles L. Manes
RS SSgt Eugene L. Nardi

JOLLY GREEN 28

AC Major Watson D. Burnfield
CP LtCol Richard G. Willis
FE Sgt Karl N. Churn
RS Sgt Thomas T. Winters

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89.

39th ARRSq History, Apr - Jun 69

Date: 2 May 69

Mission Number: 1-3-047-2 May 69

Flight Designation: Crown 6

Distressed Aircraft: Canyon Passage 413 (Navy A-7)

Location: 015/47/72

Saves: 1, combat

1. At 1025Z, Hillsboro called Crown 6 and advised that Misty 61 was working a downed aircraft on the 018/48/72. Waterboy vectored Crown 6 to the area on Guard. Crown 6 contacted Misty 61 on Guard and was briefed that Canyon Passage 413 was down and Nail 130 had voice contact. The survivor was in good shape and in an area of negative ground fire. Crown 6 scrambled Spads 11/12 from Channel 77 and JGs 33/28 from Channel 103 at 1030Z.

2. At 1035Z, Misty 71 replaced Misty 61 as OSC. Misty 61 cycled to tanker. Nail 130 had the chute in sight and voice contact at 1040Z. Misty 71 advised that he had made several low passes over the area with negative ground fire. The area was heavily wooded with an elevation of 3500 feet. The wind was calm with a few cloud build-ups. The mission was worked on frequency 364.2.

3. At 1040Z, Spad 11 called airborne on frequency 136.2 and advised he would rendezvous with JGs 33/28 at 220/20/109 with ETA to the SAR area of 1110Z. At 1105Z, Spad 11 contacted Misty 71 on frequency 364.2 and was briefed. Spad 11 decided to have the JGs proceed directly to the area to attempt the pick up because darkness was setting in. At 1110Z, JG 33 had the survivor in sight and was dropping equipment to lighten the aircraft for pick up. The Spads, Misty 71 and Nail 130 were in the area watching for small arms fire. At 1120Z, JG 33 had the survivor aboard. The survivor was in good shape with a sore back. Ground fire was suspected cause for being shot down. JG 33 returned to Channel 103 with ETA of 1140Z. Spads 11/12 escorted the JGs to Channel 103 and returned to Channel 77 with ETA of 1200Z. Misty 71 and Nail 130 were released to Hillsboro. Negative refueling required.

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