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FROM: Aircraft Commander

18 June 1969

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative Report (10-38-040-17Jun69)

TO: 10-38C

38C

3ARRG (JSARC)

IN TURN

1. This report is submitted IAW ARRSM 55-2, 3ARRGp Sup 1, 11 ^{June} July 1968.

2. At 1925L, Army TOC called Pedro Operations and requested immediate evacuation of two special forces personnel in critical condition located at VS996 464. Pedro 39 launched at 1935L for rescue location. Enroute weather was 4000' overcast with haze layer up to 500 feet. Pedro 39 arrived at rescue at 2030L. Through communications with the ground forces a strobe light was illuminated to aid in visual identification of the rescue site. The personnel were located directly on top of a mountain. Due to ground fire on the south side of the mountain, an approach from the north was made. Pedro 39 landed on a slope in a small clearing at 2035L on loading one patient. After landing, Pedro 39 found out the other rescue was located 10 kilometers north of the mountain. Pedro 39 departed the first position for second rescue location. Due to thick haze layer at ground level, the exact location of personnel was difficult to determine. Added to the haze problem, the location was positioned between two mountains making approaches extremely difficult. After several approaches, contact and landing was finally made at 2050L. No ground fire was observed throughout the extraction. With the two patients on board, Pedro 39 departed the area for the 29th Army Field Hospital. Both patients were in extreme abdominal pain. The PJ, with the assistance of the FL, administered medical attention to the personnel. Pedro 39 arrived at the 29th Army Field Hospital at 2120L offloading the patients. Pedro 39 then terminated at Binh Thuy at 2125L. Three sorties with 1.8 flying hours. Two combat saves credited.

3. The names of the survivors are unknown.

4. The Crew of Pedro 39 was:

AC Major Ralph L. Gaede

CP Capt Jack D. Cusano

PJ SSgt Michael F. Dean

FE Sgt Kenneth P. Johnson


RALPH L. GAEDE, Major, USAF
Commander

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