

Synopsis of MISTY Rescue CDs

These CDs cover the rescue mission of MISTY 11 on 24 October 1969. It involves multiple helicopters, both HH-3Es & HH-53s, HC-130Ps, A-1Es, both Sandys & Spads, an O-2 and multiple "Fast Movers". The recording is nearly 3 hours long on 3 CDs. The mission was successful with the recovery of both crewmembers and a Pararescue Specialist (PJ) that was left on the ground when Jolly Green (JG) 28 sustained severe battle damage and pulled out, crashing 1 ½ mile away. The three other crewmembers on JG 28 were recovered without injury by the High Bird. The tapes have been recorded as I received them without editing.

MISTY 11A	Don Muller
MISTY 11B	Jack Clapper

The recording begins with the launch of King 03. At this point in the mission Jolly Green 28 made the first attempt to recover MISTY 11A and may have already crashed. All crewmembers except the PJ were picked up.

CREW OF JOLLY 28 – HH-3E

Charley Langham	Rescue Combat Crew Commander (RCCC)
Charles Bond	Rescue Combat Crew Copilot (RCCCP)
James E. Smith	Flight Engineer (FE)
Donald Smith	Pararescue Specialist (PJ) Remained with MISTY 11A

CREW THAT PICKED UP JG 28 CREW - HH-3E

Dick Butchka USCG	RCCC
John Coder	RCCCP
Joe Vai	FE
George F. Hoffman	PJ

The next attempt included two HH-53s, JG 76 as Low Bird and JG 72 as High Bird. Disk One covers the preparation for the next attempt. Emphasis was on getting MISTY 11A and the PJ, since Don Muller had sustained a broken leg.

In Disk Two, JG 76 makes three attempts for MISTY 11A and PJ, but sustains severe Battle Damage and loss of hydraulic systems, requiring his departure due to tail rotor control problems caused by the hydraulics systems damage. JG 76 was escorted out of the area by JG 72 and A-1Es and successfully recovered at Saravane.

CREW OF JOLLY 76 – HH-53

Donald Almamzar	RCCC
Peter Fekke	RCCP
Harold Haily	FE
Tony McFarr	PJ
Gregory Anderson	Combat Photographer (AP)

The rescue attempt for MISTY 11A & B continues on Disk Three with JG 15, an HH-3E as Low Bird. JG 15 is able to successfully recover MISTY 11A and the PJ Don Smith. While attempting to recover MISTY 11B, JG 15 sustains Battle Damage that knocks out the rescue hoist and he has to depart the area.

CREW OF JOLLY 15

Robert T. Ritchie -USCG	RCCC,
Sidney A. Sosnow	RCCCP
Frank Gaydos Jr.	FE
Jon K Hoberg	PJ#1
Edward K. Rendle,	PJ#2

At this point the JG 21 is brought in as Low Bird and JG 19 is the High Bird. The recording ends with JG 21 departing the area with a maintenance platform partially separated from the aircraft. The cause of this problem is unknown. It doesn't seem from the radio transmissions that he had time to complete the pick-up.

IF ANYONE KNOWS THE SEQUENCE OF THE PICK-UP OF MISTY 11B, LET ME KNOW AND I WILL PLACE IT IN THESE NOTES, EVEN THOUGH IT IS NOT ON THE RECORDING. KING 03 was discussing the need for "C" batteries shortly before the recording ended.

MISTY 11B was picked-up. The number of the Jolly that made the pick-up of MISTY 11B is unknown, but the names of the crewmembers are known.

CREW OF JOLLY THAT PICKED UP MISTY 11B

This helicopter was an HH-3E out of NKP

Ted L. Smith	RCCC
Edward B. Robbins	RCCCP
Robert E. Hunt	FE
Paul L. Jenkins	PJ#1
Leland H. Sorensen	PJ#2