

FROM: Det 8, 38ARRSq

3 February 1970

SUBJECT: Rescue Narrative Report

TO: 3ARRGp (30)

The following narrative of mission 08-38-002, 3 February 1970, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 4c, 3ARRGp Sup 1 to ARRSM 55-2.

At 0535Z on 3 February 1970, the Joint Defense Operations Center (JDOC) at Cam Ranh Bay Army, RVN, notified Detachment 8, 38ARRSq that a member of Vietnamese Regional Forces platoon had been bitten by a snake and required immediate med-evac to a hospital. After coordinating with JSARC and refueling Pedro 51, the alert crew launched on the mission at 0545Z. Pedro 51 was flown to the area given by JDOC. Pedro 17, the high bird, was launched at 0550Z. While enroute, Pedro 51's AC advised Cam Ranh Bay tower of his intentions and requested that the 12th USAF Hospital be alerted. Meanwhile, the copilot contacted the platoon, call sign "Uniform 64" on FM radio. The platoon was unable to locate their position by coordinates, but was able to give vectors in reference to landmarks. After Pedro 51 had searched for approximately ten minutes, the white and violet smoke grenades used by the platoon were spotted. The platoon's location was in a small clearing, about 500 feet from the top of a 2400 foot mountain peak, on the lee side of the mountain. Due to the size of the clearing and the proximity of large trees, the AC had to hover out of ground effect above the double canopy jungle. On the first approach, a down draft was encountered and the AC had to go around. The second approach was made with no difficulty. After stable hover, had been established, the PJ was deployed down the hoist on the jungle penetrator. He secured the victim and himself to the penetrator and both were hoisted aboard the helicopter by the Flight Engineer. As soon as the victim was secured inside the helicopter, Pedro 51 was flown to the 12th USAF Hospital at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base, RVN. The victim was released to medical authorities and Pedro 51 returned to the Pedro Pad, terminating the mission at 0615Z. The victim had extreme swelling of the left hand and forearm. This mission constitutes one (1) combat save.

Pedro 51's Crew:

AC DINEEN, PETER F./CAPT/D8,38ARRS
CP HANSEN, JAY W./CAPT/D8,38ARRS
FE SEIBERT, THOMAS W./SSGT/D8,38ARRS
PJ MUSNICKI, KENNETH J./SGT/D8,38ARRS

Pedro 17's Crew:

AC DONK, DONALD F./MAJ/D8,38ARRS
CP MCAFEE, JAMES L./CAPT/D8,38ARRS
FE CLEM, WILLIAM J.C./SGT/D8,38ARRS
PJ WHITE, THOMAS M./TSGT/D8,38ARRS
FF CUNNINGHAM, LARRY E./SSGT/D8,38ARRS


DONALD F. DONK, MAJ, USAF
Commander

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