

Phantom Hit Over N. Viet; Crew Safe but 2 Thais Hurt

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON—Two Thai civilians were injured Monday when a U.S. Air Force F4 fighter-bomber, hit by ground fire over North Vietnam, crashed in Thailand north of the Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, the U.S. Command said Wednesday.

The commander and pilot of the aircraft ejected and were reported in good condition. One of the Thais remained hospitalized with a minor skull fracture and cuts on the head while the other was treated and released with a minor cut on the foot, the American Embassy in Bangkok reported.

U.S. military spokesmen said the F4 was escorting an unarmed RF4 aircraft about 95 miles northwest of the Demilitarized Zone when it was hit by ground fire. The escort aircraft did not shoot back, spokesmen said.

The crippled jet finally slammed to the ground in a populated area in northeastern Thailand near the Mekong River, the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok reported.

Two wooden buildings
were hit and destroyed.

DET9 NKP



30 March 1970
A Young Thai boy & Monk that got hurt
in the F-4 crash.



SUPPORTING DOCUMENT 3

MISSION #9-38-003, 30 MARCH 1970, NARRATIVE

At 1250 local the crew of Pedro 74 was notified that an F-4 with blown canopy and fire in the cockpit was approaching NKP and was 50 miles out. The crew scrambled without the FSK expecting a possible bailout. When airborne Pedro 74 was informed that the aircraft was approaching runway 33. Two minutes later tower informed Pedro 74 that the aircraft was now making an approach to runway 15. As Pedro 74 proceeded to a new orbit position a column of black smoke was seen by the crew rising to the northeast of the field. A check with tower confirmed that the F-4 crew had bailed out. Pedro 74 proceeded directly to the crash site and with directions from the F-4's wingman spotted the survivors immediately upon arrival. Pedro 74 landed in an open field about 500 feet east of the survivors and discharged three crewmembers (PJ and 2FF's) to render aid if necessary and lead the survivors back to the helicopter. While leading the survivors to the helicopter the PJ was informed that two nearby villagers had been injured by debris from the crash. Since the two survivors were not seriously injured, they were lead to the helicopter by one of the FF's while the PJ and the other FF examined the injured villagers. One villager, a small boy, was found to be suffering from a severe contusion while the other, a Buddhist Priest, was suffering from a severe head injury and was bleeding profusely. Once the bleeding was under control both villagers were placed aboard the helicopter and all four persons involved were returned to NKP and an awaiting ambulance.

FROM: Det 9, 38th ARRSQ

31 March 1970

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative 9-38-003, 30 March 1970

TO: 9-38(C)
3ARRGP (JRCC)
IN TURN

1. This report is submitted in accordance with ARRSM 55-2, 3ARRGP Sup 1.
2. The alert crew was notified of an F-4 in difficulty, at 1205L. There was no difficulty in launching or in route. There was no ground fire and the weather was relatively good (partly cloudy, light winds). RESCORT, RESCAP & Airborne Mission Commander were not involved, although King was trying to gain information from the on scene commander while he was busy with the F-4's wingman. The survivors were spotted immediately upon arrival at the crash site (1215L). The survivors were not seriously injured and ran from the rescuers initially thinking them to be hostile. They responded however after being called. The survivors were loaded aboard the landed helicopter but takeoff was delayed while the PJ treated 2 villagers (a boy and a Buddhist priest) injured by debris from the aircraft. They subsequently boarded the helicopter along with the survivors and rescue crew. Departed from the scene at 1230L landing and termination was at 1235L. There was no damage to rescue equipment or injuries to rescue personnel. The Buddhist priest was subsequently found to have a fractured skull and was considered to be a non-combat save by the Base Dispensary.
3. The survivors were Lt Col William E. Brown and Lt Col Leonard E. Melton.
4. Crew:
 1. AC - Oliver E. Schmoker, Captain
 2. CP - Harold L. Edwards, Major
 3. PJ - Michael F. Dean, SSgt
 4. FF - Jerry Price, SSgt
 5. FF - Donald E. Sherman, SSgt

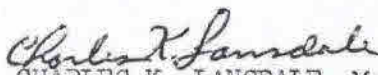

OLIVER E. SCHMOKER, Captain, USAF
Aircraft Commander

1st Ind (9-38C)

DAF, Det 9, 38th ARRSQ

TO: 3ARRGP (JRCC)

APPROVED:


CHARLES K. LANSDALE, Major, USAF
Commander

aub
9

FROM: Det 9, 38th ARRSQ

31 March 1970

SUBJECT: Mission Narrative 9-38-003, 30 March 1970

TO: 9-38(C)
3ARRGP (JRCC)
IN TURN

1. This report is submitted in accordance with ARRSM 55-2, 3ARRGP Sup 1.
2. The alert crew was notified of an F-4 in difficulty, at 1205L. There was no difficulty in launching or in route. There was no ground fire and the weather was relatively good (partly cloudy, light winds). RESCORT, RESCAP & Airborne Mission Commander were not involved, although King was trying to gain information from the on scene commander while he was busy with the F-4's wingman. The survivors were spotted immediately upon arrival at the crash site (1215L). The survivors were not seriously injured and ran from the rescuers initially thinking them to be hostile. They responded however after being called. The survivors were loaded aboard the landed helicopter but takeoff was delayed while the PJ treated 2 villagers (a boy and a Buddhist priest) injured by debris from the aircraft. They subsequently boarded the helicopter along with the survivors and rescue crew. Departed from the scene at 1230L landing and termination was at 1235L. There was no damage to rescue equipment or injuries to rescue personnel. The Buddhist priest was subsequently found to have a fractured skull and was considered to be a non-combat save by the Base Dispensary.
3. The survivors were Lt Col William E. Brown and Lt Col Leonard E. Melton.
4. Crew:
 1. AC - Oliver E. Schmoker, Captain
 2. CP - Harold L. Edwards, Major
 3. PJ - Michael F. Dean, SSgt
 4. FF - Jerry Price, SSgt
 5. FF - Donald E. Sherman, SSgt

Oliver E. Schmoker
OLIVER E. SCHMOKER, Captain, USAF
Aircraft Commander

1st Ind (9-38C)

DAF, Det 9, 38th ARRSQ

TO: 3ARRGP (JRCC)

APPROVED:

Charles K. Lansdale
CHARLES K. LANSDALE, Major, USAF
Commander

*avb
9*