

JOPREP JIFFY – The Air Force codeword for operational messages destined for the Joint Chief of Staff's operational reporting system (JOPREP) command post.

Z 0 151355Z APR 70
FM OL / 3ARRGP SON TRA AB RVN

CONFIDENTIAL/JOPREP JIFFY/OL-1. 3ARRGP/RESCUE 028

1. RESCUE OPENING/PROGRESS REPORT 15 APRIL 70
 2. 1-3-028-15 APRIL 70
 3. A. (1) TACTICAL (2) TACTICAL B. (1) CLASSIFIED (2) CLASSIFIED C. (1) UNKNOWN/UNKNOWN/UH-1/BIKINI 28 (2) CAMOFLAUGED/66-13280/HH-3E/JOLLY GREEN 27 D. (1) USA (2) USAF E. (1) US ARMY (2) 37ARRS F. (1) NOT FOR RELEASE (2) NOT FOR RELEASE G. (1) 2 AMERICANS FROM THE DOWNED BIKINI 28 PLUS AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF ARVN AT THE CRASH SITE. (2) 4 H. (1) YELLOW FLARES ONLY ARE POSSESSED BY THE ARVN. (2) RESCUE STANDARD
 4. JRCC 15/0525Z
 5. S/E
 6. KING 6. SPAD 03 AND 04 DIVERTED AT 0526Z. JOLLY GREEN 27 AND 21, SPADS 11 AND 12 SCRAMBLED AT 0526Z
 7. SAME AS ITEM 6
 8. 1450N 10742E 53 NM W PLEIKU
 9. A. NOT A FACTOR B. NOT A FACTOR C. 8000 SCATTERED, 6 MILES VIS. WIND NE 5 KNOTS
 10. OL-1, 3ARRGP, MAJ O.L. HORSCH, MAJ. L.W. DIXON. MSGT D.E. GRAGG.
- PAGE 3 CONFIDENTIAL
TSGT L. VANCE, A1C J.M. WHITE
11. JRCC. BLUECHIP. II DASC
 12. ELLIOTT 16; 15/0415Z
 13. 37ARRS/HH-3E/JUGLE PENETRATOR/0715Z
 14. UNKNOWN/UNKNOWN/3/3/UNKOWN/0
 15. SURVIVORS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL AT PLEIKU AB RVN

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16. 2/10.3/HC130P/39ARRSQ 6/18.6/HH-3E/37ARRSQ 8/28.0/A1E/
OL-AA, 56 SOW 8/30.6/A-1E/56 SOW

17. 0/0/0/0/UNK/O/UNK/O

18. A. P- MAJ LEWIS GRRETT, CP/CAPT JIMMY BLACKWOOD, FE- SSGT
THAYER V. POPE, PJ- SGT GARY T. OSBORNE. ALL OF 37 APRSQ
B. CP- MAJ TRAVIS WOFFORD, FE- TSGT GERRLD L. HARTZELL, PJ SSGT
LUTHER E. DAVIS. ALL OF 37 ARRSQ

19. A. 1450-N 10742E, 100 PERCENT EFFECTIVE B. S/E C. S/E D. 4 HH-3E
37 ARRSQ; 4A-1E, OL-AA, 56 SOW; 4 A-1E, 56 SOW; 2HC-130P, 39ARRSQ;
US ARMY HELOS, USAF FACS AND JET FIGHTER ACFT. E. N/A H. 3
ARRS USAF AIR CREW MEMBER, COMBAT SAVES/2 AIR REFUELINGS/BOTH
AIRCRAFT DOWNED BY HOSTILE FIRE/ 6CREW MEMBERS AND UNDETERMINED
NUMBER OF ARVN/1 PJ DEPLOYMENT THIS RESCUE MISSION BEGAN AS
AN EFFORT TO RECOVER TWO AMERICAN AIRCREW MEMBERS FROM A
DOWNED UH-1 ARMY HELICOPTER WITH THE CALL SIGN BIKINI 28. THE INITIAL
SAR

FORCE CONSISTED OF 4 SPADS- 03, 04, 11, 12, JOLLY GREEN 27,21, 3 COBRA
GUNSHIPS, A FAC, AND KING 6. AS THIS FORCE ARRIVED SRAD 03 WAS
BRIEFED BY THE ON-SCENE FAC AS TO THE OBJECTIVE AND HOSTILITIES.
AT THIS POINT IT WAS LEARNED THAT THE SURVIVORS WERE IN A BOMB
CRATFR ATOP A 2300 FT RIDGE. IN ADDITION TO THE TWO SURVIVORS THERE
WERE AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF ARVN ALSO IN THE BOMB CRATER.
THEIR SURVIVAL RADIO HAD FAILED. AN UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT WAS MADE
TO DROP THE SURVIVORS A KIT RADIO. ONE OF THE AMERICAN SURVIVORS
WAS IN CRITICAL CONDITION, THE OTHER AMERICAN WAS INJURED; THE
EXTENT OF HIS WAS UNKNOWN. THERE WERE UNFRIENDLY FORCES IN THE
IMMEDIATE VICINITY. FAST MOVEPS WITH SOFT ORDNANCE AND HIGH DRAG
BOMBS WERE EXPENDED ON THE HOSTILE FORCES UNDER THE DIRECTION
OF THE FAC. WHEN THE FAC AND SPAD 03 DETERMINED SUFFICIENT
SUPPRESSION OF THE HOSTILE FORCES; JOLLY GREEN 27 AND 21 WERE
BROUGHT IN FOR THE PICK-UP ESCORTED BY SPADS 03, 04 AND COBRA
GUNSHIPS. JOLLY GREEN 27 ENCOUNTERED GROUND FIRE WHILE
PROCEEDING IN FOR THE PICK-UP.

AS JOLLY GREEN 27 APPROACHED THE SCENE OF THE SURVIVORS JOLLY
GREEN 27 SUSTAINED HEAVY GROUND FIRE. THE FORCES BEGAN AN
IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE FROM THE AREA. JOLLY GREEN 27 TURNED TOWARD
THE SOUTH AND SUBSEQUENTLY

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CRASHED AND BEGAN BURNING. JOLLY GREEN 21 IMMEDIATELY BEGAN THE
RECOVERY OF JOLLY GREEN 27 CREW. THE JOLLY GREEN WERE
SURROUNDED BY HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS.

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RECOVERY WAS MADE VIA JUNGLE PENETRATOR AND THE PJS ASSISTANCE. THE PILOT OF JOLLY 27 WAS NOT RECOVERED. THE CO-PILOT SUSTAINED CUTS AND ABRASIONS; THE FLIGHT ENGINEER AND PJ FROM JOLLY GREEN 27 SUSTAINED 2ND TO 3RD DEGREE BURNS. AS THE RECOVERY OF THE THREE AIRCREW MEMBERS FROM JOLLY GREEN 27 WAS BEING COMPLETED; JOLLY GREEN 21 ENCOUNTERED POWER LOSS ACCOMPANIED BY BOTH ENGINE FIRE WARNING LIGHTS ILLUMINATING. JOLLY GREEN 21 HIT THE GROUND DAMAGING THE AIRCRAFT BUT IMMEDIATELY RECOVERED AND THEREAFTER WAS ESCORTED TO PLIEKU AB BY SPADS 04 AND 04. THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE TO JOLLY GREEN 21 IS NOT YET BEEN FULLY DETERMINED. THE EFFORT TO RECOVER THE SURVIVORS IN THE CRATER CONTINUED. SOME OF THE

ADDITIONAL FORCE EMPLOYED IN AN EFFORT TO EFFECT A RECOVERY INCLUDED FOUR JOLLY GREEN'S, SIX SPADS, SIX SANDY'S, A KING SERVING AS A TANKER, SEVERAL FAC'S AND AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF ARMY GUNSHIPS AND FAST MOVER AIRCRAFT. THE HOSTILITIES AND RESISTANCE CONTINUED UNTIL DARKNESS AT WHICH TIME ALL FORCES WERE RTB'D. A FIRST LIGHT EFFORT IS BEING PLANNED FOR TOMORROW.