

37th Crew Saves Five Vietnamese

Rescue crews from the 37th ARRS have picked up five Vietnamese Air Force crew members last Saturday after their

UH-1E 'Huey' helicopter went down approximately 12 miles east-southeast of Hue. be the first time that VNAF personnel had been rescued by the 37th.

The five rescued men, all from the

VNAF's 213th Helicopter Squadron, were 1st. Lt. Ngoc Tran Van, an instructor pilot, 2d Lts. Boi Hoang and Nhiep Dang, two student pilots; Sgt. Bat Mai Van, the crew chief, and Capt. Hao Do Huu, a passenger.

After their rescue, the VNAF airmen and the rescue crew received a traditional hosing down to welcome them to Da Nang, much to the surprise of the Vietnamese airmen.

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VNAF Rescued

(Continued from Pg. 1)

U.S. Air Force Maj. Ryland R. Driebelbis was the aircraft commander of the HH-53 "Buff" that brought the VNAF airmen in. The co-pilot was Capt. Karlton I. Bakke and PJ's (pararescuemen) on the crew were MSgt. Gordon C. Bailey and ALC James W. Meulch. Crew chief was SSgt. Robert H. Rogers.

Operating out of Da Nang, two A-1 Skyraiders from the 56th Special Operations Wing, at NKP Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand flew as protective escort for the rescue aircraft.

The Huey went down in an abandoned rice paddy just inland from the coast of the South China Sea, according to Major Driebelbis. "They apparently had mechanical problems and had to land in the paddy. When we got to the scene they were on top of the chopper and we just dropped the penetrator down and pulled them up one by one."

The Skyraider pilots said they saw what appeared to be a crane-type helicopter coming on the scene to retrieve the Huey.

Living up to their motto, "That Others May Live", the men of the 37th have made 605 'saves' since coming to Da Nang in 1969.

6 Feb

500 JG 77 Landed AT B. H
 logged 4.0 2- landings DS
 635 JG 65 + JG 73 IN SAR
 Effort BUTTER fly 063 UNAF
 #341 Down AT 325/25/77
 #5 Aboard
 645 Going INTO phase BRAVO —
 JG 65 Low bird
 655 PHASE BRAVO COMPLETED FIVE PKKUP'S #601 #602 #603 #604 #605
 0800 MISSION NO. A-3-004 6 FEB 71 Closed
 0715 JG 65 ON the Deck 3.3 SAR DS
 JG 73 in the deck 3.7 MSN DS
 1058 DATA GRCC TOTAL 15.9 A
 1100 Line Check SXT SGT ARISSE off A
 #340 6 Feb - Queen is calling it. COMBAT SAVES.
 A004 6 Feb DS

7 FEB

2040 MAJ HEIGES ON DUTY RA
 2145 STATUS PASSED TO QUEEN RA
 0405 Maj Heiges off Miss Smith on duty DS
 1000 Neg flying time FOR DATA DS
 1015 Line Check 57-5 DS
 1020 Miss Smith off duty DS

8 FEB

2040 M. J. Posey ON DUTY Cof
 2130 STATUS PASSED TO QUEEN Cof
 2309 ITEM 14 RCV Cof
 2345 OPS STATUS PASSED Cof
 2045 JG 73 ABN ETE 4130 Cof

FEBRUARY

1971

NAME RANK

SSN

DATE	CREW	JG	SAVE #	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	TYPE SAVE
6	DREIBELBIS	65	601	NGOC, TRAN-VAN ^{1/LT}	16-185N	5 COMBAT
	BAKKE		602	BOI, HOANG ^{2/LT}	108.00E	
	ROGERS		603	NHIEP DANG ^{2/LT}	UH1H	
	BAILEY		604	BAT MAI VAN, ST	SOUTH V.N.	
	MUELCHE		605	HÀO ĐỒ-HỮU, CAPT.	MSN II A-3-004	
26	BAKKE	65	607	HEDDRICH, DAVID R.	106.26E	2 COMBAT
	WEIMER		608	CAPT ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~	1642 N.	
	McKINNEY			37 TFW	COBRA 23 F-4	
	NARDI			MCLAUGHLIN, THOMAS M. ^{1/LT}		
	CURTIS			~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ 37 TFW		
27	WAMMER	72	609	McCarthy, PAUL F. ~~XXXX~~	017/17/69	1 COMBAT
	FRIED			CMR.	CHIPPIE 414	FEET WET.
	ROGERS			"KITTY HAWK"	(A-7)	
	SCHWARTZ					
	KIRK					
09	BEATTIE	77	606	NAME UNKN	GON SON	1 MED EVAC
	KOMICH			V.N. WOMAN	ISLAND	1 New COMBAT
	BURCHFIELD			PREGNANT &		
	SMITH			hemorrhaging	MSN #	
	HANCOCK				03-003 FEB	

MONTHLY TOTAL 9

The alpha crewmember from Gunfighter 13 was not recovered.

On 20 January 71 while Jolly Greens 77 and 71 were flying locally they observed a ball of fire in the air and then saw two parachutes descending feet wet two miles east of Monkey Mountain. Both helicopters immediately went to the scene and recovered the crew of Gunfighter 03. The aircraft commanders of Jolly Green 70 and Jolly Green 71 were Major Mudd and Captain Gary Hoven. Major Mudd made the 600th save recovered by the 37ARRS on this mission.

On 6 February 71 while Jolly Greens 65 and 73 were on orbit they were advised by Queen that a South Vietnamese UH1H, call sign Butterfly 063 was down 109 degrees for 18 miles off Channel 69. Five persons were on board. Both helicopters departed for the scene and were joined by Sandy aircraft. After the Sandy aircraft prepared the area Jolly Green 65 recovered the five South Vietnamese crewmembers. Jolly Green 65 was flown by Major Ryland R. Dreibelbis. This may have been the first recovery of Vietnamese personnel by Jolly Green forces.

On 9 February 71 a Medevac mission was completed by Jolly Green 77, which was on alert at Bien Hoa. A woman was hemorrhaging at Con Son Island and required evacuation to medical facilities. The evacuation to Saigon was without incident. The aircraft commander of Jolly Green 77 was Captain Donald G. Beattie.