

Date: - August 1971

MISSION NUMBER: L-02-44-1-4-71

FLIGHT DESIGNATION: KING 12

MISSION OBJECTIVE: SEARCH LARSON

LOCATION: CH 108 AREA

SAVES: THREE (3)

At 0456Z a call from CH 108 #1681 a beachcraft barron was lost and requesting assistance. VHF contact was established on CHICK primary and changed to 123.1. 681 stated that his last known position was 150/20/108. He thought he was somewhere south of CH 108. We requested numerous "hold downs" on VHF in an attempt to confirm his position, which appeared to be southeast of CH 108, he was at this time turned to a heading of 300 degrees at approximately 0500Z. Upon request he stated he had 1+30 fuel and three souls on board. We requested that he squawk emergency on his IFF SIF, but we had negative reference. At approximately 0516Z it was determined that his last stated position of 150/20/108 was incorrect and he was thus instructed to fly in a left hand race track pattern and maintain VFR. We went out on 119.1 for any AA fixed wing in the area of CH 108 (L20A). There were no aircraft in the vicinity that could help at this time. Continuing toward CH 108, we determined that our #1 VHF DF was unreliable and #2 DF was correct, after checking with a PHK, Porter, to confirm the bearing information. We descended to 12,500 and fixed 681's position at L23, which he confirmed after having some ground sightings (0531). He was then instructed to fly 100 degrees heading for L20Z. At approximately 60 miles from CH 108 we picked up his IFF on our APX 65 and confirmed his position and heading of 100 degrees. At this time he was approximately 65 miles from L20A. He had no bearing information and was flying IMC 90% of the time. We got a visual sighting on us moments after our radar intercept and we flew 12 to 13 miles in trail approximately 2000 feet above. Our flight crew were VMC, although 681 was IMC at 10,000 approximately 15 miles from L20A. He gave us a heading of 070 to take him out of the clouds and slightly north of the field, as there was a large cell build up to the south of L20A. He then stated that he knew where he was and proceeded to L20A visually landing at approximately 0605Z with 20 minutes of fuel remaining.

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP-4

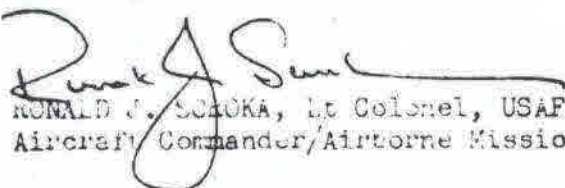
Declassify at 3 year intervals
Declassify after 12 years

King 24 Crewmembers

AMC Lt Colonel Ronald J. Schoka
CP 1st William G. Barker
NAV Captain Joel A. Hancock
KO TSgt John L. Glane
FE TSgt Ruben P. Aircoe
FE TSgt Samuel P. Jordan
LM TSgt Alfred W. Stone

17th Forces

Klong 73
King 24


RONALD J. SCHOKA, Lt Colonel, USAF

Aircraft Commander/Airborne Mission Commander