



U.S. Air Force Photo by SSgt. Roger Goodwin

A U.S. Army helicopter pilot with an air cavalry unit of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) is lifted into an HH-53 Jolly Green Giant of the 37th ARRS at Da Nang Afd.

Rescue near Hue 'textbook example'

DA NANG Afd. -- In a mission described as so smooth that it could serve as a textbook example, crewmen of Da Nang's 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (ARRS) recently recovered two injured U.S. Army helicopter pilots from dense jungle 15 miles southwest of Hue.

The helicopter, an AH-1 "Cobra" gunship, crashed from unknown, non-hostile causes.

The rescued men are members of an air cavalry unit of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) at Phu Bai.

The rescue involved having a pararescueman, TSgt. Harvey R. Pickelsimer, lowered to the ground to secure the injured men in stretchers for reeling aboard the hovering HH-53 Super Jolly Green Giant helicopter.

In addition to the injured men, who were taken to the U.S. Army's 95th Evacuation Hospital near Da Nang, three U.S. Army aerial rifle platoon scouts, also with the 101st Airborne Division, were lifted and transported to Da Nang Airfield. The scouts had descended near the crash site from an Army helicopter to protect the injured men until the rescue aircraft arrived.

The rescue helicopter was crewed by Capt. Roger T. Colgrove, aircraft commander; Maj. Jackson K. Scott Jr., copilot; SSgt. Jimmie D. Minshaw, flight engineer; Sergeant Pickelsimer; and AIC William R. Pearson, another pararescueman.

Lt. Col. William M. Harris, 37th ARRS commander, who flew the "high bird" or second rescue

helicopter on the mission, praised the "smoothness and textbook performance" of Captain Colgrove and his crew.

Captain Colgrove, in turn, cited the performance of his flight engineer.

"Sergeant Minshaw did an outstanding job of operating the hoist to lift the injured men through the thick jungle canopy. He got them out of there with as little jostling as possible, yet quickly to cut down our exposure time in the hover," he noted.

The rescue included a couple of firsts. It was Captain Colgrove's initial combat save as an aircraft commander and Sergeant Pickelsimer's first time on the ground in a combat operation.

The saves raised to 702 the number of men rescued by the 37th ARRS.