

Notes: at Lima Site 20, crashed on landing, hit ground, spun right, rolled down hill, flipped, burst into flames. Two flight engineers survived.

Tail No.: 68-10366 Model: HH-53C Date of Loss: 25 Nov 71 Unit: 37th ARRS
Country of Loss: Gia Dinh, SVN Call Sign: Jolly Green 70

Pilot: Robert B. Swenck (02W-72)
Co-Pilot: John W. George (02W-72)
P.J.: Thomas D. Prose (02W-72)
P.J.: James R. Thomas (02W-72)

Notes: SAR mission, crashed Song Na River

Tail No.: Model: UH-1N Date of Loss: 04 Dec 71 Unit: 20th SOS, Ban Me Thuot
Country of Loss: Gia Dinh, SVN Call Sign: Green Hornet

Gunner: Thomas E. Fike (02W-84)

Notes: Tim Fike was the last Hornet lost. If I remember right it was in Dec 71. It was his last mission before rotating home (it was to be a milk run out of Saigon and back). His crew was shot down as they were returning to Saigon. The pilot thought that they had seen a rocket launcher set up in a rice paddy. The went in low level to check it out (flying a slick), and a bad guy popped up and racked the bottom of the chopper. Tim Fike was killed, the other gunner (King) was seriously wounded and at least one of the pilots was wounded in the leg. From "Jim" (Official Squadron History does not have this information in files – History ends Sept 1971)

Tail No.: 68-10359 Model: HH-53C Date of Loss: 27 Mar 72 Unit: 40th ARRS
Country of Loss: Cambodia Call Sign: Jolly Green 61

Pilot: David E. Pannabecker (02W-120)
Co-Pilot: Richard E. Dreher (02W-119)
Flight Engineer: James Manor (02W-120)
P.J.: Raymond J. Crow, Jr. (02W-119)
P.J.: Raymond A. Wagner (02W-120)

Notes: crashed from unknown causes

Tail No.: 68-10365 Model: HH-53C Date of Loss: 6 Apr 72 Unit: 37th ARRS
Country of Loss: Quang Tri, SVN Call Sign: Jolly Green 67

Pilot: Peter H. Chapman, II (02W-130)
Co-Pilot: John H. Call, III (02W-130)
Flight Engineer: Roy D. Prater (02W-131)
P.J.: Allen J. Avery (02W-130)
P.J.: William R. Pearson (02W-132)



A1C Raymond A. Wagner

Name: Raymond Anthony Wagner

Unit: 40th Air Rescue/Recovery Squadron, Nakhon Phanom, Airfield, Thailand

Date of Birth: 22 October 1951

Home City of Record: Evansville IN

Date of Loss: 27 March 1972

Country of Loss: Cambodia

Loss Coordinates: 140622N 1063350E (XA682585)

Refno: 1805

Other Personnel in Incident: Richard E. Dreher; James Manor; David E. Pannabecker; Raymond J. Crow (all missing)

SYNOPSIS: Sergeant Crow and Airman Wagner were PJ's on board an HH-53 over Tonle Sap Lake. They had just finished a combat SAR orbit and are returning to base after an aerial refueling. Without warning, a catastrophic mechanical failure races through the complex rotor system destroying it and instantly killing all personnel aboard. Because the incident occurs over a heavily contested and dangerous area of the war zone, none of the crew remains were ever recovered. To This day, the tragedy remains a mystery.

SPECIAL NOTE: Altogether, the HH-53 "Super Jolly Green Giant" was the largest, fastest and most powerful heavy lift helicopter in the U.S. Air Force inventory. In 1967, the Air Force started a development program to acquire a night rescue capability, and by March 1971, it had succeeded in installing a nighttime recovery system aboard five HH53C Super Jolly helicopters in Southeast Asia. The Super Jolly was involved in such famed rescue attempts as the attempt to rescue American POWs held at the Son Tay prison compound near Hanoi in late November 1970, and the assault operation to free the Mayaguez crew in May 1975.

Additional informaion on Raymond Wagner

REMARKS: CRASH S SEARCH - NO SURV FND - J

SYNOPSIS: Altogether, the HH-53 "Super Jolly Green Giant" was the largest,

water or remote areas). Category 2 includes personnel who were lost in circumstances or in areas that they may reasonably be expected to be known by the enemy (e.g. individuals connected with an incident which was discussed but not identified by name by enemy news media, or probably identified by analysis of intelligence reports.) No explanation has been given as to why the crewmembers were classified differently.

The Americans missing in Cambodia present a special problem. The U.S. has never recognized the government of Cambodia, nor has it negotiated for the release of any Americans captured there. It has generally been believed that any POWs held in Cambodia after the end of U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia perished in the genocide committed by Pol Pot in the mid-1970's.

In 1988, the Cambodian government announced that it had the remains of a number of American servicemen it wished to return to the United States. The U.S. did not respond officially, however, because there are no diplomatic ties between Cambodia and the U.S. Several U.S. Congressmen have attempted to intervene and recover the remains on behalf of American family members, but Cambodia wishes an official overture. Meanwhile, the bodies of Americans remain in the hands of our former enemy.

Even more tragically, evidence mounts that many Americans are still alive in Southeast Asia, still prisoners from a war many have long forgotten. It is a matter of pride in the armed forces that one's comrades are never left behind. One can imagine any of the men lost in Cambodia on March 27, 1972 being willing to go on one more mission for the freedom of those heroes we left behind.



This Operation Just Cause Web Ring site is owned by

One Who Cares

[Prev] [Random] [Next] [Skip Next] [Next 5] [Members] [Join]

Return to Rescue Main Page

Go

"The Code Of The AFRCC"

It is our duty, as members of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, to save lives and aid the injured. We will be prepared at all times to perform this duty quickly and efficiently, placing it before personal desires and comforts.

"These things we do ... That Others May Live"

Ray lived the above code to help save the lives of many. Then one day

Name:	Raymond Anthony Wagner
Date of Loss:	March 27, 1972
Age:	20 years 5 months
Country of Loss:	Cambodia
Loss Coordinates:	140622N 1063350E (XA682585)

Ray needs us to know the following information to better understand why we should not give up!

Important to know! In attempt to classify the cases of the Missing in Action to determine which cases could be readily resolved, the Defense Department assigned "enemy knowledge" categories to each missing man, according to the likelihood their fates would be known by the enemy.

Category 2: Includes personnel who were lost in circumstances or in areas that they may reasonably be expected to be known by the enemy.

Category 3: Includes personnel whose loss incident is such that it is doubtful that the enemy would have knowledge of the specific individuals such as aircrews lost over water.

Ray was not alone.

Other Personnel Aboard

Name	Status
Richard E. Dreher	Missing
James Manor	Missing
David E. Pannabecker	Missing
Raymond J. Crow	Missing

Now we can see what Ray was doing that day. This is a report of how the accident happened. Please keep an eye out for the year and the categories!! This is not a mistake I made.

Synopsis

The HH-53 "Super Jolly Green Giant" was the largest, fastest and most powerful heavy lift helicopter in the U.S. Air Force.

On the morning of March 27, 1972, Capt. Dreher was assigned as escort pilot as part of a day rescue mission and departed at 0830 being second in a flight of two. Following aerial refueling both proceeded to complete the mission maintaining interplane communications. The lead aircraft called a "tally ho" but did not receive an answer.

The pilot attempted to find him visually without success. Completing a 180 degree turn they sighted black smoke coming from a dense jungle five miles away. Their position was about 10 miles southeast of Siempang, Cambodia.

Pararescue specialists were lowered to the site of the crash to check for survivors but due to the intense heat of the burning helicopter, they could not determine if there were crew members inside the aircraft. A second attempt was made three hours later. Again it was too hot to search closely. It was never determined if any aboard the Super Jolly survived.

Classification:

Wagner, Pannabecker and Dreher were assigned

"Category 2"

and Manor and Crow

"Category 3".

No explanation has been given as to why the crew members were classified in different categories!

1973

Name:	Raymond Anthony Wagner
Status:	Killed - Body Not Recovered
Category:	3
Aircraft:	HH53C
Remarks:	Crash S Search - No Surv Fnd - J



What has happened to Ray? Certainly he could have died in the crash OR he could have escaped the inferno heading into enemy territory and taken prisoner.

It has been since 1972 when they listed him as a MIA. Reports are mounting that many Americans are still alive in Southeast Asia. If Raymond was your son, husband, love or friend

Received your pictures in the mail today. Thanks for the copies. They are good quality. There is a high probability of my using the one of you. Ray and Glenn. Glen flew out of Tan Son Knut in 72. When I scanned my database for your name, I came up with a David Ash who flew on the Myaguez mission. The info came from a PJ named McGiver and he may have gotten names mixed up. Did you serve in SEA?

Thanks again.

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Ash <oosmash@webtv.net>
To: rlapointe@gci.net <rlapointe@gci.net>
Date: Friday, February 25, 2000 11:02 AM
Subject: Pic's of MIA PJ's

Dear Bob;

You & I don't know one another but, I see that you are doing research for a book PJ's in Viet-nam. I have a couple of pic's of one of the PJ's we left in Cambodia. The PJ I'm referring to is A1C Ray Wagner who was shot down Mar 72'. The pic's I have, are one of the two of us @ jump school (71') & the other is of myself, Ray, & another PJ Glen Farley I think the day after graduation @ Hill AFB Ut. (Nov 71')

These pic's are nothing spectacular but they are pic's that no one else has a copy of, as far as I know of. If you would like copies please let me know for I will have to make some copies, I would be happy to donate them for the cause of Ray's memory (no re-reimbursement wanted, nor will be accepted)

May all their memories live on forever

Your Brother PJ
S.M. Ash

WAGNER KIA 27 MAR 72

STEVE ASH
5328 MOELLER AVE
NORWOOD, OH 45212



Insurance Center > Auto | Home | Health | Life | Dental | Vision | LTC
FREE Insurance Quotes Powered by: ebix.com
Your **COMPLETE** REFER & WIN! LOGIN Free Web Site/50Megs

JAMES MANOR



Rank/Branch: E4/US Air Force

Unit: 40th Air Rescue/Recovery Squadron,
Nakhon Phanom, Airfield, Thailand

Date of Birth: 19 January 1950

Home City of Record: Panama City FL

Date of Loss: 27 March 1972

Country of Loss: Cambodia

Loss Coordinates: 140622N 1063350E (XA682585)

Status (in 1973): Killed/Body Not Recovered

Category: 3

Aircraft/Vehicle/Ground: HH53C

Refno: 1805

Other Personnel in Incident: Richard E. Dreh
Raymond J. Crow; David E. Pannabecker; Raymo
Wagner (all missing)

Source: Compiled by Homecoming II Project 15
1991 from one or more of the following: raw
from U.S. Government agency sources, corresp
with POW/MIA families, published sources, int
Updated by the P.O.W. NETWORK 1998.

REMARKS: CRASH S SEARCH - NO SURV FND - J

SYNOPSIS: Altogether, the HH-53 "Super Jolly
Giant" was the largest, fastest and most pow
heavy lift helicopter in the U.S. Air Force
inventory.

In 1967, the Air Force started a development
program to acquire a night rescue capability
by March 1971, it had succeeded in installin
nighttime recovery system aboard five HH53C
Jolly helicopters in Southeast Asia. The Sup
Jolly was involved in such famed rescue atte

as the attempt to rescue American POWs held Son Tay prison compound near Hanoi in late N 1970, and the assault operation to free the crew in May 1975.

Capt. Richard Dreher was assigned as escort as part of a day rescue mission and departed at 0830 on the morning of March 27, 1972. Dr Super Jolly was the second aircraft in a fli two. Aboard the aircraft was the pararescue consisting of James Manor, David E. Pannabec Raymond A. Wagner.

Following aerial refueling over southeastern Thailand, they departed the tanker to comple mission, maintaining interplane communicatio FM and UHF radios. The lead aircraft called "tally ho" on the aircraft they were escorti When the lead aircraft did not receive an an the pilot attempted to find him visually wit success. After completing a 180 degree turn, pilot of the lead aircraft reported sighting column of black smoke coming from the dense

five miles away. Their position at this time in Stoeng Treng Province, Cambodia, about 10 southeast of the city of Siempang.

A pararescue specialist was lowered to the ground at the site of the crash to check for survivors but due to the intense heat from the burning helicopter, he could not approach near enough to determine if there were crew members inside the aircraft.

Some three hours later a second rescue specialist was deployed in the immediate area, who reported the wreckage was still burning, precluding close inspection.

It was never determined if any aboard the Su-7 Jolly survived, but all aboard were declared Killed/Body Not Recovered.

In an attempt to classify the cases of the MIA in Action to determine which cases could be resolved, the Defense Department assigned "known knowledge" categories to each missing man,

according to the likelihood their fates would be known by the enemy. In the case of the downed Super Jolly, Wagner, Pannabecker and Dreher assigned "Category 2", and Manor and Crow assigned "Category 3".

Category 3 includes personnel whose loss is such that it is doubtful that the enemy will have knowledge of the specific individuals (aircrews lost over water or remote areas).

Category 2 includes personnel who were lost in circumstances or in areas that they may reasonably be expected to be known by the enemy (e.g. individuals connected with an incident which was discussed but not identified by name by enemy media, or probably identified by analysis of intelligence reports.) No explanation has been given as to why the crewmembers were classified differently.

The Americans missing in Cambodia present a special problem. The U.S. has never recognized the government of Cambodia, nor has it negotiated

the release of any Americans captured there. has generally been believed that any POWs he Cambodia after the end of U.S. involvement i Southeast Asia perished in the genocide comm by Pol Pot in the mid-1970's.

In 1988, the Cambodian government announced it had the remains of a number of American servicemen it wished to return to the United States. The U.S. did not respond officially, however, because there are no diplomatic tie between Cambodia and the U.S. Several U.S. Congressmen have attempted to intervene and the remains on behalf of American family mem but Cambodia wishes an official overture. Meanwhile, the bodies of Americans remain in hands of our former enemy.

Even more tragically, evidence mounts that m Americans are still alive in Southeast Asia, prisoners from a war many have long forgotte is a matter of pride in the armed forces tha comrades are never left behind.

One can imagine any of the men lost in Cambodia
 March 27, 1972 being willing to go on one more
 mission for the freedom of those heroes we left
 behind.



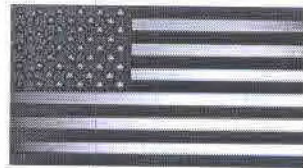
	This POW/MIA Ring site is owned by Rick Hinton Site ID# 345 [Next Previous Skip Random Site] [List Sites Stats Chat/MessageBoard Join] Proud Member of the POW/MIA Freedom Fighters. Get a POW/MIA Honor Page of your own
--	--

NEXT POW/MIA

HOME

Raymond Anthony Wagner

MIA - POW



I have adopted Raymond Anthony Wagner in an effort to bring him home. From all the information received in adopting Ray, I have gotten to know him and I am certain he is someone that you would like to know. *smile*

Come then...take my hand and I will introduce you to Ray.

Once Raymond walked among us, Raymond was so very much a part in the lives of his family, his friends, and the men in his unitand they in his.

Name:	Raymond Anthony Wagner
Branch:	United States Air Force
Rank:	E 3
Unit:	40th Air Rescue Recovery Squadron Nakhon Phanom, Airfield, Thailand
Date of Birth:	October 22, 1951
Home City:	Evansville, Indiana

Raymond served his country well as part of the Air Rescue.



