

## **War Heats Up**

# **Copters to the Rescue**

*AS AFTIMES WENT to press, reports flowed in of rescue helicopters saving the lives of 12 American airmen following a number of crashes in the jungles of South and North Vietnam and at sea. The rescue activity is increasing, as the air war steps up to meet the North Vietnamese invasion. Accounts of recent saves follow.*

### **F-4 Team Rescued**

DA NANG AFLD., Vietnam — Two captains who bailed into the South China Sea were rescued in short order by helicopters from Da Nang's 37th ARRS.

Capt. Michael C. Francisco and Capt. Arch F. Arthur turned seaward and bailed out when a surface-to-air missile hit their F-4 just south of the DMZ.

Capt. Donald A. Sutton arrived in command of an HH-53 and sent A1C Michael A. Aillet down to help one man into the hoist. Leaving Aillet in the water — "I knew Aillet would be okay" — he flew to the second man and got him aboard.

Aillet whiled away his time watching waterspouts from enemy mortars on shore splash harmlessly 100 yards away. The communists also fired missiles at the helicopter but Sutton ignored them, flew out to sea to stop the bother and went on home.