

DECLASSIFIED

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120

(S) The Sandys and Jolly Greens launched the next morning at 0630L. Fast mover ordnance was now available and being used on the gun positions in the area. Area denial ordnance was used extensively around the survivor. The Jolly Green entered the area on the deck and made a quick pickup. The SAR force egressed unopposed at 1045L.

PHEONIX BLACK II¹³⁵

(C) On 13 May, the Bien Hoa Sandys were alerted for a SAR for Pheonix Black II, a VNAF A-1 downed over An Loc. Before take-off the SAR was terminated, then reinitiated one half hour later. Upon arriving over An Loc the chute was sighted but no radio contact could be established. With no objective, the Sandys expended on the West side of the city under the direction of a Sundog FAC. While leaving the area one of the Sandys evaded an SA-7 missile. The whereabouts of Pheonix Black were not learned.

ICEBAG Ø4¹³⁶

(C) Icebag Ø4 (an F-105) was shot down 60 miles Southwest of Hanoi on 11 May. By the time the Sandys could get to the scene, Bravo advised that Alpha was being chased by villagers. Alpha never came back on radio. Bravo then reported people near his position. About the same time the Sandys began taking

135. 1st SOS Historical Data Reports. Also, see SARCO Report for Pheonix Black II, 13 May 72, (Doc 31).

136. 1st SOS and 23rd TASS Historical Data Reports.

Classified by *William P. Broward*
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1980

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56 SOW

Apr - Jun 72 vol. 3

1 SOS 1-31 May 72

K-WG-56-HI

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DOC A¹³

strikes. A last light pick-up was attempted but the Jollys were shot off by 12.7mm on the run in. The next morning strikes were made on the remaining gun positions and the Jollys made a successful pick-up.

On 2 May Stinger 41 was shot down by several 37mm guns near An Loc in South Viet Nam. Sandys 05/06 (Lt L. C. Smith, Capt Morgan) launched from Bien Hoa and directed the quick pick-up of six survivors with Jolly Greens while an Army helicopter rescued a seventh survivor.

On 11 May Ice Bag 04 (F-105) was shot down about 60 miles southwest of Hanoi. There were two survivors but by the time the Sandys reached the area Bravo advised that Alpha was being chased by villagers. Alpha never came up on the radio again. Bravo then reported people nearing his position and the Sandy began taking small arms fire. They attempted to silence the small arms but the job was complicated because they couldn't determine the exact location of the survivor. Darkness came before the ground fire could be fully suppressed. The rescue effort the next day was hampered by a lack of available ordnance, numerous MIG calls and encounters, and bad weather. Several times the Sandys were ready to try a pick-up when they were chased out of the area by MIGs. Two MIG-19s were seen less than one half mile from the Sandys. The only ordnance available to suppress the ever increasing ground fire was that carried by the Sandys. It was finally decided to try a first light effort the next day using only A-1's to suppress ground fire but the launch

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DOC D¹⁴

with 16B only. The survivor was located on the night of the 25th^{12.} through use of a Pave Nail OV-10. The first rescue attempt was aborted due to weather in the survivor's area. Rescue was effected on 26 April with little opposition. One Pave Nail OV-10 was damaged by small arms fire. No losses.

7. (S) On 12 May, 1972, ICEBAG 04 (F-105) was downed by a SA-2 SAM 40NM southwest of Hanoi in North Vietnam. Pave Nail OV-10s were launched but the survivor was located visually. Strikes were put into the surrounding area. However, as soon as the aircraft left the area the survivor could hear the local forces moving towards him. Contact was lost the next morning. Survivor presumed captured.

8. (S) On 8 June, 1972, SEAFOX 06 (F-4) was downed by ground fire just south of the DMZ in South Vietnam. Nail 73 (Capt John M. McNabb and Lt Robert L. Jahns) was in the area on a cross-country flight. Both crewmember's positions were visually established. Rescue forces were vectored in to 06B who was feet wet. Recovery forces were then directed to 06A's position 80 meters inland from the coast. The personal equipment of 06A was located but not the survivor. 06A presumed captured. Pave Nail systems were used to pinpoint active AAA sites in the area. SAR terminated 3 hours later. No losses/damages sustained.

9. (S) On the night of 18 June, 1972, SPECTRE 11 (AC-130) was downed by unknown means (SA-7 suspected) just west of the A Shau Valley in South Vietnam. Contact was established with only three survivors (11D, 11G, 11P) on the same night. They were located the next day by Nail 19 (Capt Gary W. Haile) who flew low to visually acquire the

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PAGE 3 RUMOSRA2619 S E C R E T

(F) 1 HH-53C 40ARRS LAUNCHED AT 110900Z

(G) 1 HH-53C 40ARRS LAUNCHED AT 111005Z

C. PERSONNEL INFORMATION:

(1) 2 PERSONS INVOLVED, 1 LOCATED, 1 MISSING

(2) ICEBAG 04 BRAVO LOCATED BY PAPA 01 AT 111101Z AT
APPROXIMATE POSITION 20:40 N, 104:56 E

D. FLYING ACTIVITY:

DET-4, 3ARRGP 2 SORTIES FOR 7.6 HOURS

56SOW 6 SORTIES FOR 16.2 HOURS

40ARRS 4 SORTIES FOR 15.6 HOURS

432TRW 6 SORTIES FOR 7.4 HOURS

E. SAVES DATA: 2 PERSONS INVOLVED, 1 LOCATED 1 MISSING

F. FUTURE PLANS:

1. SEACH AREA: PLAN TO SEACH A TWENTY FIVE (25)
MILE RADIUS OF 20:40N 10456E

2. FORCES AVAILABLE FOR SAR:

(A) 2 HC-130P

(B) 4 A-1E'S

(C) 4 HH-53C'S

(D) SUPPORT FORCES AS NEEDED

PAGE 4 RUMOSRA2619 S E C R E T

G. SUMMARY OF SAR ACTIONS: AT 110803Z MAY 72 OL-B, 3ARRGP
WAS NOTIFIED BY BRIGHAM CONTROL THAT AN F-105, ICEBAG 04
HAD EJECTED AT APPROXIMATE POSITION 20:40N 104:56E. 2 GOOD
CHUTES AND A MOMENTARY BEEPER WERE REPORTED. THE FOLLOWING
SAR FORCES AIRBORNE AT THIS TIME JOLLY GREEN 56/57, SANDY
1/2, KING 22 WERE DIVERTED TO AREA. KING 27 WHO HAD BEEN
LAUNCHED AT 110713Z WAS DIRECTED TO THE PAKSIANE AREA TO
BE TANKER. SANDY 3/4 WERE LAUNCHED AT 110825Z TO
RELEIVE SANDY 1/2. SANDY 11/12 WERE LAUNCHED AT 110947Z.
KING 22 REMAINED ON STATION AS AMC. PAPA FLT, 2F-4 WERE
SENT INTO THE AREA TO TRY AND ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH
SURVIVORS. AT 1101Z PAPA 01 ESTABLISHED VOICE AND BEEPER
CONTACT WITH ICEBAG 04 BRAVO. NO CONTACT WAS MADE WITH 04
ALPHA BUT AT ONE TIME THERE WERE TWO BEEPERS, ONE STRONG
AND ONE WEAK. THEY WERE UNABLE
TO GET AN ACCURATE POSITION ON THE SURVIVORS. DUE TO LACK OF
A DEFINITE POSITION AND APPROACHING DARKNESS SAR FORCES WERE
RTB AT 1115Z. KING 22 RECOVERED AT CHANNEL 70, REFUELED AND
RETURNED TO SAR AREA TO WORK WITH FAST MOVER FAC'S WHO ARE
PROGRAMMED INTO THE AREA TONIGHT ATTEMPTING TO REFIN

PAGE 5 RUMOSRA2619 S E C R E T

SURVIVORS POSITION. REFINED POSITION WILL DETERMINE FIRST

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LIGHT EFFORT. TWO AERIAL REFUELLINGS WERE ACCOMPLISHED IN
SUPPORT OF THIS MISSION.

GP-4

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PAGE 3 RUMOSRA2859 S E C R E T

(1) TIME SAR FORCES LAUNCHED:

- (A) 1 HC-130P, DT-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 111440Z
- (B) 1 HC-130P, DT-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 112215Z
- (C) 1 HC-130P, DT-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 120030Z
- (D) 2 HH-53C, 4OARRSQ LAUNCHED AT 120140Z
- (E) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 120150Z
- (F) 2 HH-53, 4OARRSQ LAUNCHED AT 120200Z
- (G) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 120210Z
- (H) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 120405Z
- (I) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 120420Z
- (J) 1 HC-130P, DT-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 120522Z
- (K) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 120623Z
- (L) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 120720Z
- (M) 1 HC-130P, DT-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 120810Z
- (N) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 120855Z
- (O) 2 A-1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 121000Z

C. PERSONNEL INFORMATION:

- (1) 2 PERSONS INVOLVED 2 LOCATED
- (2) PAPA 03 REESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH BRAVO MAN AT 112311Z
AT POSITION 20:30N 105:05E VOICE CONTACT WAS ESTABLISHED

PAGE 4 RUMOSRA2859 S E C R E T

WITH ALPHA MAN AT 120105Z AT POSITION 20:32N 105:09E.

D. FLYING ACTIVITY:

- 1. DET-4, 3ARRGP 4 SORTIES FOR 27.2 HOURS
- 2. 56SOW 20 SORTIES FOR 57.5 HOURS
- 3. 4OARRS 4 SORTIES FOR 40.1 HOURS
- 4. 432TRW 21 SORTIES FOR 75 HOURS
- 5. 366TFW 2 SORTIES FOR 9.5 HOURS
- 6. 8 TFW 6 SORTIES FOR 9 HOURS
- 7. 552AEMHC 2 SORTIES FOR 9 HOURS

E. SAVES DATA: NO SAVES

F. FUTURE PLANS:

- 1. PLANNED SEARCH AREA: SEARCH 25 NM RADIUS OF 20:30 105:05E
- 2. SAR FORCES AVAILABLE FOR SEARCH:

- A. 2 HC-130P DET-4, 3ARRGP
- B. 4 A-1E'S 56 SOW
- C. 4 HH-53C 4OARRS
- D. SUPPORT FORCES AS NEEDED

G. SUMMARY OF SAR ACTION:

KING 21, HC-130P WAS ON SCENE AS AMC AT SUNRISE. FAST MOVER
FAC'S, F-4, WERE IN THE SAR AREA AT SUNRISE AND ESTABLISHED

PAGE 5 RUMOSRA2859 S E C R E T

WITH THE SURVIVORS AND THROUGH OF PLOTS

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VORS POSITION. ALPHA MANS POSITION WAS PLOTTED AS 20 05E AND BRAVO MANS POSITION WAS PLOTTED AS 20 09E. SAR FORCES WERE LAUNCHED SO AS TO BE IN THE SAR AREA COINCIDENTAL WITH A PLANNED FRAG MISSION. THIS ALLOWED FOR MAXIMUM SUPPORT AIRCRAFT. DISCO (EC-121) PROVIDED THE SANDIES AND JOLLIES NAVIGATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO THE SAR AREA AND WAS A TREMENDOUS ASSET DURING THE ENTIRE MISSION. SANDY 1 & 2 ARRIVED IN THE AREA AND IMMEDIATELY STARTED A SEARCH FOR THE ALPHA AND BRAVO MEN. VOICE CONTACT WAS REESTABLISHED WITH THE BRAVO MAN THAT ENEMY PERSONNEL WERE IN THE AREA. VOICE CONTACT WAS NOT REESTABLISHED WITH ALPHA MAN WHO HAD TO E E EARLIER. THERE WAS HEAVY GROUND FIRE IN THE AREA THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND CONSTANT MIG THREATS THWARTED RESCUE ATTEMPTS EVEN THOUGH SUFFICIENT MIG CAP WAS AVAILABLE AND USED ALL DAY. THE MIG THREAT CAUSED FORCES TO BE PULLED BACK SEVERAL TIMES WHICH NECESSITATED RECYCLING OF SANDIES AND NAIL FAC'S AND REFUELLING OF JOLLY GREEN AIRCRAFT. WEATHER DETERIORATED IN THE LATE AFTERNOON TO 6 EIGHTS COVERAGE, 1500* TO 2000 FT WITH A THUNDER STORM DIRECTLY OVER THE SURVIVORS.

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DUE TO THE WEATHER AND APPROACHING DARKNESS THE SURVIVORS WAS BEDDED DOWN AND INSTRUCTED TO MONITOR THE RADIO STARTING AT SUNRISE AND TO COME UP ON THE HOUR AND HALF HOUR THROUGHOUT THE DAY. RESCUE EFFORTS FOR TOMORROW WILL BE PLANNED TONIGHT. TWELVE AERIAL REFUELLINGS WERE ACCOMPLISHED IN SUPPORT OF THIS MISSION.

2. KING 21 ASSUMED AMC DUTIES AT 112222Z MAY 72. KING 22 ASSUMED AMC DUTIES AT 120545Z MAY 72.

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Classification (cancelled) (changed to CONFIDENTIAL)
effective on 28 Feb 75 under the authority of 94
by 5841

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MESSAGE NOTIFICATION

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OTTSZYUW RUMOSRA3069 1341444-SSSS--RUCIMAA.
ZNY SSSSS

O 131415Z MAY 72

FM OL-B 3ARRGP UDORN RTAFB THAI
TO RUEFHQA/CSAF/AFXOTZB
RUHHAGA/CINCPACAF/JRCC HONOLULU HAWAII
RUCIMAA/HQ ARRS SCOTT AFB IL/COMMAND POST
INFO RUHHHQA/CINCPAC/CC
RUMMOMA/41ARRWG HICKAM AFB HI
RUHHKKA/13AF CLARK AB PI/INEO
ZEN/7/13AF UDORN RTAFB THAI/DOM
RUEKAAA/FT RITCHIE MD/AFEOC
RUWTFJA/RANDOLPH AFB TX/USAFMPC/DPMCS
RUCWAAA/HQ USAF ALT MAXWELL AFB AL
RUCIMAA/MAC/DOCP

RHMSHVA/MWCV/COMMAND CENTER/SAIGON RVN
RUMRSA/7AF TSN AB RVN/CC/DO/DOO/IN/DOCT
RUMRSA/3ARRGP TSN AB RVN/JRCC
RUMUJNA/OL-A 3ARRGP SON TRA AB RVN
RUWJAWA/3636CCTWG FAIRCHILD AFB WA
RUMORKA/388TFW KORAT RTAFB THAI
RUMOREA/40ARRS NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAI

PAGE 2 RUMOSRA3069 S E C R E T

RUMOREA/56SOW NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAI/DOO
RUMORKA/DET-4 3ARRGP KORAT RTAFB THAI
RUMFRBA/CTF 77
ZEN/432TRW UDORN RTAFB THAI
BT

S E C R E T/JOPREP JIFFY/OL-B, 3ARRGP/RESCUE 077/110803Z MAY 72

1. RESCUE PROGRESS REPORT NUMBER 2 (U)
2. MISSION NUMBER - B-3-036 - 11 MAY 72
3. SITUATION: DOWNED AIRCREW MEMBERS
- A. DESCRIPTION OF SAR OBJECTIVE:
(1) F105/624424/CAMOUFLAGED/ICEBAG04
- B. ACTIONS TAKEN:
(1) TIME SAR FORCES LAUNCHED:
(A) 1 HC-130P, DET-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 122205Z
(B) 1 HC-130P, DET-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 130027Z
(C) 2 A1E, 56SOW LAUNCHED AT 130235Z

C. PERSONNEL INFORMATION:

(1) 2 PERSONNEL INVOLVED, 2 MISSING

D. FLYING ACTIVITY:

(1) DET-4, 3ARRGP - 2 SORTIES FOR 18.2 HOURS

Classification (cancelled) (changed to CONFIDENTIAL)
effective on 28 Feb 75 under the authority of 94
by 6DS

Classified by
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 Dec 82

IMMEDIATE

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3 copies repro on 6 Mar 73, by ARRS/DOOR b.

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PAGE 3 RUMOSRA3069 S E C R E T

- (2) 56SOW - 2 SORTIES FOR 6.0 HOURS
- (3) 432TRW - 1 SORTIE FOR 5.0 HOURS
- (4) 8TFW - 4 SORTIES FOR 6.0 HOURS

E. SAVES DATA: NO SAVES

F. FUTURE PLANS:

(1) AIRCRAFT TRANSITING THE SAR AREA WILL MAINTAIN ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. A FAST MOVER FAC WILL BE FRAGGED INTO THE AREA AT FIRST LIGHT TO REESTABLISH RADIO CONTACT WITH THE SURVIVORS.

G. SUMMARY OF SAR ACTIONS:

(1) KING 21 (HC-130P) AMC REPORTED TO OLB THAT RADIO CONTACT WAS REESTABLISHED WITH ICEBAG 04 "B" AT 130137Z BY LAREDO 17, AN F-4. LAREDO REPORTED WEATHER IN THE SAR AREA WAS BROKEN STRATUS BELOW 4500FT MSL WITH RAIN SHOWERS IN THE VICINITY. SAR FORCES, 4 JG'S (HH-53C), 6 SANDYS (A1E), KING 21 (AMC), KING 24 (HC-130P) AS TANKER AND FRAGGED FAST MOVER AIRCRAFT, WERE SCHEDULED TO BE LAUNCHED SO AS TO ARRIVE IN THE SAR AREA AT THE SAME TIME A DIVERSIONARY AIR STRIKE WAS BEING CARRIED ON NEAR BY. AT 130233Z, LAREDO 17 REPORTED THAT HE HAD LOST RADIO CONTACT WITH THE SURVIVOR. A DEBRIEF OF LAREDO 17 INDICATED THE LAST TRANSMISSION HE HEARD FROM ICEBAG 04 (B) WAS "THEY

PAGE 4 RUMOSRA3069 S E C R E T

ARE ON THE HILL ABOVE ME, THEY ARE ALL AROUND ME, THEY HAVE GOT ME." LAREDO 17 CYCLED INTO THE SAR AREA FOR 2 HOURS MORE WITH NO FURTHER CONTACT. NO FURTHER BEEOPER OR VOICE CONTACT WAS MADE THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY BY AIRCRAFT TRANSITING THE AREA.

(2) KING 21 ASSUMED AMC DUTIES AT 122245Z MAY 72.

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OTTSZYUW RUMOSRA3165 1351258-SSSS--RUCIMAA.

ZNY SSSSS

O 141220Z MAY 72

FM OL-B, 3ARRGP UDORN RTAFB THAI

TO RUEFHQA/CSAF/AFXOTZB

RUHHAGA/CINCPACAF/JRCC/HONOLULU HI

RUCIMAA/HQ ARRS SCOTT AFB IL/COMMAND POST

INFO RUHHHQA/CINCPAC/CC

RUHHABA/41ARRWG HICKAM AFB HI

RUHHKKA/13AF CLARK AB PI/INEO

ZEN/7/13AF UDORN RTAFB THAI/DOM

RUEKAAA/FT RITCHIE MD/AFECC

RUNTFJA/RANDOLPH AFB TX/USAFMPC/DPMCS

RUCWAAA/HQ USAF ALT MAXWELL AFB AL

RUCIMAA/MAC/DOCP

RHMSMVA/MACV/COMMAND CENTER/SAIGON RVN

RUMMRSA/7AF TSN AB RVN/CC/DO/DOO/IN/DOCT

RUMMRSA/3ARRGP TSN AB RVN/JRCC

RUMUJNA/OL-A, 3 ARRG P SON TRA AB RVN

RUMJAUW/3636CCTWG FAIRCHILD AFB WA

RUMORKA/388TFW KORAT RTAFB THAI

RUMOREA/40ARRS NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAI

PAGE 2 RUMOSRA3165 S E C R E T

RUMOREA/5650W NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAI/DOO

RUMORKA/DET 4, 3ARRGP KORAT RTAFB THAI

RUMFRBA/CTF 77

ZEN/432TRW UDORN RTAFB THAI

BT

S E C R E T/JOPREP JIFFY/OL-B, 3ARRGP/RESCUE 078/110803Z MAY 72.

1. RESCUE PROGRESS REPORT NUMBER 3(U)

2. MISSION NUMBER - B-3-036 - 11 MAY 72

3. SITUATION: DOWNED AIRCREW MEMBERS:

A. DESCRIPTION OF SAR OBJECTIVE:

(1) F105/624424/CAMOUFLAGED/ICEBAG 04

B. ACTIONS TAKEN:

(1) AN F-4 FAST FAC ACCOMPANIED BY MIG CAP AIRCRAFT

PROCEEDED TO THE LAST KNOWN POSITION OF ICEBAG 04, NO CONTACT ON
EITHER BEEPER OR VOICE.

(2) TIME SAR FORCES LAUNCHED:

(A) 1 HC-130P, DET-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 132234Z

(B) 1 HC-130P, DET-4, 3ARRGP LAUNCHED AT 140440Z

C. PERSONNEL INFORMATION:

Classification (cancelled) (changed to CONFIDENTIAL)
effective on 28 FEB 75 by RRS under the authority of

MESSAGE NOTIFICATION

Individual
Contacted:

Local Time

MESSAGE NOTIFICATION

Time
Location
Date
and DateClassified by
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 116
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 3 DEC 80

DECLASSIFIED

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2 copies repro on 6 Mar 73, by ARRS/DIA

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(1) 2 PERSONS INVOLVED, 2 MISSING

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PAGE 3 RUMOSRA3165 S E C R E T

D. FLYING ACTIVITY:

- (1) DET-4, 3ARRBP - 2 SORTIES FOR 15.8 HOURS
- (2) 8TFW - 1 SORTIE FOR 2.0 HOURS
- (3) 432TRW - 4 SORTIES FOR 6.0 HOURS

E. SAVES DATA: NO SAVES

F. FUTURE PLANS:

(1) AIRCRAFT TRANSITING THE AREA WILL MAINTAIN ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. A FAST MOVER FAC WILL BE FRAGGED INTO THE AREA AT FIRST LIGHT ON A COMMUNICATIONS SEARCH FOR SURVIVORS.

G. SUMMARY OF SAR ACTIONS:

(1) AT 140330Z THE FAST FAC REPORTED NEGATIVE CONTACT WITH ICEBAG 04. OTHER AIRCRAFT TRANSITING THE AREA HAD NEGATIVE CONTACT. WEATHER IN THE AREA PROHIBITED VISUAL SEARCH.

(2) KING 21 ASSUMED AMC DUTIES AT 132240Z. KING 22 ASSUMED AMC DUTIES AT 140520Z.

(3) NO AERIAL REFUELINGS ACCOMPLISHED IN SUPPORT OF THIS MISSION TODAY.

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PAGE 2 RUMOSRA3363 S E C R E T
(2) 432 TFW 4 SORTIES FOR 8.0 HOURS

E. SAVES DATA: NO SAVES

F. FUTURE PLANS:

(1) AIRCRAFT TRANSITING THE AREA WILL MAINTAIN
ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE TONIGHT AND TOMORROW.
ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO FRAG A FAST MOVER FAC AND
MIG CAP INTO THE AREA FOR COMMUNICATION SEARCH.

G. SUMMARY OF SAR ACTIONS:

(1) FAST MOVER (F-4D) AIRCRAFT MADE A COMMUNICATIONS
SWEEP IN THE AREA OF TH LKP WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. ACFT FRAGGED
THROUGH THE AREA DID NOT REPORT ANY CONTACT WITH SURVIVOR.

(2) KING 21 ASSUMED AMC DUTIES AT 142230Z MAY 72.

KING 22 ASSUMED AMC DUTIES AT 150525Z MAY 72

(3) NO AERIAL REFUELINGS WERE ACCOMPLISHED.

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MESSAGE NOTIFICATION	
Individual Contacted:	36PB-36
Local Time and Date:	11 MAY 72

OTTSZYUW RUMOSRA3624 1371210-SSSS--RUCIMAA.

ZNY SSSSS

O 161140Z MAY 72

FM OL-B 3ARRGP UDORN RTAFB THAILAND

TO RUEFHQA/CSAF/AFXOTZB

RUHHABA/CINCPACAF

RUHHAGA/JRCC HAWAII

RUCIMAA/HQ ARRS SCOTT AFB IL/COMMAND POST

INFO RUHHHQA/CINCPAC/CC

ZEN/7/13AF UDORN RTAFB THAI/DOM #TOG3

RUMHOMA/41ARRWG HICKAM AFB HAWAII

RUEKAAA/FT RITCHIE MD/AFEOC #P117

RUMTFJA/RANDOLPH AFB TX/USAFMPC/DPMCS

RUCWAAA/HQ USAF ALTERNATE MAXWELL AFB AL

RUCIMAA/MAC/DOCP

RHMSHVA/MACV/COMMAND POST SAIGON RVN

RUMMRSA/7AF TSN AB RVN/CC/DO/DOO/IN/DOCT

RUMMRSA/3ARRGP TSN AB RVN/JRCC

RUMJUA/3636CCTWG FAIRCHILD AFB WA

RUHHKKA/13AF/INCO/CLARK AB PI

RUMUJNA/OL-A 3ARRGP SON TRA AB RVN

RUMOREA/40ARRS NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAI

RUMOREA/5650W NAKHON PHANOM RTAFB THAILAND/DOO

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effective on 28 Feb 75, under the authority of
CDS by R4A

OPR	CYS
INFO	CYS
ARRS 1	
NO 3	
DOC 1	
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PAGE 2 RUMOSRA3624 ~~SECRET~~

RUMFRBA/CTF 77

RUMORKA/DET 4 3ARRGP KORAT RTAFB THAI

ZEN/432 TRW UDORN RTAFB THAI

BT

~~SECRET~~ JOPREP JIFFY/OL-B, 3 ARRGP/RESCUE

082/110803Z MAY 72

1. RESCUE SUSPENDING REPORT

2. MISSION NUMBER: B-3-036 11 MAY 72

3. SITUATION: DOWNED AIRCREW MEMBERS

C. PERSONNEL INFORMATION:

(1) 2 PERSONS INVOLVED 2 MISSING

D. FLYING ACTIVITY

(1) DT-4, 3ARRGP: 2 SORTIES FOR 13.4 HOURS

E. SAVES DATA: NO SAVES

G. SUMMARY OF SAR ACTIONS:

(1) AIRCRAFT TRANSITING AREA MAINTAINED A LISTENING

WATCH FOR POSSIBLE CONTACT WITH SURVIVORS OF ICEBAG 04. NO CONTACT
WAS ESTABLISHED. KING 21 ASSUMED AMC AT 152210Z MAY 72. KING 22
ASSUMED AMC AT 160535Z MAY 72.

MESSAGE NOTIFICATION	
Individual Contacted:	
Local Time and Date:	

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SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DEC 80

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PAGE 3 RUMOSRA3624 SECRET

(2) TOTAL FLYING ACTIVITY FOR MISSION:

(A) DT-4, 3ARRBP 12 SORTIES FOR 85.2 HOURS

(14) AERIAL REFUELINGS WERE ACCOMPLISHED

(B) 56SOW 28 SORTIES FOR 79.9 HOURS

(C) 40ARRS 8 SORTIES FOR 55.6 HOURS

(D) 432TRW 36 SORTIES FOR 101.4 HOURS

(E) 8TFW 11 SORTIES FOR 17.0 HOURS

(F) 366TFW 2 SORTIES FOR 9.5 HOURS

(G) 552 AEWG 2 SORTIES FOR 9.0 HOURS

(3) MISSION WAS SUSPENDED AT 161130Z MAY 72
WITH CONCURRENCE OF 7AF AND COMMANDER OF PARENT UNIT DUE TO LACK
OF LEADS AND OR SIGHTING OF CREW ON ICEBAQ 04.

GP-4

BT

#3624

NNNN

14 REFUELINGS

99

357.6

2/2

20

140.8

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04 Icebag 01B SAR

12 May 1972

(Tape provided courtesy of Don Morse and Byron Hukee)

Background (Information from Scope Systems - Any Day)

In the spring of 1972, the U.S. formulated the LINEBACKER offensive. Its objective was to keep the weapons of war out of North Vietnam. At this time, the North Vietnamese had one of the best air defense systems in the world, with excellent radar integration of SA-2 SAMs, MiGs, and antiaircraft artillery. The NVN defense system could counter our forces from ground level up to nineteen miles in the air. MiG fighters were on ready alert, and after takeoff, were vectored by ground-control radar. Soviet advisors devised attack strategies, manned a number of the SAM sites, and also trained North Vietnamese crews.

The strongest SAM reactions were reserved for defense of the most vital targets. During LINEBACKER strikes into the Hanoi/Haiphong area, it was not unusual for a U.S. force to be met by barrages of over 100 missiles. (The SA-2 SAM missile was 21 feet long.) Pilots also had to cope with the enemy's creative launch tactics.

One tactic used by the North Vietnamese was the employment of barrage firings of unguided SAMs, which distracted and harassed aircrews both over the target and while MiGs positioned themselves for rear attacks.

The success of this tactic was demonstrated on May 11, 1972, when an F-105G was shot down. A barrage of six SAMs diverted the attention of the Iron Hand flight while MiGs attacked from the rear. Maj. William H. Talley, pilot of the aircraft, and Maj. James P. Padgett, electronic warfare officer, successfully ejected from the aircraft about 25 miles southwest of Hanoi and were captured by the North Vietnamese.

Situation

Icebag was down approximately 25 nm west southwest of Hanoi. Although a densely populated area, the survivor was in some high terrain in thick jungle. This allowed him to evade capture for approximately 36 hours.

Shortly after the shootdown of Icebag 01 on 11 May, both crewmembers established survival radio contact with one another on the ground. Both Icebag 01 'Alpha' (the pilot), and Icebag 01 'Bravo' (the backseater), sought to hide themselves and prepared to communicate with the rescue forces that they assumed would be arriving shortly.

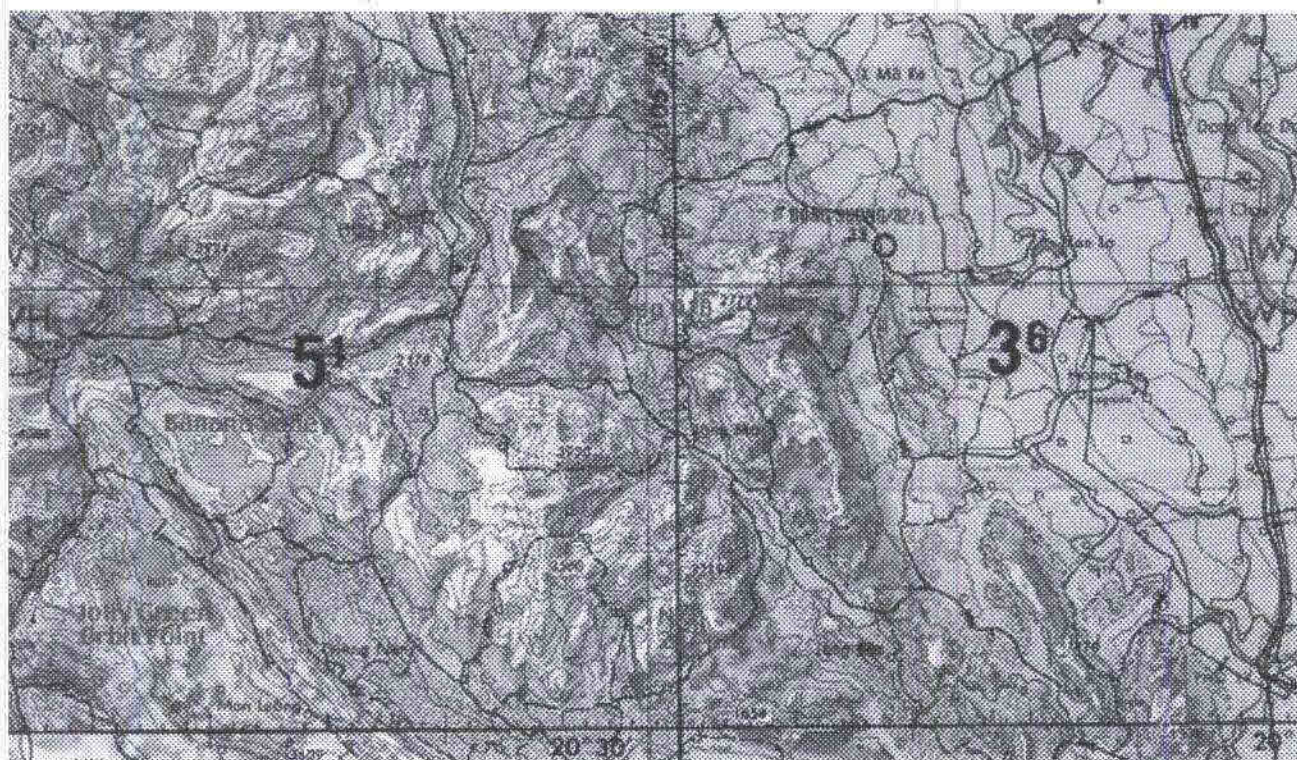
Unbeknownst to them however, was the fact that there would be no attempt at a rescue on the first afternoon. The long distance from NKP to the survivors' location would make it impossible to orchestrate an attempt on this first day. All efforts were pointed toward an attempt early in the morning on the second day, 12 May.

During the morning of 12 May, Icebag 01A found it increasingly difficult to stay hidden and he was located by search parties and taken captive before the arrival of the SAR force. Icebag 01B was in a slightly better location and he was able to evade capture for another 24 hours. He reported that at one point, searchers came, "within half a shoelace of finding me," on that second day, 12 May 1972.

The SAR force arrived and immediately established radio contact with Icebag 01B. All attempts to contact 01A were without success.

The tape begins as Sandy 01-02 are attempting to locate Icebag 01B. Sandy 03-04 are escorting the Jolly Green HH-53 rescue helicopters and are orbiting about 20 nm southwest of the survivor's location.

This SAR is also covered in Byron Hukee's A-1 Combat Journal
Chapter 6 - Operation Linebacker (12 May 1972)



The Players

Icebag 01A - Maj William Talley (not on tape) (POW, released in 1973)

Icebag 01B - Major James P. Padgett (POW, released in 1973)

Sandy 01-02 - Captain Don Morse and Lt Byron Hukee

Sandy 03-04 - Major Don Milner and ??

Jolly Green

Laredo 17 - F-4 'Fast FAC'

Nail 39 - OV-10 FAC from NKP

Play Icebag 01B Tape