



SSGT. ALLEN W. BARE speaks with Lt. Col. Lewis B. Harrington, commander of the Det. 14 HH-3 Jolly Green Giant flight that rescued him, after he parachuted from a disabled AC-119 Stinger gunship which was struck by ground fire while flying a mission over An Loc.

HH-3s rescue Stinger crew

TAN SON NHUT AB, RVN -- Seven of the 10 men aboard an AC-119 Stinger gunship were rescued after they parachuted from their disabled aircraft.

Rescued were Lt. Col. Bryon T. Taschioglou, First Lieutenants Jimmie R. Barralow and Larry D. Barbee, Staff Sergeants Allen W. Bare and Francis J. Sledzinski, and Sergeants Delanor E. Iman and Richard C. Corbett.

All the men were reported in good condition with only minor injuries.

Their gunship was supporting Republic of Vietnam ground forces near An Loc when it took three hits in the right wing.

Six of the men were picked up by two HH-3 Jolly Green Giants and the other by a U.S. Army UH-1 Huey in the area at the time.

A light observation aircraft followed the gunship as the men bailed out and contacted an HC-130 airborne rescue command post in the area. The Jolly Green Giants, of Det. 14, 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, were dispatched from Tan Son Nhut AB.

A-1 Skyraiders escorted the helicopters to the rescue scene. As they arrived, the Army UH-1 lifted one of the crewmembers to safety, but picked up ground fire as it left.

The Skyraiders went into the area to silence the enemy gunners and then led the HH-3s in for the rescue.

Maj. Joe E. Ballinger, aircraft commander of the first HH-3, said that the Sandys led him over the burning wreckage of the gunship to the first man, who was about 30 yards from the crash.

The helicopter hovered 240 feet above the ground as it moved from one survivor to another, lifting three to safety.

Then the second HH-3, piloted by Lt. Col. John J. McGuire Jr., moved in to pick up the remaining three survivors.

The six men were the first combat saves for the HH-3s which recently returned to the theater to supplement the

HH-53s and the HH-43s during the period of increased air activities resulting from the current North Vietnamese invasion.

Besides Major Ballinger on the first HH-3 were Maj. Larry D. McLaughlin, copilot; TSgt. Graham B. Bradshaw, mechanic; and MSgt. Rodney D. Ohman and A1C Jerome E. Rarie, pararescuemen.

Aboard the second helicopter were Capt. Gary L. Ashcraft, copilot; SSgt. Paul P. Kreider, mechanic; and Sgt. Anthony B. Christian and A1C Timothy Zamowski, pararescuemen.

304th 'saves' lost pilot

PORTLAND ANGB, Ore. -- On his first mission as an HH-34 aircraft commander, Capt. Neil Schultz, of the 304th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, "saved" a disorientated civilian pilot.

Captain Schultz and his crew had completed a routine night proficiency flight at Hillsboro, a small controlled airport near Portland, when the tower informed him that the pilot of a Cessna 150 needed help.

The 150 pilot's first contact with the tower was a request to land. The tower, cleared him, but after hearing no further message, called to ask where he was.

The civilian replied he was on the ground at Hillsboro.

The tower asked him to describe the airport.

HH-3 pulls eight from sinking cruiser

HOWARD AFB, C.Z. -- An HH-3 Jolly Green Giant crew of Det. 2, 39th Aero-

space Rescue and Recovery Wing, in less than 45 minutes, saved eight persons aboard a sinking cabin cruiser.

The rescue effort started when the U.S. Air Forces Southern Command Rescue Coordination Center was notified that a 41-foot cabin cruiser was taking on water and sinking rapidly.

Location of the cabin cruiser was given as approximately one mile south of Taboga Island in the Gulf of Panama and in an area heavily infested with

sharks. Ricardo Duran, Panamanian captain of the Tripoli, estimated they could stay afloat no longer than 10 minutes and were requesting immediate assistance.

There were two Panamanians and six U.S. citizens on board and all had life jackets. The cabin cruiser belonged to the U.S. Marine Corps, Rodman MS, C.Z.

At 10:10 a.m., the Jolly Green Giant was diverted from its training mission by the RCC to make the rescue.

And as the rescue helicopter arrived on the scene at 10:21 a.m., the Tripoli slipped completely under the surface and the survivors jumped overboard.

Capt. Michael D. Delia, aircraft commander, immediately hovered the Jolly Green Giant over the survivors and the pararescueman deployed to assist them aboard by hoist. The hoist recovery was completed in 15 minutes.

Then the helicopter took the survivors to Howard AFB, landing at 10:50 a.m., where a Navy vehicle was waiting for the individuals and took them to their home base.

The tower determined from his answer that he was at McMinnville, 24 miles southwest. Armed with this information,

the civilian took off for Hillsboro, only to call a few minutes later to report he was disorientated.

Captain Schultz headed toward the 150. After locating it, Capt. Bruce Kramer, copilot, flashed the landing and hover lights on and off.

Tower personnel instructed the 150 to look for a helicopter flashing "lots of white lights."

He saw the 304th helicopter, and followed it to a safe landing at Hillsboro. The 150 pilot was very appreciative of Captain Schultz's efforts.

He also proved that if first you don't get lost, just keep trying.