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STATEMENT

27 June 1972

SUBJECT: Sandy 9 and 10 (Valant 04A SAR)

1. At 1320 LCL Sandy 9 and 10 were launched by the Sarco with instructions to rendezvous with Sandy 3 and 4 and the Jolly's at Point Foxtrot. The SAR forces had been holding at Point Hotel, but had been directed by King 22 to exit the immediate area after Valant 03 and 04, SAR cap for the forces, had been shot down by Migs.
2. Sandy 9 and 10 contacted King 22 on VHF for further information on the status of the forces and instructions. They were directed to proceed to the 020/70 off of squid, and contact the fast Fac, Laredo 11, that was in contact with Valant 04A.
3. Enroute to the Sar area, Sandy 9 and 10 were aided in their navigation, having no bearing ^{on} to assist them, by Disco, ^{DME} an airborne GCI. Disco was later instrumental in vectoring Sandy 1 and 2 and Jolly 57 and 73 as they joined up at Point Hotel, and returned to the SAR area. ybs
4. Proceeding to the area, which was basically northeast of Sam Nuea, Sandy 9 and 10 contacted Sandy 3 and 4 on VHF and were briefed on the present situation of the SAR. At that time, Sandy 3 and 4 were RTB to Ch 89 after successfully completing the pick up on Valant 03A. They had been in contact with Valant 03B, but had lost radio contact just prior to the pickup phase. They also had had one transmission from Valant 04A, and a Beeper in the area. ybs
5. Just prior to entering the area, Sandy 9 and 10 contacted Laredo 11 and were briefed on the area of the survivor, movers, groundfire, etc. Laredo 11 began giving the Sandy's VHF hold downs for ADF cuts, and describing the surrounding area. Laredo 11 then put a W.P. rocket down as a marker some distance from the survivor, the Sandy's got a visual on his mark, and proceeded to the point. Once there, Laredo 11 visually guided Sandy 9 and 10 to the survivor's location, and then gave a detailed brief on the survivor's position. Laredo 11 had Valant 04A on Charlie freq, and Sandy 9 made contact with 04A, asking him to give a "mark-mark" as Laredo 11 made a low pass on his position. With the Sandy's in the area and in contact with the survivor, Laredo 11 exited the area to refuel and Laredo 16 came on-scene. Sandy 9 began low passes on the survivor to further pin point his location, while Sandy 10 orbited above to further aid in the positioning of 04A. ybs
6. During this phase, Sandy 10 was in contact with King 22 coordinating the necessary assets required, and directing Laredo 16 in a comm search of an existing beeper thought to be that of Valant 04B. Upon initially entering the area, Sandy 10 contacted Disco that he was over the survivor and requested a mark. Disco paint-

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DOC 392

ed Sandy 10 and was able from that point on to vector the SAR forces to the exact position of the survivor. Sandy 10, thru King 22, was able to up date the weather at closest bases for RTB, and kept King 22 informed of Sandy 9 and 10 bingo times, which was becoming a critical factor to the operation.

7. Sandy 1 and 2 had been launched out of Ch 89 approximately two hours after Sandy 9 and 10, to join with Jolly 73, who was already enroute to Point Hotel where Jolly 57 was orbiting. Sandy 1 and 2 proceeded to the SAR area, where they were briefed and shown the survivor's position. Sandy 9 then requested that they rendezvous with the Jolly's at Hotel, and then escort them back to the area.

8. The critical fuel state of Sandy 9 and 10 required the Jettison of most of their ordnance and their external fuel tanks to increase their loiter time. King 22 advised Sandy 9 and 10 that it would take approximately one hour to get the Jolly's refueled and back into the area. During this time, Sandy 9 briefed Valant 04a on what he would be expected to do during the pick-up phase. The survivor relayed that he had a broken leg and shoulder and would require a P.J., which was passed to King 22. Sandy 9 coordinated with Laredo 11 and 16 the ordnance that he wanted put in prior to execution of the pickup. Sandy 9 and 10 briefed the holding point for the Jolly's and their run in headings. Sandy 10 put an M-47 MkP. bomb at the holding point, and acknowledged the desired run in heading.

9. Sandy 1 and 2 escorting Jolly 57 and 73 arrived at the holding point 15 minutes prior to their estimated times, causing minor problems. The fast mover ordnance that Sandy 9 wanted to put in prior to the run in as diversionary tactic was still on tank. Because of the extremely low fuel state of Sandy 9 and 10, Sandy 9 elected to execute the plan feeling the Sandy's could cover the Jolly's in the area he felt to be very permissive.

10. The SAR forces were brought up on primary VHF and the Jolly's briefed on the ingress and eg-ress route. Sandy 9 and Sandy 2 were to smoke off a small village to the south of the survivor, and Sandy 10 and Sandy 1 were to smoke off the valley to the east of the survivor. There were no questions and the forces were brought up on SAR UHF. Execution was on Sandy 9's smoke pass, and the run in went as briefed. Sandy 9 called for Valant 04a's smoke, which took longer than expected to come up and Jolly 57 went into the hover above the smoke. The PJ was put down and communications became very difficult. Between the PJ, Jolly 57 and the Sandy's. After 15 minutes of Jolly 57 in the hover, Sandy 9 and 10 were forced to eg-ress the area as they were well below their stated bingo fuels. 905

11. On-scene command was passed to Sandy 1 and 2.

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Sandy 09

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Sandy 10

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