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4.

7. (S)(U) NARRATIVE:

A. (U) All operations proceeded as in the previous month. Lt Colonel John T. Williams became Squadron Commander on 9 August.¹ (Note: Also attached are orders authorizing Major Max C. Brestel to assume command from Lt Colonel Lachlan Macleay. They were not available earlier.²)

B. (C) The 23rd TASS participated in 4 SAR/SAR attempts from 30 July to 31 August:

1. On the night of 30 July, 1972, SURGE 93 (B-52) was downed due to structural failure (sustained in a thunderstorm) 60NM northwest of Ubon RTAFB in eastern Thailand. Nail 78 (Capt. Richard N. Hutcherson and 1/Lt Frank A. Gray) was launched. By their arrival at the scene contact had been established with 93F, the only survivor. Pickup was effected immediately without opposition. Nail 78 then conducted an electronic search/surveillance of the area for other survivors. No contact was established by either Nail 78 or any of his replacements. SAR terminated the next day after all night coverage by Pave Nails. No losses/damages incurred.

2. On 13 August, 1972, ATLANTA 10 (RF-4) was downed by unknown means (AAA Suspected) approximately 500 meters north of the DMZ river 5-6NM inland. Nail 81 (Capt. Harold L. Fischler and Capt. Rockwell S. Higa) established voice contact with 10A. Contact was never established with 10B. Nail 76 (Capt. Harrold K. Ownby) later gained full voice contact with 10A (Nail 81's contact had been intermittent). The SAR force was launched and was holding feet wet (over the water) while air strikes were being put into the survivor's vicinity to suppress enemy action.

However, before pickup could be accomplished the survivor was captured

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CLASSIFIED BY HW SHAW
SUBJECT TO OFFICIAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652.
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR
INTERVALS ON 21 DECEMBER 1990

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SEARCH AND RESCUE

(S) Aircraft assigned to the 56th SOW participated in the following SARs during this reporting period. Due to the excessive number conducted no attempt was made to provide complete details in this section. Each SAR has been briefly addressed below. For additional information refer to the SAR Rescue Opening/Closing Reports located in Volume II, Appendix V.

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALL SIGN</u>	<u>TYPE A/C</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>POB</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
(C)	11 Jul	Lady Ace 21	CH-53D	Quang Tri	6	6 Saves
(C)	12 Jul	Blue Star 34	UH-1	MR-1	4	4 Saves
(S)	17 Jul	Owl 02	F-4	Ashau Valley	2	1 Save 1 MIA
(C)	31 Jul	Surge 93	B-52	Thailand	6	1 Save 5 Losses
(S)	13 Aug	Atlanta 10	RF-4C	DMZ	2	1 MIA
(S)	15 Aug	Saber 74	UH-1	Hue, RVN	2	1 Save 1 Loss
(S)	20 Aug	NKT 402	O-1	Paksong	2	2 Saves
(S)	20 Aug	PFD	Porter	Paksong	3	3 Saves
(S)	25 Aug	Buick 01	F-4	19N, 106E	2	2 Saves
(S)	26 Aug	Motion A-2	F-4	Laos	2	1 Save 1 MIA
(S)	2 Sep	Tufa 02	F-4	PDJ	2	2 MIA
(S)	2 Sep	Raven 23	O-1	PDJ	1	1 MIA
(U)	2 Sep	Volunteer 538	UH-1H	20N, 104E	11	11 Saves
(S)	9 Sep	Olds 04	F-4	Unknown	2	2 Saves
(S)	14 Sep	Date 03	F-4	N. Viet	2	2 MIA
(C)	17 Sep	Nail 60	OV-10	MR-1	2	2 Saves
(S)	22 Sep	Atlanta 08	RF-4C	Tonkin Gulf	2	2 Saves
(S)	28 Sep	Hobo 42	A-1A	19N, 103E	1	1 Save

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