

Jollys do it again



The crew of a Jolly Green Giant get hoisted down after returning from another successful rescue. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Sgt. Paul R. Kennedy)

An F-4 fighter bomber was damaged by anti aircraft artillery over the city of Kep in North Vietnam Friday August 25. The plane managed to get to the sea where the crew bailed out and were rescued by helicopters from the 37th ARRS at Da Nang. (AAA) over 25.

Describing the incident Lt. Col. Carl G Bailey aircraft commander said, "We were on a bombing mission over Kep when AAA slammed into our fuel cell and for a second the fuel gauges read zero. I didn't think the plane would hold together long enough to give us time to get over the water so I headed north for the mountains so ground troops would have a hard time finding us.

The plane was holding together alright though so we headed south for the sea and punched out over the water." With the colonel was his weapons controller Capt. Jeff S. Feinstein.

Capt Gerald Tonn, aircraft commander in one of the two rescue helicopters that made the rescue said, "We were pretty far from the point where they went down, but when we got the call we made a bee line for the area saw them and picked them up. They were in the water for 20 minutes and both men are in excellent condition.

The crews of the two rescue helicopters were: Capt. David Mullenix, aircraft commander, Capt. Todd Hohberger, copilot, Sgt. Charles Rouheir, flight engineer, Sgt Curtis Towne and Sgt. Ronald Buchanan pararescuemen and SSgt. David Tesdal, photographer. On the other helicopter were: Capt. Genald Tonn, aircraft commander, 1st Lt. Olin Land, copilot, SSgt. Cayetano Pina, flight engineer and the pararescuemen were Sgt. Robert La Pointe and Sgt. Ronald Charles.



Capt. Jeff Feinstein, left, and Lt. Col. Carl Bailey celebrate their rescue by the Jolly Green Giants. The men were shot down over North Vietnam and ditched their plane into the sea. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Sgt. Paul R. Kennedy)