



6 POWs released - 12 still MIA



MSgt. William A. Robinson

All six known ARRS POWs were released Feb. 12.

The men, three officers and three NCOs, each spent more than seven years as POWs.

Three of the men, Maj. Warren R. Lilly, Capt. Jerry A. Singleton and SMSgt. Arthur Cormier, were shot down Nov. 6, 1965, while on a search and rescue mission over North Vietnam. All three had been in SEA little more than a month when they were captured.

Major Lilly, a native of Dallas, entered the Air Force in 1956 shortly after receiving his BBA degree from the University of Texas. Captain Singleton, also of Dallas, graduated from the Air Force Academy and was commissioned in 1962. Sergeant Cormier, of Bay Shore, N.Y., entered the Air Force in 1954 and was dis-

charged in 1957. He reentered the Air Force in 1958.

Maj. Thomas J. Curtis, MSgt. William A. Robinson, and TSgt. Arthur N. Black were captured in September 1965.

Major Curtis, of Alexandria, La., entered the Air Force in 1952 and

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Gen. Sullivan to be new commander

ARRS gets a new commander March 1 when Brig. Gen. Glenn R. Sullivan replaces Brig. Gen. Frank K. Everest, Jr.

General Sullivan, a native of McCaysville, Ga., entered the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942 and was commissioned in 1944.

Initially assigned as a flying instructor at Courtland AAF, Ala., he entered B-17 transition training at Lockbourne AFB, Ohio, and completed his crew training at Alexandria, La., and Dyersburg, Tex. His training was terminated at the end of World War II and he went to Johnson AB, Japan, in 1946, remaining until 1949.

Upon returning from Japan, he remained in the states serving in fields ranging from instructor pilot to 22nd Bombardment Wing commander at March AFB, Calif., the position he vacates to take command of ARRS.

Col. Aswad retires

Col. Saleem Aswad, vice commander of ARRS since November 1970, retired Jan. 31 after 31 years of military service.

Colonel Aswad's career included contact with royalty, combat bombing missions during World War II, and international travel.

Brig. Gen. Frank K. Everest, Jr., ARRS commander, presented the first oak leaf cluster to the Legion of Merit to Colonel Aswad at his retirement ceremony.

Born of Lebanese parents, Colonel Aswad is fluent in English and Arabic. His knowledge of Arabic

led to subsequent assignments as the Air Force liaison officer with the U.S. State Department in Libya and as escort and interpreter for King Muhammed V of Morocco and Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz el Saud, the Minister of Defense and Aviation of Saudi Arabia.

During World War II, the colonel flew B-25s on bombing runs over North Africa, Italy, France and Yugoslavia.

After his retirement, Colonel Aswad will work for the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation and be in charge of their sales office in Beirut.

Huey replaces Pedro



One of the first HH-1H "Huey" helicopters assigned to ARRS lifts into the air. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

The Air Force has announced the delivery of the first of 30 new rescue helicopters to be assigned at various ARRS units throughout the United States.

The first HH-1H "Huey," manufactured by Bell Helicopter Company, Fort Worth, Tex., was delivered to the 1550th Aircrew Training and Test Wing at Hill AFB, Utah. By mid-summer, five other ARRS units will be using the sleek single-engine helicopter to perform rescue operations when needed. The Hueys will be located at Holloman AFB, N.M.; K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich.; Mountain Home AFB, Idaho; Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y.; and Edwards AFB, Calif.

The HH-1H has a 120-mile radius of action, including a 30-minute on-site hover time. It reaches speeds of about 125 miles per hour and can carry five passengers (including medics and PJs) in addition to its two-man crew. The helicopters will be equipped with a hoist with 200 feet of cable as well as rescue litters and baskets.

The HH-1Hs now being assigned will replace Kaman-built HH-43 Huskies, which will be retired.

Crew chief course

has 72 grads

In operation since late June, 1972, the ARRS Master Crew Chief Course has now turned out 72 graduates.

Founded at Hill AFB, Utah, and patterned after the MAC Crew Chief School at Altus AFB, Okla., its primary purpose was to increase the quality of maintenance being performed on ARRS aircraft, increase morale among maintenance workers, and update ARRS people on new methods for maintenance management and technical advantages.

The course is 80 hours long and divided into 14 training categories covering the diversified aircraft of ARRS. Each class has an average of seven students ranging from airman first class to master sergeant.

Patients evaced from volcano

U.S. Air Force rescue units are continuing relief efforts in Iceland and have evacuated 33 seriously ill hospital patients from the volcano-devastated Westman Island of Heimaeyn near Iceland.

An ARRS detachment at Keflavik AB, Iceland, part of the Icelandic Defense Forces there in support of the U.S. NATO commitment, was called upon when two eruptions of a volcano, silent for more than 1,000 years, sent more than 5,000 Icelanders fleeing for safety.

While most of the citizens were being taken aboard fishing boats, coastal steamers and other small craft, some hospital patients needed more immediate attention. Two ARRS Buffs were launched to the island, about 90 miles from their home station. In three round trips, the helicopter crews evacuated 33

patients—including one blind man, eleven on stretchers and three in wheelchairs—to hospitals in Reykjavik, the Icelandic capital.

POWs...

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was on temporary duty in Thailand when his helicopter was disabled by ground fire over North Vietnam Sept. 20. Sergeant Robinson, who entered the Air Force in 1961, was also shot down Sept. 20 on a search and rescue mission over North Vietnam. Also on temporary duty in SEA, he is a native of Robersonville, N.C. Sergeant Black, of Bethlehem, Pa., was on temporary duty from Hamilton AFB, Calif., when he was shot down.