

Southeast Asia



CREWMAN DECORATED—Last August A1c Donald H. Goodlett, Jr., leaped from a hovering HH-43 into the water to aid two downed pilots who were entangled in shroud lines. Goodlett, a pararescueman with Det 8, 38th ARRSq, Cam Ranh Bay AB, entered the water despite warning that sharks were nearby. For his courageous action, the Airman was recently presented the Airman's Medal by Col R. R. Melton, commander, 12th Tactical Fighter Wing. With 10 rescues to his credit, Goodlett also received the Air Medal for "meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight." (USAF photo by A1c Bob Mulica)

On behalf of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, I extend congratulations to the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of its activation.

The extraordinary courage, skill, and selfless dedication which has resulted in recovery of more than 2,300 of your fellow servicemen has won for you the admiration and gratitude of all U. S. Forces in Southeast Asia as well as your countrymen at home.

The operations of your famed "Jolly Green Giant" and "Pedro" rescue helicopters have become legend, and justifiably so when one considers that 1,550 of your rescues have been performed under direct enemy fire and, therefore, have been recorded as "combat saves."

It is noteworthy that your heroism and persistence, often in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles, have won for you in excess of 7,500 individual awards and two Presidential Unit Citations.

I salute you as most worthy comrades-in-arms for a job well done and wish you continued success in all of your future operations.

Creighton W. Abrams
General, United States Army
Commanding



RECORD MAKER—Maj Richard H. Coan gives the "thumbs up" signal to his crew chief after a mission in the HH-43B. The Major, who set a world record for distance in the HH-43B in 1962, recently assumed command of Det 8, 38th ARRSq, Cam Ranh Bay AB. During the seven-hour flight nine years ago, Major Coan flew the HUSKIE for a helicopter world's closed-course distance mark of 655.64 miles, eclipsing the record then held by the Russians. (USAF photo by Sgt Berry Askew)



RESCUE GIVES MARS A BOOST—One of the HH-43's from Det 6, 38th ARRSq, sets a new rotating antenna atop the platform for the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) at Bien Hoa AB. The antenna can be operated on several frequencies, resulting in a longer range and improved reception. (USAF photo by A1c Fred Zastawski)



2,000 HOURS—Two ARRS pilots serving in Vietnam each logged 2,000 hours in the HH-43 recently. At left, Capt John F. Patterson of Det 8, 38th ARRSq, Cam Ranh Bay AB, is shown after returning from the flight during which he accumulated the 2,000th hour. Copilot on the memorable flight was Capt Samuel E. Chapin, Jr., (USAF photo). In second photograph, Maj Tom W. Brumfield, left, is shown after logging his 2,000th hour in the HH-43. With him is his copilot, Capt John E. Murray. Both are assigned to Det 7, 38th ARRSq, Da Nang AB. (USAF photo by A1c Gary Butler)