



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1969

2,500th "SAVE"—Shown are the Rescuemen from Det 10, 38th ARRSq, Binh Thuy AB, who made the 2,500th "save" in Southeast Asia several weeks ago (see August-September-October Rotor Tips). Front row, left to right, are Capt Jack D. Cusano, TSgt Dudley R. Peckinpaugh, and Capt John L. Debevec. They manned one of the two HH-43 Pedros used during the evacuation of three U. S. Navy men wounded in a mortar explosion. In the rear row is the crew of the other helicopter: Sgt Kenneth P. Johnson, SSgt Michael F. Dean, Capt Cecil A. Jessee and Maj Ralph L. Gaede.

Major Gaede, detachment commander, was recently presented the Silver Star—the United States' third highest award for heroism—for another Pedro mission last January. The major was pilot of an HH-43 which rescued a downed airman while under heavy enemy fire. Others aboard the battle-damaged helicopter received the Distinguished Flying Cross. They are Captain Cusano, SSgt Gerald H. Jones and A1c Richard C. Stiefken. (USAF photo)

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