

TAN SON NHUT -- An HH-53 Super Jolly Green Giant helicopter crew of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (ARRS) rescued two U.S. Air Force F-4 Phantom pilots recently in the lower panhandle of Laos.

The rescue efforts lasted more than 12 hours and involved scores of Air Force aircraft.

The F-4 was piloted by Capt. John S. Murphy and 1st Lt. Thomas W. Dodson.

Both pilots successfully ejected and immediately established radio contact with an HC-130 "King" rescue command ship of the 39th ARRS. The pilots had landed in a hostile area in dense jungle on a mountainside, making rescue extremely difficult.

In the gathering darkness, Maj. Gary L. Campbell, piloting a Jolly Green, attempted to make pickup but was unsuccessful. He and his crew remained in the area for several hours before being relieved by fresh Jolly Green crews.

The HC-130 orbited above the survivors throughout the night, maintaining radio contact. Numerous tactical aircraft also remained in the area in case they were needed.

With the first signs of morning light on February 11, another of the 40th ARRS Jolly Green Giant crews moved in for the pickup. Despite the precarious position of the downed pilots, the morning attempt was successful, both were in good condition. Each grinned his thanks as he was hoisted into the huge helicopter.

The crewmen of the Jolly Green Giant making the rescue are Capt. James W. McIntyre, aircraft commander; Capt. Joel L. Summers, copilot; TSgt. Rufus B. Russell, flight engineer; and SSgt. Charles D. Morrow and A1C Michael D. Vogel, pararescuemen.

The rescue brought to 3,441 the total number of men rescued in SEA by members of the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group headquartered at Tan Son Nhut AB.



## HAPPY AIRMAN

SSgt. William E. Silva, a 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron airborne interpreter, hits home ground at Tan Son Nhut after his O-2 was disabled by enemy ground fire and its pilot killed Feb. 17. Sergeant Silva bailed out and spent two and one half hours on the ground before being rescued by a 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron Jolly Green Giant aircrew.

## "H-53 picks up Phantom pilots down in Laos

TAN SON NHUT AB, RVN -- An HH-53 Super Jolly Green Giant crew of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron rescued two Air Force F-4 Phantom pilots in the lower panhandle of Laos.

Cause of the F-4, piloted by Capt. John S. Murphy and 1st Lt. Thomas W. Dodson, crash is unknown.

Both pilots successfully ejected and immediately established radio contact with an HC-130 Hercules rescue command aircraft of the 39th ARRSq. The pilots had landed in a hostile area in dense mountainside jungle, making rescue extremely difficult.

In the gathering darkness, Maj. Gary L. Campbell, piloting an HH-53, attempted to make a pickup but was unsuccessful. He and his crew remained in the area for several hours before being relieved by fresh Super Jolly Green Giant crews.

The HC-130 orbited above the survivors throughout the night, maintaining radio contact. Numerous tactical aircraft also remained in the area in case they were needed.

With the first signs of light the next morning, another 40th ARRSq HH-53 crew moved in for the pickup. Despite precarious position of the downed pilots, the morning attempt was successful; both were in good condition.

Each grinned his thanks as he was hoisted into the helicopter.

Crewmen making the rescue were Captains James W. McIntyre, aircraft commander, and Joel L. Summers, copilot; TSgt. Rufus B. Russell, flight engineer; and SSgt. Charles D. Morrow and AIC Michael D. Vogel, pararescuemen.