

## CHAPTER VI

## MISCELLANEOUS

## GAZETTEER

A Shau Valley	228/27/Channel 69
Chu Lai AB, RVN	Ch 74 15 25'N 108 42'E
Da Nang Airfield, RVN	Ch 77 16 03'N 108 12'E
Hue Phu Bai	Ch 69 16 24'N 107 42'E
Korat RTAFB, Thailand	Ch 125 14 56'N 102 05'E
Monkey Mountain, RVN	040/06/Channel 77
Nakon Phanom RTAFB, Thailand	Ch 89 16 34'N 104 45'E
NSA Hospital, Marble Mountain, RVN	16 03'N 108 15'E
Quang Tri, RVN	Ch 103 16 46'N 107 10'E
Tan Son Nhut AB, RVN	Ch 102 10 49'N 106 39'E
Udorn RTAFB, Thailand	Ch 70 17 22'N 102 48'E

## GLOSSARY

AC	Aircraft Commander
A1C	Airman First Class
AF	Air Force
Alpha Crewmember	Aircraft Commander of an aircraft
A/R	Air Refueling
ARRGp	Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group
ARRSq	Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron
ARRWg	Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Wing
ASAP	As soon as possible
Bravo Crewmember	Second in Command crewmember of an aircraft
CAPT	Captain
C&E	Communications and Electronics
CMDR	Commander
Det #1, 40th	Detachment one of the 40th ARRSq, located at Nakhon Phanom, RTAFB, Thailand
DCO	Deputy Commander for Operations
DCS	Deputy Commander for Supply
DNIF	Duty not including flying
FE	Flight Engineer
Feet Wet	Over or in the water
First Light	Dawn

## GLOSSARY (con't)

IFR	Instrument Flight Rules
IRAN	Inspect and Repair as Necessary
Jolly Green	Call sign for HH-3F, HH-53C helicopters in ARRSq
King	Call sign for HC-130 aircraft in ARRSq
LOH	Light Observation Helicopter
Lt (JC)	Lieutenant Junior Grade
MAC	Military Airlift Command
MAC STD	Military Airlift Command Standard
Maj	Major
Mayday	International Distress Signal
Medevac	An evacuation to a medical facility for medical reasons
N	Navy
NC	Noncombat
Ng	One of the HH-3L, HH-53C instrument readings
NORM	Maintenance Status for - Not Operational Ready for Maintenance
NORS	Maintenance status for - Not Operational Ready for Supply
Nr	One of the HH-3L, HH-53C instrument readings
OJT	On the job training
OMS	Organizational Maintenance Squadron
OR	Maintenance status for - Operational Ready
PACAF	Pacific Air Forces
Panama	Call sign for Air Force Ground Control Intercept site located on Monkey Mountain
RCC	Rescue Control Center
RS	Rescue Specialist
RTB	Return to Base
RVN	Republic of Vietnam
SAR	Search and Rescue
Sgt	Sergeant
SMSgt	Senior Master Sergeant
Sandy	Call sign for A-1E Support Aircraft
SN	Seaman
Spad	Call sign for A-1E Support Aircraft
Spec Sup	Specialists Support
SSgt	Staff Sergeant
T5	One of the HH-3F, HH-53C instrument readings
TDY	Temporary Duty
TFS	Tactical Fighter Squadron
UNK	Unknown
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VFR	Visual Flight Rules

37 ARRSq History, Jul-Sep 1970

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT # 1

<u>SAVE</u>	<u>SURVIVOR'S NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NUMBER</u>
582	R. RASMUSSEN	CAPT-USMC	11 JUL 70	1-3-052
583	W.W. MILLS	1/LT-USMC	11 JUL 70	1-3-052
584 NC	J. BROWN	1/LT-USA	25 JUL 70	0-3-009
585	R.L. RIGEL	CAPT-USAF	26 JUL 70	1-3-053
586 NC	HA-DINH-THE	SN-RVN	26 JUL 70	0-3-010
587	P.B. LEE	MAJ-USAF	29 JUL 70	2-3-037
588 NC	M. SHUMAKER	SP 4-USA	2 SEP 70	1-3-056
589	J.V. PHILIIPS	1/LT-USAF	16 SEP 70	0-3-011
590	J.W. NEWHOUSE	CAPT-USAF	23 SEP 70	1-3-058

37 ARRS, History, Jul-Sep 1970

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT #2

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE SILVER STAR

TO

ALBERT L. HOLCOMB

Lieutenant Colonel Albert L. Holcomb distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force near Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam, on 11 July 1970. On that date, Colonel Holcomb was Aircraft Commander of an HH-53C helicopter engaged in the rescue of a downed United States Marine pilot. Completely disregarding his own personal safety, after one helicopter had been driven off by hostile groundfire and after sustaining battle damage to his own aircraft and being driven off himself, he made another attempt which culminated in the successful rescue of a fellow airman, saving him from certain death or capture. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Colonel Holcomb has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

37 ARRSq History, Jul-Sep 1970

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT #3

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE SILVER STAR

TO

JAMES Z. ELKINTON

Major James Z. Elkinton distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force near Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam, on 30 June 1970. On that date while engaged in the rescue of an aircrewman downed in an extremely hostile area. Major Elkinton, as Aircraft Commander of an HH-3E rescue helicopter, at great personal risk, located the survivor, hovered over him in the face of the hostile forces, and hoisted him to safety. This courageous and aggressive act by Major Elkinton, in spite of two helicopters on previous rescue attempts being driven off and receiving extensive battle damage, destroying one, with no survivors, saved the survivor from certain death or capture.. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Major Elkinton has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

37 ARRSq History, Jul-Sep 1970

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT #4

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE SILVER STAR

TO

CHARLES W. HOILMAN, JR

Captain Charles W. Hoilman, Jr. distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force near Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam, on 21 April 1970. On that date, Captain Hoilman led a flight of helicopters attempting the rescue of a United States Marine pilot. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Captain Hoilman descended through hostile fire and began the rescue attempt despite oncoming darkness and intense groundfire. Only when his aircraft was hit and rendered incapable of a rescue, and he, as well as two of his crewmembers, was wounded, did he withdraw. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Captain Hoilman has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

37 ARRSq History, Jul-Sep 1970

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT #5

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE SILVER STAR

TO

JOSEPH M. NALL

Captain Joseph M. Nall distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force near DaNang Airfield, Republic of Vietnam, on 28 April 1970. On that date, while engaged in the rescue of the survivors of a Marine helicopter crash, Captain Nall's rescue helicopter came under heavy attack from a hostile armed force. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Captain Nall continued to maintain his hazardous position, in spite of severe battle damage, until the recovery of a Marine pilot could be completed. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Captain Nall has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

## CHAPTER IV

## MISSIONS

As a result of SAR missions this quarter, the 37th ARRSq rescued 6 individuals under combat conditions. One aircraft was damaged due to hostile ground fire, with no aircraft losses. In this chapter the missions for this quarter are summarized briefly. The complete mission narratives, which are classified, can be located through Rescue Operations.

11 Jul: Jolly Green 30 and 67 were scrambled for a pickup of the survivors of a Marine A-4. As Jolly Green 30 approached his hover he lost an engine and pulled off safely. Jolly Green 67 made his approach and recovered the Alpha survivor, who was in excellent condition. The Jolly Greens were unable to pick up the Bravo crew-member due to intense ground fire in the area. Mission # 1-3-052

11 Jul: Jolly Green 65 and 66 were launched for the possible pickup of the Bravo crewmember of the above mentioned A-4. As Jolly Green 65 entered the recovery area he took a large caliber hit in the right side of his aft ramp and pulled off. 65 then made another attempt again receiving heavy ground fire. On the second attempt the recovery of Bravo was made. Mission # 1-3-052

24 Jul: While performing normal pattern work at a Southern location, Jolly Green 20 noticed an Army Sky Crane helicopter flip over on its side while running up its engines in a revetment. The tower asked for assistance for a medevac of one of the crewmembers. Jolly Green 20 evacuated the crewmember who had sustained serious head injuries. Mission #0-3-009

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CHAPTER I

MISSION AND RESOURCES

MISSION

The mission of the 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (37 ARRSq) is to operate and maintain search and rescue equipment to search for, locate and recover personnel engaged in the accomplishment of tactical operations. These missions are directed by 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group (3 ARRGp) and Operating Location 1 (OL-A) (called Queen) which is located on Monkey Mountain, near DaNang Airfield. The location of the 37 ARRSq is Building 711 on the east side of DaNang Airfield.

ASSIGNMENT

The 37 ARRSq is assigned to 3 ARRGp, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam. Support for administrative, maintenance and training is provided by the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing (PACAF) and the 366th Supply Squadron, DaNang Airfield.

RESOURCES

PERSONNEL

The Commander of the 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (37ARRSq) during this period was:

Lt Col Albert L. Holcomb,

1 Jul-30 Sep 1970

## TRAINING

During the quarter July-September 1970 the following personnel have been upgraded or qualified in the positions noted:

## HH-53C Pilots

Lt. Col. Royal A. Brown Jr. to Flight Examiner.

Maj. Ryland R. Dreibelbis to Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner.

Maj. Albert W. Palmer to Flight Examiner.

Maj. Harry S. Copperthite Jr. to Instructor Pilot.

Capt. Karlton I. Bakke to Instructor Pilot.

Capt. Donald G. Beattie to First Pilot and Aircraft Commander.

Capt. John O. Lindgren Jr. to Aircraft Commander and Instructor Pilot.

Capt. Aaron T. Stacy to First Pilot and Aircraft Commander.

Capt. David H. Wammer to First Pilot.

## HH-3E Pilots

Maj. John A. Raper to Instructor Pilot.

## Enlisted Aircrew Members

MSgt. Gordon C. Bailey to Instructor PJ (HH-53) and Flight Examiner PJ (HH-53).

MSgt Samuel J. Halphen to Instructor HM (HH-53) and Flight Examiner HM (HH-53).

MSgt James D. Scott to Instructor PJ (HH-53).

MSgt Carroll H. Tatley to Instructor HM (HH-3).

TSgt Charles G. Jack to Instructor HM (HH-53).

SSgt John W. Alcorn to Instructor HM (HH-3) and Flight Examiner HM (HH-3).

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SSgt Duane D. Hackney to Instructor PJ (HH-53).  
SSgt William Johnson to Instructor HM (HH-53).  
SSgt Gary T. Osborne to Instructor PJ (HH-53).  
SSgt Curt W. Phythian Jr. to Instructor PJ (HH-53).  
SSgt Jules C. Smith to Instructor PJ (HH-53).  
SSgt Roy A. Taylor to Instructor PJ (HH-53).  
Sgt James R. Cloyes to Instructor HM (HH-3).  
Sgt Terry L. Wetzel to Instructor PJ (HH-53).

#### AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

During this quarter the following decorations were submitted for approval:

Air Force Cross	1
Silver Star	4
Distinguished Flying Cross	45
Air Medal	92
Bronze Star Medal	2
Air Force Commendation Medal	12

At the end of the quarter the following decorations were awarded:

Air Force Cross	0
Silver Star	8
Distinguished Flying Cross	34
Airman's Medal	3
Air Medal	96
Air Force Commendation Medal	25
Purple Heart	1

During this quarter the following personnel were decorated:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DECORATION:</u>		<u>MISSION DATE</u>
	<u>SILVER STAR</u>		
Lt Col Albert L. Helcomb	Basic		11 Jul 1970
Capt Jimmie Blackwood	Basic		30 Jun 1970
Maj James Z. Elkinton	Basic		30 Jun 1970
Capt Charles W. Hoilman Jr	Basic		21 Apr 1970
Capt Joseph M. Nall	Basic		14 Apr 1970
SSgt Gary T. Osborne	Basic		21 Oct. 1969
SSgt Jules C. Smith	Basic		28 Apr 1970
Lt JC Robert T. Ritchie	Basic		24 Oct 1969
<u>DISTINGUISHED</u> <u>FLYING CROSS</u>			
TSgt Larry D. Davenport	Basic		11 Jun 1970
SSgt Donald R. Erickson Jr	Basic		11 Jul 1970
TSgt John F. Heitsch	Basic		11 Jul 1970
SSgt Gary T. Osborne	Basic		11 Jul 1970
SSgt Robert Reisig	Basic		11 Jul 1970
MSgt James D. Scott	Basic		11 Jul 1970
Capt David H. Wamner	Basic		11 Jul 1970
SSgt John W. Alcorn	Basic		30 Jun 1970
Lt Col Royal A. Brown Jr	5 OLC		1 Jun 1970
Lt Col Royal A. Brown Jr	6OLC		10 Jun 1970
Capt Dale R. Clark	1OLC		30 Jun 1970
Sgt John C. Kriketich	Basic		1 Jun 1970
SSgt Gary T. Osborne	Basic		30 Jun 1970

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS</u>	<u>MISSION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Maj John A. Raper	Basic	30 Jun	1970
Sgt Jimmie D. Rash	1OLC	30 Jun	1970
SSgt Jules C. Smith	1OLC	30 Jun	1970
SSgt Jules C. Smith	Basic	2 May	1970
Capt Richard C. Tobin	1OLC	2 May	1970
Capt Jimmie Blackwood	1OLC	15 Apr	70
LT JG Richard V. Butchka	1OLC	End of Tour	
SSgt Dennis T. Duffy	5OLC	23 Apr	1970
TSgt Gerald L. Hartzel	Basic	5 Apr	1970
Sgt Robert J.P. LaFramboise	Basic	21 Apr	1970
Sgt Ronnie L. Painter	2OLC	28 Apr	1970
Capt Travis H. Scott Jr	Basic	5 Apr	1970
Capt Richard C. Tobin	Basic	23 Apr	1970
Sgt Joseph J. Vai	6OLC	23 Apr	1970
Maj David E. Vaughan	Basic	21 Apr	1970
SSgt Terry L. Wetzel	1OLC	21 Apr	1970

AIR MEDAL

Maj Charles W. Bond	3-8OLC
Maj Charles W. Bond	9OLC
Maj Harry S. Copperthite Jr	Basic
Maj Emmett E. Hatch Jr	1-3OLC
Maj Edward L. Hlavaty	4OLC
Maj Michael C. Lightner	Basic
Maj Travis Wofford	3 OLC
Capt Donald G. Beattie	Basic

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>AIR MEDAL</u>
Capt Dale R. Clark	Basic
Capt John H. Fette	1-5OLC
Capt Miguel Garcia	2-4OLC
Capt John B. Iwriga	Basic
Capt Charles W. Hoilman Jr	2-5OLC
Capt Gerald L. Kevser Jr	1-6OLC
Capt Ronald A. Merino	1-4OLC
Capt Joseph M. Nall	2-5OLC
Capt Travis H. Scott Jr	1-4OLC
Capt Leonard A. Seagren	6OLC
Capt Richard C. Tobin	1-4OLC
MSgt Harold W. Harvey	5OLC
MSgt James D. Scott	B-1OLC
MSgt Malcolm E. Williams	3OLC
TSgt James M. Barnes III	6OLC
TSgt Gerald L. Hartzel	Basic
TSgt John F. Heitsch	7OLC
TSgt John F. Heitsch	6OLC
SSgt John W. Alcorn	Basic
SSgt John W. Alcorn	1OLC
SSgt Luther E. Davis	10-12OLC
SSgt Curtis W. Phythian Jr	5OLC
Sgt Jimmie D. Rash	5OLC

NAME AIR MEDAL

Sgt Jimmie D. Rash	6OLC
Sgt Stephen V. Samo	2-3OLC
MSgt Carroll H. Tatley	1OLC

NAME AIR FORCE COMMENDATION  
MEDAL

Capt Stephen C. Irgens	Basic
SMSgt Eugene W. Boden	2OLC
MSgt William N. Hodges Sr	Basic
TSgt James M. Smith	Basic
SSgt Curtis W. Phythian Jr	Basic
SSgt Mark E. Rawlings	Basic
SSgt George W. Thornbrew	Basic
SSgt Wayne T. Wolski	Basic
Sgt William H. Bradshaw	Basic
Sgt James L. Coker	Basic
Sgt Gregory B. Currier	Basic
Sgt Donald D. Gardner	Basic
Sgt Aurelio Garza	Basic
SSgt Allen D. Green	Basic
Sgt Robert L. Hilligas	Basic
Sgt Marion F. Kilar Jr	Basic
Sgt Paul H. Means	Basic
Sgt Robert J. Puddu	Basic
Sgt Bernard A. Riedel	Basic
Sgt Ronald G. Savourin	Basic
Sgt Kenneth R. Sides	Basic

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL</u>
Sgt Eugene E. Spicher	Basic
Sgt William L. Turner	Basic
Sgt Daniel A. Wendt	Basic
Sgt Robert E. West	Basic
<u>NAME</u>	<u>AIRMAN'S MEDAL</u>
SSgt Dennis T. Duffy	Basic
Sgt Terry L. Wetzel	Basic
A1C James M. White	Basic

26 Jul: Jolly Green 61 and 65 were scrambled to recover the crew of a USAF F-4. No voice contact with Alpha was made, but his chute was located and a P.J. was placed on the ground to look for the Alpha crewmember. He was located by the P.J. and a litter was used to bring him aboard the aircraft. While enroute to the hospital the Alpha crewmember died. The Bravo crewmember was recovered with no problems. Mission #1-3-053

26 Jul: Jolly Green 23 and 24 were scrambled for a non-combat pickup of a Vietnamese seaman aboard an LST. The pickup was made and the seaman was taken to a medevac hospital. Mission # 0-3-C10

30 Jul: During the early morning Jolly Green 30 and 65 were alerted for a first light rescue attempt of a downed A1E crewmember. The area of the downed pilot was very hostile. Attempts to suppress the ground fire in the area were made all during the day by fighter type aircraft. At dusk Jolly Green 30 moved into the area and made the pickup. The crews of 30 and 65 flew a total of 14 hours during this day. Mission # 2-3-037

3 Sep: Jolly Green 70 was requested by the local R'C to pickup a US Army soldier who was aboard an Army ship. The soldier was medevaced to the 95th Aero Med. Facility. One non-combat save was recorded. Mission #1-3-056

16 Sep: Jolly Green 21 and 23 were scrambled from a local flight to recover an F-100 pilot who had ejected from his aircraft. feet wet. On the first pattern a smoke was deployed for a hover reference. Then a closed pattern was made and Jolly Green 21 made his approach to a hover, and deployed his P.J. who assisted the pilot into the penetrator harness. Mission # 0-3-011

23 Sep: While airborne Jolly Green 64 intercepted the Mayday call of an F-105 pilot. 64 and Jolly Green 66 proceeded to the area with Spad coverage. Upon arriving in the area an Army LOH was attempting the pickup and had placed one of its crewmembers on the ground. The LOH was forced to pull out of the pickup area as it was unable to recover the pilot as he was stuck in mud up to his waist. The LOH was not equipped with a hoist. Jolly Green 64 then was called in to make the pickup. He made his approach and placed a P.J. on the ground to aid the survivor. With the P.J.'s help the pilot was brought aboard the aircraft with the penetrator and evacuated to DaNang.

Mission #1-3-058