

MEMORANDUM

TO : Capt. T. W. Hellmers via *WPH* *WPH* BFD/SV: BWSG
DATE: 28 July 1969

FROM : BFD
REF. No. *FD-69-377*

SUBJECT: Commendation

REFERENCE: Memo MF-V-69-516 dated 11 July 1969 and attachment.

We are pleased to quote hereunder excerpts from the letter written by Col. H. S. Sachers, Senior Advisor, Headquarters, Advisory Team 2, MACV, APO 96260, to BFD, praising you for your courageous action in successfully accomplishing a Med-Evac from Quang Ngai Airport on 28 May 1969:

"This courageous action took place only minutes after a 120mm mortar attack on Quang Ngai Airfield, in which a member of the USAF Quang Ngai Tactical Air Control Party was wounded. Quang Ngai Tower called MACV Tactical Operations Center for a Med-Evac but none was immediately available. Captains Kendall and Hellmers were monitoring the tower frequency at the time and volunteered to make the Med-Evac. Within minutes the wounded Airman was evacuated to a doctor.

Captains Kendall and Hellmers calmly and quickly reacted to this critical situation without any assurance that the mortar attack was over. The selfless decision to assist the airfield personnel shows bravery and genuine concern for the welfare of others. Their airmanship in accomplishing the Med-Evac was beyond that normally expected in landing at an unfamiliar confined landing pad. Further, the pick-up was made within a few dozen yards of a large ammunition dump which was vulnerable to the enemy mortar rounds.

Captains Kendall and Hellmers' actions are sincerely appreciated, and reflect great credit upon themselves and Air America."

To the abovementioned may we add our commendation for a job well done. It is by the fine efforts of such exemplary employees as yourself, Captain Hellmers, that Air America has won the respect and good will which it now possesses.

R E Berry
for J. E. Teeters

cc: 'P' file
file

CWC/yc

RECEIVED

4 AUG 1969