

SECRET

of the radios is required; and finally, base installation of the crypto kits (SIC). On 1 Feb 69, 7AF published a SEEK SILENCE OPLAN which outlined procedures and concepts of operation. Limited use by FY/70 is expected.

- A survivor protective [gas] mask for one time use (SEAOR 144) is expected to be available by the summer of 1969. The mask is for use in conjunction with the employment of CS gas during rescue operations.
- A new improved forest penetrator (SEAOR 75) to reduce the possibility of entanglement or injury to a survivor while being hoisted through a thick jungle canopy, was in evaluation as of this writing.

A completely new recovery aircraft was also in the possible future of SAR activity. The conflict in Southeast Asia vividly demonstrated that combat rescue was a highly specialized task, with requirements peculiar to the rescue mission. In June 1967, the Air Force began plans to develop an aircraft system, designed specifically for the combat aircrew recovery role. The aircraft would be required: to have a multi-engine capability and single-engine performance, capable of continued flight at 5,000 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL), with mission payload and one-half mission fuel; to cruise at least 400 knots in mission configuration; to have a radius of action of 500 NM (without refueling) and a ferry range of 2,200 NM; to be capable of hovering for 30 minutes out-of-ground effect at 6,000 feet MSL at mission midpoint; to be able to pick up 1,200 pounds, while maintaining a 20 percent power margin; and to be capable of night and all weather operations. When developed, it will be the first aircraft designed specifically for the recovery role of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service.^{10/}

SECRET

CHAPTER IX

CONCLUSION

The dedication and professional competence of the 3d ARRG, as the primary agency of the USAF SAR effort in SEA, is substantiated by statistics compiled during more than four and one-half years of activity. From 1 December 1964 through 30 June 1969, the group saved 2,682 lives. A total of 1,842 were combat saves, where the possibility of death or enemy capture was extremely high. The following statistics depict, by type of rescue aircraft, and by year, the number of aircrew and non-aircrew combat saves for the period of 1 December 1964-30 June 1969.^{1/}

BY AIRCRAFT

ACFT	1964-5		1966		1967		1968		1969		TOTAL
	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	
HU-16	24		22		1						47
HH-43	53	42	65	186	68	147	79	92	58	92	882
HH-3	8		92	38	122	68	163	138	48	1	678
HH-53					1		21	79	16	118	235
TOTAL	85	42	179	224	192	215	263	309	122	211	1,842

When a man was in trouble and needed help, the 3d ARRG put forth equal effort without regard to service or nationality. The following statistics depict the number of people rescued by the group as to service. It is interesting to note that there have been more U.S. Army personnel recovered than USAF.^{2/}

SECRET

BY SERVICE

SERVICE	1965		1966		1967		1968		1969		TOTAL
	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	ACR	N/ACR	
USAF	47		117	1	99	43	129	12	77	8	533
USN	23	6	29	3	42	55	47	69	11	41	326
USA	11	35	27	169	45	66	80	47	32	29	541
F/Mil	4	1	6	23	2	43	6	45	2	128	260
Civ				10	4	4	1	136		5	160
Other				18		4					22
Total	85	42	179	224	192	215	263	309	122	211	1,842

Innumerable people have been saved from situations other than combat. The seriously ill in ships at sea, in isolated hamlets, and from forward hospitals have been recovered safely. Those wounded in accidental aircraft crashes and by the catastrophies of nature have also been rescued. Even those stranded and isolated by floods and fires have welcomed the sight of USAF helicopters arriving to carry them to safety. The following statistics detail the combat and non-combat record of the 3 ARRGp over the years to show the impressive total of 2,682 persons saved.^{3/}

COMBAT/NONCOMBAT SAVES

	1 Dec 64-65	1966	1967	1968	1969	TOTAL
COMBAT	127	403	407	572	333	1,842
NONCOMBAT	39	73	239	344	145	840
TOTAL	166	476	646	916	478	2,682

SECRET

As evidence of the public interest in USAF SAR, a 25-minute color movie "The Faces of Rescue" is being produced. This film is being done in the same tradition as former films on rescue such as "There Is A Way" and "Alone, Unarmed and Unafraid". The French Film Company, Alliance Productions, is presently in South Vietnam filming "Rescue In Southeast Asia" to be shown on national French television. In September 1968, the National Geographic magazine published a 24-page story entitled "Air Rescue Behind Enemy Lines", in which several dramatic rescues were recounted. In March 1969, Airman magazine presented an article on the "Big Ugly Fat Fellow" referring to the HH-53B/C, the largest rescue helicopter in the inventory.^{4/}

As Maj. Carroll Shershun, Information Officer of the 3d ARRG said: "I receive a tremendous number of requests for material on the activity of this group. The interest groups include magazines, newspapers, television companies, military writers, and free-lance writers. Many organizations also desire knowledgeable rescue men to speak at various functions. Acts of courage, while saving human lives, are of interest to everyone, and rightfully so."

There appears to have been a concentrated effort to record for posterity the Search and Rescue activity in Southeast Asia. Perhaps it is due to the fact that when the taking of life is so basic in combat, the saving of lives at the same time, becomes even more meaningful.

While pursuing its mission, the 3d ARRG has received more awards and decorations than any other organization of its size in SEA. The impressive total of 9,131 is detailed here:^{5/}

SECRET

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Medal of Honor	1	Airman's Medal	84
Air Force Cross	18	Bronze Star	391
Silver Star	260	Air Medal	5,984
Legion of Merit	7	Air Force Commendation Medal	1,043
Distinguished Flying Cross	1,269	Purple Heart	74
TOTAL 9,131			

The Group also distinguished itself by receiving such honors as the Silver Anvil Award, the Orville Wright Award, the Cheney Award, and several AVCO Helicopter Heroism Awards.

The 3d ARRG experienced its proudest moment on 14 May 1968, when President Lyndon B. Johnson presented the Medal of Honor to Capt. Gerald O. Young who was previously assigned to the 37th ARRS as an HH-3E Jolly Green Rescue Crew Commander. The presentation marked the first time that a USAF rescue man had received the Nation's highest award. Captain Young received the award for his actions in November 1967 after being shot down on a rescue mission.^{6/}

A recommendation for the award of the Presidential Unit Citation to the 3d ARRG was pending in the summer of 1969. During the period covered in the recommendation, 1 July 1967 to 31 January 1969, the 3d ARRG maintained an extremely high level of combat activity, while flying 58,824 sorties and logging 62,893 hours.^{7/} Within the narrative of the recommendation, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Gen. John P. McConnell, stated: "Aircrews of ARRS have served with special distinction in support of our combat crews in Southeast Asia..."

SECRET

the exemplary performance of their difficult and hazardous tasks represents one of the proudest chapters in Air Force History". In the same narrative, Dr. Harold Brown, former Secretary of the Air Force, stated: "...the extent of the operation, the danger involved, and the dedication on an every day basis month after month--makes these rescue operations something unique in our military history...these men are all heroes...Certainly, the ARRS people deserve their immortality".

There was little doubt that the commitment to the SAR mission in Southeast Asia had proved the worth of combat aircrew recovery forces. When considering the cost and time to train replacements, the value of returning tactical aircrews, downed in hostile territory, to full-time duty could easily be weighed. The immeasurable benefits of aircrew morale and the denial of a source of exploitation to the enemy are intangibles that cannot be precisely calculated. There is strong evidence, however, that the Search and Rescue effort in South-^{8/}east Asia played a significant part in increasing overall combat effectiveness.

The praise earned by the men of the Rescue Service is implicit in their code:

CODE OF THE AEROSPACE RESCUE AND RECOVERY SERVICE MAN

"It is my duty, as a member of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service, to save life and to aid the injured.

"I will be prepared at all times to perform my assigned duties quickly and efficiently, placing these duties before personal desires and comforts.

"These things I do that others may live."

SECRET

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER I

1. (S) Extract, 7AFM 64-1, Hq 7AF, "Organization", Chap 1, pp 1-1 - 1-2, 1 Mar 68, Doc. 1. (Hereafter cited: 7AFM 74-1.) Extract is CONFIDENTIAL.
2. (S) Extract, Hist Rprt, Hq 3d ARRG, Jan-Mar 69, Doc. 2. (Hereafter cited: Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG.)
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. (S) Extract, Hist Rprt, Hq 3d ARRG, Apr-Jun 68, pg 21, Doc. 3. Extract is UNCLASSIFIED.
8. (S) Briefing, Lt Col Leslie E. Gamble, Chief, JSARC, 3d ARRG, 7AF, "Senior Officers Briefing", 30 Jan 69, pp 1-7, Doc. 4.
9. (S) Interview, Lt Col Leslie E. Gamble, FR40859, Chief, JSARC, 3d ARRG, 7AF, with Maj James B. Overton, DOAC, 7AF, 3 Jun 69, pp 1-5, Doc. 5. (Hereafter cited: Interview, Chief, JSARC.)
10. (S) Extract, Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG, Hq 7AF, Apr-Jun 68, pp 16, 19, Doc. 6.
11. Ibid.
12. (S) 7AFM 64-1, Doc. 1.

CHAPTER II

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2. Ibid.
3. (S) Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG, Doc. 2.

UNCLASSIFIED

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1. (S) Extract, 7AFM 64-1, Hq 7AF, "Rescue Procedures", 1 Mar 68, Chap 3, pp 3-1-3-2, Doc. 8.
2. (S) Interview, Lt Col Chester R. Ratcliffe, FV765840, Comdr, 40th ARRS, 20 May 69, Doc. 9. (Hereafter cited: Ratcliffe Interview.)
3. (S) Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG, Doc. 2.
4. Ibid.
5. (S) Extract, 7AFM 64-1, SAR, Hq 7AF, 1 Mar 68, pp 3-3-3-6, Doc. 10.
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7. Ibid.

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2. (U) Guide Book, ARRTC, ARRS, Eglin AFB, Fla., "SATS Student Study Guide and Work Book, HH-53B", Feb 68, Doc. 12.
3. (U) Interview, Maj John E. Duffy, FV3040170, Instructor HH-53, ARRTC, Eglin AFB, Fla., 11 Apr 69, Doc. 13. (Hereafter cited: Duffy Interview.)
4. (S) Interview, Maj Charles Trapp, Jr., FR57249, Comdr, Det 5, 38th ARRS, Udorn AB, Thailand, 24 May 69, Doc. 14.
5. (S) Interview, Maj Lester B. Langston, FR71263, Pedro Pilot and Operations Officer, Det 5, 38th ARRS, Udorn AB, Thailand, 24 May 69, Doc. 15.
6. (U) Duffy Interview, Doc. 13.
7. (S) Ratcliffe Interview, Doc. 9.
8. Ibid.
9. (S) Interview, Capt Art Smith, FV3102343, HH-53 RCC, 40th ARRS, Udorn AB, Thailand, 21 May 69, Doc. 16.
10. Ibid.
11. (S) Extract, Hist Rprt, 40th ARRS, "History of the 40th ARRS, 31 Oct 68. 31 Dec 68, Chap II, pp 5-6; Chap III, pp 10-12, Doc. 17.

UNCLASSIFIED

- (S) Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG, Doc. 2.
- (S) Ratcliffe Interview, Doc. 9.
- (S) Extract, 7AFM 64-1, Hq 7AF, "Helicopter Procedures", 1 Mar 68, Chap 4, pp 4-1 - 4-9, Doc. 18.
- (U) Pamphlet, ARRTC, ARRS, Eglin AFB, Fla., "HH-53B Pararescue Technician and Job and Course Training Standards, Feb 68, Doc. 19.
- 12. Ibid.
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- 15. (C) Ltr, Maj Gerald A. Jones, RCC, 40th ARRS, to Operations Officer and Comdr, 3d ARRG, JSARC, subj: "Mission Narrative Rprt (#02-03-066-8314)", 12 Nov 68, w/1 Atch;
- (S) Atch 1, Completed Form, 3d ARRG, Battle Damage Rprt, undated, Doc. 21.
- 16. (U) Extract, Article, National Geographic, "Air Rescue Behind Enemy Lines" by Howard Sochurek, Sep 68, Doc. 22.
- 17. (S) Flip Chart Personnel Briefing, Comdr, 3d ARRG to Maj James B. Overton, Hq 7AF, DOAC.

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- 2. (S) Extract, 7AFM 64-1, Hq 7AF, "RESCORT Procedures", 1 Mar 68, Chap 5, pp 5-1 - 5-2, Doc. 23.
- 3. (S) Working Paper 69/36, Hq 7AF, DOA, Capt Jean-Pierre Amor, "Sanitization of AAA Threat Areas during SAR Efforts", 1 Jun 69, Doc. 24. (Hereafter cited: DOA Working Paper 69/36.)
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- 5. Ibid.
- 6. Ibid.
- 7. (SNF/ AFE0) Extract Plan, Hq 7AF, "Combat Aircrew Recovery, Annex H, FY 71, 7AF Force Improvement Plan," Nov 68, pp H-1 - H-17, Doc. 25.
- 8. (S) Rprt, Comdr, 3d ARRG to Hq ASI (ASD-1R), Maxwell AFB, Ala., subj: Project CORONA HARVEST End of Tour Rprt, 18 Jun 69, Doc. 26. (Hereafter cited: CORONA HARVEST End of Tour Rprt.)

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10. (S) Interview, Chief, JSARC, Doc. 5.
11. (S) Hist Rprt, 6th SOS, Doc. 27.
12. Ibid.

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2. (S) Extract, 7AFM 64-1 (C1), "Composition, Execution, and Control of SAR Support Forces", 12 Oct 68, pp 6-1 - 6-4, Doc. 28.
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5. Ibid.
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9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.
15. Ibid.

CHAPTER VII

1. (S) Briefing, Comdr, 3d ARRG, "SAR Briefing for General Brooks", Mar 69, Doc. 29. (Hereafter cited: General Brooks Briefing.)
2. Ibid.

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4. Ibid.
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6. (S) General Brooks Briefing, Doc. 29.
7. (S) Msg, Acting Dep Dir, 3d ARRG, Hq 7AF to 8th TFW, DO, Ubon RTAFB, Thailand, subj: Rescue Mission 3-3-037-14 Jun 69 (U), 140107 Jun 69, Doc. 30.
8. Ibid.
9. (S) Extract, Hist Rprt, 39th ARRS, Oct - Dec 68, pg 8, Doc. 31.
10. (C) Rprt, 3d ARRG (JSARC), subj: Mission Narrative Rprt, Nr 2-3-003-14 Jan 69 (U), 27 Apr 69, Doc. 32.
11. (S) Mission Narrative Rprt, Nr 2-3-024-29 Mar 69, 31 Mar 69, Doc. 33.
12. (S) Rprt, 3d ARRG (JSARC), subj: Mission Narrative Rprt, Nr 2-3-022, 9 Apr 69 (U), 5 Apr 69, Doc. 34.
13. (S) Extract, Hist Rprt, 39th ARRS, Oct - Dec 68, pg 8, Doc. 31.
14. Ibid.
15. (S) Interview, Maj Gerald A Jones, FV3037665, 40th ARRS, May 69, Doc. 35;
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2. (S) Extract, Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG, "Operations, JSARC, Training, and Safety", Oct - Dec 68, Chap XI, pp 14-18; 22-23; 30-37, Doc. 37.
(Hereafter cited: Operations, Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG.);
(S) Rprt, Maj Robert Smith, Chief, Plans, 3d ARRG, "Night Recovery System (SEAOR 114)", 28 Jun 69, Doc. 38. (Hereafter cited: Major Smith Rprt.)
3. Ibid.
4. (C) Rprt, Sikorsky Acft Div, Stratford, Conn., "HH-53C Night Rescue System" (U), undated, Doc. 39.

UNCLASSIFIED

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6. (S) Hist Rprt, 3d ARRG, Doc. 2.
7. (U) Rprt Summary, 3d ARRG, "Summary of Recommendation for Award of the Presidential Unit Citation to the 3d ARRG, USAF," undated, Doc. 41.
8. (SNF/ AFE0) Annex H, FY 71 7AF Improvement Plan, Doc. 25.

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GLOSSARY

AA	Antiaircraft
AAA	Antiaircraft Artillery
AC	Aircraft Commander
ACR	Aircrew Recovery
ADF	Automatic Direction Finder
AFCS	Automatic Flight Control System
AMC	Airborne Mission Commander
AR	Air Refueling
ARRG	Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group
ARRS	Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron
ARRTC	Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Training Center
Buff	Big Ugly Fat Fellow
CAP	Combat Air Patrol
CBU	Cluster Bomb Unit
CINCPAC	Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Command
COMSEC	Communications Security
CRC	Combat Reporting Center
DASC	Direct Air Support Center
Det	Detachment
DMZ	Demilitarized Zone
DRV	Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam)
DSR	Director of Search and Rescue
ECM	Electronic Countermeasure
ETE	Estimated Time En Route
EXCOM	Extended Communications
FAC	Forward Air Controller
FIR	Flight Information Region
FM	Frequency Modulation
FNRS	Full Night Recovery System
FOL	Forward Operating Location
Ft	Feet
HF	High Frequency
IFF	Identification Friend or Foe
IR	Infrared
IRAN	Inspection and Repair as Necessary
JG	Jolly Green
JSARC	Joint Search and Rescue Center
Kt	Knot

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Lb	Pound
LBR	Local Base Rescue
LNRS	Limited Night Recovery System
MAC	Military Airlift Command
MSL	Mean Sea Level
mm	millimeter
NCO	Noncommissioned Officer
NKP	Nakhon Phanom
NM	Nautical Mile
NRS	Night Recovery System
OL	Operating Location
OPlan	Operations Plan
OSC	On-the-Scene Commander
PE	Pony Express
PJ	Pararescueman
PRECOM	Preliminary Communications
PROVOST	Priority Research Objective Vietnam Operational Support
RCC	Rescue Coordination Center; Rescue Crew Commander
Recon	Reconnaissance
RESCAP	Rescue Combat Air Patrol
RESCOR	Rescue Escort
RTAF	Royal Thai Air Force Base
RVN	Republic of Vietnam
SA/SW	Small Arms/Automatic Weapons
SAM	Surface-to-Air Missile
SAR	Search and Rescue
SARTF	Search and Rescue Task Force
SEA	Southeast Asia
SEAOR	Southeast Asia Operational Requirement
SOS	Special Operations Squadron
SOW	Special Operations Wing
SVN	South Vietnam
TACAN	Tactical Air Navigation
TACC	Tactical Air Control Center
UHF	Ultra High Frequency
VHF	Very High Frequency
VSD	Vertical Situation Display
WP	White Phosphorous