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39th ARR3q History, Oct - Dec 69

DATE: 5 Dec 69 Supporting Document 12

MISSION NUMBER: 2-3-078-5 Dec 69

AIRCRAFT DESIGNATION: KING 6

LOCATION: 086/64/89

DISPOSED AIRCRAFT: BOXER 22 (F-4)

SAVES: 1 Combat

1. (C) At 0719Z Jack asked to use King 6 as a backup for refueling Jolly Greens of mission now in progress. At 0803Z King 6 was on orbit 100/30-70/89. At 0830Z King 1 advised that they were going to RTB and King 6 would take over mission. I received a briefing from King 1 and assumed command and control of mission. SAR Forces available at time of assuming control were as follows: Sandy's 05/06, Sandy 05 was On-Scene Commander - working with Vodka flight - and slow movers suppressing the ground fire in the area. Coach 1 & 2 were on tanker with pave ways onboard. Nail 35 was in the area. At 0853 I requested additional Vodka flights and Sandy flights. Sandy 5 advised that he would not use the Coach flight and to release them.
2. (S) The two survivors were located 086/64/89. One was on west side of river the other on east side of the river, south of ford, where river makes a "W". Weather in the area was 6,500 ft. with tops 3,000 ft. sea condition and visibility 7 to 10 miles. Ground fire was reported by both survivors and all aircraft in the area. Fire consisted of 23mm and 37mm north and in caves of Karst area west of SAR scene. Automatic weapons and small arms fire reported in entire area. The condition of Alpha was reported good. Bravo had a head injury and possible broken ankle. The chutes were visible and radio contact with both survivors. Frequencies being utilized were 259.0/123.1/47.8.
3. (C) Sandy 05 attempted a pick up with Jolly Green 69/77. Jolly Green 69 was to make pickup attempt. Shortly after crossing the Karst inbound Jolly Green 69 received a hit, starting a fire in rear of aircraft. Jolly Green 69 was successful in extinguishing the fire and was escorted by Jolly Green 77 to Channel 89.
4. (C) After reconsideration Sandy 5 requested the Coach flight in an attempt to block the caves in the Karst area. Sandy's 7 & 8 arrived on scene. Sandy 5 advised 7 that he would like Sandy 7 to take control of the mission. Sandy 7 asked why, Sandy 5 replied that he didn't feel he could cut the "Mustard". I appointed Sandy 7 On-Scene Commander. After reorganizing the effort Sandy 7 began suppressing ground fire in the Karst area, with Firefly 30/31 and Zorro 30/51. Coach flight arrived in the area and Nail 35 worked with them. The first and second attempts were called off; and the third attempt ordnance was released but landed

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GROUP-4  
 Downgraded at 3 year interval  
 Declassified at or 12 years

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long. After Coach had expended, Sandy 7 again suppressed the area with slow movers and at 1020Z Jolly Green 68/79 began moving in for another attempted pickup. Again intense ground fire; Jolly Green 68 took hits as well as Jolly Green 79. Both RTB Channel 89.

5. (S) Sandy 7 split his forces and had Sandy 5 work strikes to south of the SAR area, and Sandy's 9 & 10 to work strikes to north, boxing the area. The third attempt for pick up was made by Jolly Green 72/19. Jolly Green 72 took hits and had to pull out of area. Darkness was nearing and Sandy 7 requested that Jolly Green 17 attempt with Jolly Green 72 high bird. Jolly Green 72 had expended all of his ordinance. Sandy 7 left the decision to Jolly Green 17 aircraft commander; however it was the consensus that another attempt should not be made; to bed down the survivors for the evening. Sandy 7 briefed both survivors and advised of first light effort. After survivors had turned off radios, I received suggestion from Jack to have survivors inflate one side of LPU's and float 12-15 miles down river and turn on beepers at first light. This was relayed to Sandy 7 who attempted to get survivors up again, but was unsuccessful. Sandy 7 advised that the river south was probably worse than present area and the river appeared too shallow. At 1106Z Sandy's 7 & 8 RTB leaving Spade 11/12 on scene at 1110Z Spade 11/12 cleared to RTB Ch 91.

## 6. (C) PROBLEM AREAS:

- a. Jolly Greens had to hold a good distance from scene and required 5-10 minutes to get to the area due to intense ground fire in area.
- b. King 6 was unable to read "Alpha" or "Bravo" on emergency frequency.

## 7. (C) AIRCRAFT UTILIZED:

Sandy's 5/6	Spad 11/12
Sandy's 7/8	Hobo 10/11
Vodka 48/49	Firefly 30/31
Vodka 52/53	Sandy's 9/10
Vodka 54/55	Vodka 58/59
Hobo 12/13	Vodka 60/61
Vodka 50/51	Vodka 56/57
Nail 35	Vodka 48/49
Coach 1/2	Vodka 62/63
Zorro 50/51	

8. (C) After landing at Ch 83, I briefed King 3's AMC, and King 4's AMC. In addition briefed Joker and made the following suggestions:

- a. Possible ordinance for use, would be Naplam.
- b. Organize forces with set of Sandy's, who know the position of survivors and utilize them as escort for Jolly Greens only.

a. Possible use of CSC, Sandy 7 again for first light.

Declassified after 3 year interval.  
Declassified after 12 year

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9. (U) Wing & Crewmembers:

MSG MAJ SMITH	RO SSG MOE
AC MAJ CLEMENTS	FE MSG BERGER
CP MAJ FEILER	FE TSG RAPIER
W CPT MIERS	LM SSG HERRING

ACM COL SCHLE, FREDERICK W.

*Charles J. Smith Jr.*  
 CHARLES J. SMITH JR., Major, USAF  
 Airborne Mission Commander