



Climber dies on Denali

A-11

By ROSANNE PAGANO Associated Press

ANCHORAGE—The National Park Service said one climber died Friday on Mount McKinley and two others were the focus of a twilight rescue after the team reported frostbite and altitude sickness within 1,100 feet of the summit.

The climbers—three men from Spain—were at 19,200 feet and apparently stranded by illness for three days when their emergency radio transmission was picked up by a Civil Air Patrol squad in Anchorage—175 miles to the south.

At 20,320 feet, McKinley is the continent's tallest peak. Friday's accident is the fifth climbing death on the mountain this season.

John Quinley, Park Service spokesman in Anchorage, said one of the climbers slipped and fell 4,000 feet to his death while the team was trying to move from its camp on the West Rib route.

"We are not sure of the circumstances of the fall," Quinley said. He said the accident occurred around 6:30 p.m. Friday.

Through a translator, the Park Service had urged the climbers to try to put on crampons Friday and begin moving. Quinley said authorities had received mixed reports about the extent of the climbers' illness.

He said altitude sickness—which may come on when climbers advance up the mountain too fast—could produce dizziness and other symptoms that may cause disorientation.

Quinley said the team began its trek May 22.

One of the two climbers has reported frostbitten hands and feet but is able to move about. The other man has no frostbite but is exhausted, Quinley said.

The Park Service called into use a Chinook helicopter from Fort Wainwright near Fairbanks, which landed at 19,600 feet on Friday and delivered three civilian climbers who were trying to reach the Spanish team.

Quinley said the rescue team—Scott Backes, Mark Twight and Alex Lowe—are experienced,

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DENALI: Spanish climber dies after slip

Continued from Page A-1 locally known climbers who had recently completed treks and were acclimated.

A park ranger and a volunteer climber who also is a doctor were attempting to reach the dead man, who fell to about 15,000 feet. His name was not immediately released.

Quinley said the Park Service had asked for the Army's help after the service's own high-altitude helicopter sustained a damaged rotor when it airlifted water, a radio and other supplies to the Spaniards on Friday afternoon.

Quinley said a rope attached to the emergency cache became wrapped around the skid of the helicopter.

The rope, flailing in the wind, prevented the pilot from landing at the Park Service camp at 14,000 feet. When he tried to set the helicopter down at 16,000 feet, the rope

blew up over the tail boom of the helicopter, slid down into the tail rotor and was cut.

"There were a few scary moments there," Quinley said.

The helicopter landed safely at the Kahiltna Glacier base camp at 7,000 feet. A mechanic was flown to the camp to repair the helicopter.

The food and supply drop was organized less than 24 hours after a Civil Air Patrol squadron said it first picked up an emergency transmission from one of the climbers.

Scott Palmore, a CAP spokesman, said a member heard the call while monitoring a military radio channel at home.

The man was told to leave the channel when he replied in English that there was an emergency on McKinley and two climbers had frozen feet.

The patrol said it notified the Park Service and maintained contact with the climbers for about

four hours Thursday.

Palmore said the team spent three days at the camp before calling for help. The Air Patrol said it spoke to the climbers through an interpreter again Friday morning and passed on word from the Park Service about an encampment at 17,000 feet where the team might find help.

But Palmore said when the patrol radioed again at mid-morning Friday, the climbers said they could not put on crampons or fold their tents after trying for 45 minutes.

Palmore said one of the climbers reported feeling better Friday, but said the team could not spend another night on the peak.

The group had been advised overnight Thursday to take medication to relieve swelling brought on by high altitude, Palmore said.

News-Miner reporter Tim Mowry contributed to this story.

One climber killed; two others saved

Helicopter almost crashes trying to save McKinley trio

By CRAIG MEDRED,
DAVID HULEN
and S.J. KOMARNITSKY
Daily News reporters

A Spanish climber fell 4,000 feet to his death on Mount McKinley on Friday while two of his fellow countrymen clung to a frosty perch just below the summit until they were rescued a little after 11 p.m.

The death, the fifth on the mountain this year, came near the end of a day of efforts to rescue the three Spaniards, including one attempt in which a Park Service helicopter nearly crashed while trying to bring the climbers down from the 19,200-foot level.

Late Friday, three volunteer climbers — Scott Backes, Mark Twight and Alex Lowe — were dropped off by helicopter. They moved the remaining two men 400 feet up the mountain and then down to a site known as the "Football Field" at 19,600 feet where a U.S. Army Chinook helicopter landed and took them off, said Jane Tranel, a Park Service spokeswoman.

Tranel said the two Spaniards were being taken to Talkeetna, where a helicopter was waiting to fly them to Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage.

Park Service spokesman John Quinley said one of the remaining men was suffering from exhaustion, and the other had frostbite on his hands and feet but was able to move around.

The name of the man who died was not being released.

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Quinley said it was not clear why the man fell. He and his companions had spent most of the day holed up in a nylon tent awaiting rescue. At some point he left the tent, and apparently slid down the 40-degree slope of hard-packed snow and ice.

Climbers at the 7,200-foot Kahiltna Base Camp, some 10 miles south of the summit, witnessed the fall through binoculars and notified rangers, who recovered the body from about the 15,000-foot level.

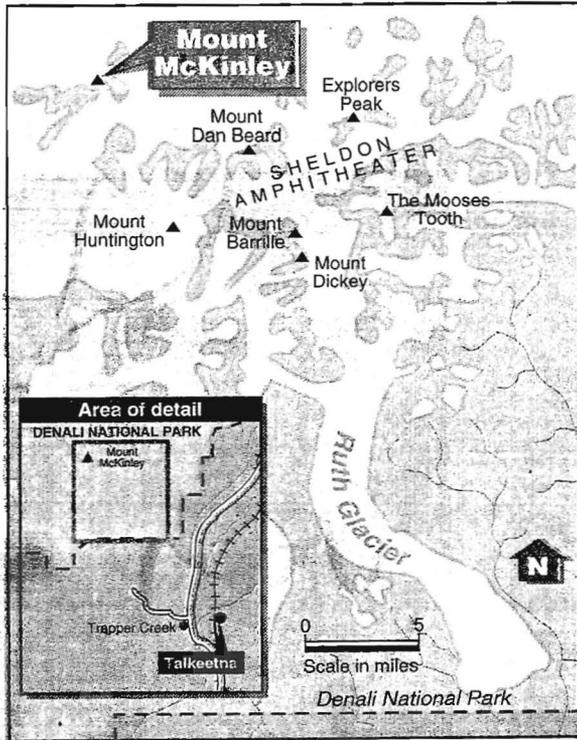
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McKINLEY: One climber dies; two rescued by helicopter



KEVIN POWELL / Anchorage Daily News

"Nobody had seen them for a while," Quinley said, "and even when we saw them they were moving real slow."

The Spaniards have limited high-altitude experience. They had climbed extensively on the steep but relatively low-elevation peaks of Europe. Their only experience outside that continent appeared to be on Aconcagua, the 22,835-foot Argentinean peak that is the tallest mountain in the Western Hemisphere.

Neither Aconcagua nor the mountains of Europe test climbers with weather as severe as that on McKinley.

Friday the temperature near the top of the mountain was about 30 degrees below zero, Quinley said, but it was otherwise mostly sunny with light winds.

When spotted on Thursday, the Spanish climbers had stopped moving. The Park Service tried to talk to them by radio, but communications were difficult because none of them speak much English.

"This morning, we talked to them through an interpreter," Quinley said. "We're still not sure what the deal is. They're not moving. They were talking about frostbite, but it's sounding more like AMS (acute mountain sickness)," a debilitating disease linked to lowered

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mission, U.S. Army Chinook helicopters from Fort Wainwright near Fairbanks were requested to fly to Talkeetna and stand by for a possible rescue, Quinley said.

Meanwhile, besides the three dropped off by helicopter, a pair of other volunteers had headed up from the 14,200-foot camp below McKinley's West Buttress on Friday morning to see if they could climb over the 20,320-foot summit of the mountain and descend the West Rib to reach the climbers, identified as Xavier Delgado Vives, 34, Clinewt Lupon, 34, and Albert Puig, 26.

"We're moving the chess pieces around all over the mountain," Quinley said earlier in the evening.

The Spaniards were overdue as of Thursday from their attempt via the difficult West Rib, but Park Service rangers had not been particularly worried. The trio got a late start, Quinley said, and thus some delay was expected.

Rangers asked another group of climbers beginning an ascent of the Rib to watch for the three Spaniards.

blood oxygen, which stems from breathing low-pressured air at high altitude.

The Park Service's Aereospoattle Llama helicopter on Friday was able to drop the group water, an extra radio and other supplies before near-disaster struck it. After the delivery, Quinley said, ranger J.D. Swed was supposed to drop a climbing rope from the helicopter.

"They got the bag," Quinley said, "but the rope caught on the one of the (helicopter's skids), and they couldn't shake it loose."

The helicopter tried to descend to 16,200 feet to land and cut the rope loose, but a gust of wind tossed the line over the tail boom.

"As J.D. said, several years went by in several seconds there," Quinley said. "Life on the edge, a little over the edge on that one."

It was worse for rangers on the ground. Daryl Miller at the 14,200-foot camp saw the helicopter disappear behind a ridge and thought it had gone down. So did ranger Kevin Moore, who was flying support with pilot Jay Hudson.

"Luckily, the rotor cut the rope clean," Miller said.

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Tranel said the two Spaniards were being taken to Talkeetna, where a helicopter was waiting to fly them to Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage.

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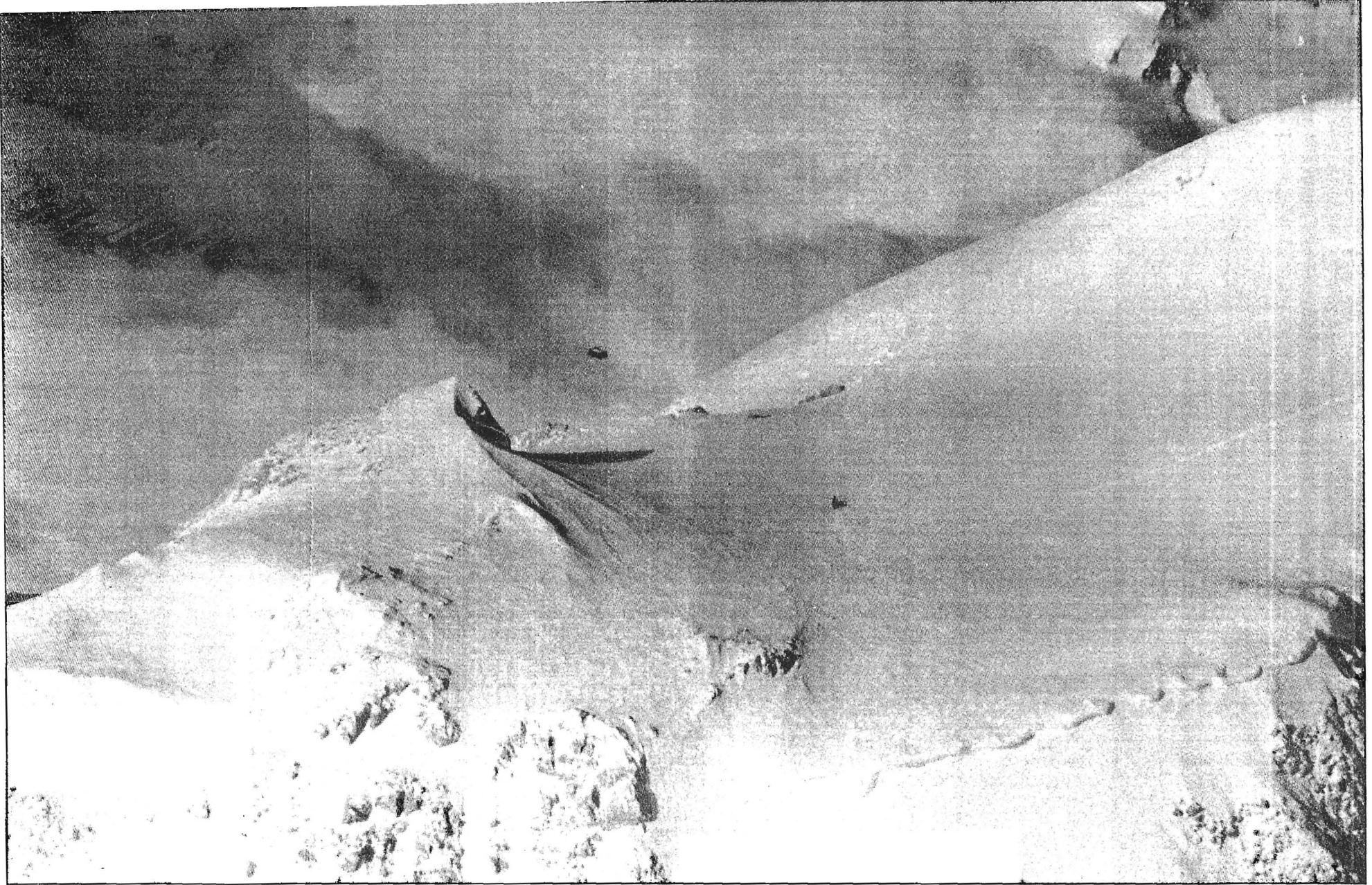
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THOMAS HOWARD / Air National Guard

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McKinley rescue 'just in time' for 2

By ROSANNE PAGANO
The Associated Press

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Authorities said rangers had used a spotting scope to observe the three-man

team, camped within 1,100 feet of McKinley's snowy summit.

Park Service spokesman John Quinley said Ranger Kevin Moore was watching as climber Albert Puig slid 4,000 feet down a hard-packed slope of snow and ice.

The fall occurred from the group's camp at 19,200 feet on the difficult West

Rib route.

Rescuers reached Puig, 26, of Barcelona, Spain, Friday night while, higher up, pilots commanding a Chinook helicopter landed on McKinley to deliver three volunteers who made their way to the two surviving team members.

They were identified as Xavier Delgado, 34, and Climent Lupon, 34, both

from Spain.

A rescue was launched after the team reported frostbite, lethargy and exhaustion that authorities attribute to oxygen deprivation known as acute mountain sickness.

The men, who had been urged earlier in the day to try reaching another encampment at 17,000 feet, were airlifted in serious

condition to an Anchorage hospital.

A nursing supervisor said Saturday their condition had improved to satisfactory and Lupon may be released soon. Delgado may require a week's stay, Alaska Regional Hospital said.

Quinley said it was the highest rescue landing ever made by a Chinook on Mc-

Kinley. At 20,320 feet, the mountain is the continent's tallest.

Marc Twight, a professional climber from Salt Lake City, said Saturday he and volunteer rescuers Scott Backes and Alex Lowe reached the Spaniards about 9 p.m. Friday,

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McKINLEY:

Spanish climbers still hospitalized; Park Service praises rescuers

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"They were just sitting out in the wind," Twight said Saturday in a telephone interview from Denali National Park ranger station in Talkeetna.

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Friday's accident was the fifth climbing death on the mountain so far this season. About 425 climbers were scaling McKinley this week and about 950 climbers have made the attempt since the season began in May.

Quinley said the Park Service used its own rescue helicopter earlier on Friday to drop water, a radio and supplies to the climbers. The aircraft was taken out of commission after a gust of wind sent a rope over the helicopter's tail boom.

The rope was severed by the rotor, averting a disaster and permitting the helicopter to return safely to a base camp at 7,000 feet. Puig's body may be retrieved Wednesday if the helicopter is repaired, Quinley said.

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Through a translator, the Park Service had urged the climbers to try to put on crampons Friday and begin moving. Quinley said authorities had received mixed reports about the extent of their illness.

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Quinley said the three began their trek May 22.

Rescuers said Delgado, who appeared exhausted when loaded into the helicopter, and Lupon, who suffered from frostbitten hands, seemed to improve when they reached the mountain's base.

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The man was told to leave the channel when he replied in English that there was an emergency on McKinley. The patrol said it notified the Park Service and maintained contact with the climbers for about four hours on Thursday.

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McKinley rescue 'just in time' for 2

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Rescuers in time to save two climbers

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McKINLEY: Spanish climbers still hospitalized; Park S

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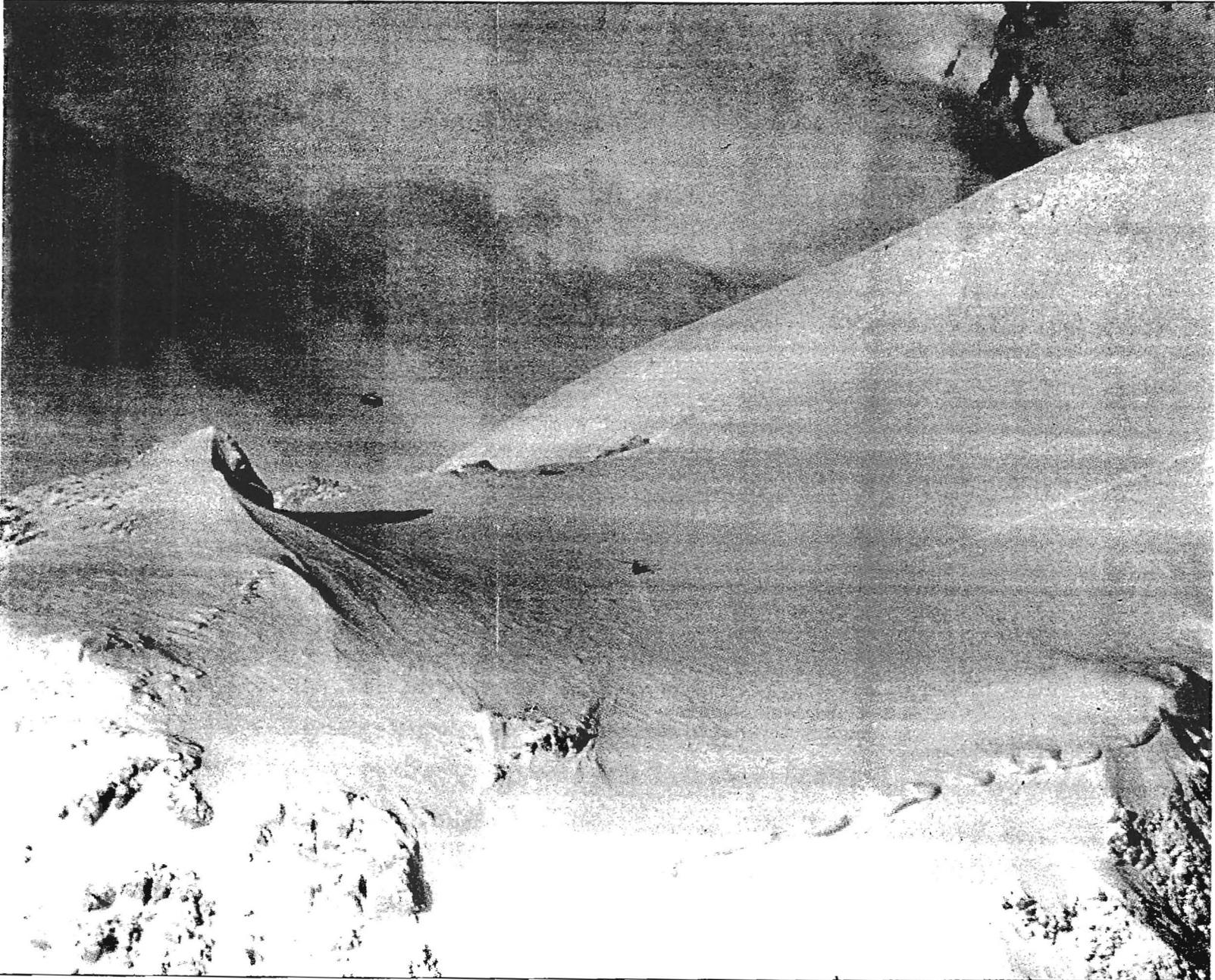
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Members still hospitalized; Park Service praises rescuers



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THOMAS HOWARD / Air National Guard

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Climber dies on Denali

Man is 6th killed on McKinley in '95

By S.J. KOMARNITSKY
Daily News reporter

A Taiwanese man became the second climber in less than a week to die on Mount McKinley after a storm Tuesday night forced him and six other climbers to bed down in an exposed area just below the mountain's summit.

The man's frozen body, still in his sleeping bag, was found Thursday morning by a volunteer rescue climber at the 19,400-foot level in an area known as the "Football Field." Two of his companions, both apparently suffering from frostbite and possibly high altitude sickness, were found about 100 yards away and were later airlifted off the mountain.

The seven climbers were part of a 13-member group

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from Taiwan using the 20,320-foot mountain as a training climb for Asia's Mount Everest, said Jane Tranel, a spokeswoman for Denali National Park.

The group, which ranged in age from late 20s to mid-40s, was climbing the West Buttress Route and was unguided, she said. She said she did not know how much previous experience the group had. Their names were not being released.

In all, four members of the group, three suffering from frostbite and one who was temporarily blinded, were airlifted off the mountain Thursday. Four others were being helped down by other climbers.

Tranel said late Thursday that Park Service officials were still trying to piece together what happened to the group and were struggling with a language barrier. But this is apparently what occurred:

The group started up the mountain on June 1. The first part of the trip apparently went smoothly.

By Tuesday of this week, all 13 climbers, including two who had reached the summit, were at the 17,200-foot camp, which is typically used as a staging area for final ascents.

At that point, the group decided to split. The two who had made it to the top started down with three

other climbers, two of whom were suffering from high-altitude cerebral edema and one who was otherwise sick.

Tranel said she did not know the third climber's illness. By Thursday, that group was off the mountain and back in Anchorage.

Of the eight remaining climbers, seven decided to go for the summit Tuesday. On the way up, the winds picked up and whiteout conditions forced them to stop at the 19,400-foot level. Tranel said having to camp out at the spot is almost always a bad sign. The area is open and exposed to the elements.

"If you bivvy there, it's because you are in trouble or someone is sick," she said.

The next day, Wednesday, four of the climbers, including one with frostbite and another who had been temporarily blinded, managed to make it back down to the 17,200-foot camp about 9 p.m. and alert Park Service officials to their problems. The two injured men were then airlifted to the 7,200-foot base camp and flown to Alaska Regional Hospital, where they were listed in stable condition late Thursday. The two other climbers and the man who had been left behind at the 17,200-foot level were being helped down by other climbers.

The Park Service launched a ground rescue

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Climber found dead in sleeping bag

for the remaining three climbers after seasonal ranger Joe Reichert spotted two of the men Thursday morning as he flew over the mountain. Volunteer climbers Alex Lowe and Conrad Anker were sent up from the 14,200-foot level to check on the men.

Tranel said Lowe, who was also involved in a rescue last Friday, found the body and then spotted the two other men nearby. One was incoherent and the other couldn't move.

"Alex just rallied them and got them moving," she said.

Lowe, Anker and members of an Austrian climbing team helped the men down to 17,200 feet, where they were plucked off the mountain about 7:30 p.m. by a U.S. Army Chinook helicopter from Fort Wainwright and flown to the 7,200-foot level. The men were then flown to Alaska Regional Hospital in an HH-60L Pavehawk helicopter operated by the Air National Guard's 210th Rescue Squadron. One of the men was treated and released. The other was in stable condition, a nursing supervisor said.

The death Thursday was the sixth on the mountain this year. Last Friday, a Spaniard was killed in a fall on the West Rib route and his two companions had to be airlifted off the mountain from the Football Field.

Time line of the climb



7,200-foot base camp: A group of 13 Taiwanese climbers starts an unguided climb up the West Buttress route on a training climb for Everest.



17,200-foot level: After two climbers had reached the summit and were on their way down the mountain, three others decide to turn around, including two suffering from high-altitude cerebral edema and one who was sick. They eventually make it down the mountain.

Seven of the remaining eight climbers decide to attempt the summit.

That night, the seven climbers run into bad weather and are forced to bivouac at the 19,400-foot level.



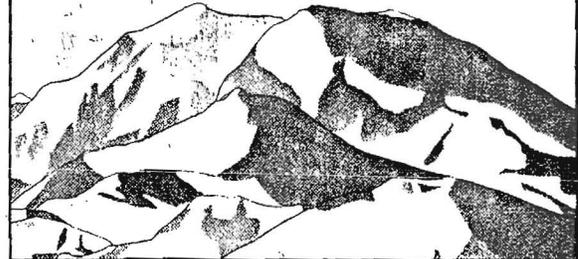
9 p.m.: Park Service officials first become aware of the group's problems after four of the seven climb back down to the 17,200-foot level, including one suffering from frostbite and one who was temporarily blinded.



17,200-foot level: The two ill climbers are airlifted to 7,200-foot base camp by the Park Service helicopter and taken to Alaska Regional Hospital in an Air National Guard HH-60L Pavehawk helicopters. The other three climbers at the 17,200-foot level are helped down the mountain by other climbers.

Seasonal climbing ranger Joe Reichert, flying in a Hudson Air plane, spots two of the three remaining climbers moving at the 19,400-foot level, and the Park Service launches a ground rescue, sending volunteer climbers Alex Lowe and Conrad Anker up from the 14,000-foot level.

Lowe finds the body of one climber in a sleeping bag and spots the two other climbers about 100 yards away. Lowe gets both climbers moving and starts them down to 17,000-foot level. U.S. Army Chinook helicopters launched from Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks later rescue them.



KEVIN POWELL / Anchorage Daily News

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ERIK HILL / Anchorage Daily News

A Taiwanese mountain climber is carried Thursday from an Alaska Air Guard HH-60 Pavehawk helicopter into Alaska Regional Hospital.

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Date 16 June 95

Page A-1 Col 1

Exxon jurors say the

By **NATALIE PHILLIPS**
Daily News reporter

The federal jurors who returned a \$5.3 billion verdict against Exxon last fall told court officials this week that no one harassed them and that they followed court instructions and avoided news accounts about the trial.

Exxon alleges someone intimidated jurors during the trial and that some

NO PRECEDENCE: Juries rarely, if ever, called back after a trial, expert says. **B-1**

jurors might be guilty of misconduct. If either were true, there might be enough evidence for a mistrial, Exxon argues.

One juror told of a taxi driver giving her a hard time about finding Capt. Joseph Hazelwood reck-

less, but she brushed him off.

A second juror told of a friend warning that if he did the wrong thing, he could end up running the oil industry out of the state. But he ignored him.

And another juror told of finding three dead fish in her yard midway through the trial.

"I just took that with a grain of salt and kept go-

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A Taiwanese mountain climber is carried Thursday from an Alaska Air Guard HH-60 Pave

They did the job right

g," said Margaret Johnson. "It didn't change me." He didn't mention it to her jurors until weeks later.

In response to an Exxon motion, U.S. District Court Judge Russel Holland agreed to subpoena and question the jurors behind locked doors of his chambers. Ten of the 11 jurors were called in one by one for half-hour ses-

sions on Tuesday and Wednesday.

"It was totally a wild goose chase," said Brian O'Neill, the attorney representing 10,000 fishermen, Natives and others in the suit against Exxon. "They didn't get a thing out of this. Absolutely nothing, other than to show that these are probably the 11 most conscientious people you could ever pick for

jury duty."

At the close of the hearings, Holland said the next move is Exxon's. If oil company attorneys think they have enough information for a mistrial, they must file a motion.

Exxon officials weren't saying Thursday what's next.

"We are not going to

Please see Back Page, **EXXON**



ERIK HILL / Anchorage Daily News

hawk helicopter into Alaska Regional Hospital.

Climber dies on Denali

Man is 6th killed on McKinley in '95

By **S.J. KOMARNITSKY**
Daily News reporter

A Taiwanese man became the second climber in less than a week to die on Mount McKinley after a storm Tuesday night forced him and six other climbers to bed down in an exposed area just below the mountain's summit.

The man's frozen body, still in his sleeping bag, was found Thursday morning by a volunteer rescue climber at the 19,400-foot level in an area known as the "Football Field." Two of his companions, both apparently suffering from frostbite and possibly high altitude sickness, were found about 100 yards away and were later airlifted off the mountain.

The seven climbers were part of a 13-member group

Please see **Back Page, MCKINLEY**

McKINLEY: Climber found dead in sleeping bag

Continued from Page A-1

from Taiwan using the 20,320-foot mountain as a training climb for Asia's Mount Everest, said Jane Tranel, a spokeswoman for Denali National Park.

The group, which ranged in age from late 20s to mid-40s, was climbing the West Buttress Route and was unguided, she said. She said she did not know how much previous experience the group had. Their names were not being released.

In all, four members of the group, three suffering from frostbite and one who was temporarily blinded, were airlifted off the mountain Thursday. Four others were being helped down by other climbers.

Tranel said late Thursday that Park Service officials were still trying to piece together what happened to the group and were struggling with a language barrier. But this is apparently what occurred:

The group started up the mountain on June 1. The first part of the trip apparently went smoothly.

By Tuesday of this week, all 13 climbers, including two who had reached the summit, were at the 17,200-foot camp, which is typically used as a staging area for final ascents.

At that point, the group decided to split. The two who had made it to the top started down with three

other climbers, two of whom were suffering from high-altitude cerebral edema and one who was otherwise sick.

Tranel said she did not know the third climber's illness. By Thursday, that group was off the mountain and back in Anchorage.

Of the eight remaining climbers, seven decided to go for the summit Tuesday. On the way up, the winds picked up and whiteout conditions forced them to stop at the 19,400-foot level. Tranel said having to camp out at the spot is almost always a bad sign. The area is open and exposed to the elements.

"If you bivvy there, it's because you are in trouble or someone is sick," she said.

The next day, Wednesday, four of the climbers, including one with frostbite and another who had been temporarily blinded, managed to make it back down to the 17,200-foot camp about 9 p.m. and alert Park Service officials to their problems. The two injured men were then airlifted to the 7,200-foot base camp and flown to Alaska Regional Hospital, where they were listed in stable condition late Thursday. The two other climbers and the man who had been left behind at the 17,200-foot level were being helped down by other climbers.

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for the remaining three climbers after seasonal ranger Joe Reichert spotted two of the men Thursday morning as he flew over the mountain. Volunteer climbers Alex Lowe and Conrad Anker were sent up from the 14,200-foot level to check on the men.

Tranel said Lowe, who was also involved in a rescue last Friday, found the body and then spotted the two other men nearby. One was incoherent and the other couldn't move.

"Alex just rallied them and got them moving," she said.

Lowe, Anker and members of an Austrian climbing team helped the men down to 17,200 feet, where they were plucked off the mountain about 7:30 p.m. by a U.S. Army Chinook helicopter from Fort Wainwright and flown to the 7,200-foot level. The men were then flown to Alaska Regional Hospital in an HH-60L Pavehawk helicopter operated by the Air National Guard's 210th Rescue Squadron. One of the men was treated and released. The other was in stable condition, a nursing supervisor said.

The death Thursday was the sixth on the mountain this year. Last Friday, a Spaniard was killed in a fall on the West Rib route and his two companions had to be airlifted off the mountain from the Football Field.

Time line of the climb

June 1

7,200-foot base camp: A group of 13 Taiwanese climbers starts an unguided climb up the West Buttress route on a training climb for Everest.

June 13

17,200-foot level: After two climbers had reached the summit and were on their way down the mountain, three others decide to turn around, including two suffering from high-altitude cerebral edema and one who was sick. They eventually make it down the mountain.

Seven of the remaining eight climbers decide to attempt the summit.

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June 14

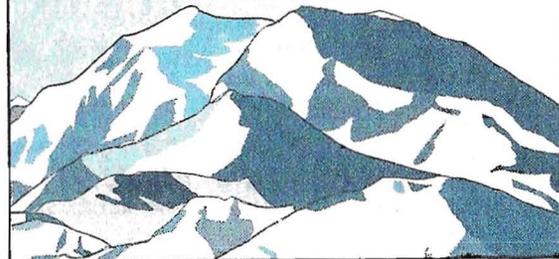
9 p.m.: Park Service officials first become aware of the group's problems after four of the seven climb back down to the 17,200-foot level, including one suffering from frostbite and one who was temporarily blinded.

June 15

17,200-foot level: The two ill climbers are airlifted to 7,200-foot base camp by the Park Service helicopter and taken to Alaska Regional Hospital in an Air National Guard HH-60L Pavehawk helicopters. The other three climbers at the 17,200-foot level are helped down the mountain by other climbers.

Seasonal climbing ranger Joe Reichert, flying in a Hudson Air plane, spots two of the three remaining climbers moving at the 19,400-foot level, and the Park Service launches a ground rescue, sending volunteer climbers Alex Lowe and Conrad Anker up from the 14,000-foot level.

Lowe finds the body of one climber in a sleeping bag and spots the two other climbers about 100 yards away. Lowe gets both climbers moving and starts them down to 17,000-foot level. U.S. Army Chinook helicopters launched from Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks later rescue them.



KEVIN POWELL / Anchorage Daily News



Taiwan climber killed

Six others evacuated from McKinley

By ROSANNE PAGANO
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE—The National Park Service on Thursday said one climber was dead on Mount McKinley and six others were evacuated from the mountain after a day of rescue efforts.

The seven climbers—all Taiwanese—apparently were part of a larger group that attempted the 20,320-foot summit on Tuesday, Park Service spokesman John Quinley said.

Details were sketchy in part because of language barriers, Quinley said, and it was not immediately known how the climber died or when.

Authorities were alerted Thursday after four of the Taiwanese arrived at a patrol camp at 17,200 feet. Quinley said of that group, two climbers were in good shape and two required airlift to a base camp at 7,000 feet.

One of the airlifted climbers had frostbite and another had damage to the retina, the Park Service said.

A park patrol volunteer aided the two climbers who were ambulatory as they descended Thursday. That group eventually made it to a camp at 14,000 feet where they were being examined by a doctor late Thursday.

Meanwhile higher up the mountain, volunteer patrols Alex Lowe and Conrad Anker were helping two other members of the group descend from 19,400 feet. Also with

See CLIMBER, Page A-9.

CLIMBER

Continued from Page A-1

the team were volunteers Vince Langman and Tim Light.

The two Taiwanese reported frostbite and some disorientation. They arrived at the camp at 17,200 feet where an Army Chinook helicopter evacuated the men to Tal-

keetna. They were scheduled to be flown to an Anchorage hospital.

The accident brings to six the number of dead climbers on McKinley, the continent's tallest peak, so far this season. About 400 climbers remain on the mountain.

Quinley said the Taiwanese,

whose names were not immediately released, were attempting the West Buttress route.

The ascent is the same one attempted last week by three Spanish climbers when one fell 4,000 feet to his death.

MEDRED: McKinley's not the place for a fund-raiser

Continued from Page K-1

McKinley's no walk in the park: People die there

On the day 26-year-old Albert Puig fell 4,000 feet to his death on Mount McKinley, a blind man appeared on NBC's "Today" to promote his upcoming climb of North America's tallest peak.

By then, of course, the media had already been full of stories about competing 12-year-olds vying to become the youngest ever to reach the 20,320-foot summit.

Seldom did any of these stories make clear the frightening, long-term reality of McKinley climbing: Out of every 100 people who go up this mountain, an average about one comes home in a body bag.

Veterans and neophytes, good climbers and bad, mountaineers die on the slopes of McKinley every year through unavoidable accident or plain stupidity. Six are dead so far this year, which means things are going well.

Six dead puts the death rate below the long-term average. If no more die, and we have the expected 1,000 or so climbers, the death rate for 1995 will go down as only one in 167.

Just think about that.

There is no amateur sport in America that kills people on a scale anywhere close to this. A death rate of one in 167 would have left 18 bodies along the course of last week's Alaska Run for Women here in Anchorage.

What would be the reaction to that?

Americans worry about children riding in cars without their seat belts buckled. We pass laws saying kids must wear life jackets in boats. And yet no one says a thing when parents decide to let their 12-year-olds attempt to climb a mountain where there is a well-documented 1-in-100 chance of death.

If someone takes a tumble on the hard-packed slope descending from Denali Pass, can a 12-year-old on the other end of the rope be expected to arrest the fall? If most of a rope team falls into a giant crevasse on the Kahiltna Glacier, can a blind man be expected to find his way back to base camp to get help?

Exactly how much assistance can a child or a blind person provide when things go wrong, as they so often do on McKinley?

Don't get me wrong.

I do not begrudge blind climber Erik Weiheymayer his attempt at McKinley. Neither physical handicap nor age should be allowed to stand between people and their goals. If he wants to run the risks of climbing McKinley blind, that's his choice. If his climbing companions want to take on the additional risk of climbing with him, that's their choice.

What I question is the decision to trumpet these fund-raising publicity stunts to the world.

I am troubled by a key societal question: Whose responsibility is it to do something if these fund-raising publicity stunts run into trouble, and what are the effects of these heavily promoted climbs on the safety of McKinley climbing in general?

Plenty of ego-driven mountaineers watch all this and think, "Hey, if blind people and 12-year-olds can climb McKinley, how tough can it be?"

Tough enough to kill, but it is seldom stated so bluntly. Nobody requires McKinley climbers to write a will and pack a body bag. Reporters don't usually talk about the high risks of dying on these adventures.

All of which might go a long way toward explaining why the odds of surviving a McKinley climb haven't gotten any better over the years.

The American Federation for the Blind, promoting Weiheymayer's climb as a fund-raiser, actually hypes that danger in a press packet its New York public relations agency sent to newspapers around the country.

"The hardships Weiheymayer and four other climbers will endure over the span of three weeks are daunting," a press release says. "Avalanches savagely sweep McKinley's icy slopes. Since 1982, 35 climbers have died. . . ."

What if Weiheymayer turns out to be among the dead this year? What will the federation

say then?

What if death comes, God forbid, to one of the 12-year-olds? Will the charity using at least one of those climbs to raise funds then recognize the risks of McKinley? Will the parents?

Using a McKinley climb to raise money — a practice that began only a few years ago — is not like using a 5- to 10-kilometer foot race to collect funds for needy causes.

Footraces kill rarely. McKinley kills regularly.

Using both for the same kinds of fund-raising promotions sends a bad message. People get the idea the two can somehow be equated. Trudging up McKinley's West Buttress becomes something like running a 10K, only longer and colder.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Climbs fueled by a desire to raise funds for charity ought to end, no matter how good the cause. Climbers seeking publicity for some new twist on getting to the summit ought to be told politely but firmly to be quiet. Run your own risks. Challenge your own demons. And keep that uniquely American desire for publicity to yourself.

Publicity-stunt climbs send a bad message. They encourage people to venture into places they might otherwise be smart enough to avoid. They compound the bad judgment already plaguing McKinley.

If you doubt that, just ask the McKinley climbers, Park Service rangers and Talkeetna pilots on whose shoulders falls the job of hauling the bodies off the mountain every year. They brought another one down Thursday and barely managed to save two more.

The latest death of this Taiwanese mountaineer dropped the annual kill rate from 1-in-200 to 1-in-167. We may equal the long-term average yet this year. It is not a pretty prospect.

— Craig Medred is the Daily News outdoors editor. His opinion column appears Sundays.



CRAIG MEDRED

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Mt. McKinley at 19,000 feet proves deadly

By NATALIE PHILLIPS
Daily News reporter

The 29-year-old Taiwanese climber who died on Mount McKinley and his three climbing partners who suffered frostbite ran into trouble at 19,000 feet — an altitude that claims many climbers, according to J.D. Swed, district ranger for Denali National Park and Preserve.

"If you spend one night at 19,000, you are in trouble," Swed said. "If you spend two, your chances of survival are nil. The longer you stay at 19,000 feet, the less you can do."

Rescuers found Chiu Jui-Lin dead in his sleeping bag. Another climber — Min Chung Wu, a 28-year-old truck driver — will probably

lose all his fingers and toes to frostbite, according to Dr. Peter Hackett, a frostbite expert.

Hsieh Tzu Ching also suffered frostbite and may lose tissue on his right foot. And Dois Min Lin, 32, may lose the tips of his fingers, Hackett said.

With the close of the 1995 McKinley climbing season just three weeks away, Chiu Jui-Lin's death was the sixth on the mountain. On Friday, 414 climbers were on McKinley; another 648 had been on the mountain earlier this spring. And a total of 180 climbers have reached the summit so far.

Last year, three climbers died trying to reach McKinley's peak. In 1993 there was only one death on the mountain. And in 1992 — one of the mountain's deadliest climbing years — 11 climbers died.

The 19,000-foot level is dangerous because the air is not only thin and the weather severe, but climbers are often traveling light in the last push for the summit. Most climbers shed gear at

Please see Page B-2, **McKINLEY**

McKINLEY: 19,000 feet proves deadly

Continued from Page B-1

the 17,000-foot level for a quick attempt at the 20,320-foot summit.

"There is safety in speed," Hackett said. "It's better to go light, go fast" and turn back if a storm approaches. "I don't carry bivouac gear because I might be tempted to use it."

Though the Park Service recommends climbers carry bivouac gear, the agency also encourages climbers not to spend much time at that altitude.

"Too many days at altitude is real sinister," Swed said. "It comes on you and you don't know it. It is sadistic in that way."

In 1991, a 28-year-old Polish climber spent three days in snow caves at 19,000 feet. He suffered severe frostbite and lost both feet. Swed said he stayed alive because he kept digging snow caves, which helped keep him warm.

More than a week ago, a team of three Spaniards got stuck in a storm at 19,200 feet. After spending a few days holed up in a tent, one of the climbers stepped outside and slid 4,000 feet to his death. His climbing partners suffered frostbite and high altitude sickness, but initially didn't recognize the symptoms.

On Tuesday, seven Taiwanese climbers got stuck in a storm at 19,400 feet, Swed said. On Wednesday, four of the climbers

• Too many days at altitude is real sinister. It comes on you and you don't know it. It is sadistic in that way. •

— Denali ranger J.D. Swed

made it back down to a camp at 17,200 feet.

Two of the four climbers — Jung Chung Chang and Hsieh Tzu Ching — were airlifted off the mountain Thursday afternoon and taken to Alaska Regional Hospital. Jung Chung Chang was basically unscathed, Hackett said.

The next day, volunteer rescuers climbed to 19,400 feet and found Chiu Jui-Lin dead and Dois Min Lin and Min Chug Wu suffering frostbite and high-altitude sickness. Rescuers helped them climb down to the 17,200-foot camp where they were airlifted off the mountain and taken to Alaska Regional Hospital.

"The only reason the two of the three were alive is because it was quite reasonable temperatures up there — 2 below zero, that's unseasonably warm," Swed said. They didn't have enough gear with them to survive in that kind of weather.

Hackett said the Taiwanese climbers had great equipment, but it was down at the 17,000-foot level. And they didn't have much experience.

"They had never been above 13,000 feet," he said. They were training to climb a peak in the Himalayas.

"They pushed their luck," he said. "More experience, or better judgment might have made a difference."

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHINOOKS RESCUE CLIMBERS

JUNE 21, 1995

FORT WAINWRIGHT, Alaska, June 21 -- Two CH-47 Chinook helicopter crews from Fort Wainwright, Alaska, performed the highest rescue ever on Mount McKinley, June 9.

The rescue was made at the 19,600-foot level of the 20,320-foot peak, which is the tallest in North America. It eclipsed the old record of 18,300 feet set in June 1980 when two Czech climbers were plucked off the mountain, a record repeated in 1988 when a Chinook rescued two Korean climbers at the same level.

The rescue crews, part of the U.S. Army High Altitude Rescue Team (HART), are assigned to Company B, 4th Battalion, 123rd Aviation at Fort Wainwright

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CHINOOKS RESCUE CLIMBERS 2-2-2-2

The HART was called in after the National Park Service's special rescue helicopter sustained damage June 9 while providing emergency equipment to three Spanish climbers on the mountain. Just before the HART crews arrived on the scene, one of the trio of climbers slipped and fell 4,000 feet to his death, said John Quinley, a National Park Service spokesman.

"The two Chinook helicopters flew straight to the 7,000 foot base camp and picked up three volunteer Park Service climbers," said Capt. Jason Turner, operations officer for Company B. "We dropped the world-class climbers at 19,600 feet, on a spot called the football field." The volunteers climbed down to the 19,200-foot mark to help the stranded climbers.

"We dropped the volunteers off at 8 p.m. and waited at the base camp until they radioed us," said Turner. The Spaniards, who suffered from acute altitude sickness, were lethargic and dizzy. "They were unable to put on their crampons or take down their tent," Turner added.

The rescued men, who were also suffering from frostbite and dehydration, and their rescuers, made their way to the 19,600 foot mark and were picked up at 11:15 p.m. The Spaniards were transferred to an Alaska Air National Guard helicopter and taken to an Anchorage hospital, where a nursing supervisor reported them to be in satisfactory condition the following day.

"That we know of, the rescue was the highest ever achieved in North America," said Maj. Thomas Rheinlander, operations officer for the 4th Battalion, 123rd Aviation.

The rescue required the teamwork of all ten HART members, Turner said. Each helicopter had two pilots and a three-member crew, specially trained to operate at high altitudes.

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CHINOOKS RESCUE CLIMBERS 3-3-3-3

“Crews are certified every three years,” said Rheinlander. “Part of that certification includes time in a high altitude chamber, so crew members can recognize the effects of high altitude.”

“Anytime we fly above 10,000 feet we use oxygen,” said Turner. “Other than that, the mission was a piece of cake.”

“Operating at high altitudes is not an everyday mission for helicopters,” said Rheinlander. “The cockpit and cabins aren’t pressurized, so it is not like flying in an airplane.”

The continent’s loftiest peak can create its own weather. “At that altitude, the helicopter doesn’t respond as well, and it has a lot less power,” Turner said. “We had to fly around, consuming fuel until the helicopter was light enough to hover that high up.”

Once the team reached the landing zone, they became concerned about their own safety.

“The thin air makes any turbulence more pronounced,” Turner said. “We hovered, landed and then took off and came back the way we came.”

In addition to the rescue at 19,600 feet, the HART crew rescued a climber from nearby Mount Foraker on June 11 and two Taiwanese climbers from Mount McKinley’s 17,200-foot level on June 15.

The HART crew had stayed in Talkeetna, a small town near the base of Mount McKinley, to assist with any further rescues until the National Park Service helicopter could be repaired. On June 11, “several people tried to ski down the mountain (17,400 foot Mount Foraker) and one apparently fell and injured himself,” said Turner. One of the Chinooks successfully extracted the climber from the 12,000-foot level and transported him to Talkeetna, where he was treated for injuries, Turner said.

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CHINOOKS RESCUE CLIMBERS 4-4-4-4

The third rescue came about when, according to National Park Service spokesmen, seven Taiwanese climbers encountered a storm while trying to reach the summit. Four made it to lower elevations with Park Service assistance, but a ground rescue team found one man dead in his sleeping bag at the 19,400 foot level, one incoherent and one unable to move. The ground rescue team helped the survivors reach a 17,200 foot staging area. There, one of the Chinooks landed and took them to a camp at 7,200 feet for transport by the Alaska Air National Guard to an Anchorage hospital.

SUMMARY

Company B, "Sugarbears" (CH-47D), 4th Battalion, 123rd Aviation Regiment is tasked by United States Army Alaska (USARAK), to maintain a High Altitude Rescue Team (HART). This demanding mission is flown by a select few, experienced Army Aviators. Although rescues in Alaska are generally performed by civilian contractors, it is essential that the "Sugarbear" HART always be prepared. As such, annual training is performed with multiple landings required on glaciers and on remote landing areas above 14,000 feet on the mountainous terrain of interior Alaska to include Mount McKinley.

The climbing season on Mount McKinley runs from late April to late July since weather normally favors the climber during this time frame. The 1995 season started quietly. However, a period of intense flying began on 9 June. The HART was notified of two Spanish climbers stranded at the 19,600 foot level and was tasked to assist in the rescue (maintenance problems had grounded the National Park Service's Aerospatiale Llama helicopter). This rescue required the helicopters to land in an area called the "football field", near the summit of Mount McKinley. In doing so, this set a new U.S. Army altitude landing record for any helicopter involved in a rescue. The record setting team returned to Ft. Wainwright on 10 June after an evening in Talkeetna, Alaska, which is the jumping off point for Mount McKinley climbs.

Sunday, 11 June, started normally enough. As crews were starting their day and others were returning from Church services, the HART was again activated. The call from the 11th Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) at Elmendorf AFB came at approximately 1030 hrs and required the standard compliment of two CH-47Ds with Extended Range Fuel System (ERFS). The injured climber/skier had fallen 1500 feet down 17,400 foot Mount Foraker and his life was in danger. The skier and his climbing partners had already climbed the mountain and were attempting to ski down the mountain when one of them fell.

After reporting to flight operations, detailed flight planning was performed by the pilots as the flight engineers and crew chiefs prepared the aircraft for the mission. They were instructed to be prepared to stay in Talkeetna for a period of up to one week while the National Park Service's helicopter was being repaired in Anchorage.

At 1300 hrs the aircraft departed and flew directly to the base camp at the 7,200 foot level of the northeast fork of the Kahiltna Glacier. At the base camp they picked up Park Service

Mountain Ranger Kevin Moore who assisted in the rescue. The HART departed from the base camp and the pilots of CH-47D tail number 87-0102, recomputed performance data and planned the hoist phase of the mission. At the same time the flight engineers double checked the operation of the rescue hoist and briefed the ranger. The second CH-47D performed as a required flying safety backup aircraft. After locating the skier and his partners on a ridge with steep vertical slopes, the pilot-in-command, CW4 Barker, set up for the approach and picked out a spot to bring the aircraft to an out of ground effect (OGE) hover at approximately 12,000 feet, this gave them 50 feet of clearance feet above the steep, uneven terrain. CW2 Carmichael monitored aircraft systems and made the appropriate radio calls to the sister CH-47D while an orbiting MC-130 from Elmendorf AFB, provided radio relay and performed other duties as necessary to aid in the rescue.

SGT Caudill operated the hoist while SGT Cain and SPC Baychu monitored the aircraft position relative to the rocky terrain. Ranger Moore was lowered to the snowy surface to evaluate the casualty and put a “screamer suit” on him. This suit is used to stabilize the casualty and provide a method of hoisting him to the helicopter. After preparing the skier, he was hoisted by SGT Caudill and secured in the aircraft by SGT Cain and SPC Baychu. The hoist cable was then lowered to the surface and Ranger Moore attached himself to the cable and was returned to the safety of the helicopter. During the entire 15 minutes of OGE hover, only one drift correction was made to Mr. Barker, a testament to the skill of this extremely proficient aviator. CW4 Barker then executed a takeoff and CW2 Carmichael navigated to Talkeetna.

Thirty minutes later, the aircraft landed in Talkeetna and the skier was transferred to a waiting ambulance for treatment and evaluation by medical personnel and was later reported to be in good condition after his ordeal. The crews refueled the helicopters and performed daily maintenance and preflight inspections in anticipation of other missions. The crew stayed in Talkeetna until 13 June, and redeployed to Ft. Wainwright when the park service helicopter returned and resumed its primary rescue stand-by mission.

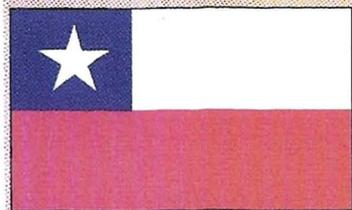
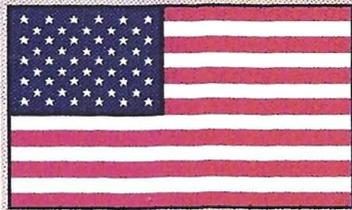
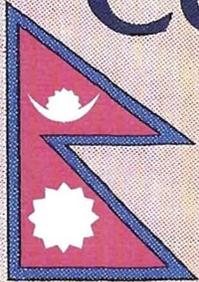
On 15 June the RCC again requested the help of the HART. This time two Taiwanese climbers were suffering from frostbite and acute mountain sickness and their lives were in danger as they languished at the 17,200 foot high base camp. Due to a 10,000 foot thick cloud deck, the park service Llama was unable to launch on this rescue. Departing from Ft. Wainwright, the two Ch-47Ds flew “VFR on top” to Mount McKinley and were able to locate the base camp in

deteriorating weather conditions, land at the high camp, and extract the two suffering climbers. The rescue aircraft then received an IFR clearance to Talkeetna where they descended in holding and broke out VFR at approximately 5000 feet. The rescue helicopter landed and transferred the climbers to a waiting Air Force rescue aircraft for the trip to Anchorage where both were later reported to be in serious condition. The HART aircraft then returned to Ft. Wainwright and were mission complete at 2200 hrs.

This was the last rescue mission of the summer and our crews were awarded five lives saved from the RCC. Interim Army Commendation Medals were awarded while awaiting approval of Air Medals. All this in one week of intense and dangerous flying by a professional group of Army Aviators who remain "Above the Best" and consider the greatest reward to be that of saving lives.

PT CW4 WILLIAM J. CARR
PT CW2 MATTHEW SAMPSON
FT SGT BRUCE CAMP
CE SGT RICHIE CAMP
CE SGT JIM CAMP

Certificate of Appreciation

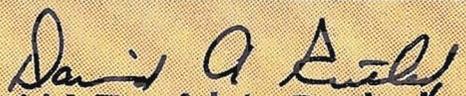


US ARMY MOUNTAINEERING TEAM
DENALI MULTINATIONAL
EXPEDITION
JUNE 1995



is presented to
C Co. 228th Aviation
Ft. Wainwright, Alaska


SFC David A. Hoffman
NCOIC USAMT


MAJ David A. Rutledge
Commandant NWTC

Wainwright aviation teams go for the gold at 110-mile relay

By Spc. Dan Strauch

Fort Wainwright Public Affairs Office

FORT WAINWRIGHT--*As the cold wind whipped their bodies and the sweat on their brows turned to frost, the miner's overcame the odds as they chased their golden dreams of 1898. Through the uninhabited forest and the treacherous mountains, the explorers followed the 110-mile Klondike Trail from Skagway to Whitehorse in search of Yukon gold.*

Almost a century later, a group of soldiers from Fort Wainwright, also in search of gold, followed that same trail. Only this time, the gold they were seeking would not be found in the mountain streams.

Two teams from 4th Battalion, 123rd Aviation participated in a relay which started Sept. 8 in Skagway and was completed the following day in Whitehorse. Each team was comprised of 10 team members, one for each leg of the race.

"The legs varied in distance from 5.5 to 16 miles, depending on the terrain," said Maj. Rick Arnold, 4-123rd Avn. S-3. "Some of the legs were all hills."

"It was a real challenge. It wasn't the usual 10-kilometer race," said Chief Warrant Officer James Van Duzur, cargo helicopter pilot.

The teams began preparing for the race in May by spending more of their physical training time running longer distances. "As with anything, preparation is critical, especially for an event like this one," said Van Duzur.

Arnold said that the relay will probably become an annual event for the aviation battalion. "There is a certain camaraderie shared by the soldiers who participated. It's a challenging event and we can appreciate what it takes to compete."

The Arctic Eagles competed and finished 10th in the mixed category, while the Sugar Bears finished 11th in the open class.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
4TH BATTALION, 123D AVIATION REGIMENT
ARCTIC SUPPORT BRIGADE
FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA 99703-8400**

APVR-WAB-CO

2 OCT 95

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, B Company, 4th Battalion, 123d Aviation Regiment, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703

SUBJECT: U.S. Navy Support at Fairway Rock

1. I wish to commend the Sugarbears for an exceptional performance removing Navy nuclear generators from Fairway Rock , Alaska, in the Bering Sea. As with all missions the Sugarbears undertake, this salvage of a significant relic of Cold War tensions was executed with enthusiasm and flair, generating accolades for the company and the battalion from throughout the chain of command. This difficult, unconventional mission was performed flawlessly and is typical of the standard of professionalism the Sugarbears routinely exhibit. I offer my thanks for your efforts and a job superbly done.
2. POC is the undersigned, 3-6864.


DANIEL H. FARLEY
LTC, AV
Commanding 951003

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
4TH BATTALION, 123D AVIATION REGIMENT
ARCTIC SUPPORT BRIGADE
FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA 99703-8400**

APVR-WAB-CO

2 OCT 95

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, ATTN: CPT Christopher M. Kenney, B Company, 4-123d
Aviation Regiment, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703

SUBJECT: USAF Crash Investigation Support

1. You were instrumental to the successful support of the USAF F-15 crash investigation effort in the Yukon Charlie National Park. Your extraordinary enthusiasm for successful mission accomplishment has been critical to the sterling impression we have given our sister service. Your efforts make you a glowing example of the professionalism and warrior spirit of Army Aviation in Alaska.

2. POC is the undersigned, 3-6864.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Farley', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

DANIEL H. FARLEY
LTC, AV
Commanding



The 4th Battalion 123d Aviation Regiment

"Air Assault"

Requests the honor of your presence
for the Aviation Fall Formal
at the Fairbanks Westmark Hotel
Friday, the Third of November
at Eighteen hundred hours.

R.S.V.P. by 25 October
353-9651

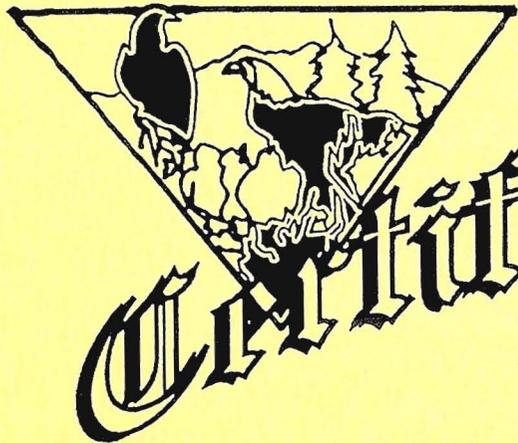
Army: Blue or Mess Dress
Civilian: Business Suit
Dinner Dress

MENU

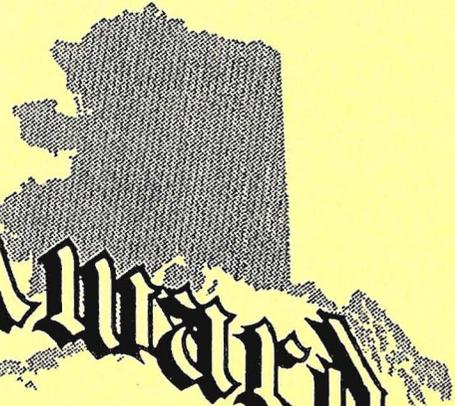
Chef's Salad

Champagne Chicken

Fillet Mignon



Certificate of Award

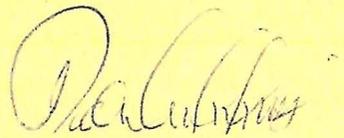


B COMPANY 4-123rd AVN

is hereby awarded
this certificate of award
for outstanding accomplishments in

RED RIBBON DOOR DECORATION COMPETITION

for the year 1995


JORDAN LEWIS

Program Director
Ft. Wainwright, Alaska


YOLANDA R. TROUTMAN

Youth Services Director
Ft. Wainwright, Alaska

7091

100

Unit Commanders (4)

VIETNAM ?

PAUL L. STANSEL MAJ	11 Berlin, GA 2001-11 AUG 66 (RVN) 1 NOV 66 - 5 NOV 67	24
ANDREW N. ALFORD, MAJ	5 NOV 67 - 21 MAY 68	24
CLARENCE H. KEUJULU, JR. MAJ	21 MAY 68 - 23 SEP 68	24
ROY E. HEROLD, MAJ	23 SEP 68 - 23 MAR 69	25
MAS M. NAKAJO, MAJ	23 MAR 69 - 21 MAY 69	25
ALLAN W. HAYMONDRICK, MAJ	27 MAR 69 - 27 JUL 70	31
PAUL L. JOPLIN, MAJ	11 JUL 70 - JAN 71	25
WILLIAM F. GABELLA, MAJ	JAN 71 - 2 JUL 71	29
HAYES B. BANKS, MAJ	2 JUL 71 - 19 NOV 71	26

ALASKA 6

420

ALVIN E. BARK MAJ	10 JUN 70 - 10 JUL 70	24
JAMES H. CRY, MAJ	10 JUL 70 - 21 MAY 71	23
STANLEY KUCKER, CPT	21 MAY 71 - 08 JUL 71	23
BUEL A. ZORN, MAJ	8 JUL 71 - 31 AUG 72	23
LARRY R. ROSENGRAN, MAJ	21 AUG 72	30
WILLIAM K. MEERS, CPT	9 NOV 74 - 11 NOV 74	27
DONALD E. TAYLOR, MAJ	19 JUL 74 - 11 JUL 75	27
BOBBY L. OWENS, MAJ	11 JUL 75 - 20 JUL 76	25
IRLD H. CIARLO, MAJ	30 JUL 76 - 10 JUL 78	25
GARY D. JUBASIN, MAJ	21 MAR 78 - JUN 78	26
GORDON L. THIBODEAU MAJ	MAY 79 - 19 JUL 80	30
BENJAMIN SILLIO, MAJ	18 JUN 1980 - AUG 1981	28
LAURENCE SIEBERT CPT (P)	AUG 81 - SEP 81	33
ROBERT W. TAYLOR MAJ	SEP 81 - DEC 82	27
WALTER R. SWILLOW MAJ (P)	APR 84	33
ROBERT G. WILLIAMS, MAJ	84 - 08 APR 86	30
DAVID A. BELL MAJ	4 APR 86 - MAR 87	25
WALTER H. SCHOCK MAJ	MAR 87 - OCT 87	27
THOMAS S. MAYER MAJ	APR 88 - 5 JUL 89	27

PAUL L. STANSEL MAJ	Ft. Belknap, GN 2101-11 AUG 66 (RVA) 11/27/84	
Andrew N. ALFORD, MAJ	5 NOV 67 - 21 MAY 68	28
Clarence H. Kowalek, SR MAJ	41 NOV 68 - 23 SEP 68	24
Paul H. HEROLD, MAJ	23 SEP 68 - 23 MAR 69	25
MAJ M. NAKAJO MAJ	23 MAR 69 - 27 JUN 69	25
ALLAN W. HANNINGBECK, MAJ	27 MAR 69 - 22 JUL 70	31
Paul L. Jorke, MAJ	22 JUL 70 - JAN 71	25
William F. Gabella, MAJ	JAN 71 - 2 JUL 71	29
Harold S. Banks, MAJ	2 JUL 71 - 19 NOV 71	26

ALASKA 6

420

Robert R. Buck MAJ	10 JUN 70 - 18 JUL 70	28
Robert R. Buck MAJ	10 JUL 70 - 21 MAY 71	23
STEVEN L. COCKER, CPT	21 MAY 71 - 05 JUN 71	25
BURL A. ZORN MAJ	8 JUL 71 - 31 AUG 72	23
LARRY R. KESVIGRANT, MAJ	31 AUG 72 - 4 MAR 74	30
William K. MOYER, CPT	4 MAR 74 - 19 JUL 74	27
DAVID E. JORDAN MAJ	19 JUL 74 - 11 JUL 75	27
BURRY L. SWANS, MAJ	11 JUL 75 - 2 OCT 76	25
LARRY H. GIARLO, MAJ	3 OCT 76 - 21 MAR 78	25
Geoff D. Johnson, MAJ	21 MAR 78 - JUN 79	26
Gordon L. Thibodeau MAJ	18 JUN 77 - 1980	30
BENJAMIN STILLO MAJ	18 JUN 1980 - AUG 1981	28
LAWRENCE SIEGERT CPT (P)	AUG 81 - SEP 81	33
Robert W. Taylor MAJ	SEP 81 - DEC 82	27
WALTER R. SULLIVAN MAJ(P)	APR 84	33
Robert G. Williams MAJ	84 - 08 APR 86	30
DAVID A. BALL MAJ	08 APR 86 - MAY 87	25
DAVID H. SCHUCK MAJ	MAY 87 - OCT 88	27
HENRY S. MORSON MAJ	SEP 87 - FEB 89	27
FRANK KEECH MAJ	08 SEP 89 - 14 DEC 90	27
LOUIS G. OSBORN MAJ	14 DEC 90 - 24 OCT 92	30
KENNETH J. JOHNSON MAJ	24 OCT 92 - 17 JUN 93	30
THOMAS E. ROBERTS MAJ	17 JUN 93 - 17 AUG 94	29
RICHARD E. ANGELO MAJ	17 AUG 94 - 24 MAR 95	29
NICHOLAS B. CPT	24 MAR 95 - 24 MAR 95	26

Previous Commanders:

MAJ KENNETH F. SAMPSON 24JAN92-

MAJ DOUGLAS OSBORNE 14DEC90-24JAN92

MAJ FRANK KEECHI 08SEP89-14DEC90

MAJ HENRY MORGAN -8SEP89

MAJ DAVID SCHOCK MAR87-

MAJ DAVID BALL 08APR86- MAR87

MAJ ROBERT WILLIAMS 84-08APR86

MAJ(P) WALTER W. SULLIVAN 5 APR 84?
MAJ ROBERT W. TAYLOR - AUG 1981 - SEP 1981
CAPT L. TESSIER AUG 1981 - SEP 1981
MAJ B. GILBO JULY - 1980 AUG 1981

MAJ Green L. Timberman 1980 -

MBL
INCLUDE THIS
IN YOUR STAFF.
Gy

MR. NED BEDESSEN - AV
CAR MIL History 285-5713
B4123RD AV History
C 228 AV
242 AVN CO,
236 AVN CO.
Institute of Heraldry 284-6632
94-312

Mr. Ned Bedessem - Aviation

Center for Military Hist 285-5413
B/4-123 History ^{Des} 656-4977

DSN ~~656~~ 656-4974

~~DSN~~ 312 -

DSN

D.C. 312 227 0101
↙

Institute of History

241-6632

"MULESKINNERS" COMPANY COMMANDERS
(242 ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY)

VIETNAM

01. MAJ. PAUL L. STANSEL	FT. BENNING, GA	25 OCT 65 - 11 AUG 66
	REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM	11 AUG 66 - 05 NOV 67
02. MAJ ANDREW N. ALFORD	0	05 NOV 67 - 21 MAY 68
03. MAJ CLARENCE H. KEVILLE JR.		21 MAY 68 - 23 SEP 68
04. MAJ ROY H. HERRON		23 SEP 68 - 23 MAR 69
05. MAJ MAS M. NAHAJO		23 MAR 69 - 27 AUG 69
06. MAJ ALLAN W. HAMMERBECK		27 AUG 69 - 27 JUL 70
07. MAJ PAUL L. JOPLIN		27 JUL 70 -00 JAN 71
08. MAJ WILLIAM F. GABELLA		00 JAN 71-02 JUL 71
09. MAJ HAYES B. BANKS		02 JUL 71- 19 NOV 71

"MULESKINNERS" COMPANY COMMANDERS
(242 ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY)

VIETNAM

01. MAJ PAUL L. STANSEL

FT. BENNING, GA
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

25 OCT 65 - 11 AUG 66
11 AUG 66 - 05 NOV 67

02. MAJ ANDREW N. ALFORD

05 NOV 67 - 31 MAY 68

03. MAJ CLARENCE H. KEVILLE JR.

21 MAY 68 - 28 MAR 69

04. MAJ ROY H. HERRON

28 SEP 68 - 28 MAR 69

05. MAJ MAS M. NAKAJO

28 MAR 69 - 27 AUG 69

06. MAJ ALLAN W. HAMMERBECK

27 AUG 69 - 27 JUL 70

07. MAJ PAUL L. JOPLIN

27 JUL 70 - 06 JAN 71

08. MAJ WILLIAM F. GABELLA

06 JAN 71 - 02 JUL 71

09. MAJ HAYES B. BANKS

02 JUL 71 - 19 NOV 71

"SUGAR BEAR" COMPANY COMMANDERS
(242 ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY)

ALASKA

10. MAJ ADAM E. RUNK	10 JUN 70 - 10 JUL 70
11. MAJ JAMES R. COX	10 JUL 70 - 21 MAY 71
12. CPT STEVEN BECKER	21 MAY 71 - 08 JUL 71
13. MAJ BURL A ZORN	08 JUL 71 - 31 AUG 72
14. MAJ LARUE R. ROSENGRANT	31 AUG 72 - 04 MAR 74
15. CPT WILLIAM K. MOERS	04 MAR 74 - 19 JUL 74
16. MAJ DANIEL E. TAYLOR	19 JUL 74 - 11 JUL 75
17. MAJ BOBBY L. OWENS	11 JUL 75 - 03 OCT 76
18. MAJ FRED H. CIARLO	03 OCT 76 - 21 MAR 78
19. MAJ GARY D. JOHNSON	21 MAR 78 - 00 JUN 79
20. MAJ GORDON L. THIBEDEAU	00 JUN 79 - 18 JUN 80
21. MAJ BENJAMIN P. GILLIO	00 JUN 1980 - 00 AUG 81
22. CPT(P) LAWERENCE TESSIEIR	00 AUG 81- 00 SEP 81
23. MAJ ROBERT W. TAYLOR	00 SEP 81 - 00 DEC 82
24. MAJ(P) WALTER R. SULLIVAN	00 DEC 82 - 00 APR 84
25. MAJ ROBERT G. WILLIAMS	00 APR 84 - 08 APR 86
26. MAJ DAVID A. BALL	08 APR 86 - 00 MAR 87
27. MAJ DAVID H. SCHOCK (C 228TH AVN)	00 MAR 87 - 00 APR 88
28. MAJ HENRY S. MORGAN	00 APR 88 - 08 SEP 89
29. MAJ FRANK L. KEECHI	08 SEP 89 - 14 DEC 90

30. MAJ DOUGLAS G. OSBURNE	14 DEC 90 - 24 JAN 92
31. MAJ KENNETH F. SAMPSON	24 JAN 92 - 17 JUN 93
32. MAJ THOMAS E. ROBERTS	17 JUN 93 - 24 AUG 94
33. MAJ RICHARD E. ARNOLD (B 4/123rd AVN)	24 AUG 94 - 24 AUG 95
34. MAJ MICHAEL P. CYR	24 AUG 95 - PRESENT

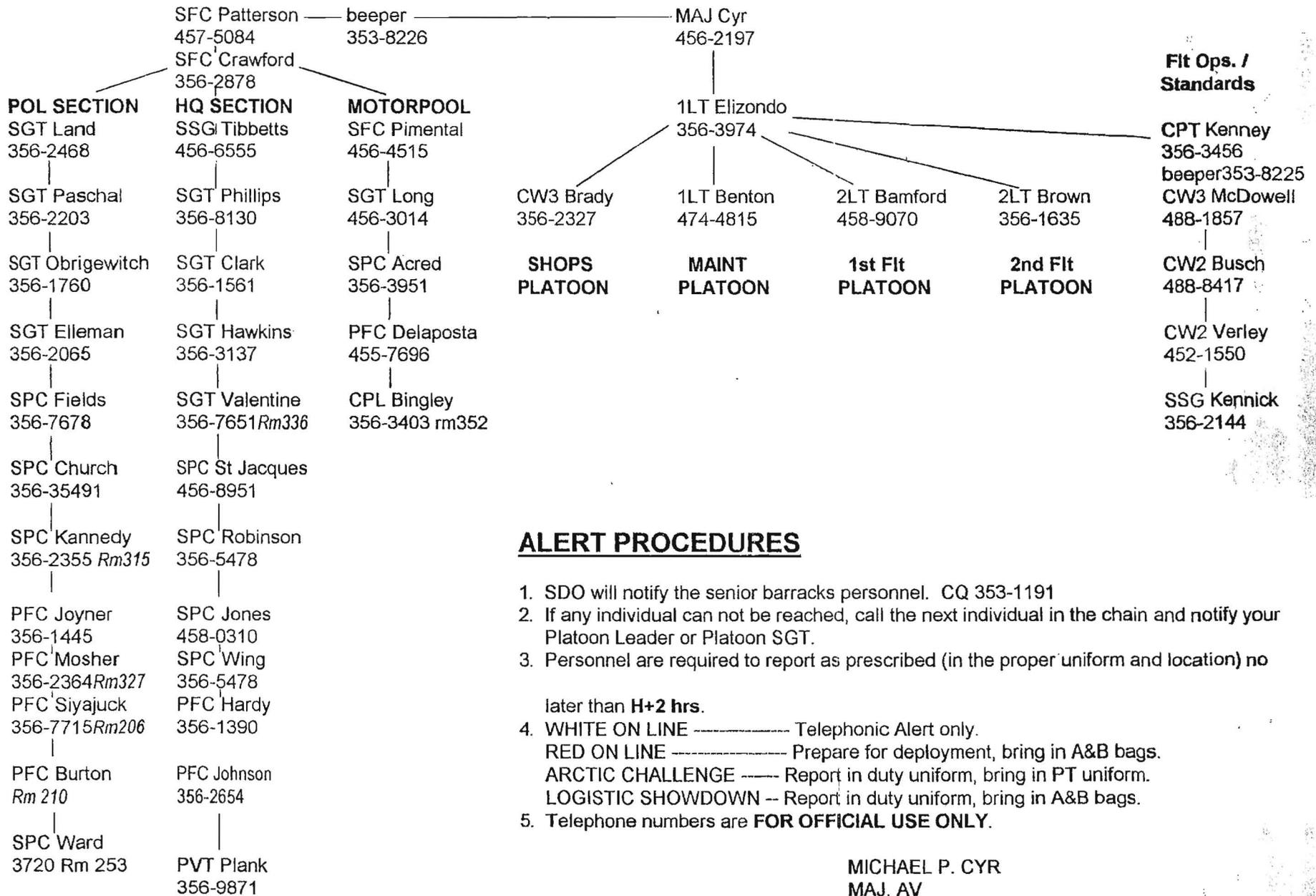
'SUGAR BEAR' COMPANY COMMANDERS
(242ND ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY)

ALASKA

01. MAJ ADAM E. RUNK	10 JUN 70 - 10 JUL 70
02. MAJ JAMES R. COX	10 JUL 70 - 21 MAY 71
03. CPT STEVEN BECKER	21 MAY 71 - 08 JUL 71
04. MAJ BURL A. ZORN	08 JUL 71 - 31 AUG 72
05. MAJ LARUE R. ROSENGRANT	31 AUG 72 - 04 MAR 74
06. CPT WILLIAM K. MOERS	04 MAR 74 - 19 JUL 74
07. MAJ DANIEL E. TAYLOR	19 JUL 74 - 11 JUL 75
08. MAJ BOBBY L. OWENS	11 JUL 75 - 08 OCT 76
09. MAJ FRED H. CIARLO	08 OCT 76 - 21 MAR 78
10. MAJ GARY D. JOHNSON	21 MAR 78 - 18 JUN 79
11. MAJ GORDON L. THIBEDAU	18 JUN 79 - 18 JUN 80
12. MAJ BENJAMIN P. GILLIO	18 JUN 80 - 08 AUG 81
13. CPT(P) LAWRENCE TESSIER	08 AUG 81 - 14 SEP 81
14. MAJ ROBERT W. TAYLOR	14 SEP 81 - 16 DEC 82
15. MAJ (P) WALTER R. SULLIVAN	16 DEC 82 - 22 APR 84
16. MAJ ROBERT G. WILLIAMS	22 APR 84 - 08 APR 86
17. MAJ DAVID A. BALL	08 APR 86 - 31 MAR 87

18. MAJ DAVID H. SCHOCK (C 228TH AVN)	31 MAR 87 - 06 APR 88
19. MAJ HENRY S. MORGAN	06 APR 88 - 08 SEP 89
20. MAJ FRANK L. KEECHI	08 SEP 89 - 14 DEC 90
21. MAJ DOUGLAS G. OSBURNE	14 DEC 90 - 24 JAN 92
22. MAJ KENNETH F. SAMPSON	24 JAN 92 - 17 JUN 93
23. MAJ THOMAS E. ROBERTS	17 JUN 93 - 24 AUG 94
24. MAJ RICHARD E. ARNOLD (B 4/125RD AVN)	24 AUG 94 - 24 AUG 95
25. MAJ MICHAEL P. CYR	24 AUG - PRESENT

B co 4-123d AVN REGT Alert Roster -28 DEC 95

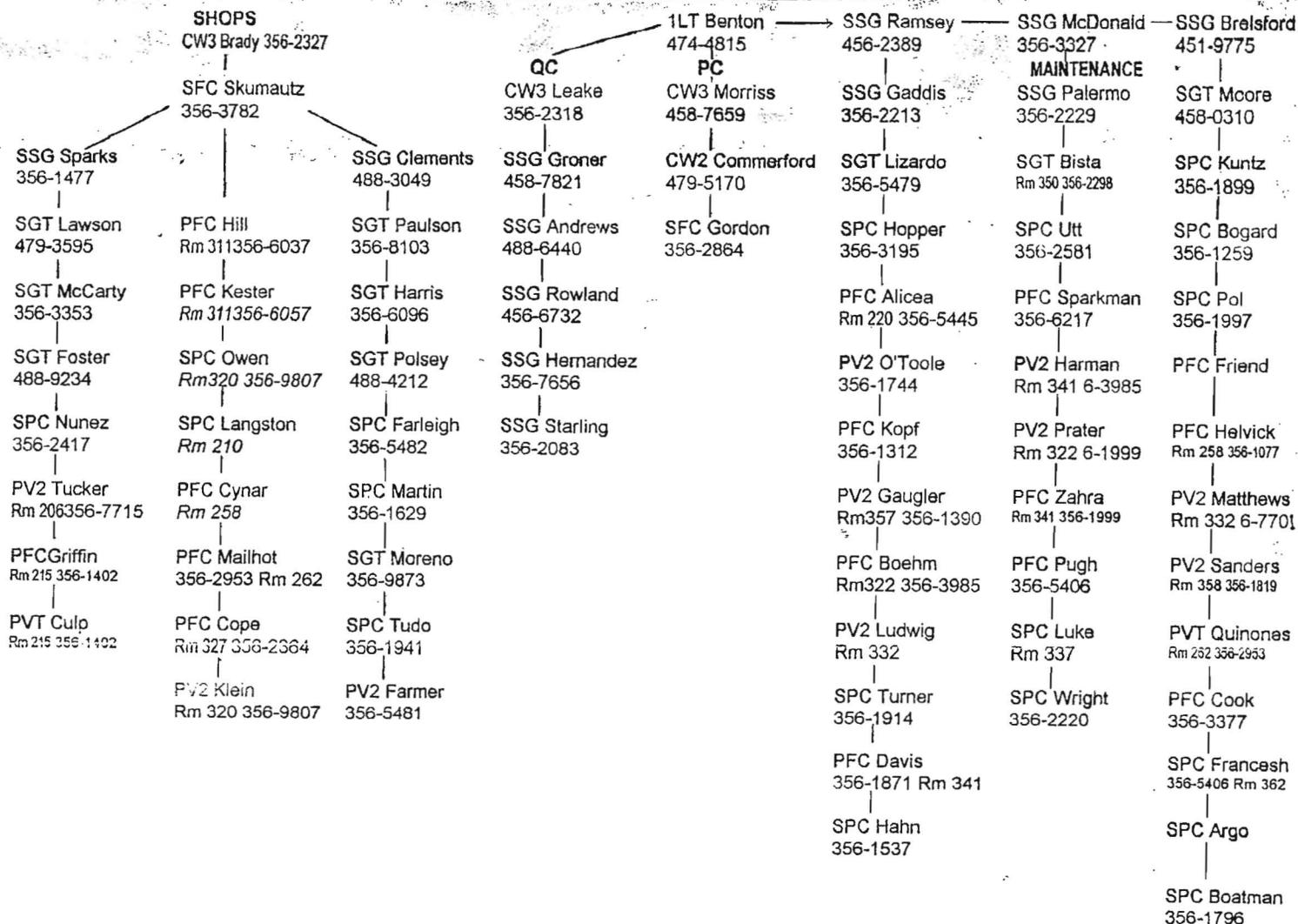


ALERT PROCEDURES

1. SDO will notify the senior barracks personnel. CQ 353-1191
2. If any individual can not be reached, call the next individual in the chain and notify your Platoon Leader or Platoon SGT.
3. Personnel are required to report as prescribed (in the proper uniform and location) no later than **H+2 hrs.**
4. **WHITE ON LINE** ----- Telephonic Alert only.
RED ON LINE ----- Prepare for deployment, bring in A&B bags.
ARCTIC CHALLENGE ----- Report in duty uniform, bring in PT uniform.
LOGISTIC SHOWDOWN -- Report in duty uniform, bring in A&B bags.
5. Telephone numbers are **FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.**

MICHAEL P. CYR
MAJ, AV
Commanding

B co MAINTENANCE (HGR 1)-28 DEC 95



B co 1st / 2nd Flight Alert Roster- 28 DEC 95

