



**ARS DET 7 ACTIVITIES**—During "Operation Quick Kick VII," the entire complement from Det 7, EARC, Seymour Johnson AFB, N. C., was dispatched to Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico, to furnish HH-43B rescue support. In top photo, left, Puerto Rico-bound HUSKIE is loaded aboard C124; right photo shows Det 7 HH-43B on patrol. Temporary coverage at Seymour Johnson was supplied by Det 8 personnel from Myrtle Beach AFB, S. C. Soon after returning to Seymour Johnson, one of Det 7's HUSKIES reached the 1000-hour flight mark. In third photo, SSgt Oneil L. Griffin, crewchief, middle left, is shown receiving congratulations from Capt Glen L. McFarlane, detachment commander. Others are A1c James R. Perry, RS; A3c Douglas E. Walters, HM; SSgt George E. Bostick, MT; A2c Charles R. Knight, HM; 1stLt John D. Oliver, pilot; 1stLt Gary N. Beson, pilot; A1c David R. Helm, RS; SSgt Gordon L. Ball, HM; and A3c Haskey Warren, HM. (USAF photos)

## Mountain Rescue

Capt Tom W. Brumfield, Jr. from ARS Det 16, (WARC), Williams AFB Ariz., slowly moved the HH-43B forward until the front gear was only 10 feet below the spot where the injured hiker was wedged behind a rock to keep him from falling the rest of the way down the 1000-foot, 80 degree slope. Rotor clearance from a towering rock on the left was only four feet. Although hampered by the inevitable turbulence around the Superstition Mountains, the pilot then inched his way up the slope until a giant cactus was a scant three feet from the blade tips. SSgt Edgar Bryant, rescue technician, and the litter were quickly lowered.

As the Sergeant prepared the injured man for his aerial journey, Captain Brumfield backed the helicopter away from the precarious position and again searched in vain for a more suitable pickup point. For the second time the HH-43B made the hazardous trip and the crew began the tricky maneuver of retrieving the injured man. Capt Joe H. Watson, det commander and copilot, and A3c Roger Graham, crew chief on his first operational mission, carefully "threaded" the big basket between the cactus and

boulders, up between the landing gear, out from beneath the fuselage and then alongside and through the cabin door. Again Captain Brumfield backed the HH-43B from the slope but this time the chopper turned away from the foreboding area and headed toward medical assistance — the crew happy in the knowledge of a job well done!

## 58th ARSq in Sea Rescue

An Italian crewman had been badly burned when a fishing boat in the Mediterranean caught fire. Would the 58th ARSq at Wheelus AB, Libya, assist?

Response was swift and involved help in the form of a long-range HC-97 Strato Rescuer aircraft, an HU-16 Albatross and a HH-43B HUSKIE. It also involved an Air Force flight surgeon who turned sailor to aid the injured man.

The burning vessel was located 55 nautical miles offshore by the HC-97 but the HU-16 with a medical technician aboard was unable to land due to the high seas. The HH-43B, piloted by Capt Richard J. Bouckhout, was dispatched to the scene but again difficulties were

encountered when an attempt to lower a crewman was prevented by the combination of high seas and tall masts. Captain Bouckhout's solution was a quick one — he requested the HC-97 to drop a raft in the water near the vessel and then proceeded to lower Capt Ray A. Carlsen, flight surgeon, from the helicopter into the raft. The transfer to the tiny raft bouncing about the surface of the rough seas necessitated an extended hover only 20 feet from the water but was accomplished without incident. The doctor then rowed to the fishing boat and his waiting patient.

The HH-43B crew didn't have a chance to relax, however, for considerable fuel had been used up on the trip to the vessel and during the hovering period. Now strong headwinds were encountered and it took a long 53 minutes to reach land. Just as the HUSKIE passed over the shoreline the minimum fuel warning light came on, but three minutes later the helicopter landed safely at Wheelus. HH-43B crewmen sharing in the mission were SSgt Donald H. Holloman, hoist operator; A1c Joseph E. Busch, medical technician; and A1c Charles Comer, rescue specialist.