SERIES ONE

USAF ACADEMY

Box 1
Folders 1-7

1. Materials pertain to Donald R. Backland's cadet years with one folder (#7) dealing with Flight training and SOS. Of special interest are folders 1-3 containing correspondence, applications and printed matter concerning Backlund's applications for a Rhodes Scholarship. Folder 4 contains correspondence and printed matter; much of it dealing with an article published in *Aerospace Historian*. This magazine, as well as two copies of the *Talon* containing a special memorial on the death of Backlund, are included in folder 5.

SERIES TWO

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Box 2
Folder 1 Narratives

1. Xeroxed copy of "...Execute Eagle Pull" by Captain Paul Felty, USAF - USSAG historian Reports brief background for evacuation of Phnom Penh beginning with April 11th. Narrative has description of landing area for evacuation of helicopters and discusses means of evacuation and its chronology. This five page report is an historical account of evacuation beginning at 0400 April 12th and ending at 1243 April 12th 1975.

2. Copy of 1975 ARRS Commanders' Conference Briefing; Narrative to accompany slides. Briefing script by Capt Purses and Capt Backlund. This briefing discusses operations Eagle Pull (the evacuation of Phnom Penh) and operation "Frequent Wind" (The evacuation of Saigon). Document gives detailed account of aircraft, ships, and communications. The account of operation Frequent Wind is quite detailed. There is a brief mention of Mayaguez.
3. Letter is narrative style; author unknown. This is a highly personalized account of the evacuations of Phnom Penh and Saigon. Backlund is mentioned frequently by the author. This reads like a novel and includes much information on personalities of people involved as well as the competence and incompetence.

Folder 2 Personal notes and rescue forms

1. Mathematical calculations and fuel consumption notes on flight to or from Phnom Penh, Weight and Balance Clearance, Form F dated April 10, 1975 with pilot; 1st Lt. Backlund and passenger manifest dated 8 April 1975. Destinations for last two forms is listed as classified.


4. Aircraft Commander’s SARDAB Report of 28 Apr 1975 on stokes recovery of U.S. Marine; returned to Utopao, Thailand

Folder 3 Printed Matter/News Clips

1. Clipping of column by Jack Anderson “Black September Peril” date and newspaper unknown discusses the negative influence of American presence in Nakhon Phanom, Thailand; particularly drugs and prostitution.

2. Clipping “Pilots Tense Drama Ends Beautifully” date and paper unknown; notation on clipping; " WOLF 26 May 73"; account of the shoot down of Maj. Jerry Cox and Capt. Wade Hubbard of the 308th Tactical Fighter Squadron; rescued by Jolly Green Giant.

3. Kenosha News Nov 14, 1974 "Kenoshans in Service" announcement that Donald Backlund received Air Medal at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand for aerial achievement as HH-53 Super Jolly Green Giant
4. Clipping; "F4 Crashes in Cambodia; 2 Fliers on Missing List", date and newspaper unknown, notation on clipping "Jolly Green 64"; lists losses of aircraft, mentions the crash on June 17 of Air Force HH-53 helicopter in Cambodia.

5. Clipping; "Last Pedros Depart NKP for Udorn Duty"; date and paper unknown; HH-43 helicopters leave NKP to be replaced by HH-53 Super Jolly Green Giant Helicopters.

6. Clipping; "Pedros Leave for Udorn"; date and paper unknown; reassignment of HH-43 helicopters to Udorn RTAFB and reassignment of crews and support personnel.

7. News Photo of 1st HH-53 Jolly Green Giant landing at Korat RTAFB.

8. 2 copies; the NKP News, Vol 9 no 17; 24 Aug 1973 search and rescue mission is detailed on pg 5-8; retrospective account of saving lives in combat area.


10. The NKP News vol 10 no.5 March 8, 1974 pg 1 "3r ARRG wins PUC", Presidential Unit Citation details for Jolly Greens covering period from May 1, 1970-March 31, 1972. Page 5 article on Jolly Green's mascot, Buffy; malayan sun bear from Laos.

11. The NKP News vol 10 no.16 Aug 9, 1974 p.6-7 "Their Motto is the Mission" photos and essay on aerospace rescue and recovery service.

12. (2 Copies) The NKP News vol 10 no.18 Sept 6, 1974 p 4 "Three Saves in Three Days"; an account of 3 medical evacuations, picture included p.6-7 "SAR Trains Troops" account of simulated search and rescue missions P.8 Pictures of Buffy; the mascot of Jolly Greens being sent to the St Louis Zoo.


15. Clipping; *Bangkok Post* vol 29 no.102 Apr 13, 1975
"U.S. Evacuation Leaves Phnom Penh to Its Fate";
describes reaction and description of evacuation of
Phnom Penh.

16. Clipping; *Pacific Stars and Stripes* vol 31 no.103
Apr 14, 1975 "U.S. Mercy Airdrops to Cambodia
Ordered"; describes Ford's reaction to refusal of
Cambodia's leaders to be evacuated. Ford sends
medical supplies and food. Also describes further
reactions to evacuation of Phnom Penh.

17. Clippings; *Bangkok Post* vol 29 no.103 Apr 14, 1975
"U.S. Orders Airdrops" description and reactions to
the evacuation of Phnom Penh by international
journalists and refugees. Includes pictures of
evacuees arriving at U-Tapao. Also includes Ford's
decision to send supplies to besieged Phnom Penh.

18. Clipping; *Pacific Stars and Stripes* Apr 17, 1975
"Gayler Hails Services Teamwork in 'Eagle Pull'
interview with Adm. Noel Gayler, U.S. Pacific
Commander in Chief, who directed operation Eagle
Pull; he gives a breakdown of the 285 evacuees and
describes the cooperation between the services that
led to the smooth evacuation of Phnom Penh.

19. *Pacific Stars and Stripes* vol 31 no.120 May 1, 1975
Issue contains articles on the American pull-out of
Viet Nam and the fall of Saigon. Also describes
evacuation of Saigon; articles found on pgs 1, 3,
6-7, 12-13.

20. *NKP News* vol 11 no.9 May 2, 1975 "Eagle Pull Crews
Return" description of units from NKP that took part
in the evacuation of Phnom Penh. Includes quotes by
Donald Backlund and description of evacuation and
photos pg 1, 6-7.

21. *Pacific Stars and Stripes* vol 31, no.121 May 2,
1975; issue contains articles and photos on the pull
out of Americans from Saigon and Viet Nam as well as
Cambodia - pg 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, 13.

22. *Pacific Stars and Stripes* vol 31, no.132 May 13,
1975; articles on American pull-out of Cambodia,
Viet Nam and fall of Laos to communists. Includes
editorial opinions by Art Buchwald, Daniel Gilmore
(interview with Gen Maxwell Taylor) and William
Buckley Jr. articles pgs 1, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11.

23. Clipping; source unknown, picture of "Buffy", the
mascot of aerospace rescue and recovery squadron at
Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, in his new home at the St.
Louis Zoo.

Folder 4  Magazines

1. **Nakorn Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base 56th Special Operations Wing welcoming booklet** for in-coming personnel, designed to answer questions on the mission, the base, and customs of the area.

2. **National Geographic** reprint from Sept, 1968 "Air Rescue Behind Enemy Lines" by Howard Sochurek, 2 copies; describes episodes of the Air Rescue and Recovery Service during the Viet Nam War. Includes photos and art work. 23 pages.

3. Airman June 1974 vol 18 no.6 "They Kept Trying" by SSgt Mike Roberts p. 38-41, report on the rescue mission of a B-52 shot down over Laos. Relates the attempt by Air Rescue and Recovery Service to find members of the crew under discouraging circumstances.


4. **Newsweek** - Apr 21, 1975 vol 85 no. 16 "Stop The Breast-Beating !" by George W. Ball p. 17 editorial on reaction to American pull out in Viet Nam.

   "Striking The Colors"; The War in Indo-China p. 20-40; Describes the end of the Viet Nam war and the problems faced by the Vietnamese, Laotians, and Cambodians. On pg. 24 is special reference to "Operation Eagle Pull", which someone has marked in ink, and a map of evacuation area.

5. **Time** Apr 21, 1975 vol 105, no.16; 2 copies "Indochina" p. 6-27; history of American involvement in Southeast Asia leading to the fall of Saigon and the evacuations of Saigon and Phnom Penh. Special mention of "Operation Eagle Pull" p. 26-27. Someone has marked the part of the article referring to CH-53 helicopters - p. 27.

6. **Time** Apr 28, 1975 vol 105 no.17 "Indochina" p. 6-14 reports on the fall of Saigon and Phnom Penh.

7. **Newsweek** Apr 21, 1975 vol 85 no.16; (International Magazine) "The War in Indochina" p. 10-24 describes the final days of the Viet Nam War as well as the evacuations of Saigon and Phnom Penh. "Operation Eagle Pull" is mentioned on pg. 14-15.
8. **Newsweek** Apr 28, 1975 vol 85 no. 16 (International Magazine) "The War in Indochina" p. 6; describes the final days of the Viet Nam War and the fall of Saigon and Phnom Penh.

9. **Newsweek** May 5, 1975 vol 85 no.18 (International Magazine) "The War in Indochina" p. 6-31; a look at the 14 years of U.S. involvement in Viet Nam and its aftermath.

10. **Time** May 5, 1975 vol 105 no.18 "Indochina" p. 6-21; stories on the aftermath of the American pull out of Indochina.

11. **Newsweek** May 12, 1975 vol 85 no 19 "The War in Indochina" p. 26-51; results of American pull out from Indochina; special mention of evacuation by helicopters of Saigon (p.28-32).

12. **Time** May 12, 1975 vol 105 no 19 "Indochina" p. 6-26; describes the fall of Saigon; recollections by correspondents and reactions by various media people.

13. **Time** May 19, 1975 vol 105 no 21 p. 9-14 "A Warmer Welcome for the Homeless" describes plight of Viet Nam refugees and those taking them into their homes.

"Saigon: A Calm Week Under Communism" p. 23-29 - Describes the results of the communist take over of South Viet Nam and Cambodia.


**Folder 5 Photos**

1. Series of 19 photos; "Operation Eagle Pull", 4 photos of refugees landing on air craft carrier: 15 photos of various air craft carrier scenes.


3. 2 Photos of aircraft (nose no. 362) lifted from aircraft carrier by helicopter.
4. 5 Photos of aircraft being lifted by helicopter.
5. 4 Photos of "Buffy" the mascot of the Air Rescue and Recovery Service in Nakhon Phanom.
7. 6 Photos of helicopters in flight.
8. 13 Photos of scenes around helicopter landing area.
9. 2 Aerial photos - unidentified
10. 2 Photos of First Korat Deployment, 1 March 1975.
11. 1 Photo, name tag, Jim Tanner.
12. 1 Photo, unidentified SSgt.
13. 1 Photo and slide of six men beside helicopter, Don Backlund is second from left others unidentified.
15. One photo of fixed wing aircraft USAF # 83825.

Folder 6 Maps

3. Amphoe Loeng NOK THA Thailand Scale 1:50,000 Series L 7017 Sheet 5941 111 Edition 1-RTSD.
4. Cambodia Route Designations Scale 1:250,000 Edition 3, November 1972 DCSINT, USARPAC.
6. Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
7. Viet Nam - Cambodia.
8. Thailand (Nakhon Phnom) Cambodia - Laos Map has markings in area of Nakhon Phnom.
9. Working map of Thailand and Laos - with several special markings and designations.

Folder 7 Commendations and Congratulations

1. From General Saunders to participants in Eagle Pull; message of congratulations; received 16 Apr 1975.

2. Recommendation for the Award of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group for achievement from 18 April to 2 May 1975. This was the period of Operation Frequent Wind, the emergency evacuation of non-combatants from the Republic of Viet Nam. This is a detailed description of the operation and is signed by Maj Gen Leroy J. Manor, USAF.

3. Recommendation for award of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for outstanding Achievement from January 24, 1975 to April 13, 1975, for 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group. This was for operation Eagle Pull the emergency evacuation of non-combatants from the Khmer Republic (Phnom Penh Cambodia). This is a detailed description of the operation and signed by Maj Gen Leroy J. Manor USAF.

Folder 8 Miscellany


2. TERP'S; Change Notice (change to the United States Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPs).

3. Aerial Refueling worksheet.


7. Message from Bruce E. Nawoj, 1st Lt USAF 29 Nov 1974 to all crew members on manuals control.
8. Message from Curtis K. Boyer, Maj USAF, 1 Dec 1974 to all DOV/DOT personnel of the establishment of evaluation due dates for integral crew members.

9a. Length of a Degree of Latitude and Longitude Chart.

9b. On back - Torque vs Fuel Flow Chart.

10. UTM GRID Reference

11. Density Altitude Chart.


SERIES THREE MAYAGUEZ
Box 3
Folder 1 Narratives

1. Personal hour by hour account of Mayaguez rescue including damages sustained (apparently written by Backlund).

2. Analysis of problems in Mayaguez rescue includes; communications, command and control (Cricket/King), Rescort, intelligence, logistics, planning (seems to have been written by Backlund).

3. Personal list of books and articles on the Mayaguez incident from Air University Library Card Catalogue.

4. 2 copies; narrative of Jolly Green II (Backlund's call sign) detailed account of Mayaguez rescue; includes call signs and sortie track of HH-53 Helicopters (Jolly Greens) involved, the number of GSF inserted and extracted and the times. Also includes notation on flight info. checks.

5. Talking Paper; combat air crew tactics drafted by Don Backlund; contributors Philip M. Pacini, 1st Lt USAF, Michael B. Olson, TSgt, USAF, Jimmy F. Howell, TSgt, USAF, Robert A. Boissonneault, SSgt USAF. Focuses on April and May, 1975; air crew training strengths and weaknesses and how to improve.

6. List of 3rd Marine Div. participants in Mayaguez - KIA, MIA, WIA.

7. Written transcript of taped interview of Donald R. Backlund; interview took place at Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service Commanders Conference, Elgin AFB, Florida July 25th, a highly detailed account of Mayaguez rescue - 38 pages. Included is biography
of Maj Gen Ralph S. Saunders who attended the conference.

8. Undated, untitled draft of events of Mayaguez rescue; some information missing at end. Narrative ends midsentence, pg 9. Included are names and call signs, tail nos., SSAN, and ranks of some participants in list form, pg 10.

Folder 2 Maps

1. Joint Operations Graphic (Air) Kampot Cambodia; Viet Nam scale 1:250,000 series; 1501 Air Sheet: NC 48-S edition; 3 shows location of Koh Tang.

2. Section of map; Gulf of Thailand has personal markings and notations; shows a carrier position at 1300 local time 20 April. Back of map has address of Ltjg J.S. Wood.

3. Large section of map, shows Gulf of Thailand with Koh Tang circled in red ink.

4. Southeast Asia briefing map scale 1:2,000,000 series 5213 edition, 1 AMS stock no. 5213X SEABRM **01.

Folder 3 Briefings

1. 2 copies Mayaguez incident briefing; highly detailed account of incident and rescue given in part by participants, including Backlund; Included in briefing are discussions of assets available to planners and commanders, assets available at the time of initial seizure of Mayaguez and as they came available during ensuing 3 days, key decisions that affected the outcome of the operations, various concepts of the operation. Recap of SS Mayaguez operation 12-15 May; included are accounts by Capt Mike Lacky - Pt Lead in initial assault on Koh Tang, Lt_Col Don Rebtoy A-7 Sqdn Cmdr - flew on 14th and 15th fast FAC on-scene Cmdr for about 9 hrs - Capt Don Backlund took part in 2 Marine insertions and participated in 2 SAR operations; Maj Bob Undorf OV-10 Fac Nail-68 on-scene commander for rescue of downed helicopter crew and Marines from Koh Tang.

2. Copies of slides and charts for recap of SS Mayaguez operation briefing.

3. Briefing given to Daedalians, evidently by Backlund; used Confidential_downgrade_recap_SS_Mayaguez Operation; many personal notations.
4. 1975 ARRS Commanders' Conference; briefing given by Capt Wayne Purser and Capt Don Backland; covered the evacuation of Phnom Penh (Eagle Pull), evacuation of Saigon (Frequent Wind), and Mayaguez incident; only portion included here deals with Mayaguez.

5. 2 loose pages from unknown briefing on Mayaguez incident

Folder 4 Congratulations, Awards, nominations

1. Loose messages of congratulations on Mayaguez from Gen David C. Jones, Carlton, Saunders, Wallace, John J. Burns, Gen Wilson, Gen Brown, Gen Robert E. Cushman, Jr. (Commandant of the Marine Corps), Gen Baxter, B.T. (?). Included is message quoted for consideration and possible inclusion in a nomination for personal awards.

2. Loose copies of messages contained in notebook.

3. Letter of appreciation from Robert R. Reed, Col. USAF to 1551st Flying Training Squadron/cc Hill AFB UT 84406 for Backlund's participation in Mayaguez briefing in PACA; notation from Jay M. Strayer, Lt. Col., USAF to Backlund.

4. MAC News Release; "Three Receive High Air Force Medals"; account of the award to Don Backlund of the Air Force Cross for heroism during the Mayaguez rescue operations. Included in the news release are SSgt Jon D. Harston who also received the Air Force Cross for Mayaguez and Col. Thomas J. Curtis who received the Silver Star and Legion of Merit for Meritorious conduct and heroism while a prisoner of war Sept 1965-April 1972.

5. MAC Information Newsletter for Commanders and Information Officers Vol XVI, No.5 MAC RP 190-1 June 1975. pg C2 "Mayaguez rescue actions lauded by Generals" account of recognition of services of MAC Rescue and Recovery Service by Gen David C. Jones, Air Force Chief of Staff and Paul K. Carlton, Commander; MAC.

6. Copy of script of Dining Out of Ogden ALC Director of Materiel Management Dining-Out undated; pg 2 is introduction of Backlund who then gives unspecified overview of Mayaguez rescue.
7. Biographical Sketch of Capt Donald R. Backlund.

8. Recommendation for Jabara Award for Airmanship for 1975 to be awarded jointly to Donald Backlund and Ronald T. Rand (combat photographer assigned to Backlund's crew) for outstanding display of courage and airmanship during Mayaguez rescue. Nomination made by Lt Col Eldon D. Woodward, USAF.

9. Nomination for David C. Schilling Trophy (AFR 900-29, Table 2) by Maj Gen Ralph S. Saunders, USAF, for Capt Donald Backland and Capt Roland Purser for actions during Mayaguez recovery.


Folder 5 Correspondence

Contains 4 letters and one chart from Harley Copic, an artist who was asked to donate a painting to the USAF Art Collection by Gen Louis L. Wilson, Jr. The painting was to be about the assault on Koh Tang Island. Copic asked Backland for his descriptions and help in identifying aircraft and landmarks.

Folder 6 Pictures - Slides - Movies

1. Photo Album; cover title "Memories of Thailand" inside front page; special piece "The Big Bang Bang; 15 May 1975; a pictorial account of the incident at Koh Tang Island." This is professionally done, black on gold illustrations. Album contains 43 photos (42 in black and white [1 in color of Backlund and what seems to be his crew]).

2. Envelope of photos (46)

   a. 8 black and white and 1 color photo of damages to helicopters; 1 photo of bullet beside a nickel.

   b. 9 black and white photos of the ship, 2 identify the Harold E. Holt and the Mayaguez

   c. 14 photos of Koh Tang Island, incident area, 2 photos identify building areas.

   d. 4 photos of rescue of wounded.

   e. 13 black and white photos and 2 color photos misc. people, 2 show Backlund and what seems to be his crew (1 color, 1 black and white.)
3. 2 movies, labeled Mayaguez
4. 22 slides; Mayaguez/Koh Tang
5. 16. slides; NKP; Pre Deros; Mayaguez Return
6. Series of 13 photos, possibly Mayaguez incident, and carrier pictures; unidentified.
7. 2 photos; Lt Col Thomas Curtis, SSgt Jon Harston and Capt Donald Backlund.
8. Audiovisual Caption; list of scenes and descriptions of photos taken by Ronald Rand during Mayaguez rescue.

SERIES THREE MAYAGUEZ
Box 4
Folder 1 Books

1. The Vietnamese Air Force, 1951-1975. Analysis of Its Role in Combat and Fourteen Hours At Koh Tang. USAF Southeast Asia monograph series Vo1.3 monographs 4 and 5 edited by Maj A.J. Chavalle; Book is autographed and inscribed by David C. Jones; Chairman JCS and William W. Momyer and contains black and white photo of Backlund receiving Air Force Cross. Monograph 5 is the "fourteen hours at Koh Tang" Backlund is mentioned on pgs. 134-135, 137, 141-143, monograph 5 goes from pg 83-151 and includes many photos of the Koh Tang incident.


Folder two Printed matter

1. Newsweek May 26, 1975 vol. LXXXV No. 21 Article titled "Ford's Rescue Operation" p. 16-27; cover story titled "The Rescue" picture and text of Mayaguez rescue; includes administration's reasons for action; account begins with seizure of Mayaguez to the end of the rescue mission and actions taken by the cabinet.
2. 2 copies Time May 26, 1975 vol. 105 No.22 p. 9-18 - cover story titled "Ford Draws the Line" - article titled "A Strong but Risky Show of Force"; photos and text pertaining to Mayaguez beginning with seizure. Day by day account of crisis and decisions leading up to and including rescue. Also includes comments of Mayaguez Crew.


4. The Mac_Flyer Sept. 1975 vol. 22 No. 9 p. 4-6 "Rescue: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" Emphasis on changes in ARRS culminating in techniques used in Mayaguez. Stress flexibility and professionalism of air crews.

5. 5 copies Airman Feb 1976 vol. 20 No. 2 p. 39-47 "Air Mission Mayaguez" detailed day by day account of Mayaguez incident beginning Tuesday, May 13th and ending Thursday evening May 15th 1975. Backlund is highlighted for heroism p. 45 and is mentioned in text p. 46.

6. Proceedings U.S. Naval Institute Nov 1976 vol. 102/11/885 "Mayday for the Mayaguez" p. 93-111; highly detailed account of Mayaguez Incident as experienced by the patrol squadron's skipper, commander J.A. Messengee, the destroy escort's skipper, commander Robert A. Peterson, the company commander, Capt Walter J. Wood, the battalion operations officer, Maj J.B. Hendricks, and the guided missile destroyer's skipper, commander J. Michael Rodgers.

7. Marine Corps Gazette Oct 1977 vol. 61 No.10 p. 24-34 "Individual Heroism Overcame Awkward Command Relationships, Confusion, and Bad Information Off the Cambodian Coast" description of assembly, planning, and actual assault and recovery operation of Mayaguez. Focus on problems and individual heroes.

8. Air University Review March-April 1978 vol. 29 No.3 p. 2-8 "Communications and Crisis Actions" emphasizes the importance of flexible communications in support of crisis actions. Both Mayaguez and Eagle Pull (evacuation of Phnom Penh) are mentioned briefly

Folder 3 Printed Material

1. *The Light Was The Mayaguez*; Maj Burton R. Moore, USAF student no.163 Class 58 Armed Forces Staff College 9 Dec 1975. Detailed account of Mayaguez incident with particular attention to politics involved and relationship with the administration and the press.


6. *Chicago Tribune* Saturday May 17, 1975; Photo page "Fight Saves Mayaguez, Crew" 3 photos and description of Mayaguez rescue.

7. News Clipping; Source unknown "The Casualties At Home; families told of deaths"; interviews with 3 families of marines who lost their lives during the Mayaguez rescue mission.
8. Bangkok Post vol. 29 no. 136 Saturday May 17, 1975
"Govt Recalls Envoy From Washington" p.1; Thai
government response to Mayaguez mission; pictures of
Mayaguez rescue p. 1 "Khmer Gunboat Sails Into
Sattahip... and Out Again" p.1; "Cambodian
incident in Thailand; boat thought to be involved in
Mayaguez incident.
"American bomber nearly struck Thai Trawler" p. 3
recounts incident during Koh Tang mission "Activists
to hold big demonstration today"; p. 3 describes
Anti-American protests of attack on Koh Tang.
"Saigon blasts seizure" pg 3; reaction from the
Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet
Nam.
"Ford’s popularity Soars over Mayaguez rescue."
"Shah Praises Ford Act" 4 photos; pg 5 More
international and national reactions to the Mayaguez
rescue mission.

9. Chicago Tribune 128th year no.137 Saturday May 17,
1975 "US Cannot Be Pushed, Kissinger Warns World"
p.1 Account and justification of Mayaguez rescue by
Ford administration; an account of casualties.

10. Pacific Stars and Stripes vol. 31, no.136 Saturday
May 17 1975 p. 1 "Marines Fly Out, Mission
Complete"; Pentagon account of Mayaguez rescue and
casualties p. 1 "Thailand Angered, U.S. Pulls
Marines"; account of protests and reactions by Thai
government and demonstrators to use of Thailand-
based American Marines in the Mayaguez rescue.
P. 2 "World Will See Cargo"; response by owners of
Mayaguez to Cambodian charges of spying "Ford Firm
on Air Strike", "DOD: Force Was Only Way", "Allies
Mum - but Yanks Back Ford" More reactions to
Mayaguez; "Bucher: What We Expected" reaction by
skipper of the spy ship 'Pueblo' which was captured
by the North Koreans in 1968.
P. 6 "Gayler: Khmers Attacked Others"; response by
Adm Noel Gayler director of Mayaguez rescue.
"Act of War by U.S."; reaction by North Viet Nam.

11. Chicago Tribune 128th year no.131 Sunday May 18,
1975
P.1 "Ford’s Longest Day; decision, dinner, relief";
"Didn’t Think We’d Live; Mayaguez Captain" accounts
by participants and decision makers of Mayaguez
incident.
P. 2 "Thais Order All U.S. Troops Out By March"
reaction by Thai Government to Mayaguez rescue
mission.
P. 5 "Ford Winning Back America’s Pride" Editorial
on Mayaguez by Bob Wiedrich.
P. 8 "After The Joy, Some Mayaguez Questions"; signs of disillusionment by the press over the actions of Mayaguez rescue.

   P. 1 "Kissinger: No Choice, We Had To Use Force", "Khmers Tell Their Version"; defense of actions in Mayaguez incident by U.S. and Cambodian Governments; "Report 13 Yanks missing; an account of casualties and the extensiveness of bombing during Mayaguez rescue.
   P. 6 "Angry Thais Recall Ambassador" reaction of Thai Government to use of American troops based in Thailand for Mayaguez rescue.

   P. 1 "GI's Saved Us: Ship Captain"; story of rescue and reactions of Captain of Mayaguez.
   P. 6 Photo of family of Marine missing on Koh Tang "Law Prof Raps Ford On Mayaguez Acts" Jordan Paust, an international law expert, comments on Mayaguez incident.
   P. 7 "Ship's Log Tells The Whole Story" excerpts from wheel house log supplied by owners of Mayaguez.
   P. 9 "Cites GI's At Audie Speech" Speech by Sec't of Army Howard Calloway to persons paying tribute to Audie Murphy that men involved in Mayaguez rescue should also be honored.

14. *Pacific Stars and Stripes* vol 31, no.139 Tuesday May 20, 1975
   P. 1 "Island Battle Toll High, and maybe Some Got Left" results of rescue of Mayaguez "Thais give U.S. apology deadline"; Govt of Thailand angered by use of Thai military bases. "Ford lauds Mayaguez GI's"; commencement address at Univ. of Pennsylvania.
   P. 4 "The crew wasn't on Koh Tang Island": reports by crew on the raid on Koh Tang. Mayaguez crew was held on what they thought was Rong Sanlem.

15. *Pacific Stars and Stripes* vol 31 no.140 Wednesday May 21, 1975
   P. 1 "Thailand Accepts 'Regrets' by U.S."; the patching up of differences between Thailand and U.S. over Mayaguez incident. "Ford tells DOD to Finalize Toll"; attempt to list all casualties in Mayaguez incident and explain delay in final count.
P. 7 "Mayaguez in Singapore: No One Asked to See Cargo"; "Poll Backs Ford on Mayaguez"; more reactions.


17. Pacific Stars and Stripes vol 31, no.141 Thursday May 22, 1975
P. 1 "Koh Tang Toll: 15 Dead, 50 Hurt And 3 Missing"; final casualty figures for Mayaguez rescue.
"Was Crew Secondary to Henry?" Quote by Newsweek on Henry Kissinger and crew of Mayaguez.

"Ground Super Jolly Greens"; temporary grounding of type that crashed at beginning of Mayaguez rescue.

"Sgt Relives Action in Ship Recovery"; account by SSGt Jesus Perez DeJesus of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service.

20. Unidentified News Clipping; "Adm Coogan Tells of Air Strikes"; account by Rear Adm Robert P. Coogan, commander of attack carrier Strike Force 77 who directed air strikes on Cambodian mainland during Mayaguez incident.


22. Unidentified Clipping; "Isolation Trend Reversed; Ford" results of Mayaguez incident.


24. Editorial by Bill Anderson; "The Old Supreme Courtroom; New!" an addendum to the editorial replies to a former AF pilot about an editorial on Mayaguez and the "Jolly Greens".

25. Unidentified Clipping; "Stuck for 12 hours on Koh Tang"; account by SSGt Ronald A. Gross wounded; part of Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service.
26. Editorials; a. by Nick Thimmesch "Mayaguez was Spring Tonic for Ford".
b. by Tom Tiede; "Must Act Quickly Against Piracy; reactions to Mayaguez incident.

27. Editorial; Evans and Novak; "Ford Versus the Doves and Hawks"; report on deliberations by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and National Security Council.

28. Editorials; a. William F. Buckley, Jr.; "Some Luck in the Cambodian Affair".
b. Evans and Novak; "Ford and the Rule of Law"; reactions to Mayaguez incident.

29. Clipping; Pacific_Stars_and_Stripes Saturday May 24, 1975 p. 10 Editorial; Andrew Tully "No Help from Peking, Moscow"; reasons why China and USSR would not help mediate Mayaguez despite when asked by U.S.

Day by day releases by Dept. of State on Mayaguez May 12-15 includes statements by Press Secretary, notice to mariners, U.S. letter to Secretary General, letter to UN Security Council President, message to Cambodian Government, statement by President Ford, President Ford's letter to Congress, Kissinger News Conference at St. Louis and Kansas City.

"White House Watch; Mayaguez questions"; analysis of the mayaguez incident


33. Copy of Article; The_New_Republic vol 172 no. 24 issue 3153 Jun 14, 1975 "What to Make of Mayaguez" by Roger Morris; analysis of the diplomatic negotiations and problems of U.S. as reflected by Mayaguez.


35. Armed Forces Journal International; Jun 1975, copy of pg. AFJ commentary and background; "Mayaguez, The President and History" article on precedents for
action in Mayaguez incident.


40. Article; Rescue Review vol 1 no.9 Sept 1975; "Mayaguez; ARRS Heroism 'Routine'" written to point out "responsiveness, professionalism and 'punch'" of American Military Forces.

41. Copy of article; Far Eastern Economic Review vol 90 no. 40, Oct 3, 1975; "A Closer Look at the Mayaguez" by Michael Chinoy; analysis of speech by Leng Sory, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister of Foreign Affairs at the UN.


45. 16 Copies of article; Kenosha News Tuesday Oct 14, 1975; "Kenoshan Key in Mayaguez Rescue" picture and text devoted to Donald Backlunds role in the Mayaguez rescue.
46. News article; Command_Post Friday Oct 17, 1975 p. 3
"COMAC Presents Three High Medals; photo and text on the award of the Air Force Cross to Donald Backlund and SSgt Jon D. Harston and the Silver Star and Legion of Merit to Col Thomas J. Curtis.

47. 1 News article and 1 copy Rescue_Review vol 1, no. 12 Nov 1975 p. 1 "Four Heros Receive Military Decorations"; picture and text on the award of the Air Force Cross to Capt Donald Backlund and SSgt Jon D. Harston for heroism during the Mayaguez incident and the Silver Star and Legion of Merit to Col Thomas J. Curtis for meritorious service while a prisoner of war in North Viet Nam.

48. 1 News article and 1 copy; Falcon_News vol 17, no.41 Friday Oct 17, 1975: "Jabara Award for Airmanship to be Presented" photo and text on the Jabara award, which is presented to an Academy graduate who distinguishes himself in the field of Airmanship; Donald Backlund, Commander of Jolly Green II, and Ronald Rand, Combat Photographer. Both are 1971 graduates of USAF Academy and were presented the award for performance of duty in Mayaguez incident.

49. Spacemaker vol 16, no.42 Thursday Oct 16, 1975 p. 1 "McClellanite awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry" picture and text on the award of the Silver Star to SSgt Joseph S. Stanaland, a pararescue specialist, for heroism during Mayaguez incident. (member of Backlund’s crew)
P. 9 "A-10 testing Continues"; story of first A-10 to be flown and maintained solely by Air Force personnel.

50. Hill_Top_Times vol 28 no.42 Oct 24, 1975 "Directorate of Materiel Management Holds Dining-Out"; Donald Backlund was a special guest at the dining-out and gave a brief account of his involvement in Mayaguez incident. Includes picture.

51. News article; source not listed; "Two will Receive Air Force Cross at Ceremonies Next Week"; picture and text on the presentation and heroism of Capt Donald Backlund and SSgt Jon D. Harston for Mayaguez incident. Brief mention of Col Thomas J. Curtis; recipient of the Silver Star and Legion of merit for meritorious conduct while a prisoner of war in North Viet Nam. (very good article).
52. "Pitsenbarger Awardee" (source of the article unknown but looks like it could have come from Voice of the Airman); News article on the presentation of the William H. Pitsenbarger Award: the Air Force Sergeants Association’s highest award for heroism; to SSgt John D. Harston for heroism during Mayaguez incident.

53. 2 News articles; source unknown; "Rescue Adventure Like ‘Cold Water in your Face’"; article dedicated to Backlund’s heroism in Mayaguez incident because of Backlund’s selection as Military Airlift Command Junior Officer of the year. Very detailed; includes picture.


59. Article; Rescue Review Oct 1976 p. 2 "Rescue Pair Receives Annual Award; Association Conducts National Convention"; details the presentation of the 1976 David C. Schilling Award to Capts Donald Backlund and Roland Purser for their leadership and airmanship as helicopter pilots involved in the
rescue and recovery of the USS Mayaguez.

60. Article; source unknown; "Jolly Green Giants Really Giants" by Janelle Stamper; report on flight and briefing given by Capt Donald Backlund, pilot, and Lt Philip Pacini, co-pilot to acquaint reporters with the "Super Jolly Green Giant search and rescue helicopters".

61. 2 Copies Rescue_Review anniversary edition March 1976; p. 10; chronology under 1975; brief mention of operation Eagle Pull and Mayaguez rescue.


63. Article; Spacemaker vol 17, no.13 Thursday April 1, 1976; account of the presentation of the Silver Star for heroism to MSgt John J. Elridge, a pararescue man and member of Donald Backlund's crew during the Mayaguez rescue mission.

64. Article; Albuquerque_Journal Sec B p. 1 May 16, 1976; picture and interview of Lt. Phil Pacini on his memories of the Mayaguez rescue mission. Pacini credits the success of the day to the actions of Maj Robert Undorf and Capt Donald Backlund.

65. P. 41-44 of Air Force Magazine Nov 1976 p. 42; AFA's Aerospace Awards": The David C. Schilling Award; for the most outstanding contribution in the field of flight to Capts Donald Backlund and Roland Purser for the Mayaguez rescue.

66. 3 Copies from Command_Section ?? TIG Brief 7, by David C. Jones, Gen USAF 1976; article prefaced by quote from Capt Donald Backlund in Airman Magazine on the need for readiness. Gen Jones thoughts are also on the need for readiness.

67. Focus vol 10 no.28 Jul 11, 1980 p. 1 and p. 9 picture and article on the dedication building 1019 at Kirtland AFB to Baklund Hall in memory of Maj Donald Backlund. Backlund is cited for heroism during the Mayaguez rescue and is awarded, posthumously, a 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal for a 1977 rescue mission that resulted in four saves near Aspen Colorado.
Folder 4 Miscellanea

1. Aircraft Commander's SARDAB Report. Signature is Donald R. Backlund; 1st Lt USAF. Mission: Recovered crew and 20 man marine GSU from Koh Tang and took them to USS Coral Sea.

SERIES FOUR AEROSPACE RESCUE AND RECOVERY SERVICE
Box 5
Folder 1 Aspen Rescue

1. Hand written concise description of Capt Don Backlund's helicopter role in rescue of four injured people near Aspen; 28 Nov 1977. Seems to be written by Backlund and is a personal account of rescue.

2. "Mission Narrative AFRCC Msn 7-1388" hand written xeroxed copy of report on the rescue of four injured people from a downed Cessna 414. Narrative begins with notification of possible deployment on 28 Nov 1977 and ends with the servicing and inspecting of the aircraft for flight home on Nov 30, 1977. This is a highly personal account detailing steps of mountain rescue and reasons for decisions made.

3. 3 pieces of paper with handwritten calculations and notations; seem to have been made during or just after Aspen rescue mission to help in preparing mission report.

4. 2 Copies flight authorization; dated 28 nov 1977 contains list of crew.

5. 2 Copies passenger manifest dated 29 Nov 1977.

6. 1 Copy pararescue mission report dated 28-29 Nov 1977; gives medical evaluation of victims of cessna aircraft accident as well as noting problems with mission and suggestions for changes in future missions.

7. Paper containing hand written notes and reminders on Aspen mission.

8. Letter of appreciation; 5 Dec 1977 to 1550 ATTW/DO from Dale L. Oderman, Col USAF; recommends research for possible awards for Donald Backlund and his crew for work accomplished in Aspen rescue mission; attached is letter to Col Oderman from Lenn G. Kasdorf commending the professionalism and expertise of Donald Backlund and his crew. Mr. Kasdorf was a
civillian flying with Backlund on the rescue mission (see "mission narrative AFRCC MSN 7-1388").

9. Letter of appreciation; 12 Dec 1977 to Capt Donald Backlund from James R. Miears, Col., USAF; commends Backlund and his crew for their work during the Aspen mission and extends the appreciation of Col Dale Oderman with copy of letter from Lenn G. Kasdorf.

10. 2 Copies; letter of appreciation; 13 December 1977 to, 1550 ATTW/CC from Ralph S. Saunders, Maj. Gen., USAF Commander Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service; congratulates Backlund, his crew and all 1550th support people for their role in the Aspen rescue mission. Col (Dale L. Oderman added personal note states "this was one of our best efforts...").


12. Letter dated Dec. 16, 1977 to Col. Dale Oderman from W.K. Martin Pres. Snowmass Corporation; Mr. Martin was member of Pitkin County Air Rescue Group and Air Coordinator at the time the cessna crash site was located; letter commends the professionalism of Backlund and his crew and recommends them for professional recognition. Attached are 2 hand written notes recommending awards.

13. Copy of letter to Mrs. Pfister and Rescue Team Members dated Jan. 5th from Lois Roberts, Mother-in-law of Terry DePlois, one of those rescued during Aspen mission; letter of thanks was forwarded to Capt Backlund.


15. Request for Sikorsky Award by C.G. Lunt, Lt. Col. USAF to Mr. John W. D’Angelo, Product Support Division Sikorsky Aircraft. Request was made on behalf of Capt Donald Backlund and his crew for their rescue of four survivors and one body from downed aircraft near Aspen Colorado 29 Nov. 1977.
16. Letter of congratulations and attached wings "S" rescue certificate and rescue emblem Jan 26 1978 to Capt Donald R. Backlund from Gerald J. Tobias, division president of Sikorsky Aircraft.

17. Denver sectional aeronautical chart scale 1:500,000 17th edition aug 11, 1977 is divided by red pencil into numbered quadrants; box 47 contains area circled in red.

18. 4 Copies; 1 news clipping 3 copies; "Oklahoma Youth is Hero in Plane Crash, Rescue" by Peter Blake, story of the crash of Cessna 414 by 17 yr old Charles Randolf who hiked, 30 hrs, from crash site to get help; Backlund is mentioned in article.

19. 2 Copies news clipping; The Denver Post vol 86, Dec 4 1977 "6 owe much to Air Search and Rescue Team" p. 53-56 sec D Aspen rescue story as told from the perspective of the Aspen Air Rescuer Group; special tribute to Capt Donald Backlund; "Tall Giant Flying the Giant" on pg 56.

20. News clipping Dec 2, 1977 FOCUS p.5 "Helicopter Crew Rescues Downed Flyer Tuesday" brief story of Aspen rescue mission; Donald Backlund is mentioned as pilot.


22. Clipping; "Rescuemen Recover Six" brief account of Aspen rescue mission, Backlund mentioned as pilot of HH-53.

23. 2 Copies; p. 4 Rescue Review Feb 1978 "Crew Chief Sees Rescue First Hand" photos and text highlighting SSGt William Rennie and his view of the Aspen rescue mission; SSGt Rennie was responsible for maintaining Backlund’s helicopter and Backlund is mentioned briefly.

24. Calling Card for Mt. West Aviation (no personal name but phone number written on back and word "Holiday").
1. Letter of appreciation 30 Jun 1975 to 1551st Flying Training Sq/cc Hill AFB Utah from Robert R. Reed, Col., USAF, with attached note to Capt Backlund from Jay M. Strayer Lt. Col., USAF. Note sent on change of duty station for Backlund to Hill AFB, commends Backlund for his work as member of briefing team on Mayaguez rescue mission. Best wishes are extended by Lt Col Strayer.

2. Letter of appreciation 25 March 1977 to Capt Backlund from Dale L. Oderman Col., USAF, Commander 1550th Aircrew Training and Test Wing (MAC), Kirtland AFB, N.M.; attached are commendations from General Saunders, commander of Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service and letter to Col Dale Oderman from Martin E. Vigil, Chief of New Mexico State Police Department. Letters of appreciation concern the rescue of seriously injured man from a precarious mountain location March 16, 1977. Donald Backlund is listed as member of crew.

3. Request letter to John W. D'Angelo Product Support Division Sikorsky Aircraft from C.G. Lunt, Lt. Col., USAF 28 Jun 1977 for Winged S Award for the rescue of an injured mountain climber; Backlund mentioned as part of crew.


6. Dinner invitation Thursday Dec 18th to Capt Backlund from General and Mrs Paul Kendall Carlton.

7. Invitation to celebrate Diamond Jubilee of the Royal Air force 1 April 1978 to Donald Backlund from Squadron Leader and Mrs R.E. Turner.

8. 5 April 1976, 3 letters of congratulations on Donald Backlund’s selection as Junior Officer of the Year for the Military Air Lift Command. Letters written by Paul Carlton Gen., USAF Commander of MAC, Dale Oderman, Col., USAF Commander of 1550th Wing.

Folder 3 Papers

1. "Night Rescue and You"; paper written for publication; discusses the modifications to H-53's flown by Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service to improve capabilities to rescue downed pilots at night.

2. "Gettin Ready"; paper seems to be written for publication, emphasizes the need for peacetime readiness for war time situations, particular emphasis on the individual role in staying mentally ready and educated with regards to Air Rescue and Recovery.

Folder 4 Printed Matter

1. Rescue Review vol 1 no.4 March 1975 p. 4 "Buffy: Rescuemen Give Thailand Unit’s Mascot Permanent Home at St. Louis Zoo" picture and text on Buffy, the Malaysian Sunbear mascot of 40th ARRS, Nakhon Phanom, Thailand at his new home in the St. Louis Zoo.

2. MAC pamphlet 127-3 10 Jan 1974 "Safety The Lessons Learned" page changes; insert 2-36, 2-37 safety lessons on 2-37 refers to single-engine helicopter on night overwater search and rescue.

3. Pg 9 The Mac Flyer May 1975 a review of problems and procedures of power settling.


5. Rescue Review vol 1 no.8 August 1975; general updates and news of Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service.

6. Clipping (copy); Focus vol 6 no. 10 Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 5, 1976 "Crew Returns After Exercise" story about exercise "Bold Eagle", a night rescue training exercise near Nellis AFB, Nevada. Donald Backlund mentioned as part of the crew.
7. Clipping; source unknown; two photos and caption "Props for the Press"; Capt Donald Backlund mentioned as giving press representatives a briefing and helicopter ride. (Backlund not pictured).

8. Copy of article The_Washington_Tribune April 22, 1976; "These Jolly Green Giants 'Harvest of People, Not Peas"; story of briefing and familiarization ride given by Donald Backlund and Philip Pacini, Backlund's co-pilot on an HH 53-C helicopter assigned to Kirtland AFB. Backlund quoted throughout the article.

9. P. 4 Approach Jun 1976 "Heros: No Two Landings Are Alike" by LCDR Allen K. Mears HC-2, Det. 13. The article stresses the difficulty of training the helicopter pilot for all the different landing problems encountered on missions. A defense of the pilots.

10. 2 Xeroxed copies of article; Albuquerque Journal March 17, 1977 "Copter Plucks Climber From Wilderness Peak"; rescue of University of New Mexico student injured in 600 ft. fall in the Pecos Wilderness area.

11. 2 Xeroxed copies, article; The_Abuquerque_Tribune March 17, 1977 "Copter, Team Rescue 2 men". Story of rescue of 2 injured hikers, one from the Pecos Wilderness area and one from the Sandia Mtns.

12. P. 4-6; 2 copies of article; "Night Rescue And You" May 1977 (on bottom is written TAC ATTACK) by Capt Donald R. Backlund 1551 FTS Kirtland AFB, New Mexico; article details improvements in night search and rescue techniques and the necessity of being prepared. Also mentioned is PAVE LOW III, calls a successful search and rescue mission a team effort between rescue forces and the downed airman; included is a picture of Backlund and brief military biography.


14. Newsphoto; source unknown; "Tragedy on Miami Mesa"; picture of pararescuemen at site of single engine plane crash in which 2 were killed. Donald Backlund mentioned as pilot of H-53 rescue craft.

15. P. 13-16 Aerospace_Safety Nov 1977; "That Others May Live" p. 14-16; A Look At The Air Rescue Service; how they meet needs, and the planning that
led to the development of the PAVE LOW III HH-53 helicopter for night search and rescue missions.

16. Base guide to Kirtland AFB, New Mexico.

17. HH-53 Flight Mechanic Pocket Guide (Don Backlund has printed his name on the cover).

18. U.S.A.F. CH-53C HH-53C. promotional booklet for Sikorsky Aircraft included is promotional material sighting the Mayaguez rescue, the Son Tay POW rescue mission, Eagle Pull (the evacuation of Phnom Penh) and Frequent Wind (the evacuation of Saigon).


20. "Helicopter History USAF; Sikorsky Aircraft"; pamphlet on history of helicopters and their rescue capabilities Mayaguez is mentioned on last page as well as Eagle Pull and Frequent Wind.

Folder 5 Charts

1. Fort Wolters Crash Rescue Map, Scale 1:100,000 Fort Wolters, Texas (map has been marked for search.


6. Weatherford, Texas Stock no. V782X64494**01 Scale 1:50,000 Edition 1-AMS.

7. Mineral Wells, Texas Stock no. V782X63491**01 Scale 1:50,000 Edition 1 AMS.

8. Dallas, Taxas Stock no. V502XM12412**02 Scale 1:250,000 Edition 2 AMS.
Folder 6 Pictures and Photos

1. 2 Photos of 2nd Lt Donald Backlund with 1972 Army Aviation Association Certificate of Achievement and Distinguished Graduate Award, Class of 1972-38 U.S. Primary Helicopter School Ft. Wolters, Texas 30 Jun 1972.


4. Photo of what seems to be class at Ft. Rucker, Alabama. Individuals are identified. Donald Backlund is pictured in back row 3rd from right.

5. Photo of Donald Backlund with unidentified Major or Lt. Col. indicating Backlund's rank as Captain.

6. Color photo of Capt Donald Backlund and unidentified AF man in front of entry to 1551 F.T.S.

7. Photo and copy of photo of Pave Low III operational test and evaluation crew - 1976. Donald Backlund is not pictured; those identified in photo are Capt philip Pacini, Maj. Robert Giffen, TSgt Donald Goodlett, Capt William Kramer and Lt. Col. Frank Pehr. Identification was made by Col Robert Giffen, Peramet Professor and head, Dept of Astro. USAFA.

8. Photo of HH-3E probe extended.

9. Photo of HH-3E

10. 5 Photos (appear to be 5 proofs plus a negative) of 2 Helicopters, 1 prop plane and 2 jets in flight.

11. Color photo helicopter, probe extended (with tanker readying for refueling?)

12. Picture of CH-53-E lifting tank; statistics on back of picture.

13. Picture; U.S. Navy/Marine Corps/Sikorsky Aircraft CH-53-E Heavy Lift Helicopter at work.


Folder 7 Miscellany
1. News Photo; "Rescue: a view from the ground" source unidentified; picture of helicopter; no caption.

2. Letter to 1st Lt. Donald R. Backlund from Sikorsky Aircraft enclosing Winged "S" Rescue Certificate; (not included).

3. Aircraft Commander's SARDAB Report by Capt Donald R. Backlund 5 December '77.

4. Flight authorization, from Kirtland to Nellis to Kirtland AFB, 10 Feb 1978, Backlund mentioned as part of crew.

5. Sikorsky Aircraft Fact Sheet for Sikorsky S-65/U.S. Navy/Marine CH-53E.

6. Membership Roster; Jolly Green Pilots Association January 1976; Capt Donald Backlund listed as member.

SERIES FIVE BIOGRAPHICAL DATA
Box 6
Folder 1

1. Focus vol 10 no.28 July 11, 1980 Albuquerque N.M. 4 copies of Kirtland AFB newspaper; photo on pg 1 of Donald Backlund; story pg 9 documents, awards received by Backlund and designates Building 1019, the home of Backlund's former unit; the 1551st Flying Training Squadron, as Backlund Hall.

2. 2 Copies of pamphlet; dedication ceremony of the 1551st Flying Training Squadron's Backlund Hall 11 July 1980 Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, includes brief biography of Backlund, his likness, and an agenda of events.

3. Photos of Backlund Hall


5. Photo of Backlund Hall.

6. Photo of people gathered for dedication of Backlund Hall July 8, 1980. Donald Backlund's parents are seated 2nd and 3rd from right.

7. Letter and diagram from W.R. Paden, Jr. in response
to request by Backlund to see if a man of his size could fly a C141.

Folder 2 Printed Matter: General Aviation Material

1. Aviation Week and Space Technology
4. Tactics Sampler; reprints from Aviation Digest 1974-75.
6. Clipping; Chicago Tribune July 29, 1980 Sec. 1 pg 5 "A Fighter Pilot Gets His 'High' By Stunting With Best There Is"; close up with Ann Keegan; interview with Capt Sonny Childers and his experiences as a Thunderbird Pilot.
8. Reprint from The Stars and Stripes Jun 13, 1968, "The Saga of a B-17".
10. 2 Copies of invoices for book orders.

Series Six Artifacts

1. Backlund Materials: Uniforms and Equipment

Class "A" uniform; (located in Sp. Coll. on coat rack) jacket, shirt, trousers. (decorations are current to Backlund's death. He did receive a posthumous Air Medal).

Box 8 Helicopter helmet (camouflaged) Vietnam era.
Box 9 Helicopter helmet (OD Green) post Vietnam era.
Box 10 Helicopter helmet (white) post Vietnam era.
Box 11 Helicopter pilot's knee clipboard; Vietnam era.
Jungle boots; Vietnam era.

Two pair camouflaged fatigues; Vietnam era.

Fatigue shirt; Possibly from cadet era.

40 ARRS, Jolly Green Giant "Party Suit" and scarf with various insignia from Nakhon Phanom, Thailand.

40 ARRS baseball cap, 1Lt insignia; from Nakhon Phanom, Thailand.

Box 12

- Class "A" hat with cover.
- U.S. Government first aid kit,
- Confidential stamp
- Secret stamp
- Jolly Green rubber stamps.
- Membership card
- Jolly Green Giant Association card
- Two (EVC) 1:250,000 SE Asia
- One (EVC) 1:500,000 SE Asia.

Box 13

- Ear plugs; early 70s era.
- SE Asia "Pointee Talkee" survival aid (dated Sep 67)
- Geneva convention card in Backlund's name.
- Air Navigation Computer (CPU-26A), Navigator Plotter.
- Empty Flight crew checklist binder.
- Helicopter in-flight guide; Vietnam era.
- AF form 70; possibly from navigational check-ride
Box 14

A-10 model (Grey)

Letter and HH-53C model from Sikorsky Co. dated 9 Oct '75

Slide rule from cadet era.

AF form 77 for Backland as Cadet Group Commander (dated 8 May '71)

Box 15, 15A and 15B (see awards and decorations)

Pkg 16

B-17 memorabilia (3 posters)

Three 12X14 photos of Koh Tang Island showing battle damaged HH-53C helicopter and OV-10 in-flight.

Pkg 17 Patches (shelved in oversize area)

In Envelope
1. Rotary wing - fixed wing
2. Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service (60s and early 70s)
3. 40th ARRS Jolly Green Buff
4. Military Airlift Command
5. Air Training Command
6. 1550th ATTW
7. Military Airlift Command
8. U.S. Army Aviation School Fort Rucker; Stuck Card Qualified
9. Battle Damage Qualified
10. Khmer Flag

Pkg 17 Patches Mounted collection; shelved with collection (oversize area)

1. Night Rescue
2. Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service
3. 40th ARRS Jolly Green Buff
4. Military Airlift Command
*5. Phnom Penh; First In Last Out 12 April 1975 "Gotcha"
*6. SS Mayaguez 15 May 1975
7. AN/ARD 21 Electronic Location Finder
8. HH-53C Super Buff Jolly Green
*9. Eagle Pull 12 April 1975 First In Last Out
10. Carrier Qualified USS Midway USS Coral Sea
*11. Spectator Koh Tang TAC Airpower Fish Kill
*12. 40th ARRS 15 May 75 Airborne Cavalry, Koh Tang
13. Battle Damage Qualified
*14. Super Jolly Green; Proven Pappa Perfect 12 Apr '75
*15. Farthest 40th ARRS SAVE; South Viet Nam 29 April '75
16. USS Midway
17. Airsick and Scared
*18. CVA - 43 Coral Sea 15 May 1975
19. Last Orbit 14 August 1973 (Khmer Flag)
20. Don Backlund on plastic (name tag)
21. Backlund on cloth with Thai language translation (name tag)
22. Backlund on cloth with pilot wings and jump wings (ATC era)
23. Head Banana (name plate)

SERIES SEVEN AWARDS AND DECORATIONS
Box 15
Box 15 D
Army Aviation Achievement Award, dated 31 Oct 72

Box 15 C
AF Historical Foundation Award (C2C Backlund), dated May 70

Box 15 D
Mac Junior Officer of the Year Award on clock w/citation, 1975

Box 15 C
USAFA Diploma

Box 15 E
Outstanding Cadet Group Commander Award (Gen Westover award)

Box 15 C
Distinguished Graduate Certificate, Squadron Officer's School, 77-8

Box 15 C
Jolly Green Giants Association Certificate

Box 15 C
Certificate from USS Midway (CVA-41), 22 Apr 75

Box 15 C
F-101 Ride Certificate, 8 Jul 68

Box 15 C
Jabarra Award for Mayaguez, 1975

Box 15 C
Bong Award for Outstanding Military History Cadet, 74

Box 15 C
SS Mayaguez Plaque

Box 15 E
David C. Schilling Award, 76

Box 15 A
Diploma from Indiana University (M.A.), dated 26 Feb 72

Air Medal citation, Jun-Jul 73

" " Apr 75

" " Nov 77 (two originals)

Issued posthumously Feb 80

Meritorious Service Medal citation, Jun 75-Apr 78

AF Commendation Medal citation, May 73-Jun 75

AF Cross citation, 15 May 75

Honorable Service Certificate, dated Aug 79
Recommendation for MAC Junior Office of the Year.

Box 15B

Air Medal w/case (2 ea)
Air Medal w/oak leaf w/case
AF Commendation Medal w/case
AF Cross w/case
Meritorious Service Medal w/case

SERIES EIGHT CERTIFICATES (BACKLUND)
Box 6
Folder 3


8. Certificate to Accompany The Air Medal; 2 copies 30 Jun 74 for achievement in aerial flight.

9. IGOR 1 Sikorsky Helicopter Rescue Award 29 Apr 1975.


11. Diploma; Squadron Officer School Correspondence Program; Nov 1976.
12. Solo Certificate; T-37 Aircraft 22 May 1978; Sheppard AFB, Texas.


SERIES NINE SLIDES, PHOTOS, AND MOVIES
BOX 7

1. Various helicopter shots; 17 slides

2. 2 Boxes various shots in U.S.; 27 slides and 33 slides.

3. 2 Boxes cadet shots; 37 slides and 32 slides.

4. 1 Movie from Don Backlund, Sr. to Capt Backlund.

5. Bone yard slides; 37 in all.

6. 5 Slides; unidentified.

7. Thailand; 14 slides

10. Ten Slides; in-country (Thailand) series.

11. 24 Slides; various in-country (Thailand)

12. 74 Slides; Thailand and Phnom Penh.

13. 71 Slides; Phnom penh.

14. 15 Slides; Operation Frequent Wind/SS American Challenger.

15. 21 Slides; 1st Korat Alert/Eagle Pull.

16. 19 Slides; Eagle Pull

17. Movie; Eagle Pull Deploy

18. Movie; Eagle Pull Run-in

19. 22 Slides; USS Midway
20. 1 Photo oversized; helicopter; matted C (shelved in pkg 16)

21. 1 Photo oversized; Koh Tang; matted; Mayaguez (shelved in pkg 16)

22. 2 Photos oversize; Mayaguez rescue; matted C (shelved in pkg 16)

23. 1 Print 1968, Micro Switch, Freeport, Illinois unidentified plane; nicknamed Soar Head

24. 2 Prints oversized; 1968 Micro Switch, Freeport Illinois 3 planes in air flight; U.S. one 293017 one 290731 one nicknamed Belle of the Brawl one nicknamed True Blue Lue (shelved in pkg 16)

25. 4 Photos of Donald Backlund

26. 1 Postcard; USS Midway

27. 1 Photo; 2 helicopters in flight

28. 1 Photo; unidentified shore line

29. 1 Photo; road repair crew; SE Asia

30. 1 Photo of Fighter lead-in training Holloman AFB, N.M. Class 79 1AA Jan-Mar 1979; individuals identified on back

31. 1 Color photo; matted; Helicopter HH-53C; oversize; (shelved in pkg 16)

SERIES TEN ART WORK

Two pen and ink drawings of HH-53s; oversize; (shelved in pkg 16)