

## Jollies

USAF photos



In the early 1960s, the “Jolly Green Giant”—trademark of the Green Giant vegetable company—was a well-known TV ad character. The moniker eventually was bestowed on a famed Vietnam War helicopter—USAF’s HH-3E, used to rescue downed airmen. It was big, predominantly green, and ... anyway, Jolly Green was its call sign. In the late 1960s, the HH-3 was joined by the bigger HH-53, call sign Super Jolly Green. Here, a nine-foot-tall wooden Green Giant statue arrives at Udorn RTAB, Thailand, home of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, which at the time operated both helicopters. The statue was displayed in the unit’s officer bar to boost morale and build esprit de corps. The bottom left photo depicts an HH-3 rescuing a US pilot from the waters off Vietnam. In the bottom right photo, an HH-53C hoists a pilot from the jungle floor into the side door.



HH-3 Jolly



HH-53C Super Jolly