

## DEATHS

### Airman Pleiman Rites Held Mon.

A requiem high mass for A-1-C James Edward Pleiman, 22, lost in action off the coast of North Viet Nam, was held at 9:30 a.m. Monday in St. Remy Church at Russia. Official confirmation of the young airman's death was received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. August (La Vera Voisard) Pleiman, R. R. 1, Russia, on Thursday. He had previously been reported missing in action on March 15.

Pleiman was one of two airmen lost when their Air Force HU-16 Albatross amphibian was struck by mortar fire while attempting to rescue the two-man crew of a Phantom F4C, struck by conventional ground fire. The plane's crew had bailed out to the sea two miles off the coast.

The Albatross quickly sank, with a carrier-based helicopter picking up six survivors. The body of one of the victims was recovered but Pleiman's was not.

Air Force officials advised the young man's parents that he had entered the water and had recovered the pilot from the downed plane and was entering the rescue craft when it was struck by the mortar shell.

Air Force officials reported that the rescue operation was the largest single pickup of the

war by a rescue aircraft operating in North Vietnamese territory. The Albatross was the first rescue amphibian to be lost in waters off the Vietnamese coast.

Airman Pleiman had been assigned to an Air Force rescue-recovery unit since his arrival at D Nang Air Base last September.

On Sept. 6 he was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in sustained flight as a combat crew member.

He also participated in the rescue of Air Force Captain, Norman B. Huggins, Mullins, N. C. last November, near an island about 40 miles east of North Viet Nam's main port, Haiphong.

Huggins had been shot down while on a photo reconnaissance mission. The HU-16 amphibian landed in a hail of Communist gunfire from the nearby island. Pleiman jumped from the craft and helped Huggins from the water into the plane.

He was promoted to the rank of airman first class on Feb. 15 and was awarded the Air Force Silver Star on Feb. 25.

Airman Pleiman was born Jan. 15, 1944 in Wayne Hospital in Greenville. He was a member of St. Remy parish, the St. Remy Council, Knights of Columbus, and the St. Remy CIO.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by eight brothers and sisters. They include, Donald, of Russia; Eugene, of Fremont, O.; Mrs. Patrick (Marcell) Kuhn, Tipp City; Mrs. Norman (Ruth Ann) Davidson, of Russia; Mrs. Michael (Rita) Ute, of Newport, and Marilyn, Tom and John, all at home.

### THIS WEEK 1¢ SALE

SCHWETTERMAN'S  
DRUG STORE  
THE KENALL STORE  
Phone 875-1231  
NEW BREMEN, OHIO