



After a short visit to Panama no one looked forward to the long trip to Fiji. Eight hours from the Canal Zone everyone was looking forward to a smooth voyage.

Calm seas gave no hint of trouble until an Air Force plane radioed and advised **Westwind** of an injured seaman aboard the Korean fishing vessel **Namhae** which was approximately ten miles from our position.

Assistance was requested and once again the Coast Guard was called upon to fulfill her peacetime humanitarian mission — that of providing assistance to vessels and men in distress on the high seas. **Westwind's** crew was alerted, a surfboat was rigged for lowering, and a helicopter and crew were placed on standby.

Westwind arrived on the scene in record time and the ship's Medical Officer, Dr. Morris L. Clark, recommended evacuation of the patient, Kim Kyung Jo, to the nearest hospital.

The patient was transported from **Namhae** to **Westwind** by litter and approximately one and one-half hours after receiving the assistance request our helicopter was airborne with the patient and Dr. Clark.

Westwind hove to for the night near Cape Mala, Panama, awaiting the return of our helicopter. Upon its return we were pleased to learn that our contribution resulted in the saving of a life.



MEDICO EVACUATION



On October 6th, USAF 8654 (C-47) advised **Westwind** of an injured man aboard the Korean fishing vessel, **Namhae**, ten miles from our position. **Westwind** changed its course and went to the assistance of **Namhae**. On October 7th, **Westwind** received the following message from the Rescue Coordination Center at Albrook Air Force Base:

"Pass to commander and crew of **USCGC Westwind** congratulations and well done for immediate assistance in helping our unit to evacuate a seriously ill seaman from fishing vessel (**Namhae**) near Panama, Canal Zone. This inter-service cooperation is the keystone to our continued success in rescue and humanitarian activities."

