



DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB QUARTER 2 NEWSLETTER

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

Security Forces and Fire Fighters Save a Life

On the evening of Thursday, April 9th, at the Craycroft Gate, members of the Security Forces Squadron (SFS) and the 355th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) Fire Department worked together in a critical life-saving effort. Defenders from the SFS, while working the lane, identified an individual approaching their post who showed signs of medical impairment. Upon receiving the call from Security Forces, the 355 CES Fire Department team arrived to find the female driver unconscious. After approximately seven minutes of their decisive intervention, the patient regained consciousness and began breathing on her own. The rapid and professional actions of both the SFS Defenders and the CES Fire Fighters were directly responsible for this individual's survival.



Future of the Force

On 27 March, the 79 Rescue Squadron (RQS) showcased rescue mission capabilities to 177 cadets from New Mexico State University, University of Texas at El Paso, University of Arizona, and Arizona State University. The 79 RQS hosted 18 cadets with flights on an HC-130J, 75 cadets in HC-130J Weapons System Training, and 7 hours of aircraft static display supported by 55 RQS, 79 Rescue Generation Squadron (RGS), 55 RGS, and 357 Fighter Squadron. Overall, this engagement shaped the understanding of the rescue mission for the next generation of Air Force officers.

SAPR Open House

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Open House successfully engaged 185 DMAFB Airmen with free Sonoran dogs, planting, a positive culture activity, and therapy dogs, effectively familiarizing them with the SAPR office in a fun and comfortable way before a potential official need for services arises.



Rapid Fire Response Restores Base Power in Record Time

355 Civil Engineer Squadron executed a flawless emergency recovery during a sudden, base-wide power outage, fully stabilizing the main grid in just 28 minutes. Personnel mobilized instantly to isolate the fault, secure vital water and gas assets to prevent cascading utility failures. Simultaneously, the Fire Department successfully executed two critical elevator rescues to free trapped personnel, and the Operations Engineering flight fast-tracked emergency contractor support to repair the inoperable Air Traffic Control tower elevator.

Finance All Stars

355 Comptroller Squadron (CPTS) was one of two Comptroller Squadrons selected across the entire AF to beta test Iron Ledger, an All Star Competition focused on the next evolution in Financial Management (FM) readiness exercising. 355 CPTS participated in the 3-day exercise testing FM, Fitness, Ability to Survive and Operate, Tactical Combat Casualty Care, and modern warfare scenarios featuring CPTS DLOs. They provided feedback to the Honorable Dave Weinberg (SAF/FM) which fueled his speech at the Defense Finance National Conference, and his intent to scale Iron Ledger to the total force with full operational capability in '27.



NASA Human Space Flight Support

10 April 2026, 10x 48 Rescue Squadron personnel executed an 8.5hr Airborne Search and Rescue (XSAR) mission over the Pacific to provide an immediate Personnel Recovery contingency response jump capability in direct support of the Artemis II Orion capsule re-entry. The sortie covered 4000 nautical miles and was postured to drop jumpers and \$1.1M in equipment critical to facilitate Human Space Flight Support Operations. Gold Team integrated with Hawaii Air National Guard 204 Airlift Squadron, Air Forces SPACE, Air Combat Command, United States Navy 3 Fleet, and NASA to prepare for the historic deep space mission to send astronauts around the moon for the first time in 50 years.



Exercise MOSAIC LIGHTNING 26.2 Readiness & Force Generation:

The Wing aggressively tested its ability to generate combat power and maintain Command and Control (C2) under persistent attack during ML 26.2. At home station, the 355 Force Support Squadron seamlessly processed 143 deployers through a 13-agency line, while 563 Operations Support Squadron Airfield Management coordinated complex asset movements to ensure uninterrupted real-world operations. The 355 Civil Engineer Squadron simultaneously executed airfield damage repairs, barrier plans, and dual-location bed-downs. Crucially, CES engineers executed a deliberate 50-minute commercial power stress test at Wing HQ, identifying and immediately neutralizing a hidden backup-cooling vulnerability for the Emergency Operations Center and Command Post. Forward-deployed in austere conditions, the 55 Rescue Generation Squadron (RGS) and 79 RGS demonstrated exceptional Mission Generation Force Element agility. The team generated 8 sorties for 26.3 flight hours—fulfilling 32 Ready Aircrew Program events and a flight lead upgrade—and rapidly repaired a blown HC-130J main landing gear tire, proving the Wing's capacity to solve complex logistical problems and project power in contested environments.



Real-World Combat Search and Rescue Mission in the Strait of Hormuz

On 08/09 June, the 79 Rescue Squadron (RQS) launched to recover 2 AH-64 pilots who were isolated in the Strait of Hormuz. The 79 RQS crew performed Combat Search and Rescue-Coordinator duties and conducted four Helicopter Air Refueling, enabling the HH-60W and Guardian Angel team to successfully recover and reintegrate both isolated personnel.

A-10s Demonstrate Firepower at Twentynine Palms

The 357th Fighter Squadron had a recent high-intensity TDY to California, where A-10 pilots mastered fundamental flying techniques and gained familiarization with the Warthog's weapons systems—while also practicing on rugged, unimproved airfields. 355 WG Public Affairs (PA) teamed up with Marine Corps PA to create an article showcasing A-10 pilots' ability to bring unmatched firepower to any environment.



Air Force-Wide Runner-Up Finish in Inaugural FM Innovation Contest

D-M team competes in first-ever Financial Management (FM) innovation contest finals: SSgt Daniel Jegede and SrA William Mitchell traveled to JBSA Lackland to debut "Lightning FM," a CAC-enabled FM workflow platform that will successfully reduce customer wait times and standardize the online processing / lifecycle of FM requests. Their submission finished runner-up AF-wide!

JTAC Qualification and Final A-10 Range Day

355 WG Public Affairs worked with the 357 Fighter Squadron (FS) to host Airmen, civic leaders, scouts of America, and Ret. General Glen Moorhead (the first A-10 pilot at DM) at the final A-10 Range Day. This event bolstered camaraderie and was a celebration of the Rescue & Attack mission. Additionally 357 FS supported Kadena's 320 Special Tactics Squadron, to rehack 4 Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) certifications and annual evals. Daily flights in Tombstones and at the final A-10 Range Day enabled 1 initial JTAC eval, 68 controls, including 22 live controls at Range Day. The detailed Close Air Support / Combat Search and Rescue integration allowed aircrew and controllers alike to align a shared mental model for major combat operations with the current world events as a template for training scenarios.



Generative AI and Digital Pipeline Accelerate Cargo and Pax Manifesting

The Air Transportation Team is piloting several cutting-edge initiatives to transition D-M toward a fully digital deployment pipeline and accelerate the wing's power projection. The team is currently testing Generative AI to automate missing cargo alerts—with initial trials proving the technology can slash passenger manifest formatting times by 90%, from an hour to just six minutes per aircraft. Additionally, they are trialing a local MS Teams process to push real-time tracking updates directly to the Dedicated Crew Chief and are evaluating secure integration with AMC's Platform One for digital aircrew handoffs, successfully eliminating administrative friction and securing rapid-response deployment capabilities.



Freedom Fest and Spirit Week

355th Force Support Squadron delivered the installation's largest community celebration with Freedom Fest on 12 June, attracting more than 2,500 attendees and providing a high-impact morale boost for Airmen and families. Leading up to the festival, FSS built momentum through Spirit Week, featuring six high-energy events such as the Color Run, Kids Bingo, and Red Pin Bowling. More than 600 patrons participated, and FSS awarded over \$10,000 in prizes, highlighted by a \$2,000 Disney ticket package.

Exercise VALIANT SHIELD & PACAF Force Projection

The 355th Wing deployed a comprehensive Rescue Task Force to Guam, seamlessly integrating the 55 Rescue Squadron (RQS), 79 RQS, 55 Rescue Generation Squadron (RGS), 79 RGS, and Guardian Angel Teams. Mobilizing 4 HH-60Ws, 2 HC-130Js, and dozens of maintenance/support personnel, the teams embedded into large-force packages to execute complex water Airborne Insertion & Extraction (AIE) profiles in simulated contested environments.



Final A-10 Thunderbolt II Engine Assembly at DMAFB

Public Affairs worked with the 355 Component Maintenance Squadron to cover a historical moment for the A-10 community – the completion of the final A-10 Thunderbolt II engine build at Davis-Monthan. This milestone marked the end of a decades-long maintenance mission supporting A-10 sorties at D-M.

Exercise Sunset Dragon '26 & Joint Integration

The 357 Fighter Squadron "Dragons" executed their A-10C Formal Training Unit (FTU) Capstone Exercise at Naval Air Station North Island, generating 96 sorties and 213 flying hours focused on joint Close Air Support (CAS) and Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR). Integrating with 15 different US Air Force, US Marine Corps, and US Navy units, newly graduated wingmen gained critical exposure to maritime operations, over-water weapons employment, and Direct Action CAS alongside U.S. Navy Special Warfare and the 22 Special Tactics Squadron. Emphasizing Agile Combat Employment (ACE), pilots executed non-towered, semi-prepared surface landings and launched their own aircraft without maintenance support. The exercise produced multiple Sandy 04 qualifications, certified pilots down to 300-foot low-altitude navigation and expended 9,200 rounds of 30mm. Following the TDY, the 357 Fighter Squadron hosted the 314th F-16 FTU for integrated CAS vulnerabilities and finalized 3 Air Support Operations Squadron integration, completing 18 Joint Terminal Attack Controller evaluations and re-certifications.



UPCOMING EVENTS

We invite you to attend the following upcoming events:

- **AUG 07** – Scheduled Base Tour – RSVP with Public Affairs
- **Friday Unwind** – Fridays from 3pm to 6pm – DM Community Center