



DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB QUARTER 1 NEWSLETTER

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

55 RQS and 55 RGS Return from Deployment, Six Lives Saved

55 RQS and 55 RGS successfully returned from a dynamic and challenging 4-month deployment, in three chalks spanning 6-10 Feb. Comprised of 76 members, the Mission Generation Force Element forward-staged as the theater's sole dedicated PR assets under near-constant threat conditions while enabling 7 named operations. They delivered over 130 combat sorties and 2952 alert hours, enabling 22 high-risk special operations missions and coalition airstrikes—saved 6 lives over the course of the deployment.

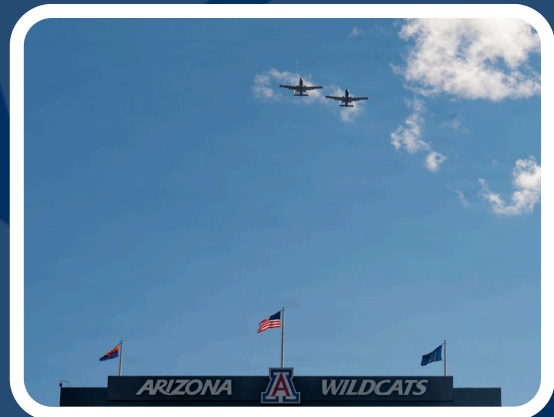


Preparing for Artemis II & SpaceX Missions

48 RQS's Gold Team performed a maritime block and culminating exercise for Artemis II and SpaceX taskings. The team performed day and night water AEs with HSC-6, Wing Boat and Advanced Rescue Craft (ARC) operations, open ocean SCUBA, Military Freefall and Static Line water jumps, and open ocean sustainment and prolonged field care during Human Space Flight full mission profiles.

A-10 Flyover at Snoop Dogg Arizona Bowl

The 357 FS and Public Affairs supported an A-10 flyover for this high-visibility event. Flying for the 357 FS at the Snoop Dogg Arizona Bowl were Captain Anton King, Flight Commander and Captain Dylan Vail. The 357 FS performed the flyover prior to kickoff and were later recognized on the field for their contributions to the game.



Squadron Leaders' Offsite

355 SFS held a Squadron Leaders Offsite on 2 – 4 Mar 26, allowing CCs and SNCOs to analyze the recent Defense Organizational Climate Survey results, to provide candid discussion about organizational climate and identify key areas for improvement. Leaders reviewed Mission, Vision, and Priorities to collaboratively redefine organizational strategic direction and ensure their goals are aligned for the coming year.



20 Years of STARBASE Partnership

On Jan. 7, DoD STARBASE Arizona celebrated 20 years of STEAM education outreach at DM, recognizing two decades of service connecting students with science, technology, engineering, arts and math programs. The story has garnered attention on the Department of War website, local news outlets, and social media.

355 AMXS Airmen Recognized for OAR and Deployment Contributions

At the Wing/CC All Call, Col Cabrera presented a streamer to 355th AMXS for their efforts as the 66 ERQS in support of Operation ALLIES REFUGE. At the All Call, Det member SSgt Duran was coined for his logistics expertise as he aided the 55 RQS deploy and organized the transfer of two high value ARMAGs down to 48 RQS and 55 RQS.



Weapons School Support

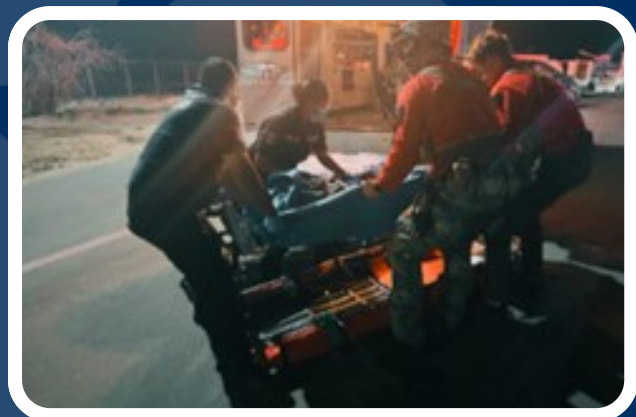
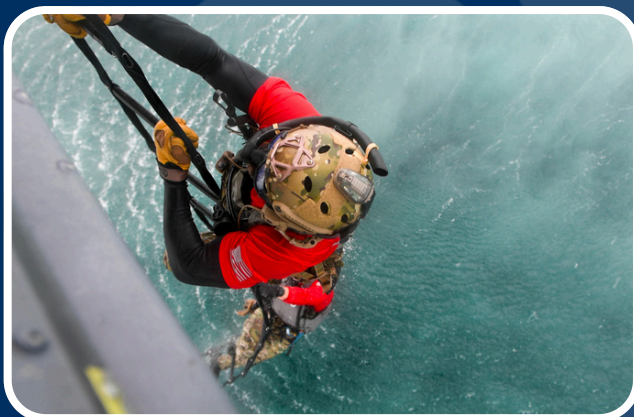
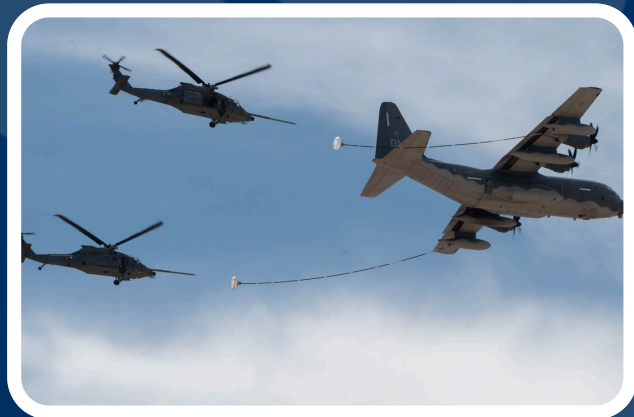
48 RQS/Gold Team integrated with instructors from 66 WPS to support Terminal Area Engagement Training with 34 WPS instructors and students. Gold Team PJs flew 6 sorties, increasing interoperability with personnel recovery task force teammates and future Weapons School Graduates. Additionally, 66 WPS instructors provided instruction on specialty weapons, including the m-110a1 and m-320, advancing proficiency for 8 operators.

Final FTU Grad/Last Roll Call

The Dragons hosted their Final Formal Training Unit Graduation and Last Roll Call on 3 Apr. They celebrated the CAF's newest A-10C wingmen while also connecting them with Dragon personnel from the past as they celebrate the long legacy of the 357 FS.

Rescue Mission Saves a Life

On 5 February 2026, 355 WG assets conducted a Civilian Search and Rescue Mission tasked by AFRCC (DSCA-2) in support of US Coast Guard District II. A 19-year-old Greek national aboard a 292-meter LNG vessel experienced an acute medical situation requiring immediate evacuation while 400NM southwest off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. Mission was executed by a Pararescue Team from the 48th Rescue Squadron, 2 HC-130J's from the 79th Rescue Squadron & 418 Test Squadron, and 2 HH-60W's from the 55th Rescue Squadron crewed by a mix of 55 RQS, 563 OSS, and AFSOUTH. The HC-130J component flew over 10 hours, conducting 5 Helicopter Air-to-Air Refuelings in support of the rescue mission. The 55th conducted 5 HAARs to get overhead the vessel and then 3 pararescuemen were hoisted down to the bow of the vessel where they packaged the patient for extraction. While flying to the next higher level of care, pararescuemen provided medical care to keep the patient stabilized. Patient hand-off occurred at Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.





DM's Welcome Basket Initiative

DM Airmen established a new program to provide welcome baskets for all inbound Airmen, directly improving the reception process and fostering a sense of belonging from day one.

Joint Rescue Training in Florida

48 RQS Silver/Gold Team members supported a Joint Special Operations Exercise in northwest Florida where they held casualty evacuation alert enabling advancement of emerging DOW capabilities. Additionally, the team integrated with the UH-1 to execute maritime operations that fulfilled CMR requirements for 3 UH-1 crews and 4 GA while enabling initial quals for 4 UH-1 crew members.

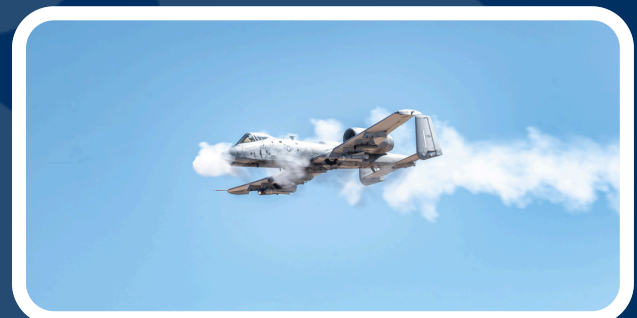
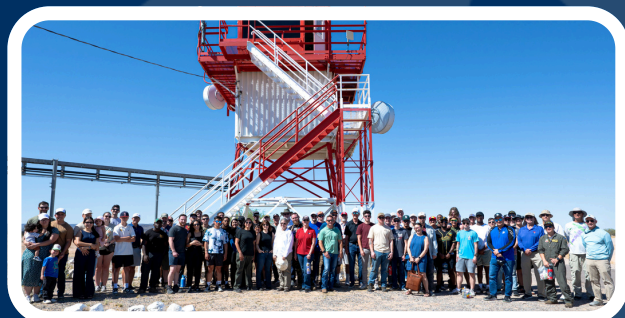


Hero WOD with the 68th

68 Rescue Squadron led the 563 Rescue Group in a PT memorial workout remembering Rescue Airmen lost in "Jolly 51." Seven service members assigned to the 46 Expeditionary Rescue Squadron made the ultimate sacrifice on March 15, 2018 in the helicopter crash of "Jolly 51".

Range Days

The Dragons accomplished Range Days on 26 and 27 Mar, providing members of the 355 Wing and the local community with the opportunity to see the precision and power of the A-10C up close and personal on the Barry M. Goldwater Range. More than 100 individuals from 355 OG, 355 MXG and local civic leadership were able to take part in this unique opportunity.



79 RQS and 79 RQG Redeploy with 8 Lives Saved

The 79 RQS and 79 RGS successfully returned home after 26.1 supporting CENTCOM, flying 367 combat hours with 2 aircraft and 3.5 crews. They provided Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) alert for 11 named operations and CSAR support to 6 named Special Operators Transition Foundation operations resulting in 3 casualty evacuations operations saving the lives of 8 US personnel. Additionally, they provided CSAR support to the HAWKEYE STRIKE series of operations, 1 Flush¹ operation for 16 personnel under imminent threat of attack, tactical airlift of 263,450 lbs of equipment for Air Mobility Division, Combat Air Force squadrons, and Joint Special Operations Air Detachment, and advised partner nations with CSAR planning and training. At home-station, the 79 RQS dual supported Red Flag Nellis and the USAF Weapons School with 2 HC-130Js and 3 crews from 29 Jan – 20 February. As of 10 February, the Red Flag Nellis participants completed upwards of 50 Ready Aircrew Program sorties and 20 flight hours across 8 missions for the TDY members.

¹A "flush" is a procedure where aircraft or other assets are rapidly moved, dispersed, or launched to avoid threats, respond to emergencies, or prepare for immediate operations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We invite you to attend the following upcoming events:

- **APR 11** – DM50 Picnic and Car Show – DM Bama Park
- **JUNE 03** – Scheduled Base Tour – RSVP with Public Affairs
- **Friday Unwind** – Fridays from 3pm to 6pm – DM Community Center