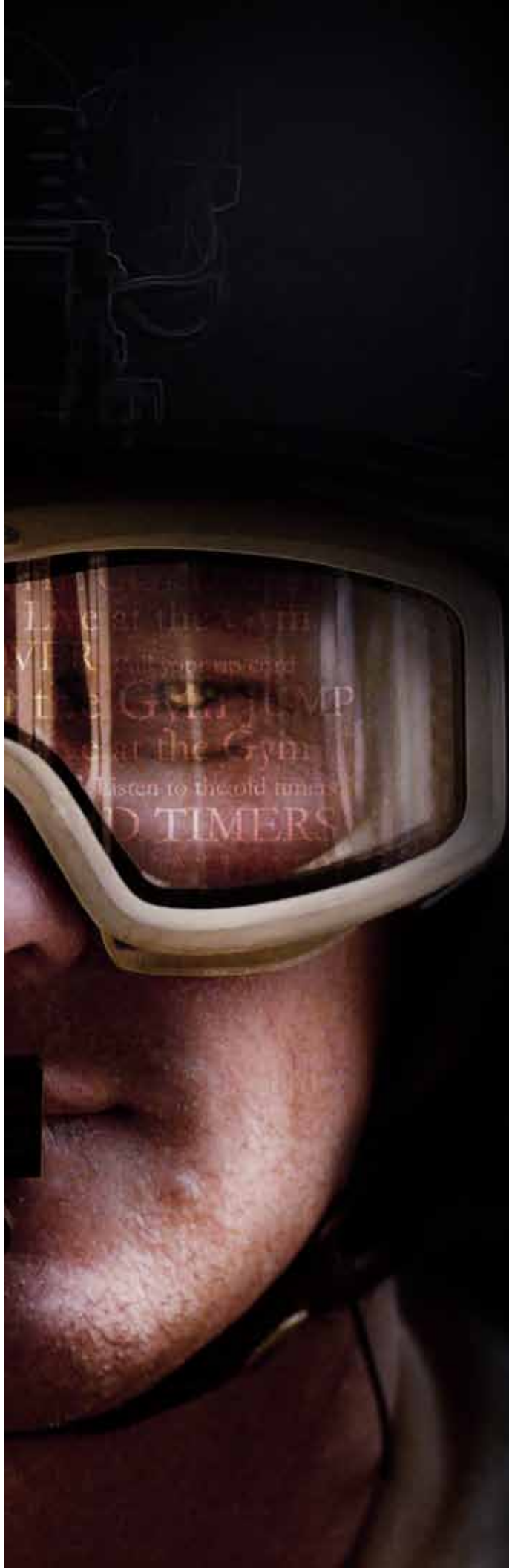


EDITOR'S NOTE

THE 920TH RESCUE WING'S HOW TO SAVE A LIFE ONLINE PDF IS BEST VIEWED USING THE "TWO-UP" OR "SIDE-BY-SIDE" OPTION IN THE TOOLBAR AT THE TOP OF THE SCREEN. IF THE OPTION FOR TWO-UP DOES NOT APPEAR IN THE TOOLBAR, RIGHT-CLICK ON ONE OF THE VIEW OPTIONS THAT ARE IN THE TOOLBAR AND SELECT IT FORM THE MENU THAT POPS UP.



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HOW TO SAVE A LIFE



VOL 1



Mission

Based at Patrick Air Force Base, in Cocoa Beach, Fla., the **920th Rescue Wing** is an **Air Force Reserve Command** combat search-and-rescue unit composed of 1,800+ Citizen Airmen. Its mission is to provide rescue and medical treatment of personnel in humanitarian and combat environments who are in distress or imminent danger. Air Force pararescue is the only DoD organizations specifically organized, trained and equipped to conduct personnel recovery operations in hostile or denied areas as a primary mission. The 920 RQW also provides worldwide humanitarian relief, supporting rescue efforts in the aftermath of disasters such as hurricanes, floods and earthquakes.

Currently, 920th Airmen are celebrating 50 years of manned spaceflight support as they were the primary rescue unit charged as guardians of the astronauts during NASA space shuttle missions into near Earth orbit until the space transportation system ended in July 2011. Currently, Rescue Wing Airmen continue to work closely with the 45th Space Wing, NASA, the Naval Ordnance Test Unit and civilian space agencies providing safety and security on the Eastern Range during all Space Coast rocket launches.

The 920th RQW comprises 24 subordinate groups, squadrons and flights, including three geographically-separated units—one at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., the 943rd Rescue Group; another at Portland International Airport, Ore., the 304th Rescue Squadron; and a third at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., the 920th Aerospace Medicine Flight.

Background

The 920th Rescue Wing, originally the 301st Rescue Squadron, was activated in 1956, becoming the Air Force Reserve's first and only rescue squadron. The unit was based at Miami International Airport and made its first rescue in January 1957. In 1960, the unit relocated to Homestead Air Force Base, Miami. The following year, the 920th began a long relationship with NASA and the U.S. space program, providing rescue-contingency operations for the first Mercury launch. The unit relocated once more in 1992 to Patrick Air Force Base, Cocoa Beach. Wing Airmen were among the first into Iraq when Operation Iraqi Freedom kicked off in 2003, making 26 combat rescues. The wing mobilized to Afghanistan in 2005 for Operation Enduring Freedom, making 54 combat rescues, including Navy SEAL Marcus Luttrell, who documented his ordeal in the best-selling novel, "Lone Survivor." The wing has been mobilized annually since 2008, flying more than 2,215 medical evacuation missions and saving 850 lives and counting. The rescue wing has also been a mainstay in humanitarian relief, rescuing 137 South Florida residents during the 18 days following Hurricane Andrew (1992); saving 93 elderly residents from rising flood waters at their Tampa-area retirement community (1993); rescuing more than 200 people after Hurricane Floyd (1999); pulling 1,049 people from ravaged New Orleans and the Gulf Coast after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (2005); saving 17 lives from the aftermath of Hurricane Ike in Texas; evacuating more than 200 people after multiple avalanches hit the Salang Pass, the major mountain pass that connects northern Afghanistan with the Kabul province; and most recently, as part of the Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, Rescue Wing Airmen have been part of many successful search and rescues in the region, as well as anti-piracy activities.

Quick Facts

- **Missions:** Combat and civilian search and rescue in any type of environment, i.e. desert, urban, mountain, water; rocket launch support; and worldwide humanitarian relief
- **Assigned:** 1,800+ Citizen Airmen
- **Citizen Airmen:** Airmen hold civilian jobs in their communities and simultaneously serve their country
- **Taxpayer savings:** 920th Rescue Wing performs 23% of the Air Force's personnel recovery mission at 4% of the cost
- **Aircraft:** Five HC-130P/N King long-range refueling aircraft; one WC-130 weather-reconnaissance aircraft; and 15 HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters
- **Pararescuemen:** Three squadrons of elite special forces Airmen called Guardian Angel Airmen with high-level training in mountaineering, endurance swimming, survival and evasion techniques, special-operations weapons and tactics, demolitions and trauma emergency medicine
- **Refueling capacity:** The HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter is one of the few military rescue helicopters capable of in-flight refueling by the HC-130P/N King tanker aircraft, giving Air Force Reserve rescue crews a virtually unlimited range of rescue
- **Rescues:** More than 3,000 lives saved since 1956, including 1,049 during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
- **Combat Rescues:** 850 combat rescues and counting

THESE THINGS WE DO,
THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE...





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Rescue



// Saving a life takes extensive training day-in and day-out, trying to do the best you can do. //

MASTER SERGEANT CHRIS SEINKNER, PARARESCUEMAN







// There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure. //

COLIN POWELL, 65TH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE



// Once you become a Rescue Warrior, you never want to do any other mission in the military. //

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ANTONIO CUNHA,
OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON COMMANDER





Rescue



// Saving a life is being mentally and physically prepared to sacrifice your own life for another. //

MASTER SERGEANT JOHN SHIMAN (RETIRED), PARARESCUEMAN







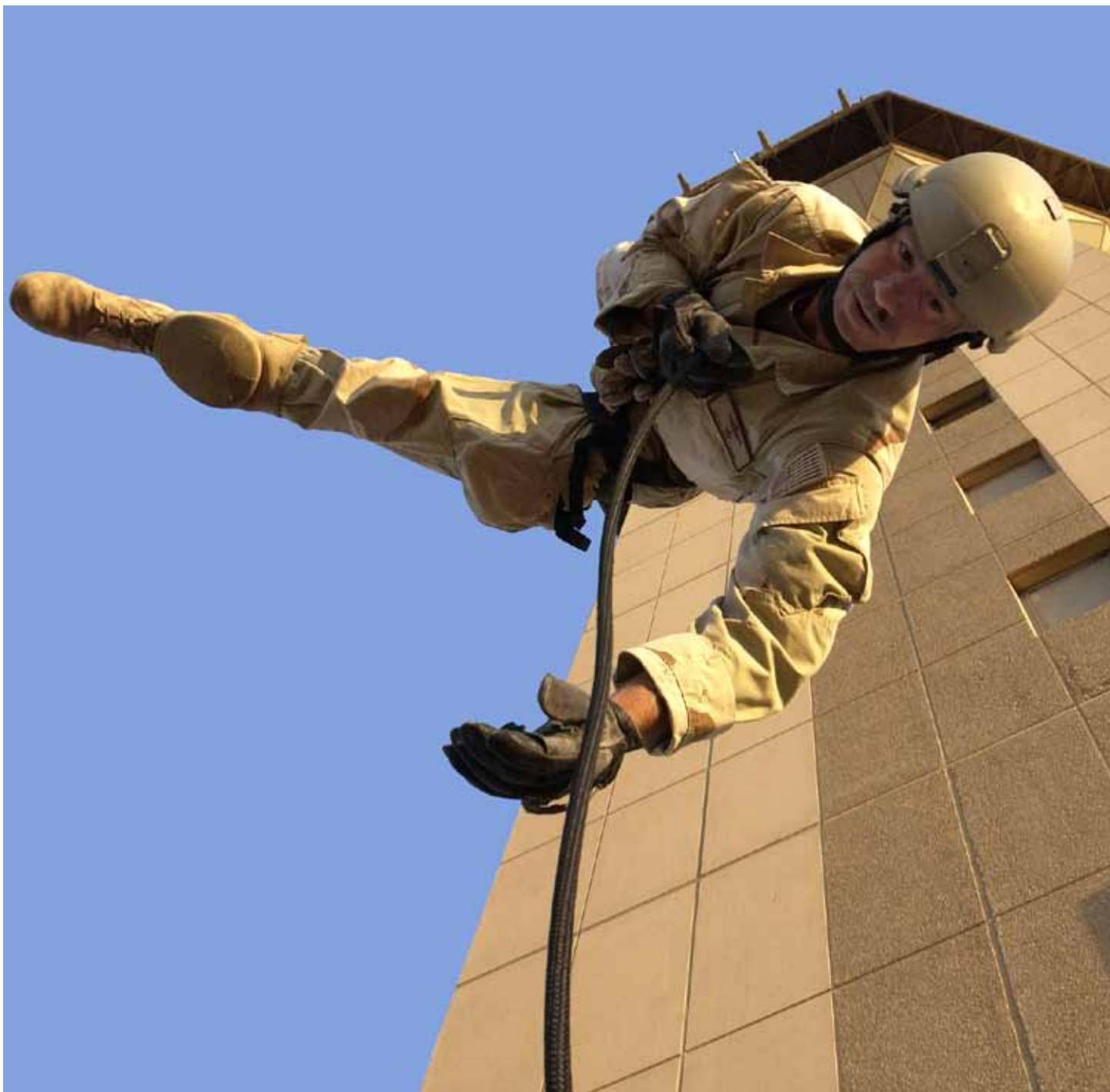
// No man is worth his salt who is not ready at all times to risk his well-being, to risk his body, to risk his life, in a great cause. //

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, 26TH U.S. PRESIDENT



// A hero is someone who has ignored thier own safety in combat or during a rescue attempt. //

STAFF SERGEANT BRUCE SLAMIN, HC-130 P/N KING LOADMASTER



Rescue



// As a member of the worldwide rescue community, the men and women of the 920th Rescue Wing display a true sense of courage rarely found. //

COLONEL ROBERT AMENT, VICE COMMANDER



Rescue

// Saving a life is a rare and great reward. //

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT HASTON, HH-60G PAVE HAWK HELICOPTER PILOT











// The time, place and conditions are not always to our choosing, but the job must still be done. //

STAFF SERGEANT BRANDON FORSHAW, PARARESCUEMAN







// Guys strap the chute on and you have to know that it works - always be sure. //

TECHNICAL SERGEANT JUAN DUHARTE,
PARACHUTE RIGGER







// The actual sortie may only last a few hours, but to be successful, a combat rescue pilot has had to dedicate their career toward being ready for that one focused moment in time. Only then can it be done with the skill demanded by our mission... only then can it look like just another day in the aircraft. //

LIEUTENANT COLONEL KURT MATTHEWS, 308TH RESCUE SQUADRON COMMANDER

Rescue



// To save a life requires selflessness. //

TECHNICAL SERGEANT FRANCINE TORRES, KNOWLEDGE OPERATIONS MANAGER



glaciers SOUL GAMEDNESS CONFIDENCE EMPATHY determination
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BEHIND THE SCENES



AMBULATORY

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// It's not about you – it's about those boys and getting them home to their families. //

MAJOR PATRICIA HAYDEN, FLIGHT NURSE





Rescue



// How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes. //

MAYA ANGELOU, POET / ACTIVIST



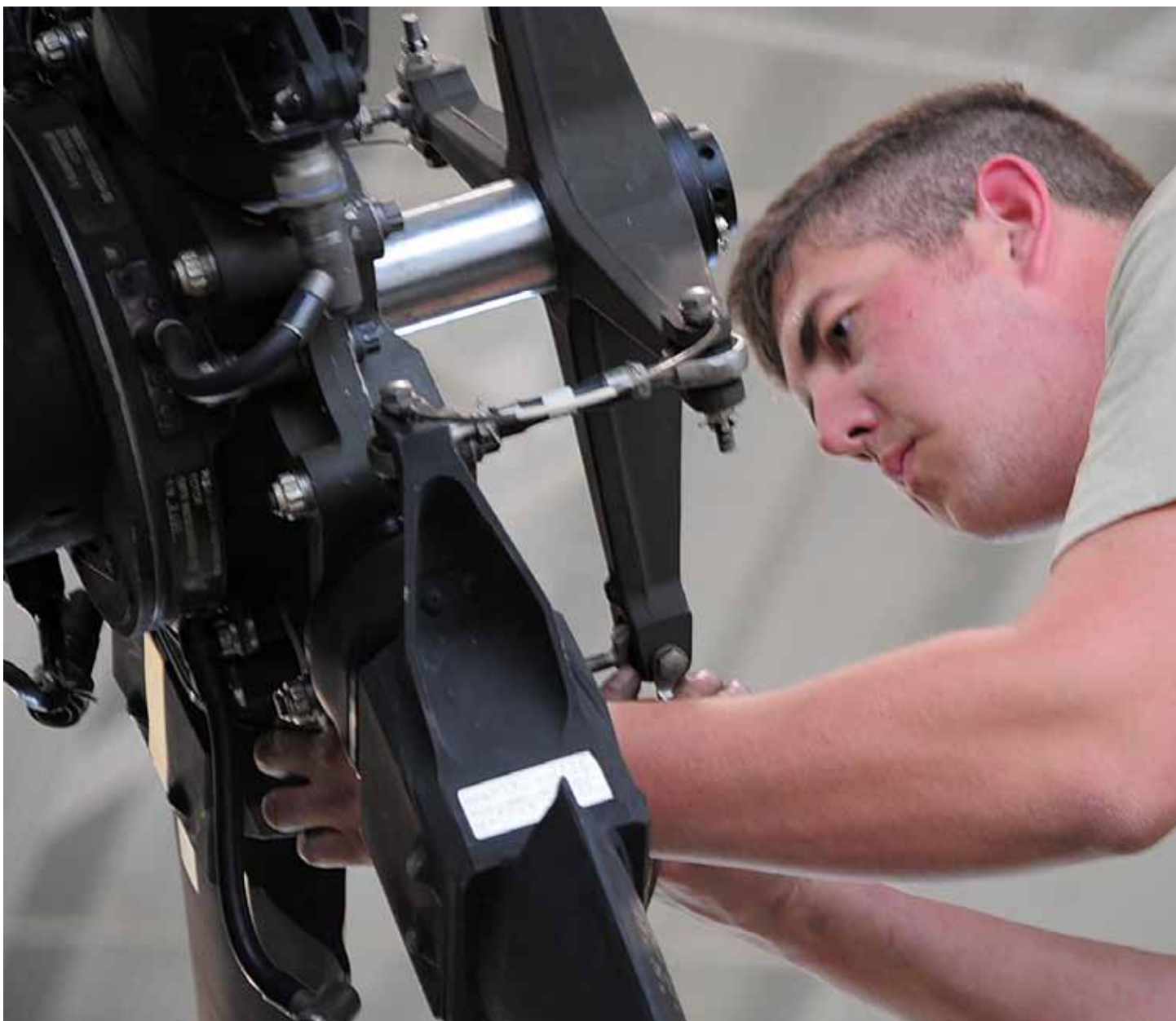






// The smallest piece of equipment can be the difference between saving a life or losing one. //

STAFF SERGEANT GREGORY LEE, ELECTRICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN





// Everyone involved, even in the smallest manner, is part of saving a life. //

TECHNICAL SERGEANT JOSHUA YARBROUGH, PARACHUTE RIGGER





Rescue

// A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles. //

CHRISTOPHER REEVE, ACTOR









**// Courage is the price
that life exacts for
granting peace. //**

AMELIA EARHART, AVIATOR

Rescue



// Rescue is the difference between going to a funeral or going to a celebration. //

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT GERALD DELEBREAU, FORMER 920TH COMMAND CHIEF









// Defending ourselves is also a critical part of the mission. //

CAPTAIN CODY ATCHISON, COMBAT RESCUE OFFICER





Rescue

// Saving a life means sharing a part of your self in order to reach out and assist another to survival. //

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHELE LEONE, MENTAL HEALTH NURSE













// Rescue warriors share a compassion for helping others and a commitment to never leaving an Airman (or anyone else) behind. When lives are at stake, Rescue Airmen are driven to do everything within their power to save that life, whether in peacetime or combat, day or night, good weather or bad. //

COLONEL JEFFREY L. MACRANDER
920TH RESCUE WING COMMANDER



// There's a need for accepting responsibility for a person's life and making choices that are not just ones for immediate, short-term comfort. You need to make an investment, and the investment is in health and education. //

BUZZ ALDRIN, NASA ASTRONAUT



Rescue

**// It is the apex of achievement;
the ultimate measure is putting
yourself on the line for another. //**

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT DOUGLAS KESTRANEK, PARARESCUEMAN





Rescue

// To every man, there comes in his lifetime that special moment when he is tapped on the shoulder and offered a chance to do a very special thing; unique, and fitted to his talents. What a tragedy, if that moment finds him unprepared and unqualified for the work that would be his finest hour. //

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL, FORMER U.K. PRIME MINISTER





//Continual pride knowing that we do something that no one in the military does. And the fact that we are Reservists speaks volumes. We are true Citizen Airmen. **//**

COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT TIMOTHY BIANCHI,
WING SENIOR RANKING AIRMAN

Rescue



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Pararescueman Staff Sgt. Dan Warren rose from the Banana River here during a training exercise. During all space shuttle launches, Pararescue Airmen from the 920th Rescue Wing train to locate, rescue and provide medical treatment to astronauts in the event of an emergency during launch or landings of NASA space shuttles. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Staff Sgt. Bennie Davis III)



COCOA BEACH, Fla. - A 920th Rescue Wing pararescueman from Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., parachutes into the Atlantic Ocean here during a water rescue demonstration during the 2010 Cocoa Beach Air Show. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Master Sgt. Rob Grande)



DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. - Military and civilian applicants take part in the 306th Rescue Squadron pararescue screening here that includes sit-ups and hoisting a wooden log while lying in a mud pit. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce)



DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. - Staff Sgt. Chris Uriarte monitors applicants during a push-up exercise at the 306th Rescue Squadron pararescue screening here. Uriarte is a pararescueman with the 306th ROS. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce)



LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas - Airman Basic Matthew Bernard is suited with a water-filled mask while performing 1,000 flutter kicks after 20 hours of nonstop physical training during an extended training day at the Pararescue Indoctrination Course training center at the Medina Base here. The course prepares trainees seeking to become U.S. Air Force pararescuemen. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo Jr.)



LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas - Airman 1st Class Brian Pajor performs equipment treads with 16-lb weights fastened around his belt during his training at the Pararescue Indoctrination Course at the Medina Base here. PJ Indoc is the first hurdle of intense physical and mental training that prepares trainees for the multitude of pipeline training they must endure to become pararescuemen. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo Jr.)



LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas - Pararescue applicants must pass a timed three-mile run, 1,500-meter swim, calisthenics and other tasks before proceeding to the 10-week Indoctrination course here. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce)



DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. - Tech. Sgt. Isaiah Staley sprays pararescue applicants during the 306th Rescue Squadron pararescue screening here. Applicants must pass a timed three-mile run, 1,500 meter swim, calisthenics and other tasks before proceeding to the 10-week Indoctrination Course at Lackland Air Force Base. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce)



LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas - U.S. Air Force pararescue trainees bear crawl to their next physical task of underwater training after undergoing 21 hours of nonstop physical training during their extended training day at the Medina Base here. The course prepares them to become Air Force pararescuemen. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo Jr.)



LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas - Two pararescue trainees run through an obstacle course after a full day of physical training during the Pararescue Indoctrination Course at Medina Base here. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo Jr.)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Staff Sgt. Richard Boyd and fellow pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing here conduct rescue-training exercises with HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters and aircrew in preparation for an upcoming space shuttle launch. Wing Airmen were the primary rescue support for astronauts during all shuttle missions until the program ended in July 2011. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Bennie Davis III)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - A pararescueman from the 308th Rescue Squadron here fast-ropes down 10 feet from an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter here. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Bennie Davis III)



DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. - The 306th Rescue Squadron Pararescue Team here fires M-4 Rifles equipped with grenade launchers and laser sights during their annual day and night time target training at the range here. The 306th ROS is part of the 943rd Rescue group, a geographically separated unit of the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Master Sgt. James Johnston, a 308th Rescue Squadron pararescueman here, uses the Jaws of Life to extract simulated casualties from an overturned vehicle during training here. Pararescue Airmen perform casualty assessment and extraction training from a simulated improvised explosive device, or IED, attack on a convoy of vehicles. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Chance Babin)



BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Iraq - Senior Master Sgt. Matt Ramp, a pararescueman assigned to the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport, Ore., rappels from an air traffic control tower here. Members of the 304th RQS were deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom's initial stages. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. James M. Bowman)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Pararescuemen here compete in the "Patrick Challenge," a triathlon pitting four teams in a two-mile run, one-mile swim and a two-mile open-ocean rafting race. (Courtesy photo)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Air Force Reserve pararescuemen hopefuls perform timed flutter kicks during the Physical Ability and Stamina Test here. Each pararescue applicant must pass this test and attend a board to be accepted into the Pararescue Indoctrination Course. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Leslie Forshaw)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Tech. Sgt. Patrick Dunne, an Air Force Reserve pararescueman here, fills the mask of Staff Sgt. Christopher Driscoll, a PJ trainee, during a swim practice session. Part of the training is getting the PJ hopefuls comfortable in all aspects of the water. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Leslie Forshaw)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Staff Sgt. Christopher Driscoll, a pararescueman trainee here, listens to instruction before starting pull-ups during the Physical Ability and Stamina Test. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Leslie Forshaw)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Capt. Dan Turpin is timed on his chin-ups during the Physical Ability and Stamina Test given by Tech. Sgt. Patrick Dunne, an Air Force Reserve pararescueman here. This process is the beginning for U.S. Air Force Reservists embarking on the two-year journey to become PJs. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Leslie Forshaw)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing here pose with Chaplain (Col.) Bill Willis, Air Force Reserve Command Chaplain, as wing Airmen perform a rescue demonstration over the Banana River. The primary mission of the HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter is to conduct day or night personnel recovery operations into hostile environments to recover isolated personnel during war. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Natasha Dowridge)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Pararescue trainees from the 342nd Training Squadron, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., jump off a 920th Rescue Wing HC-130P/N King aircraft into the Banana River off the coast here. Trainees come to Patrick as part of their six-week air operations training. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Rob Grande)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - A pararescueman from the 920th Rescue Wing here free-falls from a HC-130P/N King refueling aircraft at 3,500 feet during a Cocoa Beach Air Show demo. Pararescuemen are able to perform life-saving missions in the world's most remote areas, by air, land or water. (Courtesy photo/Mr. Mike Brown)



MOUNT HOOD, Ore. - An Air Force Reservist from the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport here makes his way across a crevasse here. The reservists were searching for two missing climbers. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Adam Hoffmann)



MOUNT HOOD, Ore. - Members of the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport, search for a 9-year old child who was lost while skiing here. (photo/Mr. Dan Doherty)



MOUNT HOOD, Ore. - Master Sgt. Scott Light, a 304th Rescue Squadron pararescueman, Portland International Airport, waits for the other members of his team while they climb more than 1,000 feet to search for two missing climbers during a joint search and rescue here. Light's pack weighs more than 50 pounds and contains a variety of items used to make their mission successful. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny)



MOUNT HOOD, Ore. - Master Sgt. Eric Giacchino uses walking poles to climb Mount Hood while searching for two lost climbers during a search and rescue here. Giacchino is a pararescueman with Air Force Reserve Command's 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport, Ore. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny)



DJIBOUTI - U.S. Air Force Reservists land an HC-130P/N King aircraft from the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., on a dry lake bed during a search-and-rescue exercise here. The exercise consisted of transporting pararescuemen, aerial refueling, assault landing on an unimproved runway, and transloading a simulated survivor from a CH-53E. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Joseph L. Swafford Jr.)

Rescue



TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq - A U.S. Air Force pararescueman assigned to the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., gathers his parachute and equipment following a parachute jump here supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Quinton Burris)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Air Force Reserve pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing here sky dive out of an HC-130P/N King aircraft using static lines during a training session over Cocoa Beach, Fla. PJs train often to keep current on their many life-saving job skills. (U.S. Air Force photo)



DJIBOUTI - U.S. Air Force Reserve HC-130P/N King loadmasters direct the aircraft to a secure location while pararescuemen perform a simulated patient rescue exercise while deployed to the Horn of Africa. Airmen from the 920th Rescue Wing deploy to the region often to provide search-and-rescue and humanitarian support. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nic Raven)



TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq - A U.S. Air Force Reserve HC-130 P/N King refueling aircraft arrives here with supplies and personnel from the 301st Rescue Squadron, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - A 920th Rescue Wing HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter makes its security rounds over the Eastern Range, off the coast, in support of the 45th Space Wing's rocket launch from nearby Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. The Rescue Reservists are on hand for all rocket launches to provide safety and security for the general public. (Courtesy photo)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - A 920th Rescue Wing HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter here gets a fresh tank of gas during a recent search and rescue mission over Bimini, the small trio of islands that sit 50 miles from Miami. The tanker doing the refueling is also a 920th asset, an HC-130P/N King. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Paul Flipse)



BALAD AIR FORCE THEATER HOSPITAL, Iraq - Maj. Laurie Turner takes a blood pressure reading for Army Pfc. David Kendrick, 21D, 361st Cavalry. Kendrick is deployed here from Fort Carson, Colo. Turner, an Air Force Reservist, is deployed here from the 920th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Nathan Doza)



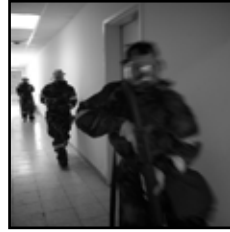
BALAD AIR FORCE THEATER HOSPITAL, Iraq - Capt. Laura Reitz, deployed from the Air Force Reserve's 920th Aeromedical Staging Squadron at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., takes care of wounded patients at the 332nd Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility here. Captain Reitz helps transport patients such as Army soldiers to Germany for further treatment. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Nathan Doza)



BALAD AIR FORCE THEATER HOSPITAL, Iraq - U.S. Air Force Reserve Capt. John Davis troubleshoots an intravenous pump as Senior Airman Samantha Brunner checks the IV tubing for occlusions at the Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility here. Both Airmen are from the 920th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jason Epley)



RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany - Air Force Reserve members of the 435th Aeromedical Squadron move wounded military members off an aeromedical evacuation flight here. The patients were taken to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany for further treatment. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Kenny Holston)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - ++Air Force Reserve security forces Airmen of the 920th Rescue Wing here wear chemical warfare suits while swarming a building in search of enemy combatants during a one-day field exercise at the Malabar Annex nearby. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Allen)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Senior Airman Diane Lopes from the 920th Rescue Wing Security Forces here puts the finishing touches on her weapon as she and 12 fellow Airmen are set to deploy to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq. The crew was deployed for 179 days. Senior Airman Lopes ultimately was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries she sustained while deployed. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Chance Babin)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - U.S. Air Force pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing here inventory their ammunition at a forward-deployed location in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)



TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq - Pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., talk with a member of the 101st Airborne Division at a forward deployed location in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. OIF was a multi-national coalition effort to liberate the Iraqi people. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)



JACKSON, Miss. - HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter aircrews continue to fly search-and-rescue missions hoping to find stranded victims of Hurricane Katrina's devastating aftermath. Airmen from active-duty and Reserve units were here supporting the hurricane's rescue operation. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Efrain Gonzalez)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Air Force Reservist Senior Airman David Shaw, 920th Rescue Wing Maintenance Squadron here, secures one of two HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters onto a C-5 Galaxy cargo aircraft here that will airlift the helicopters overseas for life-saving operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Allen)



DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. - Staff Sgt. Anthony Hemenway, a crew chief for the 943rd Rescue Group here, focuses on reassembling an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter after shipment on an Air Force Reserve C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. (U.S. Air Force photo)



NEW ORLEANS - An Air Force Reserve Command pararescueman from the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport, Ore., scans a flooded neighborhood here looking for Hurricane Katrina survivors. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Bill Huntington)



SUMMERSIDE, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, Canada - Loadmasters, Staff Sgt. Edward Aiello and Tech. Sgt. Marcus Hildebrand talk about how to perform free fall and para-bundle exercises from the C-130's ramp. The training is used as a tool to hone accuracy in dropping packages of additional survival supplies or equipment from heights of 150-300 feet off the ground. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Natasha Dowridge)



PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Ore. - Staff Sgt. Derrick Brooks and Senior Airman Mark McHugh, 304th Rescue Squadron pararescuemen, and 2nd Lt. Michael Vanzanten, a combat rescue officer here, cut a slab of concrete as part of the ROCO Rescue Tactical Confined Space and Collapsed Structure Technician training exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Senior Airman Jarrod Burgess and Tech. Sgt. Darryl Perron, 920th Rescue Wing Parachute Riggers, work together to stuff a WWII parachute back into its original casing here. Usually packing a parachute is a one-man job, but in this case, two sets of hands sped up the process. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Leslie Forshaw)



TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq - A pararescueman from the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport Ore., rappels from an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter here during Operation Iraqi Freedom. OIF was a multinational coalition effort to liberate the Iraqi people, eliminate Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and bring an end to the regime of Saddam Hussein. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Airmen piloting this HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter perform a water rescue demonstration with an HC-130P/N King fixed-wing aircraft and pararescuemen during the 2011 Cocoa Beach Air Show. Airmen from the 920th RQW are celebrating 50 years of manned space support serving as guardians of the astronauts. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Anna-Marie Wyant)



COCOA BEACH, Fla. - A WC-130 weather reconnaissance aircraft, piloted by Rescue Airmen from the Air Force Reserve's 920th Rescue Wing here, soars hundreds of feet above the Atlantic Ocean. The wing's entire fleet of aircraft flew March 6, 2011 to simulate a mass hurricane evacuation prior to the start of Florida's storm season. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Anna-Marie Wyant)



SUMMERSIDE, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, Canada - Tech. Sgt. Robert Whitaker, flight engineer, helps the pilot and copilot check the operation of more than 100 instruments. Each section commander was responsible for planning specific training for their individual fixed and rotor-wing crew members during the U.S. and Canadian Search and Rescue Exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo/Capt. Cathleen Snow)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing here free-fall out the back of an HC-130P/N King refueling aircraft at 3,500 feet during a demo for the Cocoa Beach Air Show. Their motto, "That Others May Live," reaffirms the PJ's commitment to saving lives and self-sacrifice. (Courtesy photo/Mr. Mike Brown)



BAGHDAD, Iraq - A U.S. Air Force HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter from the 301st Rescue Squadron, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., flies a mission here. The combat search-and-rescue unit deployed to Baghdad International Airport in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby)



TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq - A U.S. Air Force pararescueman assigned to the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport, Ore., armed with a 5.56mm M4 carbine, pulls rear security as other members of his unit conduct a walk-through rescue training scenario using their HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter during Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)

Rescue



TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq - U.S. Air Force pararescuemen assigned to the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., conduct a walk through rescue training scenario using their HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter during Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)



BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Iraq - Gaurdian Angel Airmen carry a stokes litter here during a training exercise in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Courtesy photo)



KHANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan - Capt. Brough McDonald pre-flights an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter before his air crew begins its shift here. McDonald is a rescue pilot for the 305th Rescue Squadron, an Air Force Reserve unit at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., and was attached to an Army unit performing medical evacuation missions. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Keith Brown)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - A maintenance crew chief from the 920th Rescue Wing here directs this HC-130P/N King refueling aircraft crew as they prepare to take flight. The entire fleet of six HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters and three Kings also took flight. (U.S. Air Force photo/Capt. Cathleen Snow)



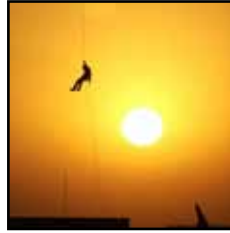
DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FOR BASE, Ariz. - Pararescuemen from the 48th Rescue Squadron here await take-off in an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter flown by 305th Rescue Squadron Airmen as part of exercise Angel Thunder. The exercise, which lasts five days, is designed to provide realistic training. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christina Ponte)



TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq - U.S. Air Force pararescuemen assigned to the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., prepare to board an Air Force Reserve Command C-130 Hercules aircraft in preparation for a static line jump here during Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)



BAGHDAD - U.S. Air Force Reservists assigned to the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., keep a watchful eye on the deserts here. (Courtesy photo)



PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Ore. - A U.S. Air Force pararescueman assigned to the 304th Rescue Squadron here performs a rappelling exercise from the Baghdad International Airport air traffic control tower. (U.S. Air Force photo)



MOUNT ST. HELEN, Wash. - A UH-1N Iroquois helicopter from the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport, Ore., flies near the steam rising from the crater several days after a large eruption. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Robert Leach)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Air Force Reserve pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing here train in cold weather environments to prepare for the upcoming deployment. PJs must be able to extract a victim from a vehicle/ piece of equipment while working under combat situations. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Staff. Sgt. Leslie Forshaw)



PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Ore. - Air Force Reservists from the 304th Rescue Squadron here arrive and set up camp at 9,500 feet on Mount Hood's Cooper Spur. After spending the night, the Reservists continued on to the Newton Clark Glacier in an effort to locate two missing climbers. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Adam Hoffmann)



PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Ore. - Members of the U.S. Air Force Reserve's 304th Rescue Squadron here hand out protective masks after a simulated dirty bomb explosion at the Portland International Raceway. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman John Hughel)



FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. - BASE, Ariz. - During winter survival training here, the 305th Rescue Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., provides extraction of a simulated downed pilot. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. David Neve)



CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - NASA astronauts wait to be lowered into the choppy Atlantic Ocean, where pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., participate in a Mode VIII emergency exercise. The exercise is one of eight possible space shuttle emergency scenarios that rescue crews train for. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Staff Sgt. Paul Flipse)



Pararescueman Lt. Clancy Hatleberg closes the Apollo 11 spacecraft hatch as astronauts Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Buzz Aldrin Jr. await helicopter pickup from their life raft. They splashed down at 12:50 p.m. EDT July 24, 1969, 900 miles southwest of Hawaii after a successful lunar landing mission. (photo/NASA)



NEW ORLEANS - A Guardian Angel Airman from the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., scans flooded streets here. The GAs performed humanitarian relief for the hurricane stricken city 24 hours a day for 21 consecutive days. There were 1,043 saves as a result. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Paul Flipse)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - 920th Rescue Wing pararescuemen here train for an emergency landing of NASA astronauts. PJs are specifically trained to locate, recover and treat the astronauts in case of an emergency landing. (U.S. Air Force photo)



NEDERLAND, Texas - Pararescuemen from the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., saved 17 people from floodwaters in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. With his family safely on one of the wing's HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopters, a homeowner gathers the last of his belongings before being hoisted up. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Paul Flipse)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - Pararescuemen from the 38th Rescue Squadron, Moody Air Force Base, Ga., familiarize themselves with the Advanced Crew Escape Suit at the 920th Rescue Wing here in preparation for a shuttle launch. PJs have provided medical contingency response for all manned NASA launches since the space program began. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Paul Flipse)



PORT CANAVERAL, Fla. - Tech. Sgt. Adrian Durham, pararescueman, 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., is on call for astronaut rescue while he waits and watches aboard a wing HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter piloted by Rescue Wing Airmen as they fly over the Atlantic coastline past Space Shuttle Endeavor as NASA astronauts prepare for launch May 16, 2011. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Anna-Marie Wyant)



PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. - An HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter sits on the runway here in preparation for launch. The 920th Rescue Reservists are among the most elite combat search-and-rescue personnel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. (U.S. Air Force photo)



DJIBOUTI - An HC-130 P/N King carrying Air Force Reservists lands on an unimproved air strip after a mission to provide rescue support. The HC-130s provide an extended-range refueling capacity to helicopter rescue units operating in the area. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Rob Grande)



NEW ORLEANS - Pararescueman Tech. Sgt. Andrew Canfield and a Hurricane Katrina survivor are hoisted up to an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter hovering over a flooded neighborhood here. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Bill Huntington)



PLAYAS, N.M. - During a mass casualty exercise at an urban training facility here, pararescuemen from the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland International Airport, Ore., carry a stokes litter to provide backup support. The mass casualty exercise is part of exercise Angel Thunder, a combat search-and-rescue exercise designed to provide realistic CSAR Task Force training. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christina D. Ponte)



NEW ORLEANS - Senior Master Sgt. Omar Rivera, flight engineer with the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., flies in an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter to keep an eye out for hurricane survivors in homes flooded by toxic waters here. (photo/Mr. Craig Rubabux)



NEW ORLEANS - Chief Master Sgt. James Sanchez carries a cat he rescued from the second floor of a flooded house here. The cat, which he named PJ, is one of 22 cats he saved during rescue missions in support of Hurricane Katrina relief operations. Sanchez is a pararescueman with the 306th Rescue Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Master Sgt. Elaine Mayo)









Command Staff

920TH Rescue Wing

Wing Commander

Col. Jeffrey L. Macrander

Vice Commander

Col. Robert Ament

Command Chief

Command Chief Master Sgt. Timothy Bianchi

Executive Officer

Lt. Col. Stephanie Shaw

Executive Assistant

Ms. DeAnn (De) Houck

Chief of Public Affairs/Managing Editor

Capt. Cathleen Snow

Public Affairs Staff

Maj. Donald Kerr

2nd Lt. Leslie Forshaw

Tech. Sgt. Peter Dean

Tech. Sgt. Luke Johnson (943rd Rescue Group)

Staff Sgt. Anna-Marie Wyant

Staff Sgt. Daniel Delgado (304th Rescue Squadron)

Senior Airman Natasha Dowridge

Graphics, Layout & Design

2nd Lt. Leslie Forshaw

Staff Sgt. Adam Hoffmann

Senior Airman Natasha Dowridge

Ms. Missty Honeycutt

920th Recruiting Office

Master Sgt. Michael F. Coscarella (321) 255-1454

Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Bevins (321) 494-3003

Ms. Tammy Miles (321) 494-3002

Contact Information

920th RQW/PA

1225 Jupiter Street

Bldg. 425, Suite 1-201

Patrick AFB FL 32925-339

TEL 321-494-0535/6

FAX 321-494-1309

public_affairs@patrick.af.mil

For more information and the latest 920th RQW news:

Website: www.920rqw.afrc.af.mil/

Facebook: facebook.com/920threscuewing

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