

212th RESCUE SQUADRON



MISSION

The 212th Rescue Squadron provides pararescuemen, combat rescue officer and Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape specialists to carry out the 176th Wing's wartime and peacetime rescue missions.

All these unit members are organized, trained and equipped to operate day or night in all geographic and environmental conditions, and in environments both friendly and hostile.

When in a theater of combat, members of the 212th are experts in personnel recovery operations rescuing downed airmen or other isolated personnel from enemy territory, for example.

Back at home, the 212th Rescue Squadron is part of a network of search-and-rescue organizations that save hundreds of lives in and around Alaska every year. This network includes not only the 212th Rescue Squadron's sister squadrons in the 176th Wing, but also such agencies as the U.S. Coast Guard, the Alaska State Troopers, the National Park Service, the Civil Air Patrol and others.

This peacetime mission is not limited to Alaska. Following the 2005 Pakistan Earthquake, for example, 212 RQS specialists jumped into action. Operating from helicopters belonging to the U.S. Army, Navy and State Department, they helped evacuate tens of thousands of survivors; delivered tons of food, water, blankets and other relief supplies; provided search-and-rescue support; transported the sick and injured; and treated victims.

Like any specialists, the 212th's rescuers need support to carry out their mission. The squadron provides much of this support via its own Combat Support Team, which includes specialists in

aircrew flight equipment, supply, host aviation resource management, information management, logistics, medicine (flight doctor, medical logistics and independent duty medical technicians), and vehicle maintenance. Together, these combat support professionals provide the rescuers with vital daily training and the highly specialized equipment the rescuers depend on to save lives.

LINEAGE

212th Rescue Squadron

STATIONS

Kulis ANGB, Anchorage, AK
Elmendorf AFB, AK

ASSIGNMENTS

176th Operations Group

WEAPON SYSTEMS

COMMANDERS

Maj Tom Stephens

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The Alaska Air National Guard helped save a climber who broke a leg on Pioneer Peak, south of Palmer, Alaska, in August. A partner wrapped the man in warm clothes and then hiked out to notify Alaska state troopers. The police called the ANG for assistance. Pararescuemen with the Guard's 210th and 212th Rescue Squadrons hoisted the man to safety the next day and flew him to a regional hospital. 2007

2005 3 Sep One MC-130P from the 129th Rescue Wing transported unit pararescuemen personnel and swift water rescue equipment to NAS New Orleans. An additional C-130J from the 146th Airlift Wing based at NAS Point Mugu, California transported additional 129th Rescue Wing pararescuemen personnel and equipment. By this time, Air Guard rescue assets deployed to New Orleans included twelve zodiac boats and Air Guard Combat Controllers who operated three helicopter Landing Zones. Air Guard rescue personnel were expected to remain deployed for approximately fourteen days. Air Guard pararescuemen and combat controllers deployed to the hurricane stricken area came from the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG; 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Oregon ANG; 129th Rescue Wing, California ANG, and the 212th Rescue Squadron, Alaska ANG. The 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, deployed to Jackson, Mississippi and Hurlburt Field, Florida.

5 Sep Thirty-five ANG Special Operations personnel had deployed to the joint operations area to perform search and rescue operations. Eighteen pararescuemen, twelve combat controllers, and five mission support personnel assigned to the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG; 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Oregon ANG; 212th Rescue Squadron, Alaska ANG; 129th Rescue Wing, California ANG, and the 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.