

26th EXPEDITIONARY RESCUE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

26 Air Rescue Squadron Constituted, 17 Oct 1952

Activated, 14 Nov 1952

Inactivated, 8 Dec 1956

Redesignated 26 Expeditionary Rescue Squadron and converted to provisional status, 12 Dec 2002

Activated, 20 Mar 2003

Inactivated, 10 Sep 2003

Activated,

STATIONS

Albrook AFB, Canal Zone, 14 Nov 1952-8 Dec 1956

Jacobabad, Pakistan, 20 Mar-10 Sep 2003

Camp Bastion, Afghanistan

ASSIGNMENTS

1 Air Rescue Group (attached to Caribbean Air Command for operational control), 14 Nov 1952-8 Dec 1956

Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 12 Dec 2002

438 Air Expeditionary Wing, 20 Mar-10 Sept 2003

WEAPON SYSTEMS

SA-16, 1952-1956

H-5, 1952-1954
H/SH-19, 1954-1956
HH-60G

COMMANDERS

Maj James R. Wesley, 14 Nov 1952
Lt Col Dick W. Thompson Jr., 15 Dec 1953
Maj George O. Hambrick, by Sep 1955
Lt Col George P. Bahler, by Dec 1955-1956
Maj Adams Darling

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Global War on Terrorism
GWOT-E
Afghanistan: Consolidation III.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



26 Air Rescue Squadron emblem



Approved, 12 Jan 2016

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Search and rescue and aeromedical evacuation operations primarily over land and water areas around Panama, but extending into Central America and northwestern areas of South America, 1952-1956.

HH-60G rescue helicopters stood on alert at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan, for the last time on New Year's Eve. Aircrew, pararescuemen, and the machines of the 26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron saved more than 2,400 US and coalition lives since beginning around-the-clock casualty evacuation alert at Bastion in early 2009. "The airmen of the 26th ERQS, along with Guardian Angel teams, have accomplished some remarkably brave missions in support of the joint and coalition force," said squadron boss Maj. Adams Darling. "I am humbled to have had the chance to command these warriors," he said. The squadron inactivated on Jan. 1, passing its alert responsibilities to Army UH-60 Black Hawk and Royal Air Force CH-47 Chinook rescue crews. The 83rd ERQS at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, is now the Air Force's sole combat rescue unit in

theater. 2014

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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