



MESSAGE FROM CO 35SQN

WGCDR BENJAMIN POXON

What a year! It is hard to believe that we are at the end of the flying year, and the commencement of the move to Amberley. Overall, I remain in awe of the professionalism, dedication and teamwork that the 35SQN family has demonstrated this year. We have all pulled together to achieve the Spartan Strategy end-states, and in some cases exceed capability milestones. A quick snapshot of the year in force generations terms uncovers a focused and driven squadron. Some key achievements this year include:

- Deployed two aircraft to Cope North Guam to validate Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations
- Deployed four aircraft to Exercise Hamel to conduct battlefield insertion and resupply
- Deployed four aircraft to Exercise Pitch Black to integrate into fifth generation Air Force and Stage out of Austere Air Base – Batchelor
- Deployed aircraft on Op Resolute with 100% mission success
- Conducted all capability enhancements scheduled for 2018
- Conducted certification flights for AWC/PO
- Conducted the fastest C-27J Pacific crossing (aircraft 10) in 4 days
- Conducted the largest month of flying in Spartan History with an overall 40% increase in ROE between 2017 and 2018
- Aircraft 10 Ceremony with MINDEF
- Governor of NSW Vietnam Streamer and Colour Parade
- Two Family Nights for the move
- Three Mental Health Days, Four Safety Days
- Awarded the Rolls Royce Trophy for SGT Amiets Technical Prowess.

I understand that the largest task is ahead of us—the move to Amberley. We have ceased all non-essential flying operations to enable the SQN to focus on the move. While the SQN will move to Amberley, I must stress, over the next eight weeks I need you to focus on your families. Moving is a stressful time. Samantha, Wilder and I have moved to Brisbane already so that we can support the rest of the Spartan families in their move. It's not easy, take your time and enjoy the sights on the drive up. Take plenty of rest breaks—kids and dogs would prefer to stop! If you get into trouble, the rest of 35SQN are here to help.

Merry Christmas, and I look forward to seeing you in the Spartan Palace next year!

COMMANDING OFFICER 35SQN

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RELOCATION TO AMBERLEY

Relocation Updates from PCO:

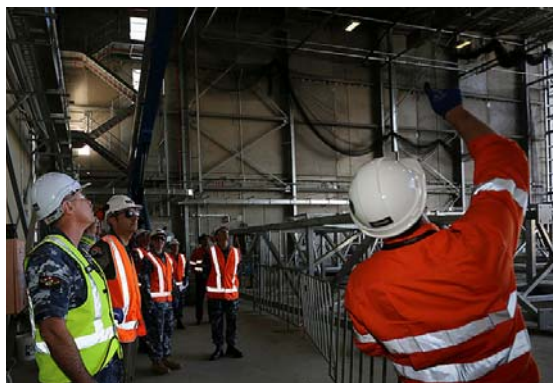
The relocation of 35SQN from Richmond to Amberley is looming large.

Key Dates :

- Training Building is complete and the 35SQN Advance Party has taken up residence to receive equipment and stores being sent up to from Richmond
- Completion of 35SQN Main Operations building is on track and scheduled for completion and handover on 23 Jan 19.
- 35SQN Pack-Up Brief commencing 0800 h on 3 Dec 18 in the Richmond Base Cinema. Individual section pack-up tasks will be allocated. Brief will conclude with a Farewells and Awards Presentation BBQ at BLDG 616.
- There will be some personnel required to work over the Christmas period to support the move and continued aircraft maintenance requirements. You should check with your Section Commander to see if there is a requirement for you to be available over this period.
- 35SQN Execs/SCA holders will commence duty at AMB on 23 Jan 19 and the remainder of the SQN will commence on 24 Jan 19 (unless otherwise informed that you will be required earlier). Dress requirement for 24 Jan 19 will be GPU.
- 35SQN Induction week is scheduled for 4 Feb—8 Feb 19 and will culminate with a 'Hangar Bash' type social event on 8 Feb 19. Dress for the 4 Feb 19 will be SD-3 minimum. Watch out for the ADMININST.
- Flying in Amberley will commence on 10 Feb 19.
- The majority of MWD families have now locked in a housing solution for Amberley. I know that those yet to do so may be getting anxious, however I urge patience. DHA remain confident that there is an adequate supply of SR yet to come online. Please contact me directly if you are experiencing issues and I will do all I can to assist you as I have direct contact with the DHA Regional Housing Manager. I can also assist those wanting DHA approval to move to an RA property.
- Remember to make use of the C27-J Famil flights which will continue to be scheduled. This is especially useful for MWOD/MWD(U) and MWD personnel looking to lock down an RA property.
- To find out what is happening in Amberley, Ipswich and surrounding areas —register to receive the monthly DCO Amberley Newsletter. Head to: <http://www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Community/Amberley-Ipswich/default.asp> for details.

Want More Information?

Contact the PCO, FLTLT Darryl Stubberfield on (02) 458 73490 or email darryl.stubberfield@defence.gov.au



PAST & CURRENT OPS

Pitch Black 18

The exercise provided excellent training for all members integrating the C-27J capability into a large single package, including assets providing Suppression of Enemy Air Defences (SEAD), Combat Air Patrol (CAP), Strike, Offensive Counter Air (OCA), Defensive Counter Air, AAR, AEW&C, ground force posturing and Tactical Battlefield Airlift.

The detachment deployed to an austere airfield and was supported via units in a FOB. The exercise saw the C-27J use its defensive systems, deploying flares on multiple occasions, the use of body armour by aircrew, and the carriage of weapons by aircrew on board. The detachment also consumed ration packs for the period of forward deployment.

Ex Bullseye

In late August, a small team deployed to New Zealand to compete in Ex Bullseye – an airdrop competition hosted this year by the RNZAF. The competition involved a number of flights through the NZ countryside culminating in a number of airdrops which were judged on timing and accuracy. Other participants included the RNZAF, RCAF and 37SQN. Competition was fierce between teams and although unable to knock the Kiwi's off the top of the table, the Spartans were able to secure a solid second place, shaming both of the 37SQN teams who were unable to move off the bottom of the ladder. Congratulations to the team who clearly cemented 35SQN's place at the premier RAAF Airdrop unit.

Operation Resolute

Early September saw 35SQN unexpectedly shift its focus from the land battle to a much more foreign environment when an undetected illegal arrival reached the mouth of the Daintree River north of Cairns. At only 24hrs notice, the squadron had two aircraft and associated personnel force assigned to provide Maritime Border Command with an enhanced surveillance capability for border protection operations. Operating out of Townsville for the next 30 days, crews developed and performed Maritime Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance flights, searching the high seas for targets of interest in support of Operation Resolute. Expertise in the maritime domain was developed with the assistance of 92Wing P3 and P8 crew



members who deployed to Townsville and flew on C-27J missions. While the detachment developed MISR procedures, the remainder of the squadron at home plate worked tirelessly to develop, test and approve the deployment of Air-Sea Rescue Kits which were then able to be employed on Resolute missions. The deployed maintenance crews worked tirelessly to provide serviceable aircraft throughout the operation and were able to achieve a 100% mission success rate which enabled the deployment to demonstrate the flexibility and multi-role capability of the RAAF's newest airlifter.

Ex Predator Run

Whilst the squadron focus was on Op Resolute, a small team deployed to Adelaide for a week to partake in the I BDE exercise Predator Run. Designed as a combined arms exercise on the I BDE road to readiness, the exercise saw the C-27J complete a number of airland and airdrop sorties by day and night in support of troops deployed in the Cultana Training area. Although short in length, Predator Run enabled 35SQN to work directly with army combat units and allowed army commanders to understand how better to use a battlefield airlifter in future operations.

Certification

Once the deployment of personnel returned from Townsville, the main focus of the squadron turned to assisting ARDU complete test flights required for aircraft certification. A FLT personnel, especially loadmasters, have been working hard to ensure ARDU test points are met and that the testing will be completed on time.

ASORS / SAFETY CORNER

35SQN is demonstrating a very healthy reporting culture which has enabled Safety Cell in the last 6 months to identify trends, provide timely solutions, and streamline processes.

This has been evident during the multiple fuel events we have been experiencing. The information received has confirmed the effectiveness of personnel safety practices in the majority of cases. Quality reporting has given us the opportunity to identify a

more suitable ways to do business. As an example, the acquisition of the 600mm Nitrile gloves that allows better dexterity when required in a fuel environment, and driven the acquisition of better GSE. It is also enabling engineering investigations to improve our systems and procedures. Your reported information is essential for the concurrent investigation and implementation of engineering solutions to eliminate future occurrences.

So please, keep the reports coming and if in doubt, give Safety & Standards flight a call for clarification as we are only too happy to help. Safety is everybody's business - we all need to look out for ourselves, and each other.

Provided by SGT Scott Gilbert

SQNWOFF'S COMMENTS

It's hard to believe that the Christmas holidays will soon be here and Christmas is only a few pay days away. I am sure you will agree that this year has gone by very quickly. The second half of the year has been a very busy time for the unit. Some examples include Exercises PITCH BLACK, HAMEL and BULLSEYE, the short notice deployment to Townsville, Pilot initial Qualification Training, Republic of South Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Streamer Parade, as well as ARDU Flight Test and Evaluation activities. Thank you all for your dedication and hard work.

As described by the psychologist Bruce Tuckman and his description of 'Developing a highly productive team', 35 Squadron has formed into a very tight and effective team. The Tuckman 'Forming, Storming, Norming and Performing' (https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newLDR_86.htm) process are recognisable stages whereby a 'collection of strangers have formed into a united group with common goals'. The final step of 'Adjourning' will also be the point where many of us will find ourselves leaving the 35 Squadron family via posting or discharges. As such, its always an

emotional time where many of you will miss the familiar faces and friendships that we have made during these challenging and exciting times here at 35 Squadron. I would like to thank you all for your support and hard work this year and I wish you all a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year.

Provided by WOFF David Pyatt

SQN MEMBER RECOMMENDS.....

Wine of the moment:

Chateau D'Yquem 1847. Coming from a place of darkness and light, this wine typifies the French expression 'un vin fait de raisins'. On a palate blending the eloquence of a wanning moon combined with the fastidiousness of an Arctic glacier, this vintage truly appreciates what it is to be considered a beverage. Drink now, or use in your favourite casserole.

Provided by SQNLDR Bradley Drew



Movies:

The Grinch and his loyal dog, Max, live a solitary existence inside a cave on Mount Crumpet. His main source of aggravation comes during Christmastime, when his neighbours in Whoville celebrate the holidays with a bang. When the Whos decide to make Christmas bigger and brighter, the disgruntled Grinch realizes there is one way to gain peace and quiet. With help from Max, the green grump hatches a scheme to pose as Santa Claus, steal Christmas and silence the Whos' holiday cheer once and for all.

Provided by Reading Cinemas



355QN SOCIAL CLUB

Spring salutations Spartans.

It's been a big week in ~~cricket~~oops Social Club stuff.

LAC Hughes took out the Joker Poker, nice one Hughesy.

The Spanners have finally been accepted as a raffle prize and we are getting very close to the penultimate event The End of year Doo.

Here are the details for those still wondering:

Date: Saturday 8th December

Venue: Dockside Cockle Bay Rooms I&2 with balcony access

What do we get I hear you say, well I am glad you asked,

- Chef selection of canapés on arrival for 30 minutes
- 3 Course alternate served festive menu
- 4.5 hour classic beverage package (7.00pm – 11.30pm)
- Tea & Coffee service with venue chocolates
- Complimentary Professional DJ for the duration.

Remember there is still time to get your name on the Attendance list "Obj reference inserted".

It will be an awesome night in one of the hottest venues in darling harbour.

"How hot" you ask??

Hot enough that a few of you may Spartaneously Combust on entry.

So be there or be a bagel.

Provided by FSGT Geoff Donaldson

Date	Activity	POC
RAAF Richmond Family Day / Christmas Treat 08 Dec 18 from 0900 - 1400h	Static aircraft displays, face painting, jumping castles, rides, parachute packing displays, BBQ lunch, military working dog displays and much more! Santa will also be making a special visit on the day!	Name: FLGOFF Sharnae Willison Phone: 02 4587 3244 Tickets
End of Year Function 08 Dec 18	Venue: Dockside Cockle Bay Rooms I&2 with balcony access	LOG Section

PHOTOS

Below C-27J Spartans on Pitch Black 18 from 25 Jul - 18 Aug 18.



Right Australian Army's 9th Force Support Battalion refuel a Royal Australian Air Force C-27J Spartan aircraft at Batchelor Airfield during Exercise Pitch Black 2018.



Right A C-27J Spartan aircraft lands at Batchelor Airfield in the Northern Territory during Exercise Pitch Black 2018.



Left A C-27J Spartan aircraft takes off at Batchelor Airfield in the Northern Territory during Exercise Pitch Black 2018.

Right Joint Terminal Attack Controllers from Australia and the Royal Netherlands Army deploy to Delamere Air Weapons Range on a C-27J Spartan to conduct joint training operations during Exercise Pitch Black 2018.



"Wakakirri is Australia's Largest Performing Arts Event for Schools with separate events for Primary and Secondary schools. Each year schools across Australia create Story Dances for Wakakirri that reflect student's thoughts, ideas and aspirations. These stories are performed in professional theatres in front of the official 'Wakakirri Panel' who are searching for 'Story of the Year'

As a result of their performance Richmond North Public School was awarded a "National People's Choice Award for 2018".

The Story was called "Between the foothills and the river"

"Our item tells a story of the history of the fertile local area and the beautiful Hawkesbury river. Beginning with the Indigenous people who lived along the river banks up to present time we dance the story of how it has changed and become a unique and beautiful place to live".



Left WGCDCR Ben Poxon shown left of photo, Marcus Power shown right of photo in C27J Spartan Wakakirri Plane Prop on 25 Oct 18.

Right Marcus Power shown on left, WGCDCR Ben Poxon shown centre of photo, Harrison Mckenzie shown right of photo on 25 Oct 18.





Left FLTLT Ben Calman, conducts a low level rigging run in a C-27J Spartan to observe a small vessel on the Great Barrier Reef during Operation Resolute in Townsville.

Right The north Queensland coastline from a C-27J Spartan aircraft during Operation Resolute.



Left WOFF Mark Styles, photographs potential targets of interest off the coast of north Queensland during Operation Resolute.

Right Loadmasters, SGT Jay Goggin (left), and SGT Paul Graham (right), scan the horizon off the north Queensland coast aboard a C-27J Spartan aircraft as part of Operation Resolute.



A parade was held by No. 35 Squadron at RAAF Base Richmond on 2 Nov 18 to add the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Streamer to the Squadron's Colours banner.

The Cross of Gallantry was awarded to the RAAF Transport Flight Vietnam and No. 35 Squadron for delivering airlift during the Vietnam War, from 1964 to 1972.

The parade was the final major activity for No. 35 Squadron at RAAF Base Richmond prior to the unit's relocation to purpose-built facilities at RAAF Base Amberley.

Below A C-27J Spartan aircraft, conducts a fly over during the No. 35 Squadron parade held to add the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Streamer to the Squadron's Colours banner.



Below A C-27J Spartan aircraft performs a fly past as No. 35 Squadron march off the parade held at RAAF Base Richmond.





I AM SPARTAN—CO 2018 PRIORITY 5

35 Squadron will continue to identify the ways and means to maximise operational efficiency and facilitate positive change within the unit. The I Am Spartan program allows Squadron members at all levels to express their perspectives, display creativity and harness varying backgrounds and skillsets while providing an environment for innovation. In the past, the challenging of artificial barriers and stigmas has been the catalyst to wider understanding and subsequent improvement in numerous areas. It only requires Squadron members to stand up, pursue their viewpoints and become key influencers.

The I Am Spartan Committee implores all members within the Squadron to be proud of their ideas and sustain their contributions. We are all part of a combined journey towards unit success, and the likelihood and level of success is dependent on all members, indiscriminate of rank, position or specialisation. Since its induction, there have been over 60 suggestions provided by members from all areas within the Squadron. Periodic I Am Spartan Shark Tanks have provided selected members with an opportunity to present their idea in front of the senior leadership team and wider-Squadron audience. This has resulted in numerous on the spot approvals and suggestion incorporation within our everyday business. Others are undergoing development and further research for future implementation.

On Mon, 03 Dec 18, the I Am Spartan Committee will host the final Shark Tank for 2018. 12 proposals will be introduced by their respective owners and discussed communally at length, again with the chance to earn immediate approval. Deep Learning – artificial intelligence, USCG Exchange, Deployed printing/DDRN capabilities, SQN Bonding Week/ dirt strip ops, Bi-fold auxiliary ramp system, drought assistance programs, deployment/exercise planning tool, C-27J DRN account, naming of individual aircraft, annual skydive competition, safety cell rotation and commando challenge are the main topics of this session. In addition to seeking new ideas, 35 Squadron will be calling upon members to participate as audience members to help analyse, critique, support or potentially improve these suggestions.

If you want to know more about the final Shark Tank for 2018, or want to submit an improvement proposal, please email the I Am Spartan Committee (AMB 35SQN I AM SPARTAN). Your contributions are invaluable and strongly encouraged; 35 Squadron will inevitably prosper in the future as a result of the selfless commitment, ingenuity and leadership demonstrated at all levels.

Provided by FLGOFF Joel Ingram



If you would like to contribute to future editions of Spartan Summary, please contact the 35SQN Orderly Room.