



FACT SHEET

Barry M. Goldwater Range

- An integral part of Luke AFB's F-16 fighter pilot training mission is the Barry M. Goldwater Range, which was established through an executive order by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941.
- The 1.7-million-acre facility, located between Yuma and Tucson south of Interstate 8, is the nation's third-largest bombing range. Overhead are 57,000 cubic miles of restricted airspace, coupled with 40,000 cubic miles of adjacent special-use airspace, where pilots practice air-to-air maneuvers and engage simulated battlefield targets on the ground.
- Luke AFB's Range Management Office oversees operations on the eastern 7,000 square miles of the range complex, and the Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma manages range activities on the western 1,500 square miles.
- Each year, fighters from Luke AFB conduct more than 30,000 air-to-air gunnery and air-to-ground bombing training operations at the range. Including other bases, more than 58,000 training operations are conducted on the east range complex annually.
- The Goldwater Range provides highly flexible joint military service training and realistic combat replications, and is the center point of a semicircular array of military air bases, airspace and ranges that form a highly flexible training complex. The range lies within the unrefueled flight radius of 12 Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Air National Guard and Army National Guard bases in Arizona and Southern California, and is accessible to Navy aircraft carriers in the Pacific Ocean.
- Combat pilots from the Army, Navy, Marine Corp and Air Force – active duty, guard and reserve – use the range to hone their skills.

- Larger than Massachusetts, the immense size of the complex allows for simultaneous training activities on nine air-to-ground and two air-to-air ranges. More than 50 aircrews and aircraft can simultaneously operate on the range while performing many independent training missions.
- In addition to Luke AFB, other military bases in Arizona that regularly use the east range for training operations are Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, the Arizona Air National Guard in Tucson, Silverbell Army Heliport in Marana and Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma.