

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FLEET COMPOSITE SQUADRON SIX
NAVAL AIR STATION
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23511

1972
VC-6

VC-6/11:mwm
5750
Ser: 314
31 JUL 1973

From: Commanding Officer
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Fleet Composite Squadron SIX Command History for Calendar Year 1972
(OPNAV Report 5750.1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12 series

Encl: (1) Biography and photograph of Commanding Officer
(2) Composite photo of target drones
(3) Complement of Officers, enlisted, civilian, and flight personnel
(4) Statistical summary of Operations
(5) Change of Command pamphlet
(6) Congratulatory letters and messages

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Fleet Composite Squadron SIX Command History for calendar year 1972 is submitted.

2. The significant events, and highlights of 1972 are listed in the following chronology:

- 11 JAN - Annual Safety Inspection of Squadron
- 15 JAN - Det DELTA aboard USS MOSOPELIA for 5 days of SEPTAR operations
- 30 JAN - Acquired all US Navy MQM-36 assets
- 31 JAN - First use of Mini-shrike emitter aboard SEPTAR target boats

- 6 FEB - Det DELTA commences one month cruise at Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range (AFWR) off Puerto Rico in support of Operation Springboard with SEPTARS
- 13 FEB - 1st Annual All Hands Valentine's Day party
- 15 FEB - Commenced Evaluation of Bulldog missile with MK-34 SEPTARS

- 4 MAR - Commenced Camp Lejeune Support of Marine Hawk missile exercise, with Dets CHARLIE and ECHO providing MQM-74A Target Services.

- 1 APR - Det BRAVO at Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations
- 22 APR - Det CHARLIE commenced 16 day cruise on board USS NASHVILLE in Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range with SEPTAR targets
- 24 APR - Det ECHO commenced two week deployment at Camp Lejeune with MQM-74A Jet Targets in support of Air-to-Air missile exercise for Second MAW

- 12 MAY - Det DELTA on board USS SHAKORI providing SEPTAR target services
- 16 MAY - First long distance control of MQM-74A jet target. Two drones flew 80 miles from launch site, both recovered.

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- 17 MAY - Det CHARLIE relieves Det BRAVO at Dam Neck Facility
 - 28 MAY - Det ALFA at Dam Neck Facility for training

 - 1 JUN - Det ECHO commences three month Med cruise providing SEPTAR target services aboard USS BUTTE
 - 13 JUN - Dets ALFA and BRAVO on board USS SPARTANBURG COUNTY providing MQM-36A and MK-33 SEPTAR services
 - 14 JUN - First VC-6 night SEPTAR operations from USS SPARTANBURG COUNTY
 - 22 JUN - Det BRAVO provides SEPTAR operations on board USS MOSOPELIA for three days of operations

 - 1 JUL - Det DELTA relieves Det CHARLIE at Dam Neck
 - 16 JUL - Det ALFA commences five month UNITAS XIII cruise around South America providing MQM-36A Prop Drone Services to U.S. and South American Navies.
 - 20 JUL - Dets BRAVO and CHARLIE deploy to Camp Lejeune for seven days of MQM-74A operations with Marine Hawk missile exercise and Second MAW aircraft
 - 21 JUL - Commander G. F. RYAN relieves Commander T. A. GASSER as Commanding Officer of Fleet Composite Squadron SIX
 - 31 JUL - Det BRAVO relieves Det CHARLIE at Dam Neck Launch Facility for local MQM-74A operations

 - 23 AUG - Det DELTA commences deployment to Med on board USS GREAT SITKIN relieving Det ECHO for SEPTAR operations

 - 14 SEP - Det CHARLIE provides SEPTAR target services on board USS RECOVERY

 - 15 OCT - Commence one week operations at Pine Castle, Florida, providing SEPTAR services on Lake George. Det ECHO relieves Det BRAVO at Dam Neck Facility providing MQM-74A target services for local operations

 - 30 NOV - Det ALFA returns from South America, Det DELTA returns from Med cruise. Det ECHO provides MQM-74A Jet Drone services at Camp Lejeune

 - 21 DEC - Major DeSa, Portuguese Air Force on board VC-6 for Sunny Seas Operational planning
 - 31 DEC - All MQM-33 Prop Drone operations cease
3. The following narrative discusses the command organization, operations, and topics of special interest:

a. Location/Command

Fleet Composite Squadron SIX is located at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Virginia. From 9 July 1971 to 21 July 1972, VC-6 was commanded by Commander T. A. GASSER, USN. On 21 July 1972, Commander Gerald F. RYAN assumed command. Enclosure (a) is a biography and photograph of Commander RYAN. The command is under the operational and administrative command of COMNAVAIRLANT.

b. Mission.

The FLECOMPRON SIX Mission is to provide remotely controlled aerial and surface target services for Fleet Weapons Systems Training, including Air-to-Air, Air-to-Surface, Surface-to-Air, and Surface-to-Surface guns and missiles. Enclosure (2) provides a description and pictures of three types of target drones operated by VC-6.

c. Organization.

1. Fleet Composite Squadron SIX does not deploy as a unit, but operates on a detachment concept. The Squadron organization is composed of a parent command, five deployable detachments and one detachment permanently based ashore at Dam Neck, Virginia.

2. The deploying detachments are each composed of one officer and from seven to eleven enlisted personnel. These detachments deploy with both surface and aerial target systems. Thirty-nine individual deployments, ranging from one day to five months in duration, were made by the deploying detachments in 1972. Enclosure (6) is a statistical summary of deployed operations. VC-6 Detachment Dam Neck is permanently located at the Fleet Combat Directions Systems Training Center, Dam Neck, Virginia, with a complement of one officer and twenty enlisted men. This detachment operated the MQM-33 prop drone and MK-33 SEPTAR boat drone in 1972, and is responsible for maintaining the MQM-74A launch site at Dam Neck. Operational training for all VC-6 drone controllers and detachment personnel is conducted at Dam Neck.

d. Personnel.

The following is a resume of the personnel manning level, advancements, and reenlistments for 1972:

1. As of 31 December, the Squadron had on board 90 percent of its officer allowance.

2. The 1972 reenlistment rate was 19 percent of first cruise eligible candidates, and 93 percent of career personnel. A 33 percent overall reenlistment rate was realized in 1972.

3. Promotions from the February/August advancement exams were attained by 42 of the 133 personnel who participated in the exams.

4. As of 31 December the Squadron had on board 104% of enlisted shore tour allowance and 99% of its sea tour allowance.

5. Beneficial suggestions turned in resulted in cash awards of \$180.00. Nine suggestions submitted received recognition and 3 are presently being investigated.


E. C. BERNARD

SUMMARY OF VC-6 OPERATIONS, CY 1972

	DAM NECK	DEPLOYING DETS	COMBINED
LAUNCH ATTEMPTS	259	166	425
SAT LAUNCH ATTEMPTS	255	147	402
SORTIES PROVIDED FOR SHIPS	2	23	25
SORTIES PROVIDED FOR A/C	84	91	175
SHIPS SERVICED	5	49	54
AIRCRAFT SERVICED	280	268	548
OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURES	29	34	63
HIT/KILL EXPENDITURES	12	20	32
SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS PER LAUNCH ATTEMPT	150	117	267
DAM NECK GUN LINE	51	N/A	51

VC-6 DETACHMENT DEPLOYMENTS, CY 1972

JAN - DELTA (MOSOPELIA 15-20)

FEB - DELTA (ATAKAPA 7-29)
ECHO (MOSOPELIA 19-20)

MAR - DELTA (ATAKAPA 1-10)
CHARLIE (5-20 LEJEUNE)
ECHO (5-20 LEJEUNE)

APR - BRAVO (D/N 1-30)
CHARLIE (NASHVILLE 22-30)
ECHO (LEJEUNE 24-30)

MAY - BRAVO (D/N 1-16)
CHARLIE (NASHVILLE 1-6) (16-31 D/N)
DELTA (SHAKORI 12-13)
ECHO (1-5 LEJEUNE)
ALFA (28-31 D/N)

JUN - ALFA (D/N 1-10) (SPARTENBURG COUNTY 14-16)
BRAVO (SPARTENBURG COUNTY 14-16) (MOSEDELIA 22-26)
CHARLIE (1-30 D/N)
DELTA (D/N 20-30)
ECHO (MED SEPTAR 1-30)

JUL - ALFA (UNITAS 13, 18-31)
BRAVO (D/N 13-15) (LEJEUNE 22-28) (AFWR 31)
CHARLIE (D/N 6-8) (LEJEUNE 22-28)
DELTA (D/N 1-30)
ECHO (1-31 MED SEPTAR)

AUG - ALFA (1-31 UNITAS 13)
BRAVO (1-11 AFWR) 18-31 D/N
CHARLIE (D/N 6-18)
ECHO (1-26 MED)
DELTA (24-31 MED SEPTAR)

SEP - ALFA (UNITAS 1-30)
BRAVO (D/N 1-30)
CHARLIE (15 RECOVERY) (26 D/N)
DELTA (1-30 MED)

OCT - ALFA (UNITAS 1-31)
BRAVO (1-15 D/N)
CHARLIE (LAKE GEORGE 16-21)
DELTA (MED 1-31)
ECHO (16-31 D/N)

NOV - ALFA (1-30 UNITAS)
BRAVO (13-14 ATAKAPA) (29-30 D/N)
CHARLIE (17-27 D/N)
DELTA (1-21 MED)
ECHO (1-17 D/N) (30 LEJEUNE)

MQM-74A at Dam Neck

Month	Attempts	SAT Attempts	Ship Sorties	A/C Sorties	Gun Line	Ship SERV	A/C SERV	Operation Expenditures	H+R	Success
JAN	4	4	3	2	0	1	6	3	0	2
FEB	5	4	1	0	3	1	0	2	0	3
MAR	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
APR	14	14	0	5	9	0	18	6	1	7
MAY	15	15	2	7	5	1	30	4	0	11
JUN	14	14	0	12	0	0	60	4	3	10
JUL	7	7	0	4	0	0	13	1	2	7
AUG	12	12	0	6	4	0	24	2	1	7
SEP	11	11	0	7	2	0	28	5	1	8
OCT	6	6	0	3	2	0	12	1	2	6
NOV	9	9	0	4	2	0	16	0	2	9
DEC	7	5	0	5	1	0	17	4	0	5
Total	105	103	6	55	30	3	224	32	12	75
MQM 33/36 at Dam Neck										
JAN	17	17	2	5	14	0	0	3	0	9
FEB	7	7	0	0	7	0	0	1	0	5
MAR	11	11	0	0	11	0	0	4	0	6
APR	10	10	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	7
MAY	4	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1
JUN	20	20	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	10
JUL	6	6	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	5
AUG	5	5	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	3
SEP	6	6	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	4
OCT	8	8	0	0	8	0	0	2	0	4
NOV	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
DEC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	95	95	2	5	79	0	0	14	0	55
SEPTAR at Dam Neck										
JAN	5	5	0	5		0	8	0	0	3
FEB	11	11	0	6		0	7	0	0	8
MAR	10	10	0	7		0	7	0	0	7
APR	11	11	0	7		0	13	0	0	7
MAY	3	3	0	2		0	6	0	0	2
JUN	7	7	0	1		0	4	0	0	4
JUL	3	3	0	1		0	8	0	1	3
AUG	2	2	0	1		0	1	0	0	2
SEP	3	3	0	1		0	1	0	0	3
OCT	1	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	1
NOV	1	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	1
DEC	1	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	1
Total	58	58	0	31		0	55	0	1	41

MQM-74A away from Dam Neck
(including Souda Bay)

Month	Attempts	SAT Attempts	Ships Sorties	Ship SERV	A/C	A/C SERV	Expenditures	Killed	Success
JAN	6	6	2	1	4	16	1	0	5
FEB				NONE					
MAR	47	44	4	3	40	64	7	14	35
APR				NONE					
MAY	26	23	4	2	19	33	7	7	22
JUN	9	9	4	2	7	26	1	4	9
JUL	29	27	3	1	22	47	11	4	25
AUG				NONE					
SEP				NONE					
OCT				NONE					
NOV	12	12	2	1	7	23	2	3	12
DEC	19	19	3	2	16	51	5	1	11
	<u>148</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>119</u>

MQM-36 away from Dam Neck
(UNITAS 13)

JAN				NONE					
FEB				NONE					
MAR				NONE					
APR				NONE					
MAY				NONE					
JUN	4	3	3	1			1	0	2
JUL				NONE					
AUG	5	5	2	8			1	0	3
SEP	4	4	4	6			0	1	4
OCT	11	10	5	8			3	0	6
NOV	5	4	4	6			1	0	4
DEC				NONE					
	<u>25</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>28</u>			<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>17</u>

SEPTAR away from Dam Neck

JAN	3	3	2	2	3	11	0	0	3
FEB	5	4	5	6	0	0	0	0	4
MAR				NONE					
APR	3	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	3
MAY	5	5	0	0	2	8	0	2	5
JUN	6	6	3	0	2	8	0	2	5
JUL	8	8	2	1	6	24	0	0	8
AUG	1	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	1
SEP	2	2	0	0	2	8	0	1	2
OCT	7	7	1	1	6	13	0	0	7
NOV	18	16	8	6	8	27	0	0	12
DEC				NONE					
	<u>58</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>51</u>