

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

UC-6

(173

VC-6/00/jn  
5750  
Ser: 237

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9 MAY 1974

From: Commanding Officer, Fleet Composite Squadron SIX  
To: Chief of Naval Operations {OP-0502}  
Subj: Fleet Composite Squadron SIX Command History for  
Calendar Year 1973 {OPNAV Report 5750-1}  
Ref: {a} OPNAVINST 5750.12  
Encl: {1} Biography and photograph of Commanding Officer  
{2} Composite photo and general description 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 1973 is submitted.

2. The significant events, and highlights of 1973 are listed in the following chronology:

- 5 JAN - Det ECHO at Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 12 JAN - Det BRAVO deployed aboard RFA TIDESPRING for Operation Sunny Seas.
- 13 JAN - Det CHARLIE deployed aboard PICO for Operation Sunny Seas.
- 15 JAN - Det DELTA at Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 23 JAN - Det ECHO deployed aboard the USS ATAKAPA for 3 days of SEPTAR Operations.
- 1 FEB - Det DELTA at Dam Neck for Local MQM-74A Operations.
- 9 FEB - 2nd Annual All Hands Valentine's Day Dinner Dance.

VC-6/00/jn  
5750  
Ser:

- 11 FEB - Det ECHO at Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 25 FEB - Det BRAVO at Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 13 MAR - Det CHARLIE deployed aboard USS ATAKAPA for 2 days of SEPTAR Operations.
- 2 APR - Det DELTA to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 15 APR - Det ALFA to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 17 APR - Det CHARLIE deployed aboard USS ESCAPE for 5 days of SEPTAR Operations.
- 19 APR - Det BRAVO deployed USS SIMS for 3 days of MQM-74A Operations.
- 24 APR - Det ECHO deployed aboard USS PRESERVER for 6 days of SEPTAR Operations.
- 3 MAY - Det BRAVO deployed to Camp Lejeune to provide MQM-74A services in support of Second MAW.
- 7 MAY - Det DELTA deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 21 MAY - Det ECHO deployed aboard USS EDENTON for 5 days of SEPTAR services.
- 28 MAY - Det BRAVO deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 1 JUN - Det ALFA deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 4 JUN - CDR RYAN, Commanding Officer, VC-6, received a letter of appreciation from Mr. John J. Kelly, University of Alaska for the donation and fine performance of our last FIREFISH target boat.

VC-6/00/jn  
5750  
Ser:

- 4 JUN - Det DELTA deployed to Dam Neck for MQM-36A Training.
- 6 JUN - VC-6 All Hands Party.
- 7 JUN - Det CHARLIE deployed to Lake George for 1 week of SEPTAR Operations.
- 11 JUN - Det BRAVO deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 12 JUN - Det ECHO deployed aboard the USS PRESERVER for 4 days of SEPTAR Operations.
- 14 JUN - Det ALFA deployed aboard the USS SELLERS for 2 weeks of MQM-74A Operations.
- 24 JUN - Det DELTA deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 25 JUN - Det CHARLIE deployed aboard the USS PAPAGO for 4 days of SEPTAR Operations.
- 1 JUL - TACTICAL SUPPORT WING ONE Commissioned. Fleet Composite Squadron SIX placed under the Administrative and Operational command of COMTACSUPWING ONE.
- 1 JUL - Det BRAVO deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 5 JUL - Det DELTA deployed to Dam Neck for 3 days of MQM-36A training.
- 13 JUL - Det DELTA deployed aboard USS VESOLE for 5 month UNITAS XIV cruise.
- 20 JUL - CDR E. C. BERNARD relieved CDR G. F. RYAN as Commanding Officer of Fleet Composite Squadron SIX.
- 26 JUL - Det ALFA deployed aboard USS SAGINAW for 3 weeks of MQM-74A Operations.
- 16 AUG - Det ALFA deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A Operations.
- 27 AUG - Det CHARLIE deployed aboard USS PAPAGO for 3 days of SEPTAR Operations.

- 9 SEP - Det BRAVO deployed to Camp Lejeune for one week of MQM-74A operations in support of Second MAW.
  - 16 SEP - Det BRAVO deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A operations.
  - 17 SEP - Det ALFA and Det ECHO deployed aboard USS PONCE for 2 weeks of MQM-74A and SEPTAR operations.
  - 12 OCT - Fleet Composite Squadron SIX celebrated Navy Birthday with All Hands Picnic.
  - 14 OCT - Det ALFA deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A operations.
  - 25 OCT - Det BRAVO deployed to Camp Lejeune for 2 weeks of MQM-74A operations in support of Second MAW.
  - 26 OCT - Det CHARLIE deployed to Lake George, Fla. for 3 weeks of SEPTAR operations.
  - 7 NOV - Det Little Creek established at Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia.
  - 14 NOV - Fleet Composite Squadron SIX received a letter of appreciation from NORTHROP Corporation for support provided to the NV-128 LORAN Demonstration.
  - 21 NOV - All Hands Personnel Inspection in Service Dress Blue Uniform.
  - 26 NOV - Det BRAVO deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A operations.
  - 16 DEC - Det ALFA deployed to Dam Neck for local MQM-74A operations.
  - 17 DEC - Det DELTA return from UNITAS XIV cruise.
3. The following narrative discusses the command organization, operations, and topics of special interest.

VC-6/00/jn  
5750  
Ser:

a. Location/Command. Fleet Composite Squadron SIX is located at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Virginia. From 21 July 1972 to 20 July 1973, VC-6 was commanded by Commander Gerald F. RYAN, USN. On 20 July 1973, Commander Eugene C. BERNARD assumed command. Enclosure {1} is a biography and photograph of Commander BERNARD. The command came under the operational and administrative command of Commander Tactical Support Wing ONE on 1 July 1973.

b. Mission. 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 the types of target drones operated by VC-6.

c. Composition. Enclosure {3} enumerates the squadron complement of officer, enlisted, civilian and flight personnel as of 31 December 1973. Included in enclosure {3} are rosters of officer and enlisted personnel.

d. 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, since NOV 1973, two detachments permanently based ashore, one at Dam Neck, Virginia and one at the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia.

{2} The deploying detachments are each composed of one officer or chief petty officer and from seven to eleven enlisted personnel. These detachments deploy with both surface and aerial target systems. Forty-two individual deployments, ranging from one day to five months in duration, were made by the deploying detachments in 1973. Enclosure {4} 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 component of one officer and

thirteen enlisted men. This detachment is responsible for maintaining the MQM-74A launch site at Dam Neck. Operational training for all VC-6 MQM-74A drone controllers and detachment personnel is conducted at Dam Neck. VC-6 detachment Little Creek was established in November 1973 at the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia. This detachment operates the MK-35 SEPTAR drone boat and is responsible for the operational training of all MK-35 personnel.

e. Personnel. The following is a resume of the personnel manning level, advancements, and reenlistments for 1973:

{1} As of 31 December, the Squadron had on board 85 percent of the officer allowance.

{2} The 1973 reenlistment rate was 29 percent of first cruise eligible candidates, and 86 percent of career personnel. A 44 percent overall reenlistment rate was realized in 1973.

{3} Promotions from the February/August advancement exams were attained by 33 of the 105 personnel who participated in the exams.

{4} As of 31 December the squadron had on board 116% of enlisted shore tour allowance and 116% of its sea tour allowance.

{5} Two Beneficial Suggestions were submitted of which one is still under consideration.

  
E. C. BERNARD

Summary of VC-6 operations, CY1973

	DAM NECK	DEPLOYING DETS	COMBINED
Launch Attempts	137	201	338
SAT launch attempts	124	185	309
Sorties provided for ships	0	105	105
Sorties provided for A/C	49	85	137
Ships serviced	0	87	87
A/C serviced	169	368	537
Operational expenditures	30	28	58
Hit & Kill expenditures	11	24	35
Successful operation per launch attempt	103	145	248
Dam Neck Gunline	72	N/A	72

VC-4 DETACHMENT DEPLOYMENT: CY1973

JANUARY - BRAVO {Sunny Seas 12 - 31}  
CHARLIE {Sunny Seas 13 - 31}  
DELTA {D/N 15 - 31}  
ECHO {D/N 5 - 12} {Fleet Tug 23 - 25}

FEBRUARY - BRAVO {Sunny Seas 1 - 4} {D/N 25 - 28}  
CHARLIE {Sunny Seas 1 - 4}  
DELTA {D/N 1 - 11}  
ECHO {D/N 11 - 24}

MARCH - BRAVO {D/N 1 - 17}  
CHARLIE {USS Atakapa 13 & 14}

APRIL - ALFA {D/N 15 - 30}  
BRAVO {USS Sims 19 - 21}  
CHARLIE {USS Escape 17 - 21}  
DELTA {D/N 2 - 15}  
ECHO {USS Preserver 24 - 29}

MAY - ALFA {D/N 1 - 7}  
BRAVO {Camp Lejeune 3 - 12} {D/N 28 - 31}  
DELTA {D/N 7 - 26}  
ECHO {USS Edenton 21 - 24}

JUNE - ALFA {D/N 1 - 9} {USS Sellers 14 - 23}  
BRAVO {D/N 11 - 24}  
CHARLIE {Lake George 7 - 12} {USS Papago 25 - 28}  
DELTA {D/N 4 - 11} {D/N 24 - 30}  
ECHO {USS Preserver 12 - 15}

JULY - ALFA {USS Saginaw 26 - 31}  
BRAVO {D/N 1 - 31}  
DELTA {D/N 5 - 7} {UNITAS 13 - 31}

AUGUST - ALFA {USS Saginaw 1 - 15} {D/N 16 - 31}  
BRAVO {D/N 1 - 11}  
CHARLIE {USS Papago 27 - 29}  
DELTA {UNITAS 1 - 31}

SEPTEMBER - ALFA {1 - 15} {USS Ponce 17 - 28}  
BRAVO {Camp Lejuene 9 - 14} {D/N 16 - 30}  
DELTA {UNITAS 1 - 30}  
ECHO {USS Ponce 17 - 28}

OCTOBER - ALFA {USS Ponce 1 - 5} {D/N 14 - 31}  
BRAVO {D/N 1 - 13} {Camp Lejuene 25 - 31}  
CHARLIE {Lake George 26 - 31}  
DELTA {UNITAS 1 - 31}

NOVEMBER - ALFA {D/N 1 - 26}  
BRAVO {Camp Lejuene 1 - 10} {D/N 26 - 30}  
CHARLIE {Lake George 1 - 19}  
DELTA {UNITAS 1 - 30}

DECEMBER - ALFA {D/N 16 - 31}  
BRAVO {D/N 1 - 16}  
DELTA {1 - 17 UNITAS}

MQM-74A at Dam Neck

Month	Attempts	SAT Attempts	Ship Sorties	A/C Sorties	Gun Line	Ship Serv	A/C Serv	Operational Expenditures	H&K	Successful
JAN	11	10		6	4		18	3	0	6
FEB	8	8	N	4	1	N	14	2	2	8
MAR	4	4		2	2		6	2	0	3
APR	22	20		5	11		18	7	2	19
MAY	14	11	0	8	5	0	24	4	2	11
JUN	22	20		14	4		56	6	3	12
JUL	6	5		3	3		9	1	1	4
AUG	2	2	N	0	2	N	0	1	0	1
SEP	7	7		0	6		0	1	0	6
OCT	10	9		1	9		4	1	0	6
NOV	15	15	E	2	14	E	8	1	0	6
DEC	4	4		4	0		12	0	1	4
Total	125	115		49	66		169	29	11	94

MQM-74A away from Dam Neck  
{including Souda Bay}

Month	Attempts	SAT Attempts	Ship Sorties	A/C Sorties	Ship Serv	A/C Serv	Operational Expenditures	H&K	Successful
JAN	13	10	13	0	10	0	2	1	7
FEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
APR	10	8	3	5	5	32	1	1	7
MAY	22	21	23	0	10	0	3	2	9
JUN	14	14	5	9	5	36	2	4	11
JUL	4	3	4	0	3	0	1	0	3
AUG	7	6	6	0	4	0	2	0	6
SEP	14	13	4	4	6	8	3	4	10
OCT	7	7	7	0	7	0	1	1	5
NOV	23	21	11	12	3	36	7	5	16
DEC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	114	103	76	30	53	112	22	18	74

MQM-36A at Dam Neck

Month	Attempts	SAT Attempts	Ship Sorties	A/C Sorties	Gun Line	Ship Serv	A/C Serv	Operational Expenditures	H&K	Successful
JAN	0	0			0			0		0
FEB	0	0	N	N	0	N	N	0	N	0
MAR	0	0			0			0		0
APR	0	0			0			0		0
MAY	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
JUN	7	6			6			0		6
JUL	0	0			0			0		0
AUG	0	0	N	N	0	N	N	0	N	0
SEP	0	0			0			0		0
OCT	0	0			0			0		0
NOV	0	0	E	E	0	E	E	0	E	0
DEC	0	0			0			0		0
Total	12	9			6			1		9

MQM-36A away from Dam Neck  
{UNITAS 14}

Month	Attempts	SAT Attempts	Ship Sorties	A/C Sorties	Ship Serv	A/C Serv	Operational Expenditures	H&K	Successful
JAN	0	0	0		0		0		0
FEB	0	0	0	N	0	N	0	N	0
MAR	0	0	0		0		0		0
APR	0	0	0		0		0		0
MAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JUN	0	0	0		0		0		0
JUL	2	2	2		2		0		2
AUG	6	6	6	N	6	N	2	N	3
SEP	4	3	4		3		2		3
OCT	0	0	0		0		0		0
NOV	9	9	9	E	10	E	1	E	7
DEC	2	1	2		4		1		1
Total	23	21	23		25		6		16

MK-33 SEPTAR away from Dam Neck\*

Month	Attempts	SAT Attempts	Ship Sorties	A/C Sorties	Ship Serv	A/C Serv	Operational Expenditures	H&K	Successful
JAN	4	4	4	0	5	0		0	2
FEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	0
MAR	4	4	0	4	0	10		2	4
APR	6	5	0	6	0	24		0	3
MAY	3	3	0	3	0	5	0	0	3
JUN	14	13	1	14	1	79		2	13
JUL	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
AUG	13	13	0	13	0	68	N	0	13
SEP	10	9	5	5	5	12		2	7
OCT	1	1	0	1	0	6		0	1
NOV	9	9	0	9	0	52	E	0	9
DEC	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
Total	64	61	10	55	11	256		6	55

\* No MK-33 SEPTAR operations from Dam Neck during CY-73