

6 RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

794 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 19 May 1943
Activated, 1 Aug 1943
Redesignated 794 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 20 Nov 1943
Redesignated 6 Reconnaissance Squadron, Very Long Range, Photographic-RCM, 17 Dec 1945
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1946
Redesignated 6 Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Medium, 14 Jan 1955
Activated, 24 Jan 1955
Redesignated 6 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 25 Oct 1961
Discontinued and inactivated, 25 Jun 1962
Designated 6 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy and activated, 15 Nov 1962
Organized, 1 Feb 1963
Inactivated, 31 Dec 1969
Redesignated 6 Reconnaissance Squadron, 20 Oct 2009
Activated, 23 Oct 2009

STATIONS

Smoky Hill AAFld, KS, 1 Aug 1943-12 Mar 1944
Kharagpur, India, 13 Apr 1944-4 May 1945
West Field, Tinian, 7 May-15 Nov 1945
Fort Worth AAFld, TX, 1 Dec 1945
Roswell AAFld, NM, 9 Jan-31 Mar 1946
Little Rock AFB, AR, 24 Jan 1955-25 Jun 1962
Clinton-Sherman AFB, OK, 1 Feb 1963-31 Dec 1969
Holloman AFB, NM, 23 Oct 2009

ASSIGNMENTS

468 Bombardment Group, 1 Aug 1943

311 Reconnaissance Wing, 7-31 Mar 1946
70 Strategic Reconnaissance (later, 70 Bombardment) Wing, 24 Jan 1955-25 Jun 1962
Strategic Air Command, 15 Nov 1962
70 Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1963-31 Dec 1969
49 Operations Group, 23 Oct 2009

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1943
B-29, 1943-1946
RB-47, 1955-1962
B-52E, 1963-1968
B-52C, 1968-1969
B-52D, 1968-1969
MQ-1, 2009

COMMANDERS

Capt Charles H. Reeves, 15 Sep 1943
Lt Col Edward C. Teats, 19 Sep 1943
Maj Robert S. Clinkscales, 28 Sep 1943
Maj Donald J. Humphrey, 21 Aug 1944
Lt Col Philip Hennin, 9 Oct 1944
Maj Walter R. George, 28 Nov 1944
Maj Clarence C. Mcpherson, 12 Jun 1945
Unkn-31 Mar 1946
Maj Carl A. Kluender, 24 Jan 1955
Unkn, 18 Feb 1955
Lt Col Marston T. Westbrook, 19 Apr 1955
Maj Delbert R. Lawson, 1 Jul 1957
Maj Frank D. Crook, 1 Sep 1957
Lt Col Marston T. Westbrook, Nov 1957
Lt Col Gerald M. Adams, Apr 1958
Lt Col Albert S. Harwell, Jr., Jul 1958
Lt Col John H. Blumenstock, Nov 1958
Maj Fred Davison, Apr 1959-25 Jan 1962
Unkn, 26 Jan-25 Jun 1962
Lt Col Henry T. Wilson, Jr., Feb 1963
Lt Col Joseph C. Henderson, 17 Feb 1965
Lt Col Donald L. Stallsmith, 31 Mar 1966
Lt Col Harold J. Hickox, 31 Mar 1967
Lt Col Kenneth Peterson, 23 Apr 1968
Lt Col Arthur T. Waaland, 31 Dec 1968
Lt Col William A. Bryan, Jr., 29 Sep 1969
Lt Col B. P. Payne, Dec-31 Dec 1969
Lt Col Ryan C. Sherwood, 23 Oct 2009

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaigns

World War II

India-Burma

Air Offensive, Japan

China Defensive

Western Pacific

Central Burma

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

Yawata, Japan, 20 Aug 1944

Tokyo and Yokohama, Japan, 23-29 May 1945

Takazuka, Japan, 24 Jul 1945

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

15 Feb-30 Dec 1957

15 Apr-1 Oct 1968

EMBLEM



Approved, 20 May 1964



MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Trained former B-17 aircrews to operate the B-29; flew supply missions from India into China over the Himalaya Mountains and bombed enemy targets in Southeast Asia and Japan during Operation MATTERHORN, Oct 1944 to May 1945; after relocation to the Mariana Islands, flew long range missions to bomb targets in Japan from May to Aug 1945; in Dec 1945, began transition to reconnaissance mission when inactivated in Mar 1946. After reactivation in Jan 1955, conducted strategic reconnaissance on a global scale and provided reconnaissance reports and target material as requested; in 1958, trained aircrews for B-47 transition and crew training; reequipped and trained crews to operate the RB-47, the reconnaissance version of the jet bomber, in Oct 1961 until inactivation in Jun 1962. After reactivation in 1963, operated the B-52 to deter nuclear war and, if necessary, conduct global offensive bombing missions. Several squadron aircraft and aircrews deployed to Andersen AFB, Guam, on a rotating basis from summer 1968 to Dec 1969 to participate in Operation ARC LIGHT, the bombing of enemy concentrations in South Vietnam by B-52s.

Squadron acquired the B-52Es previously used by 98 BS, 4123d Strategic Wing, which it flew until 1968, when re-equipped with B-52D, which it flew for a year. Some B-52C were also assigned in 1968-69.

Redesignated as the 6 Reconnaissance Squadron and activated in Oct 2009, this time to train officers as pilots and enlisted personnel as sensor operators for flight operations of the MQ-1 Predator.

An MQ-1 Predator remotely piloted aircraft crashed last week at Holloman AFB, N.M., as it was returning from a training mission. The aircraft was assigned to the 6th Reconnaissance Squadron, a component of Holloman's RPA schoolhouse. There were no injuries and no damage to private property in the Oct. 22 mishap. A board will be convened to investigate the accident's cause.
2010

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.