# **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 AAFId, 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 AAFId, TX, 1 Dec 1945 Roswell AAFId, 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**

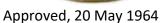
# **Decorations**

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**









### **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.