

6th RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

LINEAGE

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

468th Bombardment Group, 1 Aug 1943
311st Reconnaissance Wing, 7-31 Mar 1946
70th Strategic Reconnaissance (later, 70th Bombardment) Wing, 24 Jan 1955-25 Jun 1962
Strategic Air Command, 15 Nov 1962

70th Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1963-31 Dec 1969
49th Operations Group, 23 Oct 2009

WEAPON SYSTEMS

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

RB-47, 1955
B-52E, 1963-1968
B-52C, 1968-1969
B-52D, 1968-1969

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS

B-52E
60631
60639
60642
60650
60699
60700
60702
60703
60712
70019
70022
70119
70122
70124
70130
70131

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES

UNIT COLORS

COMMANDERS

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

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaigns

World War II
India-Burma
Air Offensive, Japan
China Defensive

Western Pacific
Central Burma

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

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

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

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.

The 49th Fighter Wing at Holloman AFB, N.M., activated four new squadrons Oct. 23, adding the 29th Attack Squadron, 6th Reconnaissance Squadron, 16th Training Squadron, and 849th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (Provisional). The 29th ATKS, 6th RS, and 16th TS all serve as remotely piloted vehicle training units under the 49th Operations Group, which oversees training in MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper RPVs. The 849th AMXS falls under the 49th Maintenance Group and is responsible for maintaining both RPVs. Original members of all four units worked initially at Creech AFB, Nev., the Air Force's first RPV formal training unit and transferred to Holloman under detachments to set up the New Mexico facility at the new unmanned FTU central. Holloman flew its first Reaper flight last month achieved initial operational capability with the Predator in September, and expects to fully replace Creech as the primary FTU by 2012. 2009

An MQ-1 Predator remotely piloted aircraft crashed last week at Holloman AFB, N.M., as it was returning from a training mission, base officials stated in a release. 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, they said. A board will be convened to investigate the accident's cause. 2010

Combat in CBI and Western Pacific, 5 Jun 1944-14 Aug 1945.

Acquired B-52Es previously used by the 98 BS/4123 SW on 1/2/63.

431106 YB-29 41-36959 LACMF Clinkscapes, Robert J Smoky Hill AAF, KS
440318 B-17F 42-30562 BOEF Gage, John L 11/2 Mi N Douglas, WY
440625 B-29 42-6334 LAC Benedict, Charles C
441128 B-29 42-24706 KCRF Hennin, Philip F
450806 B-29 42-24734 LAC Kraines, Maurice H North Fld

Air Force Order of Battle

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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.