

The amphibian aircraft are normally based and operated from Beverly Airport, Beverly, Massachusetts, a Naval Auxiliary Air Facility of Naval Air Station, Squantum, Massachusetts.

In addition to its routine patrols this Squadron completed 12 escort missions and 3 special searches.

A JRF-5 while on an administrative hop to Nantucket was ordered to make a search for the Vineyard Sound Lightship reported off station after the hurricane. It made a search from New Bedford to Pt. Judith to Block Island to Nantucket to Pollock Rip to Woods Hole. The search proved negative.

Because of adverse weather conditions all flights were cancelled on September 13, 14, 18, 21, and 23.

"No operations. Preparations for evacuation of 2 JRF's and 2 PBM's continued due to threat of hurricane centered 50 miles east of Snow Hill, Maryland at 1600. Hurricane Condition II effective at 1220 for this area. Hurricane Condition I effective at 1605. Visibility less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile at Salem. Flying conditions undesirable. Center of Hurricane passed 20 miles east of Salem at 0140, 15 September with this station experiencing gusts to 75 mph., causing damage to old ramp and several trees. No planes were damaged."

(c) ZP-11 Blimp Patrol Squadron, South Weymouth, Mass.

Ships available during the month were:

K-15	K-19
K-25	K-69
K-27	K-38 (Received from NAS Lakehurst 15 Sept.)
K-34	K-9 (Deflated at Yarmouth, N.S. 30 Sept.)

Blimp Squadron ELEVEN operates from NAS South Weymouth, under Commander Task Group 02.1.3 (Commander Northern Air Group), Commander Task Group 02.1 (Commander Northern Group) and Commander Task Force 02 (Commander Eastern Sea Frontier). This BlimpRon has no subordinate units, but operates ZNP K-type airships assigned to it by Commander Fleet Airships. ATLANTIC.

Armament and equipment, so far, has varied with the different blimps. In general, they carry two free .30 cal. machine guns, one fore, and one aft, four 325 pounds depth charges set for 50 feet, MAD equipment, Radio (2 transmitters), and Radar. Fuel load usually carried is 600 gallons, the exact

CHAPTER III - OPERATIONS OF GROUP TASK UNITS. C. Northern Air Group.

volume varying between 500 and 700 gallons, according to the estimated duration of each patrol. Blimps are able to operate for as long as 48 hours if necessary. (For full details on these blimps, see Chapter IV, page 5, "History of Group One Operations" which was included as Annex A (No. 7) of the December '42 War Diary.)

Because of weather conditions all flying was secured on four days: September 5, 13, 14, and 18.

The blimps made a total of 106 flights which were subdivided as follows:

Escort	11
Night Escort	14
Escort & Patrol	2
Patrol	42
Training	27
Ferry	3
Others	7

106

"16 September to 24 September the K-69, Task Unit 22.3.2, Lieutenant R.T. CONNOR, pilot, took off from NAS, South Weymouth at 1640Z enroute to Argentia, N.F. to assist in anti-submarine operations by the use of special equipment. The K-69 arrived at Argentia 17 September after having landed and refueled at Sidney, N.S. The K-69 was ordered to standby at Argentia. From 17 September to 24 September the K-69 was masted at Argentia and a watch was kept in the ship by members of the combat air crews. During this time the K-69 successfully rode out rain and winds which at one time reached a velocity of 60 knots and were often greater than 40 knots. On 24 September at 0750Z Lieutenant Commander BOLAM pilot, the K-69 took off from Argentia for NAS, South Weymouth and landed at NAS, South Weymouth at 2238Z."

"30 September the K-9, Lieutenant R.T. CONNOR, USNR, Command Pilot, struck the mast and deflated while landing at the RCAF Air Station, Yarmouth, N.S. at 1143Q. The pilots and members of the crew escaped injury. HARTSE, L.E., M2/c fell from the top of the mooring mast and suffered serious injuries, but is expected to recover. Passengers on this flight, a combination Anti-Sub Sweep and Indoctrination flight to Yarmouth, N.S. were Wing Commander H.V. HERVERY, RCAF and Lt. Craig SEVERANCE, USNR, LTA representative, Wing NINE."