

ORIGINAL

1967

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HELICOPTER ANTI-SUBMARINE SQUADRON TWO  
FPO, SAN FRANCISCO, 96601

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OO:CAB:Jrr

5750

Ser. 07

01 MAR 1968

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From: Commanding Officer, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron TWO  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05A5G)

Subj: Command History (1967); submission of (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12

Encl: (1) Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron TWO Command History  
(1967)

1. In accordance with reference (a) the HS-2 Command History for  
1967 is hereby submitted.

*C. A. Butler*

C. A. BUTLER

Copy to:  
CNO (OP-09B9)  
CINCPACFLT

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PART I - CHRONOLOGY OF HIGHLIGHTS

4-12 JAN SNATCHBLOCK Operation, Major 1st Fleet Exercise (SOCAL).

19-26 JAN ASW Exercise (SOCAL).

13-24 FEB HUK ASW Exercise aboard USS HORNET under command of Commander Anti-Submarine Warfare Group THREE, RADM HARTY (SOCAL)

17 MAR Change of Command. CDR M. L. HOFFMAN relieved CDR J. E. WILLIAMS.

27 MAR HS-2 embarked aboard USS HORNET for WESTPAC.

9 APR First SAR Detachment detached at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for airlift to Task Force 77.

12-18 APR In port Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

26 APR Task Force 77 SAR Detachment rescued downed Navy attack pilot in Haiphong Harbor, North Vietnam.

28 APR - 5 MAR In port Yokosuka, Japan.

12 MAY Squadron aircraft lost in night ASW operation, pilots survived but two crewmen lost.

17-19 MAY In port Sasebo, Japan.

21 MAY SAR Detachment helo hit by enemy flak on SAR mission. Forced to land in Laos. Crew rescued, aircraft lost.

22 MAY Arrived "Yankee Station". Unsuccessful night rescue attempted in North Vietnam.

23 MAY SAR Detachment ONE rejoins squadron aboard USS HORNET. Successful rescue in North Vietnam. Another aircraft missing in action on combat mission over Gulf of Tonkin. Four personnel lost.

11 JUN Successful rescue in North Vietnam.

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20 JUN Aircraft crashed during take-off from USS WAINWRIGHT (DLG-28). No injuries to crew.

26 JUN Rescue of two airmen from Gulf of Tonkin.

27 JUN USS HORNET departed Yankee Station, HS-2 SAR Detachment TWO remained at "Yankee Station" aboard CVA.

29 JUN - 6 JUL USS HORNET in port Subic Bay, Republic of Phillipines.

6 JUL In port Manila. Aircraft accident in Manila Bay while making mail transfer to DD.

10 JUL Commenced SEATO Exercise, Operation SEADOG.

17 JUL Successful rescue over North Vietnam.

18 JUL Unsuccessful rescue attempt in North Vietnam. One crewman killed in action.

19 JUL Attempted rescue over North Vietnam. Aircraft shot down, four personnel killed in action.

26 JUL Operation SEADOG completed. Liberty in Bangkok, Thailand.

29 JUL USS HORNET departed Bangkok. Fire aboard USS FORRESTAL. Two SAR Detachment TWO personnel lost.

15 AUG USS HORNET departed "Yankee Station". SAR Detachment THREE remained aboard USS INTREPID (CVS-11).

16-20 AUG In port Hong Kong.

23 AUG - 4 SEP In port Sasebo, Japan.

5 SEP USS HORNET arrived at "Yankee Station". SAR Detachment THREE back aboard.

17 SEP Rescue of one pilot in the Gulf of Tonkin.

27 SEP Rescue of four crewmen from COD aircraft crash in Gulf of Tonkin.

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4 OCT      Rescue of four HC-1 helo crewmen in the Gulf of Tonkin.

11-16 OCT    In port Yokosuka. Relieved by HS-6 aboard USS KEARSARGE.

28 OCT.     USS HORNET arrived San Diego.

1 NOV        CVSG-57 Awards Ceremony.

18-26 DEC    Relief/Rescue Detachment sent to Luke AFB, Arizona where  
                  airevac and supply drops were flown from to assist snow-  
                  bound civilians.

27 DEC        Relief/Rescue Detachment personnel observed Christmas  
                  with families.

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PART II - BASIC NARRATIVE

1. Command Organization:

a. Commanding Officers -

(1) CDR James E. WILLIAMS, 1 January - 16 March

(2) CDR Merle L. HOFFMAN, 17 March - 31 December

(see Appendix I)

b. Mission of Command -

The squadron primary mission is anti-submarine warfare, but during the 1967 WESTPAC deployment the major effort was concentrated on Combat Search and Rescue in the Gulf of Tonkin and over North Vietnam. A limited ASW capability was maintained and the squadron participated in the SEATO ASW Exercise "Operation SEADOG". In addition, HS-2 SH-3A's were called upon to perform various other functions including: transfer of mail and personnel to isolated units of the task force; flying "angel" or plane guard flights for the carriers; and providing ship to shore logistics flights to support task force operations. During the 1967 Far East cruise, specially configured, armed and armor plated, SH-3A's were utilized as Search and Rescue aircraft. As a result of their use, ten downed aviators were rescued from imminent capture in North Vietnam and five pilots were returned from the coastal waters of North Vietnam.

c. Composition of Command -

(1) Aircraft Data

Number of SH-3A aircraft assigned for each month and availability:

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<u>MONTH</u>	<u>NO. of A/C</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY</u>
January	19	66.92%
February	19	67.50%
March	19	49.20%
April	21*	65.10%
May	20*	55.80%
June	18*	51.10%
July	18*	53.00%
August	18*	52.60%
September	17*	59.40%
October	17*	57.60%
November	14#	36.00%
December	14#	37.70%

\* included SAR Detachment aircraft.

# Post deployment and Christmas leave periods.

(2) Personnel data as of 31 December 1967:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
Complement -	71	323
Allowance	52	258
On Board	41	209 (see Appendices II & III)
Pilots/	37	0
Crewmen	0	16

(3) Personnel Casualties suffered during 1967

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>STATUS/CAUSE</u>
12 MAY 67	AX3 William Charles SOLANSKY, USN,	KILLED A/C ACCIDENT DURING NIGHT ASW OPS. SEA OF JAPAN
	699 69 75	

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>STATUS/CAUSE</u>
12 MAY 67	ATN3 Thomas Frederick CULLEN, USN 913 64 60	KILLED A/C ACCIDENT DURING NIGHT ASW OPS. SEA OF JAPAN
23 MAY 67	LT Richard Wendal HOMUTH, USN 580172/1310	KILLED IN ACTION. CAUSE UNKNOWN. GULF OF TONKIN
23 MAY 67	LTJG Thomas Edwin PETTIS, USNR 690882/1315	KILLED IN ACTION. CAUSE UNKNOWN. GULF OF TONKIN.
23 MAY 67	ADJ2 Ronald Phillip SOUCY, Sr., USN, 470 93 73	KILLED IN ACTION. CAUSE UNKNOWN. GULF OF TONKIN.
23 MAY 67	PR2 Eureka Lavern SCMITTOU, USN 396 56 29	KILLED IN ACTION. CAUSE UNKNOWN. GULF OF TONKIN.
18 JUL 67	AX2 David Roger CHATTERTON, USN 370 25 53	KILLED IN ACTION. DURING UNSUCCESSFUL RESCUE ATTEMPT IN NORTH VIETNAM
19 JUL 67	LT Dennis William PETERSON, USN 660896/1310	KILLED IN ACTION. AIR- CRAFT DOWN DURING RESCUE ATTEMPT IN NORTH VIETNAM
19 JUL 67	ENS Donald Patrick FRYE, USNR 710031/1315	KILLED IN ACTION. AIR- CRAFT DOWN DURING RESCUE ATTEMPT IN NORTH VIETNAM
19 JUL 67	AX2 William Braxton JACKSON, USN 362 30 84	KILLED IN ACTION. AIR- CRAFT DOWN DURING RESCUE ATTEMPT IN NORTH VIETNAM
19 JUL 67	AX2 Donald Paul MCGRANE, USN 549 67 83	KILLED IN ACTION. AIR- CRAFT DOWN DURING RESCUE

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ATTEMPT IN NORTH VIETNAM

29 JUL 67 AN Johnnie Lee FRAZIER, USN  
B70 05 09

KILLED DURING FIRE ON  
BOARD USS FORRESTAL

29 JUL 67 ADJ3 Edward Robert DORSEY, USN  
118 70 98

KILLED DURING FIRE ON  
BOARD USS FORRESTAL

2. Operations and Activities -

In preparation for its forthcoming WESTPAC deployment, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron TWO began the year by participating in a major fleet exercise, Operation SNATCHBLOCK from 4 January to 12 January. Two more ASW training exercises followed. The first from 19 to 26 January, and the second from 13 to 24 February. All of these exercises were conducted aboard USS HORNET (CVS-12). On 17 March, while temporarily based ashore at NAAS Ream Field, CDR M. L. HOFFMAN relieved CDR J. E. WILLIAMS as Commanding Officer of HS-2. (see Appendix IV) On 27 March HS-2 departed for WESTPAC aboard USS HORNET. The Squadron was a unit of Carrier Anti-Submarine Air Group FIFTY-SEVEN commanded by CDR T. E. STONE, which was assigned to Anti-Submarine Warfare Group THREE under the command of RADM H. L. HARTY, Jr.

During the period 3 through 8 April the Squadron was involved in the prosecution of an unidentified submarine contact in waters north of Hawaii. ASW Group THREE was joined by land-based patrol planes in this effort. On 9 April USS HORNET off-loaded the first HS-2 SAR Detachment in Pearl Harbor for airlift to "Yankee Station". The Detachment was airlifted to USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63) in the Gulf of Tonkin, where it assumed the Tonkin Gulf SAR and Utility duties.

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This detachment subsequently served aboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVA-65). Back aboard USS HORNET, the ASW Group Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) was conducted in Hawaiian waters from 9 through 12 April followed by an inport period at Pearl Harbor until 13 April. A dramatic rescue was made by the SAR Detachment on 26 April, when an HS-2 "Big Mother" helicopter plucked LT J. W. CAIN, VA-192, USS TICONDEROGA (CVA-14) from North Vietnam waters. The crew of the rescue helo was LT S. T. MILLIKIN, LTJG T. E. PETTIS, AX2 P. J. SOROKIN and AX2 C. B. SATHER.

USS HORNET arrived in Yokosuka, Japan on 28 April, and on 5 May departed for a Sea of Japan Transit. During the transit, on 12 May, NV-64 crashed at sea while engaged in night ASW operations. The two aircrewmen, AX3 SOLANSKY and ATN3 CULLEN, were killed in the crash. The pilot, LT LINDSAY and the co-pilot, LCDR ROBINSON escaped uninjured and were recovered by USS DAVIDSON (DE-1045). With the Sea of Japan transit completed, the ASW Task Group arrived at Sasebo, Japan and remained in port from 17 to 19 May, at which time it departed for "Yankee Station".

On 21 May an aircraft from the SAE Detachment was hit by enemy flak while crossing the beach on an attempted rescue. The pilot, LT GEORGIUS and the co-pilot, LTJG PAYNE, who was wounded, were forced to continue inland, due to low fuel caused by punctured fuel cells and land in Laos. The helo was destroyed to keep it from falling into enemy hands but the crew, including AX2 KOME and AE3 RAY, were ultimately picked up by a USAF "Jolly Green Giant" helicopter. On 22 May a SAE "Big Mother" helicopter piloted by LTJG PGRCH and LTJG WILLIAMS, with AX2 DEGENARRO and AX2 SHAFFER as crew-

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men, attempted a night rescue over North Vietnam. The attempt had to be terminated due to heavy ground fire and inability to sight the rescuee. Both of the helo crewmen were wounded. The ASW Task Group arrived in the Gulf of Tonkin on the 22nd, and on the following day the SAM Detachment returned aboard USS HORNET. Also on the 23rd, LT DANIELS, LTJG BILLINGS, ADJ1 MASENGALE, and AX2 MCCOY returned to the scene of the preceding day's unsuccessful rescue attempt and this time effected the rescue of the downed pilot, 1st LT BALDWIN, U.S.A.F. On this same day, NV-70 was lost at sea with LT HOMUTH, LTJG PETTIS, ADJ2 SOUCY, and PR2 SCHMITTOU aboard. Cause unknown. No trace of survivors was found and they have subsequently been declared killed in action.

On 11 June LCDR MAYERS, LTJG SPRINGER, AX1 STEWART and AX3 ENGLAND rescued LTJG MILLER, VF-134 in a heavily wooded valley in North Vietnam. They encountered no ground fire, but a SAM missile exploded overhead during the departure. NV-61 crashed during take-off from USS WAINWRIGHT (DLG-28) on 20 June. There were no injuries. The aircraft was stripped of all usable equipment and jettisoned over the side two days later. On 26 June, an Air Force F-4 Phantom crashed in the water near Hainan, a "Big Mother" helo piloted by LCDR TURNER and LCDR HAMMON with AX1 CAMPBELL and AX3 DUDLEY as crewmen, was dispatched to pick up the survivors. The rescue of the two pilots was effected, but only after F-102 aircraft at the scene chased off Chinese Communist PT boats which were attempting to prevent the rescue.

The ASW Task Force Group departed "Yankee Station" on 27 June,

leaving HS-2 SAR Detachment Number Two aboard USS INTERPID (CVS-11).

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This detachment additionally operated aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and USS FORRESTAL (CVA-59). On 29 June USS HORNET tied up in Subic Bay for rest and recreation. After seven days, USS HORNET departed for Manila Bay. Upon arrival in Manila on 6 July preparations began for the joint SEATO ASW exercise, "Operation SEADOG". On this day, while on a utility mission, NV-54 ingested a rag in an engine while hovering over the fantail of the USS JENKINS (DD-447) and crashed into the bay. The crew, LT DANIELS, LTJG BILLINGS, and AX2 DEGENARO, swam to safety and were brought aboard the USS JENKINS. DEGENARO suffered back injuries and was returned to CONUS for treatment. The aircraft was salvaged from the bottom of the bay several days later.

On 10 July the ASW Task Group and other SEATO Forces began Operation "SEADOG". Phases 1 through 3 were completed and the forces anchored in the Lingayen Gulf on 15 July. On 17 July the force left for the Siam Gulf and phase 4 of "SEADOG". That day a SAR detachment helo in the Gulf of Tonkin manned by LT SPARKS, LTJG SPRINGER, ADJ1 MASENGALE and AE3 RAY accomplished an extremely daring rescue of LCDR VERICH from North Vietnam. The rescue was given world-wide news coverage and LT SPARKS was awarded the Navy Cross for his role as pilot. (see Navy Cross Citation in Appendix VI). On 18 July another "Big Mother" helo attempted a rescue west of Phu Hy, in North Vietnam. The aircraft encountered heavy small arms fire and had to withdraw. AX2 CHATTERTON, forward gunner, was shot in the chest, and despite first aid efforts by the pilot, LT BENDER, and the other crewman, AX3 NOAH, succumbed before the helo arrived aboard the South SAR destroyer.

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On 19 July a "Big Mother" helicopter manned by LT PETERSON, ENS FFYE, AX2 JACKSON, and AX2 MCGRANE were in the Phu Ly area attempting a rescue when they flew over a 37mm AAA emplacement. The aircraft received multiple flak hits and immediately crashed. There were no survivors. The SEADOG Task Force meanwhile arrived in the Gulf of Siam to complete the "SEADOG" exercise. After a brief liberty period in Bangkok, Thailand USS HORNET departed on 29 July for "Yankee Station". Also on 29 July the SAE Detachment lost 2 men, ADJ3 DORSEY, and AN FRAZIER during the tragic fire aboard the USS FORRESTAL (CVA-59). HS-2 helicopters operating from the forward part of the FORRESTAL flight deck while the after deck was still in flames transferred approximately twenty tons of cargo and evacuated forty (40) bodies and over fifty (50) medevac cases to the USS REPOSE.

After a brief tour on "Yankee Station", USS HORNET left for Hong Kong, leaving behind SAE Detachment THREE aboard USS INTREPID (CVS-11). They subsequently operated aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43). 16 to 20 August was spent in Hong Kong but the scheduled visit was cut a day short by an approaching typhoon. USS HORNET weathered the storm and proceeded to Sasebo, Japan arriving on 23 August. After 13 days of upkeep for the ship and rest and relaxation for the men, USS HORNET departed Sasebo on 4 September and proceeded to the Gulf of Tonkin for the final period on "Yankee Station", from 8 September to 6 October.

On 17 September LCDF HAWKINS, VA-34, USS INTREPID (CVS-11) was rescued by an HS-2 helicopter in the Gulf of Tonkin. The helo crew was LCDR TURNER, LTJG MILLER, AX2 GILL and AE3 RAY. On 27 September,

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when a COD aircraft ditched shortly after take off from USS HORNET, the crew of four was rescued by a helicopter manned by LCDR MAYERS, LTJG HURLEY, AXCS LETT, AX3 ENGLAND and HM1 SHELDON. The rescued personnel were LTJG MOLLER, LTJG LAVELLE, AE2 MOORE and AN STINSON, assigned to VRC-50. On 4 October LCDR TURNER was again involved in a rescue. This time his crew consisted of crewmen AX2 SOECKIN and AX2 GONERKA and and LTJG WILKINS an HS-6 pilot being checked out prior to HS-6 relieving HS-2 of SAR responsibilities. They rescued a crew of four from an HC-1 H-2 helicopter which had crashed off the coast of North Vietnam.

Leaving the Gulf of Tonkin on the 6th of October, the task group arrived in Yokosuka on 11 October. After completing the turn-over to the ASW Task Group aboard USS KEARSARGE (CVS-33), USS HOPNET departed for CONUS on 16 October. The Air Group off-loaded upon arrival at NAS North Island on 28 October. All but two HS-2 helicopters had flown off to NAAS Ream Field the previous evening. After establishing the squadron ashore at NAAS Ream Field, the post-deployment leave period began. On 1 November an Awards Ceremony was held at NAS North Island, where many decorations earned during the deployment were presented to members of the air group. (see Appendix V). The eventful year was not over and HS-2 responded to an emergency situation by sending 6 helos and 41 personnel to snow-bound Arizona to aid in relief operations for Arizona Indians. This group of men spent nine days, sacrificing Christmas with their families, flying 292 mercy missions. This totaled 209 hours of flight time, during which the HS-2 helicopters dropped over 15 tons of food and supplies.

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They evacuated 37 persons who were sick or injured and unable to get help because of the snow.

### 3. Operational Data -

#### a. Operational Statistics:

##### (1) Monthly Summary of Flight Operations -

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>FLIGHTS</u>	<u>CV LANDINGS</u>
JAN	978.4	337	356
FEB	808.8	301	316
MAR	267.2	159	147
APR	779.7	377	716
MAY	1376.7	570	702
JUN	948.7	493	624
JUL	1379.6	658	754
AUG	849.8	302	765
SEP	1080.7	430	580
OCT	246.9	118	152
NOV	150.6	76	61
DEC	<u>376.6</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	9,243.7	3,606	5,195

##### (2) Ammunition Expended -

7.62mm Ammunition	115,172
38 Cal. Ball Cartridges	232
38 Cal. Tracer Cartridges	100
45 Cal. Ball Cartridges	329
MK 23 Practice Bombs	308
MK 15 Practice Bombs	44

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Signal, Practice Bombs	352
Signal, AN-M37, Red-Red	25
Signal, AN-M38, Yellow-Yellow	21
Signal, AN-M39, Green-Green	22
Signal, MK 6 MOD 2	59
MK 24 Paraflares	10
MK 6 Signals	25
MK 25 Markers	450
SUS MK 64 MOD 0	107
For MK 44 Torpedo:	
Suspension Band MK 64	6
Squib MK1 MOD 1	24
Terminal Block	6
Lead Weight Exercise Head	6

(3) See Appendix X for additional statistics.

(4) In-flight refuelings from surface ships - 537

(a) Communications -

During 1967 the Squadron Communications Division processed over 300 messages per month while ashore. This volume increased to approximately 500 messages per month during the WEST-PAC deployment. The Communications Division also had the responsibility of providing accurate and up to date tactical information (i.e. frequencies, call signs, navigational aids, and authenticators). This division consisted of two officers and three enlisted personnel, and at sea, worked around the clock.

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(b) Intelligence -

Most of the intelligence collected on the cruise was the result of a combined effort by the squadrons of the Air Group in conjunction with the intelligence staff aboard the ship. A total of 55 DOD intelligence reports were submitted. These were mostly on Bloc merchant ships and Soviet Naval units. The helicopter's unique role in intelligence gathering was enhanced by its ability to serve as platform for trained photographers to take high-quality pictures highly suited for interpretation and identification. When important intelligence photographs were required, it was accomplished by ship's photographers embarked aboard HS-2 helicopters.

(c) Major Personnel and Equipment Casualties -

1. Personnel Casualties:

a. AX3 William C. SOLANSKY - lost at sea as the result of an aircraft accident in the Sea of Japan.

b. ATN3 Thomas F. CULLEN - lost at sea as the result of an aircraft accident in the Sea of Japan.

c. LTJG S. W. PAYNE - injured as the result of enemy fire while on a rescue mission over North Vietnam.

d. LT P. W. HOMUTH - missing in action in the Gulf of Tonkin (declared killed in action on 8 January 1968).

e. LTJG T. E. PETTIS - missing in action in the Gulf of Tonkin (declared killed in action on 8 January 1968).

f. RE2 E. L. SCHMITTOU - missing in action in the Gulf of Tonkin (declared killed in action on 8 January 1968).

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g. ADJ2 R. P. SOUCY - missing in action in the Gulf of Tonkin (declared killed in action on 8 January 1968).

h. AX2 P. (n) DEGENNARO - injured in an aircraft in Manila Bay.

i. AX2 D. R. CHATTERTON - killed by enemy ground fire during a rescue attempt over North Vietnam.

j. LT D. W. PETERSON - killed in an aircraft downed by enemy ground fire while on a rescue attempt over North Vietnam.

k. ENS D. P. FRYE - killed in an aircraft downed by enemy ground fire while on a rescue attempt over North Vietnam.

l. AX2 W. B. JACKSON - killed in an aircraft downed by enemy ground fire while on a rescue attempt over North Vietnam.

m. AX2 D. P. MCGRANE - killed in an aircraft downed by enemy ground fire while on a rescue attempt over North Vietnam.

n. ADJ3 E. B. DORSEY - lost in fire aboard USS FORRESTAL.

o. AN J. L. FRAZIER - lost in fire aboard USS FORRESTAL.

2. Equipment casualties are contained in Appendix X.

(d) Maintenance problems -

In general, maintenance problems, especially during the WESTPAC deployment, stemmed from a lack of qualified personnel

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and a lack of parts and equipment to effect aircraft repairs. Only through long hours of hard work was satisfactory aircraft availability maintained.

5. Administrative Data -

a. Manning level -

The commitments of the WESTPAC deployment required precise personnel management since the squadron was never brought to EPP until late in the cruise when 40 personnel were ordered in TAD from HS-3.

b. Career Retention -

Career retention suffered slightly during the year due to the arduous deployment schedule of the squadron.

c. Legal -

During the year the squadron conducted 13 JAG investigations. Eighteen cases were brought to Captain's Mast of which 14 were awarded non-judicial punishment and three were awarded a Special Courts-Martial resulting in guilty findings for violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

d. Public Affairs, Awards and Ceremonies -

(1) 17 MAR - Change of Command. CDR M. L. HOFFMAN relieved CDR J. E. WILLIAMS. (see Appendices I & IV)

(2) 26 MAR - Rescue by LT S. T. MILLIKIN/LTJG T. E. PETTIS in Haiphong Harbor, North Vietnam. World-wide news coverage was received.

(3) 23 MAY - Rescue by LT R. E. DANIELS/LTJG L. E. BILLINGS in North Vietnam. World-wide news coverage was received.

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(4) 11 JUN - Rescue by LTJG E. W. SPRINGER/LCDR D. F. MAYERS in North Vietnam. World-wide news coverage was received.

(5) 17 JUL - Rescue by LT N. R. SPARKS/LTJG R. W. SPRINGER in North Vietnam. World-wide news coverage was received and LT SPARKS was awarded the Navy Cross for his performance of duty.

(6) 10 JUL - 26 JUL - Operation SEADOG, SEATO ASW Exercise. Local news coverage was received.

(7) 28 OCT - Squadron returned to San Diego from seven month WESTPAC deployment. Local and Fleet Home Town News coverage was received.

(8) 1 NOV - Carrier Anti-Submarine Air Group FIFTY-SEVEN Awards Ceremony. Local television, radio and newspaper, and Fleet Home Town News coverage. One Navy Cross, Nine Silver Stars, Six Distinguished Flying Crosses and 150 Air Medals were presented. (see Appendix V & VI)

(9) 18 DEC - 26 DEC - Rescue and Relief Detachment went to Luke AFB, Phoenix, Arizona. National radio and newspaper coverage. Local television, radio, and newspaper coverage was received.

(10) In addition, HS-2 claims a Navy first as the only operational unit to possess a bird of prey as mascot. "IGOR S. PREACHER", a Mexican Red Falcon, joined HS-2 in March 1967 and deployed with the squadron aboard USS HORNET for the WESTPAC cruise. PREACHER was born in Chiapas, Mexico in April 1966 and was raised by a handler versed in the ancient art of Falconry. **DECLASSIFIED**