

Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron SIX  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California 96601

11 December 1967

Dear Families and Friends of HS-6 Personnel,

Since the second Newsletter, KEARSARGE has finished her first line period and 10 days of liberty in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.

Here are the details:

The routine of Yankee Station flying returned easily to the old-timers and was quickly learned by all the new people. The daily Search and Rescue flight which takes-off before dawn and lands after sunset, is warmly received on the control ships. These ships provide our flight crews with the very best red carpet treatment while they are standing by on SAR alert. While the SAR crews get all the excitement, the crews flying the routine ASW launches do much of the hard work necessary to keep HS-6 effective in its primary mission. The utility hops are the most enjoyable, since the flight crews criss-cross the entire Tonkin Gulf delivering and picking up mail, people and cargo from all of the ships that are here. Because of our helicopter mail deliveries, ships in remote areas of the Gulf are able to receive packages and news from home within a day from the time the mail arrives on board our carrier. Now that Christmas is arriving the squadron has been busier than ever at this task. The destroyers, probably due to the holiday season, try to out-do each other when we drop them mail by sending hot dinners, ice cream and sandwiches up the hoist to our crews. All these routine flights and many unscheduled ones, however, would not be possible without the continuing effort of everyone in the squadron.

On November 14, the day after KEARSARGE left Yankee Station for Subic Bay, a Korean ship radioed that it was aground on Scarborough Shoals and sinking. HS-6 launched several helos and successfully rescued all 27 seamen aboard. We carried the seamen into Subic aboard KEARSARGE where they disembarked the next day for their trip home to Korea.

Once in Subic Bay, the first SAR Det flew to Hong Kong for some well deserved liberty while almost everyone else waited for the gates to open into Olongapo. Unfortunately, local elections were taking place and the demonstrations severely curtailed liberty. The complaints weren't too loud, however, since Cubi has good recreational facilities and it doesn't "turn into the wind".

While in port, all hands sharpened up for the five day ASW exercise on the way back to Yankee Station. As usual HS-6 turned in an above average performance.

On the 29th of November our second SAR and Utility Det returned from the USS CORAL SEA, so the KEARSARGE and HS-6 are back in the Yankee Station routine for our longest at-sea period.

It is always a pleasure to announce advancements in rate. During the month of November, sixteen men from the squadron were advanced.

Congratulations to the following men who spent many extra hours studying for and working toward added responsibility. Congratulations to their families also!

| <u>NAME</u>          | <u>RATE</u> | <u>RATE ADVANCED</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Paul A. Abbott       | AFCS        | AFCM                 |
| Forrest R. Martin    | AXC         | AXCS                 |
| Edward 2. Frejosky   | AA          | AN                   |
| Madrin A. Payne, Jr. | AA          | AN                   |
| Edward P. Elliott    | CS1         | CSC                  |
| Herman C. Higgs      | AMS3        | AMS2                 |
| Gerald D. Mallo      | AMH2        | AMH1                 |
| Harley R. Olsen      | ADJ2        | ADJ1                 |
| Ronald L. Richardson | AXAN        | AX3                  |
| Troy L. Sherrill     | ADR2        | ADR1                 |
| Conda L. Underwood   | ADJ2        | ADJ1                 |
| David P. Brown       | HM2         | HM1                  |
| Gary J. Collins      | AE3         | AE2                  |
| Allen O. Hendrix     | AMS3        | AMS2                 |
| Robert J. Terry      | AXC         | AXCS                 |
| Paul E. Gobeil       | AXAN        | AX3                  |

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

Sincerely,



A. D. FOX