

VS-31 Detachment, Brunswick, Maine.

Following the TRIPPE's contact three to four coastal sweeps from Portsmouth to Machias were made daily from 8 - 21 February when this detachment was at Brunswick. On February 9 and 16 weather conditions were unfavorable for any flights.

The following ammunition was expended for training and operational purposes:

.50 cal. - 630 rounds

NAAF Beverly, Mass.

During February the following services were rendered and facilities furnished heavier-than-air units of the Fleet and visiting aircraft generally in addition to routine patrols of Coast Guard aircraft:

Serviced 80 Coast Guard aircraft.  
Serviced 2 Fleet aircraft.  
Serviced 4 Station aircraft.

Repaired 1 Station aircraft requiring 14 man hours.

Field used by 39 aircraft of VT-21 - glide bombing practice.

Field used by 97 aircraft of VF-21 - glide bombing practice.

Field used by 21 miscellaneous Fleet aircraft.

Field used by 4 Coast Guard aircraft - Air/Sea Rescue Missions.

Field used by 115 miscellaneous Navy and Coast Guard aircraft, including 5 helicopters.

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

Ships available during the month were:

K-15  
K-19  
K-69  
K-61  
K-92  
K-50  
K-100 - received from Blimp Hedron 2,  
K-124 Det. 21 on 18 February.

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

Blimp Squadron ELEVEN operates from NAS South Weymouth, under Commander Task Group 02.1.3 (Commander Northern Air Unit), Commander Task Group 02.1 (Commander Northern Group) and Commander Task Force 02 (Commander Eastern Sea Frontier). This Blimp Squadron 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 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 unfavorable weather conditions all flying was secured on 13 days: February 1, 2, 5, 8-11, 14, 16, 22-24, and 27.

This Squadron made a total of 47 flights which were subdivided as follows:

Escort	4
Escort and Patrol	2
Patrol	25
Night Patrol	3
Training	8
Ferry	1
Others	4
	47
Total	47

During February when 382 hours were spent in the air, 299 at sea, and 259 on mission; 39 vessels were escorted. The number of miles flown totalled 15706; of these 12470 were flown over water.

The following ammunition was expended for training and operational purposes:

<u>.50 cal.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u>	<u>.38 cal.</u>
1090 rds.	100 rds.	12 rds.

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MK-17 DC's

16

Float Lights

54

Bronze Slicks

41

7.2" Rockets

8