

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

Ships available during the month were:

K-15
K-19
K-69
K-33 transferred to Lakehurst 4 Nov.
K-34 crashed at sea 6 Nov.
K-70 received from Lakehurst 23 Nov.
K-61 received from Lakehurst 26 Nov.
K-76 received from Lakehurst 26 Nov.
K-25 transferred to West Coast 28 Nov.
K-27 transferred to West Coast 28 Nov.
K-89 received from Lakehurst 29 Nov.

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 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.)

On 8 November SNG sent the following directive to ZP-11:

"During the period blimps are assigned to ComFairShip-WingOne for operations, it will be necessary to have varying numbers available for Northern Group operations. Blimps available for training each day will be determined on the previous day by 1330 so far as practicable. When no blimp available to Northern Group is at the station, one of the training blimps will carry two bombs in event it is necessary to divert her to a combat mission."

Another SNG directive on 10 November stated that training blimps carrying bombs in the event of diversion will be permitted to drop the bombs on bombing practice in the proper area en-route home.

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Because of poor weather conditions all flying was secured on 11 days: November 6, 10-12, 16-18, 21, 22, 27, and 30.

This Squadron made a total of 60 flights which were subdivided as follows:

Escort	2
Night Escort	3
Patrol	11
Photographic	1
Training	28
Others	15
	<u>60</u>

During the month when 453 hours were spent in the air, 303 at sea, and 159 hours on mission; 88 vessels were escorted. A total of 17123 miles were flown; of these 13669 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>
4060 rds.	2040 rds.	120 rds.
<u>Float Lights</u>	<u>Bronze Slicks</u>	<u>Miniature Bombs</u>
98	109	116
<u>MK-17 DC's</u>	<u>MK-47 DC's</u>	<u>Pyrotechnics</u>
42	4	67

The following are considered to be the principal factors in causing an abnormally low number of hours flown on missions during the month of November:

(a) Poor flying weather: there were eleven non-flying days during the month and several days when flying was possible for part of the day only.

(b) CominCh secret dispatch 271655 of October and CNG secret dispatch 301644 of October indicating that training and upkeep should be stressed.

(c) Intensive operations in the area south of our operating area. This command loaned the K-38 and two combat air crews to Blimp Squadron TWELVE for the period of November 4th to 13th for this operation.

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REPORT ON WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPER. FLTS.</u>	<u>TRNG. FLTS.</u>	<u>WEATHER</u>
1	2	1	Flying conditions good during day, undesirable at night due to fog and high winds.
2	2	4	Flying conditions good.
3	2	2	Heavy fog during morning, conditions becoming average during day.
4	2	3	Fog during morning, becoming average during day.
5	2	0	Fog during morning. Poor flying conditions due to frontal passage.
6	NO FLIGHTS		Rain, snow flurries, heavy overcast, and low visibility. Wind gusty.
7	1	0	High winds to 26 kts. in area, higher over ocean.
8	3	0	Flying conditions good.
9	3	1	Light winds in area. Freezing level in clouds 1500-2000 ft. Conditions good.
10	NO FLIGHTS		Light rain, low ceiling, poor visibility. Gusts to 31 kts. on field.
11	NO FLIGHTS		Rain and high winds over ocean. Frontal Passage.
12	NO FLIGHTS		Heavy gusts to 25 kts. on field. Winds 30-40 in patrol area.
13	4	2	Flying conditions good.
14	1	2	Conditions average. Gusts 16-24 kts.
15	0	3	Conditions average. High overcast and light winds.
16	NO FLIGHTS		Rain, low ceiling, poor visibility, gusts 18-31 kts. due to frontal passage.
17	NO FLIGHTS		Rain, low ceiling and visibility, high winds aloft 30-40 kts. Gusts on field to 40 kts.
18	NO FLIGHTS		Scattered showers in patrol area with danger of icing. Gusts to 25 kts. on field.
19	1	3	Flying conditions average.
20	1	4	Average conditions. Light ground fog, sky overcast all day.
21	NO FLIGHTS		Rain and snow all day. Low ceiling and visibility, high winds; alerted on storm condition #1.
22	NO FLIGHTS		Rain and snow, low ceiling and visibility, gustiness over field.
23	0	1	Ship remained in control area due to scattered snow flurries. Icing level 350-500 ft.
24	0	1	Ship remained in area. Scattered snow flurries with icing level on surface.
25	0	1	Ship remained in area. Snow flurries and gusts on field 15-20 kts.
26	3	0	Flying conditions good to average.
27	NO FLIGHTS		Rain, low ceiling and poor visibility. Gusts to 32 kts. on field, winds 25-30 kts. in patrol area.

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPER. FLTS.</u>	<u>TRNG. FLTS.</u>	<u>WEATHER</u>
28	3	0	Conditions average, visibility restricted due to haze and fog.
29	2	0	Heavy overcast, rain. Flying conditions poor.
30	NO FLIGHTS		Rain, extreme gustiness up to 61 kts. in frontal passage. Station alerted to storm condition #1.

BLIMP MISSIONS ORDERED BY CNAG - November

<u>NOV.</u>	<u>MISSION</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1	Pat O Sweep and Screen Savannah	K-34 0602-1527 K-27 0402-1459
2	Pat U Escort Savannah Escort XB-132	K-34 0744-1545 Cancelled by CNAG (Delayed ship K-69 1720-03/1038 departure)
3	Escort XB-132 Pat L Sweep Track CL-6	K-34 0639-1504 K-27 0619-1558 K-19 1013-2203 (diverted from LGH at 1505)
4	Pat Q Sweep track of BB-33 and Pat L	Cancelled K-19 0859-1616
5	Pat Q modified	K-34 1108-1610
6	Escort WAKEFIELD Pat O	K-34 05/2256 recalled at 06/0722 Cancelled
7	None	
8	Pat Q	K-69 0614-1635
9	Pat O	K-69 0639-1412
10	None	
11	LOVE	Cancelled
12	None	

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<u>NOV.</u>	<u>MISSION</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
13	Pat O Sweep track BX-133 Escort BX-133	K-19 0630-1427 K-69 1145-1800 K-69 2312-14/1250
14	Sweep track ATA-214 & Patrol area E of Nantucket Shoals.	K-25 0545-1452
15	None	
16	None	
17	None	
18	None	
19	None	
20	Tigrone Sub contact - Portsmouth	K-69 diverted from LTH at 1233-1528
21	Escort BX-134	Cancelled
22	Escort BX-134	Cancelled
23	None	
24	Radar calibration DD-623	Cancelled
25	None	
26	Special patrol - north Special patrol - south Pat Q	K-38 1106 K-19 1346 K-69 0905-1743
27	Pat L Pat Q Escort WAKEFIELD	Cancelled Cancelled Cancelled
28	Escort BX-135 MAD sweep - Humarock Buoy	Cancelled K-19 1952-29/0712
29	Pat W Pat O Special Patrol Cape Ann Race Pt. MAD sweep - Humarock Buoy	Cancelled Cancelled Cancelled K-38 0947-1303 K-69 1022-1430
30	Escort Mariposa	Cancelled