

NEVADA REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

REGISTRATION FORM

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic name ZULU ECHO SIX MONUMENT in Searchlight, Nevada and the VP-17 P3 BUNO
152159 Wreck Site near by

Other names The monument is in the Mining Park Entrance to Searchlight Community Center
and the P3-A Orion Aircraft is the nature of the wreck site.

2. LOCATION

Street and Number: The monument is in Searchlight, Nevada. and the wreck site to the P3-A Orion
is approximately 1 km SW of Searchlight, Nevada.

City or Town Searchlight County of Clark Zip 89046
Assessor's Parcel Number N/A Original Location? X Yes No. If no,
date moved

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property
<u> </u> private	<u> </u> building(s)	<u>contributing</u> <u>non-contributing</u>
<u>X</u> public-local	<u> </u> district	<u>At least five citizens & local businesses</u>
<u> </u> bldgs		
<u> </u> public-state	<u>X</u> site	
<u>X</u> sites		
<u>X</u> structure		
<u> </u> object		

4. CERTIFICATION

a. BOARD OF MUSEUMS AND HISTORY

As the chair of the Nevada Museum and Library Board, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for listing in the Nevada Register of Historic Places.

Signature of the Chair

Date

B. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

As the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for listing in the Nevada Register of Historic Places.

Signature of the State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

Property Name: _____

5. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic Function

These sites are related to the history of the Vietnam War and US Naval Aviation History and to the history of the town of Searchlight, Nevada. This site is about a Naval Aircraft related to a training mission of the Vietnam War that went down near the area of Searchlight, Nevada. The Naval Aircraft is the P3-A Orion. Eyewitnesses near the site from this area during this era indicated that they had seen signs of the P3-A Orion military aircraft going down via "a lightning flash in a dark cloud followed by burning debris falling to the desert floor." Witnesses reported a violent explosion with an apparent lightning strike. A local foreman at a power plant, Beryl Jarvis, saw the explosion and said, according to a paper, that "the plane just exploded in midair and came down in a fiery crash. It looked like it was hit by lightning " There may still be witnesses alive today in Searchlight, Nevada that witnessed this military aircraft that went down and had been on a training mission during the Vietnam Era. The flight home base of the Aircraft was NAS Barber's Point Hawaii. At 14, 000 feet, near Searchlight, the pilot had radioed in a request and then there was no further contact and the plane was lost from the radar. The wreckage was discovered later about 1 km South West of Searchlight.

Current Function

These sites (The Mining Park Entrance of Searchlight and the wreckage nearby) enhance the history of the small historical mining town of Searchlight, Nevada and it's surrounding areas.

The area also Provides the public with educational information.

The area also acknowledges those who have died for the sake of serving our country and it's citizens.

The site offers valuable information about military history.

6. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (select one or more from instructions)

Criterion A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Criterion B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons of our past

Criterion C Criterion D

7. DESCRIPTION (select information that best describes exterior fabric, structural system, and roofing material)

Architectural Style (if applicable)

Materials

This paper references the Mining Park Entrance of Searchlight, Nevada which honors the P3-A Orion that crashed and it's wreckage nearby. There is a rock with a plaque on it at the Searchlight, Nevada Park Mining Entrance. It is the ZULU ECHO SIX MEMORIAL PLAQUE and was arranged and donated by VISTA ROCK in Searchlight, Nevada. The bronze plaque is located on the large boulder at the Mining Park Entrance to the Searchlight Community Center that commemorates the crewmen lost on Flight Zulu Echo Six. The plaque and the airplane structure to the plaque was arranged by Bob McLaughlin. The plaque was done by EAGL FOUNDRY of Utah in Orem, Utah. The airplane sculpture to the plaque was done by Josh Sprague at the Idaho State University Art Department Foundry in Pocatello, Idaho. Captain Brian McGuiness USNR of Clearlake, Washington, reports that Bob McLaughlin of Pocatello, Idaho (a former naval aviator with Patrol Squadron 17) and Carl and Jane Overy, Searchlight residents, initiated creation of the plaque with the help of other town residents Scott Jones, Skip Reindel, Chris Denning, Mike Bolton, Ed Milliren, and "many others who volunteered either materials or their services for free." Reference for all of the above information is Mr. Brian McGuiness.

The P3-A Orion is an antisubmarine warfare aircraft. Many P3A Orion's took part in the Vietnam war. They were used to monitor ship movements around the North Vietnamese coast. By 1979 all of the US Navy P2 Neptune Aircraft had been replaced by the P3 Orion. By the mid 1980's all active duty US Navy Patrol squadrons were equipped with the P3C while the reserve outfits operated with the P3A and P3B. Many P3C Orions saw combat action during Operation Desert Storm. The P3C remains the most up to date version of the P3A. The P-3A, BUNO 152159, was accepted by the Navy in April 1965 and had been flown 3706 hours before it went down . By official report, the most probable cause of the crash was ignition of fuel vapor in the left wing cell by a lightning strike. This reportedly caused the failure of the left wing in flight and the subsequent inflight break-up of the aircraft. The squardon and other related people, however, have some of their own theories to the cause of the crash.

On the continuation sheet, provide a narrative description of the property's present and historical physical appearance (include significant exterior and interior features).

N/A

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Areas of Significance

The wreckage of the P3 is in the High Dessert near Searchlight, Nevada. It is located in the foothills at the eastern base of the McCullough Mountain Range. Altitude of the crash site varies between 4750 and 4400 feet MSL. Per report, when the aircraft crashed it scattered in an elliptical pattern 17,000 feet long by 7000 feet wide. The P3 was assigned to PATROL SQUADRON 17 (VP-17), NAS Barbers Point, Hawaii, and was piloted by LT Timothy D. Bailing, USN. It crashed on Federal Soil Bank Property 30 miles south of Las Vegas on August 3, 1970. The terrain it crashed on consists of sand and rock covered by desert vegetation of yucca trees, various types of cactus and mesquite. Day time temperatures range up to 110 degrees.

Searchlight, which hosts the monument to the crew members that went down with the P3, is a retirement community and small historical mining town about 55 miles south of Las Vegas on Hwy 95. It has a population of about 1,000 with a 3450 foot elevation. Motels include the El Ray Lodge and the Kay Motel. Searchlight has a general store and a Nugget Casino.

The historic mining town sits fourteen miles up hill from the beautiful Cottonwood Cove on Lake Mohave. The Colorado river forms this breathtaking clear lake out in the middle of the dessert between Las Vegas and Laughlin. Searchlight has a history that includes famous old west names such as Clara Bow, Rex Bell, John Macready, James Cashman, and others. Initial discoveries of gold ore were first made on May 6, 1897. The first claim later became the Duplex mine. The mining district was founded in 1898.

Searchlight began to boom in 1902 and reached it's peak in 1907. By 1919 trains were operating twice a week but a severe wash out in 1923 halted traffic completely. Train service was never restored. In the early 1900's Searchlight was actually larger than Vegas but by 1927 there were only about 50 people remaining. Today searchlight has approximately 800 people and about fifty percent of them are retired. The Searchlight Community Center was dedicated in 1989. The Center houses the Medical Clinic, a branch library, a museum, an office, meeting rooms, and a kitchen. In Searchlight, there is a post office, senior citizens center, school, and substation. It is the gateway to Lake Mohave and nearby is one of the best large mouth bass fisheries in the west. Of course, there is a trading post and Nugget Casino. Searchlight also has trace element distribution of quartz monzonite stock, a granite type material.

Map showing geographical area of significance, directions, and coordinates to the crash is not released with this application without the permission of the crew member's survivors so as to protect the crash site from 'scavengers.' Release of the information can be considered should the State of Nevada be interested in securing and protecting the area of the crash site. Also, see copy of internet maps provided of Searchlight.

Period of Significance (dates)_

Vietnam Era

The P3 crashed August 3, 1970 and was on a military training mission related to training missions for the Viet Nam War.

News headlines of 1970:

President Nixon sends combat units into Cambodia.

National Guardsmen fire into a crowd protesting the Vietnam War at Kent State University, killing four and wounding eight.

Homosexuals march from New York's Greenwich Village to Central Park demonstrating for gay rights.

The nation's most liberal abortion laws go into effect in New York.

A parade of 10,000 women in New York celebrate the 50th anniversary of the passing of the 19th amendment.

FBI agents arrest American Communist Angela Davis at a midtown Manhattan motel.

Anwar Sadat is elected president of the United Arab Republic (Egypt).

One million cans of tuna are recalled by the FDA because of mercury contamination.

Cultural Affiliations

American Military and the Residents of Searchlight, Nevada

Significant Persons to P3

LT. Timothy D. Bailing of Kensington, PA, born 16 October, 1944 in Kensington, PA, entered the Navy in 1966 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1967. Graduate of Penn State University. He was designated a Command Pilot in P-3 aircraft in April 1970. Entitled to wear the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Services Medal, and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

LT Norman L. Johnson, born September 2, 1940 in Iron Mountain, MI. Graduate of Michigan Tech. Commissioned at the Officer Candidate School. Served as a Navigation Instructor. Entitled to wear the National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

LTJG Henry J. McGreevey, born in Newark, Ohio, December 20, 1944. Entered the Navy in 1968 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1968. He was a Naval Academy Graduate. He was undergoing instruction for designation as a copilot in the P3 aircraft. Entitled to wear the National Defense Service Medal.

ADJ1 Ambrose Ordonia, born in San Francisco, California November 11, 1937. He was a flight engineer with a total of 3961 flight hours in the P3 aircraft. Entitled to wear the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Air Medal Third

Star, Good Conduct Medal Third Star.

ADJ1 Johnny D. Shelton, born 31 October 1932 in Chester, MS. Flight engineer trainee for VP-17. Entitled to wear the National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal 2nd Star.

ATN3 Cletus L. Morrison, born 14 September 1946 in Elreno, OK . Attended Oklahoma State University. Entitled to wear the National Defense Service Medal.

AW3 John D. Maas, born 16 July 1949 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Radar Operator. Entitled to wear the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea)

AW3 John W. Schmitz, born 18 October 1947 in Madera, CA . Attended Fresno State College. Sensor Operator in VP-17. Entitled to wear the National Defense Medal.

AW3 Michael A. Silvers, born 11 May 1948 in Oakland, CA. Attended The University of Idaho. Flight Observer. Entitled to wear the National Defense Medal.

AW3 Bruce E. Weaver, born 8 November 1944 in Englewood, New Jersey. Graduate of Vanderbilt University. Sensor Operator in VP-17. Entitled to wear the National Defense Medal and The Vietnam Service Medal.

All of the above crew members perished in the crash.

Significant Persons to the ZULU ECHO SIX PLAQUE/MONUMENT

Mr. Carl and Mrs. Jane Overy

Mr. Bob McLaughlin and Family

VISTA ROCK

EAGL FOUNDRY

Mr. Josh Sprague

Mr. Ed Cox

Mr. Larry Forney

Mr. Brian McGuinness

Mr. Mike Bolton

Mr. Ed Milliren

Architect/Builder

Lockheed Aircraft for the P3

Vista Rock, EAGL FOUNDRY, Josh Sprague for the Memorial

On the continuation sheet, state the property's historical significance and justification for listing.

N/A

Property Name: ZULU ECHO SIX MONUMENT in Searchlight, Nevada and the VP-17 P3 BUNO 152159 Wreck Site near by

9. MAJOR REFERENCES (include all sources of information)

(Use continuation sheet, if necessary)

Captain Brian McGuiness USNR (Ret.), Clearlake, Washington

WINGS OF GOLD FALL 2005 ISSUE; The Voice of Naval Aviation

Naval Safety Center; Naval Air Station, Norfolk, VA 23511

Mr. Larry Forney, Colo, IA

Mr. Ed Cox, Millville, NJ

<http://www.vpnavy.com/vp17mem>

South Valley News November 17-23 Issue 2005

Mr. Carl and Mrs. Jane Overy Searchlight, NV

Eagle Foundry of Utah

Mr. Bob McLaughlin
mcladian@isu.edu

Mr. David Trojan
david.trojan@navy.mil

Honolulu Star Bulletin Writer Kay Lund

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreege of Property less than 1 acre

Verbal Boundary Description

There is a "Distribution of Wreckage On the Ground With Approximate Distances " available but not attached so as to preserve the confidentiality of the site until the area is more secure so as to prevent scavenging. The exact coordinates and directions to the site are shown on the map.

Also, see copy of internet maps provided.

Boundary Justification

Provided by Naval Safety Center Naval Air Station Norfolk, VA NAVSAFECEN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION 2-71 REPORT

11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title Wanda Ranger

Organization Not Applicable
Address 102 Windridge Lane
City or Town Panama City Beach State Florida
Zip 32413
Telephone Number 850-819-6788 Date 4/14/2009
Property Name: _____

12. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Include the following items with your submission:

- Photographs/Sketch** (provide one or more black-and-white photograph or sketch of the front elevation of the building, minimum size to be 5 inches by 7 inches. Multiple photographs showing additional angles and views would be preferable. Include the name of the photographer, date of photograph and direction the camera was facing).
- Plan** (provide a line drawing of the floor plan of the building, if possible).
- Map** (provide a USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle or current city street map with the property marked on it in pencil). Map of wreckage can be provided as needed.
- Continuation Sheets** (include continuation sheets, as needed, indicating appropriate section numbers).

Property Name: Entrance to the Mining Park, ZULU ECHO SIX MONUMENT in Searchlight, Nevada and the VP-17 P3 BUNO 152159 Wreck Site near by

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7: Description

N/A

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8. Significance (attach more sheets as necessary) N/A

**NEVADA STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
OWNER AGREEMENT FORM**

NAME OF PROPERTY: VP-17 P-3 BUNO 152159 Wreck Site

Entrance to Mining Park, Searchlight, Nevada.

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Searchlight, Nevada (nearest town)

OWNER OF RECORD: Wanda Ranger
(Point of Contact for Record)

ADDRESS:
(Point of Contact Address)
102 Windridge Lane
Panama City Beach, Florida 32413

This is to certify that I have been notified by the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office regarding the proposed nomination of the above-referenced property to the State Register of Historic Properties. As the legal owner of this property, I ____ agree, ____ disagree with the placement of said property in the State Register of Historic Places.

Date Owner's Signature

Please return this form to the State Historic Preservation Office.

Terri McBride
State Historic Preservation Office
100 N. Stewart Street
Carson City, NV 89701
775-684-3445