

# FLAG STAFF

Carrier Group Six (COMCARGRU SIX) was established over 40 years ago, on 11 August 1944. A unit of the Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, the Carrier Group Commander is the immediate superior in command of the aircraft carrier USS SARATOGA (CV-60), and USS FORRESTAL (CV-59).

The Carrier Group Commander reports to three command organizations, one for administrative matters; and, two for operational missions and tasking. Administratively, Carrier Group Six is assigned to and reports to the Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet — the Type Commander. Through this administrative chain of command he works continuously to achieve the goal of maximizing material readiness and training of all assigned carriers and their embarked Air Wing.

Operationally, the Carrier Group Staff is assigned to a National Commander or a NATO Commander, depending upon the operational situation, mission and tasking. Nationally, Commander Sixth Fleet, under Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, functions as Carrier Group SIX's immediate operational Commander.

During periods of increased tensions or actual hostilities in Europe, or for major NATO exercises, COMCARGRU SIX and his assigned forces would operate under NATO auspices. In this case, the major subordinate NATO Commander, Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe, exercises operational control via Commander Naval Striking and Support Forces Southern Europe.



CAPTAIN R.M. HYDINGER, CCG-6 Chief of Staff.

