DECLASSIFIED

VAW-116/ADMIN:dmk
5750
Ser 001
29 February 1972

[redacted] (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05A5G)

Subj: Command History for the Calendar Year 1971 (OPNAV REPORT 5750-1): submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) VAW-116 Command History - 1971

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

J. G. McINTYRE

Copy to:
Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09B9)
COMFAIRSDIEGO

DECLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Req-90115

28 FEB 1972

VAW-116 SQUADRON HISTORY 1971 NARRATIVE

DECLASSIFIED

COMMAND ORGANIZATION

Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN (VAW-116) is an Airborne Early Warning Squadron in the sense of article 312 of NWP 32(D), Anti Air Warfare and as defined in chapter 2 of NWIP 10-3(A), Naval Warfare Terms, to the extent implied by the radar, radio, and data link capabilities of the E-2B aircraft.

VAW-116 is a self-supporting squadron under the administrative control of Commander Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing Wing ELEVEN (CCAEW-11), Commander Fleet Air San Diego (COMFAIRSDIEGO), and Commander Naval Air Force Pacific (COMNAVAIRPAC). VAW-116 is charged with the operational training, organizing, and equipping of a combat ready Airborne Tactical Data System (ATDS) equipped AEW squadron for deployment with and service to any Pacific Fleet Attack Carrier Air Wing (CVW). A more in depth analysis of the role of the E-2B command and control aircraft is contained in the squadron purpose narrative in this section.

PERSONNEL

1971 was VAW-116's fifth calendar year as a commissioned squadron. A short historical synopsis of the first four years is contained in this section. Commander Donald O. Knerr, USN, was Commanding Officer from 24 April 1970 until 23 April 1971. Commander James G. McIntyre, USN, became Commanding Officer on 23 April 1971 and continued as squadron CO throughout the remainder of the calendar year. Commander McIntyre was the squadron's Executive Officer under Commander Knerr until 23 April 1971. Following the squadron's Change of Command ceremony, Commander Robert L. Watkins, USN, assumed the duties of Executive Officer. Commander Watkins continued in this billet for the remainder of 1971.

HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY

On January 1st the squadron was homebased at NAS North Island. The entire air force consisted of SUNKING 012 (BUNO 151717). Following the holiday weekend, the now-traditional post holiday season "Back in the Saddle" Aviation safety program took place on 4 January. On the 5th the squadron worked with Japanese self-defense force representatives to test a buffer system capable of linking the Navy's tactical data systems with the Japanese air defense network.[1] Normal training flights[2] were conducted throughout the remainder of the month.

The beginning of February brought FCLP's[6] and Carrier Qualifications from the fifth through the seventh. The later part of February was devoted to participation in the First Fleet exercise; "Admixture".[8] March turned out to be an especially slow period. Normal training flights emphasizing Link 11 exercises with the Fleet Aircraft Surveillance Facility San Diego, the USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64), and the USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19) were conducted during March and the first week of April. The squadron air force doubled in number on 30 March when SUNKING 011 (BUNO 151712) reported for duty.

If March and early April can be classified as slow, then the pace began to pick up markedly starting on the thirteenth. On that day CNO Project

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4

F 0252, E-2B/F-4J Effectiveness Against Anti-Ship Missles,[4] really got underway. As far back as the beginning of the year experimentation with video recording devices had begun as a prelude to this project. However, the first radar tracking flights, phase 1 of the original project, began on 14 April. The flight schedule was tailored to conform to this project's requirements. The SUNKINGS interrupted the cycle only long enough to execute a Change of Command ceremony at which time Commander James G. McIntyre succeeded Commander Donald O. Knerr as Commanding Officer.[9] Cdr Knerr left the squadron to become the Defense Attaché for four coastal African nations centered around the American Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia, W. Africa.

In addition to Project F 0252 flights and Link 11 exercises with various Naval Tactical Data System units, the squadron participated in an Attack Carrier Air Wing NINE organized Alpha Strike simulation at China Lake. This was one of the first active endeavors which the Air Wing had undertaken to prepare for the upcoming deployment. On the 12th day of May, VAW-116 received its third aircraft from North Island's Rework Facility.

It's now late May and early June. More radar tracking and experimentation flights for the Anti-Ship Missle project were conducted. Link 11 exercises, FCLP's,[6] and Carrier Qualifications were again the order of the day. The Fallon Weapons Exercises[16] arrived on 20 June and the squadron began shuttling men, material, and airplanes to the fragrant oasis of the central Nevada wilderness, Naval Air Station Fallon. The entire deployment lasted 14 days. By the time it was over, the squadron was four aircraft strong.

Only just recovering from the previous two weeks, FCLP's and available deck time for Car Quals continued to demand a 120% effort from the men and the machines. Taking a day off on July 23rd, the squadron's officers traveled to Litton Industries' Data Systems Division for briefings by engineering and production supervisors on current Data Systems projects and programs.[19]

When August began so did the initial at-sea-periods. VAW-116 moved aboard the USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) on 31 July. The CONNIE departed North Island for the first Ship-Air Wing exercises on Monday, August second. At sea for four days, the CONNIE returned to port Friday afternoon. Come Monday morning the CONNIE put back to sea, conducted another week of build-ups, and returned to San Diego for the weekend. After repairing some of the engineering casualties suffered during the previous week, the CONSTELLATION sailed again on the seventeenth. By noon of the 19th, she was tied up to the Quay Wall at the island. In spite of the breakdowns and the subsequent loss of training opportunities for both the ship and air wing, the Operational Readiness Inspection[23] commenced on schedule the 26th of August. When the ship returned to port on September 3rd, she was destined to remain there until October 1st when she would leave for a WESTPAC deployment.

For most of September, the by-words were "Standown - Maximum Leave Authorized". On 28 September the squadron officially moved back aboard the USS CONSTELLATION. Despite threats and plans by anti war protest groups to prevent her sailing, the CONNIE departed the California coast, loved ones, and friends on October 1st at 8:30 in the morning.

Upon leaving CONUS, the ship set out for the Hawaiian Operating Area, beginning enroute flight operations on Sunday, the third. On 4 October we commenced a Soviet overflight posture[26] which remained in effect while underway until the 26th of the month. The CONNIE was in-port Pearl Harbor for one day on the eleventh. Leaving Pearl for a two day Operational Readiness Evaluation,[28] the big flat top returned to Pearl Harbor for last minute briefings and four days of liberty on Oahu.

On the 17th we departed the naval base and recommenced the overflight

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4

posture. The next few days were very slow, indeed. A great deal of time was devoted to training lectures and briefings to more effectively prepare the largely inexperienced crews for the upcoming first line period. With only a two day stop in Subic Bay, Philippines, the CONSTELLATION departed Subic on the 28th undergoing limited flight operations in the area before steaming for the Tonkin Gulf and Yankee Station. Air Wing NINE began air operations on-station on 3 November. Routine special operations[30] were conducted for the majority of the 19 day line period. On Monday, the 8th of November, a Bluetree photo-reconnaissance mission was flown against Vinh airfield in North Vietnam.[32] On the 16th , CONNIE took a standown day and celebrated the mammoth carrier's tenth birthday with a flight deck cook-out. Immediately following the standown day, on November 17 and 18, the CONSTELLATION in conjunction with the USS ORISKANY participated in a "Beacon Tower" AAWEX.[33] After a day and one-half transit, the CONSTELLATION tied up at the Subic Bay carrier pier on 28 November. Departing Subic on the 28th, we were back on the line ready to resume air operations by the morning of 30 Novermber. This second line period ended 33 days later. The ship departed the Tonkin Gulf for the last time in 1971 on December 31st, the last day of the year. With the exception of a photo-reconnaissance mission against Quan Lang airfield[36] on December 18th, standard operations prevailed until the morning of 26 December. On that day began the heaviest bombing raids against North Vietnam since the bombing halt in 1968. The operation known as "Proud Deep"[37] wrote another page into United States military history; another strong example of one nation's commitment to the value of human life, be it our allies or our fellow countrymen.

[redacted]

IIND-GEN-1720/1 (4-68) 0/90 005 9500

1 JAN - 30 JAN

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10

28 FEB 1972

GROUP 4 DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LEGEND:	In-port Transiting Special Exercise Combat Zone Based at N. Is.				1 JAN HOLIDAY WEEK-	2
3 END	4 Back in the Saddle Aviation Safety Program	5 Japanese Tactical Data System Buffer Exercise 1 Test Flight	6 Normal Training Flights 2	7 FMLP 3 Normal Training Flight	8 FMLP E-2 Controlled Approach trainer exercise	9
10	11 Video Taping experimentation for CNO Project F 0252 4	12 NTF 2	13	14 NTF	15 NTF	16
17	18 NTF	19 NTF	20 NTF	21	22 RAG Training Flight 5 Inst Check	23
24	25	26	27 FCLP including RAG pilots 6	28 Video Taping experimentation for CNO Project F 0252	29	30

[redacted]

IIND-GEN-1720/1 (4-59) 0190 005-9500

31 JAN - 6 MAR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
Group 4

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 FEB In-flight Maint. troubleshooting flight FCLP	2 FCLP	3 FCLP w/ Wing 11 aircraft	4 FCLP	5 CQ USS MIDWAY w/ RAG student	6 CQ USS MIDWAY
7 CQ USS MIDWAY	8 CIC Team Training FAAWTC	9 CIC Trainer Problem North Island	10	11	12 Awards Inspection by Capt DOAK Navy Achievement Medals and 7th Flt. Commendation Letters 7	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Test Flight System Check-out Flight	23 Radar Experimentation for F 0252 4	24 ADMIXTURE EXERCISE 8	25 Video Tape experiment for F 0252	26 Normal Training Flight	27 ADMIXTURE EXERCISE
28 ADMIXTURE EXERCISE	1 MAR ADMIXTURE EXERCISE	2 ADMIXTURE EXERCISE	3 NIF	4	5 X- country NAS Whidbey Is. Briefing and tour for officers of VAQ-130	6

[redacted]

IIND-GEN-1720/1 (N-59) 0190-005-9500

7 MAR -- 10 APR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7 return from X - country	8 Normal Training Flights	9 NTF including Link 11 exercise	10 NLF including Link 11 exercise	11 NTF	12 X - country McCord AFB	13
14 return from X - country	15 NFO Stand-X Flight NTF	16 X - country to NAS Moffett Link 11 Ex. services to USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64)	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 ADM CLARY toured area In-flight troubleshooting Flight	24 Training Flight for RAG student NTF	25 NTF	26 participated in AAWEX evaluation of VAW-113	27
28	29 NTF	30 BUNO 151712 gained from PAR NTF	31 NTF	1 APR NTF	2	3
4	5	6 X - country NAS Pt Mugu NTF	7 NTF Link 11 services to USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC19)	8 Link 11 services to USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19)	9 NTF	10

[redacted]

11 APR - 15 MAY

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4 DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11	12	13 flight to VX-4, Pt Mugu for briefing on CNO Project F 0252	14 Radar experimentation flight for F 0252	15 NTF including radar experimentation for F 0252	16 Video Recorder In-flight checkout F 0252	17
18	19 VX-4 OP#7704 BQM launch tracking ex. F0252	20 Radar experimentation F 0252	21 Radar exper. VX-4 OP#7707 BQM tracking F 0252	22 Inst check System check flights	23 Change of Command ceremony Cdr McIntyre new CO	24
25	26 VX-4 OP#8070 BQM tracking	27 Radar experimentation CVW-9 Alpha Strike simulation at China Lake	28 Radar experimentation VX-4 OP#8073 Training flight for RAG student	29 NTF VX-4 OP#8074 BQM tracking AEW ALERT	30 NTF	1 MAY
2	3 NTF COMNAVAIRPAC Maint. Management Advisory Team Report	4 NTF brief at FAAWTC for USS BLUE RIDGE exercise	5	6 VX-4 OP#8265, 8270 X- country NAS Patuxent River	7 X - country NAS Alameda Link 11 services to USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43)	8 return from X- country to Alameda
9	10 Link 11 exercise w/ USS WORDEN return from X- country to Patuxent River	11 NTF	12 NTF VX-4 OP#8573 BUNO 151718 gained from PAR	13 NTF FCLP	14 VX-4 OP# 8674 FCLP Test Flight	15 FCLP

[redacted]

IIND-GEN-1720/1 (8-59) DI-90-005-9500

16 MAY - 19 JUN

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4 DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
16	17 NAS Lemoore Alpha Strike briefing	18 CVW-9 Alpha Strike simulation	19 CQ CVA-64	20 Litton Data Systems President visits command	21	22
	VX-4 OP#8781 FCLP	debrief at NAS Lemoore	ATDS tape briefing from FAAWTC 11	12 Familiarization and Test Flights		
23	24 VX-4 OP#9080 BQM tracking	25 NTF	26 VX-4 OP#9090	27 Test Flight E-2 controlled approach control at San Clem Is. w/ CVW-9 a/c	28 FCLP	29
	4	flight to NAS Pt Mugu for briefing		FCLP	6 AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT
30	31	1 JUN CQ CVA-64	2 NTF	3 CQ CVA-64	4 NTF	5
AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	Lcdr GINGLES 113,000th landing AEW ALERT	2 FCLP AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT
6	7 Link 11 ex w/ USS WORDEN	8 Link 11 ex w/ USS WORDEN	9 NTF	10 IFF check w/ SNB-666 "Bass Fishing"	11 Alpha Strike brief at NAS Lemoore	12
	Link 11 ex w/ USS CORAL SEA FCLP	FCLP	FCLP	15 FCLP	FCLP	
AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT		
13	14	15 CQ CVA-64	16	17	18	19
	CQ CVA-64	Test Flights Training flight for RAG student	CQ CVA-64	CQ CVA-64 X- country advance liaison to NAS Fallon		

[redacted]

IND-GEN 1720/1 (4-59) 0190 005-9500

20 JUN - 24 JUL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4

DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Squadron's first contingent fly and drive to NAS Fallon	F A L	L O N	W E A	P O N S.	D E	P L O Y -
		Test Flight	Test Flight			
27	28	29	30	1 JUL	2	3
M E	N T - - - 16	- - - - - -	- - - - - -	- - - - - -	- - - - - -	return from NAS Fallon
		Test Flight	Electronic Warfare Exercise w/ CVA-64			H O L I D A Y
		BUNO 151704 gained from PAR				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W E E K	E N D	AAWEX	FCLP 6	FCLP	FCLP	
		Test Flight			AEW ALERT 13	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	FCLP	NTF	Missle ex w/ VF-92	Test Flight	CQ CVA-64	CQ CVA-64
		FCLP	Test Flight			
AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT	AEW ALERT		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
CQ CVA-64	Test Flight		ALQ-108 exercise 17	Squadron took majority of innoculations for deployment	First refractometer installation 18	
Inst check	Link 11 brief to reps from USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19)			ALQ-108 exercise	Briefing & tour Litton Indust. Van Nuys 19	

[redacted]

IIND-GEN-1720/1 (9-59)

25 JUL - 28 AUG

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

GROUP 4 DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26 STAN-X for pilot & FT Link 11 services to CVA-64 AEW ALERT	27 Wing 11 AAWEX Link 11 services to CVA-64 AEW ALERT	28 Final provision installation of refractometer cavities on all a/c AEW ALERT	29 Link 11 ex with USS BLUE RIDGE MRE AEW ALERT	30 MRE	31 VAW-116 moves aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64)
AEW ALERT 13	20	21	18	22		
1 AUG	2 CVA-64 depart North Is. for Ship-Air Wing ex CQ & Fly-on	3 CQ	4 At Sea Type Training Flights (TYT)	5 TYT	6 AEW/AAWEX flights in-port N.Is. Fly-off	7
8	9 Depart N. Is. AEW/ Fly-on assisted CIC w/ Battle Problem	10 AEW/AIC assisted CIC w/ Battle Problem	11 AAWEX AEW	12 AAWEX AEW	13 in-port N. Is. Fly-off	14 STAN-X for pilot, NFO, & FT
15 CONSTELLATION in-port N. undergoing screws and	16 Island repairs to shafts	17 Depart N. Is. AAWEX/AEW Fly-on	18 Simulated Alpha Strike/ SAR exercise Bingo N. Is.	19 Aircraft Bingo N. Is. in-port N. Is. for repairs	20	21
22	23 Test Flight STAN - X NFO	24 STAN - X NFO	25 Depart N. Is. AAWEX/ System check Fly-on	26 Operational Readiness Inspection commences AIMEX/VF-92,96 AEW/AIC	27 AEW/AIC AIMEX/AQM KOMAREK	28 AAWEX AEW/AIC
				23	24	
					25	

29 AUG - 2 OCT

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

[redacted]DENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10 GROUP 4

DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 AAWEX/AIC AEW	30 Simulated Alpha Strike Fly-on	31 Simulated Alpha Strike SAR exercise	1 SEP AAWEX AIC	2 Nuclear Operational Readiness Ex. End of ORI	3 in-port North Island	4 VAW-116 moves ashore
Bingo for maintenance	AEW	AEW/AIC		Bingo a/c to North Island		H O L I -
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
D A Y W E E K E N D		S T A N D O W N	- M A X I M U M L E A V E			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
P R I O R T O D E		P L O Y M E N T -		N O F L Y I N G.		
19 S C H E D U L E D - -	20 - - - - - -	21	22 Test Flight STAN - X Flight Tech	23 Second Installation Refractometer ~~Inst check~~ STAN - X Flight Tech	24 Third Installation Refractometer Test Flight	25 Test Flights
26	27	28 moved aboard CVA-64	29	30	1 OCT Depart CONUS at 0830 local	2 Enroute to Hawaiian Operating Area

[redacted]

IIND-GEN-1720/1 (4-59) 0190-005-9500

3 OCT - 6 NOV

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED
DECLASSIFIED
DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 Began enroute flight operations TYT	4 AEW/AIC commenced overflight posture 26	5 overflight posture AEW/AIC	6 AAWEX in Hawaiian Operating area AIC	7 AEW commenced COMM RELAY w/ Honolulu ARTCC	8 AEW/AIC COMM RELAY w/ Hono Hula Bath NAS Barbers Pt. 27	9 AEW/AIC COMM RELAY Four flight deck crunches in as many days for our aircraft
10 AEW/AIC COMM RELAY Hula Bath	11 in-port Pearl Harbor	12 Depart ~~Pearl for ORE~~ Sim. Alpha Stks 28 F-4J (Nordo) vectored to ship on Link 4A	13 NOREX 29 in-port Pearl Harbor	14	15	16
17 ~~Depart Pearl~~ enroute to the Philippines re-commence overflight posture	18 practice over-flight reaction w/ P-3 aircraft	19 T R A N S I T T O S U B I C B A Y , P H I L I P -	20 M A I N T A I N O V E R F L I G H T	21	22	23
24 P I N E S P O S T U R E E N R O U T E	25	26 System Test Flights	27 Fourth Refractometer Installation NOREX 18 Inst check Bingo a/c to NAS Cubi Pt.	28 in-port Subic Bay System Tests STAN- X Flight Tech	29 System test flights Inst check	30 Depart Subic Bay ~~AIC~~ Fly-on
31 AEW/AIC Operations in Philippines Operating area	1 NOV Enroute to Yankee Station Tonkin Gulf	2	3 Entered combat zone commenced air ops on Yankee Station	4 STD OPS 30	5 Squadron CFC Raffle 31 STD OPS	6 STD OPS

[redacted]

NWD-GEN-1720/1 (4-59) 0190 005-9500

7 NOV - 11 DEC

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED
OD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7 STD OPS	8 Bluetree Photo-recon mission against Vinh A/F 32	9 S T	10 A N D A R	11 D " S T	12 E E L T I	13 G E R "
	STD OPS					
14 O P E	15 R A T I O N 30	16 CONSTELLATION Standown CONNIE Birthday party & cook-out	17 AEW "Beacon Tower" AAWEX 33	18 AEW "Beacon Tower" AAWEX LTjg HEMBREE 120,000th landing 14	19 STD OPS Fly-off to Cubi Pt/ a/c ~~for static dis~~ play at Manila Air Show	20 STD OPS static display ~~Manila Air Show~~
21 VAW-116 participation in CONNIE Church Services	22 No Air Ops bad weather	23 aircraft bingo to Cubi Pt	24	25 Squadron All-Hands Beach party/ picnic	26 System Test Flights	27
34 Enroute Subic Bay		in-port Subic Bay				
28 Depart Subic for Y.S.	29 Enroute to Yankee Station	30 Resume Air Ops on station	1 DEC S T A N D A R	2 D " S	3 T E E L	4
Range-sanitation & missle ex 35 Fly-on	enter Combat Zone					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
T I	G E R " -	Y A	N K E E	S T A T I	O N	A I R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IIND-GEN-1720/1 (4-59) 0190-005-9500

12 DEC -- 31 DEC

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GR DECLASSIFIED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
O P	E R A T I	O N S T	H I S P	E R I O D	STD OPS 30	Bluetree Photo-recon mission against Quan Lang A/F 36
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
S T	A N D A R	D Y.	S.	A I R	O	P S
26	27	28	29	30	31	
O P	E R A T I	O N " P R	O U D D	E E P " 37	Departed Y.S. enroute Subic Bay received ATRPAC Aviation Safety Award for 1971 38	LT STRINDBERG 123,000th landing aboard USS CONSTELLATION 14
				CORAL SEA F-4 CONSTELLATION A-6 SARs		

ITINERARY & NARRATIVE FOOTNOTES

28 FEB 1972

DECLASSIFIED

1. Representatives from the Japanese Self-Defense Force came to San Diego to test the ability of a Tactical Data System buffer assembly to provide a viable link between the Japanese Air Defense network and the U.S. Naval and Airborne Tactical Data Systems. The Japanese buffer with its associated equipment was set up on San Clemente Island. The Fleet Anti-Air Warfare Training Center at Point Loma and Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 116 participated in the experiment. The exercise was deemed successful and the buffer is now being installed operationally in the Japanese defense network.

2. Normal Training Flights include but is not limited to the following exercises: cockpit and CIC familiarization, tracking and reporting of contacts, Link 11 operating procedures, pilot training and navigation, airborne intercept control, and basic crew co-ordination drills.

3. Field Mirror Landing Practice ~~whereby pilots practice carrier landing~~ techniques at a land base equipped with a mirroe landing system to simulate as near as possible the techniques required for carrier approaches.

4. See E-2B/F-4J Effectiveness Against Anti-Ship Missles, CNO Project F 0252 in Section VI.

5. RAG stands for Replacement Air Group and in this case refers to RVAW-110 based at NAS North Island where all pilots, Naval Flight Officers, and most flight technicians going to an E-2B squadron are initially trained in the aircraft. The squadron occasionally donated flight time in its aircraft to assist the RAG with its mission of training crews.

6. Field Carrier Landing Practice whereby pilots practice carrier landing techniques at a land base utilizing a fresnel lens rather than the older mirroe assembly.

7. During this award ceremony, squadron members received medals and letters of commendation based on their recent contributions and service to their country during the previous deployment. See Section VII.

8. During this exercise, the squadron provided control of simulated enemy aircraft as an element of the "Orange" forces. The E-2B crews, working in conjunction with the Fleet Aircraft Surveillance Facility San Diego, provided needed vectors and administrative record keeping to reconstruct the strike groups assault on the evaluated units. In addition, radio relay was provided between friendly forces and shore-based evaluators.

9. See Section VII.

10. See Section VII.

11. An extensive briefing was conducted at RVAW-110 concerning the specific capabilities and functions of the newest Airborne Tactical Data System (E-2B) computer program tape. Tape 23, the one discussed, was scheduled to be employed by the squadron during the fall 1971 - spring 1972 deployment. The Fleet Anti-Ait Warfare Training Center personnel conducted the briefing.

12. See Section VII.

13. Airborne Early Warning alerts are stood by COMFAIRSDIEGO squadrons and detachments on a rotating basis primarily to provide stand-by assets in the event of offshore submarine contact detection. Occasionally, the long range E-2B aircraft are called upon to reaquire Soviet or EastEuropean block shipping and trawlers known to be enroute to West Coast territorial waters.

14. See Section VII.

15. The E-2B crew varied altitude and position evaluating the effectiveness of a nuclear submarine's IFF transponder. The submarine's operational call-

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4

sign was "Bass Fishing". A report of the parameters disclosed by this evaluation was forwarded to the submarine's Commanding Officer.
16. See Section IV.
17. This equipment newly installed in the squadron's aircraft in time for the upcoming deployment was tested in conjuction with the Experimental Test and Evaluation Center at Point Mugu.
18. See Experimental Refractometer Installation in Section VI.
19. See Section VII.
20. Standardiztion evaluation flight wherein all crew members are annually or as required re-examined for their operational knowledge and skills in conjunction with their respective crew positions in the squadron's aircraft.
21. Anti-Air Warfare Exercise testing the capability of a ship and its support units and aircraft to defend itself against enemy aerial attack.
22. Mission Readiness Evaluation is a training problem conducted in the E-2B CIC trainer at NAS North Island to evaluate the preparedness of Fleet squadrons for upcoming Operational Readiness Inspections prior to an overseas deployment. The MRE is generally conducted by qualified RVAW-110 personnel.
23. See Operational Readiness Inspection in Section IV.
24. Airborne Intercept Missle Exercise utilizing an AQM supersonic target drone.
25. Komar Exercise practicing defensive tactics against high speed attack boats employing surface to surface anti-shipping missles.
26. An alert posture was set up during long transit periods to prevent unescorted overflight by Russian long range patrol aircraft.
27. Hula Bath is a drive-through aircraft washing rack installed at NAS Barbers Point on Oahu. Many of the squadrons aboard the CONSTELLATION took advantage of this opportunity to clean the salt spray off the aircraft.
28. ORE stands for Operational Readiness Evaluation. It is the last readiness evaluation prior to transiting to the WESTPAC operating areas.
29. Nuclear Operational Readiness Exercise
30. Standard Yankee Station air operations see Section V.
31. In an attempt to promote the Combined Federal Campaign fund drive on the squadron level, the SUNKINGS held a squadron wide raffle at $1.00 per chance. The winners received a small amount of money and 4-8 days of leave depending how they placed in the drawing. All three winners were Aviation Electronics Technicians, namely, AT1 Donald Ware, AT1 Ron Luce, and AT3 Roy Tidwell. See Section VII.
32. An RA-5C from RVAH-11 while making a photo run on the airfield received sporatic triple A fire. The escorting A-7Es and F-4Js proceeded to retaliate by hitting the airfield and AAA sites inflicting heavy damages.
33. "Beacon Tower 10" was the code name for a two-day Anti-Air Warfare Exercise which took place on Yankee Station. It was designed to test the preparedness of Carrier Task Force 77 units to defend themselves against aerial attack.
34. See Section VII.
35. Two E-2Bs provided range sanitation and contact reports for CONSTELLATION'S Combat Information Center one hour prior to the scheduled exercise. When VF-92 launched their first AQM-37 supersonic target, the E-2B crew positioned approximately 150 nautical miles from the Philippine coastline and at a 90 degree aspect angle to the AQM were able to paint the AQM through a short segment of its flight.

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.10
GROUP 4

36. On that day, an armed reconnaissance strike hit the Quan Lang airfield in North Vietnam. As the strike group proceeded to the target, the EKA-3B tanker/ Electronic Countermeasures aircraft attempting to rendezvous with the strike leader prior to the target area experienced Tacan navigation gear and IFF transponder malfunctions. The E-2B crew provided the necessary vectors and communications relay for the separate elements to insure the A-3's timely rendezvous despite its troubles. The EKA-3B was essential is jamming the automatic tracking capabilities of at least one Surface to Air Missle site vastly reducing the total effectiveness of the enemy's order of battle.

37. See "Proud Deep Alpha" in Section V.

38. Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN received the Commander Naval Air Forces Pacific Aviation Safety Award for the calendar year 1971.