



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN
UNIT 25415
FPO AP 96601-6404

5750
Ser 10/172
7 Sep 95

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning
Squadron ONE ONE SIX

To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND BI-ANNUAL HISTORY FOR CY 1995

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12 (Series)

Encl: (1) Command History/Chronology - pg 2 } privacy act info
(2) Command Mission
(3) CO/XO Biographies
(4) CO/XO Photographs } privacy act info

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are hereby submitted.

S. B. SALE

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COMMAND MISSION

Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN (VAW-116) is a four-plane Airborne Early Warning (AEW) Squadron under the command of Commander, Carrier Air Wing TWO.

VAW-116 operates the five-plane, twin-turboprop E-2C "Hawkeye" aircraft, which is capable of all-weather carrier and shore-based operations. The E-2C is 57 1/2 feet long, has an 81 foot wing span and weighs 54,000 pounds when operationally loaded. Its most distinguishing physical characteristics are its four vertical stabilizers and its 24 foot diameter, dish shaped rotodome mounted six feet above the fuselage.

The five man crew consists of a pilot, co-pilot, combat Information Center Officer (CICO), Air Control Officer (ACO) and a Radar Operator (RO). This highly skilled crew, when working as a coordinated team, can perform the following missions:

1. Airborne Early Warning (AEW)--the detection of unknown air contacts closing the Task Force.
2. Battle Space Management
3. Tactical Aircraft Intercept Control (AIC).
4. Strike Flight Following/Control.
5. Surface/Subsurface Surveillance Coordination (SSSC), including interface with S-3 aircraft via voice and Link-11.
6. Helicopter Control.
7. Aerial Mining Control.
8. Tactical Reconnaissance Aircraft Control.
9. Secondary Approach Assistance for carrier aircraft.
10. Communications Relay, both manual and automatic.
11. Airborne Search and Rescue Coordination (SAR).

COMMAND HISTORY

A. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. Primary Mission: Airborne Early Warning and Battle Management. Secondary Mission: Airwing Command and Control Air Intercept Control, Strike Control, Surface Search Coordination, War at Sea, Deconfliction of Friendly/Hostile Aircraft, Communications Relay, Passive Detection of Hostile Emitters.

2. Organization Structure: Operational Senior Command: Commander, Carrier Air Wing Two. Administrative Senior Command: Commander, Airborne Early Warning Wing U.S. Pacific Fleet. Deployed aboard U.S.S. CONSTELLATION (CV-64) under Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group ONE, as part of Battle Group Echo.

3. Commanding Officer: CDR Steven B. Sale, [REDACTED]

4. Home Base: Hangar Six, NAS Miramar, San Diego, Ca. U.S.S. CONSTELLATION is home-ported at NAS North Island, San Diego, Ca.

5. Type and Number Aircraft Assigned : Four E-2C Group II Hawkeye Aircraft. Tail codes NE600, NE601, NE602, NE603. Bunos: 164112, 164484, 164488, 164492.

B. CHRONOLOGY

1. Major Exercises/Special Operations.

- a. 10 November 94 - 10 May 95. Western Pacific Deployment.
- b. 13 June - 15 June 95 U.S. Customs Counter Drug Operations Training Exercise
- c. 21 June - 23 June 95 NAWC EIFF exercise
- d. 28 June - 22 August 95 JIATF-E Counter Drug Operations

C. NARRATIVE

1. General Contributions to the E-2C Community.

a. Determined the feasibility of operating a detachment from Kuwait International airport, Kuwait City, Kuwait. The positive results proved the capability of E-2C group II aircraft to control Operation Southern Watch for extended periods without AWACS assistance.

b. Tested the capabilities of a new EIFF system with NAWC. Future tactical operations employing the new system were influenced by this testing.

c. Contributed in the testing and operational employment of ANDVT HF secure communication system in the E-2C Group II aircraft.

d. Hosted members of the Singapore Armed Forces and demonstrated superior capabilities of E-2C group II aircraft to influence their decision to upgrade their AEW inventory.

e. Conducted drug operations in Puerto Rico. Aggressively expanded E-2 role in surface surveillance, resulting in two no notice mission assists with U.S. Customs and U.S. Coast Guard aircraft and the seizure of over 1800 kilograms of cocaine. Materially contributed to contraband seizures amounting to more than 2,400 kilograms of cocaine valued at over \$225 million.

D. BI-ANNUAL SQUADRON SUMMARY.

1. In January, while on Western Pacific Deployment, squadron entered the Arabian Gulf and commenced operations in support of Operation Southern Watch and battle group defense.

2. In February, established temporary support detachment in Kuwait and demonstrated feasibility of extended E-2C group II support of OSW operations.

3. In March, exited the gulf and commenced return portion of Western Pacific Deployment.

4. In May, returned from Western Pacific Deployment.

5. In June, successfully completed ADMAT inspection requirements. Completed final preparations for squadron deployment to NAS Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

6. In July and August deployed to Puerto Rico to conduct Counter Drug Operations for JIATF-E. While on deployment briefed Coast Guard surface and air assets on E-2C group II capabilities in counter narcotics mission.

7. Currently Sun King safety statistics for 1995 are 20 years of mishap free flying and surpassing 40,000 hours. Without any Alpha or Bravo flight/ground mishaps.