

1977



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
ATTACK SQUADRON TWENTY FIVE
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From: Commanding Officer, Attack Squadron TWENTY FIVE
To: Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department (OP-05D2)
Washington, D. C. 20350

Subj: Command History (OPNAV Report 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Attack Squadron TWENTY FIVE Command History

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

W. L. Butler
W. L. BUTLER

Copy to:
CINCPACFLT
Director of Naval History

ATTACK SQUADRON TWENTY FIVE COMMAND HISTORY

Attack Squadron TWENTY FIVE was shore based at Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California for this entire period. Commander James B. HAMILTON, U. S. Navy, Commanding - Commander Warner L. BUTLER, U. S. Navy, Executive Officer. The squadron has maintained a complement of 12 A7E Corsair II aircraft which are manufactured by LTV Corporation of Dallas, TX. During this past 12 months the squadron was under the administrative control of Commander Carrier Air Wing TWO and under the operational control of the functional wing, Commander Light Attack Wing, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

The squadron opened the year with an extensive safety standdown covering 10 and 11 January. 26 January saw the successful completion of the COMNAVAIRPAC evaluation.

In February squadron pilots averaged 34.4 hours for the month with a total of 356.4 day and 126.4 night hours. During the period 31 January to 4 February pilots and ground crews were involved in realistic combat environment training in support of READIEX 3-77 operating off San Clemente Island. An alpha strike scenario was also assembled and flown for Top Gun graduation training.

9 to 26 March was spent onboard NAS Fallon, Nevada for weapons training. Competing in 50 COMPEX events, 43 "E's" were earned with all pilots receiving "E's" in day dive bombing with an overall CEP of 44.5 feet. Several Third Fleet service sorties were also flown.

1 April the squadron participated in the CVW-2 MINEX at NAS Whidbey Island. Several sorties were flown during an ACM training exercise at Miramar, CA, on 8 April. 9 to 15 April the squadron put to sea for carrier qualification/refresher training embarked aboard USS LEXINGTON. Pilots got 74 day and 48 night traps with 27 day and 34 night hours.

During the first weekend of May the squadron participated in the NAS Lemoore airshow. Close Air Support training was provided for student ground FACS at Twenty-Nine Palms with all aircraft carrying live ordnance. Numerous flights were flown on the MCAS Yuma ACM Range involving Shrike envelope evaluation by the MCAS Yuma ACMR and China Lake NWC. Another Alpha strike scenario was flown for Top Gun graduation. During this month the squadron embarked on an intensive ACM training program with 45 tactics sorties flown. Pre-NWAI was successfully completed 31 May/1 June. The squadron was also highly successful in it's completion of the COMLATWINGPAC ADMAT inspection.

Enclosure (1)

In June the squadron completed the NWA1. The squadron competed in the year long COMPEX cycle in 10 events and finished the 1977 competition receiving 7 "E's".

July saw an emphasis on Aerial Mining. Culminating this training was a CVW-2 MINEX at Santa Rosa Island. 36 MK25 mines were delivered during this MINEX.

In August the squadron returned to NAS Fallon for a CVW-2 weapons detachment. During the period 31 July to 13 August the squadron flew 232 day and 45 night sorties. 17 sorties were flown against the Wilson EW range and 28 sorties against the COSO range.

19-26 September was taken up with the return to San Clemente Island, for War-at-Sea scenarios in conjunction with FLEETEX 2-77. 72 sorties and 118.3 hours were flown.

During October several sorties were flown as intruder escort at Nellis AFB. Close Air Support hops were flown on the Shoaba Range supporting PHIP/HELIX El-78. A top Gun graduation strike and two ACMEX's were flown at Miramar and El Toro. Electronic Warfare environment training took place with VAQ-130 providing EA-6B's for the squadron to work with.

The squadron flew 133 sorties on the fallon Target complexes during November with 31% of these at night. Another CVW-2 ACMEX at Miramar was also included in the Month's activities.

December saw the squadron embarked aboard the USS CORAL SEA for CQ refresher. 53.9 day and 36.9 night hours were flown.

Squadron pilots have maintained an aggressive and comprehensive training program throughout the year ensuring the proficiency of the pilots assigned. A total of 5105 accident free hours were flown during the year.