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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON 112
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96601-6400

1994 ✓

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5750
Ser Admin/C002
10 Mar 95

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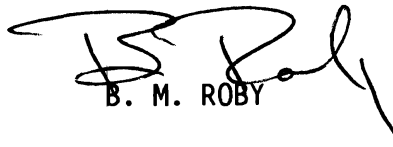
From: Commanding Officer, VAW 112
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1994 (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Report on Command History for Calendar Year 1994 (C)
(2) Personal-For-Messages
(3) Situational Reports
(4) After Action Reports
(5) HAZMAT Reports
(6) Commanding Officer's Biography and Photo

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted for calendar year 1994.


B. M. ROBY

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Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron One Hundred Twelve
Command History for Calendar Year 1994

1. (U) Command Organization

a. (U) Primary mission of the Grumman E-2C Hawkeye is to provide all weather, day and night carrier based airborne early warning and command and control to carrier battle groups.

(U) Secondary missions are:

- (1) Air Intercept Control
- (2) Search and Rescue Coordination
- (3) Strike Control
- (4) Surface Surveillance
- (5) Communications Support/Relay

b. (U) Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 112 Commanding Officer during 1994 was:

CDR R. W. Bannister, USN, [REDACTED]/1320, 007512-15
(01 January to 14 October 1994)

CDR B. M. Roby, USN, [REDACTED] 1310, 023457-00
(14 October to 31 December 1994)

c. (U) Immediate seniors in command are:

Administrative: Commander Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Operational: Commander, Carrier Air Wing Nine

d. (U) Home Port: NAS Miramar San Diego, California

e. (U) Summary of aircraft onboard.

01 January 1994
164352
164493
164494
164495

Transfers/Receipts
Transferred to VAW 117, 28 Feb

Classified by: OPNAVINST C5513.2A
Declassify on: OADR

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Enclosure (1)

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31 December 1994

164111

164493

164494

164495

Transfers/Receipts

Received from VAW 110, 12 July

2. (C) Chronology of Operations, 1994

January

01-31 Based ashore NAS Miramar

05 Safety Stand Down

06 Maintenance Safety Stand Down

06-19 Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP)

20-24 Carrier Qualifications (CQ) aboard USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63)

23 Link Exercise with USS PRINCETON

February

01-28 Based ashore NAS Miramar

01 Strike Exercise (Strikex) with VFA 147

03 Strikex with VS 33

08-18 Detachment to Nellis AFB, NV for Red Flag Exercise

23 Strikex with VF 211, VF 126

March

01-31 Based ashore NAS Miramar

12-17 Air Intercept Control (AIC) with VX 4 using Joint Tactical Information Distribution System (JTIDS)

19-31 Detachment to Gulfport, MS for Joint Air Defense Operation/Joint Engagement Zone (JADO/JEZ) Near Land Test Exercise

April

01-30 Based ashore NAS Miramar

12-14 Joint Forces Air Component Commander (JFACC) Road Show

28-30 Detachment Roswell, NM for ROVING SANDS Exercise

May

01-31 Based ashore NAS Miramar

01-10 Detachment Roswell, NM for ROVING SANDS Exercise

10-15 Fleet Awareness, VT 10

June

01-30 Based ashore NAS Miramar
02-12 Shock Test Support
03-06 Battle Group War at Sea (WASEX) Exercise
11-24 Detachment to Cold Lake, Alberta for Maple
Flag Exercise
24-26 Airshow Redding, CA

July

01-31 Based ashore NAS Miramar
12-13 Counter-Drug (CD) Ops
19 Missile Exercise Support
31 Depart for Guantanamo/Roosevelt Roads in
support of JTF 4 Counter-Drug (CD)

August

01-31 Based ashore Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
01-31 Caribbean detachment in support of JTF 4 CD

September

01-30 Based ashore Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
01-22 Caribbean detachment in support of JTF 4 CD Operations and
Operations RESTORE DEMOCRACY under CTF 185

October

01-31 Based ashore NAS Miramar
06 Security Stand Down
14 Change of Command
17-21 Detachment NAS Fallon, NV for Desert Rescue IV
Exercise
30 War-at-Sea exercise (WASEX) USS LINCOLN
31 WASEX USS TRUXTUN

November

01-30 Based ashore NAS Miramar
02 AIC with VFA 146
03 AIC with VF 24
05 AIC with VF 24
08-10 AIC with VF 24
14-16 AIC with VF 24
15 CD Operations
21-22 FCLP, NAS Miramar
23 Safety Stand Down
28 Strikex with VF 24
29 FCLP, NAS Miramar

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December

01-31 Based ashore NAS Miramar
05 FCLP, NAS Miramar
06 AIC with VF 24
07 Safety Stand Down
08 AIC with VF 24
12 FCLP, NAS Miramar
14 Strikex with VS 33
15 AIC with VF 24

3. (C) Narrative of Events

(C) VAW 112 began 1994 with a heavy Fleet Carrier Landing Period (FCLP), in preparation for carrier qualifications aboard USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63). The FCLP's were done with the new E-2C Group II aircraft. The pilots completed 101 carrier arrested landings (traps), of which 33 were night traps.

From 8-18 February the squadron sent a detachment to Nellis AFB, Nevada for the RED FLAG exercise. VAW 112 was the first E-2 squadron invited to participate as Red Air Airborne Weapons Director (AWD). Controlling Red assets, VAW 112 provided a more complex battle problem to the Blue Forces, enhancing their training.

In March, the "Golden Hawks" received the Tadi J system, Joint Tactical Information Distribution System (JTIDS). An aggressive training program was set up with Grumman to bring the command up to speed, in hopes of utilizing the system in an upcoming exercise. E-2C to E-2C and E-2C to JTIDS van data link training was conducted. After successful results, follow-on tests were conducted with F 14D's from VX 4 at Pt. Mugu. All tests proved to be successful and the squadron was prepared to use JTIDS in the Joint Air Defense Operational/Joint Engagement Zone (JADO/JEZ) Near Land Test (NLT).

VAW 112 participated in the JADO/JEZ NLT from 19-31 March, flying out of Gulfport, Mississippi. The exercise was designed to assess the JADO/JEZ concept in a littoral environment and provided excellent training for the crew.

While in Gulfport, VAW 112 was a contributing member to an historical event. For the first time, a video image data link was sent between a Ticonderoga Class Cruiser and the JTIDS van. VAW 112 served as a relay station during this event.

After returning from Gulfport, the squadron went on a three-week detachment, from 28 April to 10 May, to Roswell, New Mexico for ROVING SANDS 94 (RS 94). RS 94 was a joint air defense exercise involving approximately 16000 active and reserve personnel from all services. VAW 112 was the primary E-2C squadron and was supplemented with aircraft and crews from VAW 117. Besides gaining experience in the joint operations, VAW 112 had the lead in training and preparing CVW 9 to set up a Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC) structure.

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June provided little rest for the "Golden Hawks". The squadron sent a detachment to Cold Lake, Alberta for the MAPLE FLAG XXVII (MF27) Exercise. Participants included several NATO countries, as well as U.S. Navy and Air Force assets. The exercise was designed to increase air crew capability, hence survivability, while developing the self-discipline, leadership, tactics, and initiative necessary to win in combat. The squadron maintained a 100% sortie completion rate. The Canadians were impressed with the dependability and flexibility of the E-2C and its crew.

Having gained a lot of experience in the Joint Operations environment, operational focus shifted towards national interest. From 31 July to 22 September, VAW 112 deployed to the Caribbean. Attached to Joint Task Force Four (JTF4), the squadron assisted in the counter-drug (CD) effort, locating and identifying illegal flights. The experience gained working with U.S. Customs and various drug enforcement agencies was invaluable. The squadron relocated several times, staying in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Roosevelt Roads, PR; Key West, FL; Homestead, FL and Curacao, Netherlands Antilles.

During the time in Roosevelt Roads the squadron was reassigned to Combined Joint Task Force 185 (CJTF 185) in support of OPERATION RESTORE DEMOCRACY. VAW 112 was one of only two Navy squadrons in theater, the only west coast squadron. To support the operation, extensive planning and preparation was undertaken. Under the cover of darkness, the "Golden Hawks" provided airborne control and Search and Rescue Service (SAR) to helicopter units transiting to the area.

On 14 October, CDR R.W. Bannister was relieved by CDR B.M. Roby as Commanding Officer, VAW 112. The following week, the squadron sent a detachment to NAS Fallon, Nevada from 17-21 October for DESERT RESCUE IV (DR4) exercise. DR4, a Joint Combat Search and Rescue (JCSAR) exercise was born out of DESERT STORM. Despite Desert Storm's success, several deficiencies were noted regarding CSAR. VAW 112 became more technically and tactically proficient in (JCSAR).

Although the pace slowed down significantly, the remaining two months of 1994 were very positive for training. The squadron was able to schedule many air intercept control flights with Air Wing fighter squadrons. The squadron also participated in War at Sea exercises.

Safety was of paramount concern throughout the year. Three safety stand-downs and a security stand-down were conducted. The squadron flew 2140.7 accident-free hours (1732.1 day, 408.6 night, none embarked).

VAW 112 had a good year for enlisted retention, retaining 27 of 49 eligible members (55%). Additionally, VAW 112 saw the advancement of numerous personnel during the year: two to the ranks of E-7 through E-9, and 26 to the ranks of E-4 through E-6.

As the year ended, VAW 112 prepared to start gearing up for the workup cycle. With lots of experience gained from the many detachments, 1994 proved to be a great year for the Golden Hawks.

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