

5750
Ser CO/

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning
Squadron 113

To: Director, Naval Historical Center

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Summary of Operations for Calendar Year 2002
(Abbreviated Form)
(3) Summary of Operations for Calendar Year 2002
(Narrative Form)
(4) Hours and Traps for Calendar Year 2002
(5) Commanding Officer's Biography
(6) Commanding Officer's Picture
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(9) Alpha Roster
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1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (10) are
submitted.


S. D. SCHICK

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

MISSION: To safely build and maintain a winning, fighting team of warriors capable of commanding and controlling the delivery of rapid, fierce, and lethal combat power, anytime, anywhere.

ISIC: Carrier Air Wing FOURTEEN

COMMANDING OFFICER: CDR George T. Fadok, USN

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: CDR Samuel D. Schick, USN

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF: CMDM(AW/NAC) John Sais, USN

TOTAL # OF OFFICERS: 32

TOTAL # OF ENLISTED: 131

OFFICER DESIGNATORS ASSIGNED: 1310, 1315, 1320, 1325, 1525, 1635, 6332, 7341

ENLISTED RATINGS ASSIGNED: AD, AE, AK, AME, AM, AT, AZ, DK, HM, IT, IS, MS, PN, PR, YN

HOMEPORT: Naval Base Ventura County, Pt Mugu, CA

TYPE AND NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT: Four (4) E-2C Plus Group II Hawkeye Aircraft

TAIL CODE: NK

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2002
ABBREVIATED FORMAT

18 January - 06 February
COMPTUEX/ITA (USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN CVN-72)

27 February - 22 March
CVW-14 WEAPONS DETACHMENT (FALLON, NV)

21 April - 26 April
NORTHERN EDGE (USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN CVN-72)

02 May - 13 May
JTTFEX I/II (USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN CVN-72)

23 July - 31 December
WESTPAC/OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/OPERATION SOUTHERN WATCH

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2002
NARRATIVE FORMAT

January of 2002 found the "World Famous Black Eagles" of VAW-113 in the middle of a busy Inter-Deployment Training Cycle with CVW-14 onboard USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN-72). The squadron, air wing, and carrier were preparing and training for a most challenging and interesting Western Pacific, Northern Arabian Sea, and Northern Arabian Gulf deployment, which would include three major combat operations. The year culminated with the Black Eagles receiving the Battle "E", Admiral Frank E. Akers Airborne Early Warning Excellence, and Chief of Naval Operations Aviation Safety awards.

The first two months of the year were spent onboard the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN participating in a Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX). During this time, the air wing and battle group learned to work together as a cohesive fighting unit. The Black Eagles, airborne command and control experts and the eyes of the air wing, took the lead in coordinating radio and data link training and integration for the battle group. They helped unify ship's company and air wing squadrons into a unified, fighting team.

The Black Eagles spent the end of February and most of March at Fallon, NV where they trained with the air wing during the CVW-14 Weapons Detachment. It was during this detachment with complex and demanding tactical scenarios that the air wing truly learned to work together and become a unified fighting team. Through comprehensive mission planning, dynamic flights and thorough briefs and debriefs, each Pilot and Naval Flight Officer discovered the capabilities and limitations of each air wing asset. The demanding and complex missions and flights were followed by air wing socials that helped to cement the professional and personal relationships within the air wing. It was during this intensive training detachment that the Black Eagles further established themselves as leaders both airborne and on the ground. There was increased respect and complete confidence in Black Eagle control resulting in a more effective, combat capable air wing.

VAW-113 then embarked onboard USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN during April and May for a five-week at-sea period and participated in Exercise NORTHERN EDGE, and Joint Task Force Exercise (JTFEX) I/II. During NORTHERN EDGE, the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN Battle Group (ALBG) stationed off the coast of Alaska, working with Air Force units to refine and develop effective joint tactics, techniques and procedures. After NORTHERN EDGE, the Battle Group sailed south to commence JTFEX. Following these exercises, the Black Eagles took advantage of June and July for some final training opportunities and enjoyed some well deserved leave in anticipation of the Western Pacific (WESTPAC) deployment on July 23, 2002.

Although the first two months of WESTPAC 2002 was filled with relatively high-tempo operations and intense training, there was also time for a little rest and relaxation in Hawaii, Japan, Singapore, and Hong Kong. After enjoying these port calls, the ALBG began operations over Afghanistan in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF), helping to fight the war on terrorism. True to their reputation, the Black Eagles continued to provide superior command and control during their six weeks in OEF, making it one of the most successful operations in history. After OEF, the Black Eagles enjoyed a short port call in Manama, Bahrain and then began six weeks of relatively intense flying in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH (OSW) over the skies of Iraq. During OSW, the Black Eagles controlled multiple assets including Navy, Air Force, British, and NATO aircraft. Returning home from deployment in mid-December, the Black Eagles enjoyed a port call in Perth, Australia.

The year had been busy, exhilarating, exciting, and exceptionally successful. The Black Eagles of VAW-113 are the embodiment of excellence and continue to prove that they can safely build and maintain a winning, fighting team of warriors capable of commanding and controlling the delivery of rapid, fierce, and lethal combat power, anytime, anywhere.

Encl (3)

HOURS AND TRAPS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2002

HOURS FLOWN: 2651.9

NIGHT HOURS: 955.5

EMBARKED HOURS: 2110.1

CARRIER LANDINGS: 744