



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE ONE FIVE
FPO AP 96601-6403

1991 ✓

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5750
Ser ADMIN/091
06 MAR 92

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 115
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: FORWARDING OF COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) VAW-115 Command History for Calendar Year (CY) 1991

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

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VAW-115 COMMAND HISTORY FOR CY 1991

1. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE. VAW-115 is a carrier based airborne early warning squadron forward deployed as a part of Carrier Air Wing 5 (CVW-5) embarked on USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62) homeported in Yokosuka, Japan. VAW-115 is commanded by Commander Terry L. Jobe, U.S. Navy. The VAW-115 "Liberty Bells" call sign "Liberty", fly and maintain 5 E-2C Hawkeyes, tailcode "NF".

2. CHRONOLOGY:

1 JAN - 16 JAN OPERATION "DESERT SHIELD".

1 JAN - 16 JAN PROVIDED LIAISON OFFICERS TO BAHRAIN CENTER TO FACILITATE BG ALFA FLT OPS WHILE OPERATING IN THE ARABIAN GULF.

1 JAN - 25 JAN PROVIDED A MISSION COMMANDER TAD TO USCENTCOM, RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA TO COORDINATE ISSUES OF DATALINKS AND CV AIR OPS RELATED TO BG ALFA ARABIAN GULF PRESENCE.

6 JAN - 9 JAN EXERCISE BEACON FLASH

6 JAN - 9 JAN PROVIDE ONE OFFICER AS BG ZULUS REPRESENTATIVE AT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL COORDINATION CONFERENCES HELD IN BAHRAIN AND U.A.E. CENTERS

17 JAN - 28 FEB OPERATION "DESERT STORM".

9 MAR - 17 APR IN TRANSIT FROM PERSIAN GULF TO YOKOSUKA, JAPAN WITH PORT CALLS IN PATTAYA BEACH, THAILAND; HONG KONG; AND SUBIC BAY, REPUBLIC OF PHILIPPINES

15 MAR MISSILE-EX

7 APR MISSILE-EX

18 APR - 9 AUG TEMPORARILY BASED ASHORE NAF ATSUGI, JAPAN.

11 MAY - 17 MAY CONDUCTED AIRCRAFT SWAP WITH VAW-116 AT NAS CUBI POINT.

17 JUN - 01 JUL SQUADRON MEMBERS DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION FIERY VIGIL, EVACUATION OF PERSONNEL DUE TO ERUPTION OF MT PINATUBO.

10 AUG - 11 SEP CONDUCTED CROSS DECKING EVOLUTION FROM USS MIDWAY (CV-41) TO USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62).

16 AUG - 11 SEP MISSILE-EX

12 SEP - 14 OCT TEMPORARILY BASED ASHORE NAF ATSUGI, JAPAN.

22 SEP - 23 OCT NAS CUBI POINT DETACHMENT

15 OCT - 24 NOV DEPLOYED ABOARD USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62)

23 OCT MISSILE-EX

1 NOV - 5 NOV VALIANT BLITZ

Enclosure (1)

6 NOV - 15 NOV ANNUALEX 03G
25 NOV - 8 DEC TEMPORARILY BASED ASHORE NAF ATSUGI, JAPAN
9 DEC - 21 DEC ATA EXERCISE IN OKINAWA OPERATING AREA
18 DEC MISSILE-EX
22 DEC - 31 DEC TEMPORARILY BASED ASHORE NAF ATSUGI, JAPAN

3. NARRATIVE. VAW-115 began 1991 embarked aboard USS MIDWAY (CV-41) as a component of CVW-5 operating in conjunction with coalition forces in operation DESERT SHIELD. From 6 January to 9 January, VAW-115 provided command and control functions during missions in Exercise BEACON FLASH. From 17 January to 28 February VAW-115 flew combat missions in support of operation DESERT STORM. From 1 March to 7 March, the squadron flew missions to ensure Iraqi compliance with the U.N. mandated cease fire agreement. On 8 March USS MIDWAY (CV-41) was relieved on station by the USS RANGER (CV-61) and while in transit to Yokosuka, Japan, VAW-115 controlled assets during open water missile exercises on 15 March and 7 APRIL. On 29 March, VAW-115 detected and vectored F/A-18s to intercept one TU-95 Bear D and one TU-142 Bear F in the South China Sea. After port calls in Thailand, Hong Kong, and the Philippines, the squadron arrived in Yokosuka, Japan on 17 April. From 18 April until 9 August VAW-115 was based ashore at NAF Atsugi, Japan. On 15 May, the Liberty Bells accepted four new aircraft from VAW-116 at NAS Cubi Point. From 17 June to 1 July ten members of squadron deployed with USS MIDWAY in support of Operation FIERY VIGIL. On 10 August, VAW-115 left Yokosuka, Japan aboard USS MIDWAY (CV-41) and transited to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. During this at sea period VAW-115 controlled a missile exercise on 16 August near Midway Island. From 23 August to 27 August, the squadron crossdecked to the USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62) and accepted its fifth aircraft from VAW-113. The USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62) departed Hawaii for her new home, Yokosuka, Japan, and

arrived on 11 September. From 12 September until 14 October, VAW-115 was temporarily based ashore at NAF Atsugi, Japan. From 22 September to 23 October, squadron personnel, participating in an air wing detachment at NAS Cubi Point, conducted training flights in overland power projection scenarios and supporting close air support missions in a mock amphibious operation. From 15 October to 24 November, VAW-115 deployed aboard USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62) in the Sea of Japan and South China Sea to participate in Valiant Blitz and ANNUALEX 03G. During this at sea period, VAW-115 controlled the intercepts of five Soviet aircraft conducting reconnaissance missions of battle group assets and a missile exercise was conducted on 23 October. From 25 November to 8 December, the squadron was temporarily based ashore at NAF Atsugi, Japan. On 9 December the Liberty Bells embarked aboard USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62) to conduct ATA exercises in the Okinawa Operation area. On 18 December, the Liberty Bells controlled Air Wing Five's first missile exercise in which a Phoenix missile was fired. The squadron returned to Yokosuka on 21 December and was temporarily based ashore at NAF Atsugi, Japan for the remainder of the year.