



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

DECLASSIFIED

1993 ✓

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[REDACTED] Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (5)

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

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

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CY 1993

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12

Encl: (1) Command History
(2) Command Mission
(3) CO Biography/Photograph
(4) XO Biography/Photograph
(5) AEW Excellence Award Submission

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are hereby submitted.


M. R. WERTZ

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COMMAND HISTORY

A. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. Primary Mission: Airborne Early Warning and Battle Management. Secondary Mission: Air Wing 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 USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) under Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group ONE, as part of Battle Group ECHO.

3. Commanding Officer: CDR Michael R. Wertz, USN, [REDACTED]

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INFO*

4. Home Base: Hangar Six, NAS Miramar, San Diego, Ca. USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) is homeported 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. 1 - 31 January 1993. Western Pacific Deployment.
- b. 16 - 25 March 1993. CVW-2 AIC Exercise.
- c. 21 - 27 April 1993. Operation Quick Force.
- d. 27 - 28 April 1993. NSWC Sidewinder Missillex.
- e. 4 - 6 May 1993. NSWC CSAR TAC D&E Project.
- f. 7 May 1993. Seal Team ONE CSAREX.
- g. 11 May - 7 July 1993. JTF-4 Counter Drug Operations.
- h. 20, 27 July 1993. JTF-5 Counter Drug Operations.
- i. 29 July 1993. Trident I Mission FCET-43.
- j. 29 July 1993. REWS Range Exercise.
- k. 10, 12, 17, 19 August 1993. JTF-5 Counter Drug Operations.

- l. 11 August 1993. NWAC FA-18 Link-4 TAC D&E.
 - m. 17 - 19 August 1993. Seal Team ONE CSAREX.
 - n. 24 August 1993, CVW-2 Missilex.
 - o. 7 - 8 September 1993. JTF-5 Counter Drug Operations.
 - p. 8 - 9 September 1993. CVW-2 Missilex.
 - q. 13 - 24 September 1993. CVW-2 AIC/Strike Training.
 - r. 28 September - 1 October 1993. Kernel Raider/Varsity Swimmer CSAREX.
 - s. 7 October 1993. NAWC FA-18 Link-4 TAC D&E.
 - t. 13 October 1993. Top Gun/VX-4 Strike.
 - u. 21 - 28 October 1993. USS NIMITZ (CVN-68) Carrier Qualification.
 - v. 16 - 18 November 1993. USS KITTY HAWK (CV-63) Carrier Qualification.
 - w. 29 November - 17 December 1993. SFARP.
 - x. 1 - 17 December 1993. FFARP.
 - y. 22 December 1993. JTF-5 Counter Drug Operations.
2. Major Command Events.
- a. 20 April 1993. Notification of Battle Efficiency Award Winner.
 - b. 5 May 1993. Change of Command. CDR Byron P. Compton relieved by CDR Michael R. Wertz.
 - c. 8 September 1993. Notification of AEW Excellence Award Winner.

C. NARRATIVE

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

a. Worked with Seal Team ONE in testing the operation of a KL43C Full Burst Transmitter in an E-2C. The result was the employment of the KL43C in all future CSAR operations.

b. Determined the feasibility of operating a detachment from NAS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to conduct Counter Drug Operations for JTF-4. The positive results established all E-2C detachments to deploy from NAS Guantanamo.

c. Worked with NRAD in locating discrepancies inherent to new tactical software employed in the Group II aircraft. Discovered a major discrepancy which resulted in a new RSVP program being distributed to all affected squadrons.

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

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

D. ANNUAL SQUADRON SUMMARY.

1. In January, the squadron transited home from deployment.
2. Immediately upon return from deployment, commenced transitioning from the E-2C Group 0 to the E-2C Group II. During the transition, operational commitments were completed including support of a Top Gun class and AIC training with the new FA-18 Hornets just joining the Air Wing.
3. In May, deployed to Panama to conduct Counter Drug Operations for JTF-4. Also, international liaison and staging were exercised from Panama as VAW-116 aircraft visited Curacao, Netherland Antilles, and Soto Cano, Honduras while conducting Counter Drug Missions. CD missions flown from Howard AFB, Panama enabled the squadron to provide briefings to U.S. Air Force (V-2, EC-130, AWACS) personnel as well as fly some of them. The U.S. Air Force reciprocated by flying several "Sun Kings" in the E-3A AWACS, increasing both platforms crew capabilities.
4. In September, a major detachment was sent to NAS Lemoore to work with the Air Wing and to conduct a feasibility study of operating Air Wings out of NAS Lemoore.
5. In October, all VAW-116 pilots received their initial carrier qualifications, both day and night, in the E-2C Group II.
6. In December, SFARP and FFARP were conducted. This was the first opportunity to work with the new Marine Hornet squadron in the Air Wing.
7. Sun Kings final safety statistics for 1993 were 18 years of mishap free flying and surpassing 37,000 hours without any Alpha or Bravo flight/ground mishaps.

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).