

1976



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON  
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96601

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
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Ser C2  
13 APR 1977

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From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN  
To: Chief of Naval Operations {OP-05D2}  
Subj: Command History {OPNAV Report 5750-1}  
Ref: {a} OPNAVINST 5750.12B  
Encl: {1} OPNAV Report 5750-1

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference {a}, enclosure {1} is submitted.

  
G. F. GHRER

Copy to:  
Director of Naval History {OP-0989}  
CINCPACFLT

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Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron  
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN

Command History  
1976

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Enclosure {1}

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## PROLOGUE

The modern tactical environment places ever increasing demands on both the offensive and defensive posture of today's Naval task force. The complexity and tempo of operations have increased the necessity for early detection and evaluation of potentially hostile forces. The Airborne Tactical Data System {ATDS} installed aboard the E-2B Hawkeye Airborne Early Warning {AEW} aircraft is designed to provide this essential information in a rapid and reliable manner. The officers and men of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN, now in its third year of existence, have dedicated themselves to the goal of providing the best aircraft and weapons systems possible in support of this mission. With the experience gained its first Mediterranean Deployment, the squadron has made great progress in its operational readiness and has already built a reputation of which to be proud.

## SQUADRON

Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN operates four E2B Hawkeye aircraft. The squadron is comprised of 25 officers and 120 enlisted personnel. Homeported at NAS Miramar, San Diego, CA under administrative control of Commander, Fighter Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet, the squadron is currently assigned, operationally and administratively, to Commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN.

## AIRCRAFT

The Grumman Aircraft Corporation E2B Hawkeye is an all weather, carrier based Airborne Early Warning/Combat Information Center aircraft. It patrols task force defense perimeters to provide early warning of approaching enemy aircraft and to vector interceptors into attack position. In addition to the primary AEW function, the Hawkeye can also provide strike and traffic control, area surveillance, search and rescue guidance, navigational assistance, and communications relay.

The Hawkeye is designed for a crew of five: pilot, copilot, flight technician, air control officer, and combat information center officer.

The Grumman Hawkeye has a high wing and is powered by two T56A-818A turbo-props. The aircraft may be easily identified by the 24 foot diameter rotodome and the four vertical tails.

## Chronological Summary of Significant Events

### January

- 01 VAW-117, as a member of Carrier Air Wing SEVEN, was embarked aboard USS Independence (CV-62). USS Independence was assigned to Commander, Task Force 60, U.S. Sixth Fleet. Inport Naples, Italy since 22 DEC 75.
- 07 Commenced exercise "ASW Week"
- 11 Completed exercise "ASW Week"

### February

- 12 Squadron underwent Equal Opportunity/Race Relations program - Phase II
- 15 Mid cruise corrosion inspection by combined team from COMNAVAIRLANT and COMFAIRMED.
- 18 Commenced operations in western Mediterranean

### March

- 07 Commenced exercise "Sardinia 76"
- 09 Completed exercise "Sardinia 76"
- 11 Commenced exercise "National Week XX"
- 15 Completed exercise "National Week XX"

### April

- 23 CV-62 transit Straits of Gibraltar
- 24 Inport Rota, Spain
- 25 USS Independence commenced Atlantic Ocean transit

### May

- 04 Squadron aircraft departed USS Independence for NAS Miramar
- 05 VAW-117 personnel returned NAS Miramar  
Squadron aircraft arrive NAS Miramar  
Commander, Fighter Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMFITAEEWWINGPAC) assumed OPCON of the squadron.

May {continued}

17 Post deployment corrosion inspection conducted

June

07 Inspection by Personnel-Administrative Assistance Team Pacific

15 Commenced operations utilizing ATDS Model IV software programming

16 Participated in 26th NORAD exercise "Falling Brave 5-76"

21 Commenced unit NATOPS evaluation

24 Completed unit NATOPS evaluation

28 Commenced Human Resources Availability {HRAV} training

30 Completed HRAV training

July

01 Squadron celebrated second anniversary of its establishment

Completed two years accident free flying

Conducted Link 4A compatibility testing with F-106 aircraft from 84th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Castle AFB

19 Cross country flight to Luke AFB for pre-exercise brief for 26th NORAD exercise "Stage 76-11"

28 Participated in 26th NORAD exercise "Stage 76-11"

August

07 Commenced operations in support of exercise "Varsity Knight"

13 Commenced Mobile Sea Range segment of exercise "Varsity Knight"

14 Completed exercise "Varsity Knight"

20 Provided support for VAW-122 for WCPE

25 Commenced operations in support of CNO project 111-0T-III, "Design to Price"

August {continued}

29 CNO project completed

September

08 Change of Command, LCDR G. F. Ghrer, USN, relieved  
CDR E. S. Baker, USN

09 Stationed aboard NAS Miramar, CA under OPCON  
Commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN {CVW-7} for pre-  
deployment readiness training

11 Completed hosting VAW-122 for WCPE

23 Participated in Combined Inport Tactical Exercise

26 Conducted weapons system training at NAS Fallon,  
Nevada

30 Completed weapon system training at NAS Fallon,  
Nevada

October

01 AMH3 R. F. Anspach named COMFITAEWINGPAC Sailor-  
of-the-Month

10 Squadron aircraft flown to NAS Norfolk, Virginia

11 Embarked aboard USS Independence for refresher  
training

26 Commenced type training, phase I

November

05 Completed type training, phase I

14 Commenced type training, phase II

20 Completed type training, phase II

December

01 Commenced type training, phase III and Operational  
Readiness Exercise

16 Completed Operational Readiness Exercise

Squadron aircraft flew off CV-62 located in Virginia  
Capes Operating area to NAS Memphis, Tennessee

December {continued}

- 17            Aircraft arrived NAS Miramar  
              Squadron personnel arrived NAS Miramar
- 31            Stationed aboard NAS Miramar under OPCON,  
              Commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN

Aircraft on Board during CY 1976

E-2B BUN0 151710	
E-2B BUN0 152484	
E-2B BUN0 150533	transferred 26 MAY 1976
E-2B BUN0 152483	transferred 15 JUNE 1976
E-2B BUN0 151715	received 12 MAY 1976
E-2B BUN0 151718	received 03 JUNE 1976

FLIGHT HOUR SUMMARY  
FOR CY 76

	<u>DAY</u>	<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
JAN	126.4	36.6	163.0
FEB	87.4	24.5	111.9
MAR	105.7	52.6	158.3
APR	50.5	15.6	66.1
MAY	57.4	0.0	57.4
JUN	44.5	5.0	49.5
JUL	52.5	9.5	62.0
AUG	137.1	9.5	146.6
SEP	87.4	44.5	131.9
OCT	116.7	52.8	169.5
NOV	79.4	54.6	134.0
DEC	115.4	51.3	166.7
TOTALS	1060.4	356.5	1416.9