

1983



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON 120
NAVAL AIR STATION, NORFOLK, VA. 23511-5193

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1200.
Ser 10/ 042

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16 JAN 1985

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)
Subj: Command History for Calendar Year 1983 (OPNAV Report 5750-1)
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C
Encl: (1) VAW 120 Command History, CY-83
1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

L. N. Oden
L. N. ODEN

Copy to:
Director of Naval History

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COMMAND HISTORY 1983

Summary of Operations: Carrier Airborne Early Warning (Training) Squadron One Two Zero was exceptionally successful in accomplishing its mission during 1983; a mission primarily dedicated to indoctrinating and training Naval Aviators, Naval Flight Officers, aircrew, and maintenance of the Grumman E-2C "Hawkeye" aircraft and systems in order to provide a maximum level of air combat readiness in the fleet units.

The Operations Department provided the overall scheduling and coordination which enabled 22 pilots, 43 NFO's, and 2 flight technicians to complete the E-2C training syllabi.

The squadron flew 3,480.9 hours, logged 11,718 field landings, and 420 day/165 night carrier landings. Many of these hours occurred during the preparation and execution of four carrier qualification evolutions which took place aboard the USS SARATOGA (CV-60), USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62), USS AMERICA (CV-66), and USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67).

The Weapon System Trainer (WST), Training Device 15F8, experienced an availability rate of 93.9% while 1848.8 hours were completed. The Operational Flight Trainer (OFT), Training Device 2F110, achieved an availability rate of 86.5% and completed 803.4 hours of use.

Special operations conducted included: fly-off coordinations, multiple support/representation for various exercises such as missile and Link 11 exercises, Project 100 (Aegis Testing), and MAG support.

Orientation briefings, familiarization lectures, and aircraft indoctrination tours were routinely provided by the Operations Department for PCAG's and other visiting senior officers.

The squadron's safety record for 1983 was exemplary. Emphasis is placed on individual participation for each evolution allowing this command to successfully accomplish both our training and safety goals. Our unit safety goal was not to perform safety; however, it was one of completing our primary mission safely.

Safety milestones completed:

- (a) 113 months since last flight mishap
- (b) 102 months since last ground mishap
- (c) 32,905 consecutive mishap-free flight hours

Other safety related items included:

(a) Researched and developed E-2C 1/3 flap launch proposal as an alternate solution to rectify hazards associated with high gross weight and high ambient temperature catapult launches. The proposal was subsequently tested and approved by NAVAIRSYSCOM.

(b) Instrumental in the revival and approval of an improved E-2C parachute pack which will alleviate inadequacies of the current egress/emergency oxygen system.

(c) In the interest of providing quality aircrew to the fleet, the squadron revised and expanded the pilot instructor under training syllabus and integrated the operational flight training device (2F110) and standard training operating procedure (STOP) manual into the replacement pilot syllabus.

(d) Incorporated monthly Safety Gram reinforcing the squadron's safety awareness efforts. A wide range of safety related topics are continuously addressed: home, recreational, traffic, and environmental safety, alcoholism and alcohol abuse, drunk driving, etc.

(e) Participation in sound level survey conducted by Naval Medical Clinic in an effort to solve a perceived noise hazard experienced by personnel in office spaces adjacent to the SP-line area.

(f) One hundred thirty-seven (137) personnel completed the command's AAA Driver Improvement Course. Squadron personnel have received this training as part of the Command Indoctrination Program.

(g) Twenty-five (25) squadron personnel participated in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training and achieved CPR qualification.

The Fleet Readiness Aviation Maintenance Personnel (FRAMP) Department is responsible for training replacement enlisted personnel for the East and West Coast operational fleet squadrons utilizing the E-2C aircraft as well as the East Coast Fleet Readiness Squadron (FRS). Total CY-83 training consisted of completing 488 "pipeline" students with the following limited breakdown of training accomplished by category:

<u>AT</u>	<u>AE</u>	<u>4-week FAM</u>	<u>1-week FAM</u>	<u>NDA/PC</u>	<u>AIMD</u>
73	28	249	63	61	14

The superb performance of the Maintenance Department was essential to the success of these evolutions. The Maintenance Department has reporting responsibility for an average of eight aircraft; however, the average onboard count for the year was eight.

AIRCRAFT ONBOARD DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1983

BUREAU NUMBER	MONTH											
	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>	<u>JUL</u>	<u>AUG</u>	<u>SEP</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>NOV</u>	<u>DEC</u>
159496	(-----)											
160009	(--) TX TO SDLM 18 JAN 83											
160419	REC										TX TO VAW 78	
	(-----) 21 OCT 83											
160698											TX TO VAW 122	
	(-----) 27 SEP 83											
160701	(--) REC 28 MAR 83 FM SDLM TX TO VAW 126 APR 83											
160989	(-----) TO SDLM 18 MAR 83											

AIRCRAFT ONBOARD DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1983

BUREAU NUMBER	MONTH											
	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>	<u>JUL</u>	<u>AUG</u>	<u>SEP</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>NOV</u>	<u>DEC</u>
160987												REC 10 JUN 83 FM NARF NI (-----)
158639	(-----)											
158648	(-----)											
160007												REC 08 FEB 83 FM NATC PAX (-----)
158640												REC 01 APR 83 FM RVAW-110 (-----)
158638												REC 11 MAY 83 FM VAW-112 (-----)
160990												REC 05 AUG 83 FM NARF NI (-----)
161346												REC FM GAC 21DEC83 (--)

On 1 May 1983, the squadron's official title changed to VAW-120, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron One Hundred Twenty, reflecting the "fleet squadron" task load as well as its continued training mission.

CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON

COMMAND HISTORY, CALENDAR YEAR 1983

1. COMMAND ORGANIZATION. Commanding Officers through 31 December 1983

CDR A. J. MURPHY, USN	27 August 1982 -
CAPT J. R. CONDON, USN	23 May 1981 - 26 August 1982
CAPT R. A. ALLEN, USN	19 January 1980 - 22 May 1981
CDR J. J. DITTRICK, JR., USN	29 July 1978 - 18 January 1980
CDR C. J. KING, JR., USN	15 April 1977 - 28 July 1978
CDR H. J. BERNSEN, USN	19 December 1975 - 14 April 1977
CDR J. D. LARISON, USN	1 November 1974 - 18 December 1975
CDR T. P. MCCLENAHAN	6 July 1973 - 30 October 1974
CDR W. P. COURTNEY	25 July 1972 - 5 July 1973
CDR R. A. SPARGO, USN	12 July 1971 - 24 July 1972
CDR D. G. W. TERRY, USN	17 July 1970 - 11 July 1971
CDR R. A. PETTIGREW, USN	8 August 1969 - 16 July 1970
CDR T. E. NEWARK, USN	1 October 1968 - 7 August 1969
CAPT S. L. CORNER, USN	1 July 1967 - 30 September 1968