

1984



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

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1200
Ser 10/ 190

18 MAR 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 1984 (OPNAV Report 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) CY-84 VAW 120 Command History

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is herewith submitted.

L. N. Oden
L. N. ODEN

Copy to:
Director of Naval History

Lester

COMMAND HISTORY 1984

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS: Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY was exceptionally successful in accomplishing its mission during 1984; a mission primarily dedicated to indoctrinating and training Naval Aviators, Naval Flight Officers, aircrew, and maintenance personnel of the 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 34 pilots, 42 NFO's, and 17 flight technicians to complete the E-2C training syllabus.

The squadron flew 5,296.3 hours, logged 21,238 landings, and 749 day/370 night carrier landings. Many of these hours occurred during the preparation and execution of five carrier qualification evolutions which took place aboard USS SARATOGA (CV-60), USS AMERICA (CV-66), and USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67)-2 evolutions, and USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69).

Late in 1984, VAW-120 received the newest and latest model of the Weapons System Trainer (WST), Training Device 15F8B. This new trainer, now housed in the E-2 Training Building, affords both staff and students excellent simulated scenarios. The older WST experienced an availability rate of 92.8% with 1981.6 hours of use while the new 15F8B logged an availability rate of 97.5% with 155.5 hours completed. The Operational Flight Trainer (OFT), Training Device 2F110, completed 1,371.3 hours with an availability rate of 99.6%.

The Operations Department, including pilot and NFO training, organized and provided orientation briefings, familiarization and aircraft indoctrination tours for visiting foreign dignitaries. These dignitaries included the Egyptian Armed Forces Director of Military Intelligence, the British First Sea Lord, and the Brazilian Chief of the Armed Forces General Staff.

Routinely, VAW-120 is tasked with briefings for visiting groups such as NROTC units, NJROTC units, and Educator Orientation visits. These briefings, given by a staff pilot and NFO, are designed to orient future naval officers as to the capabilities of the E-2C Hawkeye and its mission.

The command's superb Maintenance Department is an integral part of the squadron. With its ability to maintain available aircraft, VAW-120 accomplished a record-breaking 5,296.3 hours of flight time. On the average, the Maintenance Department was responsible for eight aircraft during 1984.

AIRCRAFT ONBOARD DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1984

BUREAU
NUMBER

MONTH

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

158638 (-----)

AIRCRAFT ONBOARD DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1984

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>
158640	(-----)											
159496	(-) TRANSFERRED 19JAN84 TO VAW-124											
160007	(--) TRANSFERRED 23JAN84 TO VAW-121											
160987	(-----) TRANSFERRED TO VAW-127											
160990	(-----)											
161346	(-----)											
161551	(----GAINED 31JAN84 FROM NATC PAX RIVER-----) TRANSFERRED TO SDLM 11SEP84											
158639	(-----)											
158648	(-----)											
158641	(-GAINED 06JUL84 FROM VAW-123)											
161783	GAINED 08NOV84 FROM NAVPRO BETHPAGE (-----)											

During 1984, VAW-120 achieved the envious safety milestone of ten years of mishap-free aircraft operations. The Safety Department's ongoing goal of involving all squadron personnel in safety related topics is outstanding. Noteworthy safety related items include:

(a) Twenty-five (25) squadron personnel qualified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

(b) Distribution of monthly Command Safety Gram to heighten safety awareness throughout the squadron. A wide range of safety topics is addressed, including home safety, recreational safety, traffic safety, environmental safety, and drug abuse.

(c) Distribution of a bi-weekly Safety Department newsletter entitled "It Couldn't Happen to Me" which reports mishaps and injury reports. This newsletter promotes a positive attitude toward safety through examples of actual experiences.

(d) Incorporation of a personnel safety harness for aircraft washes.

(e) Solicited and compiled invaluable fleet-user inputs for the continuing development of the new E-2C Egress system.

(f) Initiation and implementation of a standardized NFO tool pouch program in order to increase airborne troubleshooting capability.

(g) VAW-120 received the USS AMERICA (CV-66) Golden Tailhook Award for outstanding airmanship demonstrated by both staff and replacement pilots during one of several superb fleet carrier qualifications.

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). CY-84 training consisted of 273 "pipeline" students completing five organizational and six intermediate level curricula developed specifically to support the mission of the E-2C. The breakdown of completed training is as follows:

<u>AEW</u>	<u>NAD/PC</u>	<u>E & I</u>	<u>C-130</u>	<u>PHASE I</u>	<u>COMM</u>	<u>"I" Level</u>
46	8	26	3	146	16	28

The Aviation Training Support System (ATSS) provides training and administrative support to all aviation commands as well as AIMD, NAMTRADET, CNAL, and the reserve units aboard NAS Norfolk. In 1984, ATSS acquired a report generator package which allows authorized ATSS users to tailor recurring reports.

The Maintenance Training Improvement Program, designed to provide valuable data to maintenance departments, is being implemented throughout the VAW community. ATSS stores and compiles acquired data which reflects rating knowledge of maintenance personnel and training deficiencies. As this program is relatively new, a few minor updates are required to ensure its utmost performance.

The Administrative Department ensured the successful, high percentages for both March and September 1984 Navy-wide Advancement Examinations. Percentages of 97.6 (March) and 91.9 (September) reflect the performance of the department's staff who guaranteed all those eligible to participate in the exam did.

Improved squadron retention, aided by the efforts of the Command's Career Counselor, was extremely noteworthy. The squadron's retention rate increased by 134% including an increase of nearly 100% for first and second tour reenlistments. VAW-120 was Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing Twelve's Golden Anchor nominee for 1984.

On 5 October 1984, VAW-120 received its third Meritorious Unit Commendation for its assistance in combating the illegal entrance of contraband into the United States.

CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY

COMMAND HISTORY, CALENDAR YEAR 1984

1. COMMAND ORGANIZATION. Commanding Officers to date:

CAPT L. N. ODEN, USN	7 January 1984 - Present
CDR A. J. MURPHY, USN	27 August 1982 - 6 January 1984
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