

1996✓



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THREE
UNIT 60138
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From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning
Squadron 123
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy
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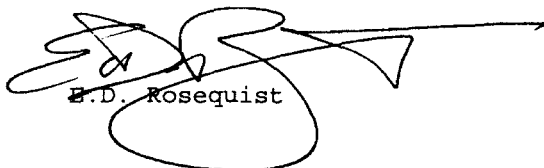
Subj: 1996 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command Organization
(2) Chronology of Events CY-96
(3) Monthly Narration for CY-96
(4) Aircraft Assignment to Command During CY-96
(5) Biography of Commanding Officer
(6) Photograph of Commanding Officer
(7) Photograph of Squadron Aircraft

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted as VAW-123's 1996 Calendar Year History.

2. POC: LT [REDACTED] DSN: [REDACTED] COMM: [REDACTED]


E.D. Rosequist

Copy to:
Public Affairs Officer

VAW-123 COMMAND ORGANIZATION

Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 123 (VAW-123). The SCREWTOPS fly the Grumman E-2C Group 2 Hawkeye and are assigned to Carrier Air Wing ONE (CVW-1) embarked in USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN-73). While ashore, VAW-123 is based at Naval Air Station Norfolk, Virginia. The squadron's administrative chain of command is through the type wing, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, who provides administrative support as well as maintenance and technical guidance for the E-2C Hawkeye. The squadron's primary mission is to provide Airborne Early Warning (AEW) and Command and Control services to fleet forces with prompt and sustained combat operations at sea in direct support of the Carrier Air Wing, Carrier Battlegroup, and the Navy's global maritime strategy. VAW-123 is presently commanded by Commander Edward D. Rosequist.

Encl (1)

VAW-123 CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS CY 1996

JANUARY

01-02 PORT VISIT, TRIESTE ITALY
03-22 DECISIVE ENDEAVOR, ADRIATIC SEA
15-19 FINAL COURAGE / CATFLAG 96, ADRIATIC SEA
23-27 PORT VISIT VALLETTA, MALTA
28-31 DECISIVE EDGE, ADRIATIC SEA

FEBRUARY

01-05 DECISIVE ENDEAVOR, ADRIATIC SEA
07-09 PORT VISIT NAPLES, ITALY
11 TURNOVER WITH CVW-7 ABOARD USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN-73)
14 OUTCHOP MEDITERRANEAN
23 SQUADRON FLYOFF, USS AMERICA (CV-66)
24 USS AMERICA (CV-66) INPORT, NAVAL BASE NORFOLK

MARCH

01-31 SQUADRON TRANSITIONING TO E-2C GROUP 2 AIRCRAFT

APRIL

29 SQUADRON FULLY MANNED WITH RECEIPT OF 4TH E-2C GROUP 2 AIRCRAFT

MAY

02-03 GOMAIN WITH USS GONZALEZ (DDG-66), NAS BRUNSWICK
06-08 ORANGE AIR WITH USS ENTERPRISE BATTLEGROUP, NAS NORFOLK
12-13 COOPERATIVE ZENITH, PATRICK AFB
19-29 CQ ABOARD USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67), FLEET WEEK, NEW YORK

JUNE

05-07 GOMEX WITH USS MILIUS (DDG-69), NAS PENSACOLA
26 VANDALEX WITH USS CARNEY (DDG-64), VACAPES OPAREA

JULY

11-16 CQ ABOARD USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71)
31 EXERCISE GLOBAL YANKEE, MCAS CHERRY POINT

AUGUST

01-05 EXERCISE GLOBAL YANKEE, MCAS CHERRY POINT
18-31 COUNTER NARCOTICS DETACHMENT, NAS ROOSEVELT ROADS

SEPTEMBER

01-06 ORANGE AIR, THEODORE ROOSEVELT BATTLEGROUP, NAS ROOSEVELT ROADS
01-31 COUNTER NARCOTICS DETACHMENT, NAS ROOSEVELT ROADS

OCTOBER

01-18 COUNTER NARCOTICS DETACHMENT, ROOSEVELT ROADS
24 CHANGE OF COMMAND, NAS NORFOLK, VA
29 GOMAIN WITH THE SULLIVANS (DDG-70)

NOVEMBER

02 CQ ABOARD USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74)

DECEMBER

02-18 SFARP WITH VF-102, VACAPES OPAREA
15-17 AIR FORCE ORI WITH 1ST FIGHTER WING, VACAPES OPAREA

VAW-123 COMMAND MONTHLY NARRATIVE SUMMARY FOR CY 96

JANUARY

In January the SCREWTOPS were embarked aboard the USS AMERICA (CV-66). The lion's share of their time was spent in combat support missions over Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of Operation DECISIVE ENDEAVOR in the Adriatic.

VAW-123 proved to be a key link in the success of the operation as the SCREWTOPS provided the vital mission of Airborne Command and Control. VAW-123 also conducted exercise FINAL COURAGE, which simulated a war at sea with surface combatants from the AMERICA Battlegroup. The SCREWTOPS enjoyed port visits in Trieste, Italy and Valletta, Malta during this month.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	125.6	DAY	53
NIGHT	197	NIGHT	51
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			54
NIGHT			60

FEBRUARY

VAW-123, embarked aboard USS AMERICA (CV-66), continued Operation DECISIVE ENDEAVOR until the 5th of February. From the 7th through the 9th the SCREWTOPS visited Naples, Italy as part of USS AMERICA'S (CV-66) final Mediterranean port call in the ship's storied history. On the 11th VAW-123 participated in a turnover with the oncoming airwing, CVW-7 aboard the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN-73). The SCREWTOPS began the TRANSLANT home to NAS Norfolk Virginia on the 14th, and conducted the squadron fly-off on the 23rd.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	75	DAY	21
NIGHT	23	NIGHT	10
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			19
NIGHT			13

MARCH

Keeping with VAW-123's tradition of being on the cutting edge of Naval Aviation, the Screwtops became the first East Coast squadron to transition to the E-2C Group 2 Hawkeye aircraft. The Group 2 aircraft provided significant upgrades in radar processing and integration of GPS, as well as more powerful engines and an upgraded cockpit instrument suite. Subsequently a majority of the squadron's time was dedicated to training in the new aircraft.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	28	DAY	13
NIGHT	0	NIGHT	0
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
	DAY		0
	NIGHT		0

APRIL

This month the SCREWTOPS continued to devote their time and resources to tactics development and NATOPS qualifications in the Group 2 aircraft. On the 29th VAW-123 completed its transition to the Group 2 Hawkeyes with the receipt of the fourth aircraft.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	95.7	DAY	33
NIGHT	11.4	NIGHT	9
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
	DAY		0
	NIGHT		0

MAY

The SCREWTOPS were engaged in a myriad of events this month that ranged up and down the east coast. Participating in a GOMAIN exercise with the USS GONZALES (DDG-66) out of NAS Brunswick, and ORANGE AIR with the Enterprise Battlegroup out of NAS Norfolk, VAW-123 continued to develop their excellence in the Airborne Early Warning arena. VAW-123 also participated in exercise COOPERATIVE ZENITH out of Patrick AFB, where the SCREWTOPS displayed their SAR and Airborne Mission Commander capabilities to international services. The squadron also successfully completed the demanding evolution of carrier qualifications aboard the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) before proceeding to New York for an immensely successful Fleet Week.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	88.3	DAY	28
NIGHT	29.3	NIGHT	23
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
	DAY		36
	NIGHT		16

JUNE

In June the SCREWTOPS participated in a GOMEX exercise in support of the USS MILIUS (DDG-69). Also on the 26th of this month the SCREWTOPS participated in a VANDALEX with the USS CARNEY (DDG-64) out of NAS Norfolk.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	114.3	DAY	38
NIGHT	11.3	NIGHT	10
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			0
NIGHT			0

JULY

The SCREWTOPS continued to train and develop tactics and conduct NATOPS evaluation flights. On the 11th through the 16th the SCREWTOPS carrier qualified aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71), achieving the milestone of E-2C Group 2 CQ quals for all squadron pilots. On the 31st VAW-123 began exercise GLOBAL YANKEE. This exercise developed VAW-123's already potent capabilities in the littoral environment by providing the opportunity to control Marine close air support missions out of MCAS Cherry Point.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	70.8	DAY	29
NIGHT	23.1	NIGHT	6
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			58
NIGHT			33

AUGUST

GLOBAL YANKEE continued until the 5th of August out of MCAS Cherry Point. On the 18th the SCREWTOPS departed to NS Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico to perform the crucial mission of Counter Narcotics in the Caribbean. Scheduling continuous flights and alerts, VAW-123 worked in close conjunction with Coast Guard and DEA assets to hold a non-stop vigil in a dedicated effort to stem the flow of drugs into the United States and the Caribbean islands.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	107.7	DAY	28
NIGHT	46.4	NIGHT	15
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			0
NIGHT			0

SEPTEMBER

The Counter Narcotics Detachment out of NS Roosevelt Roads continued for the entire month. From the 1st to the 6th, VAW-123 participated in an ORANGE AIR exercise, which called on the SCREWTOPS to perform simulated combat against the airwing from the THEODORE ROOSEVELT Battlegroup.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	237.2	DAY	52
NIGHT	149.8	NIGHT	20
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			0
NIGHT			0

OCTOBER

Following an immensely successful Counter Narcotics detachment the SCREWTOPS returned to NAS Norfolk on the 18th. FCLP's at OLF Fentress commenced on the 19th in preparation for CQ aboard USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74) in November. On the 24th, VAW-123 conducted a time honored Naval tradition, the Change of Command Ceremony, during which CDR Edward D. Rosequist relieved CDR Robert W. Ryan as Commanding Officer. Following the Change of Command, the SCREWTOPS participated in a GOMAIN exercise with the USS THE SULLIVAN'S (DDG-70) out of NAS Brunswick, Maine on the 29th.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	114.4	DAY	29
NIGHT	132.2	NIGHT	42
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			0
NIGHT			0

NOVEMBER

On the 2nd of the month the SCREWTOPS again demonstrated their outstanding fleet readiness by carrier qualifying aboard USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74). Following CQ, VAW-123 attended ground school with VF-102 aircrew in preparation for Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program training (SFARP) in December. The SFARP flights would call on the SCREWTOPS to provide airborne intercept control (AIC) for multiple F-14's in simulated combat.

<u>HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>		<u>SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH</u>	
DAY	71.7	DAY	32
NIGHT	12.8	NIGHT	10
<u>ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH</u>			
DAY			12
NIGHT			12

DECEMBER

From the 2nd until the 18th VAW-123 continued its unit level training by conducting SFARP with VF-102 in the VACAPES operating area. From the 15th to the 17th VAW-123 flew out of NAS Norfolk with the 1ST Fighter Wing from Langley AFB in support of the Air Force Operational Readiness Inspection.

HOURS FLOWN FOR THE MONTH

DAY 112.4
NIGHT 1.9

SORTIES FLOWN FOR THE MONTH

DAY 41
NIGHT 3

ARRESTED LANDINGS FOR THE MONTH

DAY 0
NIGHT 0

AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO VAW-123 DURING CY 1996

MODEX	BUNO	TRANSFERRED/RECEIVED	DATE
600	161099	TRANSFERRED	09 MAY
601	161229	TRANSFERRED	15 APR
602	161991	TRANSFERRED	21 MAR
603	162799	TRANSFERRED	25 MAR
600+	163694	RECEIVED	30 JAN
601+	163538	RECEIVED	21 FEB
602+	163539	RECEIVED	25 MAR
603+	163850	RECEIVED	29 APR