



VAW-124

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

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VAW124:18:cm
5720
Ser C-012
23 APR 78

1976

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-0502)
Subj: Command History for 1976; forwarding of
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5720.12B
Encl: (1) VAW124 Command History for 1976 (U)

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

J. R. Condon
J. R. CONDON

Copy to:
PAO History File

CLASSIFIED BY: CO, CARAEWRON 124
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
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COMMAND HISTORY
1976

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CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR
COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1976

I. (U) Command Organization

A. Commanding Officers

Commander J. J. DITTRICK Jr.
18 July 1975 to 9 July 1976

Commander J. M. FULCHER
9 July 1976 to Present

B. Executive Officers

Commander J. M. FULCHER
18 July 1975 to 9 July 1976

Commander J. R. CONDON
9 July 1976 to Present

C. Mission

To act as an airborne tactical command and control center for offensive and defensive fleet operations by providing early warning and aircraft control and services through data link and voice communications.

D. Composition of Command

Aircraft: Four (4) E-2C

Personnel on board: Officers in flight status
(31 December 1976) - 19

Enlisted in flight status
(31 December 1976) - 2

Officers (Maintenance)
(31 December 1976) - 2

Enlisted on board
(31 December 1976) - 110

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E. Squadron Nickname

"Bullseye Hummers"

F. Squadron Motto

"Bullseye Hummers -- Right on Target"

II. (U) Chronology of Events

1 JAN - 18 JAN 76	INPORT NORVA
19 JAN - 27 JAN 76	TYT I VACAPES OP AREA
28 JAN - 1 FEB 76	INPORT NORVA
2 FEB - 11 FEB 76	TYT II VACAPES OP AREA
12 FEB - 16 FEB 76	INPORT NORVA
17 FEB - 25 FEB 76	TYT III JAX OP AREA
26 FEB - 29 FEB 76	INPORT MAYPORT
1 MAR - 5 MAR 76	TYT IV JAX OP AREA
6 MAR - 9 MAR 76	ORE JAX OP AREA
10 MAR - 14 MAR 76	EXERCISE SAFEPASS
15 MAR - 14 APR 76	INPORT NORVA
15 APR - 26 APR 76	TRANSLANT ROTA, SPAIN
27 APR - 2 MAY 76	OPS EASTLANT/EXERCISE OPEN GATE
3 MAY - 4 MAY 76	TRNG ENROUTE TO EAST MED
5 MAY - 7 MAY 76	OPS WEST/EAST MED
8 MAY - 13 MAY 76	SAFETY STANDDOWN/OPS EAST MED
14 MAY - 16 MAY 76	TRNG ANCHORAGE CRETE
17 MAY - 1 JUN 76	OPS EAST MED
2 JUN - 5 JUN 76	INPORT TARANTO, ITALY
6 JUN - 25 JUN 76	OPS EAST MED
26 JUN - 29 JUN 76	INPORT BARI, ITALY
30 JUN - 2 JUL 76	OPS EAST MED
3 JUL - 11 JUL 76	INPORT TARANTO, ITALY
12 JUL - 2 AUG 76	OPS EAST/WEST MED
3 AUG - 17 AUG 76	INPORT NAPLES, ITALY
18 AUG - 1 SEP 76	OPS WEST MED
2 SEP - 15 SEP 76	INPORT PALMA, SPAIN
16 SEP - 24 SEP 76	OPS WEST MED
25 SEP - 29 SEP 76	INPORT BARCELONA, SPAIN
30 SEP 76	OPS WEST MED
1 OCT - 2 OCT 76	INPORT MALAGA, SPAIN
3 OCT - 13 OCT 76	OPS WEST MED
14 OCT 76	ROTA SPAIN: OUTCHOP, TURNOVER
15 OCT - 24 OCT 76	ENROUTE: CONUS
25 OCT 76	INPORT, NORVA
26 OCT - 13 NOV 76	STANDDOWN NORVA
14 NOV - 31 DEC 76	INITIAL TACS/TADS (MULTOTS)

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III. (U) Operations History

Nineteen seventy six was a busy year for VAW124. Coming out from an extended transition/training period to the E-2C aircraft, the squadron departed Norfolk 19 January for TYT I, II, III, IV, ORE and EXERCISE SAFEPASS as part of CVW 6 aboard USS AMERICA (CV 66). Preparing for an upcoming Mediterranean deployment, flight operations centered around aircrew training and integration into the CVW 6/CV 66 team. Ground training sharpened recognition, EW, and tactical doctrine skills, with refresher lectures in NATOPS and CV procedures.

April saw the beginning of VAW124's first Mediterranean deployment in the E-2C. Transit to Rota was highlighted by two Bear D intercepts, and after inchope the squadron participated in OPEN GATE 76 and a PASSEX with CV 60. In June the squadron participated in the evacuation of U.S. citizens from Beirut and continued this support through July, with participation in the AIR TATTO at RAF Greenham Common, UK on the 31st. During August an E-2C was flown to Stuttgart, Germany for a PDS demonstration in central Europe. September provided experience in bilateral exercises with USAFE and Spanish Air Defense Force participating in EXERCISE POOP DECK. The cruise was culminated by EXERCISE DISPLAY DETERMINATION 76 in October followed by arrival in Norfolk. November and December were taken up with post-deployment standdown, BITS, and beginning phases of TACS/TADS.

Appendix A is a concise deliniation of VAW124's schedule for 1976.

IV. (U) Maintenance History

During 1976 VAW124 successfully transitioned to operation of the E-2C aircraft in a shipboard environment. From the beginning of January to the middle of April preparations for the April 15th deployment were made. Low aircraft availability due to a number of engine failures and propeller damage required frequent avionics system cannibalization. This combined with the lack of spare parts on board the AMERICA required an excessive amount of supply support from NAS Norfolk and Wing TWELVE.

By July supply support on board the AMERICA had reached acceptable levels after 528 cannibalized items had to be utilized requiring 1178 man hours. The Super Bobcat Supply Support System was used extensively until August when its effectiveness declined.

In the course of the cruise over ten thousand (10,000) man hours were expended on corrosion control and a grade of low excellent was received on the post deployment inspection. Power plants completed one engine change, two propeller changes and two propeller repairs during the deployment.

The year finished with increasing involvement from November 14th on in the MULTOTS program. Appendix A is a more concise delineation of the squadron's maintenance program.

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V. (U) Awards, Citations and Commendations

Sailor of the Year 1976: AT1 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Sailor of the Quarter

First Quarter: AKAN [REDACTED]
Second Quarter: AT2 [REDACTED]
Third Quarter: AT1 [REDACTED]
Fourth Quarter: None selected

Commanding Officer, USS AMERICA, Letters of Commendation

YN2 [REDACTED]
AE2 [REDACTED]
AT1 [REDACTED]
AT1 [REDACTED]

Secretary of the Navy Letter of Commendation

LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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