

1992

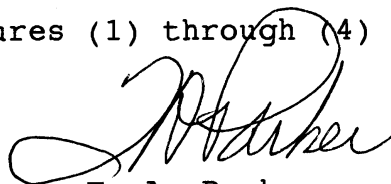


DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR
UNIT 60139
FPO AE 09507-6410

5757
Ser 16/019
25 JAN 1993

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)
Subj: COMMAND HISTORY OPNAV 5750-1
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E
Encl: (1) Command Organization
(2) Chronological Order of Events
(3) Narrative History
(4) Statistics

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted.


T. A. Parker



LOGGED

VAW-124 COMMAND HISTORY
FOR 1992

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Command Organization

- a. Commanding Officer
Commander J. J. George - Commander T. A. Parker
15 Feb 91 - 03 Apr 92 03 Apr 92 - Present
- b. Executive Officer
Commander T. A. Parker - Commander W. A. Wolters
15 Feb 91 - 03 Apr 92 03 Apr 92 - Present
- c. Squadron Mission

To function as an airborne tactical command and control center for offensive and defensive operations by providing Airborne Early Warning and aircraft control through data link and voice communications.

- d. Command Composition

Aircraft: Four Grumman E-2C Hawkeyes

AJ 600, Buno # 162799
AJ 601, Buno # 160007
AJ 602, Buno # 160702
AJ 603, Buno # 161549

Personnel:

Officers: 34

Flying Status: 30
Maint/Intel: 4

Enlisted: 144

Enlisted on Board: 142
Flight Status: 2

- e. Squadron Nickname: "Bear Aces"

CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF EVENTS

01 JAN - 05 JAN 1992	INPORT - NORVA
06 JAN - 17 JAN 1992	NAS BERMUDA - CN OPS
16 JAN - 17 JAN 1992	USMC HAWK MISSILEX
18 JAN - 31 JAN 1992	INPORT - NORVA
01 FEB - 10 FEB 1992	NAS ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR - ORANGE AIR
11 FEB - 18 FEB 1992	INPORT - NORVA
19 FEB - 20 FEB 1992	CVW-8 MISSILEX
21 FEB - 29 FEB 1992	INPORT - NORVA
01 MAR - 07 MAR 1992	INPORT - NORVA
08 MAR - 27 MAR 1992	NAS KEY WEST, FL - SFARP (VF/A-15)
28 MAR - 31 MAR 1992	INPORT - NORVA
01 APR - 11 APR 1992	INPORT - NORVA
12 APR - 30 APR 1992	HOWARD AFB, PANAMA - CN OPS
01 MAY - 22 MAY 1992	HOWARD AFB, PANAMA - CN OPS
23 MAY - 31 MAY 1992	INPORT - NORVA
01 JUN - 07 JUN 1992	INPORT - NORVA
08 JUN - 17 JUN 1992	CVN-71 - ISE
18 JUN - 22 JUN 1992	INPORT - ST. THOMAS
23 JUN - 25 JUN 1992	CVN-71 - ISE
26 JUN - 30 JUN 1992	INPORT - NORVA
01 JUL - 17 JUL 1992	INPORT - NORVA
18 JUL - 22 JUL 1992	CVN-71 - CQ
25 JUL 1992	CVW-8 MISSILEX
30 JUL 1992	CVW-8 MISSILEX
31 JUL 1992	NASA SPACE SHUTTLE EXERCISE

01 AUG - 06 AUG 1992	INPORT - NORVA
07 AUG - 22 AUG 1992	CVN-71 - REF'TRA
23 AUG - 31 AUG 1992	INPORT - NORVA
01 SEP - 11 SEP 1992	INPORT - NORVA
12 SEP - 30 SEP 1992	NAS FALLON, NV
01 OCT - 03 OCT 1992	NAS FALLON, NV
04 OCT - 31 OCT 1992	INPORT - NORVA
01 NOV - 10 NOV 1992	INPORT - NORVA
11 NOV - 24 NOV 1992	CVN-71 - COMPTUEX
25 NOV - 28 NOV 1992	INPORT - ST. THOMAS
29 NOV - 30 NOV 1992	CVN-71 - COMPTUEX
01 DEC - 08 DEC 1992	CVN-71 - COMPTUEX
09 DEC - 13 DEC 1992	INPORT - NORVA
14 DEC - 18 DEC 1992	CVN-71 - SPMAGTF
19 DEC - 31 DEC 1992	INPORT - NORVA

COMMAND HISTORY UPDATE 1992

The "Bear Aces" of VAW-124 began 1992 in their homeport of Norfolk, Virginia. The high operational tempo of the "turn around" cycle and pre-deployment workups resulted in a detachment or at-sea period in all twelve months of 1992.

On 6 January, VAW-124 sent two aircraft to NAS Bermuda for twelve days of Counternarcotics Operations near the southeast coast of the United States and the northern Caribbean. Later in the month, VAW-124 participated in a USMC Hawk Missile Exercise on 16-17 January, providing range surveillance and coordination.

The Bear Aces joined CVW-8 in NAS Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico to participate as the opposition Orange Forces for the 1-10 February, CVW-17 FLEETEX. VAW-124 returned home to coordinate a two-day CVW-8 Missile Exercise beginning on 19 February in the VACAPES Warning Area.

Next, the Bear Aces traveled to NAS Key West, Florida on 8 March to participate in the Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) with VFA-15. The nearly three weeks of intensive training provided both squadrons with exceptional tactical experience working as a "Hawkeye-Hornet" team.

On 3 April, CDR Thomas A. Parker relieved CDR J.J. George as the twenty-second Commanding Officer of VAW-124. The next day, an advance detachment departed for Howard AFB, Panama to prepare for the squadron's arrival on 12 April. During the seven-week Panama deployment, the squadron completed a total of 133 Counternarcotics sorties and amassed 561 flight hours with a 100% sortie completion rate in support of CJTF-4.

The Bear Aces returned to Norfolk for two weeks to prepare for their first at-sea period in over nine months. On 8 June, VAW-124 and CVW-8 flew aboard the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71) for an eighteen-day Independent Steaming Exercise (ISE) in the Puerto Rico OPAREA. The trip was highlighted with a four-day port visit to St. Thomas.

The squadron remained in Norfolk for most of July, with a brief CQ period aboard USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71) from 18-21 July, and CVW-8 Missile Exercises on 25 and 30 July.

On 7 August, the Bear Aces returned aboard the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71) to "officially" begin the pre-deployment workup cycle with Refresher Training. VAW-124 flew 50 sorties in support of a tremendously successful REFTRA.

Also in August, VAW-124 was awarded the 1991 AEW EXCELLENCE AWARD by VADM Less, Commander, U.S. Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet. This award is given annually to the finest E-2C squadron in the Navy.

On 12 September, the Bear Aces arrived at the Naval Strike Warfare Center, NAS Fallon, Nevada, to begin the second phase of "work-ups". The

three-week deployment provided the entire air wing with unparalleled strike planning, tactics, and live ordnance training. Again, the Bear Aces "quarterbacked" the air wing to phenomenal results at "Strike University."

VAW-124 spent the remainder of October and the first week of November in Norfolk flying local unit-level training missions.

The squadron left Norfolk on 11 November for COMPTUEX aboard the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71). Following two weeks of extensive training, the ship spent the Thanksgiving holiday in St. Thomas before beginning the hostilities phase. With the successful "war" complete, the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71) returned to Norfolk on 8 December.

On 10 December, the Bear Aces challenged unknown territory by being the first E-2C squadron to conduct the first deployed operational evaluation of the Special Purpose Marine Air/Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF), the CVBG configuration of the future. During COMPTUEX and SPMAGTF in November/December, VAW-124 flew 115 sorties and accumulated 348 flight hours. Returning to Norfolk on 18 December, the Bear Aces closed out another enormously successful year.

Statistics

a. Milestones

Flight Hours for CY 1992: 2,398

Completed 21.5 years of accident-free flying as of July 1992, over 44,100 hours.

b. Performance Statistics

1. Mission Capable Rate (MC): 69.2%
2. Full Mission Capable Rate (FMC): 54.0%
3. A799 Rate: 2.6%
4. FOD Incidents: 2
5. Sortie Completion Rate: 99%