



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

1982

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CONFIDENTIAL
Ser 0001-83
28 FEB 1983

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[REDACTED] (Unclassified upon removal of enclosures (5) through (10))

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)
Subj: Command History for CY1982 (U)
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C
Encl: (1) Mission of VAW-125
(2) Chronology of Events
(3) Narrative
(4) CO's Biography
(5) Periodic Operating Report, 09DEC81 - 31JAN82
(6) Periodic Operating Report, 01FEB82 - 10MAY82
(7) Periodic Operating Report, 11MAY82 - 15JUL82
(8) Periodic Operating Report, 16JUL82 - 11SEP82
(9) Periodic Operating Report, 12SEP82 - 17OCT82
(10) End of Deployment Report, JUN - NOV 82

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (10) are forwarded.

Charles R. Saffell, Jr.
CHARLES R. SAFFELL, JR.

Copy to:
Director of Naval History

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MISSION OF VAW-125

VAW-125 is assigned to Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 17 and provides units of the fleet with early detection and warning of approaching forces. The principle is as old as Warfare itself but as practiced by VAW-125, involves the use of long range radar and sophisticated computer controlled electronic systems to detect, identify and report contacts while they are still many miles from the task force. VAW-125 was under the command of CDR Louis L. Foltzer III from the start of the year until April 28TH. CDR Charles R. Saffell Jr, assumed the role of Commanding Officer on April 28TH through the remainder of the year.

Administratively, VAW-125 is under the direction of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing TWLEVE commanded by CAPT J. D. Connerton. Operationally, VAW-125 is under the direction of Carrier Air Group Seventeen commanded by CDR R. E. Wolf.

Aircraft assigned to VAW-125 for the year 1982 were:

- AA 600 - BUREAU #161096
- AA 601 - BUREAU #161095
- AA 602 - BUREAU #160415
- AA 603 - BUREAU #160419

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS FOR THE YEAR 1982

JANUARY

- 1 Stand-down during the holiday period, located at NAS Norfolk, VA

FEBRUARY

- 1-6 Turnaround Training NAS Norfolk
- 7-12 Squadron pilots begin refresher training for Carrier Qualifications aboard the USS FORRESTAL in the Jacksonville operating area.
- 13 Turnaround training NAS Norfolk
- 28 Squadron embarks aboard the USS FORRESTAL for TYT I, II, III

MARCH

3-7 Refresher training aboard the USS FORRESTAL

31 TYT (Type Training Exercise) I

APRIL

- 1-21 TYT (Type Training) II
- 22 TYT (Type Training) III in the Puerto Rican operating area
- 28 VAW-125 change of command CDR Charles R. Saffell Jr. relieved CDR Louis R. Foltzer III as Commanding Officer

MAY

- 4-6 ORE (Operational Readiness Exam)
- 7-8 Ocean Venture Exercise
- 8 VAW-125 Receives Golden Hook Award from CVW-17 for squadron landing average aboard the USS FORRESTAL for the period 13 Apr - 02 May
- 9 Harpoon Strike Missile Shoot
- 11-31 POM (Prepare for overseas movement) at NAS Norfolk

JUNE

- 1-7 POM (Projected Overseas Movement) at NAS Norfolk
- 8-19 VAW-125 deployed aboard USS FORRESTAL headed to the Mediterrean Sea, open ocean operations
- 19-24 Enroute to Modlock in the Eastern Mediterranean (Bagel Station)
- 25-28 Exercise Daily Double
- 29-30 Modloc Operations

JULY

1-14 MODLOC operations/enroute Naples
15 After 38 days at sea, the FORRESTAL pulled into Naples Harbor
15-26 PVST Naples
26-30 BAGEL Station

AUGUST

1-12 BAGEL Station
13-21 PVST Benidorm, Spain
21-30 Training East/Ops Cent Med
31 Training Anchorage Souda Bay, Crete

SEPT

- 1-3 Training anchorage Souda Bay, Crete
- 3 Assisted in resue of an injured crewman
- 4-11 BAGEL Station
- 12 Transit Suez Canal
- 13-18 Red Sea Transit
- 19-30 Ops Gonzo Station

OCT

1-12 Ops GONZO Station
13-16 Red Sea Transit
17 Suez Canal Transit
18-22 PVST Alexandria Egypt
22-30 Ops BAGEL Station
31 Transit MED

NOVEMBER

- 1-4 Transit MED
- 5 Logistics Anchorage Rota, Spain
- 6-16 Transit/Open Ocean Ops
- 16 VAW-125 Return Home
- 17-31 Standdown NAS Norfolk

DECEMBER

1-31 Standdown NAS Norfolk

NARRATIVE

JANUARY

VAW-125 is located at NAS Norfolk for a standdown period. The Maintenance Department is working on the aircraft in preparation for pilot carrier qualifications in February.

FEBRUARY

This month began with the squadron located at NAS Norfolk preparing for carrier qualifications held from the 7th to the 12th in the Jacksonville operating area. On the 13th the carrier qualification detachment returned to NAS Norfolk. On the 28th, VAW-125 embarked on the USS FORRESTAL in preparation for TYT I, II, III.

MARCH

VAW-125 deployed aboard the FORRESTAL on March 1. March 3 through March 7 saw the squadron engaged in refresher training to get ready for TYT's and the ORE (Operational Readiness Examination). TYT (Type Training) commenced on March 31 and was held in the GITMO operating area.

APRIL

TYT II was held during April in the Jacksonville operating area. TYT III commenced on the 22nd in the Puerto Rican operating area. The squadron change of command was held on the 28th, when CDR Charles R. Saffell, Jr. assumed command from CDR Louis R. Foltzer, III.

MAY

May started out with the ORE from the 4th to the 6th. Operation Ocean Venture was held on the 7th and the 8th. VAW-125 received the Golden Hook Award on the 8th for the best squadron landing average aboard the USS FORRESTAL for the period 13 April to 2 May. The Harpoon/Shrike missile shoot was conducted on the 9th. The remainder of the month, from the 11th to the 31st, was spent at NAS Norfolk preparing for deployment in the June to the Mediterranean.

JUNE

The month started off with the squadron at NAS Norfolk preparing for the POM (Projected Overseas Movement). On the 8th the USS FORRESTAL departed Naval Station Jacksonville enroute to the Mediterranean Sea. The 19th through the 24th were spent in transit enroute to MODLOC (BAGEL Station) off the coast of Lebanon. Exercise Daily Double was held on the 29th and 30th on BAGEL Station.

JULY

From the 1st to the 14th the USS FORRESTAL was on BAGEL Station in the eastern Mediterranean Sea. On the 15th, after 38 days at sea, VAW-125 pulled into Naples harbor for a well deserved rest. The squadron spent time on the beach from the 15th to the 26th. The FORRESTAL pulled out of Naples harbor on the 26th to again assume a protective posture on BAGEL Station.

AUGUST

The beginning of the month, from the 1st to the 11th was spent on BAGEL Station. The FORRESTAL pulled into Benidorm Spain for an eight day rest on the 12th. On the 21st the FORRESTAL proceeded to Bagel Station to relieve the USS INDEPENDENCE. Enroute, a three day training anchorage at Souda Bay, Crete was used to catch up on squadron training objectives.

SEPTEMBER

On the 3rd, an E-2 from VAW-125 assisted in the rescue of an injured crewman onboard a cruise ship south of Crete. The operation proceeded in textbook fashion and in less than four and one half hours from initial notification to the Forrestal of the emergency, the injured crewman was safe on deck at Iraklion, Crete. From the 4th to 11th, the FORRESTAL conducted operations on BAGEL Station. The FORRESTAL transitted the Suez Canal enroute to the Indian Ocean on the 12th. The remainder of the month was spent on GONZO Station in the Indian Ocean.

OCTOBER

Operations by the FORRESTAL were conducted on GONZO Station from the 1st through the 12th. The next four days were spent transiting the Red Sea and Suez canal enroute to Alexandria, Egypt for a four day rest. The remainder of the month was spent conducting operations on BAGEL Station and transiting the Mediterranean to Rota, Spain.

NOVEMBER

The first four days of November were spent transiting the Mediterranean enroute to a logistics anchorage in Rota Spain. From the 6 to the 16 the FORRESTAL transited the Atlantic Ocean and conducted open ocean operations on the way to Mayport, Florida. On the 16th VAW-125 returned to NAS Norfolk. The remainder of the month, the squadron was in a standdown status following deployment.

DECEMBER

No operations were this month since the squadron was still in a standdown status following deployment.