

1992 ✓



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE
FLEET POST OFFICE, AE 09507-6411

5750
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From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 125, Unit 60140, FPO AE, 09507-6411
To: Director, Naval Aviation History and Publications Division, Naval Historical Center, Bldg. 157-1, Washington, DC 20374-5059
Subj: 1992 COMMAND HISTORY REPORT
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E
Encl: (1) 1992 COMMAND HISTORY REPORT
(2) Bimonthly Operating Reports for January to December 1992
(3) Commander M.D. Sullivan Biography and Photo
(4) Commander H.O. McDaniel Biography and Photo

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted for use by the Director of Naval History.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. D. Sullivan".

M. D. SULLIVAN

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COMMAND HISTORY FOR CY1992

Command Composition and Organization

1. **Squadron Mission:** The primary mission of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 125 (VAW-125) is providing the early detection and warning of airborne and surface threats. The principle, as ancient as warfare, involves the use of long range radar and sophisticated computer controlled electronic systems to detect, identify, and report threats while still distant from the fleet task force.

2. **Organizational Structure:** VAW-125 reports directly to Carrier Air Wing 17 (CVW-17). While ashore, VAW-125 reports to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing 12 (CAEWW-12).

3. **Name of Commander:** CDR H. O. MCDANIEL 1 JAN - 20 MAR 92
CDR M. D. SULLIVAN 20 MAR - 31 DEC 92

4. **Permanent Duty Station:** Naval Air Station, Norfolk, VA

5. **Type and Number of Aircraft:** (Tailcode AA)

E-2C Hawkeye, Buno #158638	(JAN 92 - FEB 92)
E-2C Hawkeye, Buno #159107	(JAN 92 - DEC 92)
E-2C Hawkeye, Buno #159109	(JAN 92 - DEC 92)
E-2C Hawkeye, Buno #160700	(JAN 92 - DEC 92)
E-2C Hawkeye, Buno #161346	(FEB 92 - DEC 92)

Chronology

27 JAN - 13 FEB	FLEETEX 2-92 (<i>USS Saratoga</i> [CV-60])
27 FEB - 5 MAR	Exercise FALCON BRAVE/TEAM WORK 2-92 (<i>USS Saratoga</i> [CV-60])
23-27 MAR	CVW-17 CQ (<i>USS Saratoga</i> [CV-60])
27 MAR	<i>USS Saratoga</i> [CV-60] MISSILEX
13-14 APR	VF-74 MISSILEX
6 MAY	<i>USS Saratoga</i> [CV-60] departs Mayport, Florida--MED 2-92 commences
18 MAY	Inchop 6th Fleet/Mediterranean Sea
26-29 MAY	Port Visit: Naples, Italy
4-5 JUN	Exercise POOPDECK 92
9-11 JUN	Exercise DASIX/LAFAYETTE
14-19 JUN	Port Visit: Palma de Mallorca, Spain
21-29 JUN	Exercise ELLIPSE BRAVO
1-5 JUL	Port Visit: Cannes, France
13-17 JUL	Port Visit: Toulon, France
24 JUL - 5 AUG	Northern Adriatic operations in support of Operation PROVIDE PROMISE
7-13 AUG	Port Visit: Rhodes, Greece
13-27 AUG	Operation PROVIDE PROMISE
1-3 SEP	Exercise JUNIPER HAWK
7-13 SEP	Port Visit: Trieste, Italy
14-21 SEP	Operation PROVIDE PROMISE
26 SEP - 6 OCT	Exercise DISPLAY DETERMINATION 92
14-15 OCT	Exercise DASIX
18-20 OCT	Port Visit: Trieste, Italy
20-21 OCT	Operation PROVIDE PROMISE
26 OCT	Outchop 6th Fleet/Mediterranean Sea

6 NOV Detach from *USS Saratoga*/MED 2-92
Deployment ends

14-18 DEC Tomahawk Missile Firing (OTL 150)
Eglin AFB, FL
(Range Surveillance, Command,
Control, Communications Support)

During 1992, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 125 (VAW-125) was committed to many tasks both at home and abroad. Involved in *USS Saratoga's* readiness workups, a Mediterranean Sea deployment, and exercises in Florida, VAW-125 was continually tasked throughout the year.

On 27 January, VAW-125 joined *USS Saratoga* in FLEETEX 2-92. FLEETEX is an exercise to provide for the integration of an airwing into a carrier's battle group. VAW-125 finished FLEETEX 2-92 on 13 February 1992.

Later in February, the TIGERTAILS of VAW-125 were again involved in preparatory work for the upcoming deployment with *Saratoga*. February 23 - 4 March, VAW-125 was embarked in *USS Saratoga* for exercise **TEAMWORK 2-92** (Multinational NATO exercise) and exercise **FALCON BRAVE** (North Atlantic exercise with Canadian forces). VAW-125 was also aboard *Saratoga* in late March for further CQ work.

On 27 March and 13-14 April, VAW-125 provided range surveillance, command, control, and communications services to two missile firing exercises by *USS Saratoga* and VF-74, respectively.

On 6 May, VAW-125 embarked in *USS Saratoga* for Mediterranean Sea deployment 2-92. Upon arriving in the Mediterranean Sea on 18 May, *Saratoga* was tasked with operations in the vicinity of Sardinia and Corsica. This work was quickly followed by a port visit to Naples, Italy, 26-29 May.

The first half of the deployment went as planned with exercises off Spain (**POOPDECK 92/4-5** June--Battle group against Spanish defense forces), France (**DASIX/LAFAYETTE/9-11** June--Battle group against French Air Force and Naval Squadrons), and Italy (**ELLIPSE BRAVO/21-29** June--Battle group in support of national crises action plans). During these exercises, the TIGERTAILS flew several flights a day with the maintenance department providing the squadron with an overall 67% Full Mission Capable rate, 79% Mission Capable rate, and a 98% sortie completion rate. Between these exercises, the TIGERTAILS had port visits to Palma de Mallorca, Spain (13-19 June); Cannes (30 June - 5 July) and Toulon (13-17 July), France.

The second half of the deployment was spent mostly in the Adriatic Sea. Parts of *USS Saratoga's* battle group were both in the Adriatic and Red Seas, covering United Nations actions in both former Yugoslavia and Southwest Asia. VAW-125 was specifically tasked with *USS Saratoga* for the remainder of its Med 2-92 deployment monitoring the continued unrest in former Yugoslavia, providing the battlegroup with flight-following of United Nations relief flights in support of **OPERATION PROVIDE PROMISE** (24 July - 5 August, 13-27 August, 14-21 September, and 20-21 October). Despite the situation in the Adriatic, *Saratoga* and CVW-17 were able to periodically participate in other

activities such as airwing use of Israeli tactics ranges, exercise **JUNIPER HAWK** (1-3 September), and **DISPLAY DETERMINATION '92** (26 September - 6 October), a multinational NATO exercise in the Aegean Sea involving British, Turkish, and Italian forces among others. In addition, the TIGERTAILS had port visits to Rhodes, Greece (7-13 August) and Trieste, Italy (7-13 September and 18-20 October). Shortly before *Saratoga's* second port visit to Trieste, Italy, the battle group was again involved in the exercise against French Naval and Air Forces in exercise **DASIX**. For the entire deployment period, VAW-125 logged more than 2400 hours of flight operations with 745 arrested landings.

USS Saratoga departed the Mediterranean Sea on 26 October, changing operational command to Second Fleet and arriving in Mayport, Florida on 6 November. The airwing flew home safely on 5 November 1992.

Upon returning NAS Norfolk, Virginia, the TIGERTAILS' only remaining tasking for the year was a small detachment to Eglin AFB, Florida to provide range control services for a Tomahawk missile firing exercise in mid-December.