



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON  
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY SIX  
FPO NEW YORK 09501-6412

1986  
LOGGED

**DECLASSIFIED**

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
5750  
Ser: C008  
25 MAR 1987

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From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron  
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX

To: Director of Naval History, Washington, D C

Subj: SQUADRON HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

- Encl:
- (1) VAW-126 Command Composition and Organization (U)
  - (2) 1986 Chronology (U)
  - (3) 1986 Narrative (U)
  - (4) Periodic Operating Report for January-February 1986 (C)
  - (5) Periodic Operating Report for March-April 1986 (C)
  - (6) Periodic Operating Report for May-June 1986 (C)
  - (7) Periodic Operating Report for July-August 1986 (C)
  - (8) Periodic Operating Report for September-October 1986 (C)
  - (9) Periodic Operating Report for November-December 1986 (C)
  - (10) Submission for 1986 Battle Efficiency and AEW Excellence Awards (C)
  - (11) CWV-3 1986 Battle Efficiency and AEW Excellence Endorsement (U)
  - (12) Submission for 1986 Golden Anchor Award (U)
  - (13) Submission for 1986 Safety Award (U)
  - (14) 25 April 1986 Change Of Command Booklet (U)

1. As directed by reference (a), enclosures (1) through (14) are submitted.

  
D. M. PARKER

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VAW-126 Immediate Superior in Command and Aircraft Listing

Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX is a major element of the Carrier Airborne Early Warning (VAW) forces of the United States Navy. The squadron's primary mission is to use long range radars installed in our aircraft to provide the Commander, Carrier Task Force with the earliest possible warning of impending air attack, and using the computer based weapons system, defend the force by directing fighter aircraft to meet the threat. Moreover, the capabilities of our four Grumman E-2C Hawkeye aircraft, with the APS-138 radar and ALR-73 passive detection system, have proven to be exceptionally versatile, enabling the squadron's aircrews to play important roles in other varied operations, among them strike control, surface surveillance, and search and rescue missions.

Immediate Superior Command:

Administrative: COMCAEWING 12

Commanding Officer:

CDR John W. Bookhultz, designator 1310, lineal number 001906-30

Operational: COMCARAIRWING 3

Commanding Officer:

CDR Robert E. Houser, designator 1310, lineal number 006166-40

Aircraft Assigned: Grumman E-2C "Hawkeye"

Bureau #'s: AC600 - 162615  
AC601 - 162616  
AC602 - 162617  
AC603 - 162618

*Chronology of Events for VAW-126*

<i>07-10 Jan</i>	<i>SEABAT 2-86</i>
<i>15-26 Jan</i>	<i>deployed on JFK</i>
<i>11-12 Feb</i>	<i>Hawk missile shoot</i>
<i>13-16 Feb</i>	<i>Tomahawk Operational Test Launch</i>
<i>06-17 Mar</i>	<i>deployed on JFK</i>
<i>20 Mar</i>	<i>VP-10/CVW-3 combined WASEX</i>
<i>20-23 Mar</i>	<i>LINKEX with COMSUBDEVRON 12/USS Providence</i>
<i>04-05 Apr</i>	<i>VF-31 missilex</i>
<i>19 Apr</i>	<i>CVW-3 coordinated training exercise</i>
<i>25 Apr</i>	<i>Change of Command</i>
<i>06 May-04 Jun</i>	<i>deployed on JFK</i>
<i>04 Jul</i>	<i>International Naval Review Flyby</i>
<i>14-28 Jul</i>	<i>deployed on JFK MOD FLEETEX</i>
<i>18-27 Aug</i>	<i>translant to Med</i>
<i>08-11 Sep</i>	<i>ops west Med</i>
<i>19 Sep-13 Oct</i>	<i>Display Determination 86</i>
<i>14-15 Oct</i>	<i>ops east Med/dual CV ops</i>
<i>19-25 Oct</i>	<i>ops east Med/ central Med</i>
<i>03-05 Nov</i>	<i>ops Adriatic/ central Med</i>
<i>09-10 Nov</i>	<i>Poopdeck 2-86</i>
<i>10-23 Nov</i>	<i>African Eagle 86</i>
<i>04-05 Dec</i>	<i>DASIX 86-2</i>
<i>06-09 Dec</i>	<i>ops west Med</i>
<i>20-23 Dec</i>	<i>ops west Med</i>

## VAW-126 Command History for 1986

1986 proved to be a busy year for the VAW-126 Seahawks as we spent much of the first part of the year preparing for our six and a half month Mediterranean deployment starting in August.

In January the Seahawks participated in Seabat 2-86, a multiple jamming exercise. Later in the month we embarked on the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) for approximately two weeks of carrier operations.

During the month of February the Seahawks provided assistance with several missile shoots, including control of the first successful operational test launch of a Tomahawk cruise missile on the east coast.

The month of March found VAW-126 back aboard the USS John F Kennedy for another two weeks of workups. Next we participated in a joint VP-10/CVW-3 combined war-at-sea exercise (WASEX). To close out the month, we conducted a link exercise with COMSUBDEVRON 12 and the USS Providence.

The Seahawks celebrated their 17th birthday on 1 April, marking our 17th accident-free flying year with over 35,000 hours. Also, CDR Daniel M. Parker relieved CDR Daniel P. Whalen to become the new CO of VAW-126. We ended the month with a missile exercise with VF-31 and a CVW-3 training exercise.

May was a busy month for the Seahawks, when we again returned <sup>to</sup> the JFK to begin our advanced phase of deployment workups, as we began to gear up for the upcoming Med cruise.

VAW-126 returned to Norfolk the first week in June for a well deserved break, giving many squadron personnel a chance to get all their personnel affairs in order before leaving for the Med.

As July rolled around, the Seahawks participated in and controlled the flyby of the Statue of Liberty as part of the International Naval Review during the July Fourth celebration in New York. Then in mid-July it was back aboard the JFK for our last set of workups, including a MOD FLEETEX, a LINKEX and three days of round-the-clock flight operations.

August found the Seahawks leaving Norfolk for a scheduled six month deployment in the Mediterranean onboard the JFK. Following the ten day transit across the Atlantic, we arrived in Rota, Spain for a three day turnover with the USS America.

In September the Seahawks conducted routine flight operations in the west Med and made port calls in Benidorm, Spain and Toulon, France. After Toulon, the JFK and her airwing participated in Display Determination 86, a month long exercise involving many NATO naval and air units, operating in the west and central Med and the Aegean sea.

*After Display Determination ended in Mid-October, the Seahawks made a three day port call in Haifa, Israel. For the rest of the month the JFK conducted joint CV operations with the USS Forrestal. During these operations, VAW-126 had four Egyptian air controllers assigned to our squadron who actually flew several missions in our E-2C's, helping coordinate exercises with Egyptian units. We ended the month with a port call in Trieste, Italy.*

*November found the Seahawks operating in the Adriatic sea and the central Med, followed by a three day port call in Naples, Italy. We then participated in Poopdeck 2-86, an exercise conducted with Spanish units, and African Eagle 86 with Moroccan forces. This was followed by a port call in Cannes, France.*

*As December arrived, the Seahawks and the JFK conducted another exercise, this time with French units in DASIX 86-2. This was followed by routine operations in the central Med with a second port call in Naples, and finally to Palma, Spain where we spent the Christmas/New Year's holiday.*