



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE TWO SIX
UNIT 60141
FPO AE 09507-6412

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Ser 00/ 025

MAR 21 1999

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 126
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH)
Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

1. Mission: Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 126 is an integral part of the tactical air forces of the United States Navy. VAW-126 is one of six Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadrons home ported in Norfolk, Virginia. Equipped with four E-2C "HAWKEYE" aircraft, the squadron's primary mission is long range airborne early warning in defense of the Carrier Battle Group. In addition, the squadron plays a vital role in such diverse operations as fighter intercept and air strike control, ocean surveillance and search and rescue coordination. The squadron is also an integral part of America's war on drugs, deploying regularly to NAS Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, to fly surveillance missions in coordination with several other government agencies.

Command Composition: 161 personnel; 31 Officers/130 Enlisted

Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC): Commander, Carrier Air Wing THREE, CAPT. Thomas L. Hagen

Commanding Officer: Commander David A. Newland

Aircraft Bureau Numbers:
(600) 162616
(601) 162798
(602) 161782
(603) 162618

Chronology

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Change of Command	15 Jan 98	NAS Norfolk, VA
Carrier Qualification	29-31 Jan 98	USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)

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Low Altitude Radar Coverage of Florida Straits (LARCFS)	6-8 Feb 98	NAS Key West, FL
Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program support	30 Mar-10 Apr	NAS Fallon, NV
TSTA I/II	16 Apr-1 May	USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)
Air Wing Weapons Detachment	24 May-19 Jun	NAS Fallon, NV
TSTA III/COMPTUEX	15 Jul-21 Aug	USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)
JTFEX	19 Sep-5 Oct	USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)
JTG 99-1	6 Nov 98-6 May 99	USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)
Operation DESERT FOX	16-20 Dec 98	USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)

Narrative

Carrier Qualifications aboard the USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) took place in late January 1998, followed by a detachment to Fallon, NV, in support of the Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) in March 1998. While continuing training for JTG 99-1, VAW-126 participated in LARCFS flying out of NAS Key West, FL, SFARP and Air Wing weapon detachments to Fallon, Nevada, as well as TSTA I/II, COMPTUEX/TSTA III, and JTFEX aboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65).

In November 1998, VAW-126 deployed aboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) for JTG 99-1. In its first few months, the squadron participated in Arabian Gulf

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operations including Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and DESERT FOX. After returning to the Mediterranean Sea VAW-126 also participated in a number of multi-national exercises including Juniper Stallion and INVITEX, and flew dozens of missions in the Adriatic Sea in support of Operation DELIBERATE FORGE.

The Enterprise Battle Group returned to the Arabian Gulf in March of 1999 to once again fly missions in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. We anticipate operating in this AOR until mid-April when we will once again transit the Suez Canal to the Mediterranean Sea. We are scheduled for a short but welcomed visit to the Spanish port of Palma de Mallorca in late April, after which we will begin our transit back to Norfolk, due to arrive 6 May.

3. Photo and biography of Commanding Officer are enclosed.



D. A. NEWLAND