1981

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY ONE
FPO NEW YORK 09501

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IN REPLY REFER TO:
VAW121:00:ldm
5753
Ser: C3
3 APR 1982

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From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY ONE
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Command History; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Command History
[redacted]

1. Enclosure (1) contains the Command History from 01 January, 1981 to 31 December 1981, as required by reference (a), with the exception of the chronology and the narrative.

2. Enclosures (2) through (8) are squadron Periodic Operating Reports for the period 23 December 1980 to 04 January 1982 and are submitted in accordance with reference (a) to reduce duplication of effort.

D. E. WALKER

Copy to:
Director of Naval History

APR. 16 1982

NAVAL AVIATION HISTORY

Reg No. 3442

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Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron One Hundred Twenty One

Command History 1981

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Enclosure (1)

MISSION OF COMMAND

To provide the task force Officer in Tactical Command (OTC) with new data on all targets entering the surrounding airspace. In addition to this mission, the squadron is capable of performing the following tasks:

1. Detect airborne targets within its surveillance envelope.
2. Determine position, course, speed, altitude and IFF status of each target.
3. Transmit target data to Tactical Data System (TDS) units.
4. Fighter Interceptor control.
5. Aircraft control/flight following.
6. Surface threat defense.
7. Missile shoot exercise control.
8. UHF voice/data relay.
9. Search and rescue (SAR) coordination.

Compatibility of the above tasks is set forth in tactical doctrine. Tasks will be assigned at the discretion of the OTC.

COMMAND ORGANIZATION

VAW 121 COMMANDING OFFICERS OF 1981

GDR J. W. SPRAGUE	11 April 1980 to 30 July 1981
CDR D. E. WALKER	30 July 1981 to Present

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CDR T. J. WENDT	30 July 81 to Present

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE E-2C ARPS

The E-2C, most recent model in the HAWKEYE series, features the latest generation of avionics which expands system capabilities for active and passive detection, tracking and navigation accuracy, display and communications--all with high reliability and excellent maintainability.

The high-wing, twin turbo-prop aircraft is easily identified by its rotodome and four vertical tails, portions of which are fiberglass to reduce radar reflection. The automatic flight control system has maneuvering and operational or flat turn modes as well as TACAN coupling. An advanced cooling system assures operational flexibility on the ground and in the air. Near-STOL performance allows carrier and short field operation. The HAWKEYE was specifically designed from its inception for Airborne Early Warning (AEW) thus maximizing function performance, versatility and flexibility.

The HAWKEYE has a crew of five: Pilot, Co-pilot, Combat Information Center Officer, Air Control Officer and Radar Operator. Control capability is increased over the E-2A/B model aircraft, since each of the combat crew is able to independently utilize all modes of sensor display, data retrieval and automatic control.

The radar features an Airborne Moving Target Indicator (AMTI) function that permits tracking of targets obscured by sea or land return. At long range, the radar can pick up targets of fighter size and pinpoint their position, height and movement regardless of geography or weather. The new radar is more sensitive due to special AMTI signal processing thus giving exceptional target resolution and precision control. Advanced data processing techniques give it the unique ability to operate both off-shore and overland. Also, the Side Lobe Cancellation (SLC) option renders the radar less susceptible to jamming. The Passive Detection System (PDS) enables the crew to accurately evaluate airborne, surface and shore-based missile and electronic threat platforms.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS FOR 22 DEC 80 to 4 JAN 82

TOTAL HOURS FLOWN	2524.9
TOTAL CARRIER LANDINGS	486
TOTAL NIGHT CARRIER LANDINGS	203
TOTAL SORTIES	758
SHORE	289
CARRIER	469

1981 INCIDENT SUMMARY

SER NO.	DATE	BUNO	NARRATIVE	DTG
C-AGM 01-81	14 JUN	160417	DAMAGE TO ENGINE ACCESS PANELS	280528Z JUN 81
C-FM 01-81	23 JAN	160989	ENGINE STARTER DAMAGE	061520Z FEB 81
C-FM 02-81	12 MAR	159107	TWA JETTISONED	231630Z MAR 81
C-FM 03-81	23 MAR	159107	AIR INLET DUCT DAMAGE	211000Z APR 81
C-FM 04-81	29 MAR	160991	COMBINED HYDRAULIC SYSTEM FAILURE	061430Z APR 81
C-FM 05-81	03 APR	160417	TWA JETTISONED	152031Z APR 81
C-FM 06-81	29 MAR	160992	PROP DE-ICING SHORT	271231Z APR 81
C-FM 07-81	06 APR	160992	PROP DE-ICING SHORT	241331Z APR 81
C-FM 08-81	02 MAY	160417	SPEED SENSE CONTROL FAILURE	201331Z MAY 81
C-FM 09-81	21 MAY	160992	ENGINE STARTER DAMAGE	280931Z MAY 81
C-FM 10-81	21 MAY	160991	LOW RPM, BOTH ENGINES, ON TAKEOFF	201834Z JUN 81
C-FM 11-81	02 JUN	160992	OIL LEAKS ON START	211423Z JUN 81

Enclosure (1)