



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

DECLASSIFIED

VAW124:11:trp

5720

Ser

41

29 MAR 1976

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

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

To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-0502)

Subj: Command History for 1975; forwarding of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5720.12B

Encl: (1) VAW-124 Command History for 1975

1. Command History for 1975 is submitted in accordance with
reference (a).

G. L. Wilbur
G. L. WILBUR
By direction

Copy to:
Director of Naval History
PAO History File

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

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

COMMAND HISTORY

1975

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. COMMAND ORGANIZATION
 - A. COMMANDING OFFICER
 - B. EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 - C. MISSION OF COMMAND
 - D. COMPOSITION OF COMMAND
 - E. SQUADRON NICKNAME
 - F. SQUADRON MOTTO
- II. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS
- III. OPERATIONS HISTORY
- IV. MAINTENANCE HISTORY
- V. SAFETY HISTORY
- VI. AWARDS
- VII. APPENDIX
 - A. PERIODIC OPERATING REPORT
1 NOVEMBER - 12 DECEMBER 1975

I. COMMAND ORGANIZATION

A. COMMANDING OFFICERS

Commander C. J. KING, Jr.
23 July 1974 - 18 July 1975

Commander J. J. DITTRICK, Jr.
18 July 1974 - Present

B. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Commander J. J. DITTRICK, Jr.
23 July 1974 - 18 July 1975

Commander J. M. FULCHER
18 July 1975 - Present

C. MISSION

To act as an airborne tactical command and control center for offensive and defensive fleet operations by providing early warning and aircraft services through data link and voice communications.

D. COMPOSITION OF COMMAND

Aircraft: 4 E-2C (See maintenance history for delivery dates.)

Personnel on board: Officers in Flight Status
(31 Dec 75) = 20

Enlisted in Flight Status
(31 Dec 75) = 1

Officers (Maintenance)
(31 Dec 75) = 2

Enlisted on board
(31 Dec 75) = 108

E. SQUADRON NICKNAME

"THE BULLSEYE HUMMERS"

F. SQUADRON MOTTO

"BULLSEYE HUMMERS - RIGHT ON TARGET"

II. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1 JAN - 16 NOV	-	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
17 NOV - 6 DEC	-	Refresher training Guantonamo Bay, Cuba aboard USS AMERICA
7 DEC - 16 DEC	-	Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range
17 DEC - 31 DEC	-	Inport Norfolk, Virginia

III. OPERATIONS HISTORY

Aside from the summary and data presented in appendix A, 1975 was a year designed to learn the newly acquired E-2C aircraft. Pilot transition took little ground training prior to flying the aircraft. For aircrews the updated Airborne Tactical Data System required several months of ground school. Transition for all squadron NFO's was not completed until June 1975.

From January to November operations were largely limited to providing services for various Virginia Capes Operating Area (VACAPES) exercises. The first significant exercises took place during the period 19-30 June when daily sorties were flown from NAS Norfolk to support USS NIMITZ operations in the VACAPES area.

On 27 July 1975 VAW-124 joined nine other squadrons in forming Attack Carrier Air Wing SIX, commanded by Commander C. E. ARMSTRONG.

Appendix A is a concise delination of VAW-124's stepped-up schedule that concluded 1975.

Total Flight Hours - 1066.6

IV. MAINTENANCE HISTORY

During 1975 the major portion of the year was spent transitioning to the E-2C aircraft. The transition, which proceeded smoothly, continued through October.

Four E-2C were delivered from Grumman Aerospace Corporation, Bethpage, New York. The following bureau numbers were received:

159494	-	9 May 1975
159109	-	20 Jun 1975
159496	-	2 Jul 1975
159497	-	22 Oct 1975

Major maintenance was focused on avionics equipment. From August through December three engine failures were experienced. They were attributed to reduction gear box failures on the starboard engines. During the same time frame one propeller change was required due to a defective deicer boot element.

E-2C readiness was limited due to lack of supply support and an unusual number of engine/prop changes. Inadequate supply of avionics equipment for the tactical data system and for the Carrier Inertial Navigation System impacted heavily on the percentage of full system capable aircraft.

Training of maintenance personnel for the E-2C carried over from its beginning in August 1974, particularly for AT and ADJ ratings. By the spring of 1975 the AT training was complete, including a course for selected personnel in Systems Analysis. Due to billets not being readily available at Naval Aviation Maintenance Training Detachment, NAS Miramar, the ADJ training was still not complete by year's end. Between August 1974 and April 1975 the squadron experienced a 71% turn-over in officer and enlisted personnel.

V. SAFETY DEPARTMENT

The Safety Department experienced significant changes and accomplishments in 1975. For the first nine months, Quality Assurance was assigned to Safety on a trial basis by Commander, Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. This unique arrangement worked exceptionally well in this command, but did not enjoy the same degree of success in other communities. Therefore, CNO directed that QA be returned to the Maintenance Department in all squadrons. At the same time, all functions of NATOPS were added to Safety, according to the department organization delineated in COMNAVAIRLANTINST 5100.31 of 11 November 1975. By year's end, the BULLSEYE HUMMERS had compiled more than 5,000 accident free flight hours over a four and one-half years period.

VI. AWARDS, CITATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Sailor of Year 1975 - AME2 [REDACTED]

1975 Sailor of the Quarter

1st - ADJ2 [REDACTED]
2nd - AZ2 [REDACTED]
3rd - AME2 [REDACTED]
4th - PN1 [REDACTED]

GOOD CONDUCT AWARDS

AMS3 [REDACTED] (First)
AMH2 [REDACTED] (first)
AMH1 [REDACTED] (Third)
AT1 [REDACTED] (Third)
ADJC [REDACTED] (Fourth)
ADJ1 [REDACTED] (Fourth)

COMMANDER SIXTH FLEET LETTER OF COMMENDATION

ADJ2 [REDACTED]
AMS3 [REDACTED]

VAW-124 LETTER OF COMMENDATION

AMHC [REDACTED]

LETTERS FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE FROM NAVAL AVIATION MAINTENANCE
TRAINING DETACHMENT, NORFOLK, VA.

AT2 [REDACTED]
AT2 [REDACTED]