



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON  
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
NEW YORK 09501-6410



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From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron  
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)  
Subj: COMMAND HISTORY OPNAV 5750-1  
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C  
Encl: (1) Command Organization  
(2) Chronological Order of Events  
(3) Operations  
(4) Statistics

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.

*RA Engle*  
R. A. ENGLE

Copy to:  
Director of Naval History (OP-09B4)

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THE VAW-124 COMMAND HISTORY  
FOR 1984  
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VAW-124 COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDER YEAR 1984

I. Command Organization

- a. Commanding Officer  
Commander R. A. ENGLE
- b. Executive Officer  
Commander H. R. RUSSELL
- c. Squadron Mission

To function as an airborne tactical command and control center for offensive and defensive fleet operations by providing Airborne Early Warning and Aircraft control through data link and voice communications.

d. Command Composition

Aircraft: Four (4) Grumman E-2C "Hawkeye" (TRAC A APS 138)

Personnel:

Officers

Flight Status: 26  
Maint/Intel: 4

Enlisted (31DEC84)

Enlisted on Board: 138  
Flight Status: 3

- e. Squadron Nickname: "BEAR ACES"
- f. Squadron Motto: "BEAR ACES - On the Road, Again"

Enclosure (1)

II. Chronological Order of Events

01 JAN - 07 FEB 1984	NAS NORFOLK
08 FEB - 17 FEB 1984	ORANGE AIR - ROOSY ROADS P.R.
18 FEB - 16 MAR 1984	NAS NORFOLK
17 MAR - 31 MAR 1984	GREEN FLAG NELLIS AFB
01 APR - 13 APR 1984	CAG-8 WEAPONS DET MCAS YUMA
14 APR - 30 APR 1984	NAS NORFOLK
01 MAY - 09 MAY 1984	CAG-8 OPERATIONS NAS FALLON
10 MAY - 22 AUG 1984	NAS NORFOLK
23 AUG - 04 SEP 1984	ORANGE AIR - ROOSY ROADS P.R.
05 SEP - 27 SEP 1984	NAS NORFOLK
28 SEP - 23 OCT 1984	SHAKEDOWN/REFTRA (USS NIMITZ)
24 OCT - 26 OCT 1984	NAS NORFOLK
27 OCT - 31 OCT 1984	SOPWITH ALERT NAS KEY WEST
01 NOV - 13 NOV 1984	NAS NORFOLK
14 NOV - 17 DEC 1984	PHASE 1A (USS NIMITZ)
18 DEC - 31 DEC 1984	NAS NORFOLK

### III. OPERATIONS

The beginning of the New Year 1984 found the "BEAR ACES" of VAW-124 in their homeport of Norfolk. The year promised to be an exciting one for the men of VAW-124, and that promise was delivered. There were detachments to Roosevelt Roads, Key West, MCAS Yuma, Fallon, and Nellis AFB. Along with these "Dets" there were numerous rumors about our ship the NIMITZ (CVN-68). All personnel were ready and prepared for the New Year.

VAW-124 provided "Orange Air", being the "BAD GUYS", in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico in mid February. This was to be the beginning of some invaluable training for the "BEAR ACES". Following Roosy Roads, we went to Nellis AFB, where we were tasked with being the "GOOD GUYS". The "BEAR ACES" worked alongside the U.S. Air Force, Marine Corps, Army and Navy, demonstrating the E2-C's capabilities.

Immediately following Nellis we went straight to MCAS Yuma, where we began working with CAG-8. Tactics and procedures were rehearsed, and more importantly, our squadron's professional development continued maturing.

VAW-124, along with CAG-8, next travelled to NAS Fallon. We were assigned Airborne Early Warning responsibilities. Many strikes were to take place against Luke AFB and the Marines of Twenty-Nine Palms. VAW-124 and CAG-8 were very successful, winning praise from both the Air Force and the Marine Corps.

The next few months saw VAW-124 based at NAS Norfolk. During this time flight operations concentrated on pilot training operations, culminating in Carrier Qualifications (CQ) for our pilots in USS KENNEDY.

In late September, VAW-124 was ready for sea assignment, Shakedown and Refresher Training in USS NIMITZ (CVN-68). SHAKEDOWN/REFTRA was an interesting experience for the entire squadron. This period provided valuable training, considering the sizeable turnover of personnel that occurs following an overhaul period.

November began with VAW-124 ready for Phase 1A. This period concentrated on the "Bread and Butter" missions of VAW-124: Airborne Early Warning, Air Intercept Control, Surface Subsurface Surveillance Control, Search and Rescue, and flight following of CAG-8 aircraft assets using the various bombing ranges of Gitmo and Roosy.

The New Year promises to be a great one to be a "BEAR ACE" with deployment in early spring.

Enclosure (3)

IV. STATISTICS

a. Milestones:

Flight Hours for CY 1984	<u>2258.7</u>
Highest Monthly Flight Month CY 1984	<u>252.3</u>
Average Monthly Flight Hours CY 1984	<u>188.2</u>
21 July Thirteenth Consecutive Year Accident Free --- OVER 25,000 Hours	