

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

Command Organization

- a. Commanding Officer
Commander W. L. Carter - Commander J. R. Neff
13 Apr 88 - 22 Sep 89 22 Sep 89 - Present
- b. Executive Officer
Commander J. R. Neff - Commander J. J. George
13 Apr 88 - 22 Sep 89 22 Sep 89 - Present
- c. Squadron Mission

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

- d. Command Composition

Aircraft: Four Grumman E-2C Hawkeyes

AJ 600, Buno # 161780

AJ 601, Buno # 161552

AJ 602, Buno # 161781

AJ 603, Buno # 161782

Personnel: 170

Officers: 31

Flying Status: 28

Maint/Intel: 3

Enlisted: 139

Enlisted on board: 131

Flight Status: 2

- e. Squadron Nickname: "BEAR ACES"

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

Chronological Order of Events

01 JAN 1989	CQ/VACAPES
02 JAN - 10 JAN 1989	OPEN OCEAN FLIGHT OPS/TRANSLANT
11 JAN 1989	INCHOP MEDITERRANEAN
15 JAN - 17 JAN 1989	NATIONAL WEEK 1989/WEST MED
20 JAN - 23 JAN 1989	TUNISIAN PASEX/WEST MED
24 JAN - 31 JAN 1988	INPORT/PALMA, SPAIN
31 JAN 1989	CQ/WEST MED
01 FEB - 02 FEB 1989	SPANISH PASEX/WEST MED
03 FEB - 08 FEB 1989	PHINIA 89/CENTRAL MED
09 FEB 1989	CEM MISSILEX/WEST MED
10 FEB - 16 FEB 1989	INPORT/MARSEILLE, FRANCE
17 FEB - 23 FEB 1989	CENTRAL MED OPS
24 FEB - 26 FEB 1989	INPORT/ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT
27 FEB - 28 FEB 1989	FLIGHT OPS/EAST MED
01 MAR - 02 MAR 1989	EAST MED OPS
03 MAR - 09 MAR 1989	INPORT/ANTALYA, TURKEY
10 MAR - 14 MAR 1989	EAST AND CENTRAL MED OPS
14 MAR - 19 MAR 1989	INPORT/NAPLES, ITALY
20 MAR - 22 MAR 1989	WEST MED OPS
23 MAR - 24 MAR 1989	INPORT/TANGIERS, MOROCCO
25 MAR - 28 MAR 1989	CENTRAL MED OPS
29 MAR - 31 MAR 1989	AUGUSTA BAY ANCHORAGE
01 APR 1989	CENTRAL MED OPS
02 APR - 10 APR 1989	INPORT/TOULON, FRANCE
02 APR - 10 APR 1989	TRAINING DET/SIGONELLA, ITALY

Encl (2)

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

10 APR - 13 APR 1989	CENTRAL MED OPS
14 APR - 16 APR 1989	INPORT/MONACO
17 APR - 19 APR 1989	CENTRAL MED OPS (DATEX)
20 APR - 24 APR 1989	DRAGON HAMMER (CENTRAL MED)
25 APR 1989	AUGUSTA BAY ANCHORAGE
26 APR - 30 APR 1989	DRAGON HAMMER
01 MAY - 02 MAY 1989	DRAGON HAMMER
03 MAY 1989	EAST MED OPS
04 MAY - 08 MAY 1989	INPORT/HAIFA, ISRAEL
09 MAY - 11 MAY 1989	EAST MED OPS
12 MAY - 15 MAY 1989	INPORT/HAIFA, ISRAEL
16 MAY - 18 MAY 1989	JUNIPER STALLION
19 MAY - 23 MAY 1989	EAST/CENT/WEST MED OPS
24 MAY - 31 MAY 1989	INPORT/PALMA, SPAIN
01 JUN - 02 JUN 1989	INPORT/PALMA, SPAIN
03 JUN - 07 JUN 1989	SARDINIA 89 (WEST & CENTRAL MED)
08 JUN - 09 JUN 1989	TRAINING ANCHORAGE
10 JUN - 18 JUN 1989	NATIONAL WEEK 89B
19 JUN - 20 JUN 1989	OUTCHOP MEDITERRANEAN SEA
21 JUN - 30 JUN 1989	TRANSLANT
01 JUL - 31 JUL 1989	INPORT/NORFOLK, VA
31 JUL - 04 AUG 1989	SPACE SHUTTLE SUPPORT/COCOA BEACH
04 AUG - 24 AUG 1989	INPORT NORVA
25 AUG - 31 AUG 1989	ORANGE AIR DETACHMENT/ROOSEVELT ROADS, PUERTO RICO
01 SEP - 04 SEP 1989	ORANGE AIR DETACHMENT/ROOSEVELT ROADS, PUERTO RICO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

05 SEP - 10 SEP 1989	NORVA
11 SEP - 13 SEP 1989	AEGIS SUPPORT/BRUNSWICK, MAINE
14 SEP - 30 SEP 1989	NORVA
01 OCT - 15 OCT 1989	NORVA
16 OCT - 21 OCT 1989	DRUG INTERDICTION DET/GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
22 OCT - 29 OCT 1989	NORVA
30 OCT - 06 NOV 1989	DRUG INTERDICTION DET/KEY WEST, FLORIDA
07 NOV - 30 NOV 1989	NORVA
01 DEC - 25 DEC 1989	NORVA
26 DEC - 29 DEC 1989	DRUG INTERDICTION DET/GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
30 DEC - 31 DEC 1989	NORVA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

BEAR ACE HISTORY 1989

Following Carrier Qualification in early January, the squadron conducted blue water operations while transiting the Atlantic on board the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71). The ship entered the Mediterranean Sea on 11 January and participated in the National Week 89 exercise. During this exercise, the Roosevelt battle group completed turnover and conducted dual CVBG training with the USS John F. Kennedy battle group in the Tyrahenian Sea. VAW-124 participated in every facet of this event, coordinating all aspects of command and control in every warfare area. Following National Week, the squadron worked closely with Tunisian Air Force and naval units during the Tunisian PASEX from 20-23 January. VAW-124 was primarily responsible for conducting air liaison with the Tunisian Air Force and GCI sites. The first port visit of the cruise was Palma, Spain on 24 January.

After the Palma visit, the squadron CQ'd in the western Mediterranean before beginning a short exercise with Spanish forces in early February. A steady pace of operations continued with the PHINIA 89 exercise, a bilateral French and US exercise with the Roosevelt and the FNS Clemenceau, and a CEM MISSILEX, a live missile firing. A squadron detachment visited Geilenkirchen, Germany to interface with NATO AWACS units and discuss ESM in battle group operations. The USS Theodore Roosevelt arrived in Marseille, France on 10 February. Foul weather and heavy seas forced the USS Theodore Roosevelt to get underway to avoid drifting into shallow water. After Marseille, routine cyclic flight operations culminated in freedom of navigation operations off the coast of Libya. These tense operations came to a close with a port visit in Alexandria, Egypt. Leaving Alexandria behind, flight operations continued into March in the eastern Mediterranean. February ended as the squadron achieved a 100% boarding rate for the month.

The next port call was Antalya, Turkey on 3 March. Departing Antalya, normal flight operations continued as the squadron transited the east and central Mediterranean until 13 March. The 13th to 19th was spent in Naples, Italy. The squadron then operated for three days in the western Mediterranean ending with a port call in Tangiers, Morocco. March was closed out with flight operations in the central Mediterranean, and at an Augusta Bay training anchorage.

In April, Central Mediterranean operations continued until the ship's return to port in Toulon, France. Prior to Toulon, two aircraft flew to NAS Sigonella, Italy from 2-10 April to train and upgrade junior pilots. The squadron reunited in mid-April for central Mediterranean operations and then enjoyed a three day port visit in Monaco. After Monaco, the squadron participated in the DATEX exercise and then in the largest exercise yet of the cruise, Dragon Hammer 89. Dragon Hammer was a major, multinational NATO exercise. VAW-124 provided Task Force support in the form of air intercept control, war at sea coordination, over the horizon AEW coverage for Battle Group Commanders, and surface search control to establish an Orange Force picture for ASUWC. Dragon Hammer ended 2 May; the ship visited Haifa, Israel on 4 May.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED Encl (3)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

The next exercise was Juniper Stallion from 16-18 May. The short exercise took place in the eastern Mediterranean. The next week was spent transiting the Mediterranean Sea towards the final port call of the cruise. The week long Palma, Spain port visit lasted into June. When the squadron departed Palma, it participated in the Sardinia 89 exercise followed by another training anchorage and then the National Week 89B exercise. The Sardinia 89 event brought together Italian, Spanish, French, NATO and American forces to provide advanced training for air, land, and maritime forces. VAW-124 was instrumental in the success of this exercise. National Week 89B marked the last major exercise of the cruise. This exercise included integrated CVBG operations with the USS Theodore Roosevelt, USS America, and USS Coral Sea Battle Groups, along with CVBG turnover between the USS Coral Sea and USS Theodore Roosevelt Battle Groups. The USS Theodore Roosevelt outchopped the Mediterranean on 21 June and arrived in port Norfolk, Virginia on 30 June.

Operating from Norfolk, Virginia, the Bear Aces remained busy during the rest of 1989 providing operational detachments to several locations. Two planes went to Patrick Air Force Base in Cocoa Beach, Florida to cover a Space Shuttle launch in early August. A larger detachment went to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico to participate in Orange Air Operations from 25 August to 4 September. A detachment went to Brunswick, Maine from 11-13 September for AEGIS support. Three drug interdiction detachments occurred during the last quarter. VAW-124 operated out of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba from 16-21 October and then again during the last week of December. A detachment was also staged in Key West, Florida during mid-November.

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

Statistics

a. Milestones

Flight Hours for CY 1989: 2023.5

Completed eighteen years of accident free flying as of July 1989, over 36,000 hours.

b. Performance Statistics

1. Mission Capable Rate (MC): 72.2%

2. Full Mission Capable Rate (FMC): 67.3%

3. A799 Rate: 2.1%

4. FOD Incidents: 0

5. Sortie Completion Rate: 99%

DECLASSIFIED
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~