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## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON ONE THREE SEVEN UNIT 60148 FPO AP 96601-6239

5750 Ser 00/105 MAY 25 1997

- From: Commanding Officer, Strike Fighter Squadron 137 To: Director of Naval History (N09BH)
- Subj: VFA-137 COMMAND HISTORY
- Ref (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F
- 1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded per reference (a).

Amme Closhuy J. M. MCCLOSKEY

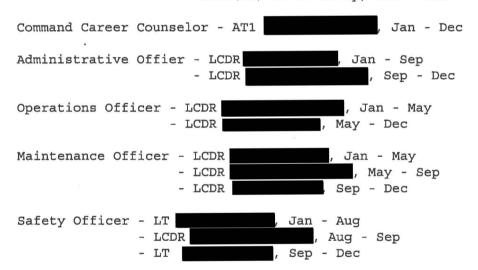
## 1. Command Composition and Organization

a. Command Mission. To provide a combat ready, trained and educated force to the Commander, Carrier Air Wing TWO enabling sustained, carrier based air power projection.

b. Organizational Structure:

Commanding Officer - CDR C. G. Nutter, Jan - Sep - CDR J. M. McCloskey, Sep - Dec Executive Officer - CDR J. M. McCloskey, Jan - Sep - CDR S. S. Smith, Sep - Dec

Command Master Chief - AVCM(AW) R. L. Sedwick, Jan - Jul ATCS(AW) M. S. Virgo, Jul - Oct AVCM(AW) J. R. Okray, Oct - Dec



c. Strike Fighter Squadron 137 reports to the Commander, Carrier Air Wing TWO.

d. The squadron is homeported at Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California.

e. The squadron operates 12 F/A-18C Hornet Aircraft; tailcode NE.

2. <u>Chronology</u>:

12-27 Feb - USS CONSTELLATION deployment

11-17 Mar - Adversaries support flights

Enclosure (1)

18 - 20 Mar - Mountain Home AFB, ID Detachment

26 Mar - Surge day

12 - 14 Apr - Tucson, AZ Detachment

21 Apr - 10 May - SFARP Detachment, NAS Fallon, NV

20 - 23 May - Support flights

10 - 17 Jun - Roving Sands, NM Detachment

2 - 3 Jul - Walleye/Maverick Missle Shoot

10 - 23 Jul - TSTA I/II onboard USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64)

31 Jul - 3 Aug - USS CONSTELLATION Detachment Seattle, WA

1 - 7 Aug - Weapons Detachment, NAS Point Mugu, CA

12 - 15 Aug - Coronet Sentry Exercise, NAS Lemoore, CA

23 Aug - 13 Sep - Carrier Air Wing TWO Detachment, NAS Fallon, NV

19 Sep - Change of Command

7 Oct - 18 Nov - TSTA II/III COMPUTEX A/B ITA on board USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64)

19 Oct - Family Day

## 3. Narrative

- 12 27 Feb Seven aircraft and 140 enlisted personnel deployed aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) in support Fleet exercises conducted in the Southern California operating area. Over 540 hours and 285 carrier landings were recorded by squadron pilots.
- 11 17 Mar Squadron pilots flew 30 flights as adversaries in support of fleet excercises in the Southern California operating area.
- 18 20 Mar Nine aircraft, 95 enlisted personnel, and five pilots deployed to Mountain Home AFB in Idaho. The detachment acted in support of joint exercises conducted with the USAF composite wing supporting their "Turkey Shoot" wing wide competition.
  - 26 Mar Squadron pilots flew over 50 hours in a one day period demonstrating the surge operating capability of the F/A-18C.
- 12 14 Apr Four Aircraft and 35 enlisted personnel deployed to Tucson, AZ supporting excercises with the Tucson Air National Guard.

- 21 Apr 10 May Eight aircraft and 60 personnel deployed to NAS Fallon, NV in support of squadron exercises practicing advanced fighter tactics in the Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP).
  - 20 23 May Squadron pilots flew as adversaries in support of fleet excercises and the USS MERRILL (DD 976) in the Southern California operating area.
  - 10 17 Jun The squadron deployed 10 aircraft to Roving Sands, NM as adversaries in support of the Army's biggest joint excercise in the continental U.S.
    - 2 3 Jul Three aircraft participated in a precision guided missile excercise at the Utah Test Training Range in the Great Salt Lake. Squadron pilots successfully delivered Walleye and Maverick missiles to direct hits.
  - 10 23 Jul The squadron deployed aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) in support of TSTA I/II, flying 175 sorties and 240 hours.
  - 31 Jul 3 Aug Two aircraft and 10 enlisted personnel participated in (CV 64) port visit to Seattle Washington for the annual Seafair Festival. Pilots and crew provided interviews on . local television.
    - 1 7 Aug Two aircraft and 19 enlisted personnel deployed to NAS Point Mugu in support of a week long Standoff Land Attack Missile (SLAM) shoot resulting in direct hits.
    - 12 15 Aug The squadron participated in CORONET SENTRY, a large USAF command and control exercise near Nellis AFB which included assets from all four aviation branches.
- 23 Aug 13 Sep The squadron deployed with Carrier Air Wing TWO to NAS Fallon, NV participating in an intense 3 week Air Wing work up excercise. The squadron recorded 428 hours in 346 sorties.
  - 19 Sep CDR John M. McCloskey relieved CDR Christopher G. Nutter as Commanding Officer, Striker Fighter Squadron 137 in a ceremony conducted in Hangar five, NAS Lemoore, California. VADM Brown, Deputy Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet served as Guest Speaker.
- 7 Oct 18 Nov The squadron deployed aboard USS CONSTELLATION for TSTA II/III, COMPUTEX A/B and ITA. Included in the scenario were long range strikes, mining, and air to air excercises.
  - 19 Oct The squadron flew sorties in an air power demonstration in support of Family Day aboard USS CONSETLLATION (CV 64).

## 4. Support Information

- a. Statistical Data for 1996
  - (1) Total hours flown in the FA-18 Embarked Day: 757 Embarked Night: 338 Non-Embarked Day: <u>3,400</u> Non-Embarked Night: <u>985</u> Total Day: 4,157 Total Night: 1,323
    Total Hours: 5,480
    (2) Total CV Landings: Day: 777

Day:	///
Night:	320
Total:	1,097