



## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON ONE THREE SEVEN

UNIT 60148

FPO AP 96601-6239

5750

Ser ADMIN/047  
25 FEB 04

From: Commanding Officer, Strike Fighter Squadron 137

To: Director, Naval Historical Center

Subj: VFA-137 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) VFA-137 Command History for Calendar Year 2003

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. H. Stammer III", is positioned above the printed name.

W. H. STAMMER III

VFA-137 Command History  
Calendar Year 2003

1. Command Composition and Organization

a. Command Short Title/UIC: STRKFITRON ONE THREE SEVEN/55142

b. 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.

c. Organizational Structure:

Commanding Officer - CDR W. H. Stammer III, Jan - Dec

Executive Officer - CDR C. W. Yager, Jan - Dec

Command Master Chief - CMDCM (AW/SW) A. R. Driver, Jan - Dec

Command Career Counselor - YNC (AW) [REDACTED] Jan - Sep  
NC1 (SS/SW) [REDACTED] Sep - Dec

Administrative Officer - ENS [REDACTED], Jan - Dec

Operations Officer - LCDR [REDACTED], Jan - Jun  
LCDR [REDACTED], Jun - Dec

Maintenance Officer - LCDR [REDACTED] Jan - Dec

Safety Officer - LCDR [REDACTED], Jan - Jun  
LCDR [REDACTED], Jun - Dec

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

e. The squadron is home ported at Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California.

f. The squadron operated 12 FA-18C Hornet Aircraft tail code NE from Jan - Jul and 12 FA-18E Super Hornet Aircraft tail code NE from Aug - Dec.

2. Chronology

10 Jan 03 - 14 Jan 03	Anchored Bahrain	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
15 Jan 03	Change of Command	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
06 Feb 03 - 10 Feb 03	Anchored Bahrain	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
18 Mar 03	OPERATION SOUTHERN WATCH Ends	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)

19 Mar 03 - 16 Apr 03	OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
22 April 03	Crossing the Line Ceremony	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
29 April 03	Port Call to Perth, Australia	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
05 May 03	Underway from Perth, Australia	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
05 May 03	Awarded CSFWP CY-03 (First Quarter) Safety "S"	NAS Lemoore, CA
22-27 May 03	Port Call to Pearl Harbor, HI	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
31 May 03	Fly In	NAS Lemoore, CA
02 Jun 03	Return to Port, San Diego, CA	USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)
28 Jul 03 - 08 Aug 03	FA-18E Initial Carrier Qualification	USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74)
03 Sep 03	FA-18E Safe for Flight Certification	NAS Lemoore, CA
22 Sep 03	Awarded COMPACFLT Retention Honor Roll for Third Quarter FY-03	NAS Lemoore, CA
06 Oct 03	Eighteenth Anniversary of Class "A" Mishap Free Flight Operations	NAS Lemoore, CA
09-22 Nov 03	Air-to-Air Training Detachment	NAS Pensacola, FL
31 Dec 03	Awarded COMPACFLT Retention Excellence Award for FY-03	NAS Lemoore, CA

### 3. Narrative

02 Nov 02 - 02 Jun 03: Embarked on USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) as part of Carrier Air Wing TWO and COMCRUDESGRU ONE for Western Pacific Deployment. Operated in Arabian Gulf in support of Operations SOUTHERN

WATCH and IRAQI FREEDOM, leading CVW-2 in deployed sortie completion with a 100% sortie completion rate for OSW and a 98% sortie completion rate for OIF while delivering over 300,000 lbs of ordnance.

15 Jan 03: CDR W. H. Stammer III relieved CDR D. M. Dober in a ceremony held airborne above USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) while conducting operations in the Arabian Gulf in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.

28 Jul 03 - 08 Aug 03: Embarked on USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74) for initial carrier qualification in the FA-18E Super Hornet, logging over 130 day traps and over 60 night traps.

03 Sep 03: Completed FA-18E Safe-for-Flight Certification two months ahead of schedule.

06 Oct 03: Surpassed 18 years and 70,000 Class "A" mishap-free hours milestones.

09 Nov 03 - 22 Nov 03: Completed two-week unit level detachment to NAS Pensacola, Florida accomplishing 22 SFWT syllabi "Xs" and conducting the first FA-18E A/A gunnery fleet firings. Additionally, squadron pilots delivered presentations on the successes of OIF and on the FA-18(A-F) capabilities at NAS Meridian, NAS Kingsville, NAS Whiting and NAS Pensacola. Maintenance personnel also briefed NAS Pensacola "A" Schools on their perceptions of the FA-18 and life in Lemoore.

31 Dec 03: Only CVW-2 squadron awarded COMPACFLT Retention Excellence Award for FY-03. For the year, the squadron had zero liberty incidents and reduced attrition rate by 50%.

4. Support Information. Statistical Data for 2003 as follows:

a. Total hours flown in FA-18C

Embarked Day:	1427	Embarked Night:	1567
Non-Embarked Day:	111	Non-Embarked Night:	35
Total Day:	1538	Total Night:	1602
Total Hours:	3140		

Total hours flown in FA-18E

Embarked Day:	285	Embarked Night:	90
Non-Embarked Day:	681	Non-Embarked Night:	42
Total Day:	966	Total Night:	132
Total Hours:	1098		

b. Total CV Landings:

F/A-18C		F/A-18E	
Day:	661	Day:	131
Night:	600	Night:	61
Total:	1261	Total:	192