

VFA-137 Command Operations Report
Calendar Year 2007

I. Command Data

- a. Name: Strike Fighter Squadron One Three Seven
- b. UIC: 55142
- c. Commanding Officer: Baker, Stuart P., CDR, USN
- d. Assumed Command: 2006-12-01
- e. Mission: To provide combat ready, trained and educated forces to Carrier Air Wing TWO enabling sustained, carrier based, air power projection.
- f. Home Port: Naval Air Station Lemoore, California
- g. Immediate Superior: Operational – Commander, Carrier Air Wing TWO
Administrative – Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Pacific
- h. Task Force: None
- i. Forces under operational control: None
- j. Aircraft: 12 F/A-18E, tail code NE
- k. Tenant Activities: None
- l. Personnel Assigned: 23 officers, 207 enlisted
- m. Point of Contact: LTJG [REDACTED]
Public Affairs Officer
[REDACTED]@navy.mil
[REDACTED]@navy.smil.mil
(559) [REDACTED]
DSN: [REDACTED]

Commanding Officer
STRKFITRON 137
Unit #60148
FPO AP 96601-6239
- n. Organizational Structure:

Commanding Officer – CDR S.P. Baker

Executive Officer – CDR D.D. Kindley

Command Master Chief – CMDCM (AW/SW) J.E. Williams

Command Career Counselor – AE1 (AW) [REDACTED], Jan – Feb
YN1 [REDACTED], Feb – Sep
NC1 [REDACTED], Sep – Dec

Administrative Officer – CWO3 [REDACTED], Jan – Jun
LCDR [REDACTED], Jun – Oct
LCDR [REDACTED], Oct – Dec

Operations Officer – LCDR [REDACTED], Jan – Oct
LCDR [REDACTED], Oct – Dec

Maintenance Officer – LCDR [REDACTED], Jan – Oct
LCDR [REDACTED], Oct – Dec

Safety Officer – LCDR [REDACTED], Jan – Oct
LCDR [REDACTED], Oct – Dec

2. Commander's Assessment

Although the command did not deploy during 2007, the squadron operated off both coasts, stretching the boundaries of maritime strike warfare and excelling in maintenance and ordnance inspections.

After beginning the year with a near-perfect performance in the CWTPI, the squadron progressed through the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle with two detachments to Fallon, NV and two detachments to the USS Abraham Lincoln.

During the Fallon detachments, SFARP and Air Wing, the squadron improved its tactical readiness, integrated new pilots into the ready room and led Carrier Air Wing TWO in mission planning, air-to-air performance and strike proficiency.

During the shipboard detachments, TSTA and COMPTUEX, the Kestrels honed their abilities to operate at sea, fully integrated into strike operations and led the Air Wing in nearly every measure of effectiveness, including sortie completion rate, total sorties flown and BHA.

While assigned to NAS Lemoore, the squadron did not rest and paired with HSL-47 to test new capabilities for Super Hornets and Seahawks to partner in the maritime strike environment. The squadrons worked to bring new capabilities to the Air Wing – capabilities that will likely prove to be valuable in the ever-widening scope of war at sea.

The Kestrels made the most of 2007 and, after a challenging training cycle, were ready to deploy in 2008.

3. Chronology and Narrative

2007 02 20 – 03 06: Command completed Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Pacific's Conventional Weapons Tactical Proficiency Inspection (CWTPI). The squadron earned an exceptional 790 of 800 possible points. Less than 10% of Naval Aviation squadrons achieve such a score each year.

2007 03 09 – 03 31: Command detached to NAS Fallon, NV for Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP).

2007 04 12: Two jets fly over season-opening home game of the San Jose Giants, the first-ever flyover of San Jose Municipal Stadium.

2007 06 01 – 06 08: Six jets and pilots detached to NAS Oceana, Virginia Beach, VA to conduct Carrier Qualifications onboard USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75).

2007 06 18 – 06 22: Command joined Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 47 in War-at-Sea exercise in Southern California Operations Area. The Kestrels endeavored to demonstrate the feasibility of using helicopters to guide precision weapons dropped from Super Hornets and using

Super Hornets to guide Hellfire missiles fired by helicopters. Both tactics are unprecedented in Naval aviation and represent creative attempts to integrate HSL 47 as the first-ever squadron of its type to deploy with an air wing.

2007 07 11 – 07 16: Four jets and six pilots embarked USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) for Deck Certification.

2007 07 23 – 08 17: Command embarked USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) for Tailored Ship's Training Availability (TSTA).

2007 08 22 – 08 27: Command completed Commander, Naval Air Force's Aviation Maintenance Inspection (AMI). Forty of the squadron's 43 programs were rated "on track," the highest number of "on track" programs seen by the inspection team.

2007 09 03 – 09 28: Command detached to NAS Fallon, NV for Air Wing Fallon detachment.

2007 10 24 – 11 16: Command embarked USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) for Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX).

2007 12 01: Four aircraft conducted flyby of Army-Navy football game at M&T Bank Stadium, Baltimore, Md.

4. Supporting Reports

a. Statistical Data:

i. Hours Flown

Ashore:	3,099.7	Embarked:	1,319.3
Total:	4,419		

ii. Sorties

Ashore:	2,215	Embarked:	745
Total:	2,960		

iii. Carrier Landings:

Day:	473	Night:	388
Total:	861		

b. "Battle Efficiency Award" submissions

i. Squadron Cover Letter

ii. Data Spreadsheet

iii. CVW-2 Endorsement

c. "LTJg Bruce Carrier Award for Excellence in Maintenance" submission

d. "CNO Annual Safety Award" submissions

i. Squadron Cover Letter

ii. CVW-2 Endorsement

e. "Secretary of Defense Phoenix Award for Maintenance Excellence" submission

5. Published Documents

a. Professional Articles:

i. "Kestrels Visit Nellis Treat Training Facility," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 02 Mar 2007

ii. "Kestrels Complete Key West Detachment," LTJG [REDACTED], *Tailhook*, Spring 2007

iii. "Kestrels Salute AE1 [REDACTED]'s 20-year Career," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 13 Apr 2007

iv. "Kestrels Recognize Sailors of the Quarter," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 04 May 2007

- v. "Kestrels Revolutionize Maritime Strike Tactics," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 06 Jul 2007
 - vi. "Kestrels Build Habitat for Humanity House," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 13 Jul 2007
 - vii. "Kestrels Recognize Sailors of the Quarter," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 20 Jul 2007
 - viii. "Kestrels Revolutionize Maritime Strike Tactics," LTJG [REDACTED], *Tailhook*, Fall 2007
 - ix. "Kestrels Recognize Sailors of the Quarter," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 19 Oct 2007
 - x. "Kestrels Conduct Wounded Warrior Project Flyover," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 9 Nov 2007
 - xi. "Kestrels Fly over Army-Navy Game," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 7 Dec 2007
 - xii. "Kestrels Recognize Sailors of the Quarter," LTJG [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 14 Dec 2007
- b. Command Website: <http://www.lemoore.navy.mil/vfa-137/>
 - c. Biography of Commander: "CDR S.P. Baker, USN"

6. Photographs

- a. Commanding Officer's Official Photograph: "CDR S.P. Baker, USN"
- b. Aircraft: "VFA-137, #205 with American Flag"
- c. Aircraft: "VFA-137, #200 with Stars and Stripes colors"

CY 2007 Battle E Performance Data Input

Squadrons: Fill in the BLUE blocks only. Do not enter data in any other blocks!
 Data entered by CSFWP/CSFWL in GREEN blocks.

CSFWPINST 1650.3B/
 CSFWLINST 1650.3H
 Encl. 1,
 Para. #

Squadron: **VFA-137**

COST-WISE READINESS METRICS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3.a. Monthly C-rating score	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Operational Efficiency:	1.00											

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3.b. Actual # RFT Aircraft	8.2	9.1	7.7	6.8	7.7	6.75	7.31	7.88	8.3	9.5	9.6	
Entitlement	5.63	5.63	6.19	5.63	6.19	6.75	7.31	7.88	7.88	7.88	7.88	
Monthly score	100.00%	104.00%	107.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
Aircraft Material Readiness:	100.00%											

	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
3.c. Quarterly Reported SPI	1	1	1	1
Schedule Performance Index:	1			

	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
3.d. Quarterly Reported CPI	1.0002	1	1.028	1
Cost Performance Index:	1.01			

PERFORMANCE READINESS METRICS

	1st Line Prd	2nd Line Prd	3rd Line Prd	4th Line Prd
4.a.1. Squadron Landing Grade	3.457	3.357		
Air Wing Landing Grade	3.352	3.375		
Line Period Index	1.031324582	0.994666667	N/A	N/A
Final Landing Grade (Index)	1.01			

	1st Line Prd	2nd Line Prd	3rd Line Prd	4th Line Prd
4.a.2. Squadron Day Boarding Rate	97%	98%		
Air Wing Day Boarding Rate	0.945	0.956		
Line Period Index	1.027513228	1.023012552	N/A	N/A
Final Day Boarding Rate (Index)	1.03			

	1st Line Prd	2nd Line Prd	3rd Line Prd	4th Line Prd
Squadron Night Boarding Rate	0.911	0.926		
Air Wing Night Boarding Rate	0.91	0.923		
Line Period Index	1.001098901	1.003250271	N/A	N/A
4.a.3. Final Night Boarding Rate (Index)	1.00			

	2nd Fleet	3rd Fleet	5th Fleet	6th Fleet	7th Fleet
4.a.4. Deployed Operational Missions	0	0	0	0	0
Total Deployed Operational Missions	0				

	2nd Fleet	3rd Fleet	5th Fleet	6th Fleet	7th Fleet
4.a.5. Operational Mission Completion Rate (%)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Average Mission Completion Rate	0.0%				

4.a.6. Total embarked hours	1319.3
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4.a.7. Total night carrier landings	388
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	Bombs	Bullets	A-G Missiles	A-A Missiles
4.a.8. Actual Combat Expenditure	0	0	0	0
Number expended (Points per weapon)	1	0.02	2	5
Total Points	0			

	Exer/Det #1	Exer/Det #2	Exer/Det #3	Exer/Det #4	Exer/Det #5	Exer/Det #6	Exer/Det #7
4.b.1. Non-FRP Exercises & Detachments							
Mission completion rate (%)	100.0%	98.0%					
Total participation/success	99.0%						

	Aircrew assigned	IR MSL	RDR MSL	LGB	SLAM ER	JDAM	JSOW	HARM	MAV
4.b.2. Number of weapons expended	17	2	2	18	N/A	9	1	1	1
Ordnance expenditure requirement for M2				11.9	1	1	1	1	1
Below required expenditure				0.1	0	0	0	0	0
Type-point penalties (one point max per type)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons training efficiency (100 max, 92 min)	100								

4.b.3. Simulator Hours Executed	269.1
Simulator Hours Scheduled	275.1
Simulator Utilization (%)	97.8%

4.b.4. Aircrew advancing at least one SFWT level	11
Aircrew assigned (from 4.b.2 above)	17
SFWT Progress (%)	64.7%

4.c.1. NATOPS Unit Evaluation (100 or 0)	100.0
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4.c.2. CWTPPI Score (100 or 0)	100.0
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	On Track	NMA	Off Track
4.d.1. Maintenance program status (number of each)	40	0	3
Points per program	2	1	0
AMI score	93.0%		

	Total Inspected	Pass	Fail
Maintenance program status (number of each)	1	1	
Points per program		2	0
MCI score	100.0%		

4.d.2

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cannibalization Rate (per 100 ft hrs)	9.1	11	7.7	15.8	13.2	11.6	7.9	10.2	16.3	6.4	2.1	
Average Cannibalization Rate	10.1											

4.d.3

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Actual # MPRFT	86.87	86.25	86.87	85.3	86.25	88.5	86.87	86.25	90	91.25	92.5	
Entitlement												
Monthly score												
MPRFT Readiness:	#DIV/0!											

4.d.4

Date of inspection	1/31/07	2/28/07	4/17/07	5/17/07	6/22/07
Supply Material Obligation Voucher score	100	100	100	100	100
(At least 93?)	100	100	100	100	100
Average MOV score	100.00				

4.d.5

	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C
Retention			
Number of personnel at EAOS	20	5	3
Number of personnel that Reenlisted	8	1	3
Zone rate	40.00%	20.00%	100.00%
Average Retention Rate	42.9%		

4.e.1

	E-4	E-5	E-6
Advancement			
# Advanced on Spring Exam	22	5	2
# Taking Spring exam	58	33	20
# Advanced on Fall Exam	10	5	0
# Taking on Fall exam	44	39	21
Total Advancement Rate	20.3%		

4.e.2

	E-4	E-5	E-6
Passed Not Advanced			
# PNA on Spring Exam	32	27	18
# Taking on Spring exam	58	33	20
# PNA on Fall Exam	34	34	12
# Taking Fall exam	44	39	21
Total PNA Rate	73.1%		

4.e.3

	Spring	Fall
Physical Readiness Standards		
Total passed within standards	163	183
Total eligible personnel	163	183
Cycle Percentage	100.0%	100.0%
Final/average Percentage	100.0%	

4.e.4

