



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

5750  
Ser PAO/066  
7 Jun 11

From: Commanding Officer, Strike Fighter Squadron 137  
To: Naval Historical Center (Aviation History)

Subj: COMMAND OPERATIONS REPORT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12J

Encl: (1) Command Operations Report  
(2) Battle Efficiency Award Data Spreadsheet  
(3) "LTJG Bruce Carrier Award for Excellence in Maintenance"  
(4) K. D. Harms Biography  
(5) Commanding Officer's Official Photograph: "K. D. Harms Photograph"  
(6) Airborne Photograph: "Kestrels Refueling French Aircraft"  
(7) Command Website Data  
(8) Command Facebook Page Data  
(9) 2010 Cruise Book Submission  
(10) 2010 Available Mech Article  
(11) 2010 Available Golden Eagle Articles  
(12) 2010 Available Hook Article

1. Per reference (a), the following Command Operations Report is submitted on behalf of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE SEVEN for calendar year 2010.

2. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure file types are Windows based including Microsoft Word, Microsoft Power Point, Microsoft Excel, and JPG.

3. Due to a post deployment change of command I will issue and approve the Commander's Assessment for 2010.

4. My point of contact is Lieutenant [REDACTED], Public Affairs Officer and he can be reached at (559) [REDACTED] or email at [REDACTED]@navy.mil.

W. C. SHOEMAKER

VFA-137 Command Operations Report  
Calendar Year 2010

1. Command Data

- a. Name: Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE SEVEN
- b. UIC: 55142
- c. Commanding Officer: Harms, Kevin D., CDR, USN
- d. Assumed Command: 29 October 2010
- 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: 21 officers, 187 enlisted

m. Point of Contact: [REDACTED]  
Public Affairs Officer  
[REDACTED]@navy.mil  
(559) [REDACTED]  
DSN: [REDACTED]

Commanding Officer  
STRKFITRON 137  
Unit 60148  
FPO AP 96601-6239

n. Organizational Structure:

Commanding Officer –	CDR C. T. Wilson Jan-Oct CDR K D. Harms Oct-Dec
Executive Officer –	CDR K. D. Harms Jan-Oct CDR J. D. Brunn Oct-Dec
Command Master Chief –	CMDCM (AW/SW) C.M. Scarano Jan-Dec
Command Career Counselor –	NC1 (AW/SW) [REDACTED], Jan - Aug PS2 [REDACTED] Aug-Nov NC1 (SW) [REDACTED] Nov-Dec

Administrative Officer –	LTJG ██████████, Jan – Sep LCDR ██████████, Sep-Dec
Operations Officer –	LCDR ██████████, Jan-May LCDR ██████████, May-Dec
Maintenance Officer –	LCDR ██████████, Jun – Oct LCDR ██████████, Oct-Dec
Safety Officer –	LCDR ██████████, Jan-May LCDR ██████████, May – Sep LCDR ██████████, Sep – Dec

## 2. Commander's Assessment

2010 proved to be a challenging, but ultimately successful year for the Kestrels. Before and during my time in command, the airmen, sailors, chiefs and officers in my squadron consistently overcame obstacles in order to provide aircraft in excellent condition and a cadre of professionals prepared for war. When it was our time to support troops on the ground, VFA-137 lead the Air Wing and the fleet in skill and performance.

The year started with preparation for operational duty. Missile shoots, multiple detachments and an increased operational tempo pushed the squadron, particularly the maintenance department, to perform at a world class level. All of our detachments were extremely successful, especially Air Wing Fallon. In one memorable occurrence, Lieutenant ██████████ displayed classic Kestrel spirit. While simulating an aircraft on an air to ground mission, Lieutenant ██████████ detected a group of enemy fighters participating in the exercise. Lieutenant ██████████ then singlehandedly visually identified the enemy fighters, engaged them and destroyed each one. Needless to say, the maneuver was lauded by the entire Air Wing.

We also dealt with some significant setbacks during 2010. A VFA-137 jet's air-to-air refueling probe was sheared off by the refueling boom of a KC-135 during a night tanking evolution. The subsequent damage tore the canopy from the aircraft then lodged the probe in one of the rear vertical stabilizers. The pilot brought his aircraft in for a safe night landing. Also, on March 15<sup>th</sup>, two Kestrel jets collided in the sky over Nevada. One pilot ejected safely; the other was able to bring his aircraft in for a safe landing. Lieutenant Commander ██████████ was awarded a Naval Commendation Medal for his actions as On Scene Commander.

The year culminated when VFA-137 began flying combat sorties in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) and NEW DAWN (OND). The Kestrels lead the way in every aspect, particularly with our maintenance department's unparalleled 99% sortie completion rate. Our efforts over the skies of Afghanistan included a spectacular night laser guided bomb delivery by Lieutenant ██████████ against two hostile ground troops fleeing on a motor cycle. OEF was the highlight of 2010 for the Kestrels; they showed their fighting spirit and dedication to duty.

## 3. Chronology and Narrative

2010 02 05 – 2010 02 12: Embarked USS LINCOLN (CVN 72) for deck certification.

2010 02 27 – 2010 03 19: SFARP in Fallon, Nevada. Squadron executed Squadron Fighter Advanced Readiness Program.

2010 03 15 – 2010 03 15: Two VFA-137 aircraft collide during a night training sortie. One aircraft lost with the pilot ejecting safely. The other aircraft returns to base. Class “A” mishap.

2010 03 23 – 2010 03 23: VFA-137 fires a HARM missile as part of a training exercise.

2010 04 16 – 2010 05 17: Embarked USS LINCOLN (CVN 72) for Tailored Ship's Training Availability (TSTA).

2010 05 05 – 2010 06 02: Air Wing Fallon in Fallon, Nevada. Air Wing Fallon exercises allowed VFA-137 to work with the entire CVW-2 Air Wing.

2010 07 21 – 2010 08 12: Embarked USS LINCOLN (CVN 72) for Composite Training Unit Exercise.

2010 08 05 – 2010 08 05: VFA-137 aircraft severs refueling probe from the jet during aerial refueling. Class “C” mishap.

2010 09 11 – 2010 12 31: Squadron Embarked on USS LINCOLN (CVN72) for deployment to FIFTH Fleet AOR. Executed sorties as part of Operations NEW DAWN and ENDURING FREEDOM.

2010 09 13 – 2010 09 13: VFA-137 aircraft fires a JSOW-A as part of a training exercise.

2010 10 08 – 2010 10 12: Port call in Port Klang, Malaysia.

2010 11 18 – 2010 11 22: Port call in Manama, Bahrain.

2010 12 23 – 2010 12 27: Port call in Jebel Ali/Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

#### 4. Supporting Reports

##### a. Statistical Data:

##### i. Hours Flown

Ashore:	1601	Embarked:	3754
Total:	5355		

##### ii. Sorties

Ashore:	1327	Embarked:	1785
Total:	3112		

##### iii. Carrier Landings:

Day:	1049	Night:	977
Total:	2026		

##### b. “Battle Efficiency Award” submissions

##### i. Data Spreadsheet

##### c. “LTjg Bruce Carrier Award for Excellence in Maintenance” submission

##### d. “SECDEF Phoenix Award for Maintenance Excellence” submission

#### 5. Published Documents

##### a. Professional Articles:<sup>i</sup>

i. “KESTRELS PREPARE FOR DEPLOYMENT” LT [REDACTED], *Tailhook*, Summer 2010

ii. “VFA-137 BACK TO THE BOAT FOR WORK UPS” LT [REDACTED], *Tailhook*, Spring

iii. “VFA-137 ON CRUISE” LT [REDACTED], *Tailhook*, Winter 2010

- iv. "Kestrels Bid Farewell to a True Navy Family" LT [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, February 5, 2010
- v. "VFA-137 Celebrates the Career of a True Leader and Warrior" LT [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, February 5, 2010
- vi. "The Kestrels Hit the Deck Plates" LT [REDACTED], *Golden Eagle*, 23 Apr 23
- vii. "Head on a Swivel, Feet in the Air" ADAN [REDACTED], *Mech*, Winter 2010

b. Command Website: [http://vfa-137.ahf.nmci.navy.mil/Main\\_Page.htm](http://vfa-137.ahf.nmci.navy.mil/Main_Page.htm)  
Command Facebook Site: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/VFA-137-Kestrels/103181329729303><sup>ii</sup>

c. Biography of Commander: "CDR K.D. Harms, USN"

## 6. Photographs

- a. Commanding Officer's Official Photograph: "CDR K. D. Harms"
- b. A Kestrel refueling French aircraft.

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<sup>i</sup> Unfortunately, some articles were unavailable or un-tracked. A new method of archiving has been instituted to avoid this error in the future.

<sup>ii</sup> These websites available for review online at the address provided. Also, some data has been included via digital .mhtml file.

**CY 2010 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 1650.3D/  
 CSFWLINST 1650.3K  
 Encl. 3,  
 Para. #

Squadron:  

**COST-WISE READINESS METRICS**

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
3.a Monthly C-rating score												
Operational Efficiency:	0.00											

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
3.b Actual # RFT Aircraft												
Entitlement												
Monthly score												
Aircraft Material Readiness:												

	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
3.c Quarterly Reported SPI				
Schedule Performance Index:	#DIV/0!			

3.d Annual Reported Cost Performance Index (CPI)	0
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**PERFORMANCE READINESS METRICS**

	1st Line Prd	2nd Line Prd	3rd Line Prd	4th Line Prd
4.a.1 Squadron Landing Grade				
Air Wing Landing Grade				
Line Period Index	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
(Count)	0			
Final Landing Grade (Index)	#DIV/0!			

	1st Line Prd	2nd Line Prd	3rd Line Prd	4th Line Prd
4.a.2 Squadron Day Boarding Rate				
Air Wing Day Boarding Rate				
Line Period Index	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
(Count)	0			
Final Day Boarding Rate (Index)	#DIV/0!			

	1st Line Prd	2nd Line Prd	3rd Line Prd	4th Line Prd
Squadron Night Boarding Rate				
Air Wing Night Boarding Rate				
Line Period Index	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
(Count)	0			
4.a.3 Final Night Boarding Rate (Index)	#DIV/0!			

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

	2nd Fleet	3rd Fleet	5th Fleet	6th Fleet	7th Fleet
Operational Mission Completion Rate (%)					
(Count)	0				
4.a.5 Average Mission Completion Rate	#DIV/0!				

4.a.6 Total embarked hours	
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4.a.7 Total night carrier landings	
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	Bombs	Bullets	A-G Missiles	A-A Missiles
4.a.8 Actual Combat Expenditure				
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 (%)							
(Count)	0						
Total participation/success	0.0%						

	IR MSL	RDR MSL	LGB	SLAM ER	JDAM	JSOW	HARM	MAV
4.b.2 Aircrew assigned								
Number of weapons expended								
Ordnance expenditure requirement for M2	2	2	0.0	1	1	1	1	1
Below required expenditure	-2	-2	0.0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Type-point penalties (one point max per type)	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Weapons training efficiency (100 max, 92 min)	93							

4.b.3 Simulator Hours Executed	
Simulator Hours Scheduled	
Simulator Utilization (%)	#DIV/0!

4.b.4 Aircrew advancing at least one SFWT level	
Aircrew assigned (from 4.b.2 above)	0
SFWT Progress (%)	#DIV/0!

4.c.1 NATOPS Unit Evaluation (100 or 0)	
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4.c.2 CWTPPI Score (100 or 0)	
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	On Track	NMA	Off Track
4.d.1 Maintenance program status (number of each)			
Points per program	2	1	0
AMI score	0.0%		

	Total Inspected *	Pass	Fail
Maintenance program status (number of each)			
Points per program		2	0
MCI score	0.0%		

4.d.2

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Cannibalization Rate (per 100 fit hrs)												
Average Cannibalization Rate	#DIV/0!											

4.d.3

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
NEC Fit												
NEC Entitlement												
Monthly score												
NEC Fit Score												

4.d.4

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
QPT Fit												
QPT Entitlement												
Monthly score												
QPT Fit Score												

4.d.5

	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C
Retention			
Number of personnel at EAOS			
Number of personnel that Reenlisted			
Zone rate	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Retention Rate	#DIV/0!		

4.e.1

	E-4	E-5	E-6
Advancement			
# Advanced on Spring Exam			
# Taking Spring exam			
# Advanced on Fall Exam			
# Taking on Fall exam			
Total Advancement Rate	#DIV/0!		

4.e.2

	E-4	E-5	E-6
Passed Not Advanced			
# PNA on Spring Exam			
# Taking on Spring exam			
# PNA on Fall Exam			
# Taking Fall exam			
Total PNA Rate	#DIV/0!		

4.e.3

	Fall	Spring
Physical Readiness Standards		
Total passed within standards		
Total eligible personnel		
Cycle Percentage	0.0%	0.0%
Final/average Percentage	0.0%	

4.e.4

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Medical Readiness Score												
Monthly Score												
Average Score	#DIV/0!											

4.e.5

Health Promotion Score	
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4.e.6



4.f.1	Number of Class Alpha Mishaps Score	100
4.f.2	Number of Class Bravo Mishaps Score	100
4.f.3	FOD Occurences	
4.f.4	Number of HAZREPS submitted	
4.f.5	NATOPS Changes submitted	
4.f.6	NATOPS Changes accepted	
4.f.7	Safety Articles submitted	
4.f.8	Safety Articles published	
4.f.9	Number of NAMDRP reports submitted	
4.g.1	Tactical Documents submitted	
4.g.2	Tactical Documents published	
4.g.3	Tactical Projects completed	
4.g.4	TACMAN Changes submitted	
4.g.5	TACMAN Changes accepted	
4.g.6	Professional Articles submitted	
4.g.7	Professional Articles published	
4.h.1	Bomb Derby participant? (yes=1, no=0)	
4.h.2	Bomb Derby Winner? (yes=1, no=0)	



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

1650  
 Ser 00/298  
 13 Oct 10

From: Commanding Officer, Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE SEVEN  
 To: Commander, Strike Fighter Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet  
 Via: Commander, Carrier Air Wing TWO

Subj: STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON ONE THREE SEVEN NOMINATION FOR THE  
 FISCAL YEAR 2010 LTJG BRUCE CARRIER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR  
 EXCELLENCE IN MAINTENANCE

Ref: (a) CSFWPACINST 1650.10D  
 (b) GENADMIN COMSTRKFIGHTWINGPAC MSG DTG 261700ZAUG10

1. Per references (a) and (b), the following information is proudly submitted on behalf of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE SEVEN in consideration for the 2010 LTJG Bruce Carrier Memorial Award for Excellence in Maintenance.

2. The men and women of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE SEVEN maintained the highest levels of professionalism, pride and "esprit de corps" throughout the entire competitive cycle. The Kestrels set the standard for aviation maintenance and professionalism within Carrier Air Wing TWO, the Strike Fighter community and our Navy. As we remain resolute and actively engaged in the Global War on Terrorism, Kestrel warriors on the deck consistently demonstrate maintenance excellence, relying on by-the-book maintenance, aggressive program management and analytical troubleshooting. In support of the Fleet Response Plan, Team Kestrel performed the mission with unparalleled success during a dynamic and compressed Inter-Deployment Readiness Cycle (IDRC), and challenging Western Pacific deployment. While excelling in every operational endeavor, VFA-137 remained highly committed to the growth and development of the Strike Fighter community, Sailors and employment of the F/A-18E Super Hornet. Through their many achievements and dedication to mission accomplishment, Strike Fighter Squadron ONE THREE SEVEN has consistently demonstrated that they are the benchmark for operational and maintenance excellence Fleet-wide.

3. Selection Criteria per reference (a):

a. Quality of aircraft maintenance related to Naval Aviation Readiness Integrated Improvement Program (NAVRIIP).

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
RFT/RBA Standard	5.60	5.60	5.60	5.60	6.20	7.30	7.30	7.90	7.90	7.90	4.50	9.00
RFT Availability	6.85	6.48	5.90	6.89	6.95	6.92	7.50	7.48	8.10	8.85	8.71	9.00
MMH/FH	13.9	14.4	24.8	17.1	17.5	19.5	21.1	19.9	23.3	19.7	13.1	20.1
Cann @ 100 FH	6.3	5.3	9.9	17.9	11.3	11.6	7.1	3.6	11.7	19.8	7.1	12.6

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b. Results of last Aircraft Maintenance Inspection (AMI),  
Material Control Inspections (MCI) and Maintenance Program Assist  
(MPA) visits.

(1) Commander U.S. Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet completed  
an Aviation Maintenance Inspection (AMI) of VFA-137 in April 2010,  
resulting in only 1 of 42 NAMP programs graded "Off Track." Overall  
results were as follows:

	<u>CNAP AMI</u>
On Track	33
Off Track	1
Needs More Attention (NMA)	8
Successful Practical Examinations	56
Unsuccessful Practical Examinations	6
Successful Drills	3
Unsuccessful Drills	1

(2) Strike Fighter Wing Pacific Fleet completed a Maintenance  
Programs Assist (MPA) with VFA-137 in November 2009, resulting in 24  
of 41 NAMP programs graded "On Track." Overall results were as  
follows:

	<u>CSFWP MPA</u>
On Track	24
Off Track	13
Needs More Attention (NMA)	4
Successful Practical Examinations	29
Unsuccessful Practical Examinations	3
Successful Drills	5
Unsuccessful Drills	6

(3) Strike Fighter Wing Pacific Fleet completed a Material  
Condition Inspections (MCI) with VFA-137 in November 2008. Although  
the Kestrels did not receive a passing grade, the inspection served as  
a benchmark and aided the command in revamping their preventative  
maintenance philosophy. By placing increased emphasis on daily  
corrosion inspections and re-writing their local NAMSOP, VFA-137  
greatly improved the material condition of all assigned aircraft.

c. Frequency and severity of maintenance causal factors in  
aircraft and ground mishaps.

(1) The Kestrel Maintenance Department has operated safely,  
executing assigned missions with zero causal factors related to  
maintenance.

(2) VFA-137 submitted three Safety Investigation Reports and

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one Hazard Report in FY-2010 with a total of zero accepted maintenance related causal factors.

(3) Summary of VFA-137 FY10 mishaps:

(a) VFA-137 Class A Flight Mishap 01-10 - Summary: Night mid-air collision between two Command aircraft resulting in the complete loss of one aircraft and successful recovery of severely damaged second aircraft. Mishap Pilot One successfully landed Mishap Aircraft One. Mishap Pilot Two ejected safely from Mishap Aircraft Two and was successfully recovered by Search-and-Rescue assets.

Number of maintenance related causal factors: 0

(b) VFA-137 Class C Flight Mishap 01-10 - Summary: While embarked and during night aerial refueling evolution on KC-135 tanker, aircraft refueling probe departed Mishap aircraft, struck and shattered canopy, damaged the right leading edge flap and finally embedded itself in the right vertical stabilizer. Mishap aircraft landed safely at divert airfield.

Number of maintenance related causal factors: 0

d. Validity of recommendations to correct discrepancies in maintenance procedures, technical publications, and unsatisfactory material.

(1) The Kestrels' total commitment to textbook maintenance and a relentless pursuit of safety is evident in our management and support of the NAMDRP Program. A total of 47 NAMDRP Reports were submitted during the reporting period of FY-10:

Hazardous Material Report (HMR):	3
Engineering Investigation (EI):	5
Combined HMR/EI:	15
Combined HMR/Things Falling Off Aircraft (TFOA):	1
Aircraft Discrepancy Report (ADR):	6
Quality Discrepancy Report (QDR) (CAT 1):	0
Quality Discrepancy Report (QDR) (CAT 2):	1
Technical Publication Discrepancy Report (TPDR) (CAT 1):	0
Technical Publication Discrepancy Report (TPDR) (CAT 2):	2
Conventional Ordnance Discrepancy Report (CODR):	14
Combined CODR/EI:	0
Total:	47

(2) For Fiscal Year 2010, VFA-137 submitted one Engine FOD Report that was determined not to be Maintenance related.

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4. Commanding Officer's Comments: Communication, teamwork, professionalism and steadfast devotion to duty are hallmarks of the very best Maintenance Departments. The Kestrel Maintenance Department rises as a clear leader in all categories and has earned the trust and respect of both Carrier Air Wing TWO and the Strike Fighter community. Throughout this year of Fleet Response Plan operations, the men and women of my command have remained resolute to excel in all endeavors and provide fully mission capable aircraft for every sortie. Despite losing three aircraft to unfortunate airborne non-maintenance related mishaps, the Kestrel Maintenance Department was still able to maintain a tremendous safety record and an unprecedented record of combat readiness.

To date VFA-137 has successfully met every operational commitment with the finest tactical aircraft in the Fleet today. The Kestrels' commitment to excellence and sound maintenance procedures was evident in our performance during the Inter-Deployment Readiness Cycle that preceded our 2010 Western Pacific Deployment. VFA-137 led Carrier Air Wing TWO in every operational metric during workups and set the standard for other squadrons to follow. Additionally, this Command's dedication to by-the-book maintenance directly resulted in all aircraft emergency escape and back-up systems functioning flawlessly during two separate airborne mishaps. The Kestrels' commitment to excellence enabled two severely damaged aircraft to recover safely ashore and the pilot to successfully eject from a third mishap aircraft. In short, the efforts of the Kestrel Maintenance Department saved two valuable aircraft and the irreplaceable lives of three pilots. During Fiscal Year 2010, Strike Fighter Squadron 137's accomplishments continued to set the standard for all F/A-18 maintenance departments, and will undoubtedly benefit the community for years to come. We are extremely proud of our accomplishments. We believe they are in keeping with the spirit of the LTJG Bruce Carrier Memorial Award for Excellence in Maintenance, and submit this package with hope that the community honors the Sailors whose efforts made these accomplishments possible.

  
C. T. WILSON

1650  
Ser 00/

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on STRKFITRON ONE THREE SEVEN ltr 1650 Ser 00/298  
of 13 Oct 10

From: Commander, Carrier Air Wing TWO  
To: Commander, Strike Fighter Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Subj: STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON ONE THREE SEVEN NOMINATION FOR THE FY-  
2010 LTJG BRUCE CARRIER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN  
MAINTENANCE

1. Forwarded, with my strongest personal recommendation. The Kestrels of VFA-137 have been the mainstay of my Air wing, executing every mission and task with unparalleled professionalism. They have performed superbly throughout our condensed and challenging Inter-Deployment Readiness Cycle and consistently led Carrier Air Wing TWO in all operational metrics despite serious operational challenges. Superlative teamwork is evident from Maintenance Control, to Quality Assurance, to the maintainers that prepare the aircraft. The result is a cohesive, highly performing organization, which consistently fields safe, combat ready aircraft for every tasking. I have every confidence in Kestrel aircraft, knowing that full mission capable Super Hornets will deliver ordnance on target, on time and on the first pass. I am supremely proud to have the Kestrel team in my Air Wing and will be honored to lead them into combat. The Kestrels are my most deserving squadron, and have my strongest possible personal recommendation for receipt of the 2010 LTJG Bruce Carrier Award for Excellence in Maintenance.

J. G. EDEN

Copy to:  
VFA-137