Navy Orders Four F-35C Strike Fighters



Two F-35C Lightning IIs fly in formation over the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range in February 2019. U.S. Navy/Lt. Cmdr. Darin Russell

ARLINGTON, Va. – The U.S. Navy has ordered four F-35C Lightning II joint strike fighters from Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Co., the Defense Department said in a release.

Naval Air Systems Command awarded Lockheed Martin a $360.8 million not-to-exceed undefinitized contract modification to previously awarded fixed-price-incentive-firm-target contract for the procurement of four Lot 14 F-35Cs.

The aircraft are being procured with fiscal 2020 funds.

The Navy operates one fleet F-35C squadron, Strike Fighter Squadron 147 (VFA-147). The service also operates one F-35C fleet replacement squadron, VFA-125.

The Marine Corps' first F-35C squadron, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314, completed transition this year.

On June 29, Lockheed Martin also received a $67.7 million contract modification for long-lead materials parts, and components to "maintain on-time production and delivery of nine lot 16 F-35A Lightning II aircraft for the government of The Netherlands, as well as seven F-35A semiconductors and two F-35B Lightning II aircraft for the government of Italy," the release said.