

Pilot Ejects as F-35C Lightning II has Landing Mishap on USS Carl Vinson



An F-35C Lightning II, assigned to the “Argonauts” of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 147, lands on the flight deck of Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70), Jan. 2. *U.S. NAVY / Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Megan Alexander*

ARLINGTON, Va. – An F-35C Lightning II suffered a landing mishap Jan. 24 on the flight deck of USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) while the carrier was conducting routine flight operations in the South China Sea, the U.S Pacific Fleet said Jan. 24.

The pilot safely ejected from the aircraft and was recovered by U.S. military helicopter, according to a release.

“The pilot is in stable condition,” the release said. “There were seven total Sailors injured; three Sailors required

medevac to a medical treatment facility in Manila, Philippines, and four were treated by on-board medical personnel.”

All three medevacs were in stable condition and of the four Sailors treated by on-board medical, three have been released. Additional details and the cause of the inflight mishap is under investigation.

The F-35C was assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron 147 (VFA-147), a unit of Carrier Air Wing Two. VFA-147 is the first F-35C squadron to deploy overseas on an aircraft carrier, having deployed Aug. 2, 2021. A second F-35C squadron, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314, is deployed a unit of Carrier Air Wing Nine on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).