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PRESS RELEASE

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Key West, Florida

STP (stoptheplanes.com) CHALLENGES THE NAVY'S USE OF F-18 SUPER HORNET JET AIRCRAFT AT NAS KEY WEST.

Costly flaws found in Navy's top jet/ Wing mechanism wear could halve flight hours

STP, will immediately request documents relating to the known wing mechanism flaws currently under investigation by the Navy Department and Boeing CO, through the Freedom of Information Act.

According to The Boston Globe *"Through testing of Super Hornets they discovered there is a fatigue issue on part of the inside of one of the wings,"* a Navy official confirmed in a statement yesterday. STP has been challenging the Navy's use of these aircraft at NAS Key West without an Environmental Impact Statement. Continued requests by STP have been met with resistance from the present NAS Key West Commander.

"We have a right to know what precautions and limits NAS Key West incorporated into their use of this aircraft to ensure citizen safety, health and the protection of area Wild Life Refuges. NAS Key West administration has continued to stall delivery of each and every document request by STP. NAS Key West continues to fly unsafe patterns over neighborhoods knowing that the aircraft has major stress flaws in it's wings" states Paul S. Caruso, STP Organizer.

"In the next few weeks, STP will begin organizing area citizens to demand a response from NAS Key West Commander Jim Brown to explain his commands use of these faulty F18 Super Hornet aircraft. "After meeting with NAS Key West's XO and their Top Gun flight trainer, it is unconscionable that they made no mention of this aircraft's flaw" Caruso continued. "And the fact that they stated that "anytime you *do not* go straight, you increase your chances of a mechanical failure" makes me wonder how safe we actually are."

Numerous communities, Congressman and Senators throughout the US are questioning the Navy's judgement in regard to citizen safety, health risks and damages to our environment. The F18 Super Hornet is the loudest and worst polluting aircraft ever produced.

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