F9F-2 Celebrates Anniversary of 1st Flight

On February 17, 1949, the first Grumman F9F-2 Panther took to the skies, featuring a pilot ejector seat — a feature considered to be advanced technology in the late 1940s aviation industry. The aircraft went on to become the Navy’s Blue Angel demonstration team’s first jet.

The F9F-2 was a major contributor in the success of naval aviation, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary. For more information about the Centennial of Naval Aviation, visit CONA.