



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS REEVES (DD-47)

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IN ADDITION TO

1 June 1983

Dear REEVES Families:

For the first time in six months I am writing to you from my inport cabin. I have been working out of my shore office, but let me state that it is good to be back onboard REEVES.

If I recall correctly, I signed last month's familygram on 2 May which was the day REEVES came out of Dry Dock #5 and went pierside for the remainder of the overhaul. During the past four weeks, bits and pieces of REEVES' internal and external equipment have been coming steadily aboard. The after missile launcher, the Anti-Submarine Rocket (ASROC) Launcher, and the four fire control radars have been mounted in position restoring REEVES' "Man-o-War" profile. The crew continues to work at a steady and diligent pace to make REEVES ready for duty. Our next major milestone is crew move-on scheduled for 15-20 June. By then all berthing spaces, heads, galley and laundry will have to be in operation. Through their concentrated efforts the overhaul is moving ahead of schedule, and for this you can be extremely proud of your crewmember.

From 9 - 11 May, an inspection team headed by RADM D. P. Roane, Commander Naval Surface Group, Western Pacific (REEVES' Immediate Superior in Command), came aboard REEVES to conduct a Command Inspection. In keeping with REEVES' proud heritage, the crew was totally prepared for the inspection. Nearly all areas received ratings of excellent or outstanding from the inspecting team. One of many work centers which "turned and burned" to make this mark possible was the ship's office headed by the Administrative Assistant, LTJG Tom WOHLSEN, and consisting of PNC John KANE, YN1 Ralph NAILON, PN2 James BUMGARNER, PN2 Richard FIELDEN, YN3 Kenneth ROBERTS, YN3 Richard GELINAS, YNSN Eric WENZEL, PNSN Aubrey GITTENS, PNSN Dennis LALLY and YNSA Mark POPHAM. These men performed in a superior manner which had a very positive impact on the inspection.

On 11 May the command inspection was concluded with a personnel inspection and award ceremony conducted by RADM D. P. ROANE. The following REEVES' personnel received awards:

- Surface Warfare Officer Letters of Designation and Insignia were presented to LTJG Jim COTOPOLIS and ENS Ken SPIRO.
- Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist Letter and Insignia were presented to ET1 Paul RISEK.
- Engineering Officer of the Watch Qualification Letters were presented to ENS Rowley MOLINA, ENS Todd LARSON and MMC Jerry HARDIN.
- Good Conduct Medals were awarded to: GMMC Joseph BOHANNON (Fourth Award), SKI Richard NORMAND (Fourth Award), GMM1 James GUTIERREZ (Third Award), MMI Danilo GARDUNO (Second Award), OS1 Robert KENNEY (Second Award) and MM3 Garland BANKS.

These awards and medals recognize the persistence and application of those who were honored. I commend them for their continuing efforts and positive attitudes of "Pride and Professionalism."

On 21 May REEVES held a Ship's Party for the crew and their families and friends. The event took off at 1000 with ignition of the charcoal pits and icing down of the beverages. The day was full of softball, volleyball, music and an all around good time for all. The hotdogs, hamburgers, chicken, chips, beans and potato salad filled many an empty stomach while plenty of liquid refreshment quenched the thirst. A canopy of sunshine covered the day making it truly a wonderful picnic.

A hearty "Welcome Aboard" is extended to the following men who joined REEVES in May: MS1 Victoriano ORDONEZ, RM2 Ernest MILLER, MM2 Elroy CONCEPCION, MM2 John TRAVIS, BM3 Terry HARRIS, BT3 Brian FITZPATRICK, FTM3 Kevin PARTIN, FTM3 Frederico CONCEPCION, MMFN Mark JACKSON, MMFA Rex LAUGHLIN, HTFA Joseph NAGY, an MSSR Gerald POTTER.

In conclusion let me state that your letters and calls are greatly appreciated. We may be 10,000 miles away, but our hearts are with you. I encourage you to keep in touch with your crewmembers.

Sincerely,



J. F. SMITH, JR.
Captain, U. S. Navy