



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS REEVES (CG-24)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96677

IN REPLY REFER TO
August 1, 1983

Dear REEVES' Families,

It's the time of year our Japanese hosts term "mushi atsui" (pronounced mooshiy-ah-tsuey) and it means "damp heat." I wrote to you in April that Spring was just around the corner with mild days ahead. Now we look forward to Fall and the end of summer days not unlike the deep South and midwest -- "mushi atsui."

You can be justifiably proud of your crewmember's efforts during the past 10 months of overhaul. Through rain and shine, heat and cold, he has worked long hours to bring USS REEVES to a new level of capability. The 50-man deck force, headed by LTJG Ken V. SPIRO, has been readying the exposed weather decks for a new coat of non-skid paint. As I write to you, I can hear the steady din of needle guns relentlessly grinding away this heavy paint. A thin, green undercoat to prevent rust will precede a new layer of grey non-skid. When REEVES rolls at sea, and during rains, every sailor is dependent on non-skid for a firm surface underfoot. Chief Boatswain's Mate Kenneth C. DUNN and BM1 Nathaniel E. HARRISON supervise the day-to-day activities of one of the largest and most important divisions onboard REEVES.

July was a special month for Americans as we celebrated the anniversary of our Declaration of Independence. Onboard REEVES, July 26 saw a celebration of outstanding service in various capacities in the form of an Awards Ceremony. It gives me great pleasure to announce the following individuals who were recognized:

* LTJG James M. COTOPOLIS received a Letter of Appreciation from Commander, Naval Forces Japan, in his capacity as host ship coordinator for USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS-4) return from deployment.

* NCI Thomas GILLESPIE received a Letter of Appreciation from Director, Central Texas College, Yokosuka, for his outstanding performance as education liaison.

* RMSN Travis A. CLYBURN, RMSN Enoch SAVIOR, Jr., SHSN Ernest WHITE, Jr., MS1 Robert J. TAYLOR, HT3 John D. STINER, ETSN Michael V. BETTS, SHSN Keith GAGE, GMM2 Ronald BATISTE, YN2 Kenneth W. ROBERTS, DS3 Fred BUCKLEY II and HM2 Willie BLANDING received Letters of Appreciation for their work with the REEVES' Harmonizers. HM2 Willie BLANDING is currently the director. Each was also recognized for presentations given at the Naval Air Facility, Atsugi, Japan, and at a Black History Banquet at Yokosuka.

* DS3 Fred BUCKLEY II, HT3 David SINGER, MM2 Brent M. KIRKLAND, BT2 Jesse L. BROWN, ET1 Daniel M. OHR, DS3 Bryan T. KING, SM2 David M. BRAINERD, PNSN Dennis E. LALLY, GMM3 Kenney F. SMITH, BM2 Anthony M. COUTO, and GMA2 Bobby BOYER, received Letters of Appreciation for making the Navy Relief annual call for contributions the most successful drive REEVES has yet conducted.

* LTJG Kenneth V. SPIRO, Jr., LTJG Leonard H. LE BLANC III, and LTJG Thomas H. WOHLSEN received letters designating them as Officer of the Deck Underway.

* DS2 Mark A. PLOWMAN and ET2 Gregory M. OTT received letters awarding them the Expert ribbon following .45 caliber pistol qualifications.

* LT Pedro RAVAGO, LTJG Leonard H. LE BLANC III, FTMI Karl E. MAERZ, FTM2 Darrel PALMITER, OS2 Ronald MORRISON, GMTSN James C. MC GLYNN, and DS3 Gregory J. THIELEN received letters awarding them the Sharpshooter Ribbon following .45 caliber pistol qualifications.

* LTJG Terry D. RAGAN, ET1 Daniel M. OHR, and ET3 Russell J. COLETTI, received letters awarding them the Marksman ribbon following .45 caliber pistol qualifications.

* LCDR Jay W. MARINELLI received the Navy Commendation Medal for his superb performance as Chief Engineer aboard USS KIKK (FF-1087).

* LT Robert S. RAWLINS received a Certificate of Appreciation and Letter of Commendation for his outstanding professionalism and dedication as Officer in Charge, Armed Forces Courier Station, Atsugi, Japan from 26 June 1981 to 4 May 1983.

* The Navy Good Conduct Medal was presented to RP2 Ronnie LAMKIN and ET2 Philip O. JACKSON.

* Certificates of Appointment for advancement were presented to: OS1 Robert E. KENNEY, BT3 Charles J. SUCKOW, QM3 Peter W. WHEAT, GMM1 Michael W. JOHNSON, OS3 Charles R. IPPOLITO, OS3 Carter FRANCIS, HT3 Scotty J. LANE, OS2 William L. KNAPP, BT3 Gordon J. ELDER, GMM3 Terry J. PRENTICE, STG2 David L. RICHARDSON, FTM3 Elias T. RINGROSE, BT3 James T. SNOW, HT3 John D. STINER, QM3 Duke R. MEADE, EN2 Lucas P. STRAW, OS2 Mark S. GRIFFITH, PN2 Richard D. FIELDEN, MM3 Daniel J. ENGLAND, SK3 Juan R. DELAROSA, OS2 Samuel W. BOOTH, HT3 Sean M. DANAHER, BM2 Brad W. BUTLER, RM3 Kenneth W. BOULWARE, EM2 Henry D. ABANES, BT2 David N. ARNOLD, BT3 Edward H. ALLEN, and MM1 Jose A. BASILIO.

* BM3 Kevin M. LUTZ, STG2 Paul W. CHISM, PNSN Dennis E. LALLY, SA Lary J. MITCHELL, and SA John W. ELLISON received Letters of Appreciation for their participation in the color guard that performed at the Surface Warfare Officers' Ball in February 1983.

* GMM1 James GUTIERREZ received a Letter of Appreciation for his arrangement of two tours and escort of 400 Japanese kindergarteners.

* Food Service Attendant of the Month: HTFA David L. COOPER, January 1983; OS3 Richard SLUBAR, February; MMFN Aaron T. WASHINGTON, Jr., March; SA Wesley E. GARRETT, April; GMM3 Robert E. ZELENKA, May; SA Tyrone A. HUEITT, June, and OSSN Barry K. CROSS, July.

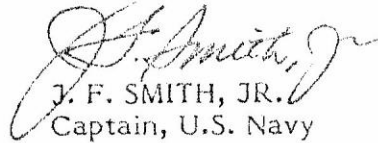
Those who were recognized as well as many shipmates in attendance continue to project a positive image of "Pride and Professionalism" not only for fellow sailors and loved ones back home but also for our Japanese hosts. You can be very proud.

A hearty "welcome aboard" is extended to the following men who joined REEVES in July:

LT James P. MORGAN: Chaplain; ENS Gregory P. BAIR: CIC Officer; MMFA Robert T. AUSTIN; SR Micheal A. THIEM; FTG3 Alexander L. NAZARIO; BTFN Steven N. TERRANO; RPSA Richard L. BROWNER; JOSA Dale R. SNOWBERGER.

This is the final REEVES' FAMILYGRAM that will bear my signature. All good things must come to an end and I will be relieved as Commanding Officer on August 27 by Captain James G. WEBER. Command of REEVES has been a professionally challenging and personally rewarding experience, made so because of the superb professionals and people I have had the opportunity to work with during these past two years. REEVES sailors are the finest in the United States Navy.

Sincerely,



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