



USS REEVES (CG-24) FAMILYGRAM

Dear Family and Friends,

We are now underway for Subic Bay and then on to the Indian Ocean. We are grateful for the week we had in port to visit our families, relaxing and making last minute preparations. Now we are gone and must substitute hard work for life in Yokosuka for the next few months.

While your REEVES' Man is underway, if you need any type of aid and don't know where to go, Linda Lay is the REEVES' ombudsman in Yokosuka and can be reached at 234-4388. She can put you in touch with a number of different service organizations designed to help families of American sailors. Here is a partial list of those organizations, including phone numbers:

NAVY RELIEF	(4450/4635)
CFAY LEGAL	(7630)
AMERICAN RED CROSS	(5291/7490)
FAMILY SERVICES CENTER	(7663)
NAVSURFPAC DEPENDENT ASSIST TEAM (DAT)	(5840/7671)

Linda can also help you draft a "Class Easy" message to your REEVES' Man in case you need to contact him in a hurry. If you are a family member, but do not reside in Japan, you can contact him via the American Red Cross.

While your husband was relaxing before deployment, he may have forgotten a few important things. When next you write him, you may need to need to give him a gentle reminder about a few things, such as: (1) Does he have a current will (we don't plan for him to need one, but just in case); (2) Do you have Power-of-Attorney so that you can attend to legal and monetary matters in his absence (especially matters to do with automobiles); (3) Does he have an allotment made out to you that is sufficient to meet your needs; and (4) Are you listed as the beneficiary of his life insurance policy?

On the lighter side of our deployment, as we journey south of the equator, a number of our crewmembers, now known as "Slimy Wogs", will enter into an ancient and mysterious ritual and emerge as proud "Shell Backs". The initiation will be in all good fun; and the rumor is King Neptune and Davy Jones will be there to take part in the festivities.

Since my last letter, we spent a busy inport period preparing for the upcoming deployment and the Selected Restricted Availability to follow in the Fall. The Engineers were turning to the whole time and their efforts paid off when we got underway for a highly successful Operational Propulsion Plant Re-Certification Examination on the 24th through the 26th of April.

Back in port, it was the Operations and Weapons Departments turn to shine as they put our Combat Systems equipment through its paces for the eyes of outside observers. Once again it was done with the expedience and professionalism that have become the REEVES' hallmark.

We took in all lines again on the 16th of May and set sail with Battle Group Alfa for the Okinawa Operating Areas. There we conducted several days of operations in support of an Amphibious Ready Group, after which we participated in anti-submarine exercises with the submarine USS HAWKBILL.

We pulled back into Yokosuka at the end of June for a week in our home port, preparing for deployment. Then we pulled out for deployment on the 10th of June.

A hearty "Welcome Aboard" to our new shipmates: PN2 MAY, FN DELACRUZ, GMSN BETTS, RMSR HILYER, OSSN JONES, EMFN SPIEGEL, GMTSN HENNING, FN CLARK, JOSN BUSSARD, OSC WHITTEN, BM2 WHITTEN, SN KATZ, ET3 BLAND, STGC BRYSON, RMSN HAMILTON, and Lt. MARK TIDD (our new Chaplain).

All of us aboard the REEVES would like to bid a fond farewell to our Padre, Jim MORGAN. For the last two years Chaplain Morgan has taken good care of the souls aboard the REEVES, so we say thank-you and wish him fair winds and following seas.

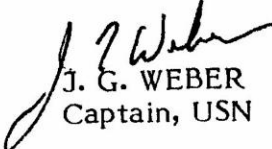
REEVES was recently awarded the Commander Naval Surface Group Western Pacific Retention Excellence Award for the period October 1984 to March of 1985. This award signifies that REEVES was the best of all the ships in WESTPAC in retaining it's valuable crewmembers in the Navy.

I wish to extend my warmest congratulations to the family and friends of FTMI Michael HEPPERMAN, who was selected as COMNAVSURFGRU WESTPAC Sailor of the Quarter for the Second Quarter, Fiscal Year 1985. Mike is a dedicated sailor who has made enormous contributions to the combat readiness of this ship.

I hope you all enjoyed the picnic on May 8th. It was a huge success and brought together our crew, our families, and our Japanese Sister-Shipmates. The picnic was the forerunner to the celebration of REEVES' twenty-first birthday on May 15th. I am proud of REEVES and her crew who are continuing her twenty-one year tradition of excellence.

For those of you at home, I want you to know that over the past few months REEVES has enjoyed a growing reputation for excellence around the waterfront. I wish to extend my personal thanks to all our Family and Friends, without whose support our continued success would not be possible.

Sincerely,


J. G. WEBER
Captain, USN