



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS REEVES (CG-24)  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96601

IN REPLY REFER TO  
CG24/my  
5700

From: Commanding Officer, USS REEVES (CG 24)  
To: Director of Naval History, Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington, D. C. 20390 (OP-09B9)

Subj: OPNAV Report 5750.1

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Command History  
(2) Command Organization  
(3) Documentary Annexes

1. In accordance with reference (a), the attached REEVES History is submitted for calendar year 1975.

  
J. A. DICKMAN

HISTORY OF THE USS REEVES (CG 4)  
1975

The USS REEVES (CG-24) entered 1975 moored aside Bravo piers, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, enjoying a holiday upkeep period until January 6.

The Mobile Training Team came aboard on that date, to assist the Engineering Department prepare for the upcoming Operation Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE). The team was aboard until January 11. The REEVES' OPPE commenced on January 20, and for five long and arduous days the engineers toiled at their tasks while the ship steamed in the blue waters of the Mid-Pacific. In the final analysis, the engineers survived OPPE with their heads held high, attaining a grade of conditional satisfactory.

With OPPE out of the way, the rest of the Departments on the REEVES were afforded an opportunity to flex their muscles. On January 27, the ship began Phase Two of Refresher Training. This exercise tested the various aspects of the REEVES' combat mission and was concluded on February 14.

On March 11, the REEVES joined various ships of the Australian, Canadian, and New Zealand Navies for RIMPAC-75. Valuable experience was gained in combat operations with ships of our SEATO allies during this multinational exercise. RIMPAC-75 ended on March 21.

The Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection was held on April 7 and 8, followed by the Combat Systems Readiness Tests from the 9th to the 14th.

April 15 was spent in preparation for going to sea and on the next day the REEVES was enroute to the North Pacific for special operations. The special operations commenced on the 22nd of April and were completed on April 25.

Most of May was spent in port preparing for the ship's upcoming WESTPAC deployment, except for at-sea periods on the 14th and 15th and from the 19th through the 21st. During those at-sea periods the REEVES tested various aspects of her combat, missile, and engineering systems.

On the morning of June 4, "Underway, Shift Colors" was passed over the ship's general announcing system and the REEVES began the long transit to Subic Bay, Philippines. During the transit we were the escort ship for the USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63), which was also initiating her WESTPAC deployment. The ship arrived in Subic Bay on June 19.

With the entire crew and officers present, Jerry A. Dickman, Captain, USN, relieved Richard K. Fontaine, Captain, USN, as Commanding Officer of the USS REEVES, during ceremonies held aboard ship on June 22.

The REEVES was redesignated a Guided Missile Cruiser (CG) from its old designation of Guided Missile Frigate (DLG) on July 1.

With the Commander Destroyer Squadron 23 embarked, the REEVES left for Singapore on July 7, to begin the first half of the ship's WESTPAC deployment. The REEVES arrived in Singapore on July 11 and stayed until July 16, when we departed for the Indian Ocean.

As the ship entered the Indian Ocean, strange occurrences became common aboard the ship. Rumors ran rampant about the fate of a group of sailors characterized by their low-life actions. These low-life sailors were known as Pollywogs. Finally fed up with actions of those notorious characters, Davey Jones left his locker in the depths below on July 19, and boarded the good-ship REEVES. With him he carried a message to Captain Dickman warning him that he must rid the ship of the low-life scum before he could traverse the domain of his Excellence, Neptunus Rex. Captain Dickman answered the warning with the words, "It will be done!" Hauntingly the ship edged through the night as fear nestled with the Pollywogs during their restless slumber. On July 20, the REEVES reached Latitude 00-00, Longitude 82-44.0E and the lowly "Wogs" cowered at the thought of entering a fate much worse than death. Shortly thereafter, Neptunus Rex himself, boarded the REEVES and the initiation ceremonies began. Finally, with all the Pollywogs properly initiated into the Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of the Deep and were deemed Shellbacks, the ceremonies ended.

After the initiation, the ship continued her operations in the Indian Ocean until arriving in Port Louis, Mauritius on July 28. We stayed in Port Louis until August 1, when we commenced our transit to Mombasa, Kenya. We entered Mombasa on August 5, visiting that African nation until August 9, when we departed to continue our Indian Ocean operations. During this time period we sailed into the Gulf of Aden and participated in a passing exercise with the French and other vessels of our Mideastern Forces.

On August 22, we entered the port city of Karachi, Pakistan, for another "goodwill" visit. Included in our stay there was a visit by the Consul General Karachi. We left Karachi on August 26, and turned our keel southward bound for Colombo, Sri Lanka. During this passage we participated in a passing exercise with the HMS GLAMORGAN and other various ships of the British Fleet. Our visit in Colombo lasted from August 30 through September 3. Now tired after a long but extremely interesting cruise, the REEVES set sail for Subic Bay on September 4.

The REEVES arrived in Subic Bay on September 11 and spent the rest of September preparing for the second half of her WESTPAC deployment.

On October 9, we rejoined the KITTY HAWK and started north enroute to the East China Sea and Sea of Japan. We entered Yokosuka, Japan, on October 17, for a brief upkeep period, leaving there on October 24 for the Sea of Japan.

After our operations in the Sea of Japan we returned to Subic Bay on November 5, for another upkeep period.

On November 19, the REEVES left Subic Bay bound for the South China Sea to join other ships of the SEVENTH FLEET. On November 20 through 22, we participated with those ships in MULTIPLEX 1-76, testing various elements of our combat systems. The next two days were spent participating in MISSILEX 2-76. This exercise

afforded us an opportunity to fire our missiles. The REEVES was praised for a job "well done" when it scored a direct hit with the only missile we fired.

We returned to Subic Bay on November 26, and on the 27th we left, again escorting the KITTY HAWK, for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

The "Only Cruiser in Town" arrived in Pearl Harbor on December 8, after completing another OPPE on the 5th through the 7th. Upon arrival at Pearl Harbor we commenced a leave and upkeep period.

William J. Middendorf, II, Secretary of the Navy, visited the REEVES on December 12. His visit included a tour of the ship, during which he presented the Engineering Department with the "Order of the Golden Snipe Award" ( an unofficial Navy award which signifies the Secretary's interest in engineering performance). The award was presented while the Secretary was inside one of REEVES' boilers. Mr. Middendorf also videotaped a special message to the crew and officers while visiting KRIB-TV, the ship's closed circuit television station.

USN

## COMMAND ORGANIZATION

1. The USS REEVES CG-24 is homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
2. The REEVES is attached to Commander Naval Surface Group-Mid Pacific
3. The Commanding Officer is Jerry A. Dickman, Captain, USN
4. The Executive Officer is Milton M. Finkelstein, Commander, USN