



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS REEVES (CG-24)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96677

IN REPLY REFER TO

2 August 1982

Dear REEVES Families:

As I write this familygram to you, REEVES' bow is once again slicing through the seas as we steam with the MIDWAY Battle Group. After spending thirty-eight days in Yokosuka, we said farewell to families and friends and pulled in the lines to get underway on 27 July. Soon after getting underway we were busy evading Super Typhoon Bess which plowed through our operating area and struck Japan. Our present assignment is to serve as the Anti-Air Warfare (AAW) Commander for the Battle Group as the MIDWAY works up her airwing in preparation for further operations at sea.

REEVES enjoyed the unusually long stay pier-side in Yokosuka. The first part of the month was pleasantly cool with clear skies and plenty of sunshine. REEVES crewmembers and families joined in a picnic with the crewmembers and families of our Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) sister ships, the Destroyer TAKATSUKI and the Guided Missile Destroyer ASAKAZE. The day's activities included various American and Japanese food delights, softball games between the ships, lounging around in the sun, and enjoying the company of our Japanese friends. These picnics are a regular event which allow our people an opportunity to get to know their Japanese hosts. Aside from the social events, REEVES occasionally participates in combined naval exercises with JMSDF ships to ensure readiness in time of need.

July 4th was celebrated with a host of activities at the Yokosuka Naval Base. Our ship's choir, REEVES Harmonizers, sang as the guest choir at the Sunday Protestant Service at the Chapel of Hope (Naval Base Chapel). The choir was formed last year during the Indian Ocean deployment by Chaplain Teske and has made guest appearances in Australia, Korea, Hong Kong, Republic of the Philippines, and Japan. The choir is directed by MS1 Robert TAYLOR and is accompanied by SHSN Ernest WHITE. Members include PC3 Michael HALL, HT2 William HINSON, ET2 Phillip JACKSON, EW2 William JACKSON, HM2 Willie BLANDING, JR, GMM2 Ronald BATISTE, DS3 Fred BUCKLEY III, ET1 Donald FRAZIER, and YN3 Kenneth ROBERTS.

During this inport period REEVES crewmembers have steadily worked to keep shipboard life flowing smoothly. The N/X (Navigation/Administration) Division plays an integral part in the ship's daily routine. A variety of rates fall under the N/X umbrella. YN1 Ralph NAILON, YN2 Richard GELINAS, YN3 Kenneth ROBERTS, YN3 Carl LEGG, and YNSN Eric WENZEL oversee shipboard administrative needs. PNC Tony PLUMMER, PN2 Michael MARTIN, PN3 David GROSS, PNSN Aubrey GITTENS, and SN Eddie SCOTT make sure that personnel records are maintained and leave/transfer needs are met. HM1 Fred CATCOTT and HM2 Willie BLANDING, JR. ensure good medical care, preventive medicine and hygiene control. PC3 Michael HALL operates the ship's Post Office. RP2 Ronnie LAMKIN assists the chaplain in the religious program, serves as the assistant educational services officer and helps prepare the monthly familygrams. QM1 Richard CONWAY, QM2 David STINSON, QM3 Paul O'CONNOR, QM3 Kenny CURTISS, QM3 Thomas TAYLOR, QM3 Tyler SCOTT, and QMSN Duke MEADE ensure safe navigation of the ship through taking navigational fixes through electronic and celestial means (yes, we still "shoot stars"), updating charts, checking navigation equipment, and maintaining the pilot house (bridge). NCI Thomas GILLESPIE, Career Counselor, labors diligently to assist crewmembers with their careers, assignments, and reenlistments. LT Mike OWENS is our Navigation Officer and LT Derk JOHNSON is the Division Officer.

At an Awards Ceremony held on the fantail on 23 July 1982, many crewmembers were recognized for their outstanding service in various capacities onboard REEVES. Among them were the following:

- Food Service Attendent of the Month: BTFA Robert WHITE for the month of May; BTFA Anthony BERRY for the month of June; and OSSN Christopher DEVINE for the month of July.

- Sailor of the Quarter: EM2 Joseph TORCHIA and MM3 Michael ATKINSON

- REEVES Letters of Appreciation or Commendation: SH1 Escolastio ROMERO; DS1 George BAILLARGEON; EMCS Wendel GAWTHORP; STG2 Paul CHISM; BM3 Peter ANDROSHUK; OSSN John HOFFMAN; and MSSN Michael CLARK

- BT2 Jay VILLALVA was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal.

- MSCS Clyde BEAVER and LCDR James FORGY were awarded Navy Commendation Medals in recognition for their service at previous duty stations.

- FTM2 Kevin TIETZ completed the Personnel Qualification Standard for, and was designated as, an Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist.

- LT Mike OWENS and LT Derk JOHNSON completed the Personnel Qualification Standard for, and were designated Surface Warfare Officers.

- Good Conduct Medals were awarded to: OSCM Edward SUGRUE (SIXTH Award), EN1 Gary SLETTERINK (THIRD Award), MM1 John GARCIA (SECOND Award), MM1 Carl NEWELL (SECOND Award), SK2 Rodrico CATAUTAN (FIRST Award), OS2 Daniel ANTRIM (FIRST Award), TM2 George SCHNEIDER (FIRST Award), OS2 Ronald MORRISON (FIRST Award), RM2 Robert DAVIDSON (FIRST Award), OS2 David LORD (FIRST Award), STG2 Bradley MCADAM (FIRST Award) and MM3 Jodi RODERICK (FIRST Award).


A special congratulations is extended to LT Rick PAULSON, LT Ruben PANDES, and LT Derk JOHNSON who were selected to the rank of Lieutenant and frocked on 26 July 1982. Frocking is a military custom in which the Commanding Officer permits selectees to assume the title and wear the uniform of their new rank or rate, but does not entitle them to receive increased pay until the effective date of their promotion.

A hearty "Welcome Aboard" to the following men who joined us in July: OSCS William FALLON, STG3 Gary GARDNER, MSSA Anthony CAMPBELL, ET1 Daniel OHR, RMSA Steven Lloyd, GMM3 Jeffery PROULX, FTMSN Joe WETHERELL, MS1 Teodorico LIVERATO, SMC Charles ABEL, GMMSN John HUFFMAN, MM3 Garland BANKS, YN1 Ralph NAILON, BT3 Barny HOWARD, BT3 Don STALEY, MMFA Florencio TINIO, SKSR Wilbert SHANNON, RMSA Jeffery SHELMIRE, and FTM3 Romiel SINGHO.

REEVES notes with pleasure the selection of our Command Master Chief, SKCM Edward BERRY, as the next Command Master Chief for Commander Naval Forces Japan. We wish the Master Chief well in his new and well deserved assignment. Though REEVES loses an outstanding professional and a valuable asset to our team, the position of REEVES' Command Master Chief will now be filled by another outstanding professional, OSCM Edward SUGRUE. Master Chief Sugrue will have the helm as REEVES' Command Master Chief for a short time before he transfers to USS MIDWAY in August.

Once again I encourage you to keep the letters coming. A letter from home is always welcomed. Keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,


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