



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

IN REPLY REFER TO

1 December 1982

Dear REEVES Families:

I am writing to you from my temporary office which is located on the pier approximately two hundred yards from REEVES. With the exception of duty section personnel and the fire-watch division personnel (Whiskey Division), all the departments (Operations, Weapons, Supply and Engineering) have moved their respective administrative functions off the ship and into temporary settings. Most of the crew works onboard during the day rebuilding equipment, overhauling machinery, chipping, grinding, sanding, priming and painting. In addition to the major equipment modifications and additions done by the Ship Repair Facility Yokosuka, the entire ship, both internally and externally, will receive a total renovation at the hands of the crew.

Shipyard life is not all work and no play. REEVES crewmen take time to relax and have fun. On 19 November, the Welfare and Recreation Council (using welfare and recreation funds generated from ship's store profits-game machines and soda machine revenues) hosted an All Hands party at the Club Alliance. Approximately three hundred - seventy crewmembers and guests attended the event which featured hors d'oeuvres, a full course dinner with prime rib as the main course, and dancing to the disco beat. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening and crewmembers are already talking about doing it again.

Our newest addition to REEVES is W (called "Whiskey" in the phonetic alphabet) Division. ENS Terry RAGAN and DSCS Dale FYHR head the division. Whiskey Division is tasked with providing fire-watches throughout the ship to ensure fire safety. With a significant number of personnel using welding and cutting equipment (hot metal work), fire is always a possibility and a potential threat to the safety of the ship. These men have been given a monumental task which is of the utmost importance. REEVES' safety depends on their alertness and dedicated efforts.

REEVES will not have the exciting opportunity to visit the beautiful ports it has been accustomed to seeing over the past few years until well into 1984, but this has not crimped the crew's quest to find excitement and to remain active. One way excitement is found is through an active sports program, and REEVES' Athletic Officer, ENS Scott FERGUSON, with the energetic assistance of STG2 Paul CHISM, has put together an extensive sports package. Aside from intermural sports such as volleyball, basketball and bowling, crewmembers can participate on any of the ship's teams (flag football, basketball, bowling) which compete against other area commands. Fleet Activities Yokosuka has two gymnasiums and a variety of athletic fields. Staying physically fit is of paramount importance to the Navy as well as to one's own health. Endurance is a key factor in combat readiness, and one way to build endurance is through active participation in athletics.

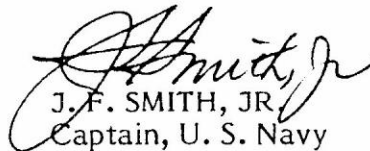
REEVES receives new crewmembers each month. All new arrivals are assigned to REEVES' Indoctrination Division ("I" Division), headed by LTJG Tom Wohlson, Assistant Administrative Officer, where they are exposed to important aspects of REEVES' life. The new arrivals are addressed by the Commanding Officer, the Executive Officer and other key command personnel. They learn about the ship's

policies and programs concerning professional development, drugs and alcohol, religion and worship, health care, welfare and recreation, safety, personal conduct, pride and professionalism in the Navy, and how to enjoy overseas duty. They also attend an extensive damage control orientation lecture, a one-day substance abuse workshop and a one-day Military Rights and Responsibilities/Cultural Expression workshop. By the time a new crewmember concludes his participation in "I" Division, he is aware of what is available to him from REEVES and what REEVES expects from him as a member of REEVES' team. "I" Division provides the crewmember with all the facts to smooth his transition from new man to old hand.

I extend a hearty welcome aboard to the following personnel who joined REEVES in November: PNC John KANE, HT1 Billie SMITH, ET1 Howard KLING, BMI Nathaniel HARRISON, PN2 James BUMGARNER II, EM3 Henry ABANES, HTFN Jean DANAHER, EWSN Richard BROWN, HTFN Richard NORMAN, SN Romulo VILLANUEVA, SR Chris HENDERSON, SR John ELLISON, and HTFR David COOPER.

I would like to extend a belated Happy Thanksgiving to all of you. REEVES' duty section personnel who had to remain aboard on Thanksgiving Day were treated to turkey and all the trimmings. Many single or unaccompanied crewmembers were invited into homes for family style meals. I know that you had us in you thoughts as we did you as we gave thanks for our blessings. As we approach the year's end, may I also wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,



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