



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS REEVES (CG-24)

FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96677

IN REPLY REFER TO

16 December 1983

Dear REEVES Families and Friends,

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES! The temperature since we arrived November 23rd has averaged 80-85 degrees, hardly the climate to put us in a Christmas mood. But the Christmas spirit is very much alive as evidenced by the Christmas packages in every storage space on board, ready to be opened by eager families and friends back in Yokosuka. Many, many more packages have been mailed from REEVES, and should be reaching you by Christmas if they haven't arrived already.

LET ME RECAP ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE PUSAN and my last FAMILYGRAM. We departed the chilly South Korean peninsula on Monday, 14 November. Blue skies and calm water were before us as we transited the straits of Formosa enroute to our next port of call, Hong Kong. Arriving 17 November, officers and crew wasted no time heading for the incredible shopping, dining, and entertainment areas of this famous British protectorate. Many wives from Yokosuka joined us, eager to see their beloved husbands and anxious to partake of the many bargain-basement prices prior to Christmas.

Many crewmembers took advantage of a one-day sightseeing trip to the People's Republic of China, a first-time trip for all since this tour has only been open a little more than a year. Unlike Hong Kong, mainland China revealed a starkly simple life without frills. Everyone came back impressed by the quietness of the country village they visited --there were few cars and no factories. Another observation noted was the sweetness of the air -- no pollution!

REEVES was moored to a buoy in Hong Kong and required special liberty boats to ferry liberty parties between the ship and Fenwick Pier, Hong Kong. Many an unsteady foot stepped from the bobbing liberty boat to the more solid accommodation ladder leading up the side of REEVES. But no one fell into the harbor, even when the winds were high.

Our stay in Hong Kong was not all play. Chaplain (LT) James P. MORGAN organized a community relations project to aid members of a home for severely retarded adults. Some 50 feet of chain-link fence was painted by REEVES crewmembers.

We were again underway 21 November, bound for Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, arriving two days later. Our transit time was a lot rougher, with seas as high as 25 feet being generated by a typhoon over Luzon. We weren't sure, for a time, if we would be able to arrive in Subic on the scheduled date of 23 November.

But the storm abated and we all enjoyed a hearty Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings on Thursday, 24 November, in Subic. Several of our crewmembers enjoyed Thanksgiving Philippine style as they joined their wives and in-laws.

Beginning 4 December, REEVES underwent an inspection and test of our readiness to handle our missiles. Would we know what to do for instance, if we had a missile accident? This question and many more were answered or demonstrated to the satisfaction of the inspectors. I am pleased to report that we were above average in most areas. The inspectors were surprised and pleased that the level of our readiness was so high so soon after overhaul.

While in Subic Bay, crewmembers have taken full advantage of the sightseeing tours available. Another twelve crewmembers were also qualified in the sport of SCUBA diving, the waters being warm and clear.

REEVES HELD AN AWARDS CEREMONY ON 2 DECEMBER 1983, and again it gives me great pleasure to announce the following awardees:

* **THE NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL** to RMC Daniel B. SNODGRASS.

* **THE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL** to ET1 Howard B. KLING (fourth award), HTC George W. ROSS (third award), MS2 John E. MAGERS (second award), and ET2 Jerry L. HUNT (first award with medal).

* **LETTERS OF COMMENDATION** to GMMC Joseph B. BOHANNON, FTMI Richard D. NASH, and BTCS Vernon A. BERTELSON.

* **FOOD SERVICE ATTENDANT OF THE MONTH** (letter in service record) to MSSN Lary J. MITCHELL (September), OSSN Richard M. STONE (October), and BTFA Aaron E. POPE (November).

* **ELECTRONIC WARFARE "EW" CITATION** to EW3 Bobby D. DAVIS.

* **LETTERS OF APPRECIATION (MISSILE "E")** to GMM1 James GUTIERREZ, GMM1 Michael W. JOHNSON, GMM2 Ronald BATISTE, GMM2 Jeffrey A. PROULX, GMM2 Terry J. PRENTICE, and GMM3 Shane R. GILBERT.

* **LETTERS OF APPRECIATION (HONOR GUARD)** to EW3 David A. BARTON, OS3 Richard L. SLUBAR, GMT3 Robert E. CROUCH, and EW3 Richard BROWN.

* **LETTERS OF APPRECIATION (HONOR GRADUATE)** to MMFN Raymond D. BALINGIT, BT1 Richard M. MANIS, and BT2 Gary N. WEBB.

* **LETTERS OF APPRECIATION (CIC OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT "E" WITH CITATION)** to OSCS William C. FALLON, OS1 Stephen A. LENNON, OS1 John M. DUFFY, OS1 Robert E. KENNEY, OS2 Brad W. BUTLER, OS1 Daniel R. ANTRIM, OS2 James E. HOLTER, OS2 Christopher A. LOCHMAN, OS2 Joe R. CARDER, OS3 Charles R. IPPOLITO, OS3 Carter J. FRANCIS, OS3 Richard M. ANTEL, OSSN John E. BALL, OSSN Christopher L. FREEMAN, OSSN ALFORD E. HARP, OSSN Fredrick H. PARLEE, OS3 Carl D. MEBANE, OSSN Bradley M. MC ADAM, OS3 Ronald D. TIEMAN, OSSN John J. ROPPA, OSSN Robert D. STAHL, OSSN Michael W. MC LAREN, OSSN Michael W. SWENEY, OSSN Victor ACOSTA, OSSN Barry K. CROSS, OSSN Boyd C. PENSON, OSSN Bobby D. WALTERS, OSSN Richard M. STONE, DS1 George R. BAILLARGEON, DS1 Mark PLOWMAN, DS2 Norman D. ROSS, DS2 Fred BUCKLEY III, DS3 Thomas BENNER, DS3 Bryan T. KING, DS3 Frank H. MICKENS, DS2 Gregory J. THIELEN, ETC Charles R. STUART, ET1 Howard B. KLING, ET1 Daniel M. OHR, ET1 Gregory M. OTT, ET2 Phillip A. MOLTER, ET2 Kevin C. IRLA, ET2 Roger C. WALKUP, ET2 Phillip O. JACKSON, ET3 Byron V. BUSTAMANTE, ET3 Randall M. SANDOVAL, ET3 Stephen M. MIKUSEK, ET3 Mark H. WILLIAMS, and ET3 Russell J. COLETTI.

* **CERTIFICATES OF APPOINTMENT** were delivered to MM1 Michael J. EVERETT, STG2 Glenn A. MAC ARTHUR, BT2 Michael A. ROCK, and GMM3 Shane R. GILBERT.

* **THE FOLLOWING CREWMEMBERS WERE FROCKED** to their current rate. They will be appointed, and hence receive the pay, in the months ahead: OS1 Daniel R. ANTRIM, GMM3 Christopher ARMSTRONG, BT3 Harrison M. ASKEW, EW3 Richard BROWN, BT3 Anthony R. BERRY, BT3 Monte S. BLAKE, MS3 Anthony R. CAMPBELL, IC1 Mark K. CLARK, FTM2 Thomas J. CAIRNEY, DK3 Jeffrey N. CARBAUGH, SK3 Charles A. CHAMBERLAIN, EM3 Alex G. DIMALANTA, SK2 Juan R. DELAROSA, BT1 Michael S. DYKES, IC3 Kenneth J. FIOLA, RM3 Richard FUENTES, OS2 Charles R. IPPOLITO, EM3 Frank W. JONES, EM3 Clarence T. MC MILLAN, GMM3 Mark W. MC KIM, OS3 Carl D. MEBANE, ET1 Gregory M. OTT, DS1 Mark C. PLOWMAN, GMM2 Terry J. PRENTICE, TM3 John D. REA, OS3 John J. ROPPA, FTM2 Romiel G. SINGHO, OS3 Robert D. STAHL, OS3 Ronald D. TIEMAN, MM3 Florencio P. TINIO, and MM3 Jeffrey A. WAGNER.

* **THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL WERE RECOGNIZED** for having successfully converted laterally from the Boatswain's Mate rate to their present rate: Operations Specialist Second Class Brad W. BUTLER, and Quartermaster Second Class Anthony M. COUTO.


Each month I recognize publicly the achievements of REEVES' crew, and I'm not surprised at the sheer numbers who excel. I'm proud of these men, and know that you are, too.

A HEARTY "WELCOME ABOARD" IS EXTENDED to these crewmembers who joined us in November: EWC Cleo A. DOWNEY, OSSA Michael R. DEVILLIER, SR Ramon R. AYALA, SN Rueben GRANT, MMFA Raymond D. BALINGIT, MMFA Terry G. BRINSKELLE, FR Benjamin S. BROWN, YNSN Timothy J. LEWIS, FTM3 Newton E. FLETCHER, Jr., MM2 Randal K. KNAPP, EWSN William A. CLACK, OSSN Jordan C. HAM, EWSA Scott E. BENDER, and OSSN John E. RICHARDSON.

ONE MORE ITEM OF INTEREST: The game of softball is a popular pastime in the Navy. Our wardroom and Chief Petty Officer's Mess fought two tough duels during our stay in Subic Bay. The Chiefs came out winners in the first game, and the officers were victorious a week later. Come Spring in Yokosuka, the battle for supremacy will recommence!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CARDS AND LETTERS during this very productive post-overhaul period. I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 1984. Please remember us in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,


J. G. WEBER
Captain, U.S. Navy