

## USS REEVES (CG-24) FAMILYGRAM

12 September 1985

Dear Family and Friends,

Greetings from a crew of "Trusty Shellbacks." When last I wrote, we were underway from Yokosuka to Subic Bay, which proved to be an uneventful prelude to our current deployment. A "Bravo Zulu" to all hands for their performance during the General Quarters drill that was held on June 12th. The GQ was held for firefighting/abandon ship and was a graded evolution for the Battle Efficiency Award. It went off without a hitch.

REEVES pulled into Subic Bay on June 19th for four days and we enjoyed the sights and sounds of the Philippines, but never lost sight of our primary objective: intensive preparations for our prolonged stay in the Indian Ocean. Competition for the Battle 'E' surfaced again as our inport firefighting drills were graded. Needless to say, each duty section fire party performed in the finest REEVES' tradition of excellence.

The seas were brutal as we left Subic enroute to the Indian Ocean. We strapped ourselves in and weathered a wild ride from the South China Sea, through the Straits of Malacca, across the Indian Ocean to the Gulf of Oman, arriving July 6th. During this transit we'd planned on celebrating the 4th of July with a day off, but duty called. The day was spent conducting underway replenishment. Both fuel and provisions were loaded aboard as all hands joined in the effort. The crew did a superb job.

REEVES spent a week in the Gulf of Oman in 102 degree heat, seemingly isolated from the world by a blanket of sand and dust. We spent five days in the Persian Gulf for operations with the MIDDLE EAST FORCE. It was noticeably cooler there. The air was clear and the five days were a good change of pace.

We then travelled to the Island of Diego Garcia for minor repair work. Spirits rose and mischief abounded in anticipation of "crossing the line." Those initiates (Pollywogs) who had never been south of the equator played harmless practical jokes on the "Trusty Shellbacks", who countered with promises of appropriate retribution on "Wog Day." The day before we crossed the line, the "slimy wogs" performed various acts of tomfoolery for the amusement of the Shellbacks; culminating in a beauty contest. DATA SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN 2ND CLASS NELSON 'NELLIE' LECODET took top honors as "Wog Queen" with a titillating performance that was a real crowd pleaser. We crossed the equator on August 7th and the entire crew was initiated into the Royal Order of the Deep, earning the title of "Proud Shellback."

Diego Garcia turned out to be a very pleasant stop. It was good to stretch our legs on the Footprint of Freedom. We left Diego Garcia on the 14th of August and spent a couple of weeks in the North Arabian Sea.

In order to combat the boredom and isolation involved in an extended I O cruise, a new Sunday afternoon routine was initiated known as the Fantail Follies. This gives us a chance to put aside our dungarees, don our tee-shirts and shorts and spend some time in the sun enjoying a picnic and listening to the sounds of our very own band, STEEL BEACH. STEEL BEACH's line-up boasts SONAR TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS THOMAS GUILÉ on lead/rhythm guitar, TORPEDOMANS MATE 3RD CLASS STACEY FORGES on bass, INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS DONALD HEITKAMP on lead/rhythm guitar, ELECTRONICS WARFARE SPECIALIST SEAMAN KEVIN KEYS on drums, and ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS RICHARD KIDD on keyboards. Another popular diversion is "fantail baseball", played with a rubber ball attached to the ship by a piece of nylon line.

I'd like to extend a hearty REEVES' "Welcome Aboard" to our new shipmates and their families: ELECTRONICS WARFARE SPECIALIST SEAMAN STEVEN FORD, RADIOMAN SEAMAN RECRUIT MICHAEL ROBERSON, SEAMAN RECRUIT ANTHONY SMITH, BOILER TECHNICIAN FIREMAN APPRENTICE KIM LY, BOILER TECHNICIAN FIREMAN RECRUIT PATRICK STEVENS, MACHINISTS MATE FIREMAN PAUL SANTOS, HULL TECHNICIAN CHIEF TERRENCE QUINN, DATA SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS JOSHUA MONK, FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS DAVID JONES, GUNNERS MATE 3RD CLASS FREDRICK WILLIAMS, RADIOMAN SEAMAN NATHAN FISHER, ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS JONATHAN LONTOC, GUNNERS MATE 2ND CLASS DANIEL WYATT, SEAMAN RECRUIT JOHN CARLSON, GUNNERS MATE 3RD CLASS MARK WILSON, FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS ANTHONY MUNN, FIREMAN JAMES MADISON, MESS MANAGEMENT SEAMAN RECRUIT HILLARY BROUSSARD, BOILER TECHNICIAN FIREMAN RECRUIT MARK WALDMAN, ELECTRONICS WARFARE SPECIALIST JAMES BABCOCK, GUNNERS MATE 3RD CLASS JOSEPH LOPEZ, BOILER TECHNICIAN CHIEF TEDDY CANTERBURY, HULL TECHNICIAN 3RD CLASS PRESTON ELLIOT, and STORE KEEPER SEAMAN WILBER RODRIGUEZ.

On the 15th of July, a ceremony was held on the fantail to honor those who were promoted, frocked, and receiving awards. The following REEVES' Men were recognized as listed below:

#### PERMANENT PROMOTION

##### FIRST CLASS:

BOILER TECH GARY WEBB

BOILER TECH RICKY PATRICK

GUNNERS MATE ROSS MCGRATH

ELECTRONICS WARFARE SPECIALIST WILLIAM JACKSON

##### SECOND CLASS:

FIRE CONTROL TECH RICHARD BROWN

ELECTRONICS WARFARE SPECIALIST SCOTT BENDER

MACHINISTS MATE DUANE BUNGE

##### THIRD CLASS:

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST MICHAEL DEBIAK

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST JAMES KINGSLAND

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST MICHAEL LADISLAS

FROCKING

FIRST CLASS:

RADIOMAN JEFFERY BUMBAUGH  
GUNNERS MATE RONALD BATISTE  
BOILER TECH DON STANLEY

RADIOMAN ERROL RIVERS  
MACHINISTS MATE RANDAL KNAPP  
BOILER TECH KURT STUVENGEN

SECOND CLASS:

MACHINISTS MATE LAWRENCE WILLIAMS  
BOILER TECH MONTE BLAKE  
MACHINISTS MATE ROMEO PEREZ  
STORE KEEPER TABOR GRIFFIN  
FIRE CONTROL TECH TROY HINDMAN  
FIRE CONTROL TECH KENNETH MCMAHEN  
INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS TECH ROBERT BEHNKE

BOATSWAINS MATE LAURIE FRAGIER  
MACHINISTS MATE JOEL MONTIFOLCA  
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST RICHARD ANTEL  
BOILER TECH GARRY GWALTNEY

THIRD CLASS:

MACHINISTS MATE PETER LEOTSAKAS  
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST JORDAN HAM  
MACHINISTS MATE RAYMOND BALINGIT  
GUNNERS MATE CHARLES CALVIN  
SIGNALMAN LOU CASTILLO  
MACHINISTS MATE KEVIN GATHMAN  
BOILER TECH STEVEN HARLOW  
INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS TECH JOHN ZINNIKAS  
INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS TECH DONALD HEITKAMP  
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST DONALD BUCHANAN

POSTAL CLERK DALE PINCHART  
MACHINISTS MATE ALVIN LEWIS  
BOATSWAINS MATE MICHAEL THEIM  
MACHINISTS MATE STEVEN MEEKS  
FIRE CONTROL TECH NEWTON FLETCHER  
BOILER TECH RONALD NOVAK  
ELECTRICIANS MATE JOHN WALSH

ENLISTED SURFACE WARFARE SPECIALIST

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS DANIEL ANTRIM  
BOILER TECH 1ST CLASS GARY WEBB

JOINT SERVICE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

SONAR TECH CHIEF JIMMY BRYSON

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

DISBURSING CLERK 1ST CLASS EMMANUEL HERNANDEZ  
PERSONNELMAN 2ND CLASS FRANK MAY

SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

GUNNERS MATE 3RD CLASS CID HARBIN  
MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST 3RD CLASS H. G. MAGNUSON  
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS MICHAEL PORDEA

BENEFICIAL SUGGESTION

HULL TECH 2ND CLASS BRUCE CAMPBELL

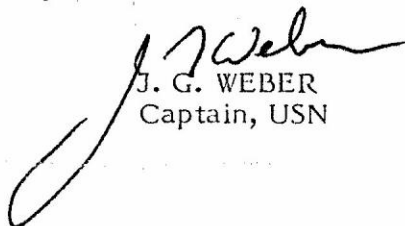
GOOD CONDUCT MEDALS

RADIOMAN 1ST CLASS TERRY FREAD  
INTELLIGENCE SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS MICHAEL LACEFIELD  
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS DANIEL ANTRIM  
FIRE CONTROL TECH 1ST CLASS JOHN JAROSZEWSKI  
HULL TECH 2ND CLASS R. NORMAN

SONAR TECH 2ND KEVIN SCHOPPENHORST  
RADIOMAN 2ND CLASS TOMAS MACIAS  
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS LOREN OBREY  
DATA SYSTEMS TECH 3RD CLASS BRYAN KING  
HULL TECH 2ND CLASS BRUCE CAMPBELL  
BOATSWAINS MATE LAURIE FRAGIER  
MACHINISTS MATE 3RD CLASS RIZAL ALVARADO  
MACHINISTS MATE 2ND CLASS JAMES PUCKET  
GUNNERS MATE 2ND CLASS ROBERT ZELENKA  
FIRE CONTROL TECH 3RD CLASS STUART GREENBURG  
BOILER TECH 3RD CLASS ALFREDO GAYAHAN  
MACHINISTS MATE 3RD CLASS LAWRENCE WILLIAMS  
MACHINISTS MATE 3RD CLASS NOEL MONTIFOLCA

Just a quick reminder on mail service: All outgoing mail from the REEVES usually goes to the USS MIDWAY before being airlifted to other military post offices to be forwarded. The mail service seems to take two to three weeks, so if you haven't heard from your REEVES' Man in a while, don't despair, those cards and letters are coming.

As I close this letter, we are enroute to in Freemantle, Australia and should arrive on the 13th of September. I hope to see some of you there. Again, thank you for your support and I assure you that each of you can be justifiably proud of the job your REEVES' Man is doing in the defense of his country.

  
J. G. WEBER  
Captain, USN

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Commanding Officer  
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