



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

IN REPLY REFER TO
12 August 1981

Dear REEVES Family,

Greetings, once again from the Far East. I'm writing to you from a warm and humid Yokosuka where we have spent most of the summer.

We arrived in Yokosuka June 5th from a four month deployment. A small envoy of local boats provided a welcomed escort into our homeport. The Japanese Navy Band played "Anchors Away" as we waved to our families and friends on the pier. Homecoming is always wonderful and this one was no exception.

The first seven weeks of our inport period were spent conducting ship repairs by both the crew and the Navy Ship Repair Facility. REEVES needed a good work-over following her two Indian Ocean deployments and she was able to get one this summer. REEVES steamed out for four days of sea trials in late July and all systems were found to be in tiptop shape. Repair periods are a long and tiring process for the crew, but are necessary to keep our ship in high material readiness.

Following the four day period at sea, we embarked approximately 140 people for a dependents' cruise just outside of Tokyo Bay. This provided families and guests with an opportunity to experience an "underway" period and to observe first hand the shipboard duties and responsibilities of the crew. The day included a "Man Overboard Drill," a TERRIER missile demonstration, and plenty of excellent food served by the crew, all of which made for a very enjoyable day. The only flaw was that it was too hazy to see Mt. Fuji (Japan's highest mountain).

The inport period this summer also provided us with an opportunity to update required immunizations, annual physical examinations, and the preventive dentistry program. So you may rest assured that your men are well taken care of in the Far East.

A hearty Welcome Aboard is extended to the following men who have joined the ship since we arrived in Yokosuka June 5th. DS2 Norman Ross, SR Juan Arce, MM2 Gregory Shughart, SM1 Paul Shughart, STG3 Bradley McAdam, SR Anthony Minton, OS2 John Duffy, FR Carlos Milligan, FR David Parks, BT2 Richard Manis, FTM2 Ruy Heim, MMFR Dennis Orlikowski, DS3 Gregory Thielen, FR Lonell Williams, OS2 Robert Kenny, OSSR John Hoffman, HT2 William Hinson, ET3 Philip Jackson, DS3 Fred Buckley, STG3 Jeffery Edwards, YN2 Richard Gelinis, GMM1 James Gutierrez, and ENS James Cotopolis.

Summer is almost over and so is my tour as Commanding Officer of REEVES. On August 29th I will relinquish my command to Captain Jerome F. Smith, Jr. I feel in all confidence that I am leaving Captain Smith with a fine ship and a superb crew, both of which I have been honored to serve with these past twenty-six months. To serve as Commanding Officer of "The Only Cruiser in Town" has been a most challenging and fulfilling opportunity for me.

Lastly, let me say that your support of me and my crew in letters, thoughts and prayers has meant a great deal to me. My personal thanks go out to each of you.

Sayonara,

J. W. EGBERTON
Captain, U. S. Navy
Commanding Officer