



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS REEVES (CG-24)

FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96677

IN REPLY REFER TO  
01 September 1983

Dear REEVES' Families and Friends,

August has been one of the busiest months for REEVES and her crew since the overhaul began in November, 1982. Gradually the emphasis has changed from the "manual labor" aspects to the testing of newly installed equipment as we ready for sea trials toward the end of September. No longer are we subject to loud grinding, hammering, and the noxious odors of the welder's torch. Quietly, the pressure builds on each of us to get ready to go back to sea, and that means everything has to work perfectly.

Our first examination "for record" was Light Off Examination (LOE) of our engineering plant. Held 18 August - 20 August, LOE was conducted by the Propulsion Examining Board on temporary duty to REEVES from San Diego, California. This five-member board pores over the entire engineering plant, ensuring that it is safe and ready to initially "light fires". The board further examines our training to ensure our engineers, including new REEVES personnel who have never operated a steam propulsion plant, know what they're doing. But that's not all. The board also examines how we conduct emergency drills, making sure everyone on the ship knows where to go, what to do, and that the drills are realistic and not "games people play." Our Damage Control organization is examined in detail, as well as our planned maintenance system. Nothing is overlooked.

Headed up by Chief Engineer LCDR Jay W. MARINELLI, The Engineering Department passed LOE with flying colors and was granted permission to "light fires". This was a demanding test of our engineers' mettle, and you can be very proud of your crewmember.

With aplomb and the highest morale since overhaul began, number 2A boiler was lit 23 August by BT2 Jay R. VILLALVA and BT3 Wesley M. HILL under the supervision of BT1 Augustine MENDOZA. Safety observers were LCDR Jay W. MARINELLI, ENS Todd LARSON, and BTCM John W. ARMSTRONG. The engineers were treated to a steak lunch with all the trimmings in tribute to this highly significant event in REEVES' overhaul.

Thursday, August 25 dawned sunny and clear as REEVES' crew gathered on the pier in summer white uniforms for a command inspection and awards ceremony. It was the final inspection by my predecessor, Capt. Jerome F. SMITH, Jr. On behalf of CAPT SMITH, I take pleasure in announcing the following awards:

\* Food Service Attendant of the Month: PNSN Dennis E. LALLY and MMFA Rex J. LAUGHLIN.

\* ENS Gregory P. BAIR received a letter citing his superior academic performance while enrolled in the guided missile cruiser Naval Tactical Data Utilization course, having earned a grade of 92.6.

\* HT1 William H. HINSON and RMSN Henry S. CHARLES each received a Letter of Appreciation for their work with the REEVES Harmonizers. Each was recognized for presentations given at the Naval Air Facility, Atsugi, Japan, and at a Black History Banquet at Yokosuka.

\* MM1 Mark A. PLOWMAN and BT1 Eliseo C. ARCEO received Letters of Appreciation for their professionalism and dedication as Divisional Training Petty Officers.

\* GMM3 Kenney F. SMITH received a Letter of Appreciation for his work during the Navy Relief annual call for contributions.

\* ET2 Phillip MOLTER received a Letter of Appreciation for his participation in a study conducted by the Navy Personnel Research and Development Center concerning at-sea equipment breakdowns.

\* BM2 Anthony M. COUTO, SN Charles J. KENNEY, SN Sei I. HATHORN, BMSN Timothy O. RIPP, and SN Thomas S. RENDEL received Letters of Appreciation for their work as members of REEVES' paint team.

\* DS2 Fred BUCKLEY, ET3 Russell J. COLETTI, DS3 Thomas BENNER, BT3 Thomas J. LOMONICA, OS3 Richard L. SLUBAR, SH3 Danilo DATUIN, BMSN Timothy O. RIPP, OSSN Richard M. STONE, OSSN Michael W. SWENEY, OSSN Robert D. STAHL, FN Harry J. POWELL, SN Gary L. SPANGLER, SN Michael V. BETTS, OSSA Barry K. CROSS, SA Peter SANDAU, SA Bruce A. STOKLEY, SA Thomas S. RENDEL, and SA Ferdinand A. CARINO received Letters of Appreciation for their work with REEVES' Tile Team.

\* BM3 Kevin M. LUTZ received a Letter of Appreciation for his participation in the color guard which performed at the Surface Warfare Officers Ball held 11 February 1983.

\* HM1 Fred W. CATCOTT, BM3 Lonnie SCHUSTER, and SN Charles J. KENNEY received Letters of Commendation, plaques and autographed pictures of USS REEVES for their selection as REEVES' Sailors of the Quarter.

\* LT James M. COTOPOLIS, LT Leonard H. LE BLANC III, LT Ernest J. HEASSLER, LT Keith D. REINSCHREIBER, and LT Thomas H. WOHLSEN were presented letters granting them the authority to assume the title and wear the uniform of a Lieutenant, United States Navy. Their LTJG shoulder boards were removed and replaced by LT shoulder boards.

\* LTJG Kenneth V. SPIRO, Jr., and LTJG Paul MARTIN were presented letters designating them as Officer of the Deck underway.

\* LTJG David S. FERGUSON received a letter designating him as Engineering Officer of the Watch.

\* LT Thomas H. WOHLSEN and LT Leonard H. LE BLANC III, received letters and Surface Warfare Officer "gold pins" designating them as a Surface Warfare Officer.

\* MSCS Clyde E. BEAVER, BT1 Dennis D. KUMM, HTC Marcus BAKER and BT1 Richard M. MANIS received citations awarding them the Navy Achievement Medal. CAPT Jerome F. SMITH, Jr., affixed each medal.

\* Good Conduct Awards were presented to HM1 Fred W. CATCOTT (third award); EM1 Felix R. NOLASCO (third award); GMT1 Martin J. VEROSTEK (second award); FTM2 Darrel T. PALMITER (first award and medal); RM2 Errol B. RIVERS (first award and medal); BT3 Charles J. SUCKOW (first award and medal); FTM3 Romiel G. SINGHO (second award); and MM1 Mark A. PLOWMAN (second award).

\* Certificates of Appointment to their present rates were presented to GMMC Joseph B. BOHANNON, ENC Gary L. SLETTERINK, MMC Aubrey CLARK, HT1 William H. HINSON, SH2 Antonio A. OCAMPO, DS2 Fred BUCKLEY, BT2 David N. ARNOLD, OS2 Mark S. GRIFFITH, IC2 Curtis KEY, OS2 William L. KNAPP, RM3 Kenneth W. BOULWARE, MM3 Daniel J. ENGLAND, HT3 Sean M. DANAHER, OS3 Charles R. IPPOLITO, BT3 James T. SNOW, BT3 Charles J. SUCKOW, EN3 Segundo Q. CRUZ, EM3 Anthony M. MIANO, HT3 David D. SINGER, MS3 Gary L. SMITH, GMM3 Douglas A. UTLEY, SK3 Scott M. YEE, MS3 Michael A. CLARK, GMM3 John R. MASON, HT3 Richard A. NORMAN, BT3 John W. RIFFLE, BM3 Lonnie D. SCHUSTER, YN3 Eric W. WENZEL, and GMM3 Robert E. ZELENKА.


\* Mrs. Mary BARNETTE, wife of GMMC Keith W. BARNETTE, received a Letter of Appreciation and a plaque for her service as REEVES' Ombudsman. Part of the letter reads, "During several operational deployments of USS REEVES your caring commitment and your energetic involvement in the community assisted USS REEVES in carrying out our mission for support of all of the American People... 'Well Done' on behalf of the crew of USS REEVES."

Pride and professionalism are alive and well on USS REEVES. As you can see from the sheer number of awards, this positive attitude is projected far and wide among our Japanese hosts. Thank you for your success-oriented crewmember. His success is yours and I salute you.

A hearty "welcome aboard" is extended to the following men who joined REEVES in August: LCDR Dennis M. LUNGHOFER - - Executive Officer; DS1 Nelson LECODET, MS1 Armando S. LORISTO, OSSA Michael C. DEBIAK, BT2 Rodney J. FINDLEY, RM2 Errol B. RIVERS, FN Roddy W. MCCRITE, YN2 Joseph C. RODARTE, EMFA Marciano R. SANGO, MM2 Michael E. PARSONS, and BTFA Aaron E. POPE.

On August 27 I relieved Capt. SMITH as Commanding Officer. Every crewmember participated in this tradition-filled event. From a new coat of paint and bunting, to the gun salute for our distinguished guest, Commander, United States Seventh Fleet, Vice Admiral Hogg, REEVES' Change of Command ceremony will long be remembered. I wish Capt. SMITH fair winds and following seas as he heads for Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines for duty as Chief of Staff to Commander, Carrier Group Five. I look ahead to a challenging tour of duty.

Sincerely,

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