

01 October 1983

Dear REEVES Families and Friends,

I am writing to you following a highly successful underway period. We left Yokosuka Naval Base's Berth 7, Pier 6 on 26 September and returned "home" 29 September. That was only three days, but our first underway period in 11 months and a very important milestone in our overhaul. We can truly see light at the end of the tunnel now.

What we are currently undergoing is called "sea trials". Many Japanese Ship Repair Facility (SRF) personnel were on board, as are a host of civilian contract workers. These men helped us test our combat systems, radars, communications equipment, and engineering plant while at sea to ensure everything is "go". It's an important phase of our overhaul, and we expect to continue sea trials and further testing 17-19 October.

Along with the careful planning that is necessary to test and evaluate as many systems as possible at sea, our Quartermasters, headed up by navigator LT Thomas H. WOHLSEN, charted our course and navigated us safely along our route. QM1 Richard D. CONWAY leads a team comprising QM2 James R. DAY, QM3 Duke R. MEADE, QM3 Ronald RILEY, QM3 Bernhard V. SMITH, QM3 Daniel L. TALCOTT and QM3 Peter W. WHEAT. These men had to train hard for this underway period since we haven't been to sea for so long. Their mettle was tested and they came through like champions.

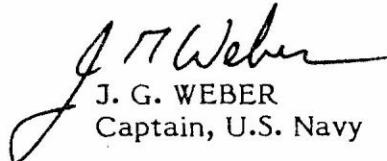
My heartiest congratulations are extended to our fine new Chief Petty Officers, who were advanced in a very special ceremony on 16 September: HMC Fred W. CATCOTT, BTC Dennis D. KUMM, OSC Richard L. FERRIN, HTC George W. ROSS, STGC Adrian W. FULLERTON and MSC Robert J. TAYLOR.

Sports was an important topic aboard REEVES in September, as our bowling team took home first place honors, and two softball team members received regional accolades. REEVES bowling team took first place in the Yokosuka Invitational Bowling Tournament held early in September. Team members are GMMC Joseph B. BOHANNON, MS1 Teodorico V. LIVERATO, SH1 Antonio A. OCAMPO, SK1 Michael P. NORMAND and MS2 Efen A. CAVA. Although REEVES lost in the Kanto Plains Softball Tournament, PN1 Rusty BUMGARNER and STGC William W. BRADFORD were selected to play for the Yokosuka base Seahawks, which won the Western Pacific Regional Tournament 11 September 1983. Each individual turned in what I can only term "sterling" performances. PN1 BUMGARNER was named Most Valuable Player.

"Welcome Aboard" is extended to the following new REEVES crewmembers: FTGC John E. MENDENHALL, DSC Timothy R. HOLDEN, MAC Don PARRAMORE, SR George M. HARKER, SR Glen A. ZUKAUSKAS, BT2 Michael S. DYKES, BTCS Vernon A. BERTELSON and RM1 Howard P. GAREY.

Looking ahead, you are cordially invited to attend a special pre-deployment brief for crewmembers and their families on Tuesday, 01 November 1983 from 1000-1130 in the Fleet Theater. I will outline what you can expect REEVES to be doing in the months ahead and provide valuable information for coping with daily life and emergencies while we're gone.

With the approach of Fall, our thoughts and prayers turn to home and the approach of the holiday season. Please remember us in your thoughts and prayers too.

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