



USS REEVES (CG-24) FAMILYGRAM

09 July 1984

Dear Family and Friends of the USS REEVES,

When I last wrote, we were "Haze Gray and Underway," bound for Chinhae, Republic of Korea.

We arrived on 29 May for a four day port visit. Chinhae is a beautiful little town nestled on the southern coastline. We always look forward to a trip to Korea, world renowned for its shopping. Excellent quality, bargain-priced items such as clothing, brass and "mink" blankets can be had for the proverbial song. Many of us find the bargaining almost as much fun as the actual purchase! Add to that the food, the mountain scenery, and for our single shipmates, the beautiful girls, and you can easily see why our stop in Korea was a welcome break from the hectic schedule under which we had been operating.

Once back to sea, we joined the MIDWAY BATTLE GROUP, and steamed with them for the first time since October of 1982. Consisting of the aircraft carrier MIDWAY and various frigates, destroyers, an oiler, and a cruiser (now REEVES), it is the only permanently forward deployed battle group in the Far East, with combined crew of approximately 7,000 men.

Although the challenge of operating with a carrier was enormous, I can safely say that after the long yard period, going through the most extensive cruiser overhaul ever undertaken in the Far East, and after the rigorous follow-on Refresher Training, pride was running high when REEVES was at last "back in the fleet."

We led the Battle Group into the harbor on June 8, for our next port of call, Sasebo, Japan. Although it's the rainy season in Asia we were greeted with sunny skies and beautiful weather. The people in this scenic seaside city are very friendly to navy ships of all nations. Sasebo was a major southern port for the Japanese Imperial Navy prior to and during World War II. The local officials sponsored a reception for the fleet, attended by 50 REEVES' crewmembers. Ballcaps and plaques were exchanged, and a good time was reported by all.

Finally, we came "home" to Yokosuka in June. But there was no time to rest as it was REEVES turn to undergo the annual Command Inspection.

Our immediate superior in command on the administrative side, Commodore Paul Butcher, Commander Naval Surface Group Western Pacific, (and if you think that name and title sounds long, just think of the poor Petty Officers of the Watch that had to say it over the announcing system each time he came aboard or departed!) brought his team of inspectors onboard the week of the 18th to inspect all administrative functions of the

REEVES. This culminated in a personnel inspection on the 21st. Crewmembers were inspected thoroughly from the shine on their shoes to the name stencils in their hats. I can proudly say everybody looked very sharp, but I would like to take this chance to give a "Well Done" to GUNNER'S MATE TORPEDOES THIRD FREDERICK WILLIAMS and STOREKEEPER THIRD Charles CHAMBERLAIN, both of whom were complimented for fine appearances by the Commodore.

After the inspection, Como. Butcher presented awards to three of our shipmates:
LCDR ED JORDAN: Navy Commendation Medal
LT BEN VANDIEST: Navy Achievement Medal
BOILER TECHNICIAN FIRST AUGIE MENDOZA: Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist Insignia.

While I'm on the subject of awards, I would like to congratulate LTJG PAT RYAN, whose SURFACE WARFARE OFFICER'S insignia was "pinned on" by ADMIRAL FOLEY, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, during our recent trip to Kagoshima.

Congratulations also go to GUNNER'S MATE TORPEDOES SECOND PATRICK REILLY. He has been chosen REEVES' SAILOR OF THE QUARTER for the second quarter. Bravo Zulu (that means "well done" in the navy signal code)!

Some very good news arrived recently when the results of the March Navy Wide Advancement Examination arrived. I now take pride in announcing the following men and their new paygrades. The "frocking" ceremony will take place July 16th ("frocking" means early promotion to the new rank and responsibility with the pay and benefits to come at a later time).

MASTER CHIEF MESS SPECIALIST CLYDE E. BEAVER:
MASTER CHIEF OPERATIONS SPECIALIST WILLIAM C. FALLON:
YEOMAN FIRST CLASS JOSEPH C. RODARTE:
ELECTRONIC'S TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS BYRON V. BUSTAMANTE:
HULL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS SEAN M. DANAHER:
HULL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS RUSSELL M. HACKLER:
HULL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS SCOTTY LANE:
HULL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS DAVID SINGER:
HULL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS JOHN D. STINER:
QUARtermaster SECOND CLASS RONALD RILEY:
QUARtermaster SECOND CLASS BERNHARD B. SMITH:
QUARtermaster SECOND CLASS DANIEL L. TALCOTT:
YEOMAN SECOND CLASS ERIC W. WENZEL:
BOILER TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS BRIAN W. FITZPATRICK:
BOILER TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS WILLIAM J. KEETON:
FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN GUNS SECOND CLASS SCOTT B. KERR:
FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN GUNS SECOND CLASS SHAWN E. WILES:
FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN MISSILES SECOND CLASS MICHAEL R. POINSETT:
FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN MISSILES SECOND CLASS KEVIN K. PARTIN:
FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN MISSILES SECOND CLASS PAUL A. MCDONALD:
MACHINIST MATE SECOND CLASS DENNIS J. ORLIKOWSKI:
MESS SPECIALIST SECOND CLASS JEFFREY J. SEKEY:
GUNNER'S MATE MISSILES SECOND CLASS WESLEY A. TIBBS:
GUNNER'S MATE MISSILES SECOND CLASS DOUGLAS A. UTLEY:
GUNNER'S MATE MISSILES SECOND CLASS ROBERT E. ZELENKA:
ELECTRONIC WARFARE SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS SCOTT E. BENDER:

ELECTRONIC WARFARE SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS WILLIAM A. CLACK:
MESS SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS MICHAEL A. BONSELL:
MESS SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS LARRY J. MITCHELL:
PERSONNELMAN THIRD CLASS AUBREY GITTENS:
STOREKEEPER THIRD CLASS TABOR R. GRIFFIN:
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS BARRY CROSS:
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS MIKE W. MCLAREN:
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS JOHN E. RICHARDSON:
HULL TECHNICIAN THIRD CLASS DAVID L. COOPER:
HULL TECHNICIAN THIRD CLASS HARVEY L. HATCHER:
RADIOMAN THIRD CLASS STEPHEN DECRISTOFARO.

Advancement is in store for four more men on that same day. CHIEF SIGNALMAN JOHN W. NUGENT has met the time-in-rate requirements and will now receive all the benefits of a chief, having been "frocked" earlier. HULL TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS RICHARD NORMAN made top scores on his exam and will be permanently advanced early, and two men that really know their rates, MACHINIST MATE THIRD CLASS VICTOR M. HUERTA and PERSONNELMAN THIRD CLASS DENNIS E. LALLY, will assume Petty Officer status through MERITORIOUS ADVANCEMENT. BRAVO ZULU to all those "making rate."

It is often said that being a Navy Wife is the hardest job in the navy, but luckily for us there are women in the world willing to accept the challenge. Congratulations and best wishes go to these newlyweds:

SEAMAN TOM AND MRS. KATHY RENDEL, married June 25th;

FIRE CONTROL MISSILES FIRST CLASS KARL AND MRS. MATSU MAERZ, married June 29th:

SHIP'S SERVICEMAN THIRD CLASS TIM AND MRS. CARIDAD FARLEY, married June 25th:

MACHINIST'S MATE THIRD CLASS JAMES AND MRS. HIROMI ESCANDON, married July 3rd:

and GUNNER'S MATE MISSILES THIRD CLASS HARRY AND MRS. MARILYN IRVIN, who reaffirmed their vows on the bridge of the REEVES. The ceremony was performed by our own CHAPLAIN (LT) JAMES MORGAN, and I had the honor of giving the bride away. COMMANDER D. M. LUNGHOFFER, Executive Officer, served as best man, and JENNIFER IRVIN, daughter of the couple was maid of honor. The ceremony was on June 15th, the couples 14th wedding anniversary.

I would also like to send welcome to our youngest "crewmember," PETER, born on June 2nd to FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN CHIEF JOHN AND MRS. EMIKO MENDENHALL. Mother and baby are fine but John was a little pale for a while.

Fifty-five runners took to the streets on July 1st to test their endurance during the first annual 10 kilometer run sponsored by REEVES. All those who entered the race finished the course and received an "Only Cruiser In Town" tee-shirt to commemorate the event. A lot of credit goes to SONAR TECHNICIAN GUNS CHIEF BILL BRADFORD, who coordinated the race. MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE COMMAND JOHN ARMSTRONG, MASTER CHIEF MESS SPECIALIST CLYDE BEAVER, ENS. ERIC NELSON, AND SIGNALMAN SEAMAN LOU CASTILLIO entered as a team and pulled in a first place

finish for the REEVES Team. The oldest runner in the competition was Joseph Lunghofer, Major, U.S. Air Force (Retired), age 62. He and his wife, Meg, were here from Nashport, Ohio, visiting their son, the XO.

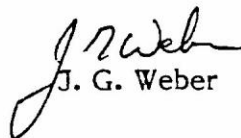
A job well done goes to MACHINIST MATE FIRST MARK BRINKERHOFF, BOILER TECH SECOND DON STALEY, HULL TECHNICIAN THIRD RUSS HACKLER, BOILER TECHNICIAN FIREMAN AARON POPE, BOILER TECH FIREMAN RON NOVAK, ELECTRICIAN'S MATE FIREMAN MARCIANO SANGO, AND RELIGIOUS PROGRAM SPECIALIST SEAMAN RICH BROWNER. These men recently spent a Saturday afternoon painting and doing repairs for REEVES "adopted" children, the kids of Kobo Cottage orphanage in Hayama, Japan.

Welcome aboard is extended to our newest "Bootcamps" and "Old Salts," along with their families: ELECTRICIAN'S MATE FIRST CLASS JULIAN TORTAND, MESS SPECIALIST SEAMAN APPRENTICE JOHN RIGHTER, BOILER TECHNICIAN FIREMAN STEVEN HARLOW, ELECTRONIC'S TECHNICIAN THIRD CLASS RICHARD KIDD, BOILER TECHNICIAN FIREMAN APPRENTICE VESTER JONES, RADIOMAN SECOND CLASS TOMAS MACIAS, OPERATIONS SPECIALIST SECOND CLASS BRUCE KATZ, YEOMAN SEAMAN DARREL HOLMES, BOILER TECHNICIAN FIREMAN RODERICK ESPUDO, MACHINIST MATE THIRD CLASS DEAN SIMMONS, MACHINIST MATE FIRST CLASS CLINT DOUGHERTY, FIREMAN APPRENTICE VAUGAN REED, BOATSWIN'S MATE SECOND CLASS COLBERT SANDERS, FIREMAN APPRENTICE GLEN HILL, ELECTRICIAN'S MATE FIREMAN ANDREW BIRD, FIREMAN APPRENTICE KEITH JANTZ, SIGNALMAN SEAMAN RECRUIT RANDALL RICHNOW, MESS SPECIALIST SEAMAN APPRENTICE GERADO RODRIQUEZ, ELECTRICIAN'S MATE SECOND CLASS JULIN TORTONA, MACHINIST MATE SECOND CLASS KENNETH RICHARDS

As I write this letter, we are underway once again, this time headed for Manila, Republic of the Philippines. The seas are calm, and the weather is warm as we participate in Battle Group training with the USS Kitty Hawk and USS Enterprise.

As always, our thoughts and prayers are with you, and we look forward to the day we will be together again.

Sincerely,


J. G. Weber