



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96677

USS REEVES (CG-24) FAMILYGRAM

Dear Family and Friends,

When I last wrote, we were preparing to get underway from Chinhae, Republic of Korea. We set sail the 28th of January, and arrived "home" in Yokosuka on the 30th. Our stay was brief but hectic, and just two days later we were once again out to sea, this time with the entire Midway Battle Group following us.

"Well done" goes to everyone involved in the towing, astern refueling, and precision anchoring exercises we conducted during this time frame. In the "tow and be towed," we hooked anchor chains to a sea-going tug from the Philippines, and, as the exercise name suggests, first towed her, then were towed. In astern refueling, the tanker stays directly ahead of us, unlike a normal Underway Replenishment (UNREP) where the ships involved run on a parallel course. A single hose is reeled out astern of the tanker, and once we've come up alongside, it's up to our men to catch it with a grappling hook and pull it aboard. No easy task considering the drag imposed by the water! In the second phase of this evolution, we conducted a series of turns to show the maneuverability of ships during such an exercise. The third evolution, precision anchoring, takes a good conning officer (who gives the orders), a steady helmsman (who steers the ship), and perfect communications. When the order "Let go the anchor!" sounds, it has to go in the right spot! We accomplished the feat in just one try, which exemplifies the skill of REEVES' crew.

Bravo Zulu also goes to the following individuals, who were recognized for their achievements during a February 15th at sea awards ceremony:

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

YN2 WENZEL
PN3 GITTENS
PNSN PANGILINAN

YN3 LEWIS
SN DRAKE

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDALS

BM1 DASHNAW
PN1 BOND

BT3 GAYAHAN
EM2 MANSFIELD

GOOD CONDUCT AWARD

MM3 HUERTA	(FIRST AWARD)
FTM3 BROWN	(FIRST AWARD)
MM2 ILLICK	(FIRST AWARD)
MS2 SEKEY	(FIRST AWARD)
MM2 PARSONS	(FIRST AWARD)
OS2 CARL	(FIRST AWARD)
EM2 VICENCIO	(SECOND AWARD)
MM1 EVERETT	(SECOND AWARD)
SI CAVA	(FOURTH AWARD)
MS1 ORDONEZ	(FOURTH AWARD)

SAILORS OF THE QUARTER

BT2 WEBB	(SENIOR DIVISION)
BM3 ZERANCE	(JUNIOR DIVISION)

SAILOR OF THE YEAR

BM1 DASHNAW

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

MS1 ORDONEZ

FOOD SERVICE ATTENDANTS OF THE MONTH

MMFN JACKSON	SA JACOBS
OSSN BUCHANAN	SA MURTAUGH

We arrived in Manila the 17th of February, for a three day good will port visit. This bustling metropolis, with it's many attractions and low prices, makes an excellent place for rest and relaxation. All too soon however, we once again hauled in the lines, bound for our next port of call, Subic Bay, R.P.

Arriving the 22nd, we found Subic, as always, a busy and productive place to visit. During this inport period, several crewmembers teamed up with men from three other Yokosuka ships for a "Project Handclasp" visit to Hospecio de San Jose orphanage back in Manila. After spending the day sanding and painting the iron fence which surrounds the complex, the sailors were treated to a party that was sponsored by a local Filipino family. Those attending from REEVES were: DSC HOLDEN, DS2 DEOGAYGAY, DS3 INGRAHAM, ET3 MCHOUGH, HT3 BEER, JOSN SNOWBERGER, RPSA GONZALES, SA BATTLE, SA JACOBS, SA HILLEARY, AND CHAPLAIN MORGAN.

Underway the 27th, we pulled out of Subic, bound for Hong Kong - our last stop before returning home. This vibrant, pulsating city is a place most people only dream about, and we were at no loss for things to do. Add the traditions of England and the mysteries of the Far East, and you'll get Hong Kong.

Pulling out the 9th of March, we ran into the roughest seas in recent memory. Even the saltiest of us were a little green, but everyone made it through just fine, I assure you. When the seas calmed, we held our annual Damage Control Olympics. The Olympic events were geared toward basic knowledge and practical use of damage control and life saving equipment. Favored Engineering Department (last year's champs) had to settle for second best, as a highly motivated Supply swept the week long competition and now hold the Golden T-Wrench trophy. Operations came in third, and Weapons finished out of the money.

Some outstanding news arrived during these last few days at sea. REEVES had won the Battle Efficiency "E", thereby being recognized as the top Cruiser in all of West-Pac. In addition, we took top honors in the Anti-Submarine Warfare category, winning the ASW "A"; the Combat Information Center category, winning the CIC "Green E"; the Electronic Warfare category, winning the "EW"; the Damage Control category, winning the "Red DC"; and the Engineering category, winning the "Red E". These awards are the results of all the hard work put forth in 1984, and a special BRAVO ZULU goes to the entire crew for bringing them to REEVES.

We hit Yokosuka the 28th of March, for a week long visit with our families. For Supply Department, however, this was not a time of rest and relaxation. Shortly after our arrival, the Supply Management Inspection (SMI) team came aboard, and pulled no punches. At the completion of their week long inspection, the team had nothing but praise for Supply's high standards. The crew, of course, is well aware of Supply's continuously outstanding track record.

Welcome Aboard to the following men, who recently checked aboard REEVES: IS1 LACEFIELD, MM3 WILLIAMS, FTM2 MCLEAN II, STG3 GRAY, HT3 BEER, SK3 HICKMAN, RM3 PITTMAN, FTMSN STRATOS, EMC EBALO, MSC DAVIS, DS3 QUICGLEY, SR THOMAS, FR CAMPBELL, RMSR BURDEAU, FTM2 FOSBACK, FTM3 WILSON, and BT3 CAMPBELL.

All too soon, we left Yokosuka, enroute once again to Chinhae. Another major inspection, this time involving mainly Weapons Department and our Security Guard Force, awaited our arrival. Once again, REEVES' crew showed their stuff, and we passed with flying colors.

After a short two day transit from Chinhae, we are once again home (just in time for the Cherry Blossom season!). These past few months have been fast paced, hectic, and rewarding. Equally demanding has been the strain placed on our families, who waited patiently for our return. I would like to end this Familygram with a special BRAVO ZULU to those wives and children. It's long been known they have the hardest job in the Navy and I sincerely appreciate your support.

I hope to see you all at the ship's picnic on 8 May at the "J" area next to the firefighting school. Important pre-deployment information will be available.

Sincerely,



J. G. WEBER
CAPT USN
Commanding Officer