

# USS REEVES

DLG 24

PROUD

TO SERVE

# FAMILY-GRAM

NO. 2-65

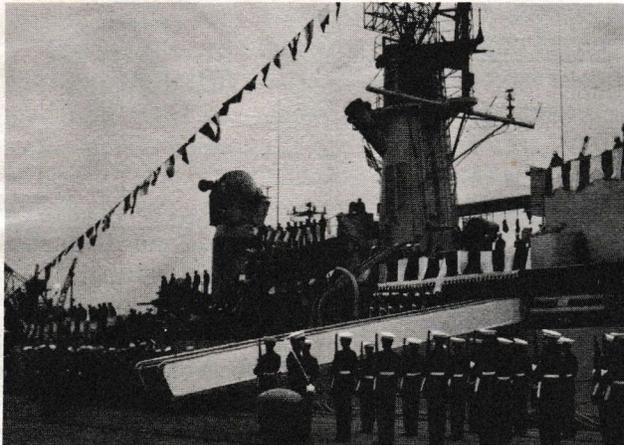
At Sea with the Seventh Fleet

15 May 1965

## SECOND FAMILY - GRAM IS SPECIAL EDITION

The cooperation and assistance of USS ORISKANY (CVA 34) in making it possible to add photographs to this special first anniversary edition of the family-gram is acknowledged with sincere gratitude.

### LOOKING BACK



Many degrees of latitude and longitude have passed in REEVES' wake between the commissioning address delivered one year ago in Bremerton by the Honorable Cyrus R. Vance, Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the cake cutting ceremony on the fantail today in the South China Sea. This first year of service has been a memorable one for all hands. As the year progressed, the ship moved through the Fitting Out Period, Ship's Qualification Trials, Post Shakedown Availability, Shakedown Training and then, on the 10th of April, REEVES deployed to the Western Pacific.

In summing up the year, it is sufficient to say that the statements made by Secretary Vance have been borne out many times and that his predictions now hold special meanings for all hands.

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### REEVES COMMEMORATES FIRST YEAR

On 15 May 1965, REEVES paused its daily activities to observe the occasion of its first anniversary. It was a bright, sunny morning, in the South China Sea. On completion of a personnel inspection, all hands not on watch gathered on the fantail for a meritorious mast and cake cutting ceremony.

Forty-four persons, listed in last month's family-gram, received advancement in rate certificates and new rating badges. The advancements were to be effective on 16 May 1965, but in honor of our first anniversary, the presentation was moved up one day. Three high school graduation certificates were awarded to Sonar Technician Third Class S. W. Sweet, Sonar Technician Third Class, C. L. Ross, and Machinist's Mate Third Class J. R. Davies; bringing the total number of REEVES personnel who have completed their high school education after reporting aboard to twenty. Letters of commendation were then read and presented to Chief Electronics Technician R. L. Raede, Jr., for outstanding performance of duty as a member of the COMCRUDESFLT THREE ECM Improvement

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

15 MAY 1965



Once again it is my pleasure to be able to drop all of you a line and keep you posted on the activities of REEVES and her men. This edition of the family-gram marks the First Anniversary of REEVES' service to the Pacific Fleet, the Navy, and our country. It is rather appropriate that this occasion should occur while we are in WESTPAC performing an important service to our country. Slightly over a year ago, we selected a motto for our ship. That motto is "Proud to Serve", and we are! We are proud to be where we are...doing what we are doing.

As you have already noted, we are sprouting a new look with this issue. The USS ORISKANY (CVA 34) is operating in our vicinity and has graciously offered us the use of her Print Shop facilities. This was an offer I was quick to accept for it allows us to add pictures and improve the overall content and appearance of this, our special anniversary issue.

The response to our first family-gram was encouraging. One of the replies is reprinted in its entirety on the next page. It is hoped that all of you will feel free to write me at any time concerning any matter. Your letters are very welcome and it is only by your response that I can properly gauge your feelings and desires for information. I will be guided by your comments in establishing the content of future family-grams.

Details concerning some of our activities are given elsewhere in this family-gram. Perhaps the following is what you really want to hear from me.

First. The health of the crew is excellent. No one is on the sick list and the only underworked members are the medics. We'll try and keep it that way.

Second. The state of training of the crew is high. They are capable and they are trying.

Third. Morale is high, surprisingly so since we have been at sea 30 of the last 35 days. This is a sure sign of a good crew.

Fourth. Mail service has been better than we expected it to be. Keep those letters coming.

Finally. We hope that things are as well with you as they are with us.

Sincerely,

*Wynne A. Stevens, Jr.*  
WYNNE A. STEVENS, JR.  
Captain, U. S. Navy

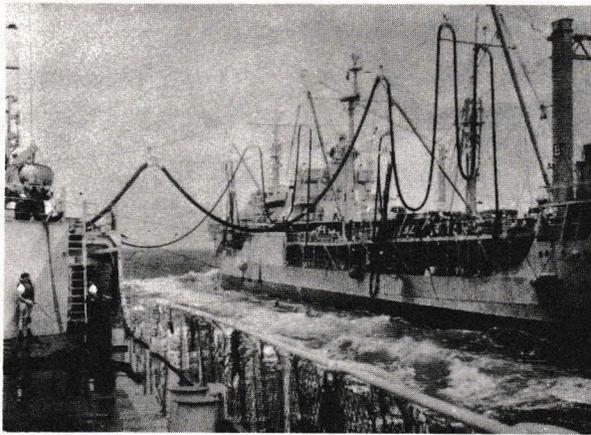
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Program team; to Yeoman Third Class A.R. Snyder, for excellent performance of duty while on temporary additional duty with the staff of COMDESDIV 172; and to Chief Hospital Corpsman J. E. Marifjeren and Hospital Corpsman Second Class P. Furbee for their part in winning for REEVES a grade of outstanding in the Annual Competitive Medical Inspection. Following this, Captain Stevens administered the "Oath of Allegiance" to Stewardsman J. R. Cabug on the occasion of Cabug's first reenlistment.

The Captain then addressed the crew, reviewing with them the events and achievements of the past year. In conclusion, the birthday cake was brought out and the Captain, together with Gunner's Mate Seaman, C. J. Miller, senior enlisted plank owner, jointly performed the symbolic cake-cutting ceremony. The cake was then returned to the mess deck and enjoyed with the noon meal.

Later in the afternoon, a tape recording of the actual commissioning ceremony that took place last year was played over the ship's entertainment system for all to hear. With nostalgia and fond memories, REEVES' first year was brought to a close.

## BEANS, BULLETS, AND NSFO



How do we get our ammo, food, and fuel? Where do the other necessities and niceties of life come from? Back in Long Beach, we simply stocked up as needed from the various Navy supply points located on the Naval Station. There are no Navy Supermarkets in the South China Sea.

Out here we receive all of our logistics support at sea from specially configured supply ships. Underway replenishment ships such as Oilers (AO's) provide our fuel oil and lubricants, Fleet Issue Ships (AKS's) carry most of the needed repair parts and

general consumables such as paint and housekeeping supplies. The Refrigerator Ships (AF's) stock fresh, frozen, and dry provisions for transfer to our galley. Some new multi-purpose ships are becoming available so that we can do the same "one-stop" shopping you can do back home.

As food, repair parts, consumables, ammo, and fuel are being expended, the Supply Department keeps score and places orders to insure timely replacement of all items. We try to maintain a supply of material and food on board that will allow the ship to operate by itself, with the exception of fuel, for a period of at least 60 days.

Since leaving Long Beach, we have taken on 793,000 gallons of Navy Special Fuel Oil (NSFO) and have received over twenty tons of all types of provisions in numerous underway replenishments. The underway replenishments, that have been averaging about one every t-third day, are conducted at night as well as in the daytime.

### A CHAT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

LT. J.W. JONES, CHC, USN  
Staff COMDESRON NINE



It has been a rewarding experience serving as Chaplain for personnel aboard the REEVES. In addition to encouraging the ship's company to develop their faith in God, a Chaplain also serves to remind them of their families on the beach--two of the best influences I know to help a man measure up. Both Protestant and Catholic Divine Services are conducted regularly aboard ship. I spend much of my time talking to and getting better acquainted with your servicemen. They all agree on one thing; keep the mail coming. Every night since we left Long Beach we have had Evening Prayer together just before taps. On this, our first Anniversary, we pledge ourselves to the best ideals of our families, our nation, and our faiths.

### AUGUST EXAMS ALMOST HERE

The next series of examinations for advancement in rate will be held in late July and August. All personnel who are eligible and recommended are being encouraged to start now to prepare themselves for the examination. It is our goal that every man who takes the examination will pass it and be advanced to the next higher rate. Some will not make it, as the competition is fairly heavy, but every effort will be made to attain a 100% batting average.

### GET YOUR SHOPPING LISTS IN EARLY

Although no definite schedule has been promulgated, it is expected that REEVES shortly will be visiting a choice liberty port. Most of you are well aware of the "bargain basement" prices for quality merchandise available in WESTPAC. Get your shopping lists in early so we will all be able to plan ahead and set aside enough \$\$\$\$ for the occasion.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Realizing that not all recipients of this family-gram had the opportunity to attend the commissioning, the entire text of the Secretary's address is repeated below.

"It is a privilege and a pleasure for me to be here today on the occasion of the commissioning of this splendid new ship. This stems not in least part from my having served as a destroyer man in World War II and my great respect and admiration for Captain Wynne Stevens.

The REEVES is embarking on its sea-going life with a rich endowment of tradition. It has been built in an historic yard, noted for its tradition of fine and careful craftsmanship and painstaking work; qualities too often neglected in this time of automation and mass production. This ship is one in which Captain Stevens and his men can indeed be proud to serve. It bears the name of a distinguished Naval Officer, one who is still a legend to those who know and love the Navy. Admiral JOSEPH MASON REEVES was an exceptionally able officer who, in 1936, became Commander in Chief of the United States Fleet and later went on to become Chairman of the General Board where he played a major role in shaping the destiny of the Navy.

You in the crew of the REEVES stand on the threshold of a unique and wonderful experience. An experience known only to those who have put a new ship in commission. This ship, staunch and beautiful, equipped with the most advanced weapons that man has yet devised, is a cold and lifeless thing until you breathe life into her. The common experience you will share of long hours of hard work to make this ship a fighting unit of the fleet, is one you will someday look back upon, wherever you may be, with great pride and I daresay affection. The challenges and adventures that face you in long night watches, in seeing your ship ride out great storms at sea, as it surely will, and in feeling it take on a vibrant personality of her own are privileges known only to a small fraternity of men who go down to the sea in ships. I know that all of you who

On the 18th of April, the Command was saddened by information of the sudden death of the infant daughter of Seaman Dennis R. SMITH of the First Division. Fortunately REEVES was in Pearl when the news was received from the American Red Cross and within hours SMITH was on emergency leave flying back to California. The sympathies of the Officers and men of REEVES are extended to Seaman and Mrs. Smith at this time. All hands are looking forward to Smith's return aboard.

will go to sea in the REEVES can take special satisfaction from the knowledge that you, individually and collectively, are a vital element in the Navy whose future has never been so bright, nor its potential so great.

There is not the slightest doubt in my mind that in every echelon in our government, in the White House, in the Congress, and in the Pentagon, there is great respect for, and ever growing awareness of the unique capabilities of our Naval Forces. I see them called upon almost daily, to steam the troubled spots of the world, to make our presence felt, to inhibit trouble makers, to protect American lives, and indeed to fight on the frontiers of freedom, if that should be necessary.

As President Kennedy said last year in addressing the crew of the USS KITTY HAWK, "Control of the seas means security. Control of the seas can mean Victory". The United States must control the seas if it is to protect our security and those countries which stretch thousands of miles away, that look to you on this ship and her sister ships of the U. S. Navy.

I want all of you who will serve in the REEVES to know how strongly I feel your right to be proud of your profession and to take pride in doing more than your share to keep the United States strong and free. Good Luck and smooth sailing to you, may God bless this crew and the ship in which you serve."