

USS REEVES (CG-24) PPO SAN FRANCISCO SHEZZ

1 June 1981

Dear REEVES Families,

As I write this Familygram to you, our ship is moving morth in the South China Sea toward Japan. We are on our way home, having had a full month of activities in May.

We spent five relaxing days, 6-11 May, in Fremantle, Western Australia, where the Australians rolled out the "red carpet" for the crew. We enjoyed many tours and excellent restaurants, and purchased a variety of Australian items such as opals, kangaroo hides, stuffed koala bears, and sheep skin rugs. More importantly, though, you can be proud of your men, for they served as outstanding representatives of the United States and the U. S. Navy and demonstrated good will toward our ally "down under".

Prior to and following the port visit to Fremantle, REEVES participated in joint Naval exercises with the Australian and New Zealand Navies in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Western Australia. These Naval exercises, named BEACON COMPASS 81-2 and BEACON SOUTH 81, were designed to coordinate an allied effort in a simulated war situation. Following the second joint exercise, REEVES steamed toward the Republic of the Philippines, and along her route passed such exotic places in the South Pacific as Borneo, Bali, and Java.

We spent 6 days, 25-31 May, in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, where we enjoyed more rest and relaxation, and where REEVES, weathered from three months at sea, received needed repairs. Once again, REEVES' crewmembers demonstrated their outstanding ability to represent our country with dignity anywhere in the world.

At an Awards Ceremony held at sea on the fantail on 21 May, many crew-members were recognized, individually or as a group, for their outstanding performance and service in the various capacities in which they serve onboard REEVES. They are as follows:

- Food Service Attendant of the Month for the months of January, February, March, and April were SA White, SA Biggs, OSSA Belcher and SA Yee, respectively.
- SMC Reed completed the Personnel Qualifications Standards for, and was designated as, an Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist.
- ~ FTM2 Pederson received his first Good Conduct Award, and SH1 Romero received his third Good Conduct Award.
- FTM2 Smolucha was named Sailor of the Quarter for the first quarter of Calendar Year 1981.
- REEVES' detachment of Cryptologists received Letters of Commendation for outstanding serivce.

- Letters of Commendation were presented to Supply Department personnel for their exceptional performance in the recent Supply Management Inspection.
- Letters of Appreciation were presented to the members of the Security Guard Force for the professional manner in which they carried out their duties during various security inspections.
- Letters of Appreciation were presented to the members of the TERMIER Handling Team for the completion of the Defense Surety Inspection with outstanding results.
- GMCM Sorrells received a Letter of Commendation for his outstanding performance as Supervisor and Administrator of the Security Guard Force.
- Letters of Commendation were presented to the members of the APROC Handling Year for their outstanding performance during the Defense Surety Inspection.
- Letters of Appreciation were given to Engineering Department personnel for their outstanding performance and the professional competerse they displayed in preparing for and conducting the Operational Propulsion Plant Recordification Examination held in February.
- HM1 Toelkes received a Letter of Commendation for the superior manner in which he performed his duties on 25 November 1980 while responding to injuries of two crewmembers of a tug bost in Yokosuka, Japan.
- + A Letter of Appreciation was presented to crewmembers involved with the rescue of 27 crewmembers of the freighter MS GOLDENROD in the Strait of Malacca.
- OS2 Bracken received a Citation for consistently superb professionalism as an Air Intercept Controller and Truck Supervisor while on board USS WORDEN (CG-18).
- LT Vanden Bosch was presented a Citation for his outstanding performance as a shiphandler by having won the Junior Officer Award in Shiphandling Compatition for 1980.
- NC1 Frazier was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his performance in personnel retention which contributed to his previous command's having received the Golden Anchor Award.

We also extend a hearty "Welcome Aboard" to the following men who have joined the ship this past month:

ENS Morris MM2 Bunn MS1 Satombo
ENS Jansen FTM3 Hatchell RM3 Vogenitz
RMSA Turner EMFA Shank FTM2 Pruett
USSR Knapp HT1 Baker USSR Carter
RMSA Martin

By the time you read this Familygram, we will be home again in Yokosuka, Japan. The past three and a half months are now history. We look forward to several weeks of rest and reunion with our families and loved ones. Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

J. W. MCERTON Captain, U.S. Navy Commanding Officer