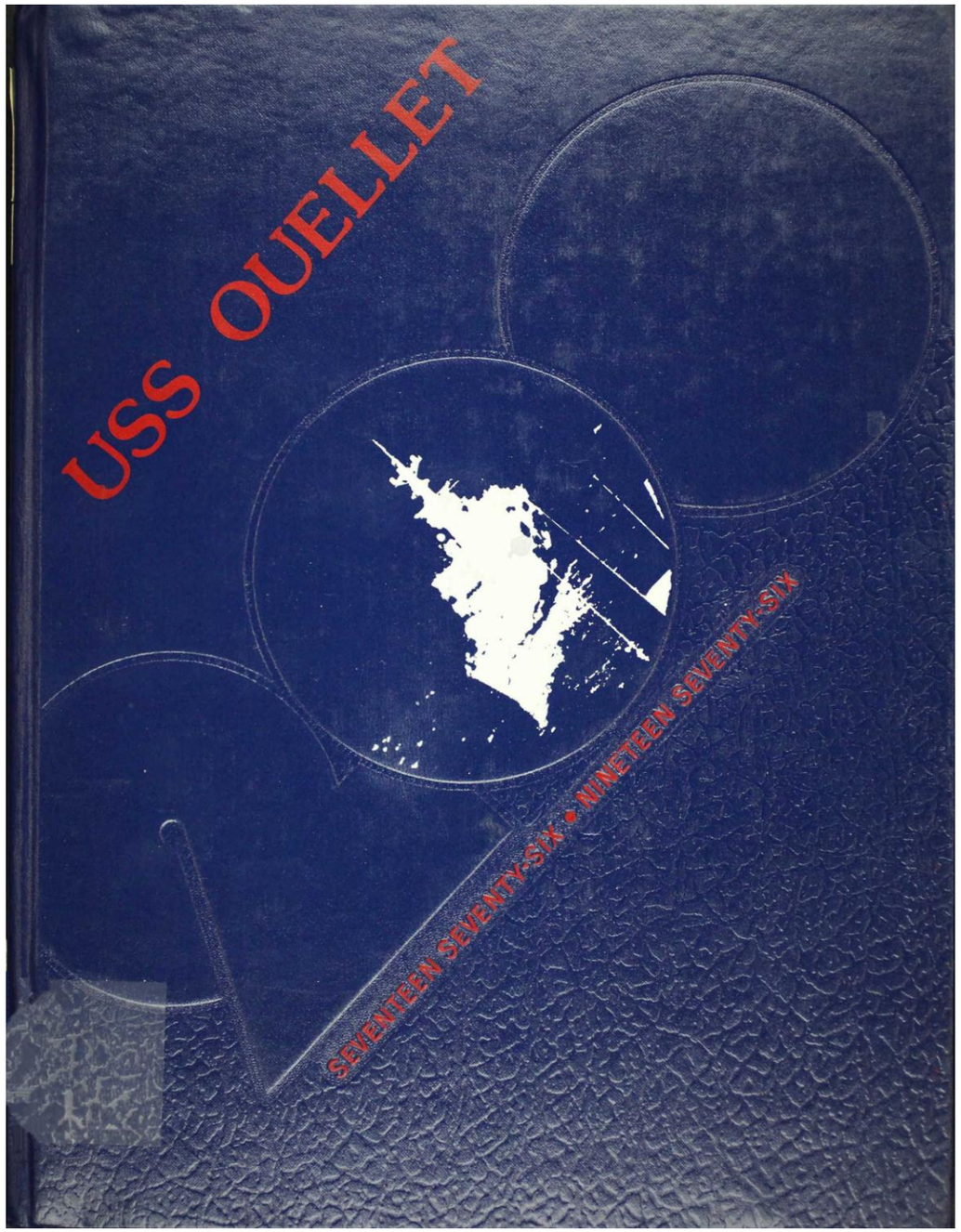
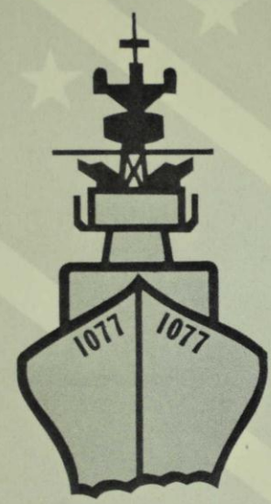

USS OUELLET
SEVENTEEN SEVENTY-SIX • NINETEEN SEVENTY-SIX

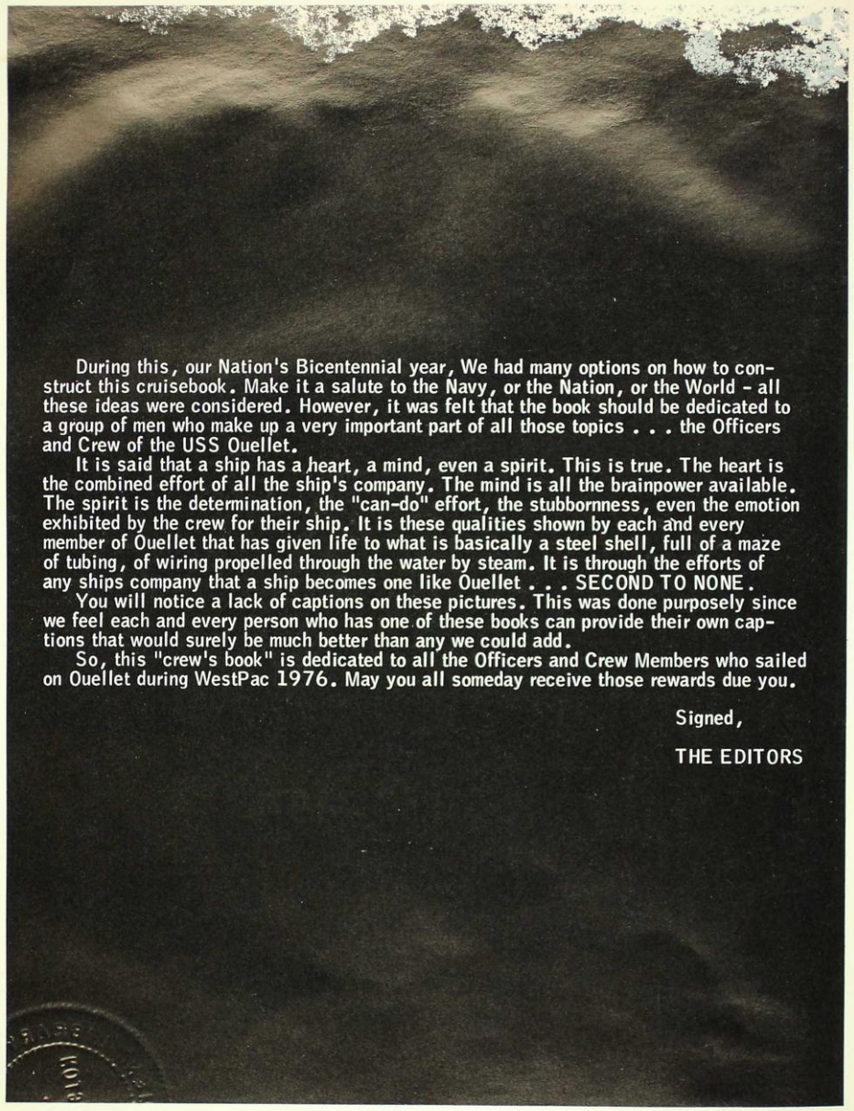
OCT 1977

CRUISE
OUEL
1976

USS OUELLET



WESTPAC—1976



During this, our Nation's Bicentennial year, We had many options on how to construct this cruisebook. Make it a salute to the Navy, or the Nation, or the World - all these ideas were considered. However, it was felt that the book should be dedicated to a group of men who make up a very important part of all those topics . . . the Officers and Crew of the USS Ouellet.

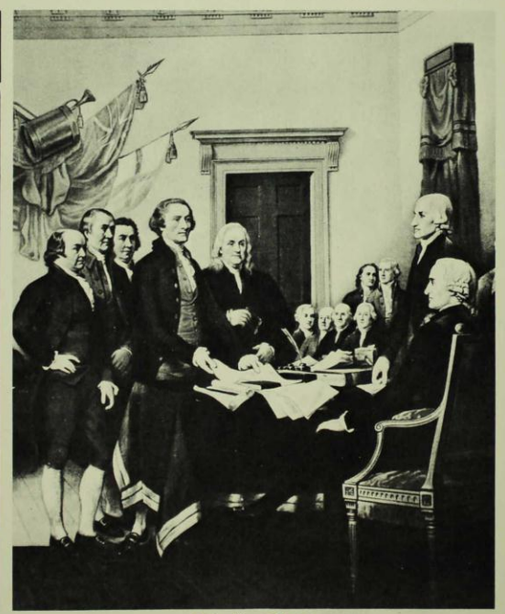
It is said that a ship has a heart, a mind, even a spirit. This is true. The heart is the combined effort of all the ship's company. The mind is all the brainpower available. The spirit is the determination, the "can-do" effort, the stubbornness, even the emotion exhibited by the crew for their ship. It is these qualities shown by each and every member of Ouellet that has given life to what is basically a steel shell, full of a maze of tubing, of wiring propelled through the water by steam. It is through the efforts of any ships company that a ship becomes one like Ouellet . . . SECOND TO NONE.

You will notice a lack of captions on these pictures. This was done purposely since we feel each and every person who has one of these books can provide their own captions that would surely be much better than any we could add.

So, this "crew's book" is dedicated to all the Officers and Crew Members who sailed on Ouellet during WestPac 1976. May you all someday receive those rewards due you.

Signed,

THE EDITORS



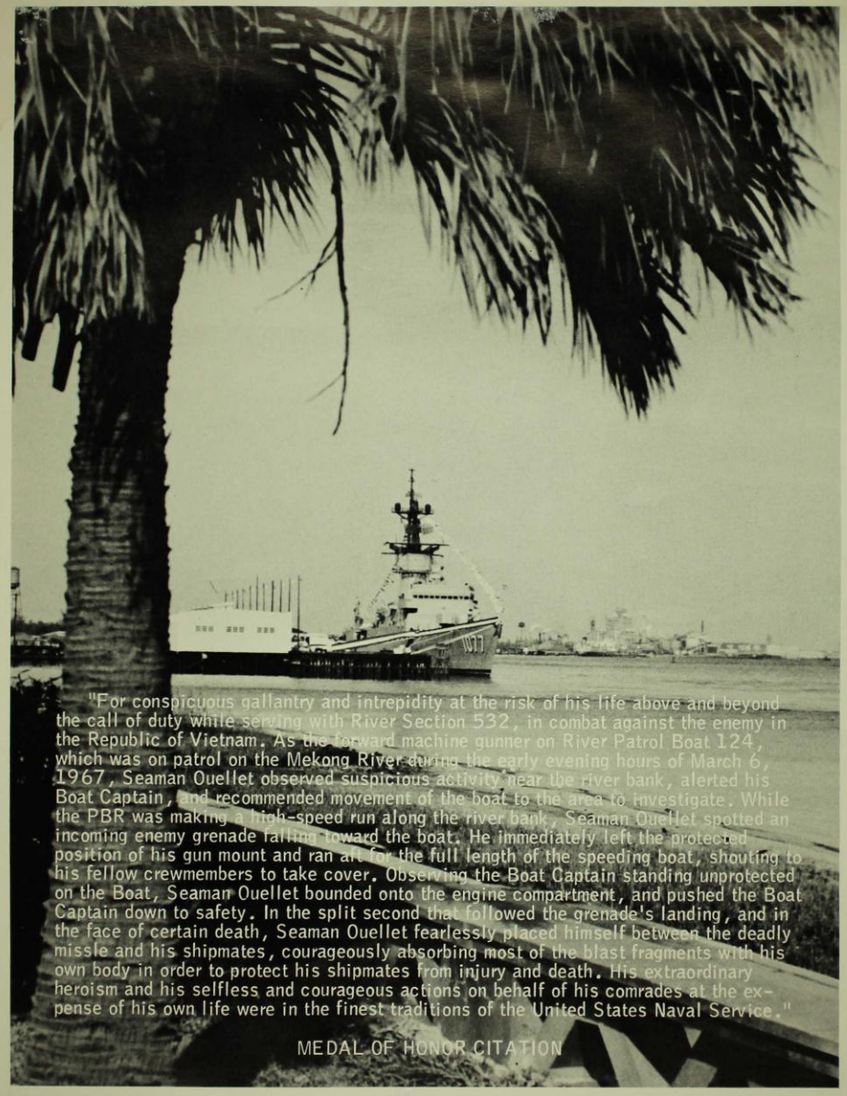
PAST

FROM THE CAPTAIN

The cruise is over but the SEVENTH FLEET will not soon forget the OUELLET and what we did there. Perhaps they'll remember the way we tracked the "Phantom of the Philippine Sea" during our transit over, our high speed dash through the Malacca Straits, the way we earned our nickname as CV-1077 during the Indian Ocean ops, and our little side trip to be the first ship to refuel in "You know where". I'll remember these things-but most of all I'll remember the spirit of the officers and crew: the spirit that gave blood in Kaohsiung, that made our teams win, the boxers fight, the ship gleam, and the parties and flight deck cook-outs successes...the spirit that answered every bell, that made the gun shoot when it didn't want to, that made our helicopter fly at night, that crossed the equator three times, that fixed every casualty, that met every operational committment and that spliced the "main brace."

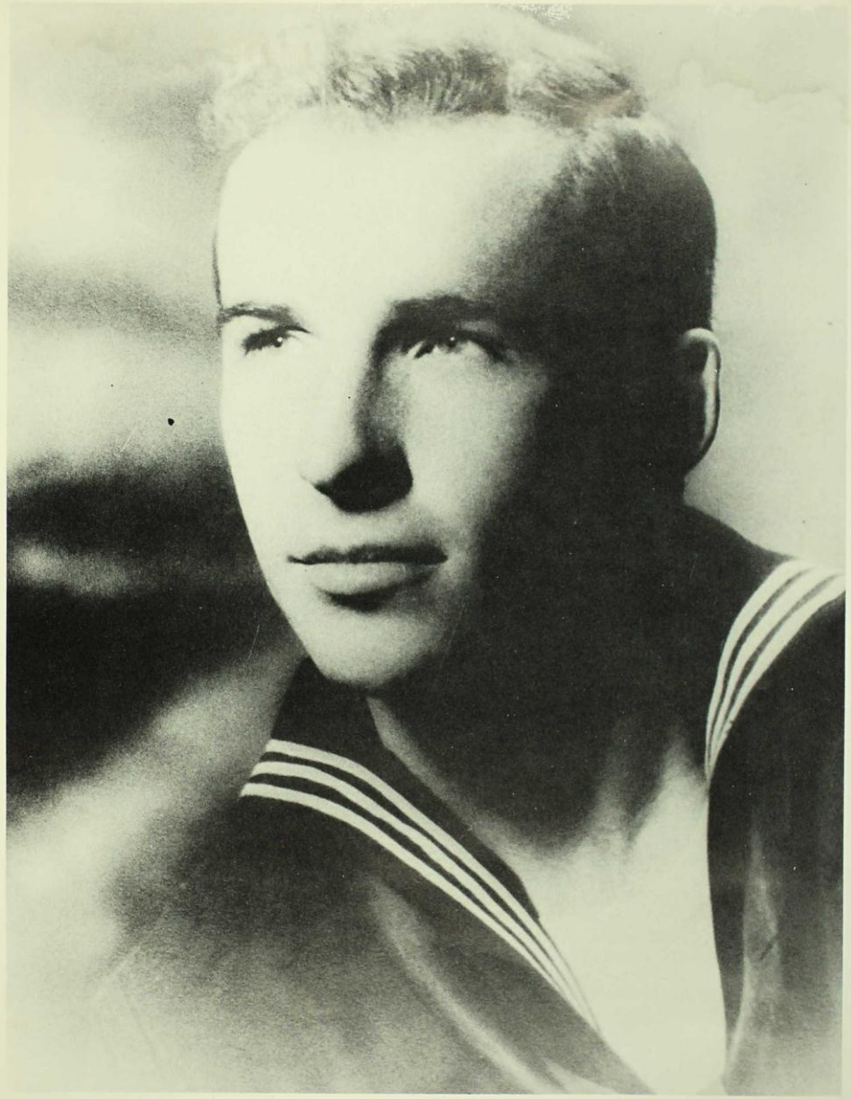
I hope this book will remind you of these things too. WELL DONE!

J. S. EKSTROM
COMMANDER, U. S. NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER



"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with River Section 532, in combat against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. As the forward machine gunner on River Patrol Boat 124, which was on patrol on the Mekong River during the early evening hours of March 6, 1967, Seaman Ouellet observed suspicious activity near the river bank, alerted his Boat Captain, and recommended movement of the boat to the area to investigate. While the PBR was making a high-speed run along the river bank, Seaman Ouellet spotted an incoming enemy grenade falling toward the boat. He immediately left the protected position of his gun mount and ran aft for the full length of the speeding boat, shouting to his fellow crewmembers to take cover. Observing the Boat Captain standing unprotected on the Boat, Seaman Ouellet bounded onto the engine compartment, and pushed the Boat Captain down to safety. In the split second that followed the grenade's landing, and in the face of certain death, Seaman Ouellet fearlessly placed himself between the deadly missle and his shipmates, courageously absorbing most of the blast fragments with his own body in order to protect his shipmates from injury and death. His extraordinary heroism and his selfless and courageous actions on behalf of his comrades at the expense of his own life were in the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION



DAVID G. OUELLET, SEAMAN, UNITED STATES NAVY

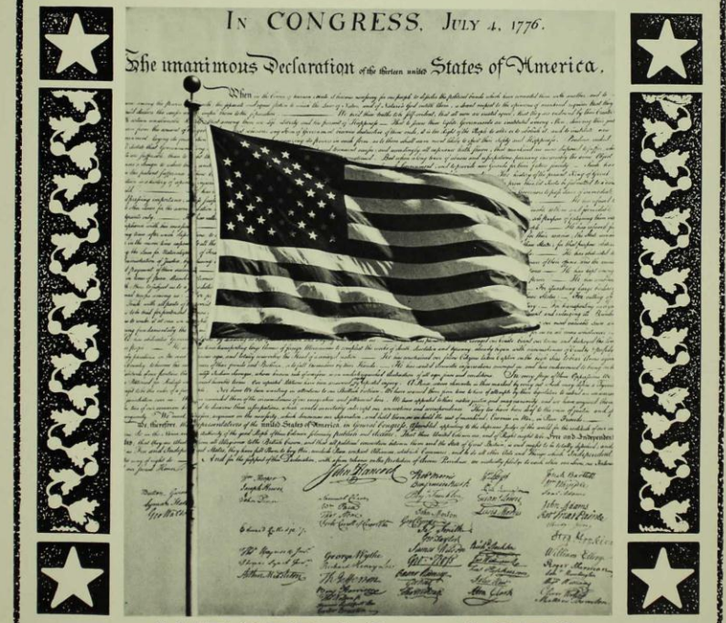
David George Ouellet was born in Newton, Massachusetts, on June 13, 1944, son of Chester J. and Elizabeth E. Ouellet. He graduated from Hardy School, Wellesley, Massachusetts, in 1958; attended Wellesley Junior High School; and subsequently was employed by the Alfred Fisher Trucking Company in Wellesley. On July 28, 1964 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy at Boston, Massachusetts, and had recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. Completing his training in October 1964, he joined Assault Craft Division Twelve and while attached to that division served for five months in 1965 in the Vietnam Area.

Between June and August 1966 he had river patrol boat training at Naval Schools Command, Vallejo, California, after which he had training at the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, California. On September 21, 1966 he reported for duty with River Squadron FIVE and was attached to My THO Detachment 532 of that squadron at the time of his death on March 6, 1967. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor and the Purple Heart.

COMMANDER JOHN S. EKSTROM

CDR J. S. Ekstrom enlisted in the Naval Reserve as a seaman recruit in June 1954 where he was a member of Naval Reserve Surface Division W-1, Potomac River Naval Command. After completion of one year as a reservist he was discharged in order to be sworn in as a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy. He was commissioned upon graduation from the academy in June 1959 and was attached to the aircraft carrier SHANGRI LA operating overseas in both the Far East area and the Mediterranean. In February 1962, he graduated from CIC and air controller courses and was attached to the destroyer ALLEN M. SUMNER (DD 692) as CIC officer. After completing a Mediterranean cruise and participating in the Cuban Missle Blockade while on SUMNER he reported in February 1963 to the destroyer JAMES C. OWENS (DD 776) as operations officer. After a Mediterranean cruise on OWENS he went ashore in June 1964 to attend postgraduate training in Engineering Science. He was designated Officer-in-Charge of the destroyer escort CHARLES E. BRANNON (DE 446) in June 1965 and was qualified for command of destroyers in October 1966. In December 1967 he was attached to the heavy cruiser CANBERRA (CA 70) as CIC officer and participated in shore bombardment and coastal interdiction missions off the coast of both North and South Vietnam. He returned to shore duty in January 1969 when he was assigned as Officer-in-Charge of the United States Navy Ceremonial Guard in Washington, D.C. In September 1971 he reported to the USS HARWOOD (DD 861) as Executive Officer, and when HARWOOD was decommissioned and transferred to the Turkish Navy in December 1971, he reported to the USS STRONG (DD 758) as Executive Officer. In July 1973 he was assigned as Chief Staff Officer to Commander Destroyer Squadron TWO. He reported to his present assignment as Commanding Officer, USS OUELLET (FF 1077) in July 1975.

LCDR G. H. COSHOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

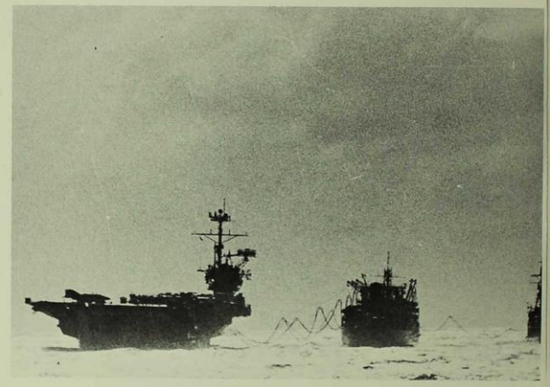


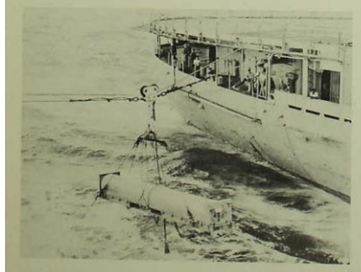
WESTPAC—1976

THE USS OUELLET SET SAIL
ON A FINE HAWAIIAN MORN.
ACROSS THE SEA WE'RE
HEADED NOW
A NEW WESTPAC IS BORN.

THE TRANSIT WITH THE RANGER'S GROUP
IS EXTREMELY LONG AND GRAY
IT SEEMS A YEAR - BUT JUST 3 WEEKS
TILL WE ARRIVE AT SUBIC BAY.

UNREPS . . . DAY OR NIGHT

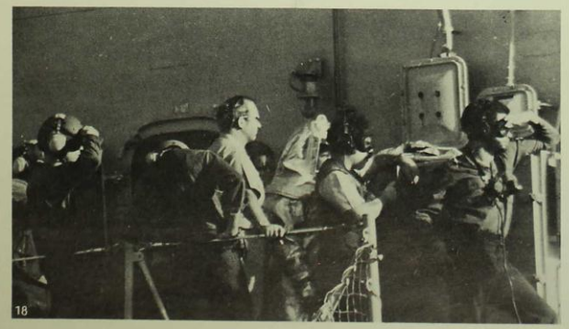




NAVASOTA . . . MISSPILLION . . .

FLIGHT QUARTERS

ONE MORE TIME!



ODE TO DUGOUT DAVE

IT'S TIME TO RELIEVE THE WATCH RIGHT NOW
THE SEAS ARE CALM AND DEEP.
WE'VE BEEN STANDING UP FOR FOUR LONG HOURS
IT'S TIME TO GET SOME SLEEP

WE LOOK TO THE SKY AS WE HEAD BELOW
A BEAUTIFUL CRYSTAL BLUE
SUCH A LOVELY PEACEFUL NIGHT
WE KNOW WE'LL SLEEP RIGHT THROUGH.

THROUGH THE HATCH ON THE MAIN DECK,
JUST A FEW MORE STEPS TO GO
NOW WE'RE WALKING ON THE BULKHEAD,
AND BOUNCING TO AND FRO.

30 DEGREES TO THE LEFT WE ROLL,
30 DEGREES TO THE RIGHT.
THE DOME IS OUT OF THE WATER NOW
WE'RE IN AN AWFUL FRIGHT.

WE SEE A SEAMAN ON HIS KNEES,
PRAYING THAT HE'LL LIVE.
WE DON'T HAVE TOO MUCH FAITH OURSELVES
BUT WHAT WE HAVE WE'LL GIVE.

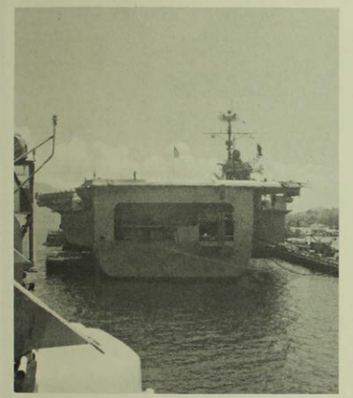
"DON'T WORRY SON", WE SAY WITH CALM
THAT WE JUST DON'T FEEL.
"THE BOS'N'S PLAYING OCTAPUS
WITH HIS HANDS UPON THE WHEEL."

"THE RUDDER'S SPINNING LEFT - THEN RIGHT
THE HELM IS GOING ROUND.
IT'S JUST A MINOR ZIG-ZAG COURSE.
WE WILL NOT RUN AGROUND."

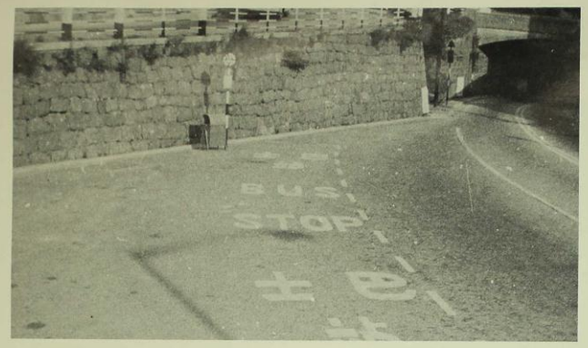
THE CAPTAIN'S IN HIS CABIN
WE'RE SURE HIS KNEES HE'S ON.
BUT YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T WORRY,
DUGOUT DAVE HAS GOT THE "CONN"!

SUBIC BAY, R.P.

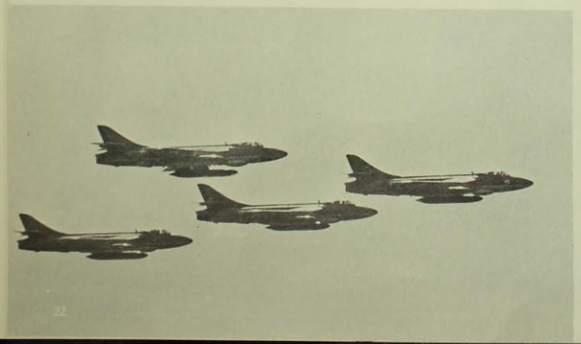
JOLO'S PESOS SAN MIGU'



INSPECT, EVEN RANGER TOO!



SINGAPORE

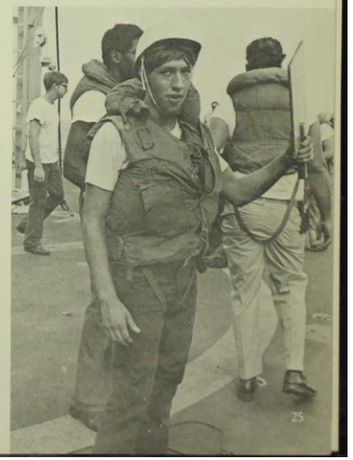


BUT SERIOUSLY FOLKS

SHIP'S

PARTY

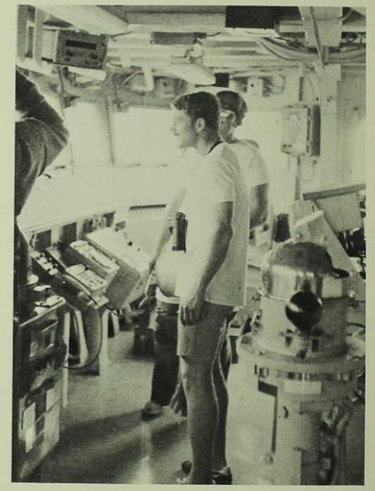
WORK - WORK



LOVE

GOSSIP

PREPARED



FORMAL

WORK

SHIPS . . . AN ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT JOB.

DEALERS IN DEATH SAVE A LIFE

THE SHIN WEN PAO
KAOHSIUNG

罹患急病需開刀
難找RHB血液
三美軍聞知慨捐鮮血
鍾麗花適時開刀化險爲夷

【高雄訊】一名罹患子宮葡萄性惡性腫瘤的急需開刀的婦女鍾麗花，因體內是RHB血型，國內不易覓得此種血液輸血動手術，幸在中、美軍警人員通力的合作下，由三名美軍水兵捐出一千七百五十西西血液，才使得她在昨（十七）日順利開刀，挽回一條生命。

家住前鎮的鍾麗花，因患上子宮葡萄性惡性腫瘤，經由省立高雄醫院醫生林鶴一診斷後，限在一週內立即動手術予以割除，否則後果不堪設想。

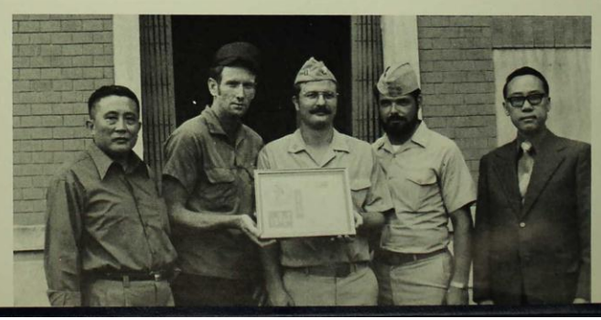
可是鍾麗花是屬RHB血型，在台雄市百萬人口中，據估計僅有卅多人是此種血型，很難購得此種血液，在血液難求下，使得動手術無法順利進行。

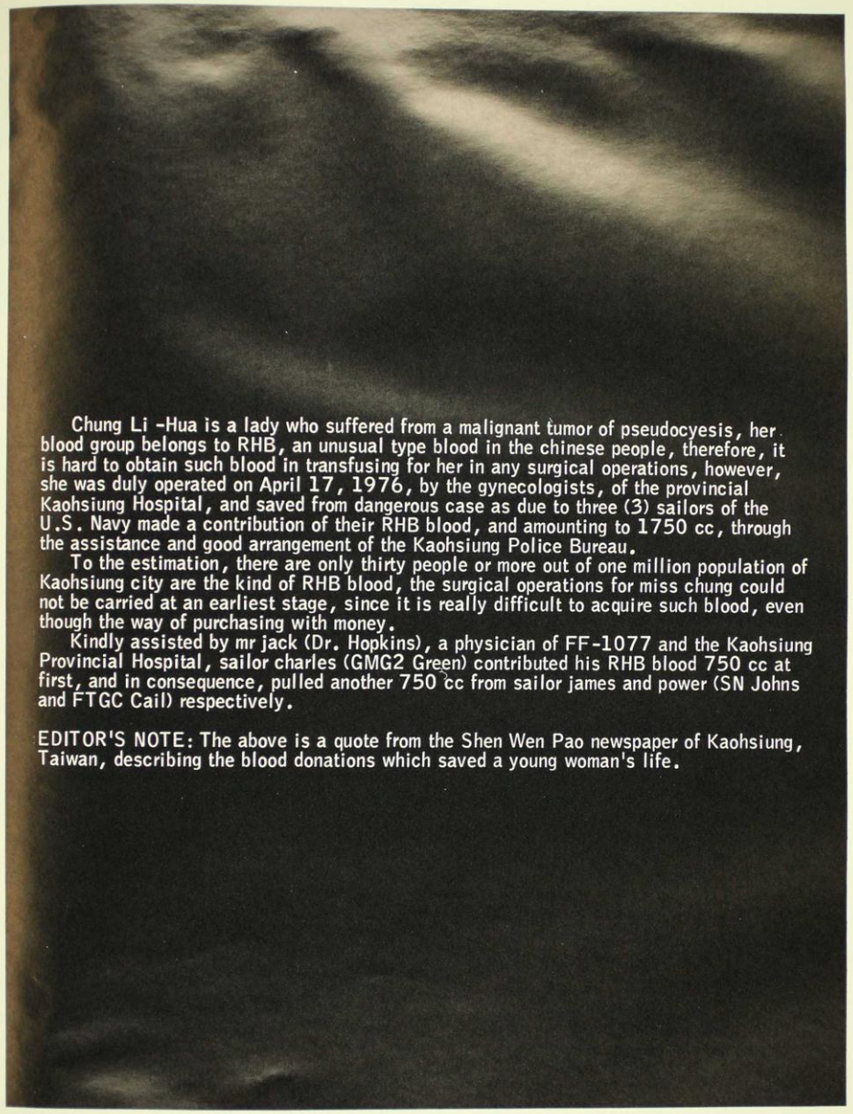
林文章、鍾麗花夫婦，心中至感焦急，乃向生命線求援，經他們的指點，透過市警局外事課長李劍萍及外事服務站巡佐程克中的設法，向正停泊在高雄港的FF一〇七七美軍軍艦交涉，因爲具有此種血型者，在歐美人士中居多，希望他們之中有人願意輸血。

經由軍艦醫官傑克之查尋，先找到剛自外返艦的查理士水兵，他一人慨允輸出七百五十西西之後，又向士兵傑美士，波耳二人各輸得七百五十西西。

這三位輸血救人之美軍士兵，不接受任何餽贈，最後在盛情難却下，僅同意由王曜臨局長製作一面獎牌相贈供作留念。

時五十分，到達台北，經依殺人罪嫌移送旬在新美都酒家喝酒武士刀及一把短刀，高中、省立台東高中爲十一時三十分。地檢處偵辦。時，與林明秋發生衝坐計程車在草魚城海、省立新竹高中、省





Chung Li -Hua is a lady who suffered from a malignant tumor of pseudocyesis, her blood group belongs to RHB, an unusual type blood in the chinese people, therefore, it is hard to obtain such blood in transfusing for her in any surgical operations, however, she was duly operated on April 17, 1976, by the gynecologists, of the provincial Kaohsiung Hospital, and saved from dangerous case as due to three (3) sailors of the U.S. Navy made a contribution of their RHB blood, and amounting to 1750 cc, through the assistance and good arrangement of the Kaohsiung Police Bureau.

To the estimation, there are only thirty people or more out of one million population of Kaohsiung city are the kind of RHB blood, the surgical operations for miss chung could not be carried at an earliest stage, since it is really difficult to acquire such blood, even though the way of purchasing with money.

Kindly assisted by mr jack (Dr. Hopkins), a physician of FF-1077 and the Kaohsiung Provincial Hospital, sailor charles (GMG2 Green) contributed his RHB blood 750 cc at first, and in consequence, pulled another 750 cc from sailor james and power (SN Johns and FTGC Cail) respectively.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above is a quote from the Shen Wen Pao newspaper of Kaohsiung, Taiwan, describing the blood donations which saved a young woman's life.

TYPHOON OLGA

MANY SAILORS HAVE ASKED OF ME
"HAVE YOU RIDDEN A TYPHOON OUT AT SEA?"
"SEVEN", SAYS I, "AND NONE OF THEM FUN"
BUT THEY'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO NUMBER ONE

WELL, NUMBER ONE WAS A PERKY LASS
AND ACROSS THE PACIFIC SHE SHOWED HER CLASS.
TYPHOON OLGA WAS HER NAME
JUST NORTH OF SUBIC, SHE WON HER FAME.

SHE CAME FROM THE EAST AND CROSSED THE LAND
NEAR SUBIC BAY, SHE MADE HER STAND.
SHE WHIPPED THE SEA AND LASHED THE SHORE
WE THOUGHT SHE'D LAST FOREVERMORE.

ONE DAY, TWO, THREE DAYS, FOUR
SHE HOVERED THERE, JUST OFF THE SHORE.
WE HEADED SOUTH TO AVOID HER WRATH
BUT HER FURY EVENTUALLY CROSSED OUR PATH.

SOUTH OF MINDORO WE MADE OUR STAND
THEN LEARNED OF A FREIGHTER UP ON LAND.
WE HEADED IN TO HAVE A LOOK.
BUT ON THIS FREIGHTER, WE CLOSED THE BOOK.

SHE WAS HIGH AND DRY ON THE BEACH THAT DAY
THE CREW ON BOARD, IN A VERY BAD WAY.
WE ATTEMPTED RESCUE BY WHIRLEY BIRD
BUT WE'LL STAY ON BOARD, WAS THE FINAL WORD.

WE BID THEM LUCK AND RETURNED TO SEA
WHERE OLGA WAITED WITH INTENSITY.
WE ROLLED AND PITCHED AND TOSSED AROUND
HAD SLEEPLESS NIGHTS AND ALL WORE FROWNS.

SUBIC BAY WAS JUST CLOSE BY
BUT TO US IT WAS PIE IN THE SKY
ENTER PORT - MAYBE TODAY
WE DON'T KNOW, IT'S NOT OUR SAY.

OLGA'S MOVING ON A NORTHERN TRACK
WE SURELY HOPE SHE WON'T BE BACK
WE'LL ENTER PORT, HOPEFULLY TODAY
AND CELEBRATE IN OUR OWN WAY.

WE MET OLGA, BUT DIDN'T WIN
BECAUSE SHE KEPT US FROM GOING IN
SHE WASN'T THE WORST, SHE WASN'T THE BEST
BUT NO ONE ON BOARD TOOK HER IN JEST.

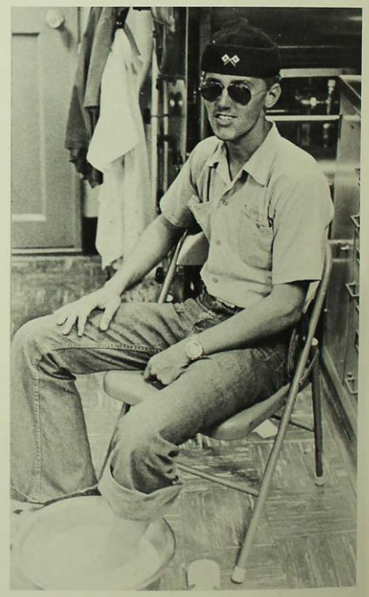
NOW THE NEW MEN ASK OF ME
"WILL THEY GET ANY WORSE OUT HERE AT SEA?"
"MAYBE", SAID I, "BUT I CAN'T TELL."
BETTER OR WORSE, THEY'RE ALL PURE HELL.

EVERYONE AS SURE AS CAN BE
HAS HAD TYPHOONS AT SEA
MORE WILL COME, WE'RE SURE OF THAT
NEXT TIME, THOUGH, THEY'LL BE OLD HAT.

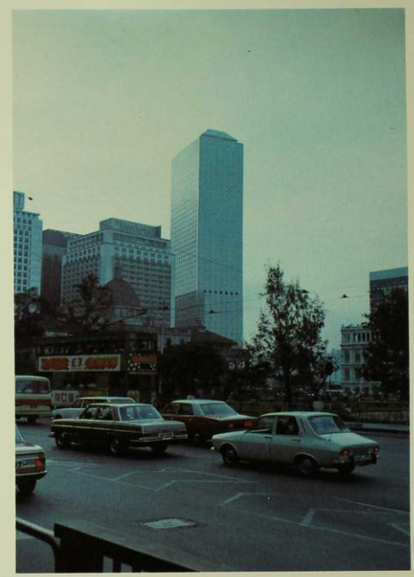
THE NEW MEN NO LONGER ASK OF ME
"HAVE YOU RIDDEN OUT A TYPHOON AT SEA?"
THEY ALL AGREE, IT WAS NO FUN
BUT THEY'LL ALL REMEMBER NUMBER ONE.

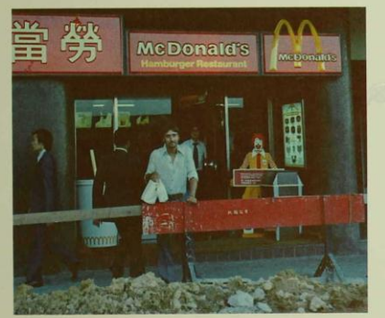
STGCS LATSHAW

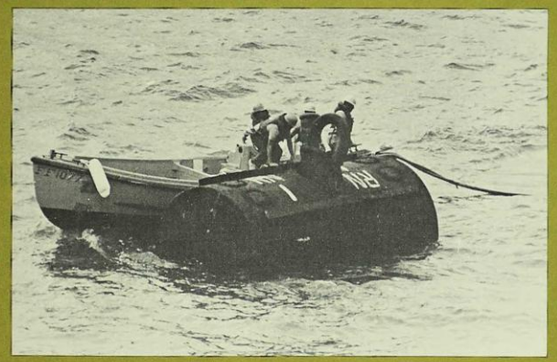
PAUSE . . . FOR A MOMENT

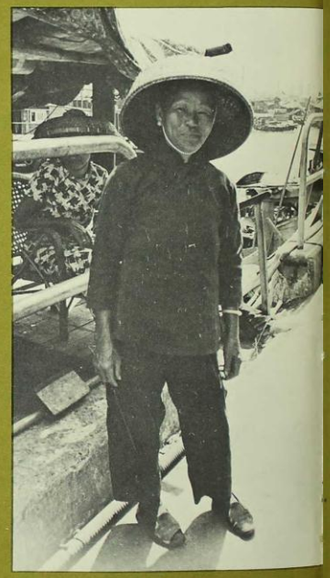


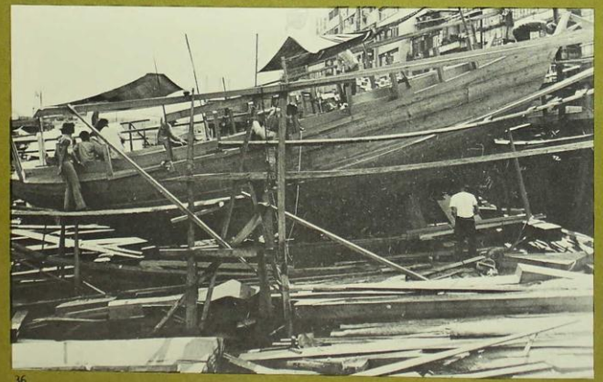
HONG KONG











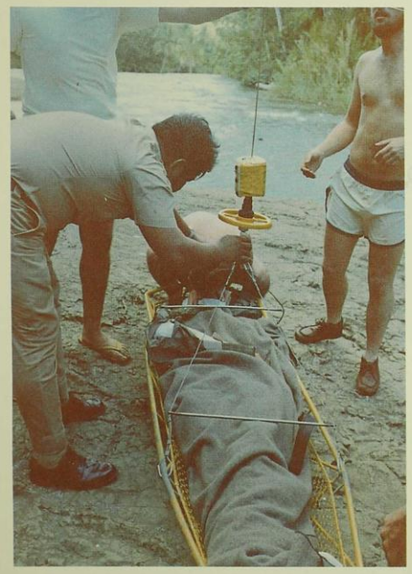
GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

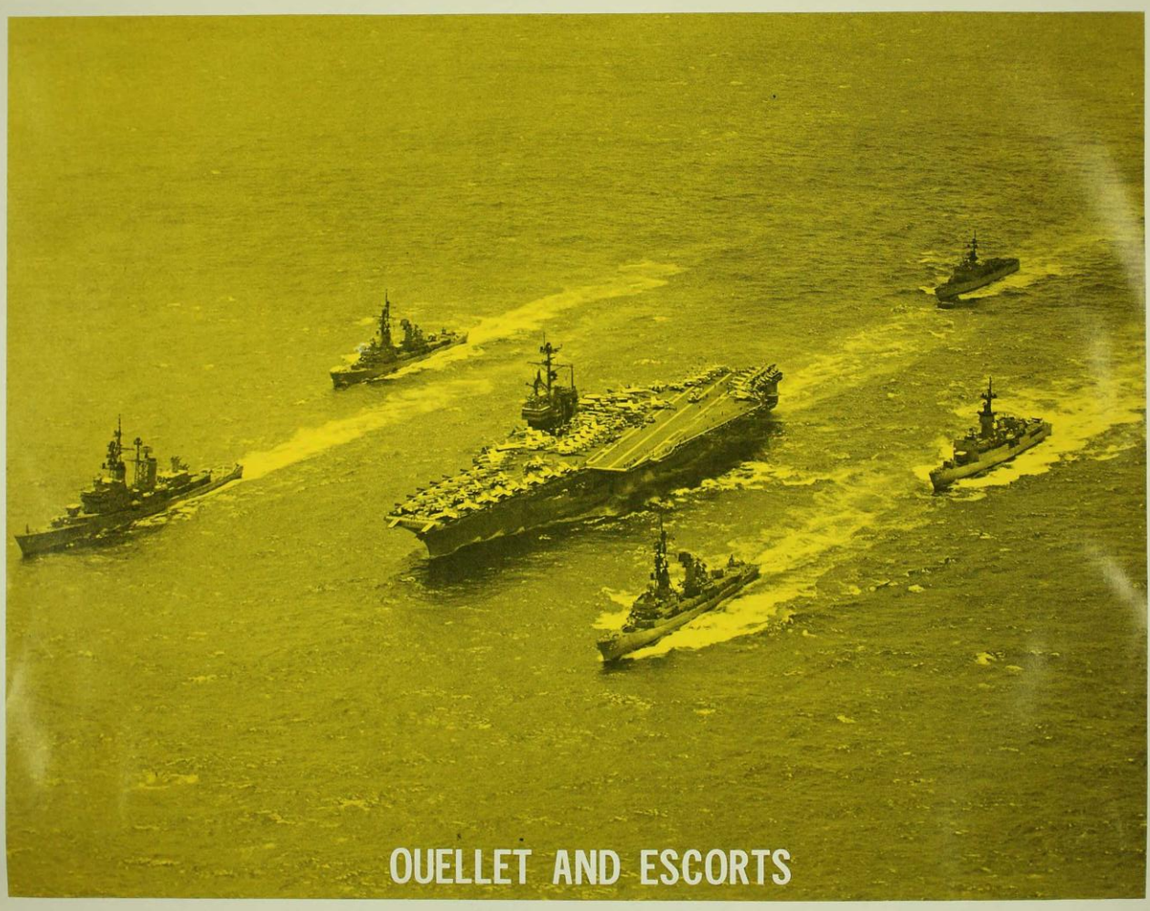
KAOH SHIUNG

TSOYING

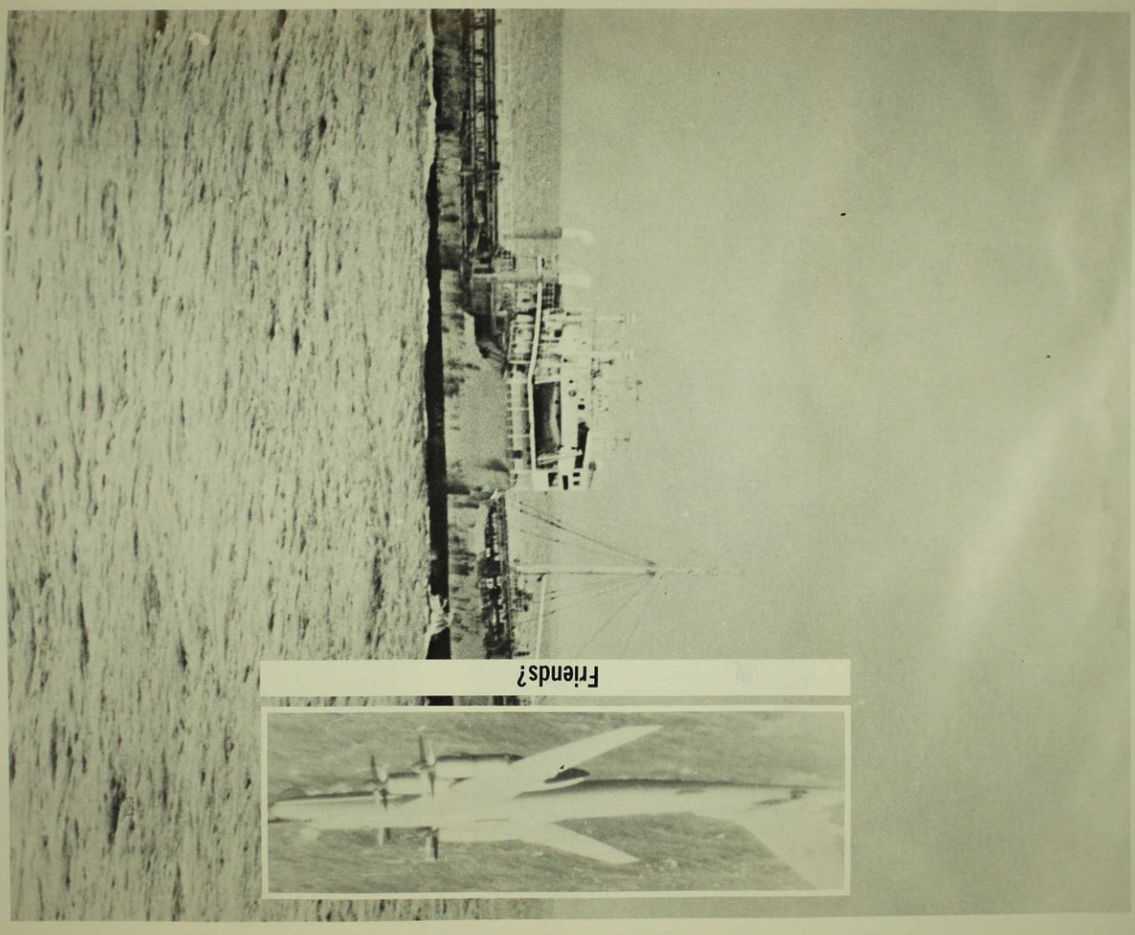
TAIWAN

RESCUE IN GUAM





OUELLET AND ESCORTS

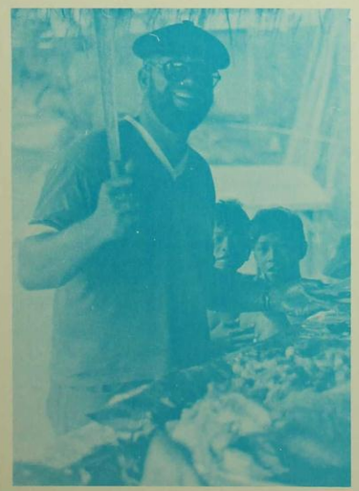


Friends?

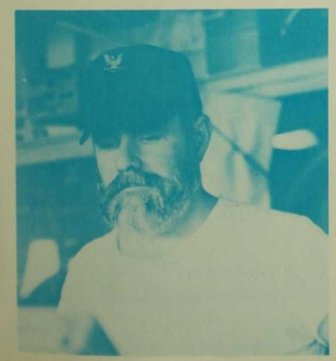
SMILE

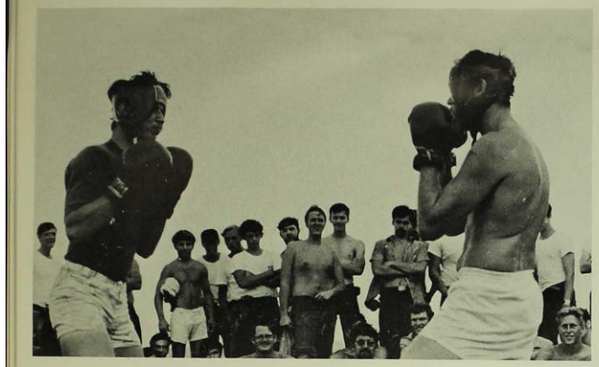
OUELLET

FACES



ALL IN A DAY'S WORK . . .





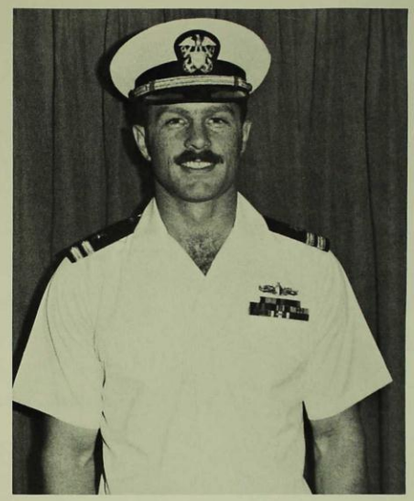
REMEMBER . . .

THE
SMOKERS

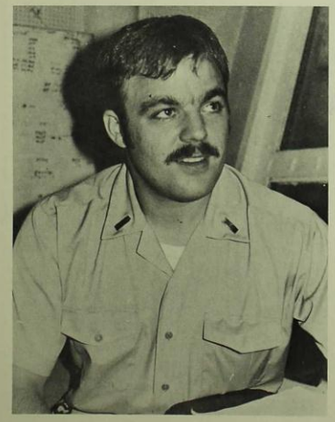
NO
BEER
IN
GUAM

CROSSING
THE
LINE

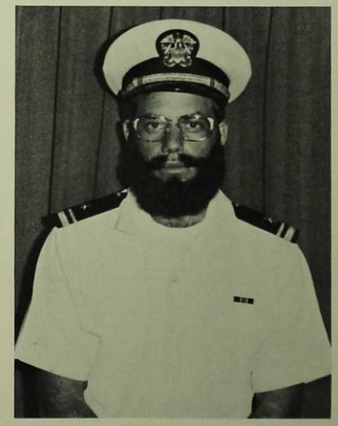
ENGINEERING



LT KENNEDY
ENGINEERING OFFICER



ENSIGN LANGDELL
DCA



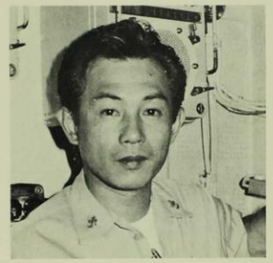
LTjg MACSWAIN
MPA

ICCS TAYLOR

EMC NEWSOME

BTC POULIN

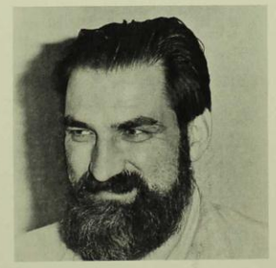
MMC WATTS



MMC MAGPUSAO

BTC HOKE

BT1 TAYLOR

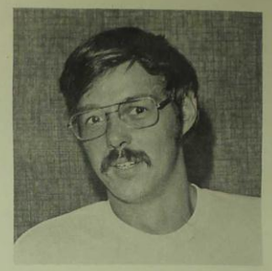


BT1 WOODARD

MM1 PALMER

MM2 ARTHERS

ICFA MARLER



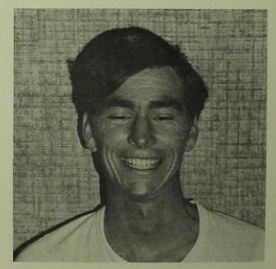
MR3 NELSON

EN1 DEVRIES

EMFA HORI

EM3 LAJOIE

ICFN DICKSON



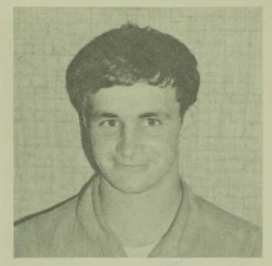
EM3 POOLE

EM3 LAMBERT

EM1 THOME

EM2 TAYLOR

ICFN BANKS



EM2 ARTHAUD

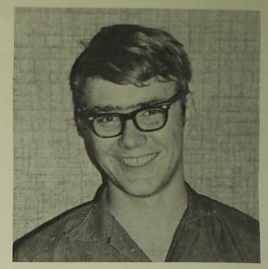
EMFA BOGACKI

IC3 DAUDLIN

EMFN HAGER

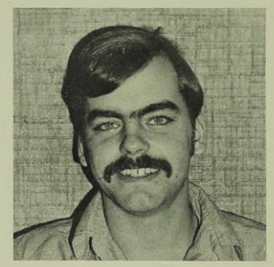
ENFA SCHLUETER

EN1 ESPIRITU



BTFA CLAYTON

BTFN HUTTO



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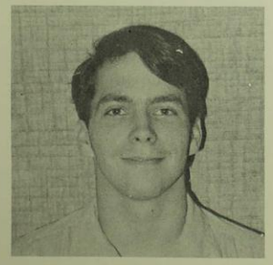
BTFR STEWART



BTFN BURCH

BTFA LAMARSNA

BT3 LOTT

HT2 KRUDER

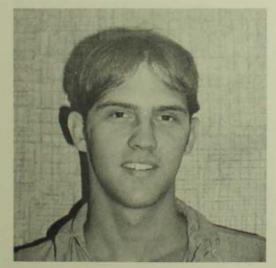
HTFA THOMAS

HTFN HOUTS

HT3 HAUG

BT3 KUKLA

BTFN CONSORTI



BTFN DAYTON

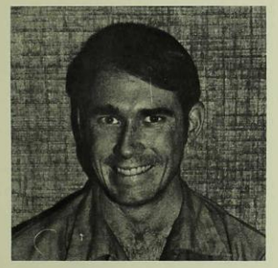
MMFA BROWN

BT1 NELSON

HT3 ATTEBERY

BT3 LEONARD

MM2 SCHEPPER



MM3 SHOULDERS

MM3 SHRAUGER

HT3 DRISCOLL

FA TURNER

MMFA STEINMILLER

MM2 MARSH

MM3 ROSS

MMFA BUZBY

MMFN BRALEY

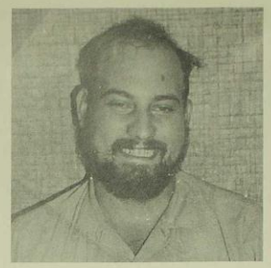
FA NICKLYN

FN BELTRAN

FA WISNOR

FR THOMPSON

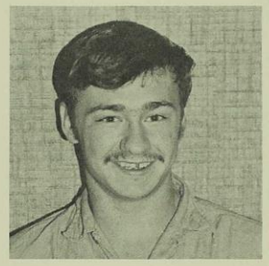
MM3 BOYD



MMFN HOMER

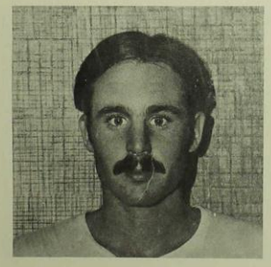
MMFN ARMS

MM3 BORDERS

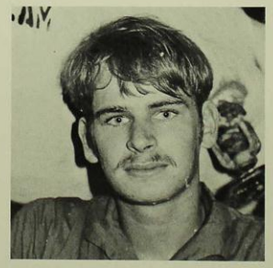


MMFN BRALEY

MMFA DUKE



MMFA BRISTON

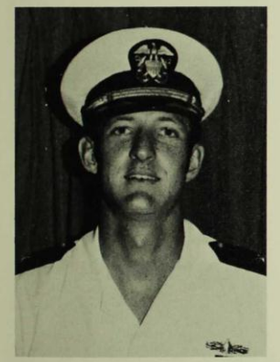


MM3 BALLANCE

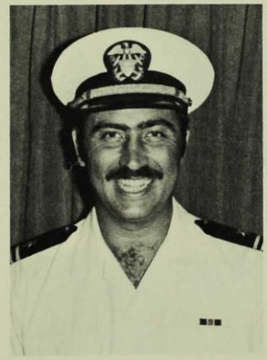
MMFA KETTERMAN

WEAPONS

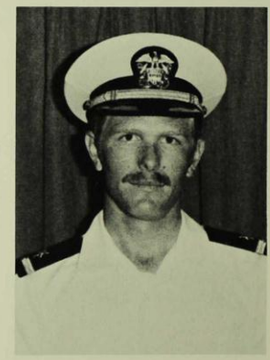
LT ECKLEY
WEAPONS OFFICER



LTjg SWINTON
ASW OFFICER



LTjg MACDONALD
GUNNERY OFFICER



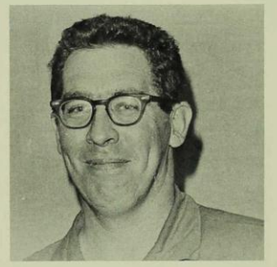
ENS HORNE
FIRST LT

STGCS LATSHAW

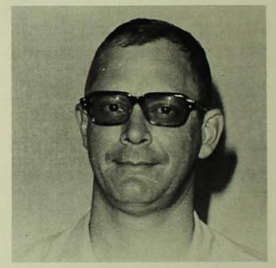
FTGC CAIL

BMC FLORES

FTM1 ANDERSON



BM1 ROBERTS



STG1 LEWIS

GMG1 BOLLINGER

GMG1 SOCALL

STG1 BLEVINS

STG2 CLARK

TMSN BLACK

SA BUTLER

SA CHIARADIA

FTGSN BAKER

FTMSA CAMPBELL

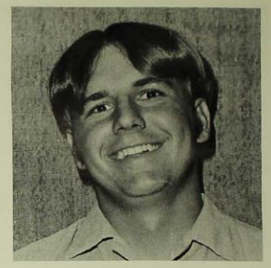
SN CANNOY

SN BENDO

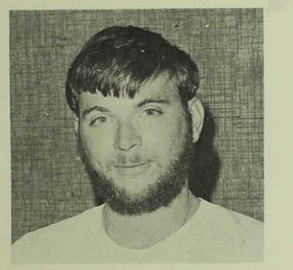
TM2 CLINE

STG3 THOMAS

STG2 DONOVAN



SN COX



FTG2 SLININGER

STG3 THOMAS

GMG3 WATERS

FTG3 GALLAGHER

GMGSN FRENCH

SR TRAITZ

TMSA WASSILCHECK

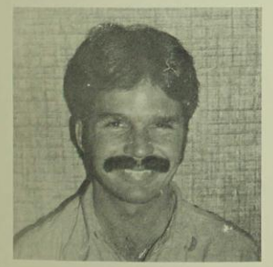
STG3 FULFER

STG3 WAGNER

SA VAN DAELE

SA TERRY

BM3 SMITH



STG3 SMITH

SR DELANGE

STG3 FARIS

GMT3 PILANT

GMG2 GREEN

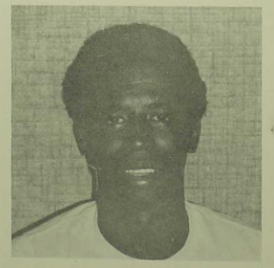
SN HASTY

SN HILDEBRAND

BM3 MILLER

SN McCONAHA

SN JOHNS



SN JOHNSON

FTG3 LANDRY

FTG2 LIGHT

STG2 MERRILL

SN JOLIN

FTG3 MURDICK

FTGSN MEYER

SA NUKOLSZAK

SN REINHOLZ

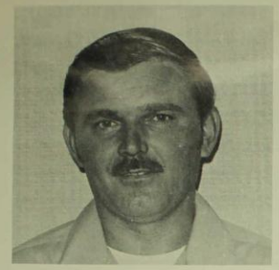
GMG2 RHODES

STG3 RUFO

SUPPLY

LT TOFT
SUPPLY OFFICER

ENS KIERNER
DISBURSING OFFICER



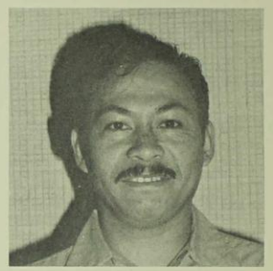
MSC McCORD

SKC DEMPSEY

SK2 McDONALD

MS1 ELPIDES

MS1 SONSON



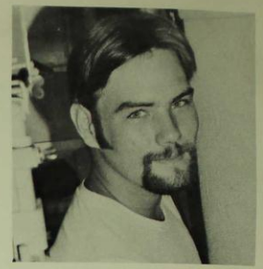
MS2 AGUILAR

MS3 ONTALAN

MS3 OLSON

SHSN DAVIS

SKSA TAYLOR



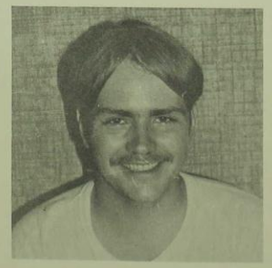
SHSN HENNESSY

SHSN MALLETTE

SK2 TORNE

SN ETAN

SN FRANKHOUSE



SHSA OLSZEWSKI

OPERATIONS

LT GIVENS
OPERATIONS OFFICER

LTjg DEASARO
NAVIGATOR

ENS HARPER
CIC OFFICER

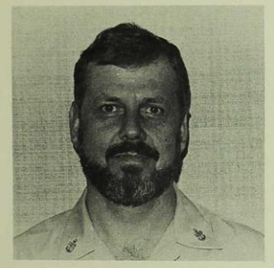
ENS BROWN
EMO

ENS RAUDONIS
COMM OFFICER

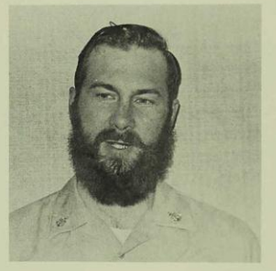
QMC HOLLOWAY

YNC LANGERSTROM

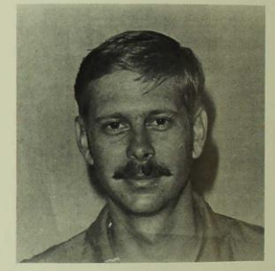
EWC ONEUFER



ETC ALLEN

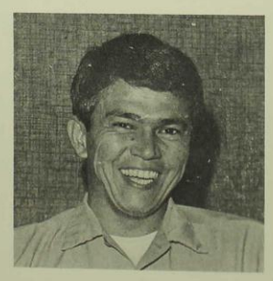


OSC EMERY



PN1 PATTON

OS1 McCALL



OS1 MOLLER

RM2 MORGAN

OSSN BAKER

EW2 SIETSEMA

RMSN SHORTER

PCSA SHINN

OS3 PARSLEY

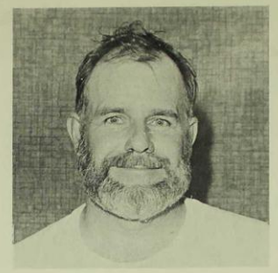
OS3 PEASE

SM2 MARLER

ET2 KARAVAS

SMSN JOHNSON

YN3 McGINLEY



QM3 GILMORE

ETSN GILBERT

ETSN GALSTAD

TNSA FULCHER

RM3 DAY

HM3 DAQUIOAG

ET2 COWART

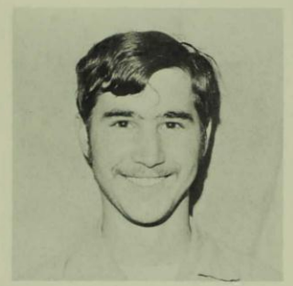
RM2 COLLINS

RMSN INVERGO

OSSN GLOECKNER

ET2 HAYNES

EW3 HENRY



EWSN HUMPHREY

QMSN WAREN

OS2 ZIBERS

PN3 WEST

EW2 WILLIAMS

ET3 YOKIE

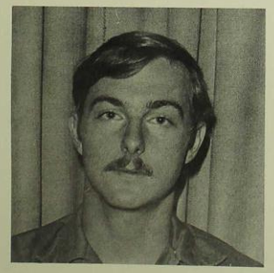
ET2 SISSOM

ET2 UNDERWOOD

SM1 SMITH

OSSN STRICKLAND

OSSN TACY



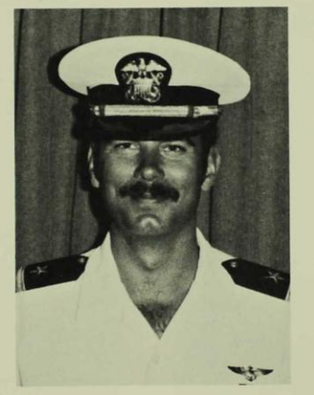
OSSN TERRELL

SMSN TOURVILLE

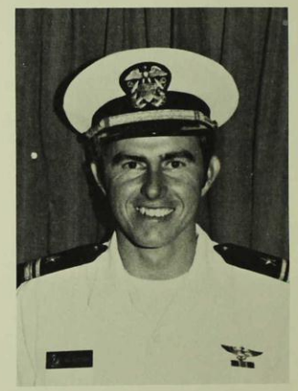
AIR

LT TURNER
HSL 37 DET 1 OFFICER-IN-CHARGER

LT BLACK
ASS'T O-IN-C



LT GIBNEY



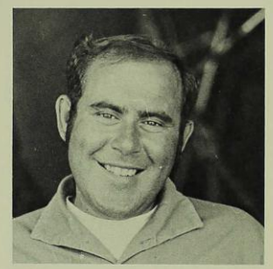
LTjg TALIAFERRO

ADJC PAYNE

ADJ2 DUNCAN

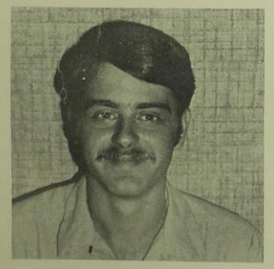
AEAN LOVELESS

AE3 CABREIRA



AMS2 DERRINGER

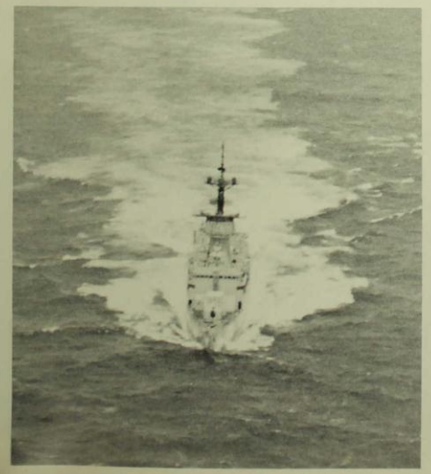
AT1 SPROUSE

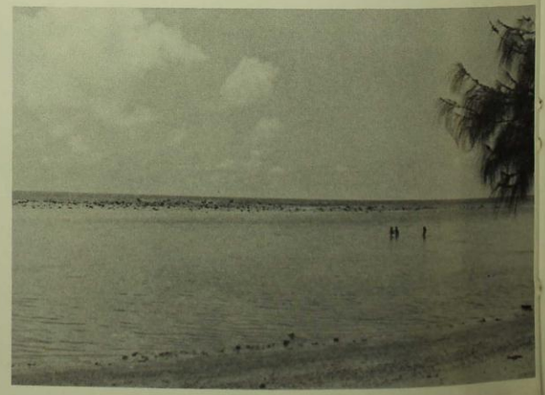


AW3 NORQUIST

AX2 IRVIN

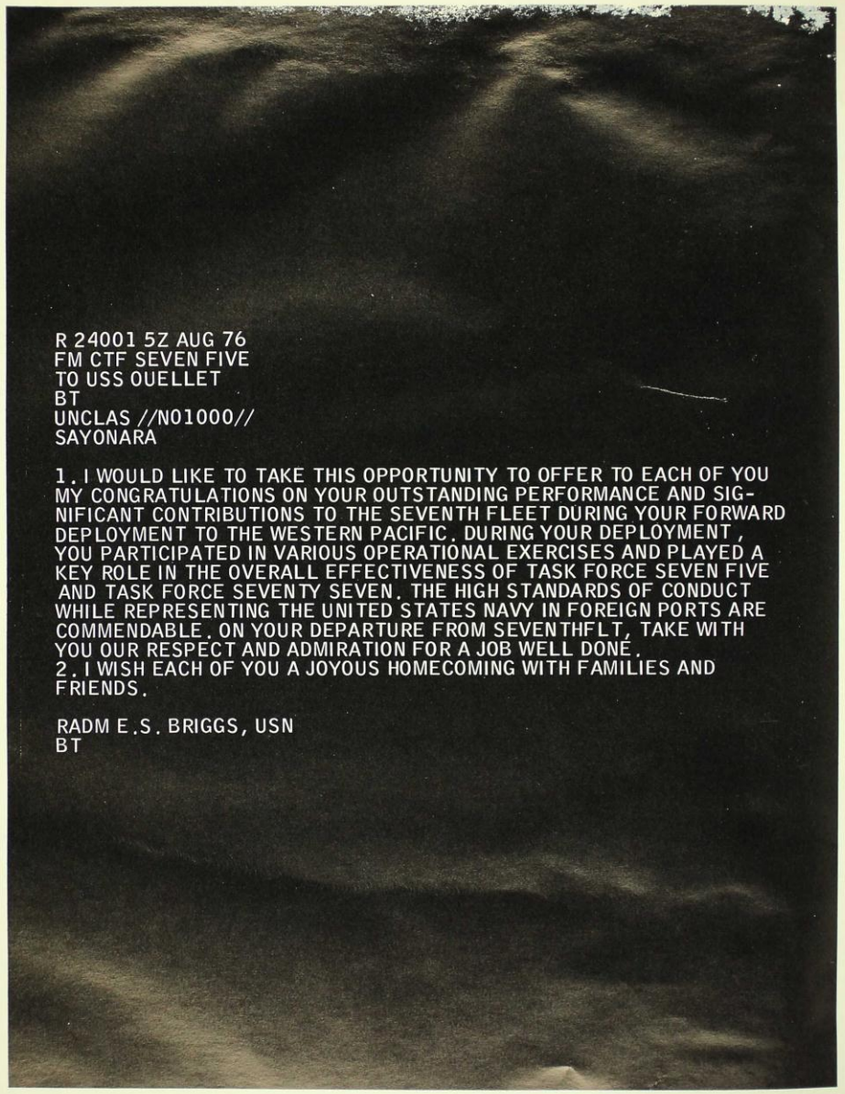
GOING HOME!!! WESTPAC IS JUST ABOUT OVER





HOME AT LAST

NAVAL BASE— PEARL . . .



R 24001 5Z AUG 76
FM CTF SEVEN FIVE
TO USS OUELLET
BT
UNCLAS //N01000//
SAYONARA

1. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER TO EACH OF YOU MY CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SEVENTH FLEET DURING YOUR FORWARD DEPLOYMENT TO THE WESTERN PACIFIC. DURING YOUR DEPLOYMENT, YOU PARTICIPATED IN VARIOUS OPERATIONAL EXERCISES AND PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN THE OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF TASK FORCE SEVEN FIVE AND TASK FORCE SEVENTY SEVEN. THE HIGH STANDARDS OF CONDUCT WHILE REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY IN FOREIGN PORTS ARE COMMENDABLE. ON YOUR DEPARTURE FROM SEVENTHFLT, TAKE WITH YOU OUR RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE.
2. I WISH EACH OF YOU A JOYOUS HOMECOMING WITH FAMILIES AND FRIENDS.

RADM E.S. BRIGGS, USN
BT