

4 July 1972

Remove Watermark Now

Dear WARRINGTON Family and friends,

"Magandang hapon?", which is Phillippino Tagalog for "good afternoon". I am writing from the WARRINGTON bridge as the ship steams in last place of a column of four ships through the San Bernardino Straits, south of the island of Luzon, Republic of the Philippines. Tomorrow morning, the Task Unit will reach the U.S. Naval Station Subic Bay, R.P., where all ships will undertake a few days of voyage repairs and receive final outfittings and briefings for duty with the SEVENTH Fleet. I wanted to mail this letter in the Philippines, in order to let you know how the trip went, how your men in WARRINGTON are faring and what lies in store for WARRINGTON in the near future.

By way of introduction, suffice it to say for now that I have been trained and am qualified for this job, that I am immensely pleased with the condition of the ship - she is ready for any and all demands - with the spirit and state of training of your men in WARRINGTON, and that I stand beside you in your loneliness and hardships of separation. I left my wife and four young children in Newport for a second time in twelve months to join and command WARRINGTON during the challenging months ahead. You will learn more about me through these newsletters as the months roll on, as I answer letters which I hope to receive from you, and especially as I have the privilege of meeting many of you in the not-to-distant future.

The transit has been blessed with beautiful weather; the seas have been generally calm and the trade winds have blown us gently westward. The cruise however has not lacked shipboard activity. Your men have been very busy conducting various drills in preparation for future operations, as naval gunfire support, helicopter ops, underway replenishment (actual-three times), damage control, and engineering casualty control. The training which started upon leaving Newport and the crew members have given full effort showing that they will be ready for whatever WARRINGTON will be called upon to do.

I realize that as WARRINGTON departed on 5 June, her immediate destination was not public knowledge. Now, on the eve of her arrival, more can be said about her destination and mission. On or about 8 July I will report with WARRINGTON to the Commander Naval Gunfire Support Unit, U.S. SEVENTH Fleet, for duties involving gunfire support of Republic of Vietnam forces in South Vietnam. As presently scheduled, these duties are to be completed in early August, at which time WARRINGTON in company with USS BASTILONE will be detached to procede enroute to the Indian Ocean for duties under the Commander U.S. Middle East Force. The itinerary enroute to the Middle East is to be determined in the near future. Beyond that, all that I can tell you is WARRINGTON

is scheduled to return to Newport on 3 December. As dates and places become more certain, I will keep you informed.

From time to time in these letters I'll discuss benefits which you folks at home should look into. One program in the Newport area that is designed for dependents is the Dental Plaque Control Program for Dependents at the Naval Dental Clinic Newport. The program is intended for dependents, 6 years and older, commencing at the clinic on 10 July. Call the clinic (841-2541) and make appointments for you and the kids.

Throughout the trip, we WARRINGTON men think continually of home and hope that all is well. One of the biggest morale factors during a deployment is mail. We will be in areas where mail delivery will be slow and delayed. The men know this, but I'm making a special plea that you write as often as possible and most importantly, regularly. There is no better feeling than getting a bundle of letters after being unable to receive mail aboard for some time.

On 20 June, CDR ZIRPS presented to several men of WARRINGTON letters of Commendation for their efforts in the past months. Congratulations and a well done goes out to those men who have done more than their share:

Sailor of the Quarter -	GMG1 Kenneth WHEELER
Letter of Commendation -	LTJG Jerry OLIVER, Engineering work in GTMO and Cruise preparations.
Letter of Commendation for Nuclear Weapons Handling Inspection -	HT3 Steve LINDLEY, EM2 John EDMONDS SN Stephen BROWNELL STC John DAVIS STG2 Jean CUTHAN STG2 Raymond HORSLEY STG3 Gregg HART STG2 Gerald TABOR STG3 Gerald KREIN STG3 Donald CAFARO STG2 Ray LOZOYA GMG3 Stephen SELVES GMG3 Raymond MCMULLEN STG2 Michael SHORT

Letter of Appreciation For Nuclear Weapons Handling Inspection	FN John EDWARDS MM3 Gene SURBER
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Also, congratulations goes out to a new father among the crew EM2 John H. EDMONDS. His wife had a baby girl, Faith, on June 23, 1972.

Throughout the deployment, crew members will be going to other assignments and new ones will be coming aboard to take their place. It is sometimes difficult to replace experienced personnel but the new and young crew members are enthusiastic and are learning their jobs quickly.

Recent arrivals on board are:

BT3 Herbert YOUNG
 BTFA Randy MILLER
 BTFN John ADAMS
 RDSA Henry CHAPIN
 SA Graig CARLSON
 SR Luther INGRAM
 HT3 Dale CLARKSON
 QM3 David PETERSEN
 TMSN James DIXON
 HTFA Robert KLINGER
 TN William GRIFFIN

MMFN Edward DEITT
 MM3 Paul DUFILIE
 HM3 William RECKLING
 SD2 Alberto RODRIGUEZ
 PN1 Bobby DAVIDSON
 SR Kevin HUTCHINS
 DK2 George NADEAU
 SR Saveene BROWN
 EMFA John RAFFERTY
 SA Lawrence GORMAN
 FN James NAGY

TN Ronald SCOTT
 FTG3 James COPPOLA
 BT1 Tim MAHONEY
 TN Edgardo LIBAO
 SM1 James WILSON
 BTFN Michael WOLDT
 BTFN Richard WICHMAN
 BTFA Mick DISTEFANO
 GMG1 Jerral ROBINSON
 HTFA Allen BORDERS
 BTFA Dale SHULTS

I am also pleased to announce to you that as a result of recent Navy wide examinations a good number of your men will be advanced shortly. They are listed below by the month of advancement.

June

David DANKENBRING, RD3 to RD2
 Charles FLAHERTY, QM3 to QM2
 Steven MOUNTIN, RD3 to RD2
 Robert WISSINGER, BM3 to BM2

July

Lewis BEGIN, BTFN to BT3
 John CALLAHAN, RD3 to RD2
 Steven GLASS, BTFN to BT3
 Gregg HART, STG3 to STG2
 Thomas HARTING, CSSN to CS3
 William IRVING, SMSN to SM3
 Joseph MARKOWSKI, BTFN to BT3
 Walter MCDONOUGH, BTFN to BT3

This is all for now. Again, I sincerely ask that you drop me a line (after you write your WARRINGTON man), and let me know what you're thinking and wondering about, what matter you will like to see discussed in these newsletters. So, take care of yourselves, don't worry, we miss you -- and write!


 N. H. PETREE, Jr.
 Commander
 U.S. Navy
 Commanding Officer
 USS WARRINGTON (DD-843)