



UNITED STATES SHIP THOMAS C. HART (FF 1092) FAMILYGRAM

Dear *Mh and Mrs Taylor,*

It has been three months since my last letter to the families of HART members and though it has been a term of high activity for the most part we have remained in the Norfolk area.

After a well earned month's standdown the ship participated as a landing platform for over 600 landings by the LAMPS HELICOPTER WING of which our own LAMPS is a part. The next three weeks were spent conducting midshipmen training in which we were in and out of port like a yo-yo. The ship also successfully qualified in Gun Fire support during one of the two day training sessions.

Our underway time was culminated by a port visit to Albany, New York 14-17 July. It's a long way up the Hudson River to Albany (over 130 miles) but it is a beautiful trip up the historic river, passing New York City, the Statue of Liberty, West Point, and Hyde Park, the home of F.D.R, as well as many small scenic towns.

We received a very warm welcome in Albany as the ship was met by the Mayor, the honorable Erastus Corning, which started off the visit. Over 6,000 people from the area toured the T.C HART over the weekend, and many of them expressed to me how much they enjoyed the visit and meeting the crew. After so many visits to ports in the Mediterranean it was extremely pleasant to visit a good U.S port and to receive such a warm reception from the populace of the Capital of New York State.

The ship is now preparing for our inspection by the Bureau of Inspection and Survey which looks at all aspects of the ship's equipment and maintenance. The inspection scheduled 7-11 August is the last major hurdle prior to our entering the shipyard in Philadelphia in late September. The ship will, make a weekend port visit to Penns Landing in downtown Philadelphia the weekend of 23-24 September, and I sincerely hope that all of you in the area will come down to visit the ship.

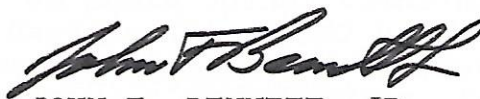
HART will change its home port to Philadelphia for the 10 month overhaul and many of our families will be moving to the Philadelphia area. Mrs. Jeanne Blount, wife of my Weapons Officer and Senior Watch Officer, will be in Norfolk during the overhaul and will be the senior point of contact here as my wife Didi was during the deployment.

Our Ombudsman Mrs. Shirley Goree and Mrs. Sharon Easter will also be remaining in the Norfolk area. As soon as I have a telephone number in Philadelphia I will advise you in the event that you have the need to contact either myself or my wife in Philadelphia.

The Executive Officer will keep you up to date on the many advancements we have had over the past three months as the HART continues to do everything it is called upon to do thanks to the efforts of our outstanding crew. The shipyard period will not be the best of times, as the ship will be all ripped up installing new equipment and completely overhauling existing components. On the high side we will be home for the holidays this year with a stability schedule that will be most welcome.

My next letter will be written in early October from Philadelphia. My best wishes for the remainder of the summer.

Sincerely,



JOHN F. BENNETT, JR.

Key phone numbers in event problems arise

Mrs. Blount	467-0790
Mrs. Goree	587-9094
Mrs. Easter	583-9371

Executive Officers Corner

Since our return in April we have made every effort to give All Hands the opportunity to take leave, and enjoy some well-deserved rest and recreation. As we have averaged 25-30 Men on leave every day since then, I think the effort has been successful.

As you see from the following lists of awards and advancements, we have not let down in professional performance and personal achievement. You can be proud of all the people on this list, from the Seaman Recruit who advanced to Seaman Apprentice, to the two who made Chief Petty Officer.

Good Conduct Medals or certificates were issued to the following Personnel:

SK1 REGAN- Third Award
PNCS RICHARDS- Fifth Award
MSC MOORE- Fourth Award
IC1 HELTON- Second Award
BMC PROVANCHER- Third Award
MM1 NEWSOME- Third Award

The Following Personnel were advanced in rate:

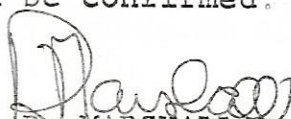
BM3 ARMENTA
MS3 CANNON
MM3 CLOGG
MM3 C. CONNER
HT3 DERR
QM3 DOWNEY
BT2 GOWAN
SH3 HAGGINS
MM3 HOUSER
GMG2 LETITIA
MS3 LOCKWOOD
MM3 R.J. MARTIN
PN3 ONIA
STG1 SEATS
FTG3 SHEAIN
BT3 WILLIAMSON
FTG3 WINEMILLER
FTG3 ERWINE
RMC BURCHETTE
SM2 GLENN
STG2 MYERS
OS2 NAVARRO
SH1 EASTER
STG1 HOLLIS
SKC BRYANT
IC2 WALDHEIM
FTG3 M. SIMPSON
MM2 SMITH
QM3 TOWNS
MM2 BOWMAN

NON-RATED ADVANCEMENTS

SN JACOB
FN ALLEN
BTFN M. CONNOR
SN WRIGHT
GMGSN ERNST
STGSN SMITH
BTFN BAKER
SA ERNSBERGER
SA LEWIS
EMFN JACKSON
RMSA CRAWFORD
BTFA BIRKHIMER
QMSA ROMANO
HTFN DEMONBREUM
FN MICKENS
RMSN MILLER
MMFN SHANEFELT
STGSN ISHEE
BTFN CARPENTER
MMFN DEGNAN
BTFN SPARKMAN
BTFN PEARSON
BTFN K. MILLER
BTFN GAINES
OSSN WALLACE
SA GUTIERREZ
OSSN MOORE
RMSN SANKEY
BTFN DYMIDOWSKI

Our next exam series will be in September and we are hoping to do equally as well.

September will also be moving time for the HART as we shift our homeport to Philadelphia PA. To assist families making the move we are scheduling a presentation by the Housing Office from Philadelphia regarding the availability of Government and private housing. This is tentatively scheduled for early August onboard the ship, and will be open to crewmembers and dependents. Housing applications will be taken at the time. I'll let you know details of time as soon as the date can be confirmed.


R. MARSHALL
LCDR, USN

Master Chief's Corner

As we are all aware, the HART returned to Norfolk in April after seven months in the Mediterranean. After the first three weeks our schedule has been anything but restful, what with the numerous inspections, midshipman cruises, the trip to Albany, New York, which by the way did prove to be an interesting weekend, and preparing for our shipyard overhaul which begins in September, we have been just as busy if not more so than while deployed. As always, the crew has responded as can be expected. Our commitments have been met with as few problems as possible. As in any command we have and will continue to have problems. We can only be thankful our problems are for the most part due to machinery malfunctions which have been handled very well. Hopefully after our Board of Inspection and Survey inspection, which we are now preparing for, is over, we'll have some slack before moving to Philadelphia in September.

The change of homeport to Philadelphia and the shipyard is now becoming the ships big topic of discussion and rightly so. With the usual questions about housing, time off to move, educational services and so on. Many of the questions we expect to be answered shortly as we start receiving information from the shipyard. A change of homeport is no simple matter and will cause hardships on many of us. With some cooperation from the crew and their families we hope to make the move with as little turmoil as possible.

Since our last letter we have seen twenty-seven people in the crew advanced in rate. In a three month period with a crew the size of the HART that is not a bad figure. Congratulations to them all.


BTM T. CROSS