

USS CORPORAL (SS 346)
Fleet Post Office
New York, New York 09501

19 January 1970
At Sea

Dear Families and Friends of CORPORAL,

CORPORAL spent the Holidays moored in the harbor of the Principality of Monaco. Most agree that next to being home Monaco was probably the best place to be in the Mediterranean this time of year.

We arrived there on 18 December after completing a week long French/U.S. Naval exercise. The local Monacesques were extremely friendly and seemed pleased that we were there visiting. The Mayor of Monaco arranged to have us admitted free of charge to the world famous Oceanographic Museum as well as the Exotic Gardens and Grotto. A number of men were invited out to private homes for Christmas dinner. In return for the hospitality shown us we toured hundreds of people through the boat. We had a special tour for Prince Albert, the son of Princess Grace and Prince Rainer. They had been kind enough to invite the Executive Officer, myself and our wives to the Palace for Midnight Mass and Supper on Christmas Eve.

On 27 December we gave a party for 15 girls, ages 8 to 12, from the Lefoyer Orphanage in Monaco. Sonarman Second Class Thomas Brown, Electrician's Mate Third Class Eric Peterson and LTJG Bus Tarbox, organized the party with balloon toys and hamburgers. The little girls enjoyed the party tremendously.

On New Year's Eve LTJG Tarbox and Quartermaster Second Class Byron Boyd appeared on Monte Carlo television to wish viewers a Happy New Year from the men of CORPORAL.

We departed Monaco on 3 January and arrived Naples, Italy on 8 January after providing services to destroyers and aircraft of the SIXTH Fleet. While in Naples many took advantage of tours to Pcmpei, Vesuvius and Rome.

Radioman First Class Bob Liland and his wife entertained a number of CORPORAL men at their home during our visit to Naples. Bob had left CORPORAL in July 1969 for duty with Submarine Flotilla EIGHT at Naples.

On 12 January just prior to departure from Naples, Hospital Corpsman First Class Jack Ruffer and Quartermaster Second Class Byron Boyd were awarded letters of commendation for outstanding performance of duty at their previous duty stations, the 4th Tank Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps at Yakima, Washington and USS ENTEMEDOR (SS 340), respectively. Byron Boyd just returned from a previous deployment to the Mediterranean in November 1968. We appreciate his familiarity with navigation in the Mediterranean. Radioman Third Class William Clapp and Quartermaster Third Class Louis Gedeon were also awarded their silver dolphins at the ceremony.

During the week of 12 January we acted as target submarine for destroyers and aircraft of the SIXTH Fleet who were providing a demonstration of their anti-submarine warfare capability for the Under Secretary of the Navy for Finance.

Yesterday we supervised the final destruction of an ex-U.S. Landing Ship Dock by destroyers of the SIXTH Fleet.

Yeoman Second Class William Fletcher was transferred to USS TRIGGER while both ship and CORPORAL were in Naples together.

Commissaryman Third Class Glenn Zillhardt returned on board after 22 days leave touring Europe.

Fire Control Technician Third Class Ronald Brouwer was fortunate enough to visit his home in Quaker Hill, Connecticut over Christmas.

Eric Peterson was advanced to Electrician's Mate Second Class on 16 January.

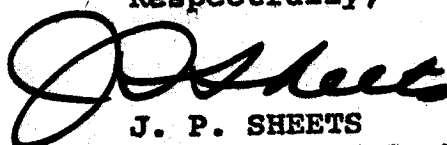
LCDR Rich Anderson was relieved as Executive Officer by LCDR Ron Doyle on 19 December. LCDR Anderson reports to the Deep Submergence Group in San Diego as an operator of a deep submergence vehicle. LCDR Doyle reported from duty in USS GREENFISH (SS 351), home ported in Pearl Harbor.

LCDR Tom McAbee was detailed in Naples for a tour of duty at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. LCDR McAbee had served on board CORPORAL for 27 months.

Ensigns A. C. Johnston and R. D. Kern reported on board in Naples after graduation from the Submarine School at New London.

I trust you all had a Happy Holiday Season. For most on CORPORAL it was a bit lonesome, but morale is climbing now as we pass the half-way mark in our deployment.

Respectfully,



J. P. SHEETS
Commander, U.S. Navy
Commanding