



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Address reply to:
Commanding Officer
USCGC DUANE (WHEC 33)
Boston, Mass., 0210

From: Commanding Officer, USCGC DUANE (WHEC 33)
To: DUANE Officers and Crew

Subj: Message from the Commanding Officer, DUANE to the Officers and Crew

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the many hours you have given unsparingly of yourselves to insure the success of DUANE's WESTPAC deployment.


When we began this voyage it was my fervent hope and prayer to be able to successfully accomplish our mission and the many tasks set before us and to bring each of you home safely. This was no small undertaking; however, with the ever present help of God, and with your dedication to do your jobs, each to the best of his ability, we have been able to achieve a most creditable performance for which you can feel justly proud.

Our success depended upon team effort and all of our accomplishments have clearly demonstrated the need of each of you to successfully conclude a given task. All of our tasks, whether it was surveillance, search, boarding, naval gunfire support, or providing medical assistance at sea or ashore, were evolutions which required "ALL HANDS" to insure success. As each of you know, to be ready, we were required to spend endless hours of watch standing, long hours in replenishment at sea, continuous efforts at maintenance of materiel while underway, and long, hard hours of work during short inport upkeep periods.

DUANE had the honor of being the flagship of Commander, Coast Guard Squadron Three and as such was looked upon as the representative of the high endurance cutters assigned to U. S. Navy Seventh Fleet as a part of Cruiser-Destroyer Group, Seventh Fleet. The appearance and state of readiness of DUANE, at sea or inport, at all times, was such as to bring credit to the Coast Guard and for this you all have a share in the honor it has brought to our ship.

Upon our departure, DUANE received messages from superiors in the chain of command. Each of you can share the honor of this recognition of DUANE's performance of her duties.

It has been a great honor for me to serve as your Commanding Officer. For the many of you that will be transferred - I hope we can serve together again, I would consider myself very fortunate indeed if we could be together again. For those of you who remain with DUANE - I'm glad that you will be here, because we have much to do to ready our ship for ocean station duties and guardian of distressed mariners and airmen in the North Atlantic Ocean.


J. W. HUME
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard