



U.S.S. MULLINNIX (DD-944)

FLEET POST OFFICE

NEW YORK, 09501

1 MARCH 1966

FAMILYGRAM NUMBER 1

Dear "Folks,"

I assumed command of USS MULLINNIX (DD-944) from CDR Robert TISDALE last September. It is my policy to keep MULLINNIX dependents "family" informed about the ship through these informal "Familygrams." Please excuse my tardiness in writing this first one; but, like any new billet, the first several months fly by before you realize it. I am sorry that these cannot be individually written, but with about 325 officers and men aboard it is almost impossible.

I know that most of you are familiar with the history of USS MULLINNIX, but for those who are not familiar with it, I would like to give you a brief run-down. MULLINNIX is a 931 Forest Sherman class destroyer built by the Bethlehem Steel Company in Quincy, Massachusetts and was commissioned on 7 March 1958. She weighs 3,850 tons, is 418 feet long and 45 feet wide. The ship is meant to be a lasting tribute to the memory of Rear Admiral Henry Matson Mullinnix, who died in action while serving onboard his flagship, the escort carrier, LISCOMBE BAY. MULLINNIX is presently assigned to Task Group Alfa, the foremost anti-submarine warfare force in the Atlantic Fleet. Task Group Alfa is composed of an aircraft carrier, USS RANDOLPH (CVS-15) and Destroyer Squadron Thirty-Two which is composed of ten destroyers. MULLINNIX has the honor of serving as flagship for Commander Destroyer Squadron Thirty-Two, commanded by Captain Harry C. Allendorfer, Jr.

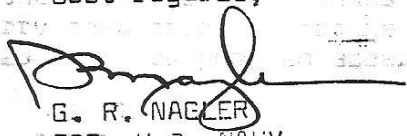
During October and November 1965 we operated in the Atlantic in support of Task Group Alfa's mission. We were fortunate to visit Bermuda for a four day Thanksgiving holiday. Needless to say, All Hands enjoyed their respite from our long days at sea. In early December we entered the yard to have extensive shipyard work done to our engineering plant. We are now scheduled to depart the yard on March 7, reload our ammunition and sail for the Caribbean on March 8, returning to Norfolk on March 31. While we are in the Caribbean, we anticipate visiting such holiday ports as Kingston, Jamaica, and San Juan, Puerto Rico. During the month of April we will operate in the local Virginia Capes operations area for approximately two weeks. May will find us in port preparing for deployment. As your husbands or sons might have informed you, we are scheduled to deploy to the Western Pacific on June 1, returning to Norfolk on December 22. Our schedule to the Western Pacific is not yet known, but I anticipate visiting such places as the Panama Canal, Hawaii, Okinawa, Japan, the Philippines and Hong Kong. It should be an interesting and worthwhile cruise, and I am very pleased that MULLINNIX was selected for this deployment. As I learn more about our deployment, I shall pass along the details.

As you might expect, I am extremely pleased to command MULLINNIX. She has a fine group of officers and men who know their job and do it with dispatch and willingness. We have re-

cently received many new people on board, and I feel certain that they will be full pledged MULLINNIX sailors by the time we return from our Caribbean cruise.

If any of you have any questions that I might be able to answer, please feel free to write me. I shall do my best to answer you. In order to keep you all fully informed, I shall send along another "Familygram" the latter part of May.

Best regards,



G. R. NAGLER
CDR, U.S. NAVY

Commanding, USS MULLINNIX (DD-944)

CDR G. R. NAGLER, USN
USS MULLINNIX (DD-944)
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