

USS HORNET (CVS-12)
FPO San Francisco 96601

20 August 1969

From: Commanding Officer, USS HORNET (CVS12)
To: **LTJG RICHARD F. POWERS**
Subj: Commendation; delivery of
Encl: (1) CINCPAC msg 110102Z AUG 1969
(2) CINCPACFLT msg 120154Z AUG 1969

1. The Commander in Chief, Pacific has commended all hands, and especially the key personnel listed in enclosure (1), for the outstanding job they did in the recovery of the Apollo ELEVEN Astronauts. ADM McCain has indicated the significance and importance of HORNET's contribution to the overall effort and pointed out the beneficial effect HORNET had on the accomplishment of the President's world wide trip. The President, himself, has indicated his pleasure with the performance of the ship.

2. In recognition of your accomplishments, enclosures (1) and (2) are delivered with pleasure.


C. J. SEIBERLICH

Copy to:
BUPERS
Service jacket

R110102Z AUG 69
FM CINCPAC
TO CINCPACFLT
INFO USS HORNET
BT

RECOVERY OF APOLLO 11 AND VISIT OF PRESIDENT NIXON

1. I COMMENDED THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF HORNET AND THE MEMBERS OF HIS COMMAND WHEN I WAS ON BOARD WITH THE PRESIDENT AND AGAIN WHEN HORNET WAS AT PEARL HARBOR FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE MOBILE QUARANTINE FACILITY FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF DUTY. AS A GROUP THEY KNOW WHAT A SUPERIOR JOB I THINK THEY DID IN THE RECOVERY OF THE APOLLO 11 ASTRONAUTS AND COMMAND MODULE AND SUPPORTING THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND HIS PARTY. THERE ARE HOWEVER CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES FOR THEIR DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN THESE TWO HISTORIC EVENTS AND I THINK SPECIAL NOTE SHOULD BE MADE OF THIS FACT. THE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF THESE MEMBERS OF THE HORNET WAS NOTED BY THE PRESIDENT AND DISCUSSED WITH ME. IN ADDITION, THE DEGREE OF PERFECTION DISPLAYED IN THE RECOVERY OF THE ASTRONAUTS AND THE COMMAND MODULE HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN THE SUCCESS OF THE MEMBERS OF HORNET. DESERVE ADDITIONAL COMMENT FOR THEIR ABSOLUTELY OUTSTANDING DEVOTION TO DUTY AND PERFORMANCE.

2. I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR BRINGING TO THE ATTENTION OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL MY PERSONAL COMMENDATION FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESS OF THEIR TWO HIGHLY HISTORIC MISSIONS:

CDR DONALD S. JONES
CDR JOHN J. MCNALLY, JR.
CDR CHRIS W. LAMB
CDR IRVIN PATCH, JR.
CDR HARLEY L. STUNTZ
CDR DONALD L. SMITH
CDR STANLEY J. HARMS
CDR JOSEPH J. PAUSNER, JR.
CDR ROBERT A. COSTIGAN
CDR JOHN S. OSTER
CDR VAN E. SPRADLEY
LCDR WILLIAM G. TASKER
LCDR WILLIAM R. CHAPMAN
LCDR DONALD G. RICHMOND
LCDR CARROLL D. BAINS
LCDR EDWARD M. DUNHAM

LT CLARENCE HATLEBERG
LT RICHARD J. BARRETT
LT HENRY F. DRONZEK
LT LEROY H. KNAUB
LT JAMES D. ENNIS
LT ERNIE E. CONNOR

LCDR ANDREW K. PATRICK
LCDR RICHARD I. KNAPP
LCDR JOHN A. PIIRTO
LCDR JOSEPH A. FIDD
LCDR CLYDE W. JONES
LCDR ROBERT P. SCHMIDT
LCDR JOHN J. HIGGINSON
LCDR EARL T. MAURER
LCDR HARVEY D. NEILAND
LCDR ROBERT D. WASSON
LCDR MICHAEL G. O'CONNOR
LCDR WILLIAM G. KLEET
LCDR SAMUEL J. WALKER
LCDR PATRICK L. BOYLE
LCDR GEORGE A. WALSH
LCDR JOHN F. LACHNIGHT

LT FRANK M. STILLS
LT JAMES J. NEMER
LT HARLAN B. MELLOTT
LT ROBERT D. MCELROY
LT JAMES B. FERGUSON
LT FRED W. SMITH

LT ROBERT E. WALSH
LT CELESTE P. DALPIAZ
LT WILLIAM M. WASSON

LTJG RICHARD E. BRECEK
LTJG RICHARD F. POWERS
LTJG JOHN MCLOUGHLIN
LTJG BRUCE A. JOHNSON
LTJG PAUL D. GRABLE
LTJG ROBERT I. ABLESON
LTJG STEPHEN R. SMITH
1ST LT JERRY E. SORRELL, USMC

CWO2 EDEN A. HUTT

MUCM LESTER I. HORTON
RDOS ROBERT E. BENDER
AWHC NOWEL L. WOOD
PHCS ROBERT L. LAWSON
EMC GERALD L. SCHRECK
MM1 ENOUST LEE
ABE1 BOBBY G. COX
RD1 FRED C. SHEPPARD
RM2 ROGER W. BEAHM
EM2 MICKEY N. LOWE
ABH2 JAMES P. BURNETT
LTN2 FRANKLIN M. GREEN
ETR2 RICHARD M. HARTLEY
PH2 LAWRENCE C. MENZE
RD3 HOWARD C. ROBERTSON
RD3 RANDALL L. KLINE
AK3 MICHAEL W. GRIFFITH
ETR3 DENNIS R. MORAN
SN JOHN M. WOLFRAM
AN MICHAEL J. MORFORD

LT RICHARD L. MCGRATH
LT AUSTIN E. PIATT (MSC)
CAPT ROBERT D. CASKEY, USMC

LTJG WESLEY T. CHESSEK
LTJG JAMES E. OVARD
LTJG ROBERT R. ROHRBACH
LTJG LESLIE L. HEISER
LTJG MILTON WILSON, III
LTJG PETER D. BEAULIEU

ENS LAWRENCE I. JACKSON

WO1 DONALD W. HARMER

MMCM LEONARD D. SININGER
SDCS CHARLES E. RAIGANS
AWHC STANLEY C. ROBNETT
RMC DAVID C. DIONNE
RM1 PAUL J. HAWS
ABH1 GARY P. RIGHTER
AC1 ANSE E. WINDHAM
RD1 DALE R. DAVIS
EM2 CURTIS L. VANBLARGAN
JO2 CHAUNCEY A. COCHRAN
RD2 GEORGE E. ABBEY
ETN2 JOHN T. FLIPPEN
ETR2 GUY P. GEBBIA
PH2 ROGER J. PAROLINI
RD3 FRANCIS R. URTNOWSKI
QM3 MICHAEL G. MALLORY
ABH3 ROBERT R. SHERMAN
RD3 EARL J. MAROTTE
LISN RODNEY E. WILLIAMS
AN LEE C. BIGBEE

3. WELL DONE ADMIRAL JOHN S. MC CAIN, JR, USN

P 120154Z AUG 69
FM CINCPACFLT
TO USS HORNET
INFO CINCPAC
BT

RECOVERY OF APOLLO 11 AND PRESIDENT'S VISIT

1. THE VERY HIGH COMPLIMENT WHICH HAS BEEN PAYED BY ADMIRAL MCCAIN TO THOSE FINE HORNET OFFICERS AND MEN WHO WERE PARTICULARLY INSTRUMENTAL IN MAKING THE APOLLO RECOVERY AND THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT SUCH AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS IS NOTED WITH GREAT PLEASURE. I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO ADD MY OWN THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THEM FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS. WELL DONE. ADMIRAL JOHN J. HYLAND.