



USS Frank E. Evans Association, Inc.
DD 754



J. C. Campbell

February 24, 1997

Dear Shipmates,

It seems like it was just a few days back that I sent the last "get ready for the upcoming reunion" letter. But it has been almost one year ago. Soooooo o o o..... Here Goes!"

As most of you know, the next reunion will be September 25 thru 28 in San Diego, California at the Merriott Suites. The address and phone no. are 701 A Street and 619-696-9800. You will be receiving more information as the year goes by, but those of you who would like to, can go ahead and make your reservations early. Be sure to tell the hotel you are with the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans Reunion on the above dates. This will insure that you will get the reunion price on the rooms. Some of you may want to come early and/or stay after the reunion. It would be a good time to revisit some of the "old haunts".

The new Photo Album for the Corpus Christi Reunion has "gone to press" as of the 30th of January. It has twenty pages of "goodies" that will serve as a reminder of the good time we had in 1996. It will also let those of you who were unable to attend use the book and be introduced to some shipmates you may have served with, and a lot of new shipmates you have never seen before. Regardless, we were all crew members of the best destroyer in the U.S. Navy. The way to get this book is to pay your yearly dues of \$20.00 and you will receive your book shortly. Even if I do say so myself, it's pretty neat.

I want to extend to every shipmate of the Frank E. Evans the opportunity to help with the following opportunity! *Background information!* This past October 4, 1996, I received a letter from Richard J. Gleason from Wellesley Hills, MA, who served aboard the Frank E. Evans during 1957 thru 1958. Richard suggested "we" as an association should petition the U.S. Navy to have one of the Aegis destroyers, which is the newest Arleigh Burke-class of warship, named "Frank E. Evans" in the memory of the crew members that died in the early hours of June 3, 1969. Richard sent a copy of pages 55 and 56 of the U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings, August 1996, which is titled "Tomorrow's Fleet" - Part II.

"The Clinton administration's fiscal year 1997-2001 plan includes funding for 14 additional Arleigh Burke (DDG-51) - class Aegis destroyers; a total of 57 DDG-51s are planned to complement the 27 Ticonderoga (CG-47)-class Aegis cruisers in the fleet."

What a fitting tribute to those 74 shipmates, and to the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans DD754! I would welcome any thoughts you may have on this, *and ask that we do this together as an organization.* Doing something of the magnitude will take a lot of coordinating to have the necessary impact.

I have ordered new caps and will work on T-shirts and sweat shirts for anyone who need some. Let me know what you would prefer, how many, sizes, ect. and when the next package goes out I will have prices for everything. Also would anyone be interested in a "Blazer" type jacket with the ships crest on the front?

Hope everyone is having a good day

J. C. Campbell
President