5 July 74 YNCC

Dear Sam,

I deeply appreciate your heart warming letter and your kind words concerning my efforts as CNO. Mouza and I missed you and Alma at the Change of Command festivities but understand full well the reasons for your absence.

Sam, I have received many rewards from these four years but none so great as knowing the progress we have made -- and that not nearly enough -- toward the realization of "One Navy." The vision, hard work and unwillingness to be diverted which you and so many others demonstrated made possible these advances and will continue to further them in the future. Our "One Navy" objective will continue to have my support -- although necessarily vocalized from the wings. So too I will continue to observe your Navy career with special interest and confidence.

Mouza joins me in sending fondest best wishes to you and Alma. God bless you both!

Warm regards,

Rear Admiral Samuel L. Gravely, Jr., USN Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group TWO FPO New York 09501

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GRAVELY S.L. Jr.