

USS TUSK (SS 426)
Fleet Post Office
New York 09501

20 January 1969

Dear Families of the TUSK,

As you know, TUSK will deploy to the Caribbean Sea on 27 January to participate in "Operation Springboard". This is an annual operation conducted in the Puerto Rico Operational Areas taking advantage of the good weather for extensive training exercises. We expect TUSK's participation to be of approximately six weeks duration. Although our return date to New London is not now precisely known, it should be around 10 March.

Mail becomes an important commodity to our men on a trip such as this. To insure prompt delivery of mail I recommend you use AIR MAIL and address all mail as follows:

John J. Doe, EM3(SS), USN
USS TUSK (SS426)
c/o Fleet Post Office
New York, N.Y. 09501

The telegraphic address of the ship is:

USS TUSK (SS426)
U. S. Naval Communications Station
Washington, D. C.

If you require information on such matters as allotment checks, identification cards or navy housing problems, the best contact is the Submarine Flotilla TWO Personnel Assistance Center at the U. S. Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, Connecticut, Phone 449-3711 or 449 3812. (The New London Area Code is 203.) Others who may be of assistance to you are:

Chaplin, Submarine Flotilla TWO	449-3711
Navy Relief Officer	449-3285
Duty Officer, Submarine Squadron EIGHT	449-3606
Family Clinic, Station Hospital	449-3579

Should an emergency arise that might require a member of the crew to return home on emergency leave, much time can be saved by insuring I receive Red Cross verification of the need promptly. This can be done by contacting your local Red Cross office. In the New London Area it is on the Submarine Base, phone 449-3411.

The Red Cross will assist you and send me the verification cablegram. I suggest that you work closely with the Flotilla Chaplain and the Red Cross in the case of emergencies and allow them to communicate with the ship.

For other problems and questions that you may have the wives of the Executive Officer and Chief of the Boat are available. Their names and phone numbers are:

(EXEC.)	Mrs. Barbara Alexander	464 6874
(COB)	Mrs. Betty Hughes	536 9275

They, and several others, will have the list of phone numbers for notifying the dependents of important information.

I fully realize that these separations from our loved ones are not easy. Rest assured that you will always be in our thoughts and prayers and that we look forward to seeing you on the pier when we return in Early March.

Sincerely yours,

G. D. McCarthy
G. D. Mc CARTHY

USS TUSK (SS 426)
Fleet Post Office
New York 09501

23 February 1969

Dear Families of the TUSK,

"Operation SPRINGBOARD" is drawing to a close for TUSK and we will soon head north once again toward New London. Our schedule seems to have solidified and I now feel I can tell you about it with some degree of accuracy.

Upon completion of our work with SPRINGBOARD on Saturday, 1 March, we will depart San Juan and make a three day transit to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The ship will remain there until 7 March, then proceed to New London to arrive sometime on the afternoon of Monday, 10 March, to start a three week upkeep.

TUSK has worked hard during SPRINGBOARD. We have fired 8 torpedoes, conducted numerous practice attacks and now have regained our "sea legs" after the long stay in the shipyard. The ship has made 56 dives since departure from New London, one of which was TUSK's 9,500th dive since commissioning on 11 April 1946.

The ports of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas have hosted our crew for a total of 10 days of the 29 we have been gone.

All things considered, it has been an interesting, eventful and hard working deployment. I hope the separation will rest a little easier when you realize that TUSK returns a much better ship and significantly more capable of carrying out her mission as a result of the trip.

Sincerely yours,

G. D. Mc CARTHY
G. D. Mc CARTHY

01 July 1969

Dear Families of the TUSK,

TUSK will shortly deploy to the Mediterranean Sea for a four month period. During this time the ship will be a part of the United States SIXTH Fleet which is permanently based in the Mediterranean.

The SIXTH Fleet is a modern, powerful, versatile, balanced force which can operate indefinitely at sea without shore bases. As such, it is an instrument of national policy whose goals are peace, stability and goodwill. The exercises and operations in which TUSK will participate are designed for training, improvement of its wartime potential and for protection of working relationships with our friends and allies.

Historically, the United States has maintained a Naval Force of some kind in the Mediterranean since the end of World War II. However, in August, 1947, we established the first postwar Mediterranean Fleet Flagship and began the type of at-sea operations that have since become so well known to the countries bordering the Mediterranean. In February, 1950, the title of the U.S. Naval Units in the Mediterranean officially became the "United States SIXTH Fleet".

The mission of the SIXTH Fleet may be stated as follows:

1. To protect United States citizens, shipping and interests in the Mediterranean.
2. To meet our NATO commitments and to support the other Armed Forces of the United States and our Allies, either bilaterally or within the framework of the NATO command structure.
3. To deter aggression against the Western World by being prepared, as either a national or a NATO Force, to conduct offensive striking force operations with nuclear or conventional weapons.
4. To enhance the prestige of the United States and create good will toward the United States within the countries bordering the Fleet's area of operations.
5. To conduct national, bilateral, and NATO training exercises in order to enhance the Fleet's ability to carry out its wartime missions and to perfect procedures for joint, combined NATO operations.

TUSK is being sent overseas to become a temporary member of this significant fighting force and to take part in the United States effort to maintain peace throughout the world.

In order that you may be better equipped to take care of problems that may arise during the ship's absence, I am listing certain offices and telephone numbers I believe will be helpful to you. These contacts should be able to provide you with the help that you may need. For other problems and questions that you have the wives of the Executive Officer and the Chief of the Boat available. Their names and phone numbers are:

(Exec)	Mrs. Barbara Alexander	464-6874
(COB)	Mrs. Rose Teller	445-1662

If you require information on such matters as allotment checks, identification cards or Navy Housing problems, the best contact is the Submarine Flotilla TWO Personnel Assistance Center at the U. S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Groton, Connecticut. The telephone number is 449-3711 or 449-3712. (The New London area code is 203). Other offices of interest are:

Navy Relief Office	449-3285
Protestant Chaplain	449-3232
Catholic Chaplain	449-3681
Family Clinic, Station Hospital	449-3579
Navy Housing Trouble Calls	449-4711
Base Nursery	449-3340

In addition to the above, the Duty Officer, Submarine Squadron EIGHT may be reached at 449-3606. However for the arrival time of the ship in early November I ask that you do not call the Duty Officer, rather please dial 449-4616 for the up to date information on our return.

Should an emergency arise that might necessitate the return of a member of the crew on emergency leave, Red Cross verification of the emergency will be required prior to the granting of emergency leave. To save valuable time you should contact the local Red Cross office and request help. In the New London area, it is located on the Submarine Base, telephone number 449-3411. I suggest that you work closely with the Flotilla Chaplain and/or the Red Cross and allow them to communicate with the ship. Their expertise will save time and ease your problems.

Mail is one of the most important morale elements when we are deployed. I also recognize that it is equally important to you at home. Therefore, I urge you to communicate frequently by mail. I must inform you, however, that TUSK will normally operate independently and not always within reach of postal facilities. Please do not become alarmed if you do not receive mail from us for several weeks, or even a month, at a stretch. To insure prompt delivery of mail I recommend that you always use Air Mail and address your letters as follows:

John J. DOE, EM3(SS), USN
USS TUSK (SS426)
C/O FPO, NEW YORK 09501

The use of the initials "M.O.M. (Military Overseas Mail) in the lower left hand corner of the envelope will help expedite our mail.

The telegraphic address of the ship is:

USS TUSK (SS426)
U. S. Naval Communications Station
Washington, D. C. 20360

I fully appreciate that family separations such as this are not easy. We do not leave our loved ones gladly but with a feeling that we are about to perform a service for our country that will, hopefully, make the world a little better for all of us. We ask that we may be remembered in your prayers. We eagerly await our return to New London in early November.

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Zadd
C. J. ZADD

USS TUSK (SS 426)
Fleet Post Office
New York 09501

20 August 1969

Dear Families of the TUSK,

With the half-way point of our Mediterranean deployment just around the corner I want to write a few lines to let you know how we are doing.

The trip across the Atlantic with SEA OWL and IREX was pleasant and relatively uneventful. We had very pleasant weather and took the opportunity to conduct some training, practice small arms shooting and even managed to hold a swim call in the mid-Atlantic. Our stay in Rota was short, only two days, and was devoted primarily to relieving our friends ODAX, TRUMPETFISH and TROUT. We departed Rota early the morning of 21 July and made a short, surfaced transit to Gibraltar, BCC, where we spent a pleasant four days relaxing before going to work in the Mediterranean. The morning of the 25th of July found TUSK underway in thick fog heading into the Mediterranean to provide services for the fast carrier task forces of the SIXTH Fleet.

The ship was scheduled to make a port call at Palma, Majorca, 16 August but, due to a material problem that developed, our schedule was changed. Instead of the vacation port of Palma, TUSK headed for the working port of Rota once again where the ship dry docked. On 13 August we arrived in Rota and went into the dry dock on the 15th. The 19th of August was taken up by undocking and a short sea trial. All was found well on the sea trial and we returned to Rota until 21 August.

The stop in Rota was made a little more enjoyable by a ball game many of us attended and a good, old fashioned, submarine beer ball game. The dungaree team played against the khaki and luck and superstition won out over skill and science. The closely fought game was won by the dungaree team 28 to 17. The dungaree's lead on by Joe Bommarito with Mike McBride on the mound, were in the hole for the first several innings but came into greater glory with the help of a few homeruns by Mike Savko, Dick Chichester and Marty Staup. Support from those, plus quite a few others such as Kevin Lyons, Irving Greisman, Tom Gibson, Wendel Davis and Scott Clark, was sufficient to overwhelm

the khaki in spite of the superlative efforts of Perry Benson, Steve Burnham, and our two midshipmen, Dave Duval and Dick Widak. The mound was covered well by Terrence Provost and we couldn't have gone anywhere without Doc Green and the COB. A few, the XO for example, suddenly discovered their age and help from the dungaree's was required to help us along. Regardless of the outcome, an enjoyable time we all had, a lot of beer disappeared and the day ended with many tired muscles.

We are about ready to depart Rota now and return once again to the Mediterrean and resume our operations. Please know that even though you may not hear from us for a month or even more, due to the independent type operations of a submarine, our thoughts and prayers will be with you as we count each day that passes.

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Zadd
C. J. ZADD

USS TUSK (SS 426)
Fleet Post Office
New York 09501

20 October 1969

Dear Families of the TUSK,

As you read this letter TUSK will be well on her way across the North Atlantic Ocean heading toward home. It is a 3,100 mile trip and each mile is being counted off as it goes under our keel. It has been said that nothing goes faster than a ship on its way home from a deployment. Fast as it may be, it still isn't fast enough for us. With fair weather and moderate seas we should arrive at the Submarine Base early in November. You may dial the squadron ship arrival information number 449-4616 (area code 203) for the exact time of our arrival.

Since TUSK departed New London on 7 July, few barnacles have grown on our bottom. As of this date we have been gone 105 days. 82 of these were spent at sea practicing our profession. The remaining 23 days were spent relaxing in Rota, Spain; Gibraltar, B.C.C.; Naples, Italy; or Palma de Mallorca. Although it has been an arduous trip, we can be thankful for the marvelous material condition of the ship and the professional performance of her crew. The long hours of preparation, the sacrifice of time spent away from our families while in homeport, and the heartaches of maintenance paid off and the ship is completing a most successful deployment. The entire voyage reflects great credit upon every member of the crew and I am sincerely proud of every man. Each family, of course, shares in this success.

Freedom is an expensive commodity. Every American must be prepared to spend more than dollars to purchase liberty. Those of you who were left behind on 7 July and those of us who made this trip have paid a share of that debt. Many of our friends take seapower for granted. They are not surprised when a ship of the United States Navy shows up at some remote hotspot of the world. Indeed, they have come to expect it. You are among the relatively few Americans who know the full price of maintaining a fleet that is able to do just that. Although TUSK did not appear in the headlines for having intervened in a world crisis, you can be sure she played her part, and well, in keeping the seas of the world free. You can be as proud of your husbands and sons as I am.

But now, after steaming some 15,000 miles, TUSK is on its way home. There will be more work for her in the future

but for the present we will be able to enjoy our families.
Operations will be light until after the first of the year
so we can all look forward to a pleasant holiday season.

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Zadd
C. J. ZADD

USS TUSK (SS 426)
Fleet Post Office
New York 09501

19 December 1969

Dear Families of the TUSK,

As we enter the 1969 Christmas Holiday Season I want to write just a few lines to bring you up-to-date on TUSK's operations.

On 1 December Submarine Squadron EIGHT was disestablished and TUSK was transferred to Submarine Squadron TWO. On that date we became members of Submarine Division TWENTY-ONE, a part of Squadron TWO. This amounted to nothing more than an administrative change since Squadron TWO is New London based as was Squadron EIGHT. The telephone number you have used in the past for ship arrival information remains unchanged. You may still dial 449-4616 (Area Code 203) for TUSK's arrival time when the ship returns to New London from operations at sea.

TUSK has had very light operations since returning from the Mediterranean 31 October. We will continue to enjoy an extended inport period with an upkeep and dry docking during the month of January. In February we will once again practice our profession as sea-going men and take part in local operations in Narragansett Bay until early March. On 11 March TUSK will depart for San Juan, Puerto Rico, to take part in "Operation Springboard 1970" until mid-April. We will then return to New London for upkeep and operations that have yet to be scheduled.

Those of you that have been members of the TUSK family for the past year know that TUSK has worked hard and has earned a fine reputation as a ship that can, and will, get the job done. This is the result of the hard work and tireless efforts of your husbands or sons. Each and every man who was on board upon our return from the Mediterranean has been officially commended by me. I thank each of you for your support to our ship and her men. Without you we would not have such high spirit and incentive to excel.

Those of you who are just now joining our family are sincerely welcomed. We have a proud ship and we welcome you into our community. Please feel free to call upon us; in person, by telephone or letter; if you have questions or need assistance. Our telephone number while in port in New London is 449-3188 (Area Code 203).

I want to extend to you my most sincere good wishes for a happy holiday and a prosperous and enjoyable New Year. I regret that each one of our men may not be at home with his family at this time, however, we are all thankful that TUSK is able to be in port homeport for the Holiday Season.

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. TASH
C. J. TASH

USS TUSK (SS-426)
Fleet Post Office
New York 09501

7 March 1970

Dear Families of TUSK,

Once again TUSK is departing for an extended operation. This time we will deploy to the Caribbean Sea to participate in the annual "Operation Springboard". The ship will sail on Monday, 9 March and it is expected we will return to New London on Thursday, 16 April.

Springboard is an annual program of basic training exercises conducted in the waters of the Caribbean Sea adjacent to the island of Puerto Rico. This operation was established to take advantage of the good weather and sea conditions during the winter months to maximize the combat readiness of the United States Atlantic Fleet. In addition, our neighbors to the North, Canada, participate in Operation Springboard. Occasionally units of the British, Netherlands and South American Navies are also invited to join in the fleet exercises.

Mail is probably the most important single item to our men while we are deployed. To insure prompt delivery of mail I recommend that you use air mail and address all mail as follows:

John J. DOE, CM2(SS), USN
USS TUSK (SS-426)
C/O Fleet Post Office
New York, N. Y. 09501

The telegraphic address of the ship is:

USS TUSK (SS-426)
U.S. Naval Communication Station
Washington, D. C. 20390

TUSK will deploy with the pay checks on board for the 12 and 26 March and 9 April paydays. The checks will be issued on the paydays to each individual or, upon request, will be mailed by the ship to a dependent or bank to arrive by the date of the payday.

If you require information on such matters as identification cards, housing problems or other personal problems, the best contact is the Submarine Flotilla TWO Personnel Assistance Center at the Submarine Base. The telephone number is (area code 203) 449-3711 or 449-3712.

Others who may be of assistance to you are:

Chaplain, Submarine Flotilla TWO	449-3711
Navy Relief Office	449-3285
Duty Officer, Submarine Squadron TWO	449-3606
Family Clinic, Station Hospital	449-3579

For inquiries on the arrival of the ship in New London you are urged to call the ship arrival information tape, 449-4616.

Should an emergency arise that might require a member of the crew to return home on emergency leave, much time can be saved by insuring that the ship receives Red Cross verification of the need promptly. This can be done by contacting your local Red Cross office. In the New London area it is on the Submarine Base, phone 449-3411. The Red Cross will assist you and send the required verification cablegram to the ship. I suggest you work closely with the Flotilla Chaplain and Red Cross in time of emergency and allow them to communicate with the ship. They have considerable experience and know many short cuts.

For other problems and questions that you may have the wives of the Executive Officer and Chief of the Boat are available.

[Exec] Mrs. Barbara Alexander 464-6874
[COB] Mrs Evelyn Stapleford 889-0429

I realize that these separations are never easy. Please be assured, however, that TUSK plays an extremely important part in the role of the United States Navy. She has done an outstanding job in the past and will continue to do so during this trip. Her fine reputation has been earned by the hard work of the men that you support by remaining behind and keeping our homes going. Rest assured that you will always be in our thoughts and prayers and that we look forward to seeing you when we return in mid-April.

Sincerely yours,

C. J. Zadd
C. J. ZADD

USS TUSK (SS-426)
Fleet Post Office
New York 09501

8 April 1970

Dear Families of the TUSK,

"Operation Springboard" will soon end for the year 1970 and TUSK will take course for her homeport once again. We expect to surface upon completion of our last operation at midnight, Friday, 10 April 1970. We will put these engines on the line and be on our way. If the weather and seas are in our favor we hope to moor at the Submarine Base at about 1400, Wednesday, 15 April 1970. You may check for changes in this time by dialing area code 203 and the number 449-4576.

TUSK has provided many hours of services and conducted much needed type training. We have fired five torpedoes to date and hope to shoot some more in the next several days.

In addition, the ship successfully completed its annual Operational Readiness Inspection conducted by our Division Commander, Captain Howard S. Crosby. The ORI is a test of the ship to carry out her wartime mission, casualty procedures and everyday, routine evolutions. In the space of a week forty-eight hours the ship demonstrates all it can do. TUSK completed the inspection in fine fashion and was certified as satisfactory in all respects. The hard work and diligent efforts of all hands was appreciated and the Division Commander expressed his pleasure with the attitude and response of the crew.

We have had our share of liberty also. The ports of San Juan, Roosevelt Roads and St. Thomas have hosted TUSK at one time or another and all hands enjoyed a beach party at Nagens Bay in St. Thomas.

This has been a hard working trip that will leave TUSK in a significantly higher state of operational readiness. Although the weather is beautiful and the beaches are inviting, we are anxious to return to New London and our families and friends.

Sincerely,

C. J. Zudd
C. J. ZADD