

24 June 1970

The Cruise Book Committee is breathing a little easier today because we met our final deadline. Here we are in Hawaii almost where it all started. The book cannot be said to have begun here, because initial negotiations began in New York in November 1968.

The final contract was signed by Captain GUY who assumed responsibility for the book until a committee could be started and the book paid for. We owe many thanks to many more people than we could ever mention. Most of all the crew gets thanks for their advice and willingness to cooperate with us. We thank the Photographers' mates on the many Naval ships in WESTPAC for the advice and good ideas they gave us. Our Division Officers and Chiefs deserve a special thanks for the free time they gave us to work on the book.

We have tried to make the book as much a reminder as it is a chronological record. The entire crew is included, sometimes our cameras did lie, but we are sorry for that. The events we covered were only the highlights of typical happenings on DALLAS. We feel that each of us already has a "Cruise Book," a mental collection of ideas, emotions, events and happenings and this is what we did not want to change so we did not keep to a rigid form of dates and picture titles. Our only hope is that we have given everyone a little information and a few insights to refresh that mental "Cruise Book."

We must admit it has been enjoyable working on the book, at times frustrating and hectic, but all things considered we feel it was worth the effort. We learned never to run a darkroom during rough seas, and to stay out of the way when taking pictures during UNREPS and other evolutions. We sincerely hope the results meet your expectations.

The Cruise Book Committee:

LTJG John W. REITER, Chairman
YN2 Terrance D. LEE
QM3 John T. WHITFORD
SN Ralph W. FISH
SN Paul J. SEWARD

