



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Address reply to:

Commanding Officer  
USCGC MENDOTA (WMEC 69)  
Wilmington, N. C. 28401

To the officers and men of MENDOTA

This cruise book can only depict a small portion of the events that transpired during our deployment. What it cannot portray is the "can do" attitude you constantly displayed to meet each challenging assignment; the precision, skill, and teamwork with which you performed each evolution; the long hours of hard work to keep the "old girl" going and presentable in appearance; your exemplary conduct ashore as you represented MENDOTA, the Coast Guard, and the United States in foreign ports; and the way we let everyone know that the "Fighting Sixty-Niner" is from Wilmington, North Carolina and proud of it by hoisting our MENDOTA modified "STARS AND BARS" and playing "DIXIE" on the bull horn. No book can capture this spirit, but I'm sure this book will serve to remind you of it.

These same attributes have made the problems of command minimal, and the pleasure a maximum while you established a fine record for performance during deployment. To each and every one of you, many thanks for a job well done. May God Bless you.

As we return to our homeport, you also have my best wishes for good fortune, good health and happiness, and continuing success as you pursue your chosen way of life. Give my best regards to your families——  
"they also serve who sit and wait."

Thumbs up!

Sincerely,

*C. S. Manple*  
C. S. MANPLE  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commanding Officer