



12 June 2010

Hello from Marseille, France. The Strike Group is enjoying some well deserved liberty and I could not be more proud of their performance ashore. They have been great ambassadors as we support our French allies in the celebration of 100 years of French aviation. We have also done our part to stimulate the local economy, which is very much appreciated by our host nation.

Last week, we conducted several interoperability exercises with the French aircraft carrier Charles De Gaulle in the Mediterranean. French Rafales and E-2's performed touch and go's on Truman, and American F/A-18/E-2's performed touch and go's on Charles De Gaulle. Strike Group units also conducted multiple air, surface, and undersea exercises with our Turkish and British partners. Overall, our trip to the Mediterranean has been a success and we look forward to returning in a few months.

The U.S. ambassador to France and Monaco visited us while at sea and was in awe of the level of coordination and professionalism displayed by the Strike Group. We later hosted an outstanding reception on board for Ambassador Rivkin and numerous high level French military and civilian officials. It was good for many of us to see old shipmates again. It is always fun to take a stroll down memory lane.

Since my last letter, we said farewell to DCC Richard Wells our Damage Control Assistant who transferred to Supervisor of Shipbuilding Pascagoula, MS. We wish Chief Wells, Anne-Jeannette and the kids fair winds and following seas. We also said goodbye to LT Kevin Kennedy and Martha and wish them the best as Kevin embarks on a new career outside of the Navy.

We welcomed LCDR Jason Stewart and his wife Nicole, and LCDR Cory Brummett and his wife Katie to the CCSG 10 family.

As always we ask that you continue to keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

*RDMC Pat "Blond" Driscoll*

Commander, Carrier Strike Group TEN