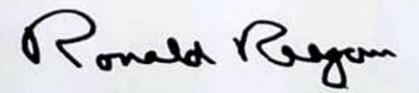
July 30, 1987

It gives me great pleasure to send warm greetings to all those who served aboard the U.S.S. DES MOINES gathered for their second annual reunion.

Each of you has gone his separate way in the world.
but — as this reunion proves once again — your
service and sacrifice together forged a bond of
fellowship that time and distance cannot break.
Together you confronted danger and endured terrible
hardships, and together you rose to the challenge;
you never faltered. Many of your brothers gave their
last full measure of devotion so that others might live
in freedom. Your accomplishments in defense of liberty
will never be forgotten, and America's debt to you
will remain far more than we can ever repay.

I take a moment with you to honor your brothers who can no longer answer roll call. God bless you all.



Governor of Virginia - 1987



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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A MERSAGE FROM THE COVERNOR

I am pleased to send warm greatings on the occasion of the second reunion of those who served on the USS Des Moines. I hope you will enjoy this opportunity to visit the former home part of the USS Des Moines and to renew old friendships and acquaintances.

You have my very best wishes for an enjoyable reunion

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Covernor