

THE STORM – (Excerpt from a Blog by Steve Cross, LT ASW Officer 1967-68); “Following the repair of the damage from the grounding of the ship on Pratas Reef FRANK KNOX left Yokosuka, Japan November 21, 1966 under orders to escort USS CONSTELLATION, CV-64 to San Diego accompanied by another destroyer. Steaming in formation for the first time in over 1 ½ years the third anniversary of President Kennedy’s assassination passed without notice by the newly formed crew. On November 25th a storm with gale force winds overtook the small task force while Constellation was fueling her escorts. Fueling was terminated and the task force progress slowed to roughly 10 miles in a 24 hour-36-hour period. All ships suffered some damage. FRANK KNOX had sea water forced into a main deck hatch shorting out steering system and forcing the newly repaired ship to use after steering control during the remaining passage, including refueling from the USS SACRAMENTO, AOE-1. The other escort lost the fires in the forward boiler room when seawater came down the forward funnel. Battered, FRANK KNOX and her fellow escort arrived in San Diego December 3rd. The memorable storm and its’ trials helped form the first bond among the new crew.”