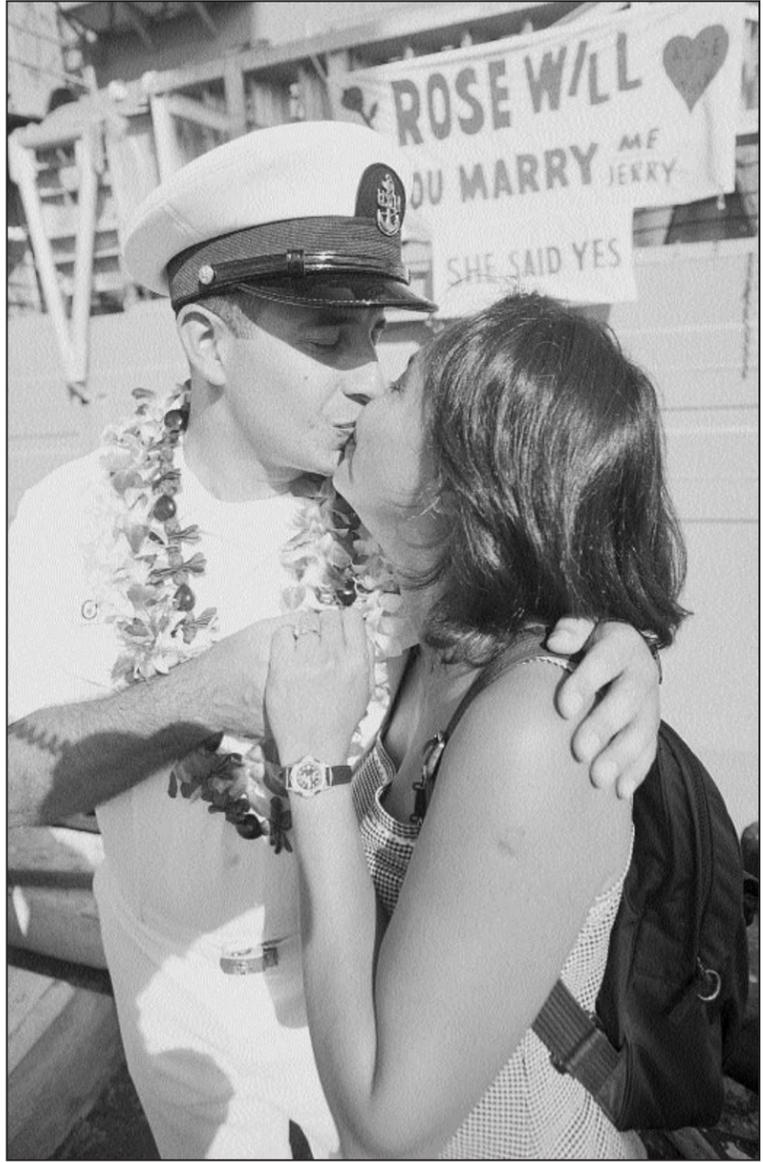


Welcome home Crommelin



...Rose, will you marry me?



On bended knee, SKC (SW) Jerry Russo made it official, slipping a diamond engagement ring on Rose Caamic's finger. Later, in a private moment, they smooched in front of the banner Russo and some of his shipmates prepared for the occasion. "I was a little nervous about proposing it with everyone and TV crews at the pier," Russo said. "What if she said no?"



Crommelin Sailors return from their three-month deployment to "the best homeport in the Navy" with smiles and shakas for family and friends. "The timing [coming home before Thanksgiving] couldn't have been better," said Cmdr. Craig Kleint, Crommelin's commanding officer. "Coming home a day before Thanksgiving is a whole lot better than coming home a day after. It's something we all looked forward to."



Operations Specialist 3rd Class Robert Lello and his wife Lorilli embrace after he returned home from a three-month deployment to the Eastern Pacific.



Lorri Johnson, wife of ET3 Lee Johnson, holds her 1 year old daughter Savannah in one arm while capturing her husband's return on video.

Crommelin: Returns to Pearl Harbor after successful three-month deployment

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made me feel special proposing to me in front of all these people," Caamic said. "He's romantic too. He always sent me flowers while he was deployed. He's a wonderful guy."

"I have a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving season," Russo said. "I'm glad we made it back for Thanksgiving and I'm really glad Rose said yes."

While this was arguably the most dramatic reunion, other Sailors were also thankful to be reunited with their families and family members while their spouses were especially glad to have their Sailor back home.

"I'm elated that he's back," said Lori Johnson, wife of Electronics Technician 3rd Class Lee Johnson. Lori was holding their infant daughter, Savannah. "I'm thankful that he's back with us. This is a precious moment."

"It's good to be back with my family for Thanksgiving," Petty Officer Johnson said.

"We had a safe and suc-

cessful deployment and I'm glad to be home."

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A popular song says that "you say it best when you say nothing at all." Operations Specialist 3rd Class Robert Lello and his spouse Lorilli didn't have much to say when asked about being reunited except for exchanging a long, fond embrace and a warm, loving kiss. They whispered private words, exchanged smiles, grabbed their bags and left Mike piers for home without saying much at all.

Note: Two more Pearl Harbor-based ships, USS Lake Erie (CG 70) and USS Chosin (CG 65) return to Pearl Harbor Dec. 17 after their six-month deployments.

Photos by
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