



U.S. COAST GUARD

RESERVIST



CELEBRATING OUR 50TH YEAR

MAY - JUNE 2003



OPERATION ★ IRAQI ★ FREEDOM

THE RESERVE'S ROLE
IN THE TOPPLING
OF A TYRANT

Movin' On...

The past four years seem to have flown by. Back in July of 1999, when I first reported, I wrote about the need to "pass the word" by ensuring a clear flow of information to our reservists in the field. The world has changed a great deal since then and our Coast Guard Reserve has changed too.



Who would have ever thought we would be fighting a global war on terror as a result of those tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001? How could we have conceived that after so many years of zero growth, the Coast Guard Reserve would be looking at an end-strength of 10,000 and beyond in just a few years? Our little Division here, like the rest of the Coast Guard, has admirably risen to the occasion. We've worked hard to improve our information outflow to spread the good word about our Reserve Component to you, and to our external customer base of Congress, the Administration, the Department of Defense, and professional military organizations. Yet, stand by for even more improved information flow. We expect that the new Web-accessed Direct Access system (CGHRMS on the Internet) will greatly improve your ability to manage your Reserve career from your own home computer.

As I move on to my new assignment at MSO Guam/Marianas Section, I want to assure the readership that I am leaving the Reserve Communications Division (G-WTR-2) in extremely capable hands. My relief, LCDR Robert Hanley, former Assistant Division Chief, and recent Iraqi war veteran (some say hero) is a well-seasoned expert in passing the word. LTJG Scott Toves, CWO Ed Kruska, and Mr. Chris Rose will remain aboard to ensure that you continue to receive the high quality information services you've come to expect.

Hafa Adai,

CAPT Dale M. Rausch, USCGR

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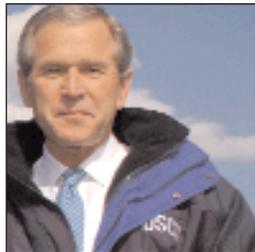
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On the Covers

Front: Coast Guardsmen from Port Security Unit 313 stand over a picture of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that has been turned upside down at the Mina al Bakr oil terminal. USCG photo by PA1 Tom Sperduto

Back: Members of Port Security Unit 305 returned to the United States May 7 after being deployed to U.S. European Command as part of the Global War on Terrorism. USCG photo by PA3 Donnie Brzuska



CGR Outstanding Junior Officers

What a response I've received following publication of "Where Are They Now? Twenty Years of Coast Guard Reserve Outstanding Junior Officers" (Jan-March 2003). I have had both telephone calls and e-mails from a number of folks that I had the extreme pleasure of serving with at Station Manasquan, and other locations. It sure brings back some great memories, rekindles some friendships, and makes you realize that life is very short and friends and family are what make it all worth the time and effort.

I hope that it is an inspiration to draw the interest of those who would be future candidates and recipients in achieving this recognition. I wish that each member of the CGR would have a chance to list their "contact information" so that old shipmates could contact them. "Fred's Place" (www.fredsplace.org) is a good location to get in touch with old shipmates, etc. Once again, thank you for the exceptional article — and bringing me back into contact with shipmates! Bravo Zulu!

— CDR John Marks, USCGR
Easton, Pa.

In response to the CGR Outstanding Junior Officer article, I keep getting e-mails from folks I haven't seen or heard from in years. Thanks.

— LT Neal Doherty, USCGR(Ret.)
Braintree, Mass.

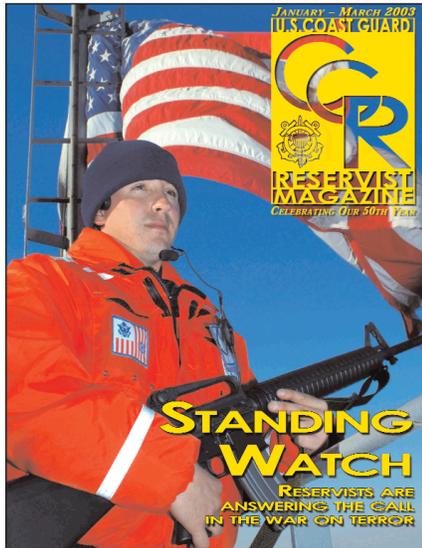
Ed's note: CDR Marks was the 1992 national recipient of the CGR Outstanding Junior Officer award while LT Doherty won it in 1987.

Don't Stand Out in Uniform

The cover photo on the front is well done as is the rear cover (Jan-March 2003). The only wrong point are that members are posing as if ready for conflict, mostly in the arena of a gun fight. My 24 years of military duty have instilled in me that one should not stand out in a uniform that attracts fire. The colors shown are for peace time, not war time duty.

Back in 1990, I attended a conference in Miami regarding issues for Guard members and I led off the discussion that all members should be issued fatigues similar to the other services. Warehouses are full of them for all climates. No military specs are needed. Everything was already done, just have them issued to the members. The lead officer of the roundtable, spoke up and said, "Chief, do you want a Coast Guard fast boat loaded with CG personnel running around in war-type dress? What would the boating industry people say?"

I have witnessed the USCG slowly respond to real world facts. My trouble is that it responds so slowly that



rank and file are actually embarrassed to say they are Guardsmen. Now that I am retired and as they say, on the beach, I only hope that those that have their head in the sand, look up before it is too late for those other ranks.

— PSC Michael J. Keane, USCGR(Ret.)
Plantation, Fla.

Not an Aircraft Carrier

Page 9 of the Jan — Mar 2003 issue identifies the *USS Boxer* as an aircraft carrier. She's not — she's an amphibious assault ship, and here's her Web site:

www.boxer.navy.mil/

— PSC M.E. "Rick" Nygren, USCGR
MSO San Francisco Bay, Calif.

Military Family Ties

The January — March 2003 issue contained a letter from YN1 Jacklyn Lerner that caught my eye. I think it is great that she can boast of a three generation military family.

My father, Nathan David Patton, served honorably in France during the World War I. My brother and I served in the Coast Guard. My five sons served in the Coast Guard, Navy and Air Force. I currently have three grandsons in the Air Force, Coast Guard and Army. This represents four generations. Are there any claims to five generations in the military out there?

— CWO4 Nathan Duane Patton, USCGR(Ret.)
White Swan, Wash.

The Four Chaplains

In my memory of the atrocious torpedoing of the transport *Dorchester* by the German U-boat, U-233, I can't remember ever hearing of the actions of the Four Chaplains. Congratulations to RADM O'Donnell for her inspirational article in the March/April 2003 *Reservist* about these four servicemen who were true men of God.

— CWO4 Henry Martin, USCGR(Ret.)
Sebring, Fla.

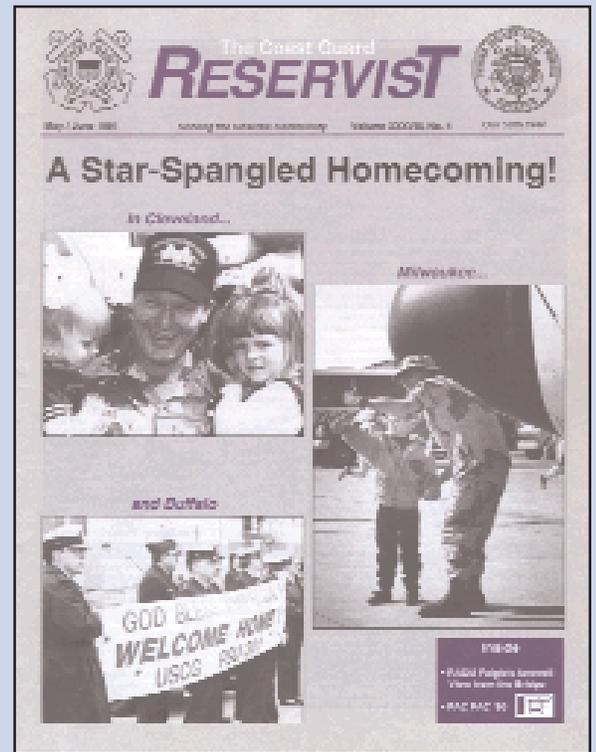
Naval Sea Cadet Corps

Thank you for CDR Rausch's article on "Sea Service Organizations Prepare Coasties of the Future," (Naval Sea Cadets) in the March/April 2003 issue of *The Reservist*. It is difficult to truly measure the overall contribution of the men and women of the Coast Guard to the success of individual Sea Cadets. Those that have helped — and continue to help — train Sea Cadets, deserve full credit for helping to develop good citizens.

As the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Midwest Field Representative, I view my geographic area of responsibility from the perspective of training opportunities available on the Western Waters and the Great Lakes systems. We now have three USNSCC vessels that provide Sea Cadet operational training on the Great Lakes including former Navy YPs *Manatra*

A look back at *The Reservist* throughout history

The Reservist magazine's 50th Anniversary continues throughout 2003 and we're looking at some of the historic issues that marked major milestones in the Reserve program. This month, we feature the May/June 1991 issue, "A Star-Spangled Homecoming," which covered the then three port security units' return to the USA following Middle East deployments during Desert Storm (Persian Gulf War). After deploying in fall 1990, these units returned to Buffalo (PSU 301), Cleveland (PSU 302) and Milwaukee (PSU 303) during spring 1991. At that time, the PSUs were all located in the 9th District. Additionally, three PSU replacement units trained at Camp Blanding, Fla., with two deploying to the Middle East. In the mid-1990s, the PSUs were reorganized and realigned. The Coast Guard Reserve now has six PSUs at various locations across the nation.



and *Pride of Michigan*, berthed in Chicago and Detroit respectively. *Grayfox*, a former Navy torpedo retriever, is berthed in Port Huron, Mich.

We continue to seek adult volunteers and instructors that enjoy providing sea service skills and values to a new generation. Hopefully, your article will help us get the word out to many individuals living in the "heartland" of the United States as well.

— CAPT William D. Parsons, USNR (Ret.)
Lake Forest, Ill.

Advance and Stay in CGR!

I read CDR Weber's article in the March/April 2003 issue ("Participation and Your Retirement Check"), and it really hit home. Today when I talk to "youngsters" this is my best and biggest advice: Advance at every opportunity and get/stay involved. And last but not least — stay in as long as "they'll let you." When you get old and gray, the money will be a nice supplement to Social Security — if it's still there. I give this same advice to people who want to "quit" before their 20. It's the best recruiting tool out there.

— CWO4 Harry Sadler, USCGR
Norfolk, Va.

Another Option: USCG Auxiliary

I recently read a letter in *The Reservist* from a prior Coastie who thought he should be able to get on base to watch a TRACEN graduation (March/April 2003). I'm assuming that he understands that when you leave the service before 20 years, your ties are severed. Even if there was such a thing as an "I used to be in the Coast Guard" ID card, he wouldn't be allowed on base.

However, there is one great way that he could go to

graduations, support our newest Coasties, and **be** a member of *Team Coast Guard* himself (again), and that's by joining the Auxiliary! He sounds like an ideal candidate. You don't need a boat, a plane, or a radio, just a love for the Coast Guard, which he self-proclaimed. The phone number is 1-877-875-6296, or go to the web site (www.cgaux.org) to find the nearest Flotilla. And yes, active duty and Selected Reserve Coasties can join, too!

— LCDR Jan Tjomslund
Rockledge, Fla.

Only USCG American Legion Post

Coast Guard Post 1529 is the only American Legion post in the country that is for Coast Guard veterans only. Formed in 1946 by World War II Coast Guard veterans, we have been serving our members and country for over 50 years.

In recent years, we have been seeing a decline in our membership, primarily due to the age of our members. At this time, we have only 72 members. Active recruiting has brought in some new members, but not enough younger veterans. Member location is not an issue, as we have members from all over the country.

Please make it known to Coast Guard Reservists that there is an American Legion post just for them. Membership eligibility requires active service during times of hostilities as determined by the U.S. Government. Presently, membership is open to veterans of all wars and those serving as of Aug. 2, 1990.

Readers with questions can e-mail them to: paulvinny@worldnet.att.net or call me at (716) 694-7313.

— Paul L. Dragone
USCG American Legion Post 1529
Tonawanda, N.Y.

RESERVE FORCE UPDATE

Dear Shipmates:

As I write this, we are involved in the largest mobilization of the Coast Guard Reserve since World War II. What an exciting time to be a part of the Coast Guard Reserve!

As of mid-April, nearly 4,400 members of the SELRES, or

roughly 55 percent of our folks, have been mobilized in support of the war on terrorism. Proportionally, this is far more than any of the other Reserve components.

Four port security units are deployed overseas (PSUs 305/309 to the European Command and PSUs 311/313 to the Central Command). Many more of you are actively engaged in providing security for vital military loadouts at ports throughout the nation. I thank all of you for your continuing dedication to duty and your willingness to put your regular lives on hold to help protect our national security. You are all doing a superb job, and I am extremely proud of you.

One of my responsibilities as your Director of the Coast Guard Reserve is to serve as a voting member of the Reserve Forces Policy Board (RFPB). The board membership includes senior leaders from all the Reserve components, representatives from the Joint Staff, and senior civilian leaders from other Department of Defense agencies. RADM Mary O'Donnell is our Reserve component member of the board. The RFPB advises the Secretary of Defense on all matters relating to the Reserve components. It evaluates proposals by its members or other agencies and recommends changes to existing laws and policies that affect the Reserve. During the board's April meeting, we were briefed about some very important issues by representatives from various professional military organizations who comprise The Military Coalition. These organizations are continually researching and tracking the progress of proposed legislation that affects the Armed Forces. Among the many important items currently being reviewed by Congress are expanded and improved health and dental care, enhanced education benefits, and improved training, as well as increased pay and benefits. It is great to know that the members of The Military Coalition are actively working together to represent your best interests in the halls of Congress.

Earlier this spring, I was visited by Mr. Bobby

Hollingsworth, the National Chairman of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). The ESGR is an agency of the Department of Defense that looks out for your civilian reemployment rights and also works closely with employers to educate them about the military service obligations of their employees, important work during this period of frequent and extended Reserve call-ups. ESGR is there to help you whenever you have a Reserve/civilian employment conflict. They also have an excellent recognition and award program to honor those employers who are most supportive of their workers' National Guard and Reserve service. For more information, visit the ESGR Web site at: www.esgr.org. Our Coast Guard Reserve representative at ESGR is CAPT Bob Gauvin, USCGR. He can be reached at 1-800-842-8740, extension 7-1053, or rgauvin@comdt.uscg.mil.

The Chief of Staff has chartered a study group to perform a Strategic Assessment of the Coast Guard Reserve. I will lead this group, which will perform a comprehensive review of Reserve missions, management, training, and resourcing. I recently hosted a kick-off meeting with Reserve RADM's O'Donnell and Smith, Captains Acton (LANTAREA), Dwyer (PACAREA), Williams (MLCLANT), and RADM (Sel.) Jody Breckenridge, who will be assigned as the MLCPAC commander. Once fully staffed, our team will recommend actions and identify the resources required to meet the Coast Guard's contingency manpower requirements for an adequately resourced, optimally assigned, and properly trained Coast Guard Reserve, designed to meet future emergencies and operational surges. This is an important endeavor that will chart a new course for our Reserve. I am proud to be part of it and look forward to building the Coast Guard Reserve of the future.

Finally, as most of you are aware, we have authorization to grow the SELRES to 9,000 members. This presents a tremendous challenge, as we continue to deal with the current mobilization and the continued war on terrorism. In order to meet our goals, I have devoted increased resources to the recruiting program, and we have adjusted the loading plan at Cape May to accommodate increased Reserve accessions. But as I have noted in the past, retention is a key to growing and maintaining the Reserve force. I need all of you to act as recruiters for our outfit, but just as importantly, I need you to stay in, and to convince your shipmates to stay the course as well.

Please keep up the good work, be safe, lookout for your shipmates, and remain Semper Paratus.

Fair winds....

REAR ADMIRAL ROBERT J. PAPP, JR., USCG
DIRECTOR OF RESERVE AND TRAINING

DIVERSITY POLICY STATEMENT

Our people are the core of our capability and are the main focus of my attention. Our ability to attract, develop, retain and deploy a quality, diverse workforce is the key to the Coast Guard's success - it must be a top priority for everyone. We must draw on the strength of our differences and similarities to:

Create a positive environment, through consistent leadership, where all members of the Coast Guard can achieve their potential and make their greatest contribution to accomplishing the mission.

Continuously strive for a workforce that reflects America, and promote an environment that places high value on individual dignity, respect, and professional growth.

Diversity in the workforce contributes measurably to creative thinking and innovation so critical to excellence. Each of us must ensure that our actions conform to the spirit and intent of this policy, based on our core values of Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty.



THOMAS H. COLLINS
COMMANDANT
U.S. COAST GUARD



Enlisted Persons of the Year Honored

Enlisted Person of the Year (Reserve)

YN1 Nathaniel F. Sargent, Harbor Defense Command 201

YN1 Nathaniel F. Sargent has been named the national Coast Guard Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year (REPOY) for 2002.

Sargent, who has served in the Coast Guard Reserve since 1996, was the First District's nominee. Filling a vacant Warrant Officer billet, YN1 Sargent was the administration department Leading Petty Officer (LPO). He was instrumental in the smooth demobilization of the unit and making sure End of Tour awards and DD-214s were properly processed. Along with his regular administrative work, he saw the need and took the initiative to become a qualified weapons line coach enabling HDCU 201 to achieve 100 percent weapons certification. He also developed a metrics drive management tool for the Supply & Logistics Department, and volunteered to take on additional CGHRMS training at the Boston PERSRU, training other Coast Guard members on this system.

Sargent earned a B.S. degree in business administration from Norwich University in 1998 and is currently working on his MBA. Active in community service, he volunteers at the Cape Ann Food Pantry & Open Door, the Child Development Programs of Cape Ann, and at the Independent Christian Church of Gloucester. In his nomination package, it stated, "YN1 Sargent performs tasks on all levels of rank and skill without question, and he does so with commitment and enthusiasm.... [he is] a natural leader and an outstanding credit to the Coast Guard, living up to our core values..."



Enlisted Person of the Year (Active)

BM1 Scott L. Woodward, CGC Harriet Lane



BM1 Scott L. Woodward has been selected the Active Duty Coast Guard Enlisted Person of the Year (EPOY). As Boat Deck Supervisor aboard *CGC Harriet Lane*, Woodward led his deck force in attaining exceptional evaluations in precision anchoring, mooring, man overboard and towing evolutions, enabling *Harriet Lane* to earn the Atlantic Area Seamanship Excellence Award for 2002. Within six months of reporting aboard, Woodward qualified as Underway Officer of the Deck (OOD). His

nomination package stated, "He has accomplished more in his short eight months on board than most crewmembers do in a three-year tour. His desire, dedication, and motivation to acquire new skills and to apply them toward the achievement of personal, departmental, and unit goals is contagious."

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Civilian Employees of the Year Mr. Tommy A. Crim, AIRSTA Kodiak Ms. Monica McBrady, ISC Hono

The Coast Guard's Civilian Employee of the Year went to Mr. Tommy A Crim, a Supply Technician at Air Station Kodiak. The Nonappropriated Fund Civilian Employee of the Year is Ms. Monica McBrady, a Recreation Aide at Kia'i Kai Housing Community Center in the Morale, Well-Being, and Recreation Program at ISC Honolulu.

Award recipients were honored at a ceremony held at Coast Guard Headquarters June 12. The winners of this award were announced via ALCOAST. The Master Chief of the Coast Guard's office manages the Enlisted Person of the Year program and has done so since the award was reorganized and renamed in the mid-1990s. The other REPOY/EPOY nominees are listed below.

REPOY Nominees

(listed alphabetically by last name)

EM1 Jeffrey D. Bernashe, ISC Boston
TC3 Brian L. Brockmueller, HDCU 113
PS1 Darren Bullock, MSO Honolulu, PACAREA
BM3 Kate M. Dozeman, Station Grand Haven
MST2 Stephen Flanagan, MSO Puget Sound
BM2 Joseph J. Guerrier, AIRSTA Atlantic City
MK1 John W. Jacobs, Station Georgetown, S.C.
YN1 April L. Jones, ISC Honolulu
BM3 Kenneth K. Kriete, CGC Line, Act N.Y.
QM3 Arlene B. Olsen, Intell. Coord. Ctr, HQ
MK2 Martin W. Ratcliff, Station Golden Gate
BM2 Kyle R. Retzlaff, MSD Quad Cities
MST1 Richard Rozendal, MSO/Group LA/LB

EPOY Nominees

(listed alphabetically by last name)

MST3 Genevieve J. Aragon, MSO Duluth
BM1 Kyle L. Betts, Group Astoria
EM2 Ken Blackman, TRACEN Petaluma
AMT1 Robert Blackmon, USCG ARSC
DC1 Tolan J. Blanchard, NESU Seattle
AST1 Reed A. Breitenstein, AIRSTA Barbers Pt.
BM1 John C. Cowden, TRACEN Cape May
YN1 Michael S. Elkins, Group Ohio Valley
SK3 Sarah J. Hill, AIRSTA Kodiak
DC1 John W. Holtzinger, ISC Portsmouth
SK1 Kevin T. Hurst, MSO/Group Philadelphia
BM1 Charles E. Lindsey, CGC Narwhal
GM2 Alex Roldan, MSO Boston
AMT1 James G. Schwader, AIRSTA Clearwater
BM2 Donald Scott, USCG Recruiting Command
HS2 Jerry D. Tucker, TRACEN Yorktown
HS2 Naomi Velazquez, USCG Academy
RD2 Kathryn C. Warnecke, CGC Midgett

Sparks Award goes to Group Boston

BOSTON — Group Boston has been selected as the recipient of the 2002 RADM Bennett S. “Bud” Sparks Award. This award is presented annually by the Reserve Officers Association of the United States to the active command judged to be the most supportive of a totally integrated Coast Guard force.

Group Boston was selected owing to the unit’s outstanding leadership and partnership initiatives. Reservists are fully integrated into all unit operations, all elements of the Group Duty Sections, and all support functions, including supply and personnel administration. Reservists developed and delivered a well received maritime law enforcement training program that produced 32 new boarding team members and 12 Sea Marshals. In addition, reservists worked extra hours to restore a 41-foot Utility Boat slated for survey to ready condition, adding an additional operational asset to the Group’s inventory.

Other outstanding units nominated included: MSO Wilmington, MSO San Francisco, MSU Galveston, Activities CENPAC, ISC New Orleans, MSO Chicago, D13 Staff, MSO Valdez and ISC Alameda.

Units wishing to submit packages for future Sparks Award competitions are encouraged to review the



A raider boat patrols Boston Harbor.

nomination for Group Boston linked to the CGR Web site at: www.uscg.mil/hq/reserve/sparks.htm.

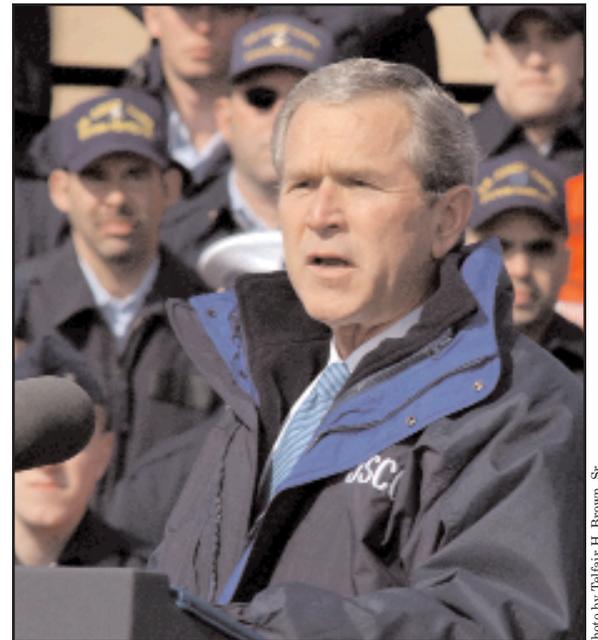
Representatives of Group Boston will be presented with the award at the ROA National Convention in New Orleans during June. See WEBCOAST 008/03 for information.

Sign of the Times...



CWO Paul Johnston, Facilities Engineer at the Atlantic Strike Team, had the unit’s sign changed to reflect “U.S. Department of Homeland Security,” in March shortly after the transfer from DOT to DHS. This was the first photo received at The Reservist reflecting the historic change, which officially occurred March 1.

Philadelphia Freedom...



President George W. Bush spoke at the Coast Guard facility at the Port of Philadelphia March 31, praising the service’s men and women and announcing the addition of up to 700 new boats for patrolling harbors and waterways.

A Farewell and Thank You from the Chief, Office of Reserve Affairs

By CAPT Francis C. Buckley, USCGR

Ed's note: CAPT Buckley has served as Chief, Office of Reserve Affairs since January 2001. His retirement ceremony was held April 24, 2003, at Coast Guard Headquarters. He can be reached via e-mail at: captbuckley@starpower.net

While I am thrilled for the opportunity to write to a team of individuals I admire so greatly, it is a difficult time to write. As I put fingers to keyboard, we have more reservists recalled than at any time in our history. Most important, we have, by far, a greater percentage of our reservists called than any of our other Reserve components. Yet, as the rules dictate, I am retiring.

As one becomes more senior in this organization, we jokingly have a tendency to moan about the lack of “fun” jobs that the junior folks are eligible for. “Fun,” however, does not describe what our Coast Guard family is going through on either the domestic or international front lines. Missions have been re-prioritized, family lives have been disrupted, employers (large and especially small) are wondering how to cope...and all because the “fun” has turned deadly serious.

So many of you have courageously answered the call — with few if any complaints. You have put up with less than “creature comforts,” worked long hours, missed birthdays, anniversaries, and vacations — all because of your country’s greater need. From the very depths of my soul, I thank you for your commitment.

Those of us who have been blessed with the opportunity to engage in the management of Coast Guard Reservists owe all of you, and your families, our steadfast support and a commitment to your well-

being. All of us, past and present, active duty, Reserve, and retired must remember the lessons we have learned and be “a friend in deed” for our reservists. This is a time of increased uncertainty, and everyone can help, even if it simply involves a supportive phone call or visit. For those of us going, or those of us gone, reinvigorate the pride you had as

a member of our noble organization and “be there” for today’s Coasties, and especially their families!

By the time I retire (officially on June 1, 2003), I will have served just shy of 31 years in the Coast Guard. I remember Reserve units that drilled at night, far from any body of water. I remember the pioneers who began the augmentation program and thus helped to make reservists an integral part of the Coast Guard’s workforce. I remember Reserve-run stations in the Ninth District and elsewhere, shuttle security operations out of Station Port Canaveral, our response to the Mariel Boat Lift, the Bay Area earthquake, and innumerable floods and hurricanes. Yes, we were in the forefront of responding to our call as a humanitarian service. And now I think of our military readiness

mission — to those members of the “camouflage Coast Guard” who responded in the first Gulf War, Haiti, Guantanamo Bay, and to our current ops. Tasked like no others, they have responded consistently and magnificently.

To all of you, I offer my most heartfelt thanks. There are so many people I could thank, those senior and those junior, those active and those Reserve, those who carried the sword of the past, and who handed it over to those who carry it today. All of you helped shape the Coast Guard Reserve of today, and the nation owes you its gratitude.

I wish you all the best...Godspeed!



Photo by CW02 Ed Kruska, USCGR

It was a celebration of 30-plus years of service for CAPT Frank Buckley at his HQ retirement ceremony April 24. Left to right: daughter Sara, CAPT Buckley, wife Mary Fran and son Sean.

A Day to Remember...



Photo by CWO2 Ed Kruska, USCGR

LT Charlie Davis spent the day with his daughter, Amy, when he brought her to Headquarters for "Bring Your Child to Work Day" April 24. Davis, who serves in the Reserve Funds Management Division (G-WTR-3), was deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba with PSU 305 last year.

A Hoppin' Good Time...



Photo courtesy YNC Anne Priestman, USCGR

Reservist YNC Anne Priestman and her daughter Kristi enjoy the White House Easter Egg Roll in Washington, D.C. April 21. This year's event honored military members and their families. D1 was represented by 19 families with many from the D.C. area as well.

News Briefs

White serving as Chief of Reserve Affairs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — CAPT Ron White, USCGR, is currently serving as Chief, Office of Reserve Affairs (Acting) at Coast Guard Headquarters. White has been filling the position temporarily following the retirement of CAPT Frank Buckley. With over 30 years in the Coast Guard Reserve, CAPT White was recalled to active duty last year to review the Coast Guard's training infrastructure and also served as the Coast Guard's representative on a joint task force at the Pentagon. CAPT White will stay on until CAPT Louis M. Farrell transfers to HQ to take the position in late summer 2003.



USCG vet, author, Sloan Wilson dies

COLONIA BEACH, Va. — Sloan Wilson, 83, author of *The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit* and 14 other novels, passed away May 25. Wilson's 1955 bestseller, reprinted last year, was made into an award-winning film in the early 1960s. He served in the Coast Guard Reserve during World War II, aboard *CGC Tampa* and FS-158. Some of the material for his books came from his service in the Coast Guard. Survivors include his wife, Betty; four children; 10 grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at a date yet to be determined. Condolences can be sent to the Wilson family at: P.O. Box 510, Colonial Beach, VA 22443-0510.

CG Reservist graduates Army Warrant Officer Staff Course

FORT RUCKER, Ala. — CWO2 Michael J. Brzezicki, USCGR, became the first non-Army Component member to graduate from the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Staff Course (WOSC) March 28. The graduation took place at the Army Warrant Officer Career Center at Ft. Rucker, AL. WOSC is a four-week course attended by Active Army Component members as well as members of the Army Reserve and Army Guard Component

USCG rescues lost hiker, one of its own

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A Coast Guard helicopter crew rescued a hiker near Sitka who was lost for two days during Sitka's coldest winter temperatures. ENS John Backus, 22, of Virginia, went hiking on Verstovia Peak near Sitka March 8, and was reported overdue when he failed to show for work aboard *CGC Maple*. A Coast Guard helicopter crew from Sitka, along with members of Sitka Fire Department, Sitka Mountain Rescue and several members of the *Maple* crew began searching the area where Backus reportedly went hiking. The USCG helicopter's crew spotted Backus on a ledge, attached a harness to him, hoisting him to safety. An ambulance crew then transported Backus to Sitka Community Hospital for treatment of hypothermia. The temperature reportedly dipped to nine degrees overnight and Backus was dressed in lightweight clothing and had no extra gear.



Nothing “Easy” About This Training



Photo courtesy LT Andy Sheffield, ISC New Orleans

LTJG Russell Meziere, of MSFO Panama City, Fla., receives pepper spray and then a subsequent simulated attack as part of the boarding team member training at ISC New Orleans earlier this year.

NEW ORLEANS — To most people, memories of the Big Easy bring about a fond recollection of Cajun-French cuisine, horse-drawn carriage rides through the French Quarter, and jazz-blues tunes flowing out of every street-corner establishment for blocks around. However, reservists who were recently recalled to ISC NOLA for pre-maritime law enforcement (MLE) training and boarding team member (BTM) training, will tell you a different story.

Recalled reservists in-processed at ISC NOLA through the following stages, in an effort to prepare themselves for further assignment to military out-load ports and Western River Operations:

Stage 1: Medical and dental evaluations; administrative issues, such as updating military ID cards, applying for government travel cards, and ensuring pay and allowances were correct; and legal counseling, power of attorney, wills, etc.

Stage 2: Physical fitness testing; weapons qualifications, Rules of the Road (as applicable), TCT

training, survival swim, first aid training, CPR training and BTM training.

Four phased groups of approximately 140 personnel were processed through ISC NOLA, with the last group of approximately 24 personnel also completing the rigorous BTM course. Members graduating the BTM course were assigned as river marshals and watchstanders in support of Western River Operations. Several ISC NOLA personnel were also afforded the BTM training opportunity in an effort to increase ISC NOLA's own anti-terrorism / force protection capabilities. D8's Coast Guard Auxiliary and CGC *Pamlico* assisted with the training.

The single most common thread among the phased groups was the fact that they remained ready to accomplish any assigned task, anywhere that they might have been needed. Despite the great sacrifices made by their families, activated personnel remained *Semper Paratus!*

— By LT Andy Sheffield, ISC New Orleans

Petty Officer Robert Quichocho of Boston's Harbor Defense Team, stands watch while on a homeland security patrol around Boston's waterfront on board the unit's 27-foot Safe Boat, March 28. The craft can reach speeds in excess of 40 knots and is highly maneuverable in the harbor's intricate waterways.



USCG photo by PA3 Amy Thomas, USCG



USCG photo by PA3 Kyle Niemi

BM3 Terry Sercovich of PSU 308 looks down from one of the unit's Transportable Port Security Boats during a military appreciation parade in Harahan, La. on April 12.

TC2 Jessica Jackson, left, of PSU 313 receives the smallpox vaccine earlier this year from HS1 Ben Mulkey. The unit deployed overseas Feb. 15 with most unit members having received the shot at the January drill.



Photo by LT Andrew Niemann, PSU 313

Briefly...

Coast Guard Reservist Recalls

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As of May 12, 2003, 4,405 Coast Guard Ready Reservists were on involuntary active duty under Title 10 USC recall orders. The Atlantic Area contributed 3,444 while the Pacific Area provided 961. During the recent recall, the number of recalled reservists peaked at 4,428 in April.

Other Reserve Component Recalls

WASHINGTON, D.C. — So how many reservists were called up from the other Reserve components during the Iraq War? There were 223,000 mobilized including: Army National Guard and Army Reserve, 149,141; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, 37,179; Marine Corps Reserve, 21,115; Naval Reserve, 11,938. The mobilization of Reserve troops was the largest since the 1991 Persian Gulf War, when the number of reservists peaked at 265,000. During the current mobilization, an estimated

90,000 were put on active duty specifically for the war while the remainder were assigned tasks such as providing security at American bases. A total of 286,074 of America's 1.2 million part-time troops have been called to active duty since Sept. 11, 2001. The Pentagon stated that the number will be dropping in the coming weeks.

Century of Flight Monument

KITTY HAWK, N.C. — A group of USCG retirees is ensuring the Coast Guard is recognized for its part in the historic first flight of the Wright Brothers Dec. 17, 1903. Personnel at Kill Devil Hills Life-Saving Station had befriended the Wright Brothers and assisted them that historic day. The Wright Brothers sent the "we are successful" telegram from the station. The Monument to a Century of Flight will be located on the Outer Banks and dedicated later this year. For more info, see: www.icarusinternational.com or contact RADM Bob Johanson, USCG(Ret.), 616 Lakeland Road South, Severna Park, MD 21146; 410-647-5272; robtjohanson@aol.com

CITIZEN-SAILOR OF THE MONTH

BM2 David D. Lee Boat Forces D.C.



This month we salute recalled Coast Guard Reservist David D. Lee who is stationed at Boat Forces D.C. in our nation's capital. The 31-year-old and 25-foot Response Boat — Homeland Security (RB-HS) coxswain was advanced to BM2 on May 1. Lee is serving quite a distance from his family roots in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. and from his drill site, Station Bayfield, Wis., located on Lake Superior. Prior to his recall, Lee was working as a crew chief on a Mark Twain paddleboat for the Padelford Packet Boat

Company in St. Paul, Minn. He has his 50-ton captain's license and is working toward his 100-ton. The riverboat hosts all kinds of events, from high school dances, retreats and private parties to daily public cruises (www.riverrides.com/).

"My wife and I were married on Friday, Sept. 13, 2002, in Toronto, and we wanted to move to the East Coast, so I volunteered for this position here in Washington," said Lee, who came aboard Jan. 12, 2003. "We haven't seen each other much because she's still back in Minneapolis working for General Mills."

Lee attended Nicolet Area Technical School in Rhinelander, Wis. for two years, and did a year at the University of Wisconsin, Superior. He is continuing his education in criminal justice through University of Phoenix, an on-line distance learning program.

On Jan. 31, 1995, Lee found himself stepping off the bus at boot camp in Cape May. He wanted to do search and rescue, and got his wish, serving four years on active duty at Station Montauk, N.Y. Lee helped with response and recovery ops following the crash of TWA 800 in July 1996 off Long Island, N.Y.

According to Lee, the work at Boat Forces D.C. (to be renamed Station Washington upon commissioning this summer), is high profile and exciting. Approximately 15 of the 18-crew members are reservists. The station, a post-9/11 initiative, is located at Bolling Air Force Base, a short boat ride from the nation's capital. Its main Area of Responsibility runs along the Potomac River from Georgetown (Key Bridge), south past the Lincoln Memorial and Pentagon, to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

"The crew here is great and I enjoy this job," said Lee. "We have a lot of responsibility, but we're not micromanaged."

Lee can be reached via e-mail at: snorkeldave@aol.com



Explaining Recall to Your Friends & Family

By PA2 John Masson, USCGR
Special to the *Reservist*.
Reprinted with permission from
The Detroit Free Press

My two kids have a red-and-white plastic boat that says “Coast Guard” on its side.

It came out of a box last Christmas, complete with a small, mustachioed Coast Guard man who plugs into a slot on its impressive flying bridge — a gag gift for the kids of a Coast Guard Reservist. Sometimes a dispute, accompanied by a lot of splashing and yelling, breaks out while they’re playing with it in the bathtub.

“I want Coast Guard Man!”

“No, I want Coast Guard Man!”

I knelt on the carpet in the bathroom and watched the scene last week, the same day I got an e-mail from Coast Guard Headquarters telling me to report to Portsmouth, Va., for an indefinite period of active duty. (The slot this particular Coast Guard man plugs into is the public affairs office at Atlantic Area Headquarters.)

Since then I’ve been explaining to the people I talk to every day as a *Free Press* reporter that I won’t be around for the next few months. There’s usually an undercurrent of surprise when I tell them that a newspaper reporter also is a military reservist.

The image of the anti-authoritarian, iconoclastic journalist is too ingrained in the culture for me to dispel. What isn’t so clear to the public is the passion most reporters, editors and photographers feel for this country. Sometimes that’s obscured by what we have to do as guardians and watchdogs — as critics under the Constitution. Other times we don’t live up to our own ideals.

But for most of us, it’s the passion that drives us. So a few veterans or reservists in our ranks shouldn’t be all that surprising.

All of which is a long way from the image of my two preschoolers, playing in the bathtub with a red-and-white plastic Coast Guard boat.

Like the people on my beat, they, too, needed an explanation of why Daddy is going away. And like tens of thousands of other reservists around the country — most of whom are destined for much less comfortable duty than mine — I struggled to find the words.

I explain to Sophie, 5, and Ian, 3, while the older

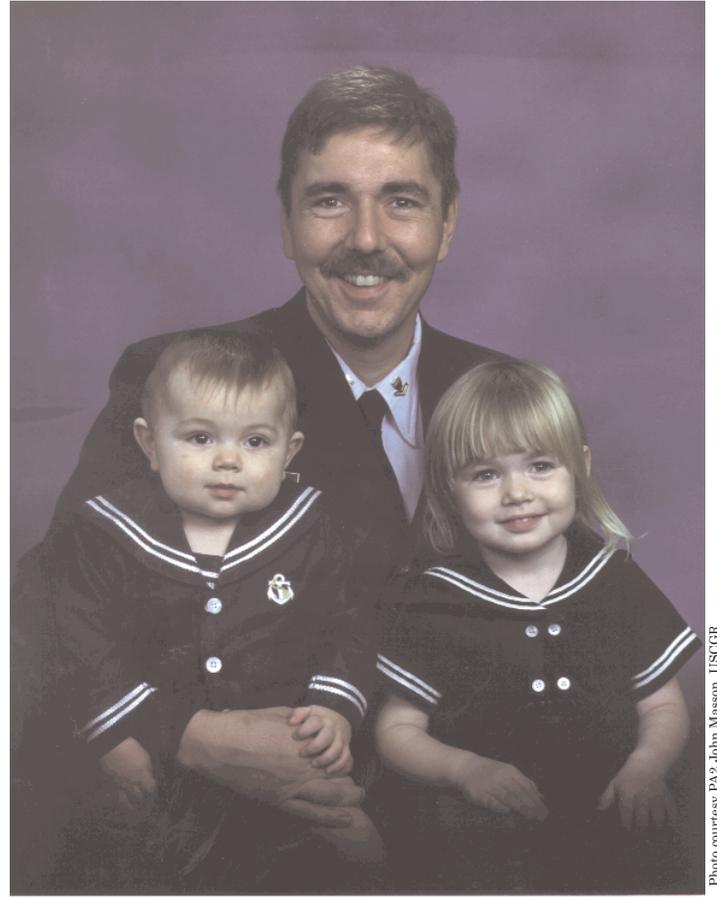


Photo courtesy PA2 John Masson, USCGR

PA2 John Masson with his children, Ian and Sophie

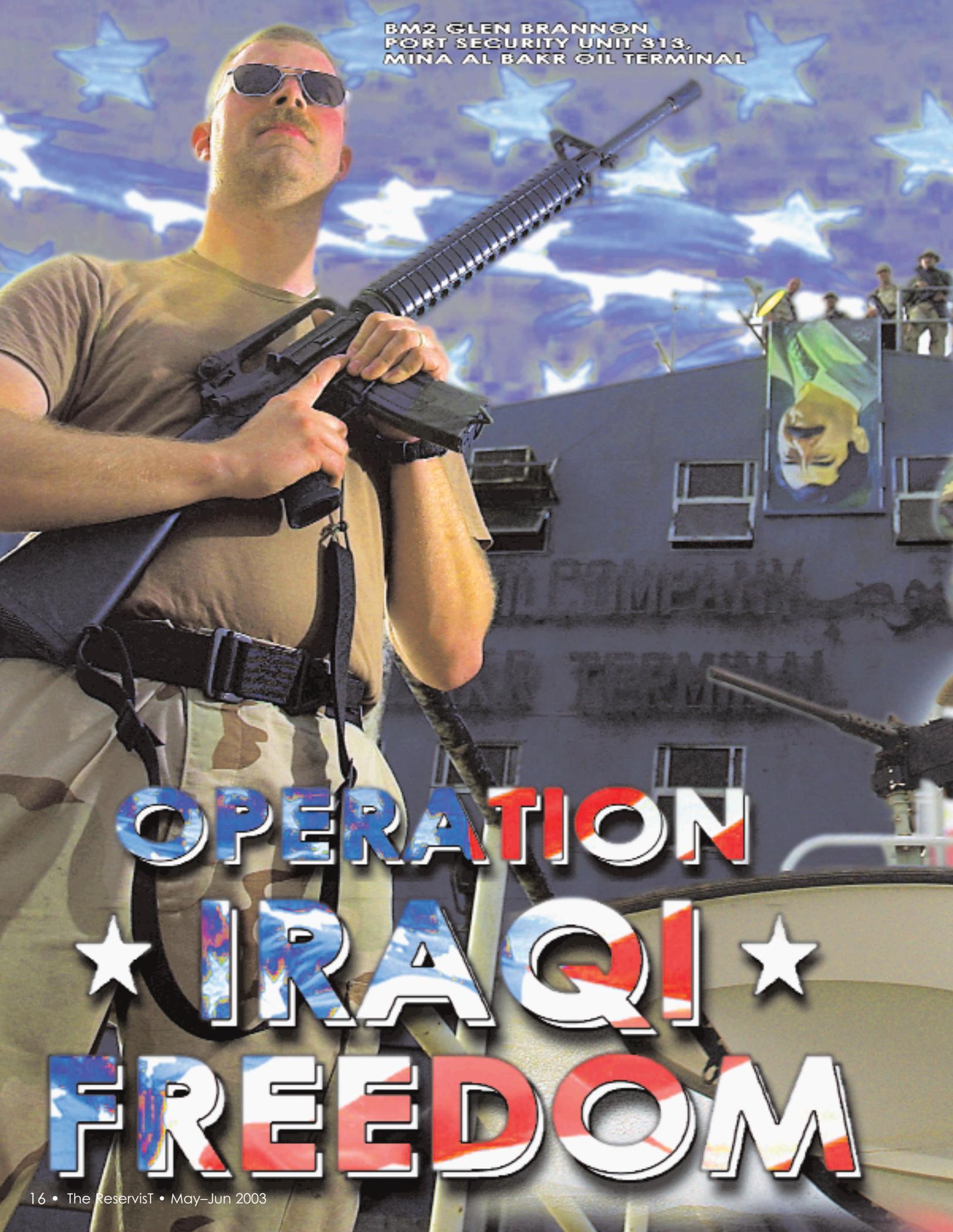
one nods. You’ll be able to call me every day, and sometimes we can visit. But I don’t know when I’ll be back home.

I can’t read her reaction — but I do know that she’d gladly trade the plastic Coast Guard man for the real one, even if it means her brother wins the bathtub fight.

Has she made the connection between my leaving and the televised war images that we can’t completely shield her from? She’s inscrutable. But the other day she told my wife, “Mommy, I don’t like soldiers. They’re scary.”

So is the world. And that’s what all the fighting is about.

PA2 John Masson, USCGR, is a Persian Gulf war veteran and a reporter for The Detroit Free Press.



BM2 GLEN BRANNON
PORT SECURITY UNIT 313,
MINA AL BAKR OIL TERMINAL

OPERATION
★ IRAQI ★
FREEDOM



TANKER PAUL BUCK SECURITY DETAIL
PORT SECURITY UNIT 305
SOUBA BAY, CRETE, GREECE



**STORIES AND PHOTOS OF THE ROLE
THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE
COAST GUARD RESERVE
PLAYED IN THE WAR IN IRAQ.**

RAIDER BOAT CREW
PORT SECURITY UNIT 311,
UMM QUASR, IRAQ



WELCOME TO WATERWORLD

COAST GUARDSMEN FROM PORT SECURITY
UNIT 313, OUT OF TACOMA WA., ONBOARD
THE MINA AL BAKR OIL TERMINAL.

USCG PHOTO BY PAI TOM SPERDUTO



PSU 313





HS1 Ben R. Mulkey, of Port Security Unit 313 writes a letter to his wife Jennifer on the Mina al Bakr oil terminal in the North Arabian Gulf off the coast of Iraq.

A REPORT FROM IRAQ

BY YN1 THOMAS HEAVEY, USCGR

*Ed's note: YN1 Heavey is serving with PSU 313 in the Middle East.
Here is a report he sent back to the States on May 1, 2003.*

Anyone remember *Waterworld*, the Kevin Costner movie? Well, I have been to where "dry land is a myth." I've been there and back.

The primary mission of the Coast Guard Port Security Units (PSU 311 of San Pedro, Calif. and PSU 313 of Tacoma, Wash.) has been revealed in the popular press, so I can now speak openly. "Members of PSU 311 and 313 relieved U.S. Marines of responsibility for security on two gas and oil platforms in the Northern Persian Gulf. The Marines had held both platforms after U.S. Navy SEALs took them from the Iraqi regime." (From a USCG press release.) The PSU mission is to hold these two economic lifelines of Iraq's oil industry; the Gas and Oil Platforms (GOPLATS) known as Mina Al Bakr Oil Terminal (MABOT) and Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminal (KAAOT). In the first few days after the Coast Guard took over, the Iraqi soldiers who were guarding the units were still aboard

as Enemy Prisoners of War (EPWs).

The Coasties have established defensive positions at strategic points on the 1,200 yard-long platforms. Looking like an erector set construction project of some behemoth child, each platform is several smaller platform sections joined together with four- to six-foot wide catwalks. The deck on KAAOT is about 20 feet off the water and MABOT starts about 40 feet up. KAAOT gets pretty wet during the periodic storms and heavy seas that sweep through the area.

MABOT starts at the South with a helicopter landing pad, that is followed by: a catwalk, oil transfer platform (can serve one tanker ship on each side) catwalk, generator platform, catwalk, another oil transfer platform also capable of serving two ships at a time, catwalk, laboratory platform, catwalk and finally on the north end, "The Condo."

SADDAM'S REGIME "UPSIDE DOWN"

The Condo is a four stor,y steel-framed and steel-floored building with offices, living quarters and group rooms. High atop the living and working quarters is a huge portrait of Saddam — no doubt to "inspire" the workers. The portrait is still there, however a slight modification was made. As the EPWs were being led away to board the ships that returned them to Iraq, they walked several hundred feet out of the Condo, and were told to turn and look back. Several of them gasped, several more laughed. Saddam's portrait now hangs upside down, as a pictorial reminder of what has been done to his regime.

Not even considering that the EPWs were held in some of the rooms for several days, the facility was filthy beyond description. Though they were responsible for bringing in millions of dollars of income for their country, the Iraqi workers were often left without food and provisions. When captured, the soldiers had been fishing for their food. The food stuffs left in the storage areas by the workers were infested with cockroaches and other vermin. Out on the platforms, when workers had to relieve themselves, there were no facilities, so they stopped wherever they were and did what they had to do.

KAAOT has a huge rat infestation. "Huge" modifies *both* rat and infestation. For sport, some members of the crew have gotten a hold of pellet guns. They put on their night vision goggles (NVGs) and go hunting rats. One fellow already has 30 kills. The machinery on KAAOT is in such a state of disrepair they cannot pump water or start the generators. The living area on KAAOT has been abandoned to the rats, and the crew lives in tents out in the oil pumping areas. Several crew members are sleeping inside large, unused pieces of the pipeline. Raised a couple feet off the deck, the pipes are free from rats and bugs. With a pad or two, the 48-inch wide pipes could be comfortable.

KAAOT is only six miles from Iran. For the first few weeks , the Iranians sent out patrol boats to keep an eye on the Americans. A few times, PSU 311 has fired flares, warning the Iranians to keep their distance.

"OVER THE HILL" GANG

Back on MABOT, the Tacoma, Wash., based crew of PSU 313 brings a wealth of technical experience especially in welding,



A Coast Guardsman from Port Security Unit 313 walks the catwalk at the Mina al Bakr oil terminal. Coast Guard Port Security Units are maintaining security on oil terminals.

Photo by PAI Tom Sperduto, USCG

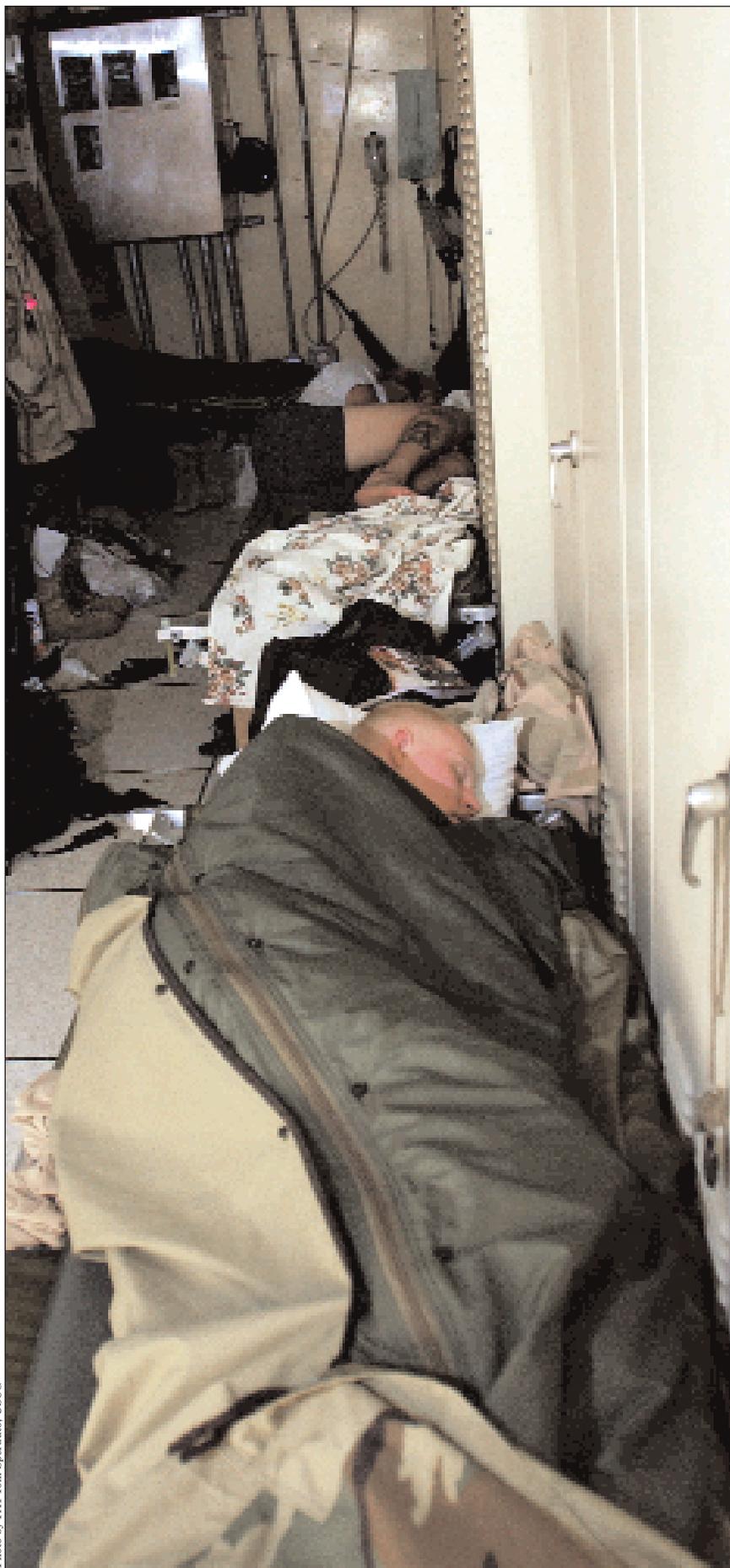


Photo by PA1 Tom Sparduto, USCG

A Coast Guardsman from Port Security Unit 313 sleeps on a cot outside at Mina al Bakr oil terminal.

plumbing and electrical work. The “over the hill gang” of Coastie reservists brings the combined knowledge of homeowners to bear on a difficult industrial situation. They get the electricity running, and the water flowing. They figure out how to run the de-salinization plant, making their own fresh water. They get the water heaters working, the refrigerators running and the air conditioners cooling. Using several hundred gallons of Clorox, they scrub floors, walls and ceilings. All this in their “spare” time, when they are not manning gun emplacements and conducting security patrols.

The Persian Gulf turns out to be a rougher body of water than planners had thought. A storm in the first days rips away the barge which served as a water level docking platform. The PSU’s 25-foot patrol boats will be smashed to pieces if they tie up to the steel support poles which rise up from the sea floor, so they become useless to the mission. Supplies are brought in once a week via Army landing craft. The Navy and Coast Guard alternate with larger ships to patrol the six miles between the two platforms and encourage the Iranian and Iraqi fishermen to stay away from the platforms.

Periodically, a coalition ship will send a small boat over and two or three crew will transport back to the big ship for a day of liberty on a frigate or destroyer. The crew’s favorites are the British ships.

After several weeks of clean-up, MABOT actually becomes a semi-pleasant place to live. But cockroaches are still an ever present companion. Most folks sleep with the lights on to keep them in hiding. They say that if you turn off the lights, wait five minutes and turn them back on, you will be greeted by a herd of cockroaches standing on their hind legs, tattoos on their arms reading “Born to Breed,” holding coffee cups, saying “Yo, buddy, what’s for dinner?”

I went out with the supply ship on a Friday in late April. It was seven hours by water from our port in Kuwait. All the supplies brought off the ship have to be passed hand over hand and up four flights of stairs (ladders as they say in the nautical world). Mail, luggage, spare parts, communications gear, Girl Scout Cookies by the case load, food, drinking water; it all must go up, up, up, one person at a time.

When all the gear is brought aboard and stowed, the supply ship leaves for KAAOT and spends the night there, before returning in the morning to complete the

round trip. Even in the midst of “war,” the paperwork has to flow. I am bringing out papers which have to be signed by the crew members so they can receive certain payments. I set up a table in the dining hall and meet the crew as they come through to eat in the evening. While MREs are sometimes necessary, most of the time the food is cooked and warm. The unit cook is a reservist who normally works as a corrections officer. Many years ago, he spent four years on Coast Guard active duty as a cook on a cutter. He knows his way around a small kitchen and can feed a crew of 30 on two burners and an oven. Dinner is a fabulous baked chicken (teriyaki or hot and spicy), cheesy potatoes and fresh salad.

Marvelous!

Breakfast the next morning is omelets made to order with orange juice and coffee.

Divine!



Members of PSU 313 take a brief break on the Mina al Bakr oil terminal in the North Arabian Gulf off the coast of Iraq.

Photo by PA1 Tom Spurduto, USCG

WE ARE SAVING LIVES

RADM Mary O'Donnell, the Coast Guard Pacific Area's ranking reservist, will be coming for a visit and they have prepared a room especially for her. Probably the cleanest room on the platform, it even has a flushable toilet. That's a true luxury out here in *Waterworld*.

Among the comforts of home, the crew rigs a satellite TV antenna and they watch CNN and Fox. It is surreal to be there watching a CNN report about the readiness to begin exporting oil from Iraq. I am sitting on the very platform from where that oil will flow to the world, and the income will flow to the people of a free Iraq. The GOPLATS represent the economic future of the people of Iraq. Without these platforms, people will starve to death. Without these platforms, any chance of democracy will founder. Without these platforms, liberty will not take root in the birth place of civilization. People may still starve to death, democracy may fail to become a reality, and liberty may go another millennia before these people see the benefits of civilization. But it won't be because the U.S. Coast Guard did not do its job. We are there and we will make sure these tools are handed over to the people of Iraq.

Many people have asked: “What is the United States Coast Guard doing in Iraq?”

The answer is simple. We are doing the same thing here we do at home. We are saving lives. Semper Paratus!



RADM Mary P. O'Donnell, USCGR, left, visits with members of PSU 309 in Kuwait.

Photo by SCPO Tom Zaborski, PSU 309, USCGR



LOWERING THE BOOM

PERSONNEL FROM COAST GUARD PORT SECURITY UNIT 311, HOMEPORTED IN SAN PEDRO, CA., GET LOWERED FOR PATROL IN THE PORT OF UMM QUASR, IRAQ APRIL 20, 2003. COAST GUARD PORT SECURITY UNITS ARE MAINTAINING SECURITY IN IRAQI PORTS AND ON OIL TERMINALS IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

USCG PHOTO BY PAI TOM SPERDUTO



COAST GUARD, U.S. NAVY PROVIDE SECURITY AT IRAQI PORT

BY LT JOHN GAROFALO, USCGR

UMM QASR, Iraq — When the first humanitarian shipment arrived in the captured port of Umm Qasr, Iraq, it represented a pivotal point in *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. While combat operations are winding down in the north, an unprecedented humanitarian aid effort is underway which will be among the first steps in rebuilding the Iraqi infrastructure and giving hope to a long-oppressed people. The Umm Qasr aid delivery is part of a huge, multi-national military and humanitarian effort, an effort in which the ships transiting the Khawr Abd Abdallah waterway from the Northern Arabian Gulf to the port will be protected by a relatively small armed force of U.S. Navy and Coast Guard personnel from Naval Coastal Warfare Group One, home ported in San Diego, Calif.

Their waterborne security cordon is intentionally low-key.

“The ultimate test of whether we do our job is whether anyone involved in the operation will notice us,” said CAPT Allen Painter, who is in charge of the Navy’s anti-terrorism and force protection efforts in

Kuwait and Iraq. “Our participation should be seamless to all except the terrorists or asymmetric forces who decide to find a softer target elsewhere.”

CAPT David Brown, the operation’s Force Security Officer is commanding the Naval Coastal Warfare forces in Iraq. He is responsible for both seaward and landward security.

“The main challenge for us is to provide the force protection package we normally provide in an expeditionary warfare environment, without the advantages of having access to our usual supply and logistics support,” said Brown.

Typically, Naval Coastal Warfare units deploy to a low-to-medium threat area in a port or harbor that has already been secured and ready for continuous, sustained operations. The port of Umm Qasr was only recently taken by allied forces and the British, who are still working to get the port fully operational to support the large humanitarian sealift.

“Basically, Umm Qasr is a work in progress,” said Brown.



Photo by PA1 Tom Sperduto, USCG

Paul F. Floge of PSU 311 provides security with a .50-caliber machine gun on the Khawr al Amaya oil terminal off the coast of Iraq.

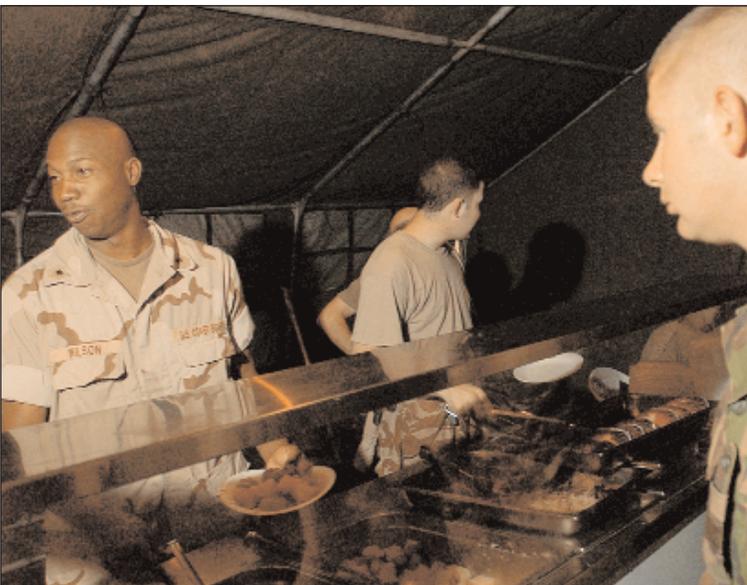
PSU 311 on patrol in the port of Umm Qasr, Iraq.





Coast Guard GM2 Randy K. VenSwency, of Monterey, Calif., repairs a .50 caliber machine gun in the Port Security 311 Armory in Umm Qasr, Iraq April 20.

Coast Guard FS1 Fred N. Wilson, 34, of Winston Salem, NC., assigned to Port Security 311, works on the chow line in Umm Qasr, Iraq on Easter April 20.



From his command center, Brown and his staff oversee the efforts of the system of sensors and operators that keep the large ships safe as they make their final transit up the river into the port's shipping channel, moor to a pier, conduct offloads and then transit back to sea.

Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 114 from Kansas City, Mo. is operating with Naval Coastal Warfare Group One. Commanding Officer Scott Jerabek is the Seaward Security Officer. His sailors use a suite of sensors that provide radar, sonar, thermal and visual imaging of the seaward and immediate landward area. In addition to the high-tech sensors, Jerabek also uses armed lookouts to keep track of river traffic.

Ships are escorted into port and defended pierside by U.S. Coast Guard PSU 311, home ported in Long Beach, Calif. and U.S. Navy Inshore Boat Unit 14 from St. Louis, Mo. The two boat units use small, fast, heavily-armed speedboats to conduct patrols against potential threats including swimmers, divers and bomb-laden suicide boats, such as those that attacked the *USS Cole* and French tanker *M/V Linburg*.

Also supporting Naval Coastal Warfare Group One is Explosive Ordnance Mobile Unit Two, Detachments 20 and 22 from Little Creek, Va. EOD is responsible for ensuring that piers, ships and waterways are clear of mines, bombs, grenades and any other device that may imperil a ship or personnel operating in the port.

ONE LAST PATROL

BMC TED COOLEY OF PSU 311 ON PATROL IN PERSIAN GULF

BMC Ted Cooley holds the distinction of being the oldest Coastie deployed overseas for *Iraqi Freedom*. He began his career in San Diego with the Navy in 1959. After a long separation, he joined Coast Guard Reserve in 1981. Over the years, he has served as a drilling reservist in Los Angeles/Long Beach, San Diego, Reserve Unit National Strike Force Exercise Support in Salt Lake City, and Station Lake Tahoe before transferring to PSU 311 in 1999.

The last 20 months have been busy for Cooley and Coast Guard Port Security Units with deployments to major U.S. ports, Kuwait, Bahrain and now Iraq. The chief returned home to retire on May 15, 2003, at the age of 62 with 26 years of service.

BMC Cooley has many fond memories of his time in the Coast Guard, but above all he appreciates the people who he credits with having the greatest personal influence on him: BMCS Larry Woolsey, QMCM Neil Holmdahl, CWO Tony Fikac,



Photo courtesy MCPO Tom Cowan, USCGR

MCPOCG Rick Trent and Reserve Force Master Chief George Ingraham.

— By MCPO Tom Cowan, USCGR

After the attack on the *USS Cole*, Naval Coastal Warfare Group One units were called in to protect several ports and harbors in the Middle East, and multiple units were deployed immediately after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. Some of those same units involved in *Operation Noble Eagle* are presently serving in ports throughout the Middle East as part of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*.

Naval Coastal Warfare Group One is based in San Diego. Units currently deployed in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom* are under the direction of Commander,

Task Force 51. They are: Harbor Defense Command Unit (HDCU) 114, Long Beach, Calif.; Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit (MIUWU) 114, Kansas City, Mo.; MIUWU 109, Fort Worth, Texas; MIUWU106, San Diego, Calif.; Inshore Boat Unit (IBU) 11, Everett, Wash.; IBU 13, Portland, Ore.; IBU 14, St. Louis, Mo.; IBU 15, Corpus Christi, Texas; IBU 16, Long Beach, Calif.; IBU 17, San Diego, Calif.; USCG PSU 311, Long Beach, Calif.; USCG PSU 313, Tacoma, Wash.; USCG PSU 309, Port Clinton, Ohio; EOD Mobile Unit Two, Detachments 20 and 22, Little Creek, Va.



Photo by PAI Tom Sparduto, USCG

DC3 Bryce A. Douglas and MK3 Louis H. Ciccoli, both of Coast Guard Port Security Unit 311, move barrels in Umm Quasr, Iraq April 20 as Iraqi teenagers pass by.



**MEMBERS OF PSU 309 IN A .50 CALIBER
MACHINE GUN NEST IN UMM QASR, IRAQ.
PICTURED FROM LEFT ARE PS1 KEVIN
HOLLENBACHER, PSC MICHAEL CORFMAN,
LTJG WILLIAM SUTER AND LCDR SCOTT
MCKINLEY.**

PHOTO BY LCDR KEN STEFANISIN



“LIFE IN THE NAG”

BY LT TONY RUSSELL, USCG

“Life in the NAG” is when a random 150-ft Iraqi barge collides with your ship while riding the Khawr Abd Allah’s (KAA) speedy five knot current in the middle of the night.

“Life in the NAG” is when your ship is designed to patrol with 18 people for five days but now patrolling with 24 for 12.

“Life in the NAG” is when you have been living a “Groundhog Day” existence bouncing between the same two oil terminals sitting six miles apart for the last 35 days.

“Life in the NAG” is when the media characterizes your living conditions as a “Mad Max kind of life.”

“Life in the NAG” has come to be the common description used daily by the Coast Guard men and women to describe their unique existence beyond the tip of the spear in the North Arabian Gulf (NAG) as part of the coalition naval component of *Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)*.

The Coast Guard’s roles in OIF have included preventing and deterring the movement of weapons, leaders, terrorists or equipment by the now defunct regime of Saddam Hussein; standing by to respond to acts of environmental terrorism; conducting port and coastal patrols along the coast of Iraq; and providing port and oil terminal security in Kuwait and Iraq.

Sometimes success is measured in what hasn’t happened — and that is a perfect description for what the Coast Guard has done to secure freedom for the

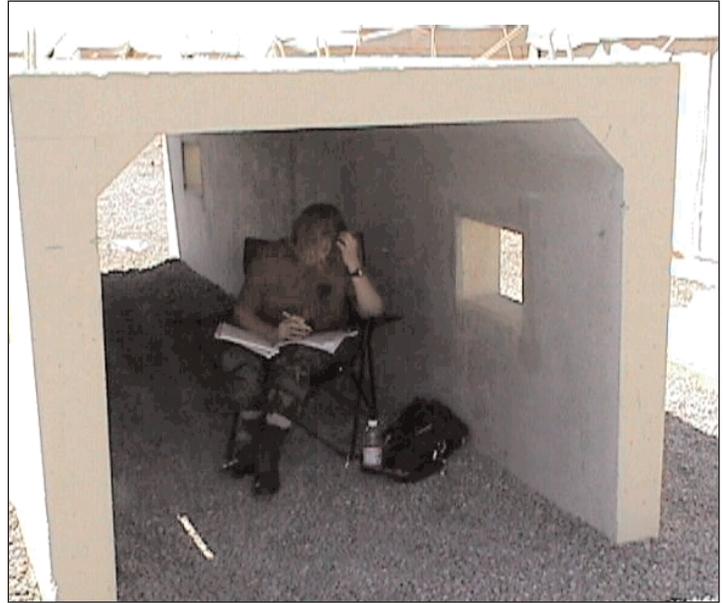


Photo by SCPO Tom Zahorski, PSU 309, USCGR

HS1 Kim Francis of PSU 309 works in a SCUD bunker to escape the heat of the tent. The tents are usually air conditioned but that day the AC failed.

people of Iraq and protect the coalition naval forces. Through their actions, the Coast Guard’s OIF forces have prevented dozens if not hundreds, of mines from being released into the congested waters of the NAG. They’ve located and secured large amounts of weapons and ammunition, provided critical security to the earliest delivery of humanitarian aid, and through presence alone, deterred countless other actions against coalition forces or high value targets.

The words used by one senior coalition naval commander describing the actions of one Coast Guard unit can be equally applied to all.

He said, “The courage and tenacity your ship’s company has displayed, operating at day and night in hostile and difficult navigational waters, has attracted our great admiration and respect. That you performed this with such spirit and enthusiasm on one hand, and measured resolve and seamanship on the other, is testament to your impressive professionalism and sense of purpose. You have been a tremendous advertisement for your proud service.”

The Coast Guard’s missions in the NAG are conducted in ways very similar to the service’s traditional roles, yet each is different in one way or another. It is these small but significant differences that come with operating in foreign waters during a war as part of a multi-national coalition, that makes living “Life in the NAG” both a condition and a statement that reflects the experiences of the Coast Guardsmen serving here.

“Life in the NAG” can be used to preface or conclude sea stories built around successful and interesting operations.

They might be tales of how the Sandy Hook, N.J., based *CGC Adak* captured the first maritime enemy



Photo by PA1 Tom Sperduto, USCG

Coast Guard HS2 Elizabeth Y. Fitueroa of PSU 311 treats British Staff Sergeant Jason S. Brookes of the Commander Royal Engineers, at the Medical Clinic in Umm Quasr, Iraq.

prisoners of war, or the discovery of a hidden Iraqi weapons cache by Law Enforcement Detachment 205 and the *USS Chinook*, both from the Hampton Roads area.

The crews of the *CGC Wrangell* and *CGC Aquidneck* will not soon forget the experience of escorting humanitarian aid shipments into Iraq when they are back patrolling their home waters off South Portland, Maine, and Atlantic Beach, N.C., respectively.

The reservists who make up PSUs 313 and 311 will always be honored for their role in securing the future prosperity of Iraq through their vigilance over its ports and oil terminals.

And the buoy tender *CGC Walnut*, from Honolulu, which came to the NAG with no intention of serving its designed purpose, found ways through ingenuity and initiative to locate, repair and place 35 buoys in the critical KAA waterway.

“Life in the NAG” does not always serve as a term of endearment. At times it becomes the mantra of the frustrated and confounded.

This has been the case for the members of PSU 311 providing security for the Khawr al-Amaya Iraqi oil terminal in the NAG. Making due on a decrepit and hazardous platform by sleeping in pipes and using a toilet with direct, open-air access to the ocean below certainly meets the criteria for “Life in the NAG.”

Sometimes “Life in the NAG” summarizes situations that are just down right dangerous. *CGC Baranof*, from Miami, can attest to this from their early experiences navigating the KAA before mine clearance operations were completed. Nothing like hearing a security call for a mine located abeam of buoy 28...then watching buoy 28 pass down your beam.

Monotony and frustration are terms often associated with “Life in the NAG.” *CGC Boutwell* definitely sets the standard for this application of the phrase. Nearly 70 days straight at sea, with the last 35 in a miniscule six-



Petty Officer 1st Class Timothy A. Beard of Port Security Unit 313, stands watch on the Mina al Bakr oil terminal in the North Arabian Gulf off the coast of Iraq.

mile patrol box beyond sight of land. This routine is only broken for refueling and replenishment at sea evolutions. Not to mention their open-door media policy that comes with being the only Coast Guard ship in the region equipped with a flight deck.

“Life in the NAG” defines a collage of events, successes, miscues and adventures that have come to characterize the daily toils of our Coasties. It is not limited simply to operations, but can include the logistical challenges that come with an uncommon deployment half-way around the world.

Just ask the crew of *Walnut* how many days it takes to get tired of eating chicken nuggets when you were delivered 10 pallets, rather than the 10 crates ordered. Rumor has it *Walnut* attempted to establish the chicken nugget as a temporary form of currency in the newly liberated Iraqi port of Umm Qasr.

Though the slogan “Life in the NAG” has many uses and meanings, regardless of the specific context of the moment, it will always serve as a spoken reminder of the dedication, pride and can-do attitude that the Coast Guard forces in Southwest Asia have brought to the fight.

The Coast Guard men and women who have served in *Operation Iraqi Freedom* will always have in common their “Life in the NAG” and will be able to sit on their future mess decks, wardrooms and chief’s mess to share their sea stories.

For some, “Life in the NAG” might be one of their last unique Coast Guard experiences before moving on to other things. But for others, it might be a shaping force for a long and successful Coast Guard career.

For all, “Life in the NAG” will be one of those once-in-a-lifetime experiences that will have built bonds and memories to stand the test of time for generations to come and serve as another piece to the Coast Guard’s “Semper Paratus” foundation.



A 32-foot U.S. Navy patrol boat from Inshore Boat Unit 14 conducts port security and harbor defense patrols with a 25-foot U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat from PSU 311 in the Southern Iraq port of Umm Qasr.

Photo by Senior Chief Journalist Scott Williams, USN

Photo by PA1 Tom Sperduto, USCG



ON THE WESTERN FRONT

MEMBERS OF PSU-305 SERVED AS AN AFLOAT SECURITY DETAIL ON BOARD THE TANKER VESSEL PAUL BUCK DURING ITS TRANSIT OF THE MEDITERRANEAN. DETAIL MEMBERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, STANDING; PS1 BOB ABBOTT, PS2 GREG ROBINSON, SN MIKE EMITT, PSC CHARLES FYKES, GM1 WILLIAM J. COACHMAN, JR., PS1 TIM FRAZIER, PS1 ROBERT CANNON; KNEELING, GM3 DEVIN ADAMS, SN JAMES BALELO, PS3 KEVIN LYONS, PS2 JOHN NORSWORTHY AND PS3 PATRICK HAYES.

U.S. COAST GUARD PHOTO BY PA1 JOHN GAFFNEY



PSU 305 RETURNS HOME!

FORT EUSTIS, Va. — These guys should be in the commuter hall of fame.

By the time they touched down at Langley Air Force Base in the waning moments of May 6, the 100-odd members of Virginia-based Port Security Unit 305 had endured a 15-hour ride home from work.

“‘We’re finally home’ is probably what I was thinking,” said PS1 Tim Pais, a firefighter in Fairfax County when he’s not wearing Coast Guard camouflage. “It was a very long flight with many different stops. It was like, ‘Hey, we’re finally here.’”

The unit left Feb. 14 — Valentine’s Day — for its third deployment in 20 months, this one in support of *Operation Enduring Freedom*. Earlier, PSU 305 was deployed to New York Harbor just hours after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and later spent five months providing security at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Its latest deployment took members to Rota, Spain, where they provided training to Navy security specialists while awaiting a possible deployment to Turkey — an order that never came.

When members marched off the bus outside the gym at their Fort Eustis home early May 7, many had been awake for more than 26 hours. But that didn’t dim the celebration for family members who packed the bleachers, listening to a brief address by RADM Duncan C. Smith III, LANTAREA’s Deputy Area Commander for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs.

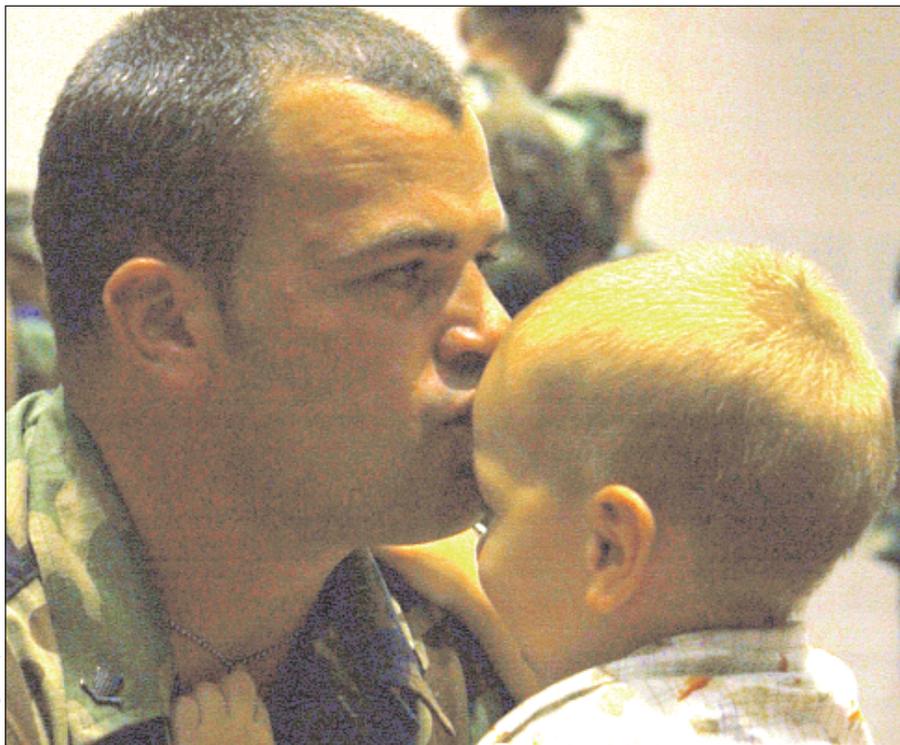
“It’s hard to complain about a war that went quicker than expected, and with fewer casualties,” said CDR Robert Grabb, PSU 305’s Commanding Officer. “But it’s nice to be back here. We were prepared for a six-month deployment. When we left, we fully expected not to



USCG photo by PA3 Donnie Brzuska

return until September or October. To get back and look forward to having the whole summer pleased everyone.”

— By PA2 John Masson, USCGR,
LANTAREA Public Affairs



USCG photo by PA2 John Masson, USCGR

Above: Members of Port Security Unit 305 returned to the United States May 7, after being deployed to U.S. European Command as part of the Global War on terrorism.

Left: PS3 Alex Austin greets his 3-year-old son, Izik, in the Ft. Eustis gym after his return from a deployment to support Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Above: PSU 305 stands in formation in the Ft. Eustis gym after their return from a deployment to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. RADM Duncan Smith, USCGR, welcomed the unit upon arrival May 7.

IRAQI WAR BRIEFS

ADAK TAKES IRAQI POWS

NORTHERN PERSIAN GULF — Three Iraqi sailors were captured in the Northern Gulf, the first Prisoners of War (POWs) taken by the U.S. Coast Guard. The 24-member crew of the *CGC Adak* plucked the Iraqi sailors from the sea March 21. The Iraqis jumped overboard as their patrol boat was destroyed by coalition forces operating in the Gulf. The three Iraqi sailors were the only known survivors of the attack. The POWs were taken aboard the *Adak* and later transferred to an undisclosed location. The crew aboard the *Adak* are part of the 650-strong contingent of Coast Guard personnel who were deployed to the region to support *Operating Enduring Freedom*.

COAST GUARD SAFEGUARDS CAPTURED OIL PLATFORMS

PERSIAN GULF — Members of Coast Guard PSU 311 and 313 relieved U.S. Marines March 22 of responsibility for security on two gas and oil platforms in the Persian Gulf. In addition to the PSUs, Coast Guard men and women are serving on four 110-foot patrol boats, a 378-foot high-endurance cutter, a 225-foot buoy tender, as well as in two law enforcement detachments and operational elements of the Department of Defense. PSU 311 and PSU 313 patrolled U.S. waters with their armed 25-foot boats along with other Coast Guard assets immediately following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. PSU 311 deployed to the Persian Gulf from October 2001 to April 2002 to provide force protection for U.S. and allied warships.

COAST GUARD LOCATES IRAQI WEAPONS CACHE

PERSIAN GULF — Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment 205, homeported in Portsmouth, Va., and embarked on board the *USS Chinook*, located and secured a large Iraqi military equipment and weapons cache hidden in coastal caves in Southern Iraq April 7. Among the weapons found were small arms, grenades, rocket launchers, missiles, explosive devices, gas masks, uniforms and ammunition. The weapons will be destroyed by explosives ordnance handling personnel.

COAST GUARD, NAVY ESCORT ARAB AID SHIPMENT TO IRAQ

PERSIAN GULF — The Coast Guard Cutter *Wrangell* and the Navy vessel *USS Firebolt*, with embarked Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment 406, escorted the first commercially transported humanitarian aid shipment into the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr April 11. The *M/V Manar*, owned by Manar Marine Services of the United Arab Emirates, delivered almost 700 tons of humanitarian aid including food, water, first aid and transport vehicles. This aid shipment was supplied and coordinated by the UAE Red Crescent Society. This is the fourth aid shipment to arrive in Umm Qasr since the launch of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The first three shipments were transported on British and Spanish naval vessels. Coalition warships including the Coast Guard's 110-ft Patrol Boats *Wrangell*, *Adak* and *Aquidneck*, and the Navy's 170-ft Patrol Craft *Chinook* and *Firebolt*, with Coast Guard LEDETs 205 and 406, have escorted each shipment to ensure its safe arrival. Specific operations being conducted by Coast Guard forces include maritime interdiction operations, humanitarian aid shipment escorts, port and coastal security and oil terminal security.

COMING HOME

SOME PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS DURING DEMOBILIZATION

BY CWO4 JAMES ROBERTS, USCGR

Your family will start to prepare for your homecoming as soon as you let them know you are coming home. No matter how long you have been separated, your loved ones will be just as excited as you are when they hear you are coming home. This is especially true if this was the first deployment away from your spouse and/or family. They will have feelings of relief, joy, and eagerness.

As the returning Coast Guard member, you may have a picture of the family running to meet you and showering you with love and affection — the perfect reunion. You may expect everything will be exactly as you left it and your role in the family will be the same as before you left. All of this may be true, but it is also possible there may be some issues you will need to address.

During the deployment, you and your family have grown and changed, each in your own way. Coming home will be a time of adjustment for the whole family. Children may be unsure of what to expect from the returning member; this will depend a lot on their age. This adjustment could take as long as one to two months to establish a new “normal” routine. In most cases, it is enough to simply be aware that the reunion process can be stressful and to show extra tolerance and understanding during the readjustment period.

So what can you do?

You and your family need to prepare for this homecoming, and the weeks and months that follow, so it will be a happy reunion, and the new start you would like it to be. There is usually an anti-climactic letdown after the big anticipation of the homecoming is over. The best advice is to be flexible, be prepared for changes, and be patient with the readjustment process.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Communication with loved ones may feel awkward at first.
- Things will not be the same as when you left, for everyone involved.
- You and the family will need to take time to listen to each other.
- Time will be needed for readjustments.
- There may be some emotional strain.
- You may note changes in the children and pre-teens.
- You may encounter some rejection from small children at first.
- Your spouse or “significant other” may have new friends who gave support during the deployment

and may want you to meet them.

- Remember people whom you consider family may have new interests.
- You may note some changes in the house or apartment.
- Accept things may be different with your family members.

WHAT TO AVOID:

- **Do not** come home without letting your family know first.
- Immediately “taking charge” of matters as soon as you return from the deployment.
- “Discussing who had it worse” during the deployment.
- Giving orders.
- The tendency to want to rebuild intimacy too quickly.
- Unloading on your spouse the negative things that happened during the deployment. While honesty is best, timing and discretion are essential.
- The urge to pack a full social calendar that leaves everyone exhausted.
- Criticizing your spouse upon your return
- Trying to solve all the problems within the first few days of your return.
- The desire to overspend (set budget limits)
- A “Honey do list”.
- Rumors & gossip.

WHAT TO DO:

- Take it slowly at first — don’t force quick changes.
- Talk with your family about who you want to meet you when you arrive.
- Discuss how to spend your first night, out or at home.
- Agree on whether to have a party; if so, decide when and with whom.
- Spend quality time with your family
- Take time to listen.
- Encourage the children to express their feelings.
- Talk about how much leave you should take, and when.
- Consider bringing small gifts to each member of the family.
- Share your feelings about what is important.

- Reassure your children and tell them how proud you are of their accomplishments and the help they provided during deployment.
- Keep expectations reasonable and be flexible.
- Discuss if the frequency of your communication met the expectations of everyone during the deployment; if not, talk about needed changes.
- Give yourselves a no-pressure chance to become a couple again.
- Talk about your experiences to make the next separation better.
- Ensure your support and trust in your partner and/or friends on the decisions they made and on the way things were handled during the deployment.
- Remember the returning member may not have driven in U.S. traffic for a while; for everyone's safety, take time to refresh your driving skills.

The reunited family needs to take time to find out what is new in their lives, for there are bound to be changes in everyone's routine. The amount of change that takes place in a family will depend upon the family itself and how long the deployment was.

The longer the separation, the more emotional adjustment will be needed, and the more understanding and patience will be required when the family is reunited. The family at home will have developed new routines and activities in the member's absence. The member who has been deployed will have been worrying about a lot of things, especially their family. The service member will have been working under different conditions than they have been used to, making new friends, interacting with new cultures, and seeing new places. Any of the above can cause stress and change. Add the stress associated with a war time situation, the steady news coverage about this event, and that alone may bring about changes in everyone's emotions.

Everyone who has been through a separation has said the most important thing for a positive reunion is to keep the first few days after coming home free just to get to

know each other again. Save problems for later, when you have worked back in to a routine.

If the returning member is single; make sure you let all of your family members and friends know when you are coming home. If you have single friends returning after a deployment, think of ways to make them feel welcome, and give them a warm family greeting. Surprise them with some flowers or a small gift of welcome. Almost everything outlined in this letter for couples will also apply to single parents and single members.

If you notice things are not going as well as you feel they should be, do not be afraid to ask for some help. Your Work-Life Staff Employee Assistance Program Coordinator (EAPC) in your region, chaplain, or other

support groups are there to help. They know the stress you are under and are ready to help you and your family. Some signs to look for during the homecoming adjustment period are:

- Trouble getting to sleep
- Increased use of alcohol
- Over use of drugs — legal or illegal
- Feeling like you need to get away from home
- Irritability and/or anger outbursts
- Withdrawal
- Loss of appetite or pleasures
- Increased illness

An excellent reference book to use as a guide is *When Duty Calls*, by Carol Vandesteeg. It is available from Winepress Publishing or military exchanges for \$12.50. Also, the Coast Guard Work-Life staff has many resources you may have for the asking.

For more info, contact CWO4 James Roberts, CG Headquarters Work-Life Staff, at 202-267-2448; e-mail:

jroberts@comdt.uscg.mil or call the Work-Life office at 800-872-4957 and the appropriate three-digit code for the nearest office (Alameda, 252; Boston, 301; Cleveland, 309; Honolulu, 314; Ketchikan, 317; Kodiak, 563; Miami, 307; New Orleans, 308; Portsmouth, 305; San Pedro, 311; Seattle, 313; St. Louis, 302; Washington, DC 932).

Ed's note: CWO4 Roberts is a Desert Storm veteran who served with PSU 303 from Milwaukee, and has also served with PSU 309 as a medical officer. He is currently on active duty at Headquarters on the Work-Life staff and has served many years as a civilian in the medical profession.

**“AS THE RETURNING COAST
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ALL OF THIS MAY BE TRUE, BUT
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TO ADDRESS.”**

DEMOBILIZATION SUPPORT SERVICES

ED'S NOTE: THE FOLLOWING IS A PARTIAL LIST OF SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE TO RESERVISTS BEING DEMOBILIZED OR COMPLETING THEIR TITLE 10 RECALL ORDERS. IT IS NOT INTENDED TO BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR OFFICIAL COMMANDANT INSTRUCTIONS OR COAST GUARD MANUALS.

UNIT OMBUDSMAN & COAST GUARD WORK LIFE STAFF

The Coast Guard provides transition assistance through the unit's ombudsman and Work Life offices. Various programs are available and reservists are encouraged to use these resources. To assist with any questions, the Coast Guard Headquarters (G-WKW-2) point of contact is CWO4 James Roberts. Reservists can contact him at (202) 267-2448 or via e-mail: jroberts@comdt.uscg.mil

To contact the Work-Life Staff closest to you, call 1-800-872-4957 followed by the extension listed next to the following ISC locations:

- Alameda (252) • Boston (301) • Cleveland (309) • Honolulu (314) • Ketchikan (317) • Kodiak (563) • Miami (307) • New Orleans (308) • Portsmouth (305) • San Pedro (311) • Seattle (313) • St. Louis (302) • Washington, DC (932).

Coast Guard Work Life Web site:
www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wk/g-wkw/worklife/

EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) provides assistance to reservists transitioning back into civilian occupations. ESGR ombudsmen provide informal mediation services in conjunction with the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS), U.S. Department of Labor. Volunteer members are trained by ESGR and VETS to provide assistance to employers and employees in the resolution of employment conflicts that can result from military membership, training, or other service requirements protected under Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). A reservist or employer can contact ESGR Ombudsmen Services through the local ESGR Committee or the National ESGR Headquarters, or use the toll-free number, (1-800-336-4590-ask for Ombudsmen Services). View the ESGR web site at: www.esgr.org/default.asp

TRICARE TRANSITIONAL HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

Transitional health care benefits are available in the military health system for service members who were released from active duty on or after Jan. 1, 2002. Service member categories include:

- A Reserve component member who is separated from active duty and who was called up or ordered in support of a contingency operation for an active duty period of more than 30 days.
- If the service member served less than six years total active federal military service, he/she receives the TRICARE benefit for 60 days after the separation date.
- If the service member served for six years or more total active federal military service, he/she receives the TRICARE benefit for 120 days after the separation date.

TRICARE Web site for Reserve components:
<http://tricare.osd.mil/reserve/index.cfm#>

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE-RESERVE AFFAIRS

The Office of the Secretary of Defense-Reserve Affairs publishes a Guard and Reserve Family Readiness Toolkit. In this publication, a chapter is dedicated to reunions and homecomings. It is a valuable tool to use while transitioning back into family and civilian life. To access the toolkit, visit: <http://dod.mil/ra/family/toolkit/>

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS — VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (VHA)

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive 2002-049 establishes the policy and procedures for offering hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to recent combat veterans for a two-year period beginning on the date of the veteran's



discharge for any illness, notwithstanding that there is insufficient medical evidence to conclude that their illness is attributable to their military service.

VA has the authority to provide medical care and other medical services to combat veterans even in the absence of proof of service connection. Title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 1710(e)(1)(D) specifies that the VA may provide health care for a two-year period to veterans who served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war, after the Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of “hostilities” after Nov. 11, 1998, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Under Secretary for Health. “Hostilities” is defined as conflict in which the members of the Armed Forces are subjected to danger comparable to the danger to which members of the Armed Forces have been subjected in combat with enemy armed forces during a period of war.

Although VA appreciated that the wounds of military conflict are not always obvious, and that unexplained or difficult to diagnose illnesses are often associated with military conflicts, in the past the paucity of scientific knowledge regarding the relationship between military deployment and human health hindered VA’s ability to establish the required connection between military service and veterans’ health problems. This new statutory two-year period also allows for the collection of basic health information to aid in the evaluation of specific health questions such as difficult to explain illnesses.

To determine whether a period of hostilities is within the scope of this special authority, VA relies upon the same citation and criterion used to determine eligibility for VA Readjustment Counseling Service contained in Title 38, U.S.C., Section 1712A, as it applies to veterans in service after Nov. 11, 1998.

National Guard and Reserve personnel who were activated and served in a theater of combat or in combat against a hostile force may also be eligible. Many activated Reserve and National Guard

personnel lose routine access to military health care and assistance as soon as they leave active duty, and may require VA services immediately. National Guard and Reserve personnel are eligible for VA health care if they were ordered to active duty by a federal declaration, served the full period for which they were called or ordered to active duty, and released or discharged from active duty under other than dishonorable conditions. ***This VHA Directive Expires Sept. 30, 2007.*** To view VHA Directive 2002-049:

www.pdhealth.mil/reservist/default.asp

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS — READJUSTMENT COUNSELING SERVICE

The Department of Veteran Affairs provides quality readjustment counseling to military veterans and their families. All services are completely confidential. Here are the types of counseling available:

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Marital and Family Counseling
- Sexual Trauma Counseling
- Alcohol/Drug Assessment and Referral or Counseling
- Spouse/Significant Other Counseling
- Employee Assistance and Education
- Employment Counseling and Guidance
- Liaison with VA Facilities
- Referral to Community Agencies
- Benefits Assistance and Referral
- Community Education

For more information about Readjustment Counseling Service, visit www.va.gov/rcs/Index.htm . To locate your nearest Veterans Center, visit www.va.gov/rcs/VetCenterDirectory.htm .

DEPLOYMENT HEALTH CLINICAL CENTER

The Department of Defense’s Deployment Health Clinical Center has dedicated a section on their Web site for reservists. “Reserve Resources” provides information on ensuring good health after deployment and easing the readjustment into family and work life. It provides information on the use of medical screening and the Post Deployment Health Clinical Practice Guideline, advice on becoming reacquainted with family members, and medical care available through Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

For more info about resources for post-deployment, see www.pdhealth.mil/reservist/default.asp



In Brief

• CHANGE FROM CGHRMS TO DIRECT ACCESS

— CGHRMS has transitioned to Direct Access, an Internet hosted system that will provide greater access for all members. This means that reservists will be able to use their home computers to dial in and perform CGHRMS functions currently available only through the Standard Workstation III and the CGWEB (Intra-net). These functions include orders processing, Annual Screening Questionnaire (ASQ) preparation, changes of address, IDT/ADT scheduling, pay, etc. Stringent security procedures will ensure privacy of information. This is a significant event that will greatly improve a reservist's ability to manage his/her career. Questions can be directed to the Direct Access Help Desk via e-mail at: direct-access@hrsic.uscg.mil or via phone, 785-339-3540. Q&As are posted on HRSIC's Web site: www.uscg.mil/hq/hrsic/

• **ENLISTED RATING BADGES** — On July 1, 2003, the Joint Rating Review (JRR) rating mergers will be completed. Over 2,400 service members will change their rating badges following the mergers. The new BM rating will use the current BM insignia, the OS rating will use the current RD insignia, the IT rating will use the current TT insignia, and the ET rating will use the current ET insignia. Members actually changing their rating badge will be reimbursed for the cost of changing their rating badges. Each member's pay account will be credited in an amount equal to the Uniform Distribution Center (UDC) purchase price for one new rating badge. Members can expect to receive reimbursement in their August pay. Members are authorized to wear their new rating badges beginning May 1, 2003. Discontinued rating badges (FT/QM/TC) will no longer be authorized for wear after June 30, 2003, but will remain on sale for purchase as keepsakes until Aug. 1, 2003. COMDTNOTE 1020 of March 26, 2003 contains the details including current UDC rating badge prices. The JRR Web site is: www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/jrr/. For info, contact LT Fred Seaton, JRR Staff, 202-493-0176, e-mail: fseaton@comdt.uscg.mil or your Rating Force Master Chief.

— Excerpted from *FLAG VOICE* 195

• **SGLI PREMIUM REDUCTION** — The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that premiums for Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI) will be reduced. Beginning in July 2003, the cost for a \$250,000 policy — the maximum coverage — will drop from \$20 to \$16.25 monthly, a \$3.75 savings. Rates for Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) will not change. Premiums will also be reduced for SGLI family coverage, with rates varying among age groups. For more info, contact the office of Servicemembers Group Life Insurance, at 1-800-419-1473 or visit their Web site: www.insurance.va.gov

• **SELRES 30-YEAR BLANKET WAIVER** — Selected Reserve personnel (enlisted and chief warrant officers only) who currently have more than 30 years service, or who will attain 30 years of service before the end of FY04, are authorized a "blanket waiver" to remain in the SELRES. This "blanket waiver" will expire Sept. 30, 2004, or sooner if deemed necessary by needs of the service. The waiver does not apply to personnel age 60 and over. See ALCOAST 131/03.

• **OPERATIONAL DRESS UNIFORMS (ODUs)** — The issue of the new ODU is scheduled to begin in late summer 2003 and should be completed by Sept. 30, 2004. For more info, see ALCOAST 184/03.

• **SELRES BONUS AMOUNTS FOR RELADS** — ALCOAST 192/03 announced eligibility and amounts for SELRES affiliation bonuses, which are in effect immediately, and will remain in effect until further notice.

• CWO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE

— Attendance at the CWO Professional Development course (formerly, CWO Indoctrination) is required of all chief warrant officers — active duty and reserve. Reserve CWOs attend the same course as the active duty. The CWOPD course provides a unique learning environment for CWOs to gain valuable insights into how they fit in as an officer; improve and hone leadership, professional, and personal skills; develop camaraderie; and cultivate a network that will endure throughout a career. CWOPD convenes two-week and three-week courses at the Leadership Development Center, located at the Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. Two-week courses are intended for graduates of the CPO Academy. For more info, contact CWO Greg Hunton, 860-701-6837, ghunton@cga.uscg.mil or CWO Guy Cashman, 860-701-6850, gcashman@cga.uscg.mil. Also, see the CWOPD Web site at: www.cga.edu/ldc/chiefwarrantofficerindoctrination/cwois.htm Class convening dates are on the TQC Web site (under Leadership): www.uscg.mil/hq/tqc/15bfy.htm

• **ATTENTION IRR MEMBERS** — If you are currently assigned to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and would like to return to the SELRES, please contact your respective Integrated Support Command (ISC) to discuss vacant billets. For a list of the ISC, Force Optimization and Training Offices, go to: www.uscg.mil/reserve/ISCs.doc A list of ISCs was also published in the March/April 2003 *Reservist* (page 25).

• **OPERATION SALUTE** — Anheuser-Busch is offering free, single-day admission to its theme parks for troops and their families this summer through Veteran's Day.

The offer is extended to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and as many as four of their direct dependents. Theme parks include: Busch Gardens Tampa Bay; Busch Gardens Williamsburg; Sea World Orlando; Sea World San Diego; Sea World San Antonio; and Sesame Place in Langhorne, Pa. (ALCOAST 179/03)

- **9/11 AWARDS** — The 9/11 awards are intended to recognize the heroic and significant actions during and after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, and may be given to military, Auxiliary, and civilian employees of the Coast Guard, as well as pleasure and professional mariners, and members of the community. Criteria for all three approved awards (Guardian Medal, DOT 9-11 Medal, and the DOT 9-11 Ribbon) can be found on the Medals and Awards Web site. www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/g-wpm-3/911awards.htm

- **MEDALS & AWARDS MANUAL ON LINE** — ALCOAST 135/03 announced the Coast Guard's revised *Medals & Awards Manual* is now on-line. To view it, go to: www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/g-wpm-3/mandamanualpage.htm

- **REGISTER EMPLOYER WITH ESGR** — USCG Reserve members can now register their employers with Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR). Registering your employer will provide Reserve force planners with valuable input that may help reduce the impact of call-ups on employers, and makes it possible for

your command or ESGR to send information to your employer to promote and support your military service. This is a voluntary request and it is not required. To register your employer, go to www.esgr.com and click on the "Military Members" button, which will bring up a window with the registration button. Questions can be directed to CAPT Bob Gauvin USCGR, the Coast Guard's Liaison Officer to ESGR via e-mail at: rgauvin@comdt.uscg.mil or phone, 202-267-1053.

- **USCG VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL** — The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association is sponsoring the construction and installation of two identical memorials to 8,000 plus Coast Guard personnel who served in our country's war in Vietnam. One memorial will be placed at Training Center Cape May, N.J. with the second slated for the USCG Academy in New London, Conn. The design includes the names of all Coast Guard vessels, units, detachments, and support activities involved in the war, and an abstract of CG theater missions, activities and operations. Contributions in support of this project should be made payable to: CGCOMVETS Vietnam Memorial Fund (contributions are tax deductible). Mail to: William G. Hicks, 586 Fairwood Drive, Tallmadge, OH 44278-2026.

- **CLEANING UP THE RESERVE WEB SITE** — In an effort to free up server space for future issues, the 1996-1999 issues of *The Reservist* have been removed from the Reserve Web site archive. We apologize if this causes any inconvenience for our readers. Dated articles can still be obtained contact the editor.

Upcoming Events

JUNE 2003

- **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY BIRTHDAY** — The 64th birthday of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is Monday, June 23. The Auxiliary was originally called the "Reserve" when it was formed in 1939. Auxiliary Web site: www.cgaux.org
- **RESERVE SERVICE WIDE DEADLINES** — Monday, June 30 is the cutoff for RSWE paperwork, including your End of Course Tests (EOCTs) and performance quals. Military Requirements (MRNPO, MRNSPO and MRNCPO courses) remain suspended as per ALCOAST 335/01. The Reserve Supplemental Advancement Eligibility List is posted via ALCOAST 138/03 and can also be viewed via **USCG Intra-net** at: <http://cgweb.uscg.mil/g-w/hrsic/adv.htm> For more information, contact YNC Pamela Harris, HRSIC (adv); Phone: 785-339-3410; E-mail: pharris@hrsic.uscg.mil
- **ROA NATIONAL CONVENTION** — June 25-28, New Orleans Riverside Hotel, New Orleans, La. Contact Reserve Officers Association, One Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20002; Phone: 202-479-2200; Web: www.roa.org

JULY 2003

- **COAST GUARD FESTIVAL** — Friday, July 25 through Sunday, Aug. 3, Grand Haven, Mich. Contact U.S. Coast Guard Festival, P.O. Box 694, Grand Haven, MI 49417; Phone: 616-846-4950 or 1-888-207-2434; Web: www.grandhaven.com/ghcgfest

AUGUST 2003

- **COAST GUARD DAY** — Is Monday, Aug. 4! What is your unit planning for the Coast Guard's 213th birthday? For a listing of Coast Guard Day picnics across the nation, check Fred's Place Web site: www.fredsplace.org. To have your picnic listed, send e-mail to Barb Chiles at barb@fredsplace.org
- **CPOA NATIONAL CONVENTION** — 35th annual, Aug. 25-29, Mobile, Ala. For info, contact CPO Association, 5520-G Hempstead Way, Springfield, VA 22151-4009; Phone: 703-941-0395; E-mail: cgcpoa@aol.com Web: www.uscgcpoa.org

Reunions

OCTOBER 2003

• **GROUP MORICHES/SHINNECOCK, N.Y.** —

Reservists' reunion to be held Saturday, Oct. 11, 2003, at the NCO Club, ANG Base, Westhampton Beach, N.Y. Pass the word and contact BMC Ed Neale, USCGR(Ret.), 42 Indian Head Dr., Sayville, NY 11782-1703; Phone: 631-589-3940; or QM1 Steve Wade, USCGR(Ret.), 4011 Wilshire Lane, Apt. G-11, Oakdale, NY 11769-1446; E-mail: *bravepenguin2@aol.com*

ON THE LOOKOUT....

• **GRAND ISLE, La.** — Looking for personnel that served aboard Barataria Bay Station 214/Station Grand Isle from 1919-present, *CGC Point Young* (WPB 82303) from 1960-65, *CGC Point Sal* (WPB 82352) from 1966-2001, Group Grand Isle from 1968-87, and LORAN

Station Grand Isle, 1968-1980, for possible reunion. Contact LT Chris Thorpe, P.O. Box 158, Grand Isle, LA 70358; Phone: 985-787-2136; E-mail: *cthorne@stagrandsisle.uscg.mil*

• **LORAN STATION ANGAUR** — Looking for personnel that served aboard LORSTA Angaur (Palau) from 1945-78 for possible reunion. Contact: Bob Schnell, 964 West 4th St., Plainfield, NJ 07063-1370; Phone: 908-755-1847; E-mail: *sch52jas@aol.com*

• **RESERVE UNIT ALTOONA** — Former members of Reserve Unit Altoona Pa. are interested in contacting all former members to form an association to promote the USCG and its missions. Contact: CDR William Erbeck, USCGR (Ret.), RR 5 Box 186, Tyrone, PA 16686-9743; Phone: 814-684-1327; E-mail: *WilliamErbeck@msn.com*

The More You know

Coast Guard Travel Card Responsibilities

The Citibank Government Travel Charge Card (Travel Card) is a tool that is widely used by our Reserve workforce. However, any tool that is misused can become a hazard to the user, and this certainly applies to the Travel Card.

The pitfalls from abuse of the Travel Card are numerous: defaults on the Travel Card are reported against members' personal credit ratings, cause their cards to be cancelled, initiate mandatory salary offset or collection agency action, limits Coast Guard job potential, can result in multiple forms of disciplinary action (UCMJ), and creates unnecessary burdens on administrative personnel and command cadre.

Split Disbursement and Coordinator Expansion are designed to disrupt this cycle, and both are consistent with the Commandant's emphasis on People, Stewardship, and Readiness. Both the Master Chief of the Coast Guard and Reserve Force Master Chief support these two Travel Card management programs.

Split Disbursement

Split Disbursement is a block on the travel claim that enables members to tell FINCEN to send payments from the Travel Claim reimbursement directly to their Citibank Travel Card account balances. This payment method is easy and fast.

It is this simple: add up Travel Card receipts for a trip and insert that amount in the Split Disbursement box. At the very least, airfare, hotel, and rental car charges should be Split Disbursed. There is no good reason why this shouldn't be done. It will help keep Coast Guard members out of dangerous financial positions that often damage both personal and professional lives. It also

removes the temptation to inappropriately spend Travel Claim proceeds. Although the Coast Guard cannot mandate its use yet, it will represent the way the Coast Guard expects its people to file travel claims in the future. An ALCOAST will be issued in the near future that will announce the availability of Split Disbursement.

Coordinator Expansion

Coordinator Expansion may apply to some Coast Guard Reserve units (like PSUs). Coordinator Expansion gives commands all the tools and responsibilities for managing personnel Travel Cards. In the past year, the number of Travel Card Coordinators has increased from 30 to over 100. The reason many commands have chosen to participate in Coordination Expansion is simple: having a unit-level Travel Card Coordinator enables the command to provide more timely service to unit personnel, monitor late payment status, provide financial counseling, and detect fraudulent (non-official) use of the card.

Final Points

Split Disbursement and Coordinator Expansion are strategies designed to address requirements of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998 (TTRA). TTRA mandates that government personnel use the Travel Card for all official government travel expenses. TTRA also forbids the card to be used for non-official uses. By using Split Disbursement and Coordinator Expansion, the Coast Guard can facilitate compliance with the law and drastically limit the many negative consequences of Travel Card delinquency, default, and abuse.

Advancements

Effective April 1, 2003

(From Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement ERAA No. 004-033)

BOATSWAIN'S MATE (BM)

BM1 028 SOJAK, A., STA MANASQUAN INLET
BM1 029 LISLE, N.M., STA JONES BEACH
BM1 030 LUCAS, J.J., STA DULUTH
BM1 031 KUHN, J.C., ST POINT ALLERTON
BM2 024 KIMSEY, D.P., STA CALUMET ARBOR

FOOD SERVICE SPECIALIST (FS)

FS1 007 CETE, J.J., PSU 305
FS2 005 TEDFORD, J.J., PSU 307

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN (MK)

MKCM 001 MORRIS, T. J., STA PORT CANAVERAL
MKCS 003 CHILD, R.C., GP/MSO LI COMMAND STF
MK2 034 HOBODY, H.W., CGC CHEYENNE

MARINE SAFETY TECHNICIAN (MST)

MSTCS 002 FARRELL, W.D., ACT NEW YORK
MSTC 008 DOUGLAS, J.R., MSO PADUCAH
MSTC 009 BURTON, J.E., MSO CHARLESTON

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST (PS)

PS3 003 MILLINGTON, K.D., MSO MIAMI

STOREKEEPER (SK)

SKC 001 BACA, H.S., MSO NEW ORLEANS
SK1 001 KAYATI, T.G., MSO PHILADELPHIA
SK1 01A GOAD, Y.L., ELC

YEOMAN (YN)

YN1 026 JOKI, B.L., ISC PORTSMOUTH
YN1 027 MELVILLE, P.E., ISC PORTSMOUTH
YN1 028 FANA, A., ISC MIAMI BEACH
YN1 030 LONG, A.J., HDCU 206
YN1 031 BLANCHARD, A.M., GP MOBILE
YN1 031A REICHLER, M.L., GP MOBILE
YN1 032 ELLIOTT, T.G., GP SAN FRANCISCO
YN1 033 DONALDSON, R.W., HDCU 110

Effective May 1, 2003

(From Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement ERAA No. 005-033)
Codes after number include: AL [Advancement List], SL [Supplement List], ST [Striker List]

BOATSWAIN'S MATE (BM)

BM1 001 SL MCLEOD, B.R., PSU 308
BM1 002 SL GRAHAM, M.W., PSU 301
BM1 003 SL SHORT, E.C., STA CORTEZ
BM1 004 SL BRYANT, I.W., ENGLOGCEN BALTIMORE
BM1 005 SL JOHNSON, C.E., STA MAYPORT
BM1 006 SL CORMIER, P.A., PSU 308
BM1 007 SL STALLINGS, T.S., PSU 307
BM1 008 SL KNUTSEN, K.J., MSST 9110
BM2 001 SL MURDOCK, J.M., STA PONCE DE LEON INLET
BM2 002 SL RETZLAFF, K.R., MSO ST. LOUIS
BM2 003 SL AUTHEMENT, A.F., MSO PORT ARTHUR
BM2 004 SL LEE, D.D., STA BAYFIELD
BM2 005 SL LILLEY, S.M., STA MANASQUAN INLET
BM2 006 SL STEEL, A.E., MSO PORT ARTHUR QUAN
BM2 007 SL SHORT, B.J., STA DULUTH
BM2 008 SL HICKMAN, W.M., STA WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH
BM3 006 ST HOGAN, K.L., STA GLOUCESTER
BM3 007 ST BRUNI, R.J., STA NIAGARA
BM3 008 ST SCHRANK, S.N., STA MANASQUAN INLET
BM3 009 ST HENTGES, P.M., STA GULFPORT

DAMAGE CONTROLLMAN (DC)

DC1 001 SL HEIGERT, T.C., ISC ST LOUIS
DC1 002 SL RIDDLE, R.D., ISC ST LOUIS

ELECTRICIAN'S MATE (EM)

EM1 001 SL WATSON, J.J., PATFOR SWA
EM1 002 SL CAMPBELL, J.D., GRU ATLANTIC CITY
EM1 003 SL WILLIAMS, D.F., GRU CHARLESTON
EM2 001 SL EVANS, K.W., AST FORT DIX

ELECTRONIC'S TECHNICIAN (ET)

ET1 001 SL JESSEN, M.D., ESU MIAMI
ET2 001 SL MACALLISTER, CT, ESU NEW ORLEANS

FOOD SERVICE SPECIALIST (FS)

FS2 001 SL MARTIN, A.T., STA SAN FRANCISCO

GUNNERSMATE (GM)

GM2 001 SL BUDZYNSKI, M.K., GRU FT MACON

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN (MK)

MKC 001 AL BARRETT, G.E., CGC THUNDER BAY
MKC 002 AL MINTER, G.L., ANT KENNEWICK
MKC 003 AL WRIGHT, T.T., STA CASTLE HILL
MKC 004 AL HALCOMB, J.D., ISC KODIAK
MKC 005 AL POKER, J.S., STA (SM) SHEBOYGAN
MKC 006 AL PAYNE, R.A., GULF STRIKE TEAM
MKC 007 AL BOOKER, D.C., MSO LOUISVILLE
MKC 008 AL JONES, E.W., CGC GASCONADE
MK1 001 SL HARDING, D.L., STA GRAYS HARBOR
MK1 002 SL KOHLER, M.A., STA SAN FRANCISCO
MK1 003 SL MILSTEAD, E.G., STA CURTIS BAY
MK1 004 SL MUNDY, H.J., STA OCEAN CITY
MK1 005 SL MILEY, B.K., STA PHILADELPHIA
MK1 006 SL ANDERSON, G.W., STA MANASQUAN INLET
MK1 007 SL RANDAZZO, J.P., ACT BALTIMORE
MK1 008 SL EISENHART, C.G., PSU 309
MK1 009 SL HORTON, L.L., ACT SAN DIEGO
MK1 010 SL FREY, W.T., STA CHATHAM
MK1 011 SL LECAROZ, D.J., STA GLOUCESTER
MK2 001 SL COMSTOCK, D.E., GRU CORPUS CHRISTI
MK2 002 SL MURPHY, A.E., GP ASTORIA
MK2 003 SL KEANE, T.G., STA POINT JUDITH
MK2 004 SL BOURQUE, P.D., ANT PENSACOLA
MK2 005 SL PIERCE, C.L., GRU CHARLESTON
MK2 006 SL TRAHAN, A.J., PSU 301
MK2 007 SL MYERS, K.E., STA MERRIMAC RIVER
MK3 001 ST WATSON, R.E., ISC HONOLULU

MARINE SAFETY TECHNICIAN (MST)

MST2 001 SL WALLY, S.A., MSO SAN FRANCISCO BAY

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST (PA)

PA1 001 SL CLAYTON, C.C., PACAREA

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST (PS)

PS3 004 ST GONZALEZ, B., MSO CORPUS CHRISTI

QUARTERMASTER (QM)

QM1 001 SL PARVIN, E.H., ANT FORT MACON

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST (TC)

TC1 001 SL WALIGUN, J.C., ESU PORTSMOUTH
TC1 002 SL THIRION, V.D., HRS&IC (ACO)

YEOMAN (YN)

YN3 003 ST PORTER, M.A., ISC HONOLULU

These lists are taken directly from Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement (ERAA) No. 004/03, (R 261605Z MAR 03), ALCGPERSCOM 028/03 and ERAA 005-03, (R 251355Z APR 03), ALCGPERSCOM 030/03. Questions should be directed to YNC P. Harris, E-mail: pharris@hrsic.uscg.mil; Phone: 785-339-3410.

Retirements

RET-1 (Retired With Pay)

FEBRUARY 2003

CAPT Warren G. Appell, D1
CAPT John J. Pitta, D1
CDR Keith A. Barker, D11
CDR Donald E. Berquist, D9
CDR Michael J. Caccuitto, D1
CDR Raymond B. Freeman, D5
CDR Robert T. Luckritz, D5
LCDR Larry O. Ivy, D8
LCDR Charles W. Johnson, D1
LCDR Edward J. Monda, D1
CWO4 Marc I. Rubenstein, D1
BMCM Peter A. Taliancich, D8
BMCS John J. O'Shaughnessy, D1
PSCS Mark M. Coulson, D8
YNCS Vittorio Gugliotta, D7
BMC Jimmy M. Burns, D5
BMC Robert A. Davidge, D9
HSC Lawrence J. Walsh, D1
MSTC Marty M. Martin, D9
PSC Gerard B. Connolly, D5
ET1 Joseph M. Bowers, D5
FS1 James F. Hennessy, D11
IV1 George T. Hotter, D1
MK1 John G. Vanwerry, D5
SK1 Harry G. Moeller, D8

MARCH 2003

CAPT Steven E. Barta, D8
CAPT Dennis M. Dickerson, D5
CAPT John W. Littlehales, D13
CAPT Louis A. Unger, D1

CDR Christina M. Hosking, D1
CDR Ronald W. Slupski, D9
LCDR John W. Reaser, D5
CWO3 Kerwin L. Dreher, D8
MKCM Bobby L. Parnell, D5
QMCM Douglas S. Matulewich, D1
YNCM Ronald G. Campbell, D9
YNCM Juanita Lewis, D9
MKCS Edward L. Rohlf, D5
YNCS Diane S. Caster, D5
AVTC Richard M. Daymont, D8
MSTC William C. Mooney, D11
PSC Robert W. Schweighardt, D11
TCC Peter L. Tinel, D1
YNC Margaret E. Oliver, D1
DC1 William J. Bobek, D1
FS1 Jerome H. McAndrew, D7
MK1 Frederick C. Willis, D11
SK1 John A. Campbell, D9
MST1 Michael H. Klein, D8
PS1 Dennis J. Garry, D1
PS1 Frederick A. Mills, D7
PS1 James R. Watkins, D13
SK1 Wayne E. Thomas, D1
TC1 Niels C. Nielsen, D13
TC1 James A. Radice, D11
YN1 Jack B. Isaacson, D11
YN1 Robert F. Sweeney, D9
BM2 Charles E. Brittain, D1
EM2 Ronald D. Erickson, D7
ET2 Norman T. Lopes, D1
GM2 Darwin E. Stokes, D11
MK2 William J. Nelson, D11
YN2 Virginia S. Redwine, D5
GM3 Thaddeus J. Zepnikowski, D5

APRIL 2003

BMC Winston C. Thompson, D13
DC2 Robert W. Manson, D1

RET-2 (Retired Awaiting Pay)

FEBRUARY 2003

CAPT Bruce G. Clark, D11
CDR Steven M. Veit, D1
BMCM Kenneth C. Knudsen, D7
BMCS Kevin D. Madison, D1
MKCS Johnny W. Hughes, D8
TCCS John M. Behe, D9
BMC William T. Allen, D1
MKC Oren D. Barnes, D5
MSTC James T. Cruickshank, D1
MSTC Henry L. Lipe, D1
TCC John K. Eutsey, D8
TCC Michael Tortora, D5
YNC Ruth Atkinson Adams, D17
EM1 Anthony C. Kaestner, D11
ET1 David R. Lind, D13
ET1 James H. Overmeyer, D1
MK1 Nicholas J. Mardikos, D1
MK1 Kurt T. Zintner, D5
PS1 Richard A. Daum, D11
PS1 Michael K. Groleau, D1
SK1 Timothy R. Jensen, D1
TC1 Laura Sauerbieraucourt, D13
MK2 Willie J. Davis, D7
MK2 Donald Seelhorst, D11
PS2 William Farias, D7
SK2 Paul E. Posedly, D8
TC2 Arthur F. Miller, D8

YN2 Christiane R. Wolff, D1
DC3 Miles G. Donaldson, D7
GM3 William L. Harvey, D5
MK3 Robbie E. Demoustes, D7

MARCH 2003

LT Rocque J. Yballa, D11
BMCS Roger E. Mathurin, D1
MKCS Walt T. Crinean, D13
MSTCS Robert G. Baker, D8
PSCS Verlin E. Reiter, D8
BMC John W. Hixenbaugh, Jr., D8
BMC Robert S. Scott, D8
MKC Rawlins D. Apperson, D17
MKC Michael T. Willmann, D8
PSC James R. Coatney, D8
PSC Amado M. Gonzales, D8
PSC Robert S. Welch, D8
SKC John W. Murphy, D11
YNC Wendie D. Reynolds, D8
BM1 Gary S. Pettit, D9
BM1 David A. Houghton, D7
MST1 Thomas M. Bonaroti, D8
MST1 James M. Fucito, D1
PS1 Richard C. Baker, D1
BM2 Ursula L. Brisco, D11
BM2 Bonnie A. Randall, D1
MK2 Joel M. Simons, D8
PS2 Bruce W. Barlow, D9
PS2 Larry W. Pitts, D8
SK2 Clement M. Napolitano, D9
EM3 James K. Dowell, D8

Source: PO Bobby Dees, HRSIC (ras)

Taps

• **RADM Paul G. Prins**, USCG(Ret.), in Mount Dora, Fla., April 6, 2003. RADM Prins' career spanned World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He served in *CGC Unalga*, *CGC Comanche*, and *CGC Ingham* conducting North Atlantic Patrol Duty in WWII, as well as *CGC Eastwind*, *CGC Medota* and *CGC Courier*. His shore assignments include USCG Academy instructor, 13th District Chief of Operations, 7th District Commander and 14th District Commander. He is survived by his son, Peter. Interment April 25, 2003 at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

• **CAPT Paul E. Burke**, USCG(Ret.), April 13, 2003. He retired in 1988 and had served as a Reserve Program Administrator (RPA). He is survived by his wife, Stella, of Marion, Mass. Interment Agawam, Mass.

• **CAPT John V. Metts, Jr.**, in Wilmington, N.C., April 20, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Susan.

• **CDR George H. Veazey**, 92, of Clinton, Md., March 20, 2003. A Washington area resident since 1934, he served mainly as a patrol officer with the Metropolitan Police Department for 16 years until 1956. He then had a 19-year career with the Red Cross in Washington as a duty officer. During World War II, he served in the Coast Guard, including duty as a commander of a Coast Guard base in New Orleans. He served in the Coast Guard Reserve until 1970, when he retired as a commander. Survivors include three children, Carolynne, Nancy, and George; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

• **CDR Roy J. Wintermute**, USCG(Ret.), in Lake Port, Mich., April 26, 2003.

• **LCDR Catherine F. MacDonald**, USCG(Ret.), March 12, 2003.

• **ENC Louis S. Bauchan**, 91, in Cheboygan, Mich., April 20, 2003. Louis retired from the USCG on 7/1/57 as an

ENC (Engineman). His last duty assignment was aboard the *CGC Mackinaw*. Louis began his Coast Guard career in 1935 with the Lighthouse Service (USLHS). He served at various lighthouse stations before integrating into the Coast Guard in 1939 when the USLHS became part of the USCG. Louis is a WWII and Korean War veteran. He is survived by his two sons, BMCM Dennis Bauchan, USCG(Ret.) of Spring Lake, Mich., and Michael Bauchan of Houghton, Mich.

• **FIC Lawrence A. Winschel**, USCG(Ret.), of Orange City, Fla., March 24, 2003. Interment Erie, Pa. Survived by his wife, Dorothy of Deltona, Fla.

• **PSC Samuel A. Gibbs**, USCG(Ret.), in Norfolk, Va., March 15, 2003. Interment Norfolk on March 22, 2003. Survived by his spouse, Essie.

• **BM2 Joseph J. Nonnemacker, Jr.**, USCG(Ret.), Oct. 3, 2002. Survived by

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

As I write this article, over 5,000 reservists are serving the Coast Guard and our country. We have over 4,300 on Title 10 and another roughly 700 serving on ADSW/EAD. I wish I could relate all the positive stories I hear from the commands as I visit the field. The one comment I hear repeatedly is, "We wouldn't be able to do the mission without our reservists." I may sound like a broken record, but I have to say once again, "Thank you for your service." During this time of great need, you have all stepped up to the plate and are accomplishing what is necessary to keep our country safe both here and overseas. Thank you to those families you left behind, your employers and schools. I am honored to serve with you.

The new Coast Guard Reserve Supplemental list (ALCOAST 138/03) is on the street. What this means is, within certain ratings, when you have finished your qualifications and have your commanding officer's endorsement, you don't have to wait to take the service wide exam to be advanced. Just like the active duty, you have a message sent to HRSIC and you will be advanced. A question came up about the PS rating and why they were not included. Like the active duty, there has to be an end of course test or you have to take the service wide examination. There is no end of course test out yet for PS. Once there is, we can then include PS on the Supplemental list.

I would like to welcome aboard our newest Reserve Command Master Chief, Tom Cowan. He will take over the duties as the District Eleven Reserve Command Master Chief. As you may recall from the attention the Reserve CMCs received in the last edition of *The Reservist*, MCPO Cowan being a PA has already paid dividends. Welcome aboard!

I attended two notable graduations recently. MCPO William Dikun graduated from the Navy's nine week Senior Enlisted Academy, Class 105, at Newport, R.I. The Coast Guard has one seat in this class and due to a last minute active duty cancellation, MCPO Dikun was able to attend. MSTC Brendan Dolan of Activities New York graduated from the active duty five week

Chief Petty Officers Academy at New London, Conn. (also Class 105). Both stated that the schools were an experience of a lifetime. Congratulations!

One of the "perks" of this job is being invited to events such as the yearly D13 EPOY/REPOY (Enlisted Person of the Year, Active and Reserve) celebration. It is an outstanding event. To be in a room where there are so many "best of the best" Coasties is a humbling experience. I listen in amazement to the citations read about each



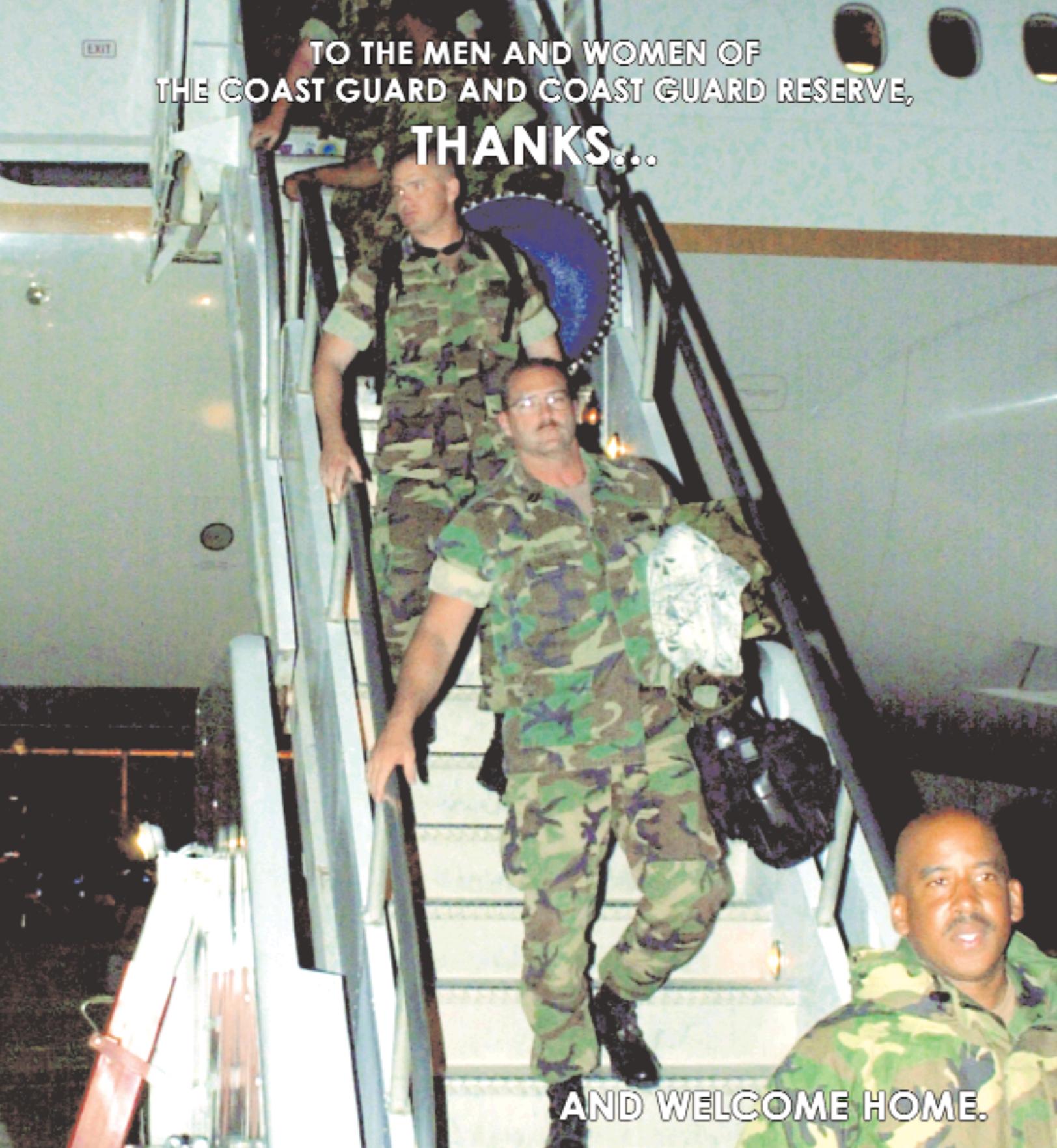
“ During this time of great need, you have all stepped up to the plate and are accomplishing what is necessary to keep our country safe both here and overseas.”

individual's performance. In the end, one person is selected from each category, but as far as I am concerned, they are all winners. Bravo Zulu to each and every local winner and each of the people who took the time to recognize them. Special congratulations to TC3 Brian L. Brockmueller, HDCU113, PACAREA Reserve EPOY; MST2 Stephen Flanagan, MSO Puget Sound, District 13 Reserve EPOY; and LT Mark A. Freymuth, HDCU113, Junior Officer Of the Year for PACAREA. After attending these events, I leave being a little more introspective of my own performance.

Have you seen or received your L.E.S. (Leave & Earnings Statement) lately? Those who have been recalled on Title 10 *should* know what they are being paid. Your BAH and COLA, if you are entitled to a COLA, should be based on your *home* zip code and *not* your duty location. If someone gave you your duty location because it was higher, they didn't do you any favors. The money *will* be recouped. It is better to find the mistake now rather than later. If you haven't received an L.E.S., contact your PERSRU and they can get you a copy.

In closing, *thank you* for your service to your country and the Coast Guard. God bless you and God bless America.

**By MCPO George P. Ingraham, USCGR
Reserve Force Master Chief
gingraham@comdt.uscg.mil**



TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF
THE COAST GUARD AND COAST GUARD RESERVE,
THANKS...

AND WELCOME HOME.

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