



All Hands Messages

Loss of CG-1705

To the Men and Women of the United States Coast Guard:

On Sunday, we suspended the search for the seven missing Guardians from CG-1705 and the two Marines onboard the AH-1 Cobra helicopter. I am deeply saddened that we were not able to locate any survivors but am proud of the thousands of people who conducted or supported the search efforts.

Our focus is now on determining the cause of the accident. Recovery operations are ongoing and salvage efforts will commence soon. The Coast Guard will conduct a Joint Service Safety Investigation Board with the Marine Corps and RDML John Korn will serve as the President. I ask for your patience during the course of the investigation. It is important that we not speculate about the cause of this accident and that we allow the investigation to inform our understanding of what happened.

After hearing about the accident, I immediately traveled to AIRSTA Sacramento and to Sector San Diego to visit with the families and the personnel involved in the search efforts. Please visit iCommandant (http://www.uscg.mil/comdt/blog/2009/11/cg-1705-update-support-investigation_02.asp) for more information on those visits.

The National Ensign will be flown at half-mast to honor our seven missing Guardians until we hold a memorial service on Friday, 06 November at AIRSTA Sacramento (ALCOAST 628-09) [APPENDED]). I am extremely grateful to the Coast Guard Foundation for their selfless assistance; once again, they are rescuing the rescuers.

Being that we are such a small Service, this loss will touch every member of the Coast Guard. As Guardians, keep a weather eye on your shipmates and keep the families in your hearts during this difficult time.

Admiral Thad Allen
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard



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ALCOAST 628/09

COMDTNOTE 5060

SUBJ: MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CREW OF CG-1705

1. COAST GUARD AIR STATION (CGAS) SACRAMENTO WILL HOST A MEMORIAL SERVICE AND RECEPTION ON FRIDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2009, AT 1100 PST, TO HONOR THE SEVEN GUARDIANS AND TWO MARINES WHO WERE TRAGICALLY LOST WHILE CG-1705 WAS ENGAGED IN SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS.
2. ANY MEMBERS OF THE COAST GUARD, MARINE CORPS AND OUR EXTENDED FAMILIES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. CGAS SACRAMENTO IS LOCATED AT 6037 PRICE AVENUE, MCCLELLAN, CA 95652. SPACE IS LIMITED AND OUR PRIORITY WILL BE ACCOMMODATING THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF OUR LOST GUARDIANS AND MARINES. AN RSVP IS REQUIRED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2009, AT 1800 PST, VIA EMAIL TO D11RSVP(AT)USCG.MIL WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
 - A. FULL NAME
 - B. TITLE
 - C. TOTAL PEOPLE IN PARTY
 - D. CONTACT PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS
 - E. COAST GUARD UNIT/DISTRICT/STAFF (IF APPLICABLE)
 - F. OTHER SERVICE OR VOLUNTEER AGENCY AFFILIATION (IF APPLICABLE)
3. THE UNIFORM IS SERVICE DRESS BLUE BRAVO WITH COMBINATION COVER. INFORMAL ATTIRE IS APPROPRIATE FOR CIVILIANS.
4. THE COAST GUARD FOUNDATION HAS GRACIOUSLY ESTABLISHED A FAMILY DISASTER RELIEF FUND SPECIFICALLY TO ASSIST THE FAMILIES OF THE CG-1705 CREW. PLEASE VISIT [HTTP://WWW.COASTGUARDFOUNDATION.ORG/](http://www.coastguardfoundation.org/) FOR DETAILS.
5. A WEBCAST WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE CG-1705 MEMORIAL SERVICE. ACCESS INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED SEPARATELY.
6. ADMIRAL T. W. ALLEN, COMMANDANT, SENDS.
7. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.