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UNITED STATES

COAST GUARD

1997 ANNUAL REPORT

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every day every hour around the clock

wherever  
**AMERICA**  
needs us



every day, every hour, around the clock  
the world's premier maritime service



Through more than 200 years of war and peace the Coast Guard has protected America's interests.

Today's global community moved the Coast Guard to the forefront of public service.

Our flexibility allows us to carry out economic, environmental and humanitarian missions, while serving as an integral part of national security.

At home we stop drugs, illegal migration and pollution. Around the world, we help emerging nations build their own coast guards.

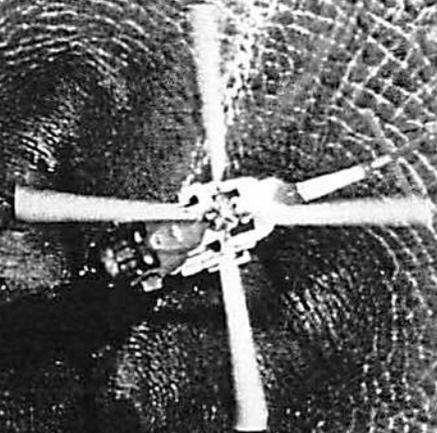
Following the highest business standards, the Coast Guard returns a tremendous amount of America's investment.

This is why we are regarded as the world's premier maritime service.



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# POWERING THE COAST GUARD INTO THE 21ST CENTURY



▲ From the  
**Coast Guard's leader,  
Admiral Robert Kramek**

I am pleased to present the United States Coast Guard's 1997 Annual Report.

The Coast Guard serves the American public. Perhaps they are boat owners, relying on us to respond quickly if they encounter trouble on the water, or need experienced, dedicated, professional lifesavers. Or perhaps it is reassuring to know that we have inspected and certified the safety of the tanker or cruise ship that their friends sail aboard.

We in the Coast Guard proudly wear many hats. Yet, we are a small organization. In fact, today we are doing more and providing better service than ever with fewer people than ever before.

Although the public may be most familiar with our search-and-rescue mission, our multi-mission approach permits our efficient organization to respond to a wide variety of law-enforcement, marine-safety, port-security and national-defense missions. One of our greatest strengths is our versatility which enables us to effectively meet challenges whenever and wherever they arise.

We are very proud of the fact that we return approximately \$4 in benefits for every dollar the American public invests in the Coast Guard. Our use of new technology has allowed us to reduce crew sizes on our newest cutters. For example, our newest buoy tenders not only work buoys but are equipped to skim and collect oil from the water's surface too — and they do it with fewer people!

Sound leadership principles permit us to empower our people. And because high ethical standards are part of our culture, the public can rest easy knowing we do the right

thing for the right reason.

Recently we streamlined to help reduce the federal budget deficit and did so in a manner that prevented any reduction in our essential services. This means by the end of 1997, the Coast Guard will be saving taxpayers \$400 million a year in annual operating expenses and we'll be smaller by 4,000 people. By the year 2002, the Coast Guard will have saved the federal taxpayers \$2.6 billion.

As a unique instrument of national security, we provide important defense capabilities while maintaining full-time, peacetime missions. The Coast Guard deters drug smuggling, interdicts illegal migrants, enforces all U.S. laws and treaties in the maritime region, and serves as a vital element in the defense of the United States and its people.

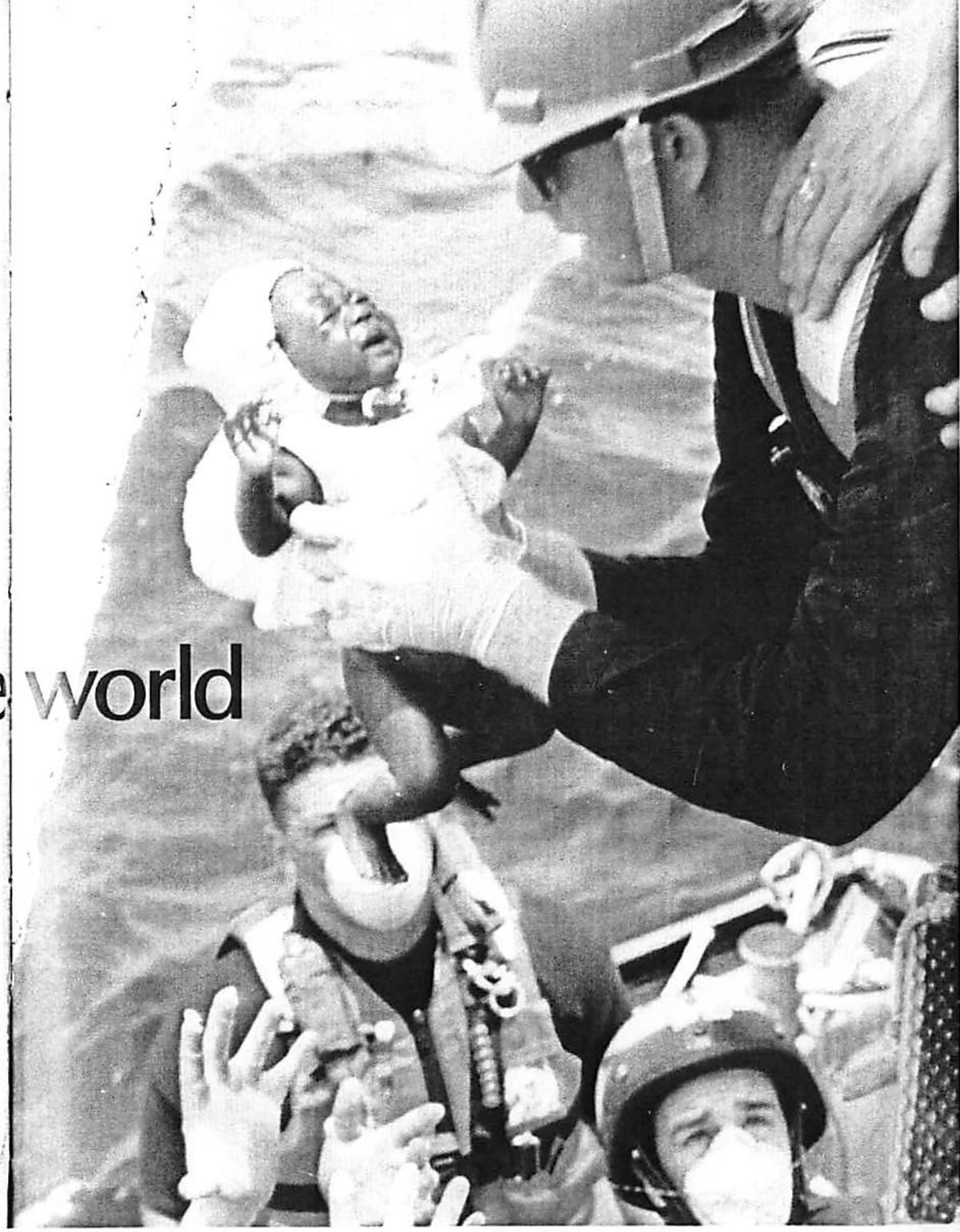
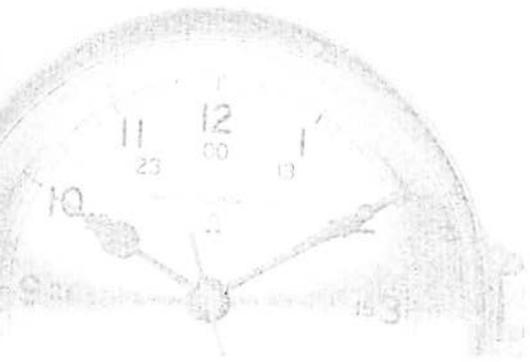
The Coast Guard is also committed to environmental protection — through pollution prevention, disaster response, and waterways management. Our partnering programs prevent accidents by reducing the primary cause: human error.

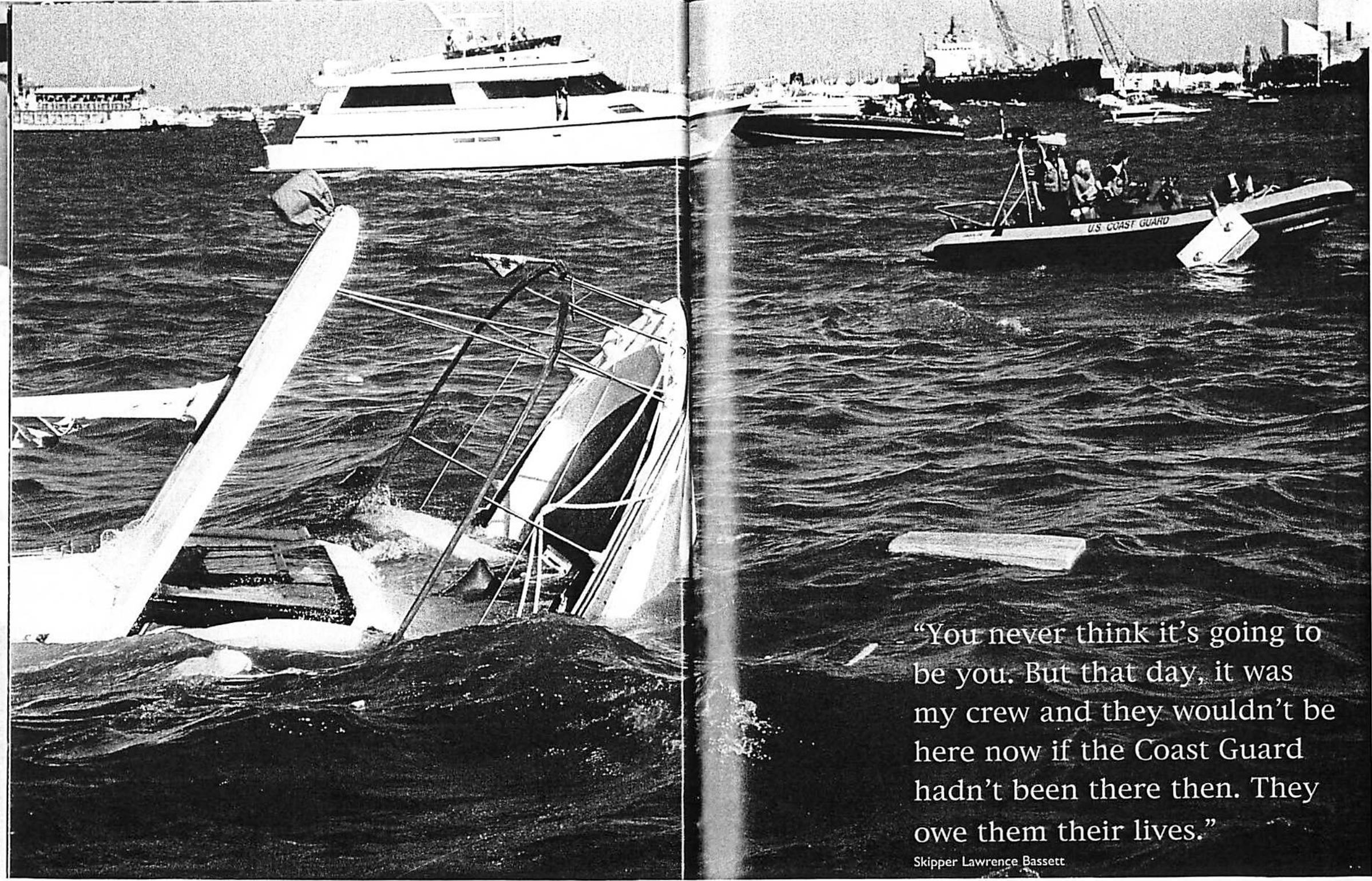
As the world's premier maritime service, our efforts are paying dividends as numerous countries continue to seek our assistance and expertise, especially when establishing their own coast guards. This allows other countries to provide the same essential services for their citizens as the Coast Guard provides for America.

We are working very hard to provide the best possible service at the lowest possible cost. Much of our success lies in the daily commitment to the core values of honor, respect and devotion to duty.

around the clock  
**around the world**

ALWAYS READY • ALWAYS THERE





“You never think it’s going to be you. But that day, it was my crew and they wouldn’t be here now if the Coast Guard hadn’t been there then. They owe them their lives.”

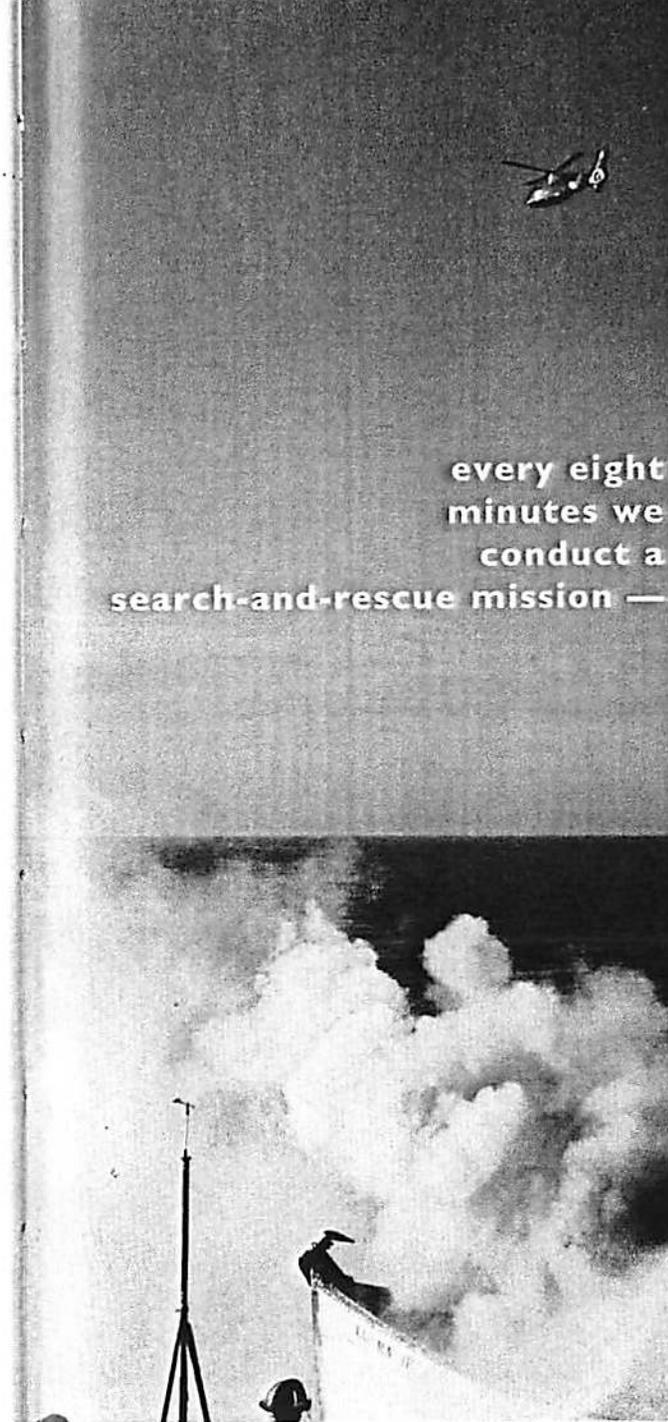
Skipper Lawrence Bassett

**Mission: Search & Rescue**



The Coast Guard undertakes more than 65,700 search-and-rescue missions a year. In a typical day we save 14 lives and assist 328 people. We pull them from the water, from cliffs, from rooftops and sinking ships. To each of the 4,380 people whose lives we save each year, to their families, friends, communities, and to America. We:

- Patrol America's coasts to rescue people in distress
- Provide cutters, aircraft and expertise to state, local and federal authorities in search-and-rescue missions
- Rescue victims of natural disasters, such as floods or hurricanes; deliver food, water and medicine to those in need
- Partner with local emergency-response teams to provide assistance in the wake of maritime accidents or disasters such as the TWA Flight 800 crash
- Improve recreational boating safety through training, standards, and safety programs.

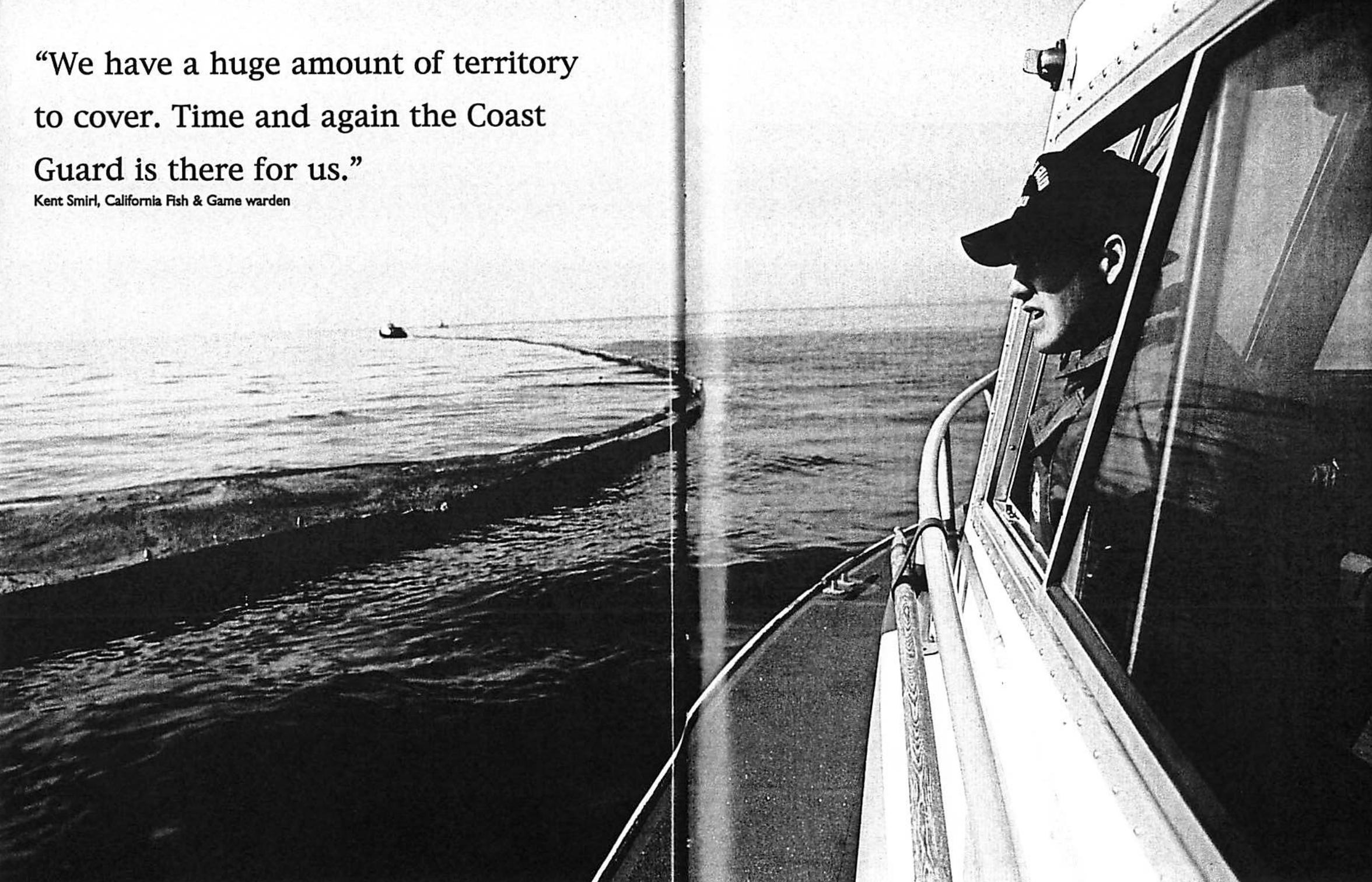


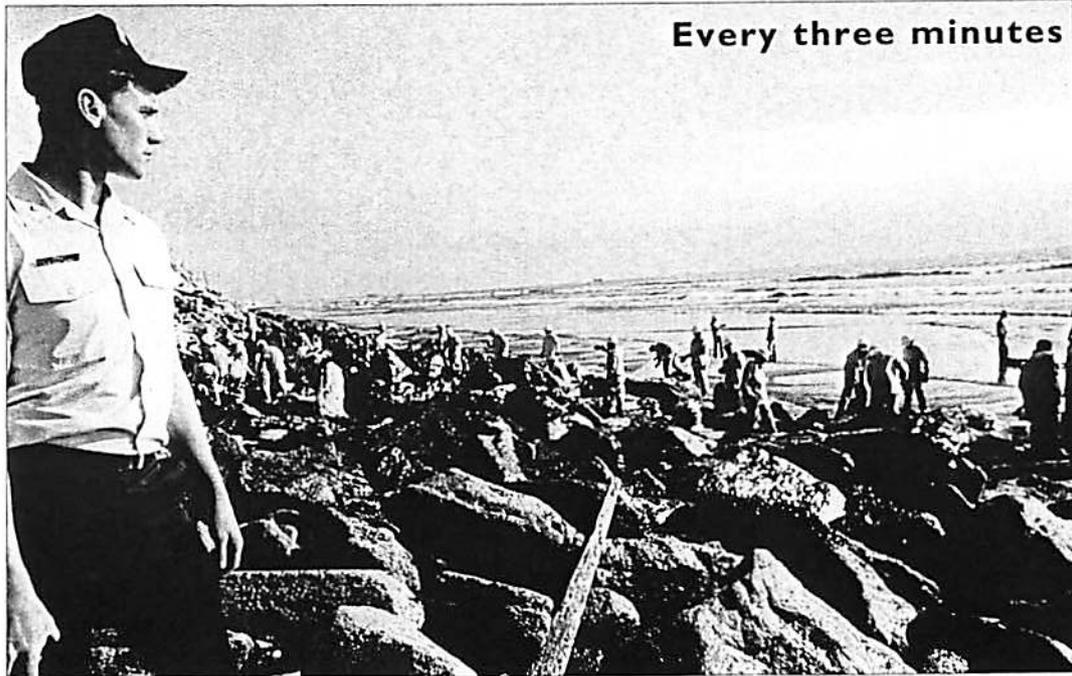
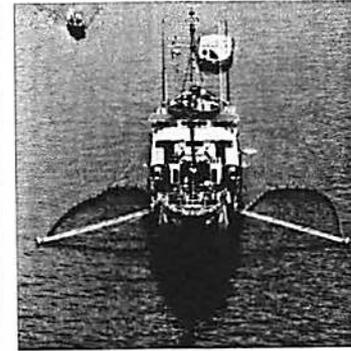
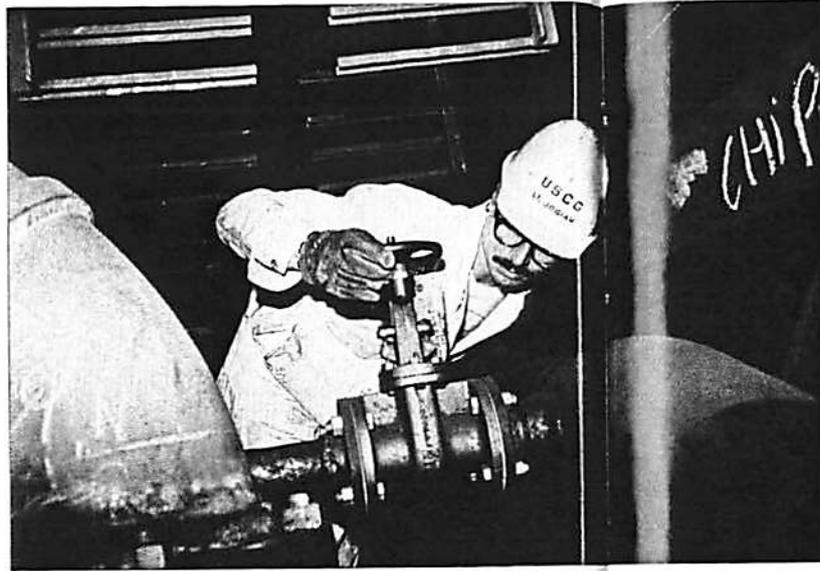
**every eight  
minutes we  
conduct a  
search-and-rescue mission —**

**every two  
hours we save a life**

“We have a huge amount of territory  
to cover. Time and again the Coast  
Guard is there for us.”

Kent Smirl, California Fish & Game warden

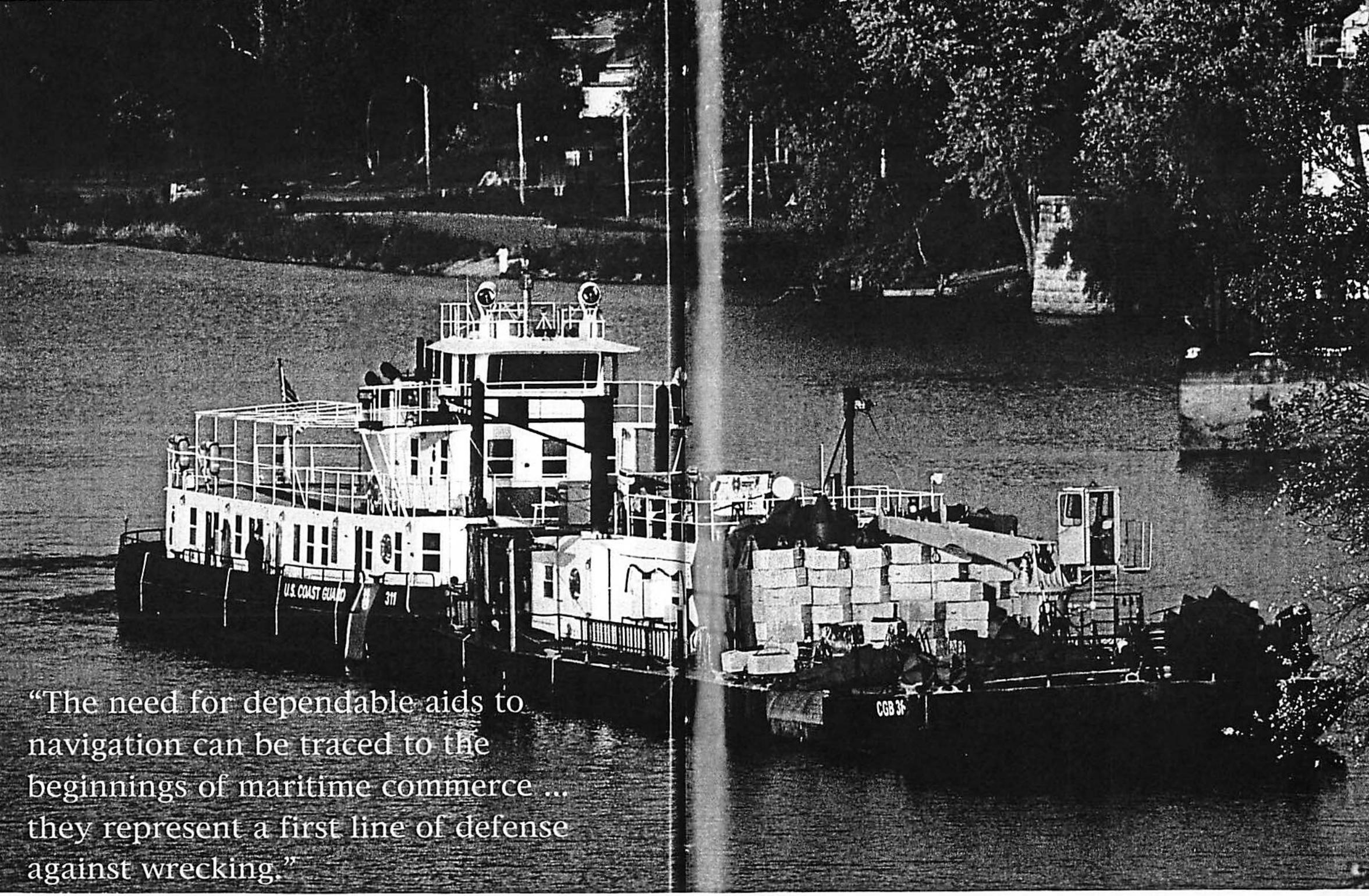




## Every three minutes we clean up/prevent spills of hazardous materials

The Coast Guard is one of the nation's primary protectors of the environment. Our inspectors enforce regulations to prevent pollution. Our response teams monitor and clean up spills when they do occur. We:

- Work with local authorities to minimize the environmental impact of oil and hazardous-chemical spills — such as the rapid Coast Guard response which averted a 10-million-gallon fuel-oil spill when a tanker ran aground off New Jersey
- Clean up pollutants and identify those responsible
- Partner with industry to prevent accidents and spills through maritime-safety training programs
- Establish standards and enforce regulations that help prevent oil and chemical spills.



“The need for dependable aids to navigation can be traced to the beginnings of maritime commerce ... they represent a first line of defense against wrecking.”

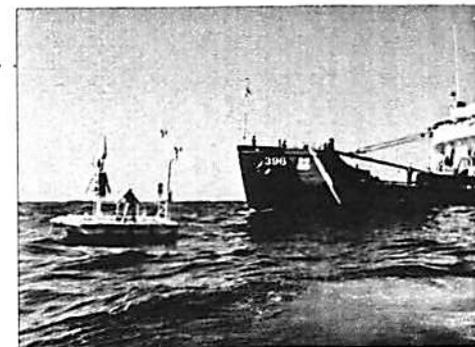
around the clock we clear waterways, and safeguard oceans and river commerce

Mission: Commerce



The Coast Guard works around the clock to protect the free and safe flow of commerce along America's shores and major waterways — from breaking ice on the Great Lakes, to restoring navigational markers on the Mississippi River following storms or flooding. We:

- Keep commercial shipping routes open
- Maintain a space-age navigation and positioning system to improve maritime transportation in harbors and harbor-approach routes
- Create safety standards and conduct inspections of port facilities, cruise ships and commercial vessels
- Work with local boating and national shipping organizations as well as cruise ship operators and foreign governments to reduce the number-one cause of maritime accidents: human error.

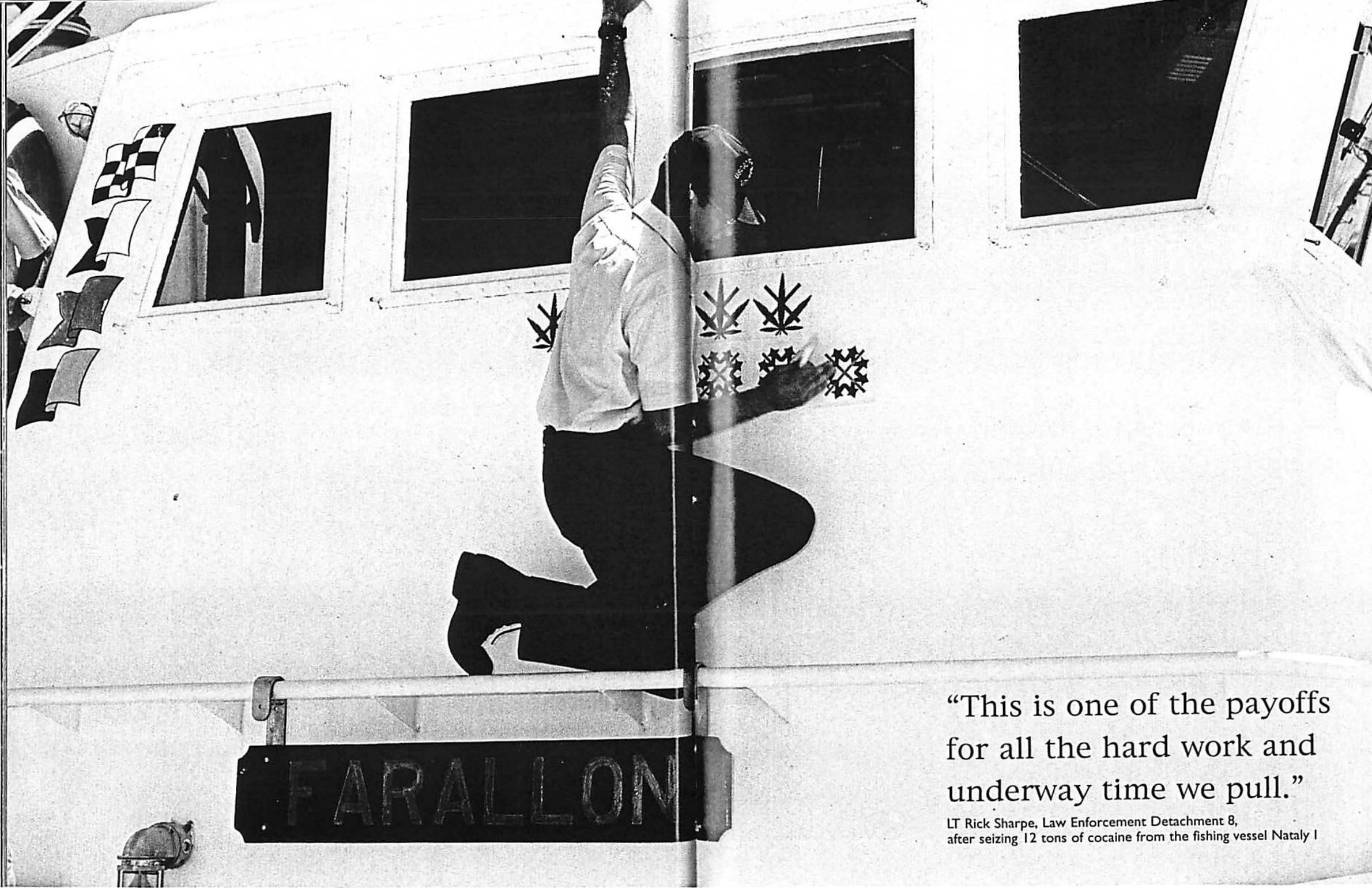


Lighthouse Service begins 1716

Lighthouse Service joins Treasury Department in 1789

Lighthouse Service merges with Steamboat Inspection Service under Department of Commerce in 1903

Lighthouse Service enters Coast Guard in 1939

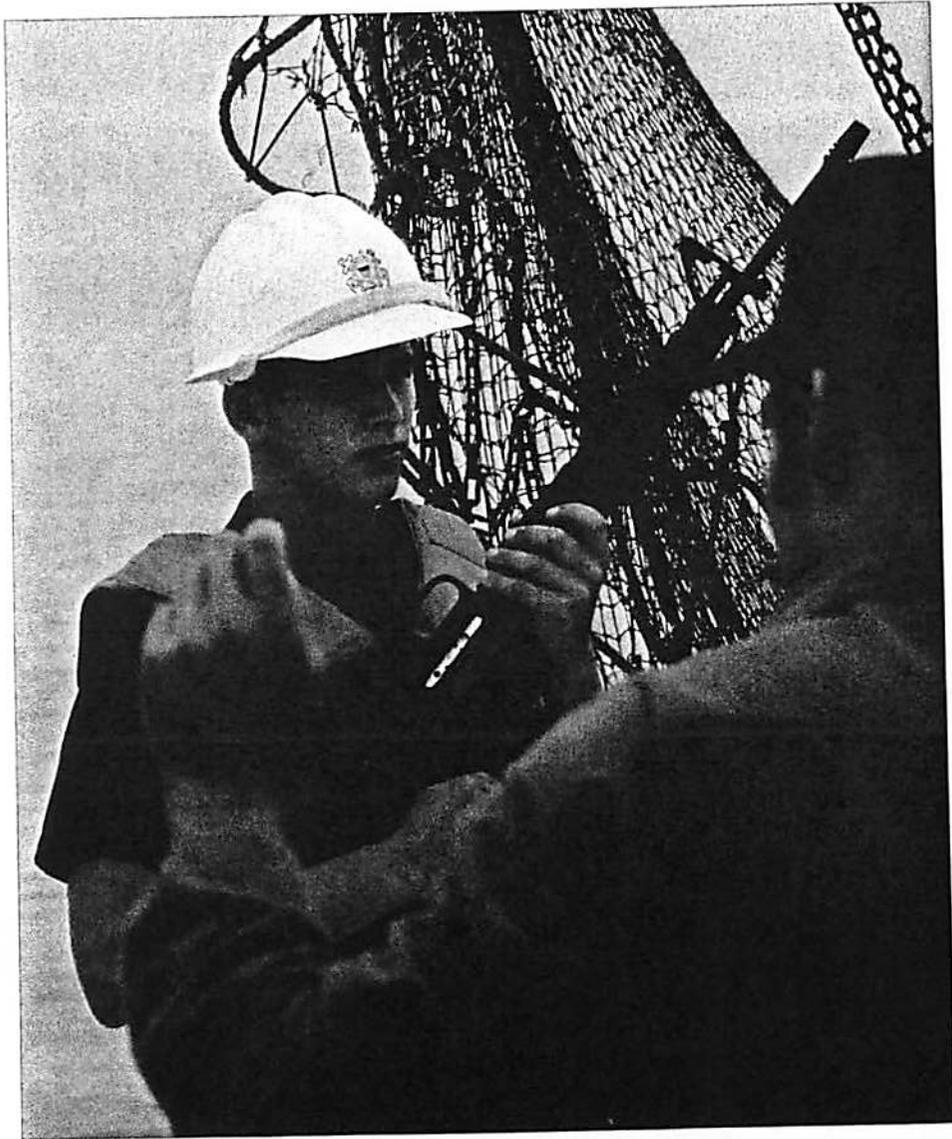


FARALLON

“This is one of the payoffs for all the hard work and underway time we pull.”

LT Rick Sharpe, Law Enforcement Detachment 8, after seizing 12 tons of cocaine from the fishing vessel Nataly I

every day we keep \$7 million of narcotics off America's streets



The Coast Guard is on the front lines of America's National Drug Control Strategy, accounting for about 25 percent of overall U.S. seizures of cocaine and marijuana. In an average year, the Coast Guard keeps nearly \$3 billion worth of illegal drugs worth off America's streets while disrupting deliveries of thousands more pounds of drugs. We:

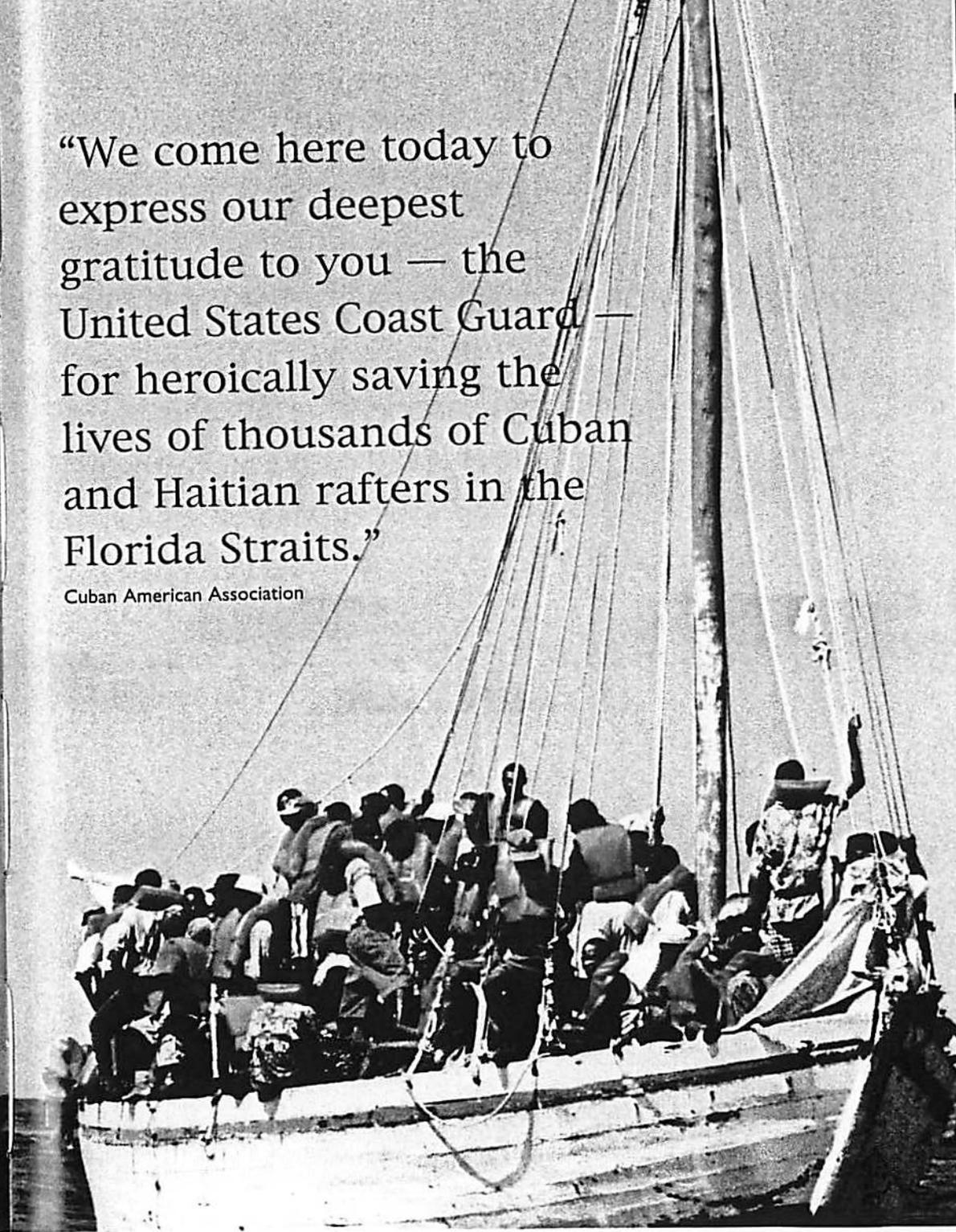
- Lead the maritime interdiction illegal drugs
- Partner with U.S. Customs as lead agency for air interdiction in drug-transit zones
- Assist with negotiations of bilateral counter-drug agreements with Caribbean neighbors
- Conduct intensive drug interdiction efforts such as Operation Frontier Shield.

Enforcement of laws and treaties became the first mission of what would evolve into the Coast Guard when, in 1790, Alexander Hamilton formed "a fleet of cutters" to suppress smuggling.



“We come here today to express our deepest gratitude to you — the United States Coast Guard — for heroically saving the lives of thousands of Cuban and Haitian rafters in the Florida Straits.”

Cuban American Association



**Mission: Illegal Migrant Interdiction**

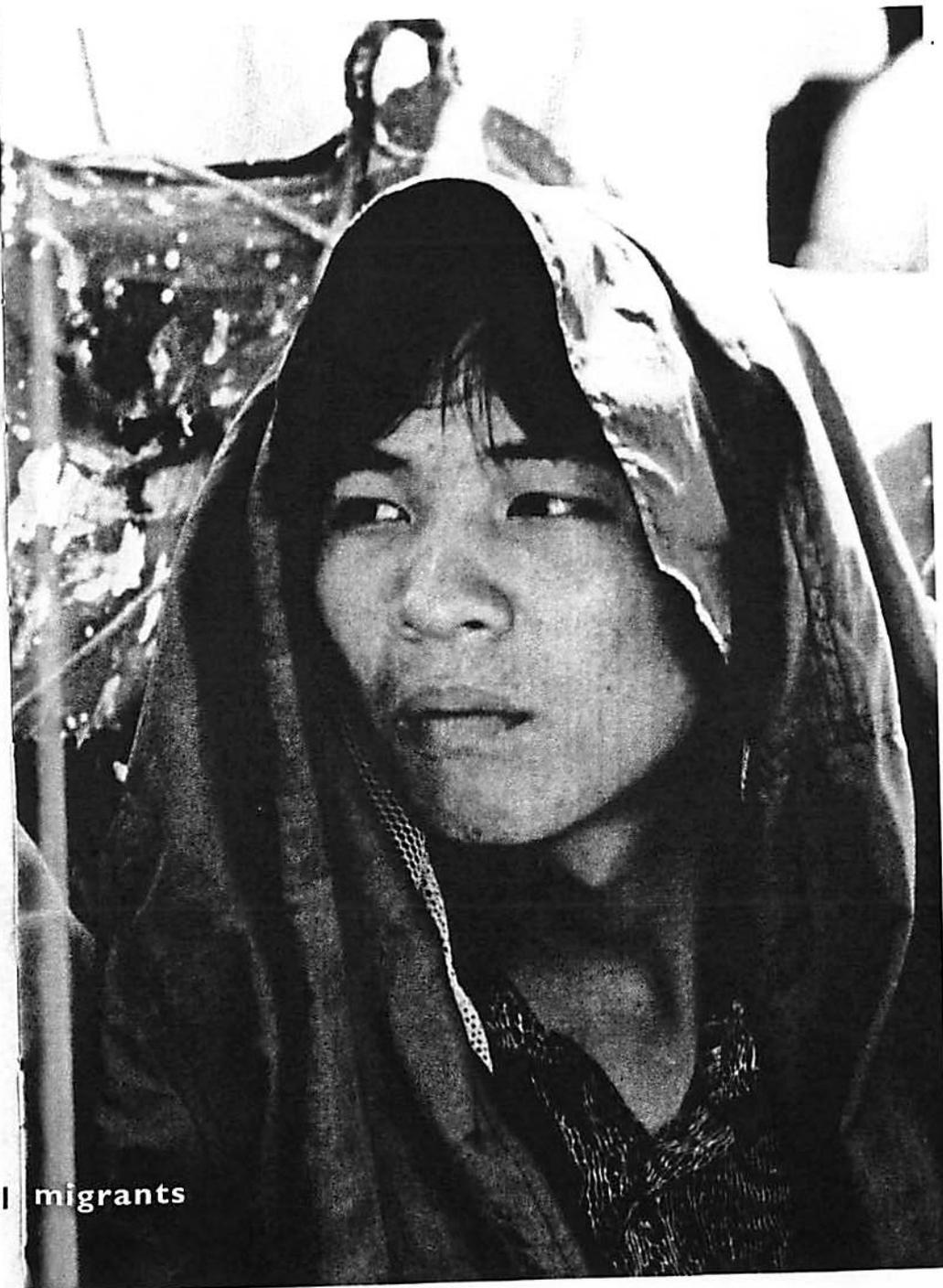


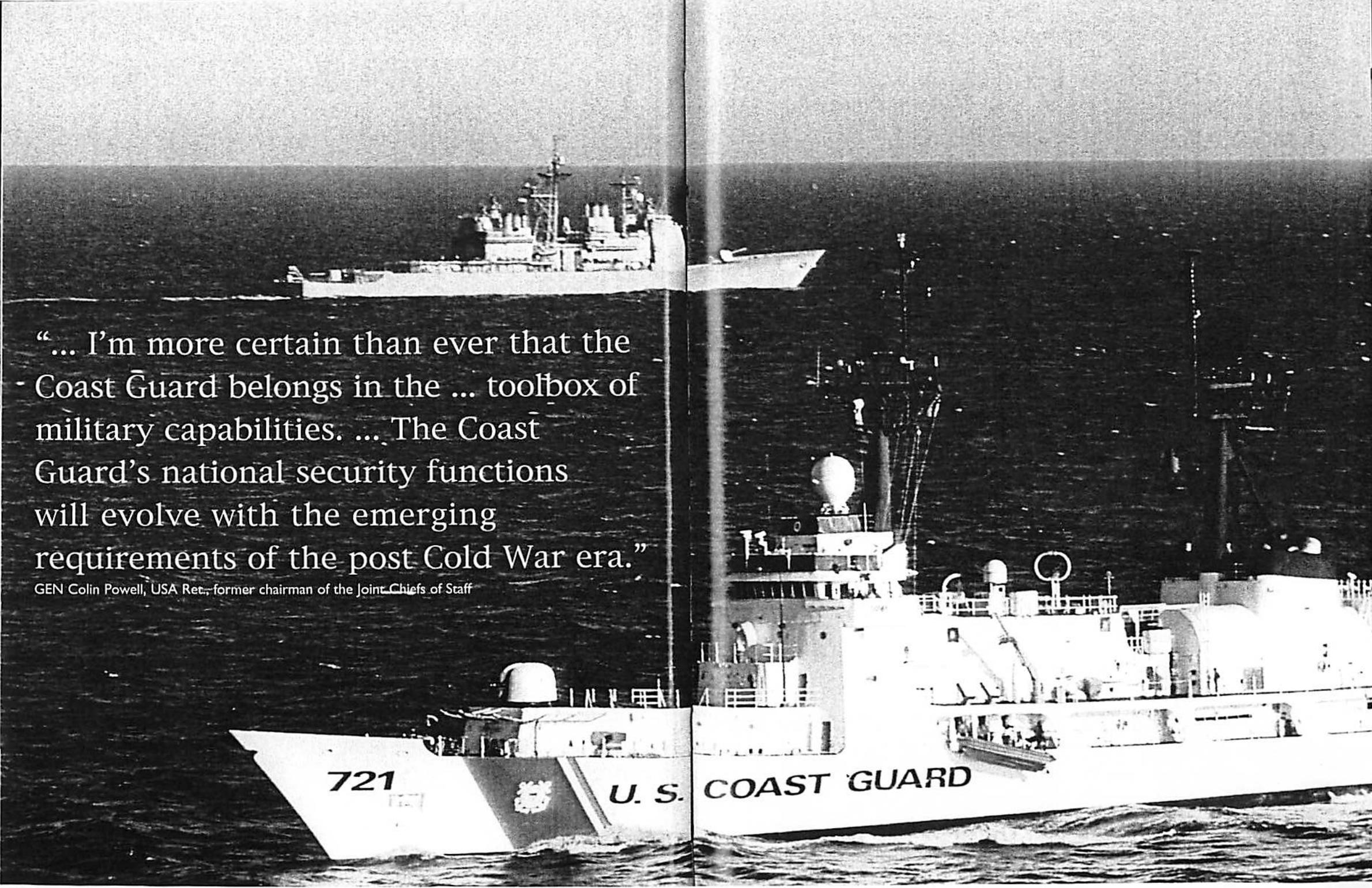
The flood of illegal migrants in overcrowded boats onto America's shores is a threat to human life and a violation of U.S. laws. We:

- Constantly monitor maritime transit zones to interdict illegal migrants
- Perform humanitarian services, such as caring for large numbers of Chinese nationals transported in the cargo hold of a ship for several months
- Save lives — as illustrated by the recent rescue of 1,100 Haitians from two sinking vessels
- Return illegal migrants to their home countries
- Train other nations to play a stronger role in discouraging illegal migrants bound for the United States.



**every hour we interdict illegal migrants**



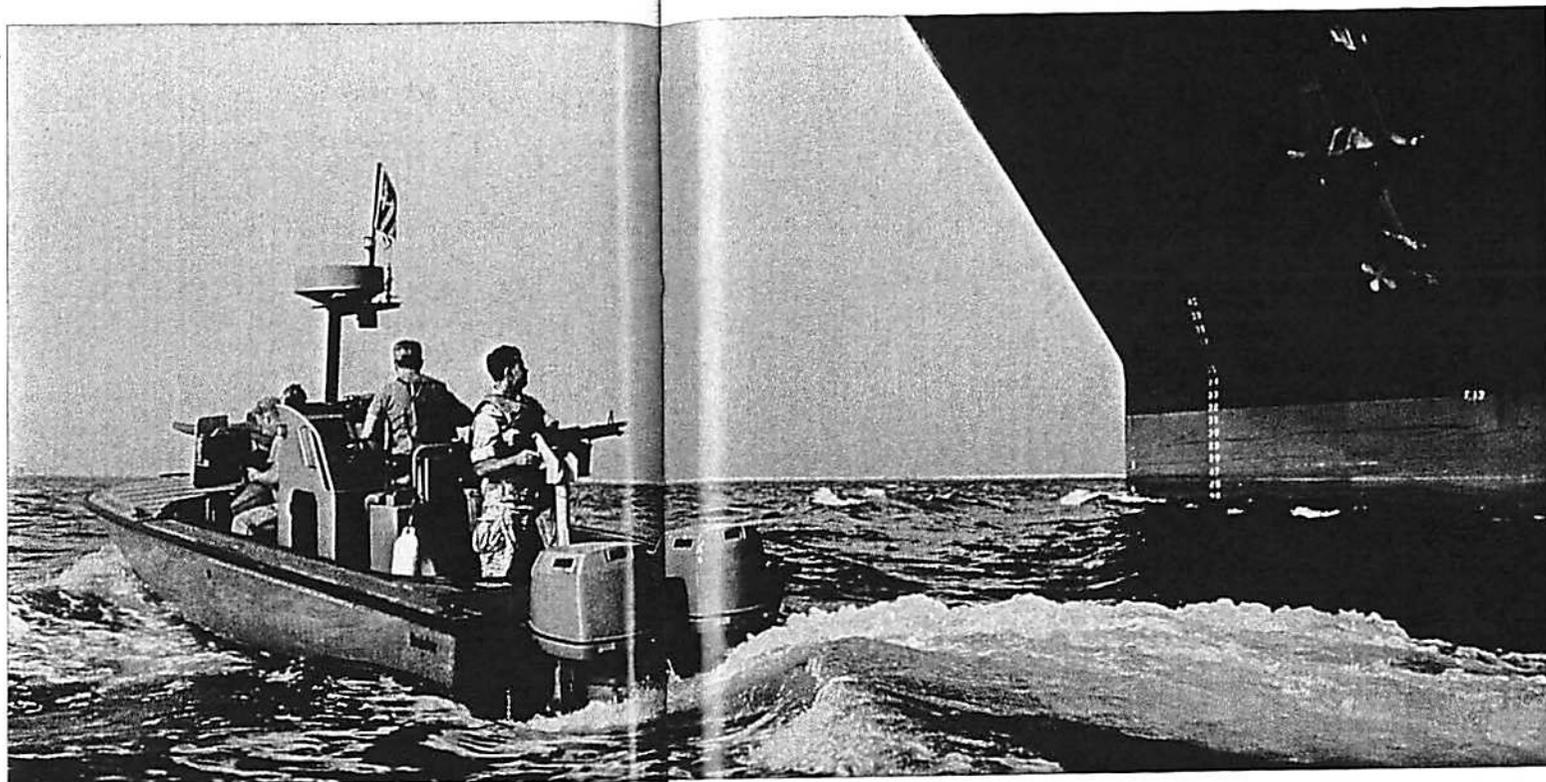


“... I’m more certain than ever that the Coast Guard belongs in the ... toolbox of military capabilities. ... The Coast Guard’s national security functions will evolve with the emerging requirements of the post Cold War era.”

GEN Colin Powell, USA Ret., former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

## Mission: National Security . . . . .

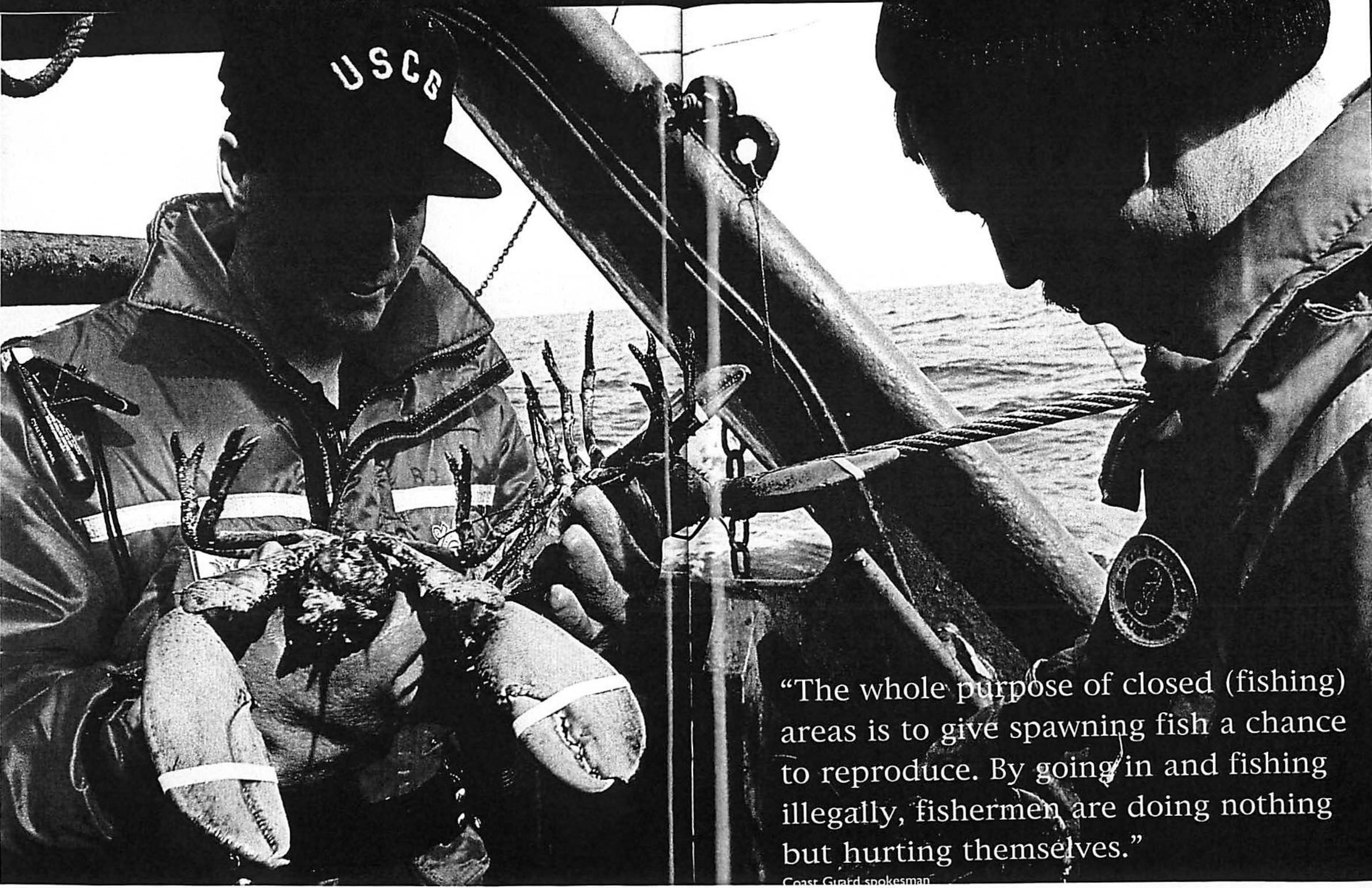
During time of war, when directed by the president, the Coast Guard reports to the Navy. The service has participated in every major campaign since 1790. The service also adapts to diplomatic needs, such as the training of coast guards in emerging nations. Whether it is war, national emergency or diplomacy, the Coast Guard adapts to the world.



The Coast Guard plays a key role in supporting U.S. military and humanitarian efforts. From aircraft overhead to vessels on the seas, the Coast Guard patrols American and international waters. We:

- Support American interests in efforts such as the Haitian intervention
- Uphold diplomatic decisions, such as protection of the 32-boat memorial flotilla that set out from Florida following the Brothers to the Rescue shoot-down off Cuba
- Assist scientists through the use of Coast Guard Polar-class icebreakers to help researchers explore remote regions.





“The whole purpose of closed (fishing) areas is to give spawning fish a chance to reproduce. By going in and fishing illegally, fishermen are doing nothing but hurting themselves.”

Coast Guard spokesman

around the nation we protect America's vital fish stocks

**Mission: Marine Resource Management . . . . .**

The Coast Guard ensures the future of America's living marine resources by enforcing fisheries regulations. We:

- Maintain open communication channels with the public — such as the nation's first 24-hour fishery hotline in Boston — allowing fishermen and the public to express concerns and report fishing violations
- Maintain a hotline for offshore oil-rig workers to report fishing violations
- Enforce the use of turtle-excluder devices in the Gulf of Mexico — protecting the endangered sea turtle.



the  
Coast  
Guard  
family



USCGC 1150  
PITTSBURGH



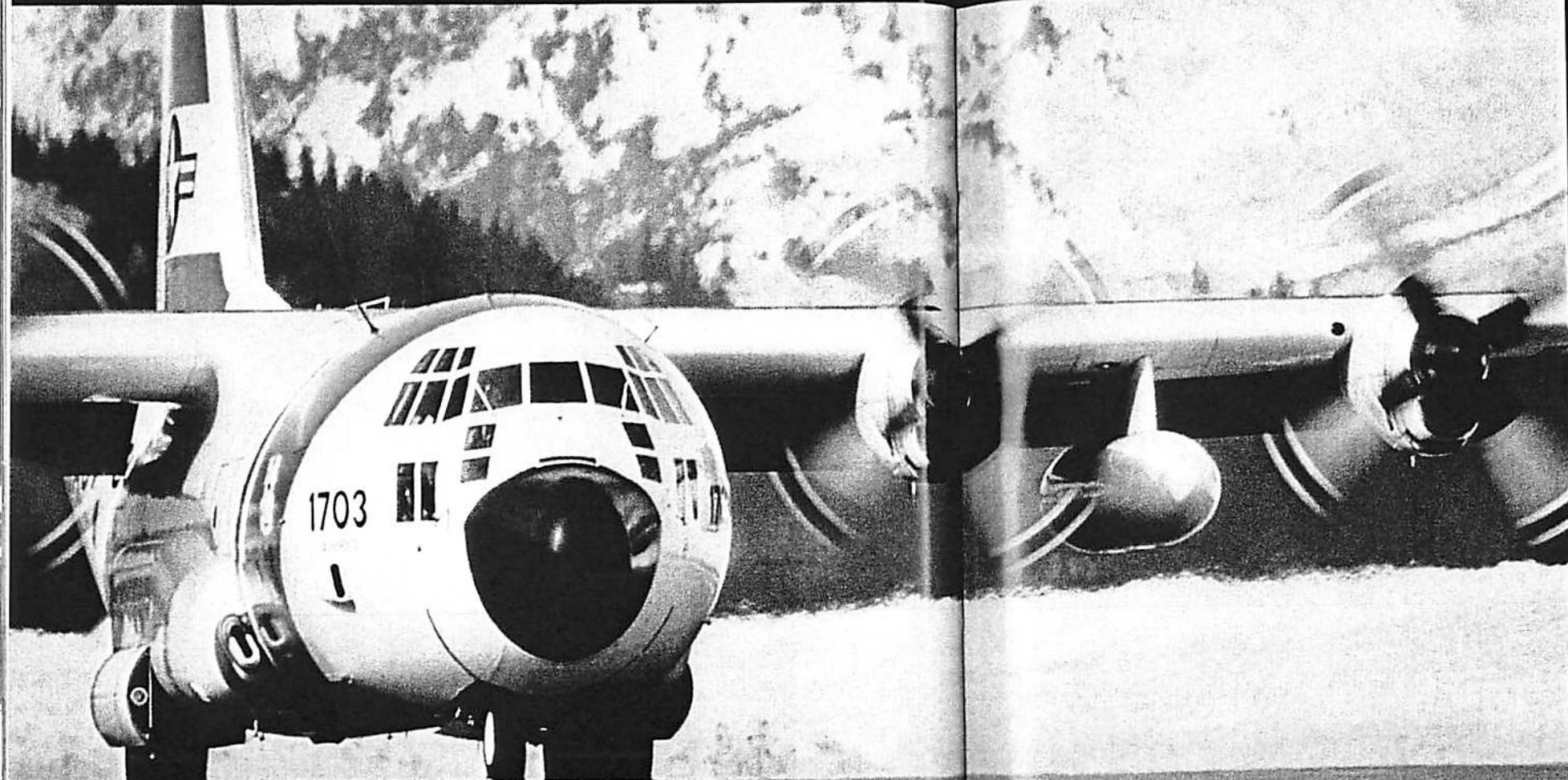
## A big job for a small, diverse team of highly-skilled people

Smallest of the United States' five armed services, Coast Guard people are diverse, multi-missioned, and stand ready to guard America's interests on land, at sea or in the air.

Brought together are Coast Guard active-duty, Reserve, Auxiliary and civilian members to form Team Coast Guard. The result is a precision unit working each day and every minute to provide maritime law enforcement, environmental protection, maritime safety and national security to America.

And when Coast Guard members pull into a U.S. or foreign port, the work doesn't stop. After-hours on any given day, they can be found renovating orphanages or tutoring school children.





**HC-130 Hercules**

## Aircraft of the United States Coast Guard

Coast Guard aircraft have primary missions of search and rescue, law enforcement and pollution response.

There are a total of 190 aircraft in our inventory, stationed around the country.

### **HH-60 Jayhawk**

- Endurance: 6 hours
- Cruising speed: 140 knots
- Inventory: 42

### **HH-65 Dolphin**

Frequently, the Dolphin is deployed aboard large Coast Guard vessels to assist in search and rescue, law enforcement and environmental missions.

- Endurance: 3.5 hours
- Cruising speed: 125 knots
- Inventory: 95

### **HU-25 Guardian**

- Endurance: 5.75 hours
- Cruising speed: 410 knots
- Inventory: 23

### **HC-130**

In addition to the primary missions, these long-range aircraft are used for the International Ice Patrol. As a result of the sinking of the HMS Titanic, this patrol monitors icebergs in the Atlantic Ocean. The C-130 is also used for transporting supplies and personnel.

- Endurance: 14 hours
- Cruising speed: 290 knots



# Vessels

of the United States Coast Guard

The Coast Guard classifies its vessels by size and mission. Cutters are vessels 65 feet or longer. Smaller vessels are boats.

Vessels with white hulls primarily conduct search and rescues and law enforcement.

Black-hulled vessels maintain aids to navigation, such as buoys and markers.

- There are more than 1,400 boats operated by the Coast Guard

- The Coast Guard operates the only polar icebreakers in the United States: the Polar Star and Polar Sea

## TYPES OF CUTTERS

**Coastal Buoy Tenders**  
length: 133-175 feet  
inventory: 11

**High Endurance Cutters**  
length: 378 feet  
inventory: 12

**River Buoy Tenders**  
length: 65-115 feet  
inventory: 19

**Med. Endurance Cutters**  
length: 210-270 feet  
inventory: 31

**Seagoing Buoy Tenders**  
length: 180 feet  
inventory: 25

**Icebreakers**  
length: 290-399 feet  
inventory: 3

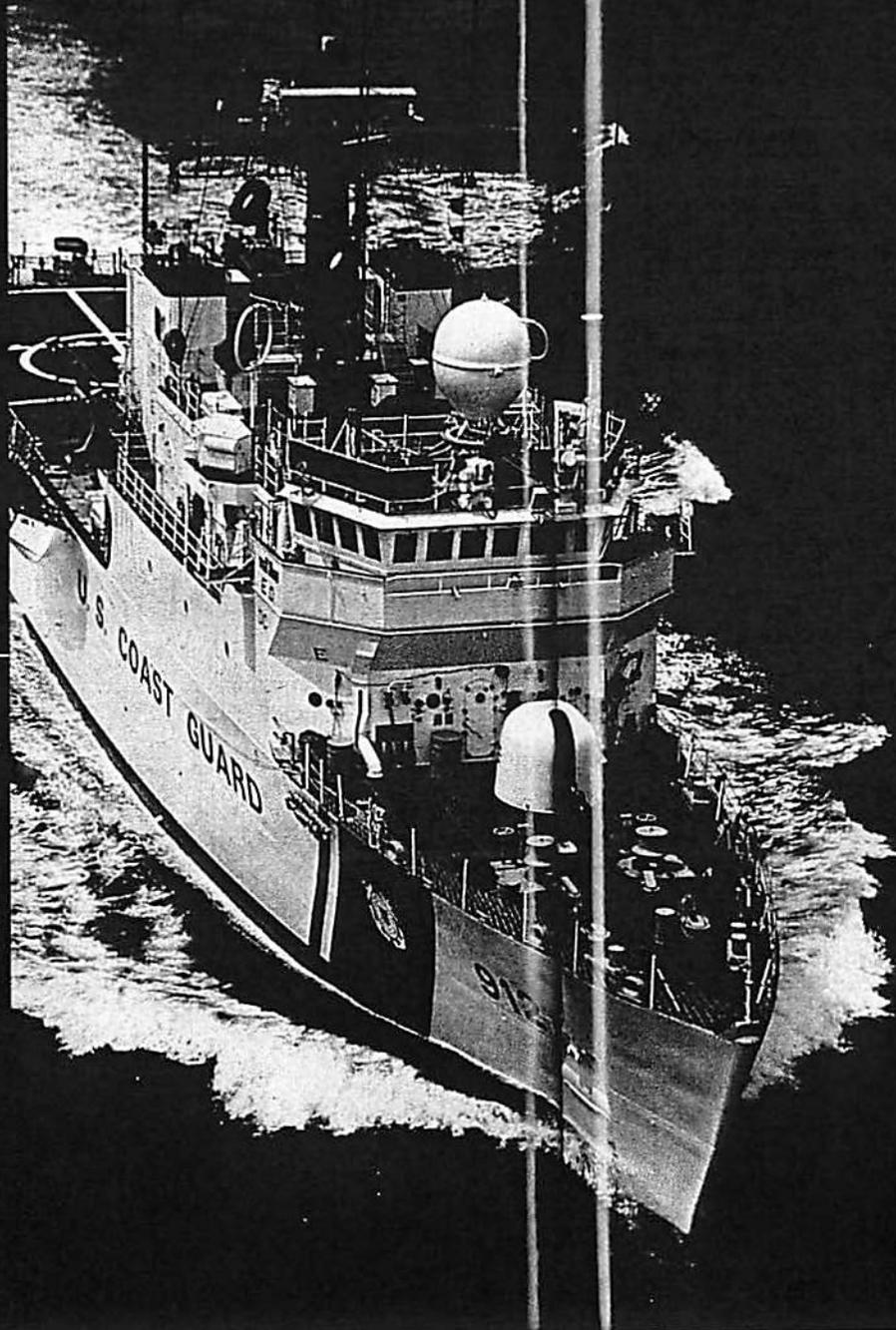
**Construction Tenders**  
length: 75-160 feet  
inventory: 15

**Icebreaker Tugs**  
length: 140 feet  
inventory: 9

**Harbor Tugs**  
length: 65 feet  
inventory: 14

**Patrol Boats**  
length: 82-110 feet  
inventory: 85

**Training Barque**  
length: 295 feet  
inventory: 1





The Coast Guard is the most productive agency in federal government today. In just lives and property saved, we return a value to America equal to our total budget. No other government investment can match the reward and unique value delivered by us.

# Fiscal 1997 Budget

Funding history: 1991 to 1997

1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
\$3,426.6	\$3,570.8	\$3,649.3	\$3,665.8	\$3,729.5	\$3,739.4	\$3,833.8

(dollars in millions, numbers may not add due to rounding)



With fewer people, the Coast Guard performs the same missions better than ever by using technology. New vessels use technology to automate, and sometimes eliminate, many tasks. Better technology reduces downtime and maintenance costs.

## Operating expenses

(percentages represent appropriations only — equaling \$2.713 billion)



Aids to Navigation/Ice Operations 23.01%



Search and Rescue 14.81%



Marine Safety 13%



Fisheries Law Enforcement 12.98%



Drug Interdiction 12.43%



Marine Environmental Protection 9.16%



Migrant Interdiction 8.28%

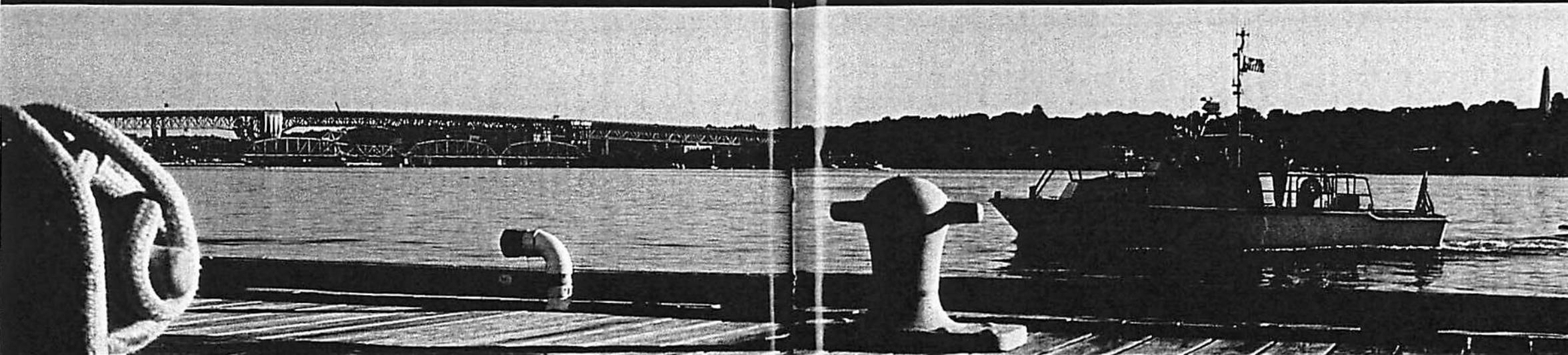


Defense Readiness 3.95%



Other Law Enforcement 2.38%

the peace of mind of knowing we're always there,  
and always ready to make a difference



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March 1997

# Coast Guard

World's premier maritime service

THE  
COAST GUARD  
IS ALWAYS THERE

- We conduct a search-and-rescue mission every 8 minutes
- We clean up/prevent spills of oil or hazardous chemicals every 30 minutes
- We interdict illegal migrants every hour
- We save a life every 2 hours
- We keep \$7 million of narcotics off America's streets every day
- We clear waterways, safeguard ocean and river commerce, and inspect ports and vessels for safety around the clock

