

grants at sea, thereby denying them and smugglers the use of maritime routes to the U.S., its territories and possessions.

By interdicting migrants before they enter the country, they can be returned quickly to their countries of origin without the costly processes required if they enter the U.S.

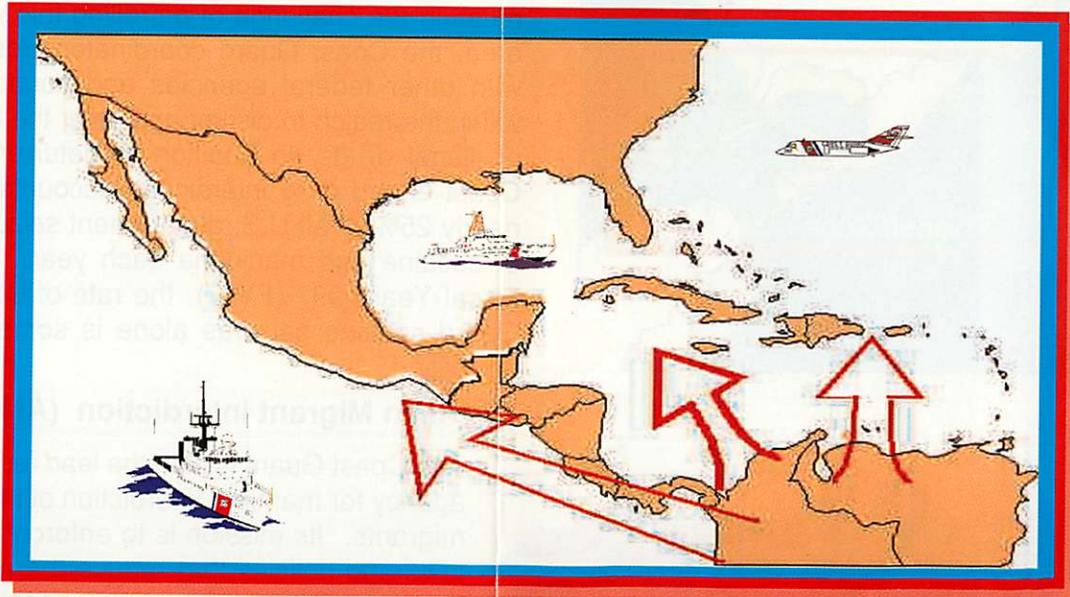
In FY96, the Coast Guard interdicted over 9,000 migrants at sea saving an estimated \$30 million in tax dollars.



Multi-Mission Operations

The Coast Guard conducts its MLE mission simultaneously with other missions including: Search and Rescue, Marine Safety and Security, Defense Readiness, Aids To Navigation, Environmental Protection and other maritime and transportation related programs. This allows the Coast Guard to employ its resources more effectively, providing more value to the American public. The

Maritime Law Enforcement Program accounts for approximately one third of the Coast Guard's \$2.7 billion operating budget for Fiscal Year 1997.



The TRANSIT ZONE: A 6 million square mile area where the Coast Guard is stemming the flow of illegal drugs to the United States from South America, as well as interdicting illegal migrants at sea.

COAST GUARD MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT

PROGRAM GOALS

- ☑ Protect U.S. fisheries and other living marine resources
- ☑ Shield U.S. maritime borders from illegal drug traffic
- ☑ Deter and interdict illegal migrants

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- ☑ Expand interdiction capabilities
- ☑ Improve intelligence collection and dissemination
- ☑ Improve surveillance capabilities by leveraging technology
- ☑ Increase international engagement

*Maritime Security through
Interdiction & Deterrence*



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**United States
Coast Guard**



Maritime Law Enforcement Program

*Living Marine Resource
Conservation*

*Illegal Drug
Interdiction*

*Illegal Migrant
Interdiction*



Maritime Law Enforcement ~ Multi-Mission ~ Multi-Zone

Interdiction ~ Deterrence ~ Protection ~ Enforcement

The United States Coast Guard is the world's premier maritime law enforcement agency. It has broad, multifaceted jurisdictional authority which is the basis for the Maritime Law Enforcement Program (MLE). The MLE Program is responsible for the enforcement of laws and treaties in the areas of: Living Marine Resource Conservation, Drug Interdiction, and Alien Migrant Interdiction.

Living Marine Resources (LMR)

Tasked with enforcing applicable fisheries laws in partnership with the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Coast Guard's objective is to provide the at-sea presence necessary to reach national goals for living marine resource conservation and management. Fisheries in the U.S. is a \$20 billion per year industry. The Coast Guard's area of responsibility is defined by the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The U.S. has the largest EEZ of any country in the world encompassing over 2.25 million square miles and 90,000 miles of coastline. In addition, the Coast Guard, in concert with the Department of State, works closely with foreign countries to ensure compliance with international laws and treaties, such as the United Nations' global moratorium on large scale high seas drift net fishing.



Coast Guard Law Enforcement Mission Zones



Yellow areas indicate U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Red box indicates the "transit zone". See enlargement on back.



Drug Interdiction (CD)

The Coast Guard is the lead federal agency for maritime drug interdiction and shares lead responsibility for air interdiction with the U.S. Customs Service. As such, it is a key player in combating the flow of illegal drugs to the United States. The Coast Guard's mission is to reduce the supply of drugs from the source by denying smugglers the use of air and maritime routes in the Transit Zone; a 6 million square mile area, including the Caribbean,

Gulf of Mexico and Eastern Pacific. In meeting the challenge of patrolling this vast area, the Coast Guard coordinates closely with other federal agencies and countries within the region to disrupt and deter the flow of illegal drugs. In addition to deterrence, Coast Guard drug interdiction accounts for nearly 25% of all U.S. government seizures of cocaine and marijuana each year. For Fiscal Year 1997 (FY97) the rate of Coast Guard cocaine seizures alone is some \$4 billion.

Alien Migrant Interdiction (AMIO)

The Coast Guard is also the lead federal agency for maritime interdiction of illegal migrants. Its mission is to enforce U.S. laws and policies that reduce the number of undocumented migrants entering the U.S. by sea. To accomplish this, the Coast Guard conducts patrols and coordinates with other federal agencies and foreign countries to interdict illegal mi-

