



Rear Admiral Christopher C. Colvin
United States Coast Guard
Commander, Coast Guard District Seventeen
Juneau, Alaska



Rear Admiral Christopher C. Colvin assumed his duties as Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District headquartered in Juneau, Alaska in July, 2009. Admiral Colvin is responsible for all Coast Guard operations throughout Alaska and the Alaskan maritime. The Seventeenth Coast Guard District includes portions of the North Pacific Ocean, the Arctic Ocean and the Bering Sea and encompasses an area approximately the size of the continental United States. Alaska has more coastline than the rest of the United States combined.

Admiral Colvin is one of the most experienced mariners in the Coast Guard. He has been assigned to six cutters and has commanded three. Admiral Colvin has spent about half of his afloat career conducting fisheries patrols in Alaska and the other half conducting drug patrols in the Caribbean. In March, 2003 Admiral Colvin commanded the only surface warship guarding two aircraft carriers off the coast of Syria during the first night of Operation Iraqi Freedom. And in February, 2004 Admiral Colvin commanded a large Coast Guard task force off Haiti and served as Joint Task Force Haiti's Maritime Component Commander helping restore order to Haiti following the departure of President Aristide.

Highly experienced in coordinating disaster assistance operations, Admiral Colvin served as Deputy Director of Operations for U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs where he had oversight of defense support to civil authorities. During the summer of 2009, Admiral Colvin coordinated the largest ever military air evacuation of a U.S. city, when nearly 7,000 people were airlifted out of the New Orleans area just prior to the onset of Hurricane Gustav.

Admiral Colvin served as Chief of Staff and Chief of Operations for Atlantic Area Coast Guard from 2004 to 2006. In August, 2005 he coordinated the flow of Coast Guard aircraft, boats and cutters responding to Hurricane Katrina.

Admiral Colvin was promoted to flag rank in October, 2006.

A 1976 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Admiral Colvin earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. He received his commission in March, 1979 after completing Officer Candidate School. In 1999 he earned a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies at the Naval War College.

His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (2), the Meritorious Service Medal (3), and the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (5).