

INSIDE: THE RESERVIST TURN 50

U.S. COAST GUARD
RESERVIST
CELEBRATING OUR 50TH YEAR NOVEMBER 2003



A Hero Comes Home

LT JACK RITTICHIER, MISSING SINCE BEING SHOT DOWN OVER LAOS IN 1968, IS FINALLY BROUGHT HOME.

LETTER FROM
THE EDITOR
Magazine's Golden Moment

Whatever way you slice it, this issue is historic! Fifty years ago this month (November 1953), the first issue of *The Reservist* was printed. At that time, we were still in the Department of Treasury, VADM Merlin O'Neill was Coast Guard Commandant, the Coast Guard still had 2nd, 3rd, and 12th Districts, and our CGR budget was a whopping \$2.5 million. I don't know who the editor was because the newsletter didn't print that information but reliable sources tell me it was a SPAR named LT Sally Holladay, USCGR(W). In any case, I've reprinted the very first issue as an insert for your enjoyment.

Earlier in the 1990s, I wrote a "Statement of Purpose" for the magazine. But the more I read and reread the purpose of *The Reservist* as stated in Volume I, No. 1, the more I liked it, so I've returned to our original mission statement as published in that inaugural issue. Here it is:

With this issue, the Coast Guard inaugurates the publication of a monthly periodical entitled, "The Coast Guard Reservist." The purpose of this publication is the dissemination of up-to-date information of interest to all Coast Guard Reservists, on active and inactive duty. Readers are encouraged to forward articles of general interest and action pictures to: The Coast Guard Reservist, Commandant (PR), U.S. Coast Guard, Washington 25, D.C.

Besides the reprint, I think this issue is packed with all kinds of useful and current information. In addition to the cover story on LT Jack Rittichier, our Coast Guard's only Vietnam-era MIA who was recently interred at Arlington National Cemetery, this issue also contains some great information on our Coast Guard's legal and medical services. Hope you find it helpful. I've also included several stories from Iraq as well as some from the homefront.

The inside back cover contains a farewell column for MCPO George P. Ingraham, our Reserve Force Master Chief since September 1998. MCPO Ingraham has done a great job as the senior enlisted member of the CGR, and wrote 17 columns for this publication during his tenure. I first met MCPO Ingraham at TRACEN Petaluma in July 1998, while attending the Chief Petty Officers Academy Reserve Class VI. MCPO was our Class President, and that was just days before he took the position as Reserve Force Master Chief Sept. 4, 1998. It's been a pleasure working and serving with him and I wish he and his wife, Carolyn, fair winds and following seas in retirement.

Happy reading and Happy Thanksgiving!



Since this is the Golden Anniversary issue, how about this photo of Officer Candidate School Class 5-53. The class graduated July 31, 1953. In those days, as now, OCS was held at the CG Academy in New London. Retired reservist CAPT John T. Schulenberg sent this photo in and he is third row, fourth from the left.

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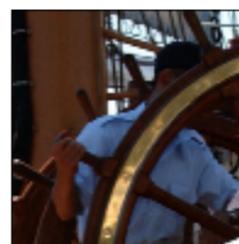
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NOVEMBER 2003

Vol. L No. 7

24 A Hero Comes Home

LT Jack Rittichier, the Coast Guard's only MIA was finally found and brought home.



10 Eagle Eyed

The lucky Reservists who get to sail on the CGC Eagle.



12 Board & Search

Group Seattle ramps up new Vessel Boarding and Search Teams.



14 Giving Spirit

PSU 311 takes some time to lend a hand and distribute supplies to the people of Iraq.



18 Our 50th Year

Fifty years ago this month, the Coast Guard Reserve launched *The Reservist Magazine*.

Also in this Issue:

- 4 Letters
- 6 View
- 7 Reserve News
- 30 Medical Update
- 34 Bulletin Board
- 36 Awards
- 38 Puzzle Answers
- 39 On Deck

On the Covers

Front: The Ceremonial Honor Guard unloads the casket of LT Jack Rittichier at Andrews Air Force base. USCG photo by PA1 Tom Sperduto
Back: PS3 James Kephart of PSU 311 talks with two Iraqi children in Umm Qasr. Photo by MK3 Stephen Rowe, USCGR



Recruiting Issue

You are to be congratulated for such an in-depth edition of *The Reservist* regarding recruiting for the Coast Guard. Currently there is a drive within Congress to bring the active duty Coast Guard up to 45,500, and the Reserve up to 9,000 members. The recently retired Coast Guard Chief of Marine Safety was quoted in the national media as desiring to see the Coast Guard grow to approximately 70,000 active duty personnel in order to be able to perform all of its missions. For the Coast Guard to reach any of these goals, it will require an extensive recruiting effort.

The Auxiliary, in conjunction with the Coast Guard's Recruiting Command, are drafting a Memo of Understanding (MOU) encompassing the Auxiliary's "LAWANS" Program, which is the genesis of CAPT Douglas Clapp, USCGR (Ret.) and the undersigned. "LAWANS" stands for *Lifelong Affiliation With A Noble Service*.

The LAWANS concept is that as one's life progresses, they would have a constant affiliation with the Coast Guard, initially through enlistment or commissioning either within the Active or Reserve components of the Coast Guard. As the demands of daily living push and pull a member, they can choose to go from active duty to reserve or visa-versa and then, as life's demands ever increase, the member can choose to affiliate with the Coast Guard though membership within the Auxiliary or as a civilian employee. LAWANS will consolidate all aspects of the Coast Guard's multi-faceted recruiting programs into a single shared effort combining staffing, funding, literature, programs which will ensure that its recruiting efforts result in a focused team effort that will recruit the highest qualified personnel for all aspects of the Coast Guard.

A strong team focused on the same end result will ensure that the Coast Guard continues to have the highly skilled personnel who will dedicate their working lives and their volunteer hours to the Coast Guard and its missions, thus ensuring the safety of all of the nation's citizens.

— CDR John J. Marks, USCGR & USCG Auxiliary
Easton, Pa.

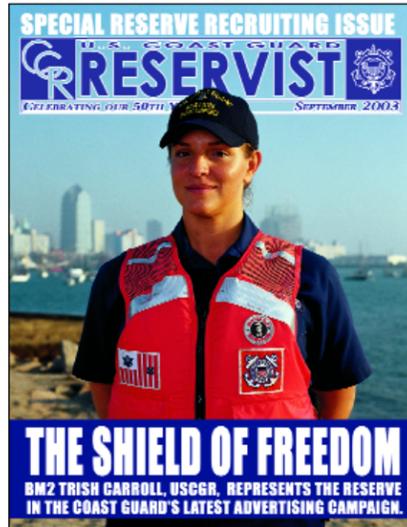
If you get a photo submission of Coast Guard personnel underway on Coast Guard Small Boats without PFDs, I suggest you return the photo with the warning that those personnel are in violation of Commandant's Orders. To publish same embarrasses those personnel and the small boat stations who observe the rules.

— LCDR Thomas Connors, USCGR (Ret.)

This issue was again, outstanding. BMCS Allen should be given a slap on the back for doing a great job for the magazine. The glossy-effect with color brilliance is fantastic. The layout is very professional. Other than that, why is BM2 Trish Carroll displaying a third class device on her cap?

PSC Michael J. Keane, USCGR
Plantation, Fla.

Ed's note: BM2 Carroll was advanced after the photos were taken — that's why the discrepancy between text and photo.



Officers as Recruiters?

Why don't we have officer or warrant officer recruiters in the Coast Guard or Coast Guard Reserve? I feel there is a huge need for this as I think officers make up a good percent of the total corps, at least 10 percent. There is without a doubt a huge need for officers, both commissioned and warrant, to talk to perspective officers about what it is like to be an officer.

I am by no means belittling the recruiting efforts by all enlisted personnel. They do a great job, but they are not in a position to tell a 22-year-old college grad who wants to be an officer what they have to look forward to as an officer. I really feel officers should be assigned as recruiters and help

recruit both qualified officers and warrant officers. Of course, this is just one man's opinion.

— LT Jim Johnson, USCGR
Sutton, Mass.

Enjoyed Chief's Academy!

The CPO Academy at Petaluma was fantastic! In civilian life I'm a high school history/government teacher, and I'm two years into my Master of Education program. I've never been in any class or program that was more professional or informative. Every Chief should make it a priority in their professional life and make plans to attend. The experience enhanced both my professional and personal life. I believe I'm a better person and hopefully, a better Chief. The staff was superb, the curriculum was excellent, and the administration was most helpful! Oh yes, and the food was out of this world!!

— PSC Doug Adams, USCGR
PSU 305, Fort Eustis, Va.

Ed's note: Chiefs interested in attending the Reserve CPOA course in 2004 should see the Bulletin Board for more info on this year's class convening. Don't delay as the next class is filling fast! Also, a note to Reserve Classes 15, 16, 17 from 2003: The editor is looking for class portraits to run in the magazine. Efforts to locate these have proven fruitless thus far. Please coordinate through your class president and contact the editor; these will be published in a future issue when all three classes are represented.

Frustrating Pay Problems

I joined the Coast Guard from the Army Reserve in May of this year, and received a sign-on bonus. I then attended the REBI school in Cape May in July. When I finished REBI, I began drilling at my unit. When I met everyone, they told me not to be surprised if I wasn't paid on time. I was a little disappointed but not shocked because coming from the Army Reserve, I have had my share of pay problems. The thing that bothers me the most is that months have gone by and I have not seen any money from attending REBI or my bonus money. (Good news is I have already been paid for travel and drills). When talking with fellow reservists, they all said when they initially joined the Coast Guard, they had the same problem, and it took about two to three months for the Coast Guard to iron out everything.

On a positive note, my command has been very good about talking with me about the pay problems. They have all (from my commander to my peers) been working toward resolving the problems as fast as they can. They have called, e-mailed, and spoken to me at drill. They have been the ones that have kept me positive about eventually seeing the funds.

My main point is that most reservists, when they join, have to take a leave of absence from their job. If I hadn't taken vacation time, I would be in a serious hurt financially. I'm glad I have been financially sound, but what about the other reservists who are depending on getting paid on time and don't? I would hope and think that in today's modern world, the Coast Guard would be able to pay reservists who volunteer to serve their country on time.

— SK3 Dave Knapp, USCGR
Chester, Va.

Ed's note: You're right! Reservists deserve prompt and efficient pay for serving their country. Reservists should notify their command or ISC(pf) of persistent pay problems.

Consolidate PS' into BM rating?

It is with much interest that I read the article in *The Reservist* magazine regarding the "Enlisted Rating Badges" (May-June 2003, page 42). In regards to the PS rating, it has been my opinion this rating would be of more value to the USCG if it were consolidated into the BM rating, and designated a specialty of the BMs. This would enable this manpower group to more fully function as shipboard and shore personnel, as was the case of the BMB rating (Beach Patrol) in World War II.

Additionally, this would provide the Navy with operational personnel in time of war as needed if and when the USCG becomes part of the USN. May I point out that this rating is the only one in the armed forces of the United States for which there is no "active duty" counter part, as it originated from WWII emergency duty rates in the USCGR.

By adopting this course of action, the needs of the United States armed forces would be more fully served. This is based upon my many years of service in the USCGR and USNR. Increasing the operational readiness of the USCGR has always been a matter of deep concern to me, since my association with the USCGR extends back to 1957.

— HTC
Arthur "Chips" Iglesias, USN (Ret.)
Johnson City, Texas

Last Words on CONUS/INCONUS Coverage

Ed's note: We continued to get letters on the CONUS/INCONUS coverage debate started several issues ago. The debate is never ending, so this is the last letters we will publish on this topic:

I agree with MK2 Danny Cherry's letter in the July/August issue of *The Reservist*. I'm tired of looking at photos and reading stories about PSU's and MSST's. After five months of active duty patrolling the waters of New York harbor and New Jersey, I finally read somewhat of a story about the reservists who were activated in support of that operation, *Liberty Shield*. But it doesn't feature the nearly 200 personnel who manned at least seven 41 UTBs for eight-hour patrols, every day and night, 24/7 for nearly six months. The story doesn't feature the unit, UTB Detachment, Bayonne, created and manned solely by reservists for this operation. The story features New York personnel, good people, who I worked with, but I think some ink could be given in support of reservists from nearly every D1

reserve unit on the East Coast. Most reserve units were either cleaned out, or left with a skeleton crew. While active duty counterparts in these units remained, the reservists were called up en masse to support this operation.

Like Corpus Christi, what we did in New York was certainly not glamorous work, but we accomplished it, and I think we did it well also.

— BMC Dave Gregory, USCGR
Station Gloucester, Mass.

I am a member of PSU 308 deployed to Kuwait. I also deployed earlier to Bahrain. We spent six months away from everything we knew and over 4,000 hours of underway time in support of the U.S. Navy Fifth Fleet.

I do not question the loyalty, devotion to duty, or professionalism of my brothers (and sisters) in blue. I do, however take offense to the tenor and tone of some of the letters. The comments were at best ignorant of the fact that we are deployed away from our homes and families without opportunity to see or visit those that we have left behind.

I do not do this for recognition. I do this because I have two young daughters who I want to be proud of their father. I do this for my father who fought in a war that no one at the time, besides the families touched by it, was proud of. I do this for the memory of my grandfather, who fought in two wars and raised his son and grandson do be proud of the fact that we are Americans. I do this for people that I don't even know and may never meet that enjoy the liberty we guard. I do this so I can look at myself in the mirror and know that I have run the good race, I have stayed the course, and I have finished strong. But, I do not do this for the recognition.

I appreciate the fact that people at home remember us. I thank *The Reservist* magazine for helping in keeping up our morale. I thank those that don't even know me that pray for my safety. I thank my wife for handling the household and making decisions while I'm gone and cannot assist her. I especially thank her for raising my two young daughters while I'm gone.

If this magazine truly needs to recognize *all* those that have sacrificed, then let them recognize the wives and children, mothers and fathers of those deployed anywhere that have sacrificed a life of normalcy for the badge of courage that I'm not sure I can even bear. Let this magazine recognize that they are the ones that bear an even greater sacrifice of watching a loved one go into harm's way for the liberty their family enjoys.

— PS3 James "Scooter" McKnight
Port Security Unit 308, Kuwait

Educating Public on USCG

There is a *lot* of erroneous information in the press about the Coast Guard! A couple of items that come to mind are:

- USA Today article on the advertising budgets for the *four* branches of the Armed Forces,
- AP article on the Air Force Academy problems (carried in the *Wisconsin State Journal*) that started with the line, "Of the *three* service academies, only the Air Force..."
- "Support the Troops" rally in Oshkosh, Wis. where the keynote speaker, a military ROTC Instructor, made frequent mention of the "Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine" members serving in the Iraqi theater.

What can *we* do to educate the press and the public on the Coast Guard? We *are* the fifth branch of the Armed forces, we *do* have a Service Academy and we have had a large (for us) presence in the Middle East region!

If there is something *every* Coastie Reservist can do, maybe an article in our pub would be in order.

— PSCS Pete Vickerman, USCGR
Sun Prairie, Wis.



Witnesses to History

Sometimes you find the best history books aren't the ones written by authors who deliberately set out to document an important event or period in time. Instead, they often are the collected editions of newspapers or magazines that, over time, paint vivid pictures of evolving

events, organizations and, most importantly, the people behind them.

That's why I'm happy to present the 50th anniversary edition of *The Reservist* magazine. Since 1953, your magazine has chronicled the development of the Coast Guard Reserve into the organization it is today.

There have been a lot of changes, as you can see by comparing the contents of this issue with the reprint we have enclosed of the November 1953 edition. And it's a lot more than just the uniforms we wear.

The Active and Reserve components have evolved from two largely separate and distinct organizations to become the Coast Guard family we are now. The changes haven't always been easy, and I'm not saying we're finished. But we've come a long way over the years.

So, too, has one of our most valued family members, Reserve Force Master Chief George Ingraham, whose farewell column appears in this month's magazine.

On Dec. 4, MCPO Ingraham will finish his tour as our senior enlisted adviser – *wise counselor* might be a more apt job description – and close his long and distinguished military career.

I was in grade school in 1962 when MCPO Ingraham reported for basic training in Alameda. He left active duty four years later as an RM1, but by 1971, had returned as a drilling reservist and chief. I was a third-class cadet at the Coast Guard Academy.

I'm not saying this to make MCPO Ingraham feel old. It's my way of pointing out how much leadership and hard-won Coast Guard experience we are losing. Especially when you are talking about someone who made chief back when chiefs wore khaki.

How has MCPO Ingraham impacted our force? A comprehensive list of his accomplishments since 1998 would fill this magazine. That's not an exaggeration. Among many other things, he:

- Was critical in establishment of the Reserve Command Master Chief program, significantly raising the visibility of reserve senior enlisted advisers throughout the Coast Guard.

- Helped establish E-9 positions for all ratings in the Coast Guard Reserve.
- Worked to get SELRES members credit for sea duty when competing for advancement.
- Helped establish the reserve MST rating and the assignment of SELRES members to the MST and PS ratings, as well as helped define PS duties at MSOs and PSUs..
- Assigned full-time PS Rating Managers.
- Helped establish unit Ombudsman programs and worked with the Pentagon to ensure reservists recalled for at least 30 days were eligible for TRICARE Prime, compared with the previous requirement of 180 days.
- Helped establish a Reserve Supplemental list for advancement and worked to ensure reserve CMCs were present at all "Gold Badge" conferences.

There is a theme here. MCPO Ingraham's efforts have been on behalf of our people, Coasties whose quality of life and professional standing are better due to his work.

I hate to see MCPO Ingraham leave us. Headquarters won't be the same, but we're obliged to share him with his family. Indeed, his spouse, Carolyn Ingraham, deserves special mention for her incredibly selfless service. Not only as the spouse of a very busy Coastie whose duties kept him away from home too long, but also for her own service to the Coast Guard family "above and beyond the call of duty." We all thank you both.

And, while MCPO Ingraham leaves big shoes to fill, I have great confidence in his successor, MCPO Jeff Smith, who was selected as the fourth Reserve Force Master Chief from a very competitive field of candidates.

MCPO Smith is an old hand here at Headquarters, having served as PS Rating Manager. He has a good handle on the issues, and he cares about people. Sounds good to me.

Good luck, MCPO Smith, and welcome to the front office.

Before I run out of space, I wanted to mention one other thing you'll read about in this issue. In early October, we laid to rest LT Jack Rittichier, a Coast Guard pilot killed in action over Laos in 1968.

As you probably know, LT Rittichier was until recently listed as missing in action, the only Coast Guard member to be so designated from the Vietnam War. He died trying to rescue a downed Marine Corps aviator.

As Americans, we don't leave our fallen comrades behind. As Coast Guard people who "fight to save or fight and die," we all are comforted that one of ours is finally home.

Let's remember LT Rittichier and all the others – Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard – who have served and still serve freedom's cause. They're all members of our family.

Remembering Our Own: PSU 308's Tribute to LT Jack Rittichier

Story by LCDR Rick DeChant, USCGR
Photos by YN1 Tonya Harris, USCGR

CAMP SPEARHEAD, Kuwait — On Oct. 6, 2003, Coast Guard units everywhere took time to remember the loss of one of our own – a loss that occurred in Vietnam 35 years ago. To honor the return home and burial of LT Jack Rittichier, the Coast Guard's only MIA from the Vietnam War, Coast Guard units were directed to lower their American flags to half-staff. At Camp Spearhead, Kuwait, some several thousand miles from Arlington National Cemetery, the story was no different. There, members of PSU 308 also remembered. Despite a heavy operational tempo, members of the unit used their off-duty time to assemble an honor guard detachment and organize a formal ceremony that would have made the Rittichier family proud.

The unit stood at attention in full formation in the 110-degree sun as the honor guard marched forward, smartly raised the colors and then lowered them to half-staff. PSU 308's commanding officer, CDR Bruce Bruni, then read a eulogy recognizing LT Rittichier's heroic efforts on the day he died. The ceremony ended with a unit roll call with members responding loudly. The final name called was LT Rittichier. When no response was heard, the command to "present arms" was given by the honor guard squad leader. At that moment all unit members slowly raised their arms in a crisp salute to a pair of black flight boots and a Vietnam-era helmet, which had been placed on a table at the base of the flagpole. This honor is known as the "Salute To Boots."

With the ceremony over, the unit dispersed as quietly as it had assembled. The flag remained flying at half-staff



Flight boots and helmet symbolizing LT Rittichier's service in Vietnam.

throughout the remainder of the day. At sunset, members of the honor guard returned to retire the colors.

For PSU 308, the ceremony not only represented a remembrance, but a bonding as well – a bonding that linked two moments in Coast Guard history, the Vietnam War and *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. For two of the unit's chief petty officers who are Vietnam veterans, the ceremony also provided a connection to many of the men and women of PSU 308 who were born years after the Vietnam War ended. For all, it provided an indelible lifetime memory.



The PSU 308 Honor Guard sets the flag at half-mast in honor of LT Jack Rittichier.

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



ROCI Graduates of 2003

Reserve Officer Candidate Indoctrination graduated two classes during 2003 at the Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. It was ROCI's 20th anniversary and ROCI Class 2-03 had many visiting reserve officers attend graduation July 3 from the very first ROCI class in 1983, some of whom are shown in the front row.

The Inland River Vessel Movement Center



ST. LOUIS — Temporary regulated navigation areas (RNAs) were established for all inland waters of the Eighth Coast Guard District and those portions of the Illinois Waterway System located in the Ninth Coast Guard District in April 2003. Operators of barges loaded with or loading certain dangerous cargoes (CDCs), within the regulated areas are required to report their position and other information to the Inland River Vessel Movement Center (IRVMC) in St. Louis. The IRVMC, a branch of 8th District (m), is comprised of 21 reservists — making it one of the few all reserve units in the Coast Guard.

Members, left to right: CAPT Tom Hooper, d8oan; CAPT Mike Brown, Director IRVMC (recently retired); PO1

Frederick Paris, PO2 Matthew Degerolamo, Group Lower Mississippi River; LTJG Kevin Werthmueller, CPO Jim Harris, CPO Leonard Abbadini, CPO Jim Douglas, CPO Ronald Perisho, CPO Kerry Bledsoe, PO1 Guy Aylor, RADM Duncan Smith, LANTD5(Aa); RADM (Sel) John Acton, LANTD5 (Acs); CWO Dennis Clark, PO1 Mike Tschida, CPO Shane Britton, PO1 Pete Johann, PO2 John Ott, LTJG Tom Morgan, MSO St. Louis; CPO David Swain, PO2 Dave Erickson, PO3 Jared Luciano, PO2 Roger Luna, PO2 Gary Palmer, Group Upper Mississippi River. Not pictured: CDR Ron Kraemer, Deputy Director IRVMC; CPO Regis Griffin, and PO1 Werner Barz.

— By CAPT Michael T. Brown, IRVMC



Scrappy Bunch...

U.S. Coast Guard competes against U.S. Air Force during the 2003 Armed Forces Rugby Championship Oct. 20-24 at

Naval Base Everett, Wash. The Coast Guard lost, 29-5, but won their second match against the U.S. Marines, 10-0. The Coast Guard finished the tournament 2- 2, beating Navy, 12-5, and losing to Army, 27-3. Photo by PH2 Eli Medellin, USN



Photo courtesy CWO2 Edward J. Kravika, USCGR

Happy First, Admiral!

RADM Robert J. Papp, Jr., left, celebrates his first year as Director of Reserve and Training with his administrative assistant, Brenda Felder, and other shipmates at Headquarters Oct. 7. Papp is the 20th Director of the Coast Guard Reserve since the HQ office was established in April 1963.

Coast Guard Reservist Recalls

As of Oct. 28, 2003, 1,194 Coast Guard Ready Reservists remained on involuntary active duty under Title 10 recall orders. The Atlantic Area contributed 900 while the Pacific area provided 294. During the recent recall, numbers peaked at 4,428 in April 2003.

PSU Update

PSU 313 returned to Tacoma, Wash. from the Middle East Aug. 27. Meanwhile, PSU 308, from Gulfport, Miss., deployed to the Middle East in late summer. While PSU 309 (Port Clinton, Ohio) remained in theater, 36 of its members also returned home in September.



BM2 Karl Messner, 42, left, teaches Officer Candidate Sue Kerver, 28, the fundamentals of navigation as CGC Eagle heads north toward the coast of Maine during the finally leg of the summer cruise.

Eagle Eyed Instructors

Reservists Help Train Future Leaders of the Coast Guard

Story and photos by PA2 Matthew Belson, PADET NY

Using the red glow of a blackout flashlight, BM2 Ted Hubbard moves his protractor with an easy familiarity across a nautical chart spread on a table, carefully plotting the ship's course as it sails through calm Atlantic seas in the sparkling twilight. Above him the square-rigged sails on the fore, main and mizzenmasts blossom from a strong breeze. Except for a pilothouse, and the combat information center where communications and navigation equipment is located, the bridge of the *CGC Eagle* is completely exposed to the elements — a perfect environment to train future commissioned officers.

Hubbard is not alone on the bridge during the mid-watch (midnight to 4 am). Coast Guard Officer Candidates (OC s) keep him company, stationed at the three oversized wooden helms, adjusting the ships course as compass points are called aloud. In the pilothouse, another OC stares into the greenish glow of a radar screen, searching for contacts on the darkened ocean. On the bow, lookouts stand vigilant, scanning the blackness for ships or objects with keen eyes adjusted to the dim light of night.

As a Quartermaster-of-the-Watch (QMOW), Hubbard is the “eyes and ears” for the conning officer who is responsible for sailing the ship. At all times, he must know the current position of the *Eagle* and if she is holding true to the plotted course. Yet, Hubbard's duties on board the *Eagle* do not end with his navigational responsibilities. Like all members of the crew, he is an instructor who teaches the fundamentals of traditional navigation to cadets and officer candidates, many whom have never been to sea before. On the *Eagle*, even an 18-year-old Seaman Apprentice, just months out of boot camp, achieves an influential role in the education of the cadets and officer candidates who follow and learn from their example such skills as watch standing, knot tying and safely climbing aloft.

Since 1946, when the 295-foot barque was acquired as a war prize from the Germans, the *Eagle* has been training Coast Guard Academy cadets and officer candidates in the fundamentals of seamanship, leadership, and above all, teamwork.

“I just think it's amazing to be a part of a ship with such a long history of training people at sea,” said the 27-year-old Hubbard from West Springfield, Mass., who has worked on board *Eagle* for most of the 2003 summer cruise. For Hubbard, a reservist, the experience on board the *Eagle* will help in his pursuit of a degree in alternative education and he would like to eventually teach sailing on tall ships.

The *Eagle* is a hands-on ship where choreographed movements of people heaving lines, reefing and dousing of sails is needed to safely maneuver the ship. During sail stations, the ships becomes a cascade of boots pounding on the teak deck and shouts as mast captains gather their teams, uncoil lines and ready themselves for the next command. Everyone on board from Machinery Technicians to Food Service Specialists, has a sail station position to heave lines or climb aloft.

For the QMOW, celestial navigation is the norm, and using a sextant to “shoot” the position of the sun is a skill refined to an art.

“Technically, the navigation we do should not be different, but practically it is and very few units do the amount of traditional navigation that we do on board the *Eagle*,” said Hubbard. “It's the old way of doing things on board the *Eagle*, and if you can be a Quartermaster-of-the-Watch on the *Eagle*, you can be one anywhere.”

Hubbard is not the only reservist serving on board. Since '97, BM2 Karl Messner, 47, from Marlborough, Mass., spends his two weeks of annual active duty training on board the *Eagle* as one of the permanent reservists attached to the ship. For this trip, Messner met the ship in Philadelphia where it departed on Aug. 18 for a 12-day sail up to Portland, Maine, its last port of call before finally heading back to the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn.

“The *Eagle* is a special vessel and there are no two like it in the United States,” said Messner, who works as a boat captain in Boston Harbor and wanted to serve on board ever since he joined the Coast Guard in 1979.

Like Hubbard, his fellow reservist, Messner is a QMOW and his enthusiasm for teaching the intricacies of sailing *Eagle* is infectious.

“We try and show the cadets and officer candidates just about

everything they can do on a ship, and when they leave the *Eagle* they will have a flavor of shipboard life,” said Messner who relishes the responsibility of being a QMOW. “You know what's going on because as a Quartermaster you are at the epicenter of the entire planning operation of what a Coast Guard Cutter is doing.”

“Having the reservists sail each season adds a tremendous amount to the permanent party,” explained LT Jeremy Law, 26, from Cobleskill, N.Y., who serves as the *Eagle's* operations officer and is also an instructor at the Coast Guard Academy. As an instructor and a graduate of the Academy, Law appreciates the skills that can be taught on board the *Eagle*.

“The cadets and officer candidates learn more from climbing up a rope ladder in a squall than they do in one of my classes,” said Law.

Two weeks may seem short to master the fundamentals of sailing a tall ship, but the experience can be profoundly influential, even to seasoned officer candidates with prior Coast Guard service and time spent on other cutters.

“When the sails went up and we heeled over I realized that I wanted to be on this ship,” said Officer Candidate Colin Byxbee, 34, from New Haven, Conn., who changed his first pick of duty assignments to the *Eagle* when he graduates from Officer Candidate School in November. A former boatswain's mate, Byxbee admits to being impressed by the skills needed to sail the *Eagle*. “A BM1 can come here and feel like a non-rate,” said Byxbee. “You start to be humbled when you listen to the non-rates teach—you become a sponge.”

Byxbee's transformation is exactly the kind of sea change in the cadets and officer candidates that Hubbard and Messner hope to achieve.

With the 2003 cruise over, the *Eagle* will head back to the docks for repairs and to prepare for 2004 and a new complement of cadets and officer candidates. Even in the cold winter months, Messner and Hubbard will travel down to the *Eagle* for a reserve drill weekend. While sailing under full sails is always the ideal, Messner also enjoys the public relations mission of the ship and welcomes the opportunity to guide members of the public on the decks when the *Eagle* is moored.

“I love showing off this ship,” said Messner.



BM2 Ted Hubbard, 27, teaches Officer Candidates the fundamentals of navigation and taking a compass bearing as CGC Eagle heads north toward the coast of Maine during the finally leg of the summer cruise.

Reservists Ramp Up New Vessel Boarding and Search Team at Group Seattle

By LT Jeff Engel and ENS Greg Reilly

In response to the horrific terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, the Commandant directed resources to board and "Sea Marshal" commercial deep draft vessels in order to safeguard the crews and cargo of these vessels, and further prevent their use as a terrorist weapon against the citizens, critical infrastructure, and military assets of the United States. On Feb. 3, 2003, 38 D13 reservists reported to Group Seattle to form the newly established Vessel Boarding and Search Team (VBST) in order to focus on this mission for the ports of Puget Sound.

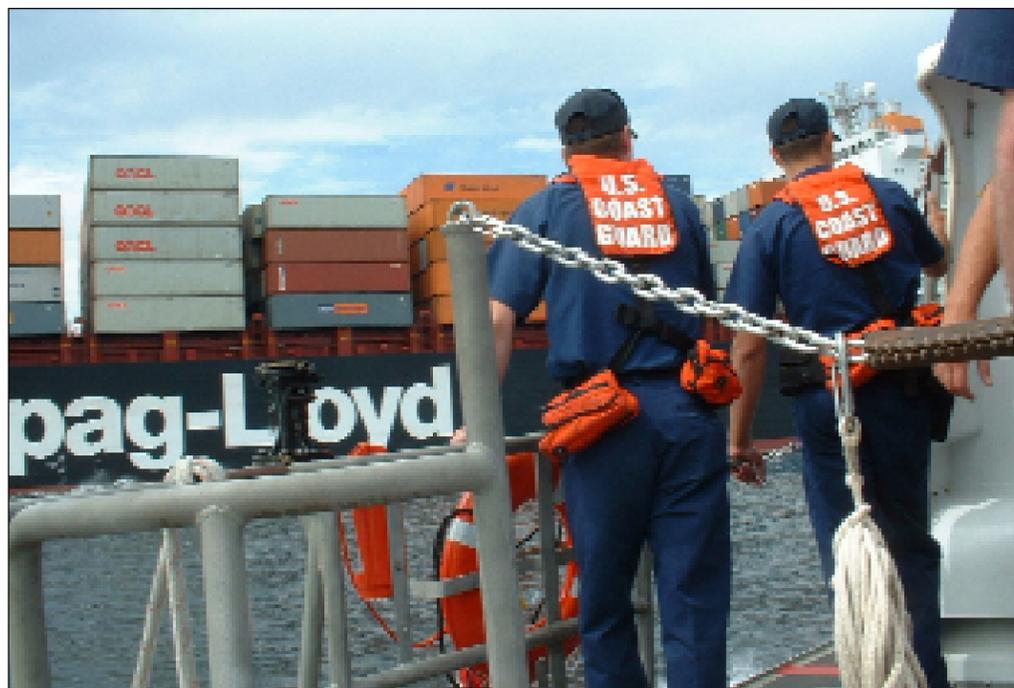
The reservists came from units all across District 13 as far apart as Station Bellingham up near the Canadian border to Station Coos Bay in southern Oregon. Many of these reservists had graduated from the 250-person January MLE Boarding Officer course at Yorktown. The VBST consisted of three officers and 36 enlisted members, many who possessed BO and BTM qualifications they received from their regular drill units.

After identifying the qualifications that were needed for some of the members, training was given in-house and through the PACAREA Training Team. This training included BO/BTM PQS, physical fitness tests, and weapons training and qualifications. Intensive training, coupled with on-the-job commercial vessel boarding procedures and tactics provided by MSST 91101, enabled the VBST to be mission ready within two weeks of reporting.

The diversity of backgrounds and skills of the

VBST members allowed them to immediately form three independent law enforcement teams, deploying two teams in Seattle and one team in Bellingham, Wash. Eight of the original 38 recalled reservists were sent TAD to Station Seattle and Station Bellingham as coxswains and boat crews in order to further support the mission. With all this in place, the teams were able to conduct 24/7 operations ultimately ensuring the safe arrival of vessels to the ports of Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia, Everett, Bellingham, Anacortes, and Ferndale.

By July, the VBST had conducted over 150 boardings of vessels entering the Puget Sound area of responsibility, immediately becoming a substantial force multiplier for a Tier 1 port. The Puget Sound's AOR is one of the largest in the country, stretching from the entrance to the Straits of Juan de



Group Seattle VBST boarding team members await the boarding of a foreign vessel in Puget Sound. Photo courtesy LT Jeff Engel

Fuca on the Washington Coast, through the San Juan Islands to the Canadian border, and down through Puget Sound to Olympia. The transits are long, with some "Sea Marshal" evolutions taking over 8-10 hours to conduct.

Boarding operations are conducted from a 41-foot UTB or 47-foot MLB. The BO conducts pre-boarding questions and instructions and, when the crew of the vessel has mustered on deck, the boarding team begins the long climb up the Jacob's ladder. The teams' standard configuration is to split into two-person teams. Two sweep teams conduct safety sweeps of the vessel, the security team stands watch over and confirms the identity of the crew, and the bridge team, consisting of the BO and ABO, manage the boarding while checking vessel documentation and meeting with the master and pilot.

The VBST primarily deals with professional mariners and thus most boardings go as planned. However, there have been those unique scenarios such as the case of the FAL-91. While coming back from an early morning boarding one winter day, the team was diverted to investigate a suspicious vessel operating in Colvos Passage, south of Seattle. A local tug operator had called Group Seattle to report what appeared to be "some sort of Russian ghost ship!"

It was a strange call indeed. Further investigation by the Homeland Security Duty Officer found that the vessel was about 180-feet long, towing a 35-foot boat and had not checked into the Vessel Traffic Service's system as required. The boarding team took no chances, splitting into two 4-person teams instead of the normal four 2-person teams. Approaching the boat, the tug operator was right-on with his description; a rusting Russian fishing vessel with no one about was steaming ahead at about five knots through the fog. It turned out that there were only three people on board, one of whom had a warrant out for a weapons violation. After a thorough consent search of the vessel, no contraband was found but the voyage was terminated due to a lack of qualified crew, proper documentation, and safety gear. The trio had apparently bought the derelict vessel for \$10 from a Russian company a few days earlier and tried to move it to a local Indian reservation in order to determine their future plans for it. The midnight run didn't work out the way they had planned as they anchored for an indefinite period in Tacoma and watched the VBST take away their first mate in handcuffs.

The members of the VBST are constantly in contact with the maritime industry during a time of rapid change and they consistently impress the serious nature of their mission with unwavering professionalism. Their interactions with the highly accomplished mariners of the Puget Sound Pilot's Association contributed to increased cooperation and goodwill with these much-needed partners in maritime homeland security and the United States Coast Guard. Since this mission looks like it's here to stay, these relationships are very important.

On Sept. 30, the reservists returned to their normal routine. Every week now a new active duty member reports to duty and the VBST is slowly being turned over to them to continue this mission into the future. The reservists hope that they are handing them a program that runs as smooth as possible and that they will take as much pride in the job as the reservists have, especially since many of the reservists plan on remaining with the team to serve during drill weekends.

The VBST eight-person boarding team climbs the Jacob ladder to board a vessel in Puget Sound. Photo courtesy LT Jeff Engel



THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

PSU 311 DISTRIBUTES HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE OF IRAQ

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY MK3 STEPHEN ROWE,
PORT SECURITY UNIT 311



HS2 Elizabet Figueroa of PSU 311 visits with Iraqi school children. PSU members delivered much needed supplies to the school

Sitting in a classroom surrounded by excited Iraqi school children was probably not the first thought that went through BM1 Tracy Randall's mind when she found out she was deploying to Iraq with the United States Coast Guard. But, in rundown classrooms and overcrowded hospital hallways, members of PSU 311 discovered how much their hard work and sacrifice has meant to the people of Iraq

PSU 311, of San Pedro, Calif., patrolled the waters of Umm Qasr, Iraq's only deep-water port, for three months last spring. Their mission was to provide waterside security to the humanitarian aid ships and military assets in and around the port. While their mission to secure the port was critical, members were interested in getting involved with the local people.

"Only days after the start of the war, we convoyed up to Iraq and through the town of Umm Qasr," said LTJG Susan Diekman. "Seeing the children standing on the side of the road in torn and dirty clothes, begging for food and water, was heart wrenching. We all wanted to help."

A few weeks later, when hostilities subsided, the men and women of PSU 311 sprung into action. Utilizing supplies from the U.S. Navy's "Project Handclasp," the unit selected several schools and a local hospital to deliver much-needed supplies.

By American standards, the Umm Qasr Hospital would be considered little more than an outpatient clinic. But in Umm Qasr, this small, dilapidated clinic would see more than 2,000 patients a day; a huge increase from the 200 patients they used to see under the rule of



RD1 William Lankford of PSU 311 helps with delivering supplies.

Saddam Hussein. Members of PSU 311 delivered a truckload of basic medical supplies including bandages, Tylenol and disinfectants. Dr. Saad, the hospital's Director of Pharmacy, said the supplies would be put to immediate use adding he was "very grateful."

"I was shocked by the level of poverty," noted PS2 Pat Hassell, of Los Angeles, and a member of the Los Angeles Police Department. "Thirty-five years ago, this was one of the wealthiest countries in the world, now it's worse here than any part of Los Angeles."

While the donations were being made, other members walked the halls of the hospital and were able to meet some of the people they were helping. BM3 A.J. White, of Redondo Beach, soon found himself surrounded by kids.

"How can you not be jazzed about all the smiles on the kids faces?" asked White. "Suddenly you're not a guy in uniform, you're just a guy hanging out with kids."

The scene was similar just down the road at the Jerusalem Primary School, a rundown building serving 400 students. BM1 Tracy Randall, of San Pedro, was shocked at the conditions she found.

"What we call a shack, they call a school," said Randall.

The school yard was little more than a walled off patch of desert, was littered with Iraqi military helmets, and garbage that including the portraits of Saddam Hussein that had been ripped out of the text books and torn to shreds.

Books, paper and pens as well as physical education equipment were delivered to the school. The school principal,



PSU 311's BM2 Wilson takes some time to talk with Iraqi children.

Usamma Mustafa, said that the school had suffered from years of neglect and the supplies would be put to use quickly. Inside the classroom, girls in their school uniforms sat patiently as the men and women passed out treats.

"They were very polite and waited to open their candy," said Randall. As she was saying goodbye, Randall walked back into the room and sat down at one of the desks and was immediately surrounded by excited children.

"It's the beginning of making it better," said Randall. "I want to give more."

And they did.

PSU 311 Coasties gathered excess food and sundries from the packages they received from home. Volunteers gave up the very limited free time they had to pack boxes of goodies and make trips into town. Almost everybody in the unit gave something. There were as many reasons for giving, as there were people volunteering to go out into town.

"A lot of people have children and they missed the interaction with their kids," said Diekman.

Outside the school, a woman who wanted water stopped her. Explaining that she had none, the woman insisted on having her picture taken with Diekman. As the picture was being taken she reached out and held Diekman's hand.

"The Coast Guard is in the business of defense, but we also render aid in all situations," Petty Officer Hassell said. "I wanted to give something back to the Iraqi people." For Randall, her experience in the town of Umm Qasr gave her insight into the value of her service and personal sacrifice.

Said Randall, "It made everything worth it."



BM1 Tracy Randall chats with Iraqi school children. Randall said what Americans call a shack, they call a school.

COAST GUARD COOKS HEAT THINGS UP IN BRITISH KITCHEN

BY MK3 STEPHEN ROWE, PSU 311

The old saying goes, "If you can't stand the heat get out of the kitchen!" Well, that just wasn't going to happen for three brave Coast Guard chefs from Port Security Unit 311.

While serving in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*, these three men suffered through temperatures exceeding 120 degrees in order to make sure their shipmates received fresh, hot meals. While the unit was deployed to a British controlled sector in southern Iraq, these three men were pressed into service with the British Army's 17th Port and Maritime Regiment Catering Department responsible for serving over 3,000 hot meals a day to British and American troops.

Their makeshift galley was a group of tents inside an unused warehouse in the port of Umm Qasr. The dining hall had all the comforts of home, or at least all the comforts you could hope for, while deployed more than 8,000 miles from home. It included hot chow, cold bug juice and two ancient looking kitchen trailers that put out enough heat and open flames to put a satellite into orbit. Factor in average temperatures above 100 degrees on a daily basis and you had "Dan's Diner," arguable the finest eating establishment in the area — not to mention the only one!

The 12-person galley staff was comprised of nine British chefs and three Coast Guard Food Subsistence Specialists.

"Their cooking style is a lot different," explained FS1 Fred Wilson.

"The British use a lot more open flames," added FS3 James



FS1 Fred Wilson serves one of the 3,000 hot meals a day to British and American troops.

Dailey, "Its much hotter, more like a barbecue."

They also had to adapt to making new and exotic foods like Yorkshire Pudding and a PSU favorite "Toad in a Hole."

"It's challenging because its British food and none of us have ever cooked it before."

"Like a duck to water," is how WO2 Daniels, Regimental Catering Officer and namesake of Dan's Diner, describes their transformation from Coast Guard chefs to members of his catering staff.

"Not only are they very willing to work, they often stay and have a chat after work with their mates," added Daniels.

According to all three, the British kitchen compared very favorably with a Coast Guard galley.

"Everybody was very happy," says FS2 Cecil Mangrum. "The guys were super to work with, they treated us great," added Dailey. FS1 Wilson can't believe that everyone was so polite.

Being far away from home is always difficult on deployment. A hot meal provides the average G.I. with a well-deserved break, and as Mangrum discovered, you can sometimes find a piece of home in a very unlikely place.

"I found a bag of Kern Ridge Carrots from my hometown of Arvin, Calif. all the way out here complete with an Arabic label — it made my day," said Mangrum.

"Food is morale, it gives you something to look forward to," said Dailey.

Judging by the over 1000-person strong line, three times a day, their patrons would agree.



FS3 James Dailey puts on a happy face in the British kitchen.

This month marks the 50th Anniversary of The Coast Guard Reservist magazine. To mark the occasion, we are reprinting the Inaugural Issue. From our humble beginnings in November 1953 to the magazine you currently hold in your hand, the look may have changed but our purpose has never wavered – to keep the men and women of the Coast Guard Reserve informed and up to date.



WASHINGTON, D. C. UNITED STATES COAST GUARD Vol. 1, No. 1, NOVEMBER 1953

Active Duty Training Policy

Information about the Coast Guard's policy for active duty for training has been published. This policy became effective 1 July 1953.

Training within units performs a dual function, that of training as a group and also individual or rate training. A policy has been adopted wherein the type of active duty for training offered annually will alternate in successive fiscal years between group training and rate training. For example, in fiscal year 1954, individual training will be conducted for officers and enlisted men in their specialties, and the following year all hands attached to their units.

Continued on p. 2 col. 1

Uniform Allowance

Chief petty officers of the Reserve who reported for active duty for training for less than 6 months, or first reported for inactive duty training (drill pay status), during the period 11 September 1950 through 15 May 1951 are entitled to \$150 payment for initial clothing allowance regardless of the fact that they may have previously received a similar payment.

Men who were paid during that period and whose pay accounts were subsequently adjusted to recover such payments will now be reimbursed.

Men who became entitled during that period and whose claims for clothing allowances are pending, should now receive settlement.

Your Reserve Command

In order to better acquaint Reservists with the officers who are currently responsible for Coast Guard Reserve affairs, this first issue will begin by introducing the Headquarters Reserve command and the District Directors of Reserve.

At Headquarters: Vice Admiral Merlin O'Neill, USCG, Commandant, Rear Admiral J. A. Hirshfield, USCG, Flag Officer in charge of Reserve Affairs.

Captain G. A. Knudsen, USCG, Chief of the Reserve Division.

District Directors of Reserve:

CAPT H. F. SLADE, USCG
1st Coast Guard District
1400 Custom House
Boston 9, Massachusetts

CDR J. B. SWANN, Jr., USCG
2nd Coast Guard District
232 Old Custom House
8th and Olive Streets
St. Louis 1, Missouri

CAPT H. B. ROBERTS, USCG
3rd Coast Guard District
80 Lafayette Street
New York 13, New York

CDR E. G. CARDWELL, USCGR
5th Coast Guard District
Box 540, New Post Office Bldg.
Norfolk 1, Virginia

LCDR H. F. GIPE, USCGR (Acting)
7th Coast Guard District
150 SE Third Avenue
Miami, Florida

CDR R. A. SERENBERG, Jr., USCG
8th Coast Guard District
Post Office Box 282
New Orleans 9, Louisiana

CDR R. F. REA, USCG
9th Coast Guard District
1700 Keith Building
Cleveland 15, Ohio

CDR E. H. HOUGHTALING, USCG
11th Coast Guard District
706 Times Building
Long Beach 2, California



The Coast Guard Reservist Official Coast Guard Photo
Seaman Robert D. White of ORTUPS 05-425, Miami, Florida, receives the Coast Guard's Commendation Ribbon from CDR George W. Holtzman, USCG, former Director of Reserve, District. White risked his life to rescue a drowning 13 year-old boy on August 9, 1952, in the Bayou St. John, New Orleans.

Continued on p. 2 col. 1

TRAINING POLICY--Cont. from p. 1

During those fiscal years when group training is being conducted, Reserve personnel who are not members of Coast Guard organized units, will receive their training in affiliation with such a unit if possible.

Types of individual active duty for training available to the Reservist are divided into four groups: Armed Service Training Schools, District Schools, Navy Cruises, and other duty. The fourth group covers all training not included in the first three. A complete list of schools' locations, course lengths, and other information applying to the first three types of training is available in District offices.

Eligibility for training duty includes physical qualifications, execution of a Loyalty Oath, qualifications for the school or type of training desired, and, in the case of officers, submission of an Officer Qualification Questionnaire (form NavPers 309).

A limited number of Reservists may be assigned two weeks duty for training at Headquarters, District Offices, or other Coast Guard units afloat or ashore.

Commission Acceptances

The Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952 changed the period of appointments in the Coast Guard Reserve from three years to that of an indefinite term, thus eliminating the necessity of continued renewal of commission.

Correspondence received at Headquarters indicates that there is considerable misunderstanding relative to the term "indefinite commission". It is desired to point out that the term "indefinite commission" does not mandatorily bind the officer to a lifelong contract. Any policy which is established by the Secretary of the Treasury relative to acceptance of resignations is just as applicable to officers serving in indefinite commissions as it would have been if the three-year term were still existent.

This change in the law made uniform the appointments of officers of all Reserve components with the result that all commissioned officers now serve at "the pleasure of the President" and all warrant officers now serve at "the pleasure of the Secretary".

Approximately 88 percent of all Coast Guard Reserve officers have accepted appointments for an indefinite term. This high rate of acceptance has been gratifying and evidences a continuing interest in the Coast Guard Reserve.

Policy for Advancement to CPO Is Established

You will be interested in the policy of examination for advancement to CPO (Acting) recently established by the Commandant, especially if you're a first class petty officer.

Necessary qualifications include time as first class (don't forget that active duty time counts), time in your particular unit, enough active duty for training time, and a recommendation for you to take the CPO exam.

If you meet all those qualifications and want to be examined, the District Commander will assign you to an operating unit of the regular Coast Guard for a two-weeks period of active duty. This period may be in addition to your two-weeks active duty for training if you have already had it this year.

During this time, you'll be given the chance to show just how good a CPO you would make. Your abilities and potentialities will be carefully judged on the basis of your work and performance of duty.

You will also be given a written CPO examination. This exam, covering mathematics, military requirements, and professional subjects, is comparable to the service-wide CPO exams of the Coast Guard.

Your test goes to Headquarters for grading along with the recommendations and appraisals that have been made on you during the two weeks.

Then, if you are fully qualified, notification of your advancement to CPO (Acting) will soon be on its way from Headquarters and another important milestone in your Reserve career is behind you.

Reserve Training Manual Out

The first two parts of the Training Manual for the Coast Guard Reserve have been completed and distributed to organized units. The manual has been designated Coast Guard publication CG-276.

Part One, Administration of Training, contains information about the training program with chapters devoted to general information, administrative procedures, flow of personnel, the training officer, the instructor, active duty for training, and training aids. Part Two consists of the lesson outlines for the Seaman Recruit curriculum, answer supplements to the Recruit workbook, and a bibliography of publications and other training aids for the curriculum.

Other curricula are now being prepared. These include Seaman Apprentice, Seaman, and Fireman. They will be distributed in the future for insertion in the manual.

The manual is designed to indoctrinate the individual and prepare him for advancement in rating. Allowances have been made for variations of physical facilities at different training centers. The fiscal training unavailable during training year will be emphasized during the active duty for training period.

Although a degree of standardization is established by the manual, the instructor is allowed latitude in presenting the material. In fact, he is encouraged to expand the material for effectiveness and interest.

As the trainee completes each curriculum, he will take an examination for advancement in rating. This feature eliminates the requirement of passing a correspondence course for advancement.

Good Work, All!

Here's the breakdown of last quarter's figures on Reservists who participated in active duty for training.

	BY GROUP	
	Officers	Enlisted
ORTUPS	82	1097
ORTUAG	32	21
VTU	40	
INTER-SERVICE	25	
AVIATION	14	4
UNASSIGNED	15	8

No. of days	BY LENGTH OF TIME	
	Officers	Enlisted
1 - 5	58	12
6 - 10	8	77
11 - 15	143	1292

RESERVE COMMAND-- Cont. from p. 1

CDR R. S. LECKY, USCG
12th Coast Guard District
934 Appraisers Building
630 Sansome Street
San Francisco 26, California

LCDR A. H. SAMPSON, USCGR
13th Coast Guard District
618 Second Avenue
Seattle 4, Washington

LCDR R. T. LEARY, USCGR
14th Coast Guard District
Post Office Box 4010
Honolulu, T. H.

CDR R. W. THRESHER, USCG
17th Coast Guard District
P. O. Box 2991, Community Bldg.
Juneau, Alaska

Reserve Policy Boards

District Reserve Policy Boards met during September and their recommendations will be considered Headquarters Policy Board will convene prior to 1 January 1954.

The Headquarters Policy Board is convened at least annually for the purpose of considering, recommending, and reporting to the Secretary of the Treasury on Reserve policy matters in accordance with Section 407 of the Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952.

Spar Attends Stanford

Lieutenant Ellen M. Sorensen has been selected by the Coast Guard to attend Stanford University this year for a twelve month's course in Personnel Training and Administration. The course is provided as a project under the service's Post Graduate Training Program and Lieutenant Sorensen is the first SPAR to be designated for this type of assignment.

Commissioned in the Coast Guard Reserve August 1943, Lieutenant Sorensen holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Fresno State Teachers College and a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Southern California.

Organized Reserve Billets Open

The Coast Guard Organized Reserve training program now has billets open for enlisted Reservists of all rates who wish to join Port Security or Vessel Augmentation Training Units. Here is an excellent opportunity to advance in rating and earn retirement points by attending meetings one night a week. Unit members receive a full day's pay for each weekly drill attended, and are also provided the opportunity to perform two weeks active duty for training each year. For full information write to your District Director of the Reserve.

New Orders Form

New standard forms (CG-3453) have been set up to be used for the issuance of all active duty for training orders. Administrative and clerical personnel should give particular attention to the sections of the form devoted to the following information; pay and allowances, clearances, and endorsements.

1954 Training Funds

Congress appropriated \$2,500,000 for carrying out the Reserve Training Program in the 1954 fiscal year, ending 30 June 1954. Since funds are insufficient to permit ADFT for all Reservists, priority will be given to members of organized units.

As of 1 September 1953 there were 77 organized units, 20 Vessel Augmentation and 57 Port Security, in commission in the Coast Guard Reserve organized unit program. On that date there were 5,140 Coast Guard Reserve personnel assigned to the units in a drill pay status, 642 officers and 4,498 enlisted.

National Defense Medal

The National Defense Service Medal was established by executive order of the President dated 22 April 1953. Coast Guard Personnel, Regular and Reserve, who served on extended active duty during any period subsequent to 27 June 1950 and a terminal date to be fixed by the Secretary of Defense will be eligible for the award. Regulations governing the eligibility of Coast Guard personnel will soon be issued by the Secretary of the Treasury. Requests for the issuance of this medal should not be made until further information has been promulgated.



Trainees, waterfront patrol, prepare to relieve the watch. Organized Reserve training units, ORTUPS 13-930, Seattle, Washington

Reserve Appointments to Expire

Officers who have turned down an offer of appointment for an indefinite period, and who do not have an obligated period of service under the Universal Military Training and Service Act, as amended, are reminded that their status in the Coast Guard Reserve will be terminated at the completion of their current three-year appointment unless they accept an indefinite commission prior to that time.

Officers who do have a period of obligated service and who have not yet accepted an indefinite appointment will have their current three-year appointments involuntarily extended to cover their period of obligated service. In addition, it is now the policy of the Secretary of the Treasury not to tender promotions to Reserve officers who have not accepted indefinite appointments.

Income Tax Deductions for Reservists

A recent ruling by the Bureau of Internal Revenue held that members of the Organized units of the Armed Forces who attend authorized drills under competent orders are engaged in the pursuit of a trade or business within the meaning of (Section 23(a) (1) (A) of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, a member of an Organized unit who is required to travel between his principal place of business or employment and the place where the drills are held, from which trips he returns at night, may deduct the costs of transportation thereby incurred as ordinary and necessary business expenses. If expenses are incurred for transportation between his residence and the place where drills are held, a Reservist is entitled to deduct an amount not to exceed that which it would have cost him to go from his principal place of employment, but not to exceed actual expenses. This ruling does not apply to members of the Volunteer Reserve.

Important Courses Available

Navy training courses in instructor training and classification procedures are available to Coast Guard Reservists.

The courses are designed to produce instructors and administrative personnel who are trained to intelligently classify and channel the abilities of the Reservist.

The two courses are the Naval Instructor Training Course and the Classification Procedure Course. There is a need for Reservists to be assigned to these schools.

Each unit's training officer, and officers and petty officers engaged

in training, should be given the chance to attend the Naval Instructor Training Course. It will develop their teaching skills and stress the importance of training aids and practical experience when they are instructing. The course is of value to the instructor, the unit itself, and the entire Reserve.

The Classification Procedure Course training is valuable because a classification program is planned for the future. This program will insure that an individual strikes for his proper rating so all Reserve manpower will be efficiently used. Officers with personnel or administrative ability and petty officers who can type should be urged to apply for this training from each unit.

Active Status Pool Reservists are eligible to attend the classification course.

The Naval Instructor Training Course is given at Navy schools in Norfolk, San Diego, and Great Lakes. In addition, they are given as District Reserve Training at all Naval District Headquarters.

The Classification Procedure Course is given at all Naval District Headquarters.

More detailed information will be furnished by your Reserve Director upon request.

First Issue

With this issue, the Coast Guard inaugurates the publication of a monthly periodical entitled "The Coast Guard Reservist". The purpose of this publication is the dissemination of up-to-date information of interest to all Coast Guard Reservists, on active and inactive duty. Readers are encouraged to forward articles of general interest and action pictures to: The Coast Guard RESERVIST, Commandant (PR), U. S. Coast Guard, Washington 25, D. C.

"Anniversary Year" Change

The term "anniversary year" has been changed as it applies to recording retirement points earned by Coast Guard Reservists. For persons who were members of the Reserve on 1 July 1949, the anniversary year begins 1 July as long as service is continuous.

Those who enter, or re-enter, the Coast Guard Reserve after 1 July 1949, have an anniversary year that begins on the date of entry, or re-entry. Personnel in this category will keep that date of anniversary as long as service is continuous. This information is of extreme interest to all Coast Guard Reserve personnel who earn retirement points under PL 810, and concerns, in particular, Directors of Reserve who are responsible for keeping accurate point record cards, Form CG-3034.

Personnel Reports

Annual fitness reports are required for all Reserve officers except those who have been referred to the Retired List (Inactive Status List, or for those officers who have not been issued officers' Qualification Record Jackets (NAVPERS 305).

Annual Fitness Reports are especially valuable since they are one basis on which an officer's fitness for promotion is determined. Commanding Officers of Organized and Volunteer Units are responsible for the preparation and forwarding of these reports for officers in their units.

Annual qualifications reports are required for all Reserve officers on inactive duty including those on the Inactive Status List. These must be submitted in duplicate via the District Commander to the Reserve Director who will file a copy in the officer's Qualification Record Jacket and forward the original to Headquarters. For the information of all Reservists, Section 258 of the Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952 directs the up-to-date maintenance of "personnel records of each member of Reserve components."

Immunization Program for Reserve

A program of immunization has been established for members of Coast Guard Organized Training Units and those taking inter-service training. It affects personnel in these categories who have not been previously immunized against typhoid, tetanus and smallpox. The plan will also insure up-to-date booster immunization for those previously immunized.

Since the purpose of the Coast Guard Training Program is to provide personnel who are available for immediate active duty in case of mobilization, maintenance of immunizations is a vital factor. At time of mobilization, water supplies, sewage disposals and other sanitation equipment may have been completely destroyed. A trained Reservist who has not received necessary immunization would be of little value during such an emergency.

The Coast Guard RESERVIST

Published monthly in Washington, D. C., by the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard. Reference to directives, regulations and orders is for information only and does not by publication herein constitute authority for action. Inquiries pertaining to the Coast Guard Reserve should be addressed to: Commandant (PR), U.S. Coast Guard, Washington 25, D. C. Publication approved by the Bureau of the Budget Aug. 25, 1971 required by rule 42 of the Joint Commission Printing.

The Coast Guard Reservist

March-April, 1978, Vol. XXV, No. 3

The Coast Guard RESERVIST



October 1990

Serving the Reserve Community

Volume XXXVII, No. 5

Since 1941

The Coast Guard Reservist

October 1994

U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVIST

SPECIAL ISSUE

U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVIST

CELEBRATING OUR 50TH YEAR NOVEMBER 2003

Thanks for reading...we hope you enjoyed our humble beginnings, and we look forward to bringing you The Reservist Magazine for another 50 years.



A HERO COMES HOME

LT JACK RITTICHIER, THE COAST GUARD'S ONLY LISTED M.I.A. FROM THE VIETNAM WAR IS FINALLY RECOVERED AND LAID TO REST IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY.

STORY BY LCDR NICHOLAS BARTOLOTTA AND PA1 LAUREN SMITH
PHOTOS BY PA1 TOM SPERDUTO



A photograph of Lt. Jack Columbus Rittichier is on display at his funeral.

“I never thought this day would come. You have no idea, in my heart, how wonderful this is.”

***— Carol Wypick,
widow of LT Jack Rittichier,
Oct. 6, 2003***

Jack Columbus Rittichier excelled at everything he did. Born Aug. 17, 1933 in Akron, Ohio, he graduated from Conventry High School in 1951, and then attended Kent State University, where he became captain of the football team, graduating with a Bachelors of Fine Art in March 1957. He then joined the Air Force and received his pilot’s wings in December 1958. He flew B-47s until he was discharged in 1963 in order to accept a commission in the United States Coast Guard.

Search and rescue missions were something LT Jack C. Rittichier (Coast Guard Aviator No. 997), did very well and he became a Coast Guard hero from the start. He received a Unit Commendation Award for his rescue work during Hurricane Betsy while attached to Coast Guard Air Station Elizabeth City, N.C. Then in June 1967, at Coast Guard Air Station Detroit, he was awarded the Air Medal for his role as co-pilot during the rescue of eight men stranded on a grounded West German motor vessel in Lake Huron. They flew 150 miles in blinding snow and icy conditions before transferring the stranded *Normdeer* crew to safety aboard the *CGC Mackinaw*.

Rittichier, also the public affairs officer at Air Station Detroit, conceived the idea of having an exchange program with the USAF Rescue and Recovery Squadrons in Vietnam. He submitted a proposal, which called for each of the services to trade five pilots (three helicopter and two-fixed wing) to acquaint them with the other services tactics, techniques and activities. The proposal was approved and he applied for the program. LT Rittichier and LCDR Lonnie Mixon were the first pilots selected for duty with the Air Force’s 37th Aerospace USAF Rescue and Recovery Squadron at Da Nang Air Base, Vietnam.

Soon thereafter, Rittichier was off to Vietnam and the challenging duties ahead. The area that Rittichier flew over in Vietnam was much different than he was used to. Instead of flying over lakes and oceans, he was now flying above treetops and mountains.

Undaunted, he put his rescue skills and bravery to work immediately. Within two weeks of arriving in Da Nang, Vietnam, Rittichier was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Four members of a downed



An Army Caisson carries the remains of LT Jack Columbus Rittichier through Arlington National Cemetery.

U.S. Army helicopter were trapped by hostile ground fire. Rittichier, serving as the co-pilot on the mission, was able to rescue the trapped soldiers. Less than a month later, he was awarded a second Distinguished Flying Cross. Acting as the rescue commander, with the light of illumination flares, Rittichier managed to maneuver his rescue craft into a narrow opening surrounded by trees and a mountain slope to rescue nine survivors of a downed helicopter.

LAST RESCUE ATTEMPT

On June 9, 1968, two months and a day after arriving in Vietnam, Rittichier made his last rescue attempt.

Rittichier and his crew (Capt. Richard C. Yeend, USAF, Ssgt. Elmer Holden, USAF, Sgt. James D. Locker, USAF) were killed on June 9, 1968, when their helicopter was shot down as they attempted to rescue a downed A-4E Marine pilot (1st Lt. Walter R. Schmidt, Jr, USMC). Schmidt had ejected from his A-4 and radioed “down with broken leg with NVA troops approaching.”

A Marine Corps fighter pilot parachuted into a temporary North Vietnamese soldier’s camp. The pilot sustained a broken leg and arm in the jump. The North Vietnamese troops used the pilot to draw rescue helicopters within killing range of gunfire and air strikes. Another helicopter had already made three unsuccessful attempts to rescue the pilot before breaking off to refuel. Rittichier took his turn at rescuing the downed pilot. Heavy enemy fire forced him to break off before he could reach the pilot. Other helicopters put down fire to clear the area of North Vietnamese troops.

Rittichier, 34, once again dove in to attempt to pick up the Marine Corp pilot. As the helicopter hovered above the downed pilot, heavy ground fire hit the aircraft. Rittichier attempted to bring the helicopter back up. The helicopter, damaged heavily by North Vietnamese attack, crashed into the ground and exploded. Other helicopters in the area flew over the burning wreckage

and reported no survivors. They were all listed as “Missing in Action” because their remains were not recovered. He is the only Coast Guardsman to have been classified as missing in action (MIA) in Vietnam.

LOST, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Rittichier was one of seven Coast Guard combat deaths in Vietnam and earned one of the 58 Purple Hearts awarded to Coast Guard personnel during that conflict. For his actions, Rittichier was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, the third highest combat honor below the Medal of Honor and the Navy Cross. His name is listed among the thousands on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. (Panel 58W — Line 90).

The Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Persons Office (DPMO), in Memphis, Tenn., had Rittichier listed as MIA with the classification of killed in action (KIA), body not recovered. According to the DPMO office, Rittichier’s MIA status was an active investigation. A team trying to determine through eyewitness accounts, records and the last known position of the MIA if an excavation is warranted or even possible conducts an investigation. The Department of Defense’s goal is to achieve the fullest possible accounting for all personnel lost as the result of hostile action while serving the United States.

Rittichier was lost, but not forgotten. Not by family, friends, fellow Coast Guardsmen and Vietnam veterans. On June 16, 1969, the hangar at Coast Guard Air Station Detroit based at Selfridge AFB, was dedicated in his honor. On Nov. 10, 1998, Integrated Support Command at Portsmouth, Va., dedicated one of their buildings in his honor as well. It had been 35 years since Rittichier’s family learned he had been killed in action in the Laos People’s Democratic Republic when his helicopter was shot down on a search and rescue mission June 9, 1968, during the Vietnam War.

Joint U.S.-Vietnamese teams had searched unsuccessfully for the crash site in Vietnam. In May 2002, officials received

information about a crash site near Ban Kabouï in Laos, about nine miles from where they'd been searching. A Joint-Task Force-Full Accounting investigation team located the crash site inside Laos in tall elephant grass near Ban Kabouï, and recovered the remains of the crew. Several months after a November 2002 recovery mission began, remains found at the crash site were positively identified by the Army's Central Identification Lab in Hawaii as those of Rittichier's and the other three crewmembers, Air Force Capt. Richard Yeend, Staff Sgt. Elmer Holden, and Sgt. James Locker. DNA from Rittichier's brother, Carl David, was used in Jack Rittichier's identification.

ALL HANDS ACCOUNTED FOR

On Oct. 6, 2003, a welcoming ceremony at Andrews Air Force Base, Md. was held before LT Rittichier's remains were transported to Fort Myer, Va.'s Memorial Chapel. Amiable whispers filled the chapel, which borders the seemingly endless rows of white tombstones at Arlington National Cemetery. Men and women in blue Coast Guard suits, many of them aviators, filed into the pews with their hair neatly groomed, quietly conversing as if to not render any degree of disrespect on the solemn day.

Veterans clad in leather jackets with patches and rank insignias of former times arrived, many of them wearing prisoner of war - missing in action bracelets inscribed with Rittichier's name. Members of the Coast Guard Pipe Band were in attendance, along with a unit of United States Naval Sea Cadets, named for Rittichier, who sat quietly and obediently, taking it all in. Also in attendance were several friends and family members, and a number of other POW-MIA bracelet wearers who never met Rittichier, but kept his story alive by keeping records and starting informational web sites. Customarily, a POW-MIA bracelet is worn until the person named on the bracelet is accounted for. That day, in accordance

with tradition, the bracelets could finally be returned to the family or placed on the casket during the interment.

David Yelton, a retired Coast Guard chief petty officer, had worn his bracelet for 17 years and tracked the progress of this case because Rittichier was a "fellow coastie."

"It is closure for me, closure for the family, and closure for a lot of Coasties," he said.

He was finally able to present the bracelet to the Rittichier family.

"I just handed over a piece of me to Jack's family," he said. "But that is now where that piece belongs. It was bittersweet. A part of me is gone. I'll always remember Jack. Although I never knew him personally...I feel like I almost know him," said Yelton.

Wreaths of red, white and blue flowers adorned the chapel's sanctuary, while the elegant silver coffin draped with the American flag was marched in by Coast Guard Honor Guard pall bearers.

"If we define the character of a man by his actions, LT Rittichier's conduct, under duress, endures as the quintessence of courage," stated ADM Thomas C. Collins, Commandant of the Coast Guard, in the eulogy. "He embodied moral integrity and dauntless valor, while dedicating his life to the safety and security of others."

Songs were played, hymns read, and then the casket was respectfully marched out of the chapel behind a parade of white horses and a carriage, toward Rittichier's final resting place on Coast Guard hill, in close proximity to the grave of pioneer Coast Guard aviator, LT Elmer Stone.

"We've got him home, and he's there as long as the land will be there," said his younger brother by one year, Carl "Dave" Rittichier.



David Rittichier, brother of Lt. Jack Columbus Rittichier, grieves at the gravesite of his brother.

Scriptures were read with dignity, and the reverent words of committal spoken during the interment.

Coast Guard veteran Robert McLeod served in Vietnam for 18 months and is now the chair of the ways and means committee of the Coast Guard Veterans Association. He stood in attendance observing the service with his fellow veterans.

"I'm a hard nose," he said. "You don't see much coming out of my eyes. But when I saw that casket, it was like I lost a brother. Truly, my eyes were filled. It was the symbolism behind it, because he was ours. This ended Vietnam for us."

Four Coast Guard helicopters circled overhead, and the mosquito-like hum of the rotors gave most everyone in attendance the chills. Seven honor guard members fired three shots each in unison, creating a thunderous 21-gun salute, and signifying honor.

"When those guns fired and the helicopters went over, that brought those memories back all over again of all the things we would do. He was our mentor," said Rittichier's brother Dave.

Rittichier once told Dave, "I've been trained with millions of dollars. I can't leave those fellows stranded over there. I've got a duty and obligation to them and this country."

Thirty-five years later, "Taps", "America the Beautiful" and "Amazing Grace" resonated in the distance as three American flags were carefully folded and handed to his two brothers and his widow. Flags at Coast Guard installations across the nation flew at half-mast. All hands were finally accounted for.

RECEPTION REFLECTIONS

At the funeral reception that followed at Fort Myer's Spates Community Center, David Rittichier reflected, saying that, "We rejoiced [when his remains were recovered and identified] as 35 years is a long time, and I'm sure the veterans were instrumental in finding him. The Coast Guard has taken us in and we are truly blessed. This country is a great country! God bless you and may we meet in paradise!"

Looking on was reservist MCPO Paul Ladut, who drove on his motorcycle from New Orleans. "I joined the Coast Guard seven days after LT Rittichier went down in June 1968," said Ladut. "The ceremony was very, very moving and I'm glad I came up for this."

Sitting nearby with a 1955 Kent State yearbook was Coast Guard Auxiliarist Chuck Reiner, Rittichier's classmate from Kent State.

"It's homecoming for Jack!" said Reiner, as he pointed out a photo of Rittichier in the yearbook. "Jack Columbus Rittichier has come home on homecoming and Columbus Day." At Kent State's homecoming football game, Rittichier was honored during the pre-game festivities with the playing of a Service medley, reading, a moment of silence, and an F-15 "Missing Man Formation."

"The response throughout the Coast Guard to LT Rittichier's repatriation and burial was incredible," said LCDR Jim Brewster, a reservist and the LT Rittichier Funeral Coordinator. "The Commandant devoted his entire day to the family and funeral. The CWO Association, the HQ Chief's Mess, numerous air stations and a retired pilot contributed funds to cover family expenses. People came from many states, including Maine, Florida, Louisiana, and Illinois wanting to honor his life and service by attending the funeral. We had more volunteers than we knew how to use. Everyone recognized what a true hero LT Rittichier was. The response to this funeral is one of the reasons why I have enjoyed being in the Coast Guard so much."

"I never thought this day would come," said Carol Wypick, who was 30 when her husband, Jack Rittichier, was killed. She had been married to him for 11 years, and amazingly, later married another Coast Guard pilot, John Wypick. "You have no idea, in my heart, how wonderful this is."

The night after the ceremony, Carol Wypick slept well for the first time in months and rested easy for the first time in years. The "awesome" tribute, as she called it, reaffirmed her desire to make sure everyone knew how special he really was.



Coast Guard Commandant Thomas H. Collins presents the American Flag to David Rittichier, brother of Lt. Jack Columbus Rittichier.



Healthcare Benefits for Reserve Component Members & Dependents

by CWO4 James Roberts, Work-Life Reserve liaison

As a Coast Guard Reservist going on active duty, one of the big issues is Health Care for your family members. Being on active duty, you will be covered if you are on active duty for over 30 days. Your family members will also be covered if they are in DEERS. If you and your family are covered by a health care plan from your civilian employer, do you want to drop that coverage? The following information will help you understand the military health care system and help you make informed decisions based upon your personal situation.

YOU'RE COVERED

When on military duty, you are covered for any injury, illness or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty. This includes traveling directly to or from the place where you perform your military duty. When on active duty for more than 30 days, you have comprehensive health care coverage under TRICARE Prime. Reserve component members on active duty for more than 30 consecutive days, must enroll in TRICARE Prime. Enrollment means that on the effective date of your orders, you are eligible for medical and dental care at any Military Treatment Facility if you are in DEERS.

YOUR FAMILY IS COVERED

When you are on active duty for more than 30 days, your family's health and dental care needs are covered under several TRICARE options, all of which are designed to meet their needs. Your family should decide now about health care coverage options if and when you are called to active duty. Family members are eligible for health care under either TRICARE

Standard or TRICARE Extra when you are on active duty for more than 30 days. There is no need to enroll, just show your Military ID card. Make sure your family members' DEERS records are up-to-date to prevent delays in treatment and claims processing. If you are on active duty for 30 consecutive days or more, your family members have the option to enroll in TRICARE Prime.

ACCESS TO CARE

The first step is to enroll or update you and all eligible family members in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). **DEERS is your key to all benefits.** For more information, call DEERS, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Eastern Time, at 1-800-538-9552 (California, 1-800-344-4162), or visit www.tricare.osd.mil/deersaddress.

TYPES OF COVERAGE

TRICARE Standard

You choose your authorized TRICARE provider. You may be able to keep your current provider. The medical provider does not need to be a part of the TRICARE civilian network but must be a TRICARE authorized provider. You pay an annual deductible and 20 percent cost shares. **Enrollment is not required to participate.**

TRICARE Extra

You choose your medical provider from the list of TRICARE civilian providers who are part of the TRICARE network. You will be responsible for an annual deductible and 15 percent cost shares. The cost shares in TRICARE Extra are less than TRICARE Standard.

There are no claim forms to file; you just pay your reduced cost share after satisfying the deductible. You may use a combination of the TRICARE Extra and TRICARE Standard programs at any time, depending on whether you choose providers inside or outside the network. **Enrollment is not required.**

The annual TRICARE Standard/Extra deductible, depending upon your status, is \$50 — \$300. If you are called in support of certain operations, your family's deductible may be waived. For more information call your TRICARE Service Center (TSC).

TRICARE Prime

This option is available to family members whose sponsor is on active duty for **30 consecutive days or more.** Requires enrollment and grants exclusive access to the MTF. If enrollment is received between the first and 20th of the month, the effective date is the first of the following month. If received after the 20th, the effective date will be the first day of the subsequent month. Enrollment can be mailed or completed at your TSC. Under this plan, you may select or be assigned a Primary Care Manager (PCM) to provide or arrange for your family's healthcare needs. You will also have access to additional wellness and preventive care services. **NOTE:** Family members living with their sponsor outside an MTF catchment area may be eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote Benefits.

For More Information

TRICARE is there for your family's needs – in a variety of situations, including when traveling away from home or away at college. For more information about eligibility and benefits, or to enroll in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote, call your local TRICARE Service Center, or visit the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil

DENTAL COVERAGE

The TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) is a voluntary, comprehensive dental insurance program for the Selected Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve, and all eligible uniformed services family members. This program is administered by United Concordia Companies, Inc. To be eligible, you must have at least 12 months of service commitment remaining and participate in the program for at least 12 months, after which enrollment is month to month.

Beneficiaries may seek care from a network of 50,000 providers (you can also use non-participating providers, at an additional cost). The TRICARE Dental Program pays a percentage of a participating United Concordia dentist's bill depending on the

service provided; the patient pays the remainder (if any) — the cost share. Members in grades E-1 to E-4 pay a *reduced* cost share for certain services. TDP limits how much can be paid for dental services annually per enrollee. Each contract period begins Feb. 1 and ends Jan. 31 the following year. To prevent a delay in coverage, make sure your family's DEERS information is current.

Reserve Component Members

Selected Reserve members are responsible for just 40 percent of the monthly premium; the Government pays the rest. Other Reserve component members are responsible for the full premium. When on active duty for more than 30 days, you are eligible for dental care at MTFs free of charge, and thus are automatically disenrolled from the TRICARE Dental Program.

Family Members

Eligible family members are invited to enroll, even if you, the sponsor, do not. Family members are responsible for the full premium, except when you are on active duty for more than 30 days, which reduces the premium share to 40 percent; the Government pays the rest. Although family members enroll under the sponsor's Social Security number, there will be two separate premium payments — one for you, the sponsor, and one for family members.

NOTE: Family members are not bound by the 12-month minimum enrollment commitment if the sponsor is ordered to active duty for a contingency operation as defined in law. In this case, from the first day of active duty, you have 30 days to submit the enrollment application. Family members must remain enrolled during the entire active duty period in support of the contingency operation.

For More Information

Additional information on the TRICARE Dental Program is available at the United Concordia Companies, Inc. Web site at www.ucci.com or call toll free 1-800-866-8499 for general information, or 1-888-622-2256 to enroll.

EMPLOYER-SPONSORED HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS

Under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) of 1994, you have rights concerning your employer-sponsored health plan. We advise you to review your rights under this act, and to know your employer's policy regarding health coverage if you are deployed.

When you are on active duty, your family members may continue their coverage under your employer-sponsored health plan for up to 18 months under USERRA. However, **unless** you notify your employer that you wish to continue coverage, your family may be dropped from the employer-sponsored healthcare plan.

If you continue your employer-sponsored coverage for your family while you are on active duty for more than 30 days, you may have to pay some, or all, of the plan's premium. The maximum you could be charged is 102 percent of the full premium, which includes your employee share, the employer's share, and a two (2) percent administrative fee. Employers can establish their own rules within these limits. If you are on active duty for 30 days or less, the employer may not charge more than the employee's share for the coverage.

If you choose not to continue coverage under your civilian employer health plan while on active duty, you and any previously covered family members are entitled to be reinstated in your employer-sponsored health plan when you return to

work, **without a waiting period and without penalty for pre-existing conditions** (other than a service-connected disability).

Talk to your employer and your family to make health coverage decisions now, before you are deployed. For additional information and guidance, contact the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (NCESGR) ombudsman program at 1-800-336-4590 or call your Coast Guard Work-Life office.

TRANSITIONAL HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

Reserve Component members on active duty for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation may be eligible for transitional healthcare benefits when released from active duty. Their family members may also be eligible for these benefits. For more information, call your nearest TRICARE region toll-free phone number.

DEFENSE ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY REPORTING SYSTEM (DEERS)

To locate the nearest DEERS/RAPIDS (Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System) Center online, visit www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl

To update your address online, visit www.tricare.osd.mil/deersaddress or call the DEERS telephone center at 1-800-538-9552 (in California: 1-800-334-4162).

WEB SITES / PHONE NUMBERS

TRICARE Dental Program

For enrollment information online, visit www.ucci.com or call 1-888-622-2256. For customer service, call 1-800-866-8499.

Military Assistance Program

This site highlights relocation, employment, and financial management topics for military families: <http://dticaw.dtic.mil/mapsite/>

Military Family Resource Center

This site covers military lifestyle and quality of life issues for single and married service members and their families: www.mfrc.calib.com/index.htm

National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

This site answers questions regarding USERRA or other employee/employer questions related to service commitment. Visit www.esgr.org/ or call 1-800-336-4590 for more information.

ABOUT TRICARE IN YOUR REGION

Your primary resource for your TRICARE benefits and other health information can be found at www.tricare.osd.mil. The Department of Defense has contracted with commercial companies to help administer the TRICARE health plan by region. For TRICARE information for Reserve Component members not activated, please call 1-888-DOD-CARE. If activated, please call the toll free number that corresponds to your region or the Work-Life Office in your district or CG HQ.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

Region Number

TRICARE Northwest 1-800-404-2042
TRICARE Mid-Atlantic 1-800-931-9501

TRICARE Northeast 1-888-999-5195
 TRICARE Heartland 1-800-941-4501
 TRICARE Central 1-888-874-9378
 TRICARE Southeast 1-800-444-5445
 TRICARE Southwest 1-800-406-2832
 TRICARE Gulf South 1-800-444-5445
 TRICARE Golden Gate/
 Southern California/Hawaii/Alaska 1-800-242-6788
 TRICARE Pacific/Puerto Rico/
 Latin America/Canada/Europe 1-888-777-8343

BE SEMPER PARATUS...

Before Receiving Deployment Notification

- Enroll family members in DEERS and/or update information as needed.
- Get military ID cards for eligible family members.
- Get your will and other legal documents in order.
- Contact your command or unit family readiness representative for help with completing your family care plan.
- Review your TRICARE options.
- Review your civilian employer's health and dental coverage options while on active duty.
- Determine costs and benefits of both TRICARE and civilian options before choosing one or the other. Ask for help if you are unsure.

Upon receiving deployment orders

- Confirm that your family's DEERS information is current.
- Ensure that eligible family members have current ID cards.
- Give your family copies of your orders.
- Contact unit commander or Reserve center for information on TRICARE.
- Contact your civilian employer to continue or discontinue your employer health and/or dental coverage.
- Contact your military legal assistance office to appoint your power of attorney and update your will.
- Contact your command or unit family readiness representative for help in updating your family care plan.
- Contact finance office to set up an allotment, if applicable.
- Make other financial arrangements as required.
- Review life insurance for spouse and yourself.
- Call your district Work-Life Office at once if you have special needs for your family.

Ed's Note: To contact CWO4 Jim Roberts, write him at: Commandant (G-WKW-2), USCG Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001; Phone: 202-267-2448; E-mail: jroberts@comdt.uscg.mil

Legal Deployment Kits Support Field Readiness

Story & Photo By Nicholas Grasselli, G-L

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Coast Guard's Chief Counsel recently developed field deployment kits for lawyers. This new capability will allow lawyers to travel to the location of a mobilizing unit and provide services such as preparing wills and powers of attorney, even if computer support is not available. The Army and Air Force have used deployment kits successfully for years to enhance their lawyers' abilities to take legal services to field personnel who need them. Though primarily intended to support legal assistance mobilization and deployments, the deployment kits are also available for any contingency operations where a lawyer is needed in a field location.

Each kit comes in a hard rolling case and includes a Promark semi-ruggedized laptop computer, Canon BJ55 portable printer/scanner, a Kodak digital camera, flash drive, Notary Stamp, and related peripherals and software. A deployment kit is being delivered to each district legal office and the Legal and Defense Services staff office in Arlington, Va. This technology advance will allow Coast Guard lawyers to provide better field support than ever before.



ADM John Crowley, Chief Counsel, presents the first of the legal deployment kits to the newly established USCG Legal and Defense Services. Left to right are: LT Stephen Dupuy, HQ Legal Assistance Officer; RADM Crowley, LCDR Sherri Brown, USCGR; and Mr. Don Pedersen, legal kit creator and manager.

Legal Assistance a Readiness Issue

By CAPT Peter Seidler, Commandant (G-LPD)

"...When we talk about legal assistance, one fact becomes clear: Before anything else legal assistance is a readiness issue. Our young men and women at the point of the spear are called upon to perform tasks that require both sacrifice and nobility. To ask them to do these things without taking care of their families and their personal concerns lessen the opportunities for success and degrade our ability to attract and retain the best and the brightest. The Coast Guard's commitment to providing legal assistance is critical to achieving our mission."

This statement captures the philosophy and sense of purpose of the United States Coast Guard's legal assistance program. Smallest of the armed services, the United States Coast Guard is one of the five armed services and participates fully in the military legal assistance program authorized under 10 USC 1044.

One of the 10 practice areas of the Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard, the CG legal assistance program is centered on a core of nine fulltime legal assistance attorneys. These civilian Coast Guard employees bring a focused expertise, commitment and professionalism to Coast Guard legal assistance. The Coast Guard's 37,000 military members are spread throughout the United States in units within one of the nine operational Coast Guard districts. Today, each of these district legal officers has a fulltime legal assistance attorney responsible for providing legal services throughout the district. Further, it is common for Coast Guard law specialists to be assigned to provide legal assistance support in addition to their other duties.

It was not always this way! Prior to 1994, the Coast Guard had scaled back its legal assistance program to a point where it was strictly a collateral duty of military attorneys. Based on staffing, some Coast Guard legal officers provided a fairly broad range of legal assistance services while others, facing critical

staffing shortages, could not. In 1994, with a renewed Coast Guard emphasis on its "Work Life" (family support) programs, the Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard embarked on a concerted effort to enhance legal assistance throughout the service.

In 1996, six fulltime legal assistance attorneys were hired and assigned to Coast Guard legal offices in Boston, Mass., Norfolk, Va., Miami, Fla., New Orleans, La., Alameda, Calif., and Seattle, Wash. These civilian Coast Guard attorneys quickly became the focal point for legal assistance in the Coast Guard, completely reenergizing the program. In conjunction with the Staff Judge Advocate offices at major Coast Guard commands (such as the Coast Guard Academy, Coast Guard Yard and other training centers), they established a new standard for legal assistance services. In 2001, three additional fulltime legal assistance attorneys were hired serving Coast Guard commands and people in the Great Lakes (Cleveland), Hawaii (Honolulu) and Alaska (Kodiak). Today, Coast Guard legal assistance provides the full, full range of legal assistance services to Coast Guard people, their families and our colleagues in the other armed services.

Though the Coast Guard is small in number compared to the DoD services, the challenge of delivering high quality legal assistance services to Coast Guard men and women can be a daunting one. Coast Guard members are scattered throughout the United States, often assigned to extremely small commands far from legal services. Coast Guard stations may be located on Indian reservations or in other small isolated communities; our ice breakers sail to the Arctic and Antarctic for up to nine months; Coast Guard Port Security Units deploy overseas in support of Department of Defense missions. None of these units have their own legal staffs! In fact, with its centralized legal structure, few CG members are actually assigned to commands with legal assistance staffs geographically collocated

with them. This leaves it up to our legal assistance attorneys to engage in an active schedule of unit visits and other creative means to get services to our people. This includes a comprehensive Internet site designed as a first step for Coast Guard people needing legal assistance information and services.

On Sept. 11, 2001 the investment in legal assistance paid off. Immediately after the attack on the Pentagon, Coast Guard legal assistance support teams were deployed at the behest of the Department of Defense to provide casualty assistance and estate and family law advice to the Family Assistance Center established to help victims' families. The team was on-scene within 24 hours. They combined to provide the extensive array of critical legal services needed to meet the needs of the families and friends of the victims of the Pentagon attack and the many military casualty assistance officers and benefits advisors.

As Coast Guard Port Security Units were deployed to ports around the country, the extensive prior preparation by legal assistance attorneys insured they were ready to go. In fact, little additional preparation was required because of the efforts of Coast Guard legal assistance staffs in their home districts. So too, Coast Guard legal assistance attorneys provided critical support to the thousands of Coast Guard reservists called to active duty to take on maritime homeland security missions. With the largest call-up of Coast Guard Reservists since World War II, Coast Guard legal assistance attorneys ensured critical deployment information was provided. The effort continues today as our legal assistance providers stay up-to-date on important reserve support issues such as the Soldiers & Sailors Civil Relief Act and USERRA.

Contacting Coast Guard Legal Assistance

Web: www.uscg.mil/legal/la

To locate specific offices:

http://www.uscg.mil/legal/la/find_a_lawyer.htm

HQ — Washington, DC: (202) 267-0191

BALLSTON — Arlington, VA: (202) 493-1745

CG FIRST DISTRICT LEGAL — Boston, MA: (617) 223-8500

CG ACADEMY LEGAL — New London, CT: (860) 701-6795

TRACEN CAPE MAY LEGAL — Cape May, NJ: (609) 898-6902

CG YARD LEGAL — Curtis Bay, MD: (410) 636-7250

TRACEN YORKTOWN LEGAL — Yorktown, VA: (757) 898-2374

MLC ATLANTIC LEGAL — Norfolk, VA: (757) 628-4196

SEVENTH DISTRICT LEGAL — Miami, FL: (305) 415-6950

GANTSEC LEGAL — San Juan, PR: (787) 729-2370

EIGHTH DISTRICT LEGAL — New Orleans, LA: (504) 589-6188

NINTH DISTRICT LEGAL — Cleveland, OH: (216) 902-6010

MLC PACIFIC LEGAL — Alameda, CA: (510) 437-5891

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT LEGAL — Seattle, WA: (206) 220- 7110

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT LEGAL — Honolulu, HI: (808) 541-2108

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT LEGAL — Juneau, AK: (907) 463-2050

ISC KODIAK LEGAL — Kodiak, AK: (907) 487-5474



In Brief

• **RESERVE READINESS COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT** — Reservists should familiarize themselves with ALCOAST 466/03 (R 162044Z OCT 03). The message outlines important factors that contribute to the readiness of SELRES members for mobilization. *All Ready Reservists, including members of the IRR, are required to complete the Annual Screening Questionnaire, annually in October (paragraph 3 of ALCOAST 466/03).*

• **WAESCHE & OJO AWARDS** — Nominations for the 2003 Admiral Waesche Award and the ROA Coast Guard Reserve Outstanding Junior Officer Award are now being accepted through Dec. 1, 2003. For Waesche Award details, see ALCOAST 465/03; for ROA OJO, see ALCOAST 482/03. For info, contact LTJG Kwon, Commandant (G-WTR-2), 202-267-0192 or e-mail: jkwon@comdt.uscg.mil

• **TAX SEASON W-2 ADDRESS CHANGE** — Tax season is almost upon us! A quick reminder from the Personnel Service Center (PSC) (the new name for HRSIC). The address (Block 22) on your Leave and Earnings Statement is where your W-2 will be mailed. If incorrect, you have until Nov. 30, 2003 to change it (end of the November LES cycle). Change it through your administrative support staff or change it yourself in Direct Access. If you miss that deadline, you will have to wait until after Feb. 15, 2004, to request a duplicate 2003 W-2. Questions can be directed to PSC's help line at 1-866-PSC-USCG (772-8724).

• **USCG DIRECTIVES SYSTEM** — This system is on

both the intranet and internet. The intranet version (<http://cgweb.uscg.mil/g-c/g-ccs/g-cit/g-cim/directives/welcome.htm>) contains unclassified and non-for-official-use-only (non-FOUO) Coast Guard Instructions, Manuals, and Notices submitted to the Office of Information Management (G-61). The internet version (www.uscg.mil/ccs/cit/cim/directives/welcome.htm) contains only those directives authorized for internet release by the sponsor. For info, send e-mail to: directives@comdt.uscg.mil or call the Office of Information Management at 202-267-6908/6911.

• **USCG CYCLING GEAR** — Available in sizes SML to 4XL. jerseys, vests, jackets, shorts, and hats. All items are the same quality as provided to Tour de France teams Lotto-Domo and Quickstep-Davitamon. For details and info on how to order, see <http://goride.com/uscg> or email LT Robert Gardali at: RGardali@d11.uscg.mil. *The U.S. Coast Guard does not endorse this product; this is published as a service to our readers.*

• **CAPT STRATTON NAVAL ROTC SCHOLARSHIP** — The Purdue Navy/Marine Corps Alumni League has started a scholarship in honor of CAPT Dorothy C. Stratton, first Director of the SPARS (Coast Guard Women's Reserve). The Naval ROTC Dorothy Stratton Scholarship for Women will be awarded with a preference for female students in the Purdue Naval ROTC program based on meritorious performance in the areas of scholarship, leadership, and service. Stratton was appointed Dean of Women at Purdue University in 1933. During her tenure, she added Amelia Earhart to her staff as Assistant Dean and Career Counselor for Women. For more

\$25; O1-O3 couples, \$35; O4 and above couples, \$40. For more information, contact CDR Robert Carmack, USCGR, 502 Leaning Oak Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878; Phones: 240-505-4600; 301-926-9687; E-mail: rcarmack@ventera.com Checks should be made payable to: ROA DC Chapter 4.

FEBRUARY 2004
• **COAST GUARD RESERVE BIRTHDAY** — Thursday, Feb. 19th is the CGR's 63rd birthday. What is your unit planning to commemorate this special event? Read a decade-by-decade history of our Reserve in the 60th Anniversary issue of *The Reservist* (February 2001) at: www.uscg.mil/reservist

MARCH 2004
• **COAST GUARD MUTUAL ASSISTANCE** — The 2004 campaign kicks off March 1 and runs through April 30. For info, call 1-800-881-2462; Web: www.cgmahq.org

MAY 2004
• **WWII MEMORIAL DEDICATION** — Saturday, May 29, 2004, 2 p.m. on the National Mall, Washington, D.C. "Tribute to a Generation" celebration is scheduled for May 27-30. For more info, see the WWII Memorial Web site: www.wwiimemorial.com or call 1-800-639-4992.

information or to make a contribution, contact the Purdue Foundation, 101 N. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47906, Phone: 317-852-8119; E-mail: rrgigg@prodigy.net

• **RESERVE CHIEFS ACADEMY 2004** — Reserve Chief Petty Officers Academy will convene May 22-June 3, 2004 at TRACEN Petaluma, Calif. There are 64 slots but they are filling quickly so apply soon! Contact SCPO Dianne Lacumsky, Commandant (G-WTL- 2), USCG Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001; Phone: 202-267-2441; E-mail: dlacumsky@comdt.uscg.mil CPO Academy Web site: www.uscg.mil/hq/tepet/cpoa/

• **CITIZEN-SAILOR ISSUE** — The 10th annual Citizen-Sailor issue will honor reservists' civilian occupations similar to the first Citizen-Sailor issue in 1994. Send in a 100 words and a photo of you busily at work and we'll print it in an upcoming issue. *Deadline has been extended to Monday, Dec. 1, 2003.* Send via e-mail to: ekruska@comdt.uscg.mil or via regular mail to *The Reservist Magazine* (address and other info is on page 3).

• **COAST GUARD IN ACTION CALENDAR 2004** — Coast Guard calendars for 2004 are now available by mail and over the internet. This is the ninth consecutive year that retired reservist CWO4 Tom Fletcher is offering these. They can be ordered by mail for \$12.95 plus \$4.50 shipping and handling (for more than one calendar, check the S&H on the Web site: www.coastiecalendar.com).

Discounts are given for large orders. Make checks payable to Lighthouse Enterprises, P.O. Box 1126, Arvada, CO 80001-1126; E-mail: info@coastiecalendar.com. *The U.S. Coast Guard does not endorse this product; this is published as a service to our readers.*

• **SUMMERSTOCK 2004** — Summer just ended but it's time to plan ahead now for 2004! Summerstock is an excellent opportunity for fully qualified boat crew members to work at Coast Guard stations on the Great Lakes. It's also ideal for students and teachers seeking full-time summer employment. Summerstock point of contact is YN1 Patricia Feeney, D9(osr) at 216-902-6116; Fax: 216-902-6121; E-mail: pfeeney@d9.uscg.mil Also check the Summerstock intranet site (accessible from CG SWS only): <http://cgweb.lant.uscg.mil/d9/o/osr/summerstock.htm>.



• **USE YOUR COMMISSARY** — The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of nearly 280 commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of more than 30 percent on their purchases compared to commercial prices — savings worth more than \$2,400 annually for a family of four. Commissaries contribute to family readiness and enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families. Check them out on the Web at: www.commissaries.com/

MSO Chicago takes Simpson



RADM Ronald Silva, Commander, Ninth CG District, presents MSO Chicago personnel with the 2002 CDR Jim Simpson Award for Excellence in Coast Guard Public Affairs. MSO won first place among competing MSOs. Pictured left to right: CDR Gary Martin, CDR Lynn Koepke, CWO Dave Majors, PA2 Alan Haraf, LT Mike Reed, RADM Silva, and CAPT Raymond Seebald, CO of MSO Chicago.

Reunions

APRIL 2004

• **USCG COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION** — National Reunion, April 22-26, 2004 at Fort Mitchell, Ky. Make reservations directly with the Drawbridge Inn at 1-800-426-3841, tell hotel you are with the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association. For info or membership information, contact Mr. Baker W. Herbert, 6629 Oakleaf Drive, Westfield Center, OH 44251; Phone: 330-887-5539; or Mr. Ed Burke, 17728 Striley Dr., Ashton, MD 20861-9763. Phone: 301-924-3727. E-mail: uscgw64@worldnet.att.net; Web: www.coastguardcombatvets.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

Advancements

Effective Nov. 1, 2003

From Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement ERAA No. 11-03. List types are: AL (Advancement List), SL (Supplement List), and ST (Striker List).

BOATSWAIN'S MATE (BM)

BM1 SL BEST,J.K., MSO TAMPA
 BM1 SL SCHMIDT,D.D., STA MILWAUKEE
 BM1 SL GONZALEZ,R.S., LALB LOS ANGELES
 BM1 SL MOSHER,J.L., STA PORTS HARBOR
 BM1 SL KOCH,E.J., STA CHARLEVOIX
 BM1 SL FROST,S.H., STA PORTLAND
 BM2 SL UNDERHILL,D.B., STA SABINE
 BM2 SL HARTLEY,C.F, PSU 308
 BM2 SL MUSCAT,P.F., PSU 308
 BM2 SL SERCOVICH,T.W., PSU 308
 BM2 SL MAYER,R.E., STA ATLANTIC CITY
 BM2 SL PHILLIPS,J.M., PSU 308
 BM3 ST BRACY,L.E., STA PONCE DE LEON INLET
 BM3 ST EASTMAN,R.L., PSU 313
 BM3 ST WILDES,J.G., PSU 313
 BM3 ST UTT,C.B., PSU 313

DAMAGE CONTROLLMAN (DC)

DC2 SL PETRINI,J.J., ANT SAN FRAN

ELECTRONIC'S TECHNICIAN (ET)

ET1 SL FANARA,M.A., ESU BOSTON

FOOD SERVICE SPECIALIST (FS)

FS1 AL WILLIAMS,H.A., STA PONCE DE LEON INLET
 FS2 SL LEMIEUX,A.M., ACT NEW YORK

GUNNERSMATE (GM)

GM1 SL WEIMERSKIRCH,A.S.1076342 CG PSU 309

HEALTH SERVICES TECHNICIAN (HS)

HS1 SL MIRANDA,G., GRU EASTERN SHORE

INVESTIGATOR (IV)

IVCS AL FINKENBINDER,M.A., CGIS CHESAPEAKE REG
 IVCS AL BALLARD,L.C. 1112826 CGIS PACIFIC REGION

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN (MK)

MK1 SL PORTER,G.L., PACPSUDET
 MK2 SL HODGES,R.A., GRU MIAMI
 MK2 SL HENDERSON,T.P.J., STA CAPE DISAPPOINT
 MK2 SL COONEY,M.D., STA ANNAPOLIS
 MK2 ST YOUNKERS,C.A., GRU CORPUS CHRISTI

MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN (MST)

MSTCS AL MCKINNEY,R.H., MSO HAMPTON ROADS
 MSTC AL WALKUP,W.C., MSO SAN DIEGO
 MSTC AL RICHARDSON,J.A., MSO MEMPHIS
 MSTC AL ZABALO,S, MSO JACKSONVILLE
 MSTC AL GOLDSBY,M.D., MSO MOBILE
 MST1 SL GADSBY,W.H., MSO PHILADELPHIA
 MST1 SL SCOTT,P.L., MSO BUFFALO
 MST2 SL HOFER,V.F., MSO SAN DIEGO
 MST2 SL NACINOVICH,M.H., ACT NEW YORK
 MST2 SL WOLFORD,P.L., MSO HUNTINGTON
 MST3 ST ZUMALT,C.T., LALB LOS ANGELES

OPERATIONS SYSTEM SPECIALIST (OS)

OSCS AL LASHLEY,A.G. 1118879 CG MSO CORPUS

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST (PS)

PSCM AL LACHMAN,J.T., HQ USCENTCOM

MEDALS & AWARDS



Fire Chief Charles Walker, City of Orlando Fire Department, center, receives the Florida Committee Chair Award from David Bludworth of the Florida Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve while nominator MK1 Robert Goldenberg looks on. Walker was selected as one of 11 employers out of nearly 700 nominated statewide.



NYPD Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly, center, presents MST1 Jack La Torre, right, with a Certificate of Appreciation for his USCG and NYPD work while on Title 10 recall. La Torre works at the 66th Police Precinct in Brooklyn, N.Y. and at Activities New York for the USCG.

PSCS AL CATE,M.H., PACAREA ARMORY
 PSCS AL DUNN,R., GP OHIO VALLEY
 PS3 ST HASKINS,H.H., MSO TAMPA
 PS3 ST MCKNIGHT,J.P., PSU 308

STOREKEEPER (SK)

SKC AL JANG,T.V., GRU SAN FRAN
 SK1 AL KIRK,J.E., MSO CHARLESTON
 SK1 AL JEFFERSON,S.A., GRU NEW ORLEANS
 SK1 AL SUMRALL,T.W., GRU FORT MACON

YEOMAN (YN)

YNCS AL WILLIAMS,F.M., GRU GALVESTON
 YNC AL ROBERTS,C.L., MSO LOUISVILLE
 YNC AL MORRIS,R.R., ISC BOSTON
 YNC AL SLOAN,S.D., GRU SEATTLE
 YNC AL FENTON,R.E., GRU SW HARBOR
 YNC AL WILLIAMS,J.W., ACT NEW YORK

This list is taken directly from Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement (ERAA) No. 11/03, (R 231726Z OCT 03), ALCGPERSCOM 097/03). Questions should be directed to YNC P. Harris, E-mail: pharris@psc.uscg.mil; Phone: 785-339-3410.

LEGION OF MERIT

CAPT Robert C. Grant, D7

DEFENSE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

CAPT Kendel D. Feilen, USTRANSCOM
 CDR Lawrence A. Gass, USTRANSCOM

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

CDR Robert E. Crane, D1(mhls)

CG COMMENDATION MEDAL

LT Carissa C. April, D1(mhls)
 CWO Mark R. DuPont, D1(mhls)
 DCCM Jeffrey A. Miller, MSO Wilmington, N.C.

CG ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

LCDR Christian C. Fahy, D1(mhls)
 LT Mark F. McCabe, D1(mhls)
 OSCS Francis P. Condon, D1(mhls)
 YNC Anne M. Priestman, D1(mhls)

COMMANDANT'S LETTER OF COMMENDATION

CWO2 Donald J. Rifkin, CGIS
 MSTC Robert T. Morton, Group/MSO Long Island

COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

MSO Chicago

MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION

Operation Drydock Team, CGIS
 LCDR George Pazak, MSO Chicago
 PSC James Dawson, MSO Chicago

CG RESERVE GOOD CONDUCT

MSTC Robert T. Morton (7th), Group/MSO Long Island

MARINE SAFETY DEVICE

MSTC Robert T. Morton, Group/MSO Long Island

If you received an award recently and would like to see it published, send a copy of your award citation to the editor. Address is on page 2. The Reservist does not receive a list of awards from the Awards & Medals division.

Bravo Zulu

Special Agent (IV2) Randy Thompson of Coast Guard Investigative Service (SE Region) won the 2002 Outstanding Law Enforcement Agent (OLEO) Award from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida. Thompson did an outstanding job with investigatory support in the case of *U.S. v. Sanchez*. Thompson was on

Title 10 recall with the CGR when he conducted the investigation. • *MCPO Paul Antic*, USCGR(Ret.), of St. Marys, Ga., was recently named Volunteer of the Year by Camden County, Ga. for his work with Habitat for Humanity.

Retirements

RET-1 (Retired With Pay)

OCTOBER 2003

CAPT Fredrick C. Scheer, D5
 CDR Richard H. Dewey, D1
 CDR Michael D. Elliott, D8
 CDR Patrick J. Hagan, D11
 LCDR Alfred M. Gwardiak, D7
 CWO4 Michael E. Healy, D1
 CWO4 John R. Smelser, D1
 CWO3 Paul E. Patridge, D7
 CWO3 William D. Wharton, D11
 BMCS Alfred E. Johnson, D1
 MKC Donald R. Gowdy, D1
 MKC Thomas L. Thompson, D11
 PSC Larry G. Johnson, D8
 BM1 Richard Fortune, D1
 BM1 James W. Stonehocker, D13

PS1 Ronald D. Atkinson, D9
 PS1 Robert J. Coffey, D7
 PS1 Gene R. Ford, D8
 PS2 Jimmy D. Perritt, D8
 SK2 Roberto Guzman, D7

RET-2 (Retired Awaiting Pay)

OCTOBER 2003

CDR Laurie B. Lown, D9
 LCDR David J. Pleasants, D8
 OSCS Herbert C. Hofstetter, D1
 BMCS Ronald V. Simonson, D7
 BMC Jerry D. Culpepper, D8
 YNC Charles F. Day, D9
 BM1 Jim B. Hargrove, D7
 BM1 George N. Jones, D5
 EM1 William H. Ware, D1

GM1 Robert E. Tidwell, D13
 IT1 David J. Asselin, D1
 MK1 David L. Hodge, D8
 PS1 Robert L. Barrett, D13
 PS1 George D. Garner, D5
 PS1 Paul R. McCoy, D8
 YN1 Judith A. Feinauer, D7
 YN1 George J. Hrenko, D9
 BM2 John C. Fendl, D1
 BM2 James F. Hurlbut, D7
 ET2 Paul H. Dolton, D13
 PS2 Thomas W. Lynch, D5

Source: PO Bobby Dees, PSC(ras)
 * Personnel Service Center (PSC) is the new name for Human Resources Services Information Center (HRSIC). RAS stands for Retirement & Annuitant Services.*



• **CAPT Richard "Dick" E. Bacchus, USCGR(Ret.)**, 92, of Greensboro, N.C., Oct. 8, 2003, at Moses Cone Hospital. A native of Norfolk, Va., he was appointed lieutenant junior grade in the Coast Guard Reserve, and in 1941, became the Coast Guard Reserve's first commissioned officer at the age of 29. During World War II, he served aboard *Modoc, Dione, Ricketts, Howard D. Crow, Mendota, and Shreveport*. After the

war, he served in a Naval Reserve unit, before being appointed commanding officer of a newly commissioned Coast Guard Reserve Unit in Greensboro, ORTAUG (05-852). He retired from the CGR in 1971. As a civilian, he was a sales representative for a company who sold coal for fueling large ships and trains and in later years, became a licensed real estate broker and appraiser. He was an avid musician, performing with the Greensboro Symphony. He is survived by one son, Richard, of Winter Spring, Fla.; one stepdaughter, Libby Cavaliero, of Lehigh Acres, Fla., along with several step-granddaughters and nephews. His wife, Mary Ruth, preceded him in death in 1992. A feature article on CAPT Bacchus was

published in the 60th anniversary issue of *The Reservist* ("One Small Step," February 2001). Funeral services were held Oct. 11, at Forbis & Dick Funeral Service, Guilford Chapel, Greensboro. Interment Forest Lawn Cemetery, Greensboro. Memorial contributions may be made to the following: Masonic Home for Children, 600 College Street, Oxford, NC 27565 and/or The Shriner's Children's Hospital, 950 West Faris Road, Greenville, SC 29605.

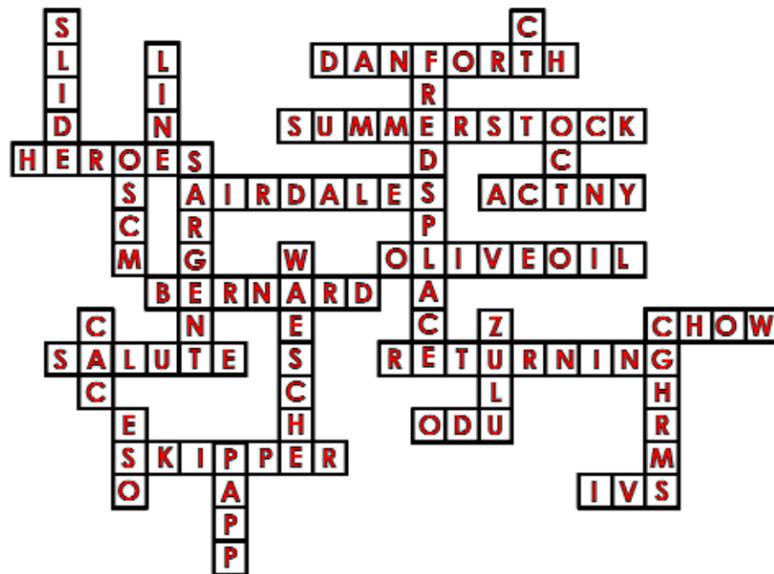
• **CAPT Arthur E. Fanning, USCGR(Ret.)**, Sept. 4, 2003, in Plymouth Meeting, Pa. Survived by spouse, Marian.

• **CAPT Gerald "Jerry" H. Rockelli, USCGR(Ret.)**, 71, Aug. 5, 2003, of North Myrtle Beach, S.C. He attended the University of Maryland and Georgetown University, and was a budget analyst with the Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. He is survived by his spouse, Joan; two sons, Patrick and Gerald, Jr.; two daughters, Linda Simpson, Laurie Rockelli; six step-daughters, Barbara, Debbie, Cindy, Allison, Ellen and Karen; five grandchildren; 10 step-grandchildren; two step-great grandchildren. Interment at Memorial Gardens, North Myrtle Beach, S.C., at a later date. Memorials in his memory may be made to the Lower Cape Fear Hospice Cancer Center, 725A Wellington Ave., Wilmington, NC 28401. An on-line guest book is available to sign at: www.msfl.net

- **CDR Anthony J. Alberti, USCGR(Ret.)**, Oct. 4, 2003, in Savannah, Ga. Survived by spouse, Judith.
- **CDR Robert C. Connolly, USCGR(Ret.)**, Oct. 8, 2003, in Baltimore, Md. His body was donated to the State of Maryland.
- **CDR Francis J. Heliger, USCGR(Ret.)**, of San Diego. Survived by spouse, Josephine.
- **CDR James E. Shaw, USCGR(Ret.)**, Sept. 20, 2003, in Eugene, Ore., Survived by spouse, Leila.
- **CDR Henry W. Sherry, USCGR(Ret.)**, Aug. 15, 2003.
- **CWO4 Earl L. Duhamel, USCGR(Ret.)**, July 26, 2003. Survived by spouse, Jeanette.
- **MKC Frank A. Anderson, USCGR(Ret.)**, Oct. 18, 2003, in West Green, Ga. Survived by spouse, Florence.
- **MKC John A. Pourtless, USCGR(Ret.)**, Sept. 22, 2003, in St. Petersburg, Fla., Survived by spouse, Nancy.
- **MK1 Kenneth R. Carson, USCGR(Ret.)**, Sept. 6, 2003, in Montclair, Calif. Survived by spouse, Jenny.
- **PS1 John Barbagallo, USCGR(Ret.)**, Oct. 1, 2003, worked as a civilian firefighter for Rescue Company 2, Brooklyn, N.Y. He served with RU Port Jefferson and MSFO Coram.

PUZZLE SOLUTION

Thanks again to CWO2 Dianne LaCava, USCGR, for creating last month's puzzle.



One Heck of a Ride!

All good things must come to an end, so this will be my last article as the Master Chief of the Reserve Force. I hand over the reins to MCPO Jeff Smith as of Dec. 4, 2003. I know you will give him the same support and cooperation that you have given me over the past five years.

It has been one heck of a ride looking back at my tour. I could not have anticipated the events that transpired during that time: two of the largest recalls of reservists since World War II, *Noble Eagle*, watching the plane fly into the Pentagon, the War on Terrorism, and the move from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Homeland Security among others. I am sure when MCPO Smith looks back on his tour, he will find what his predecessors found — one cannot anticipate all the changes. One must remain flexible and adaptable. The only constant I found was change will occur.

Many well meaning people have said that MCPO Smith has some "big shoes" to fill. I appreciate the intent of the comments but having lived the experience, I know we all bring our own "shoes" to the job. We try not to make the mistakes of the past and improve the program for the future. Each of us tries adding another "brick" to the foundation of the Reserve program so there will be a solid base for our successors to build upon. I know MCPO Forrest Croom and MCPO Bill Phillips did that for me and I thank them for it.

I would also like to thank my wife, Carolyn, for all her support during the past five years. I would not have been able to do this job without her.

My last few months on the job have continued at the same hectic pace as ever. I paid a visit to the PACAREA PSU Detachment in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The unit is made up of mainly Title 10 Reservists most of which had no prior PSU experience. Their job is to provide harbor security for GTMO. Morale was high and it was great to be able to spend some time with them. Bravo Zulu for the job you are doing.

The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA) honored the Coast Guard Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year at its national

convention in Buffalo, N.Y. recently. Carolyn and I enjoyed spending time with YNC Nathaniel Sargent during the convention. Chief Sargent is an outstanding example of the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve's future. We are in good hands.

By the time you read this article, PSU309 will finally be back home. **Welcome home and thank you for a job well done!** PSU309 has been deployed since the beginning of *Iraqi Freedom*. Their last mission was at one of the "garden spots" of the Middle East, the port of Ash Shuaiba and the Kuwait Naval Base. They endured heat that you wouldn't believe and **sand** ... lots of sand! I am sure they are enjoying simple pleasures like a shower that isn't 100 degrees, a bathroom that is not a port-a-john (and closer than 300 yards from their tent), a phone call for under \$3 per minute, and a dinner served on a plate instead of a steel tray or out of a plastic bag just to name a few.

We currently have approximately 20 percent of the Reserve Force on some type of active duty. If you then count those who have been recently demobilized and those getting ready to mobilize, that percentage is significant. Then add the implementation of the MTSA (Marine Transportation Safety Act) and I see "job security" for the Reserve component of the future.

Once again, **thank you** all for your support and service over the past five years. It has been an honor to serve with you and call you shipmates. This job has been the highlight of my civilian and military careers. Though I will be watching from the sidelines, my heart will be with you. Be safe and God bless you and your families for what you do for our country everyday.

Semper Par!



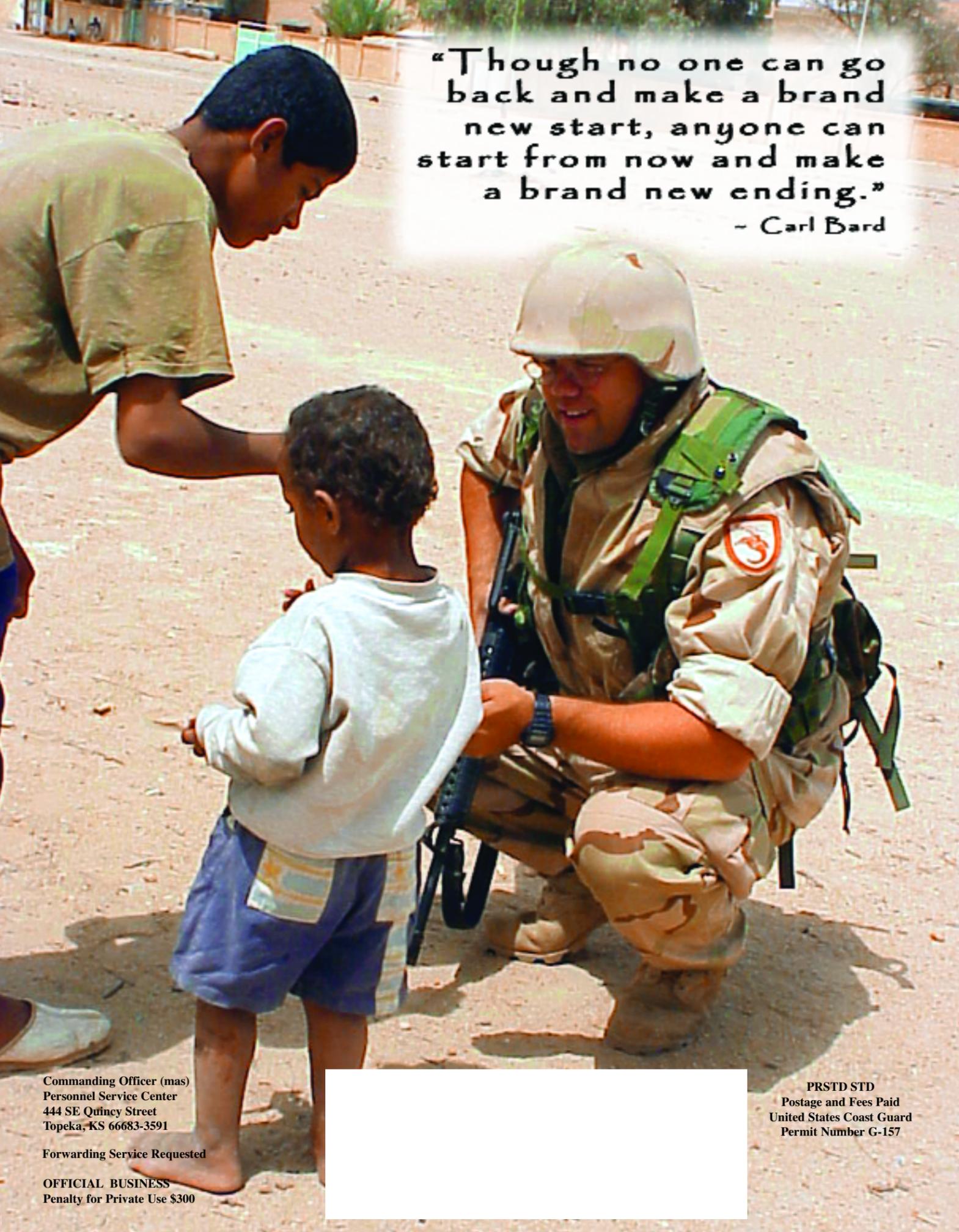
The Coast Guard leaves its mark on the lighthouse, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Photos courtesy MCPO George P. Ingraham, USCGR



CAPT Louis M. Farrell, Chief, Office of Reserve Affairs, and YNC Nathaniel Sargent, Reserve EPOY at the NERA Convention, Buffalo, N.Y.

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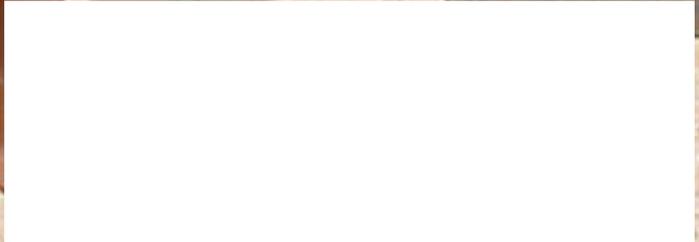
“Though no one can go
back and make a brand
new start, anyone can
start from now and make
a brand new ending.”
- Carl Bard



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