

DILIGENCE

SHORE TIES



Edition 08-02
June 2008

District 7 "Blue Rover" Patrol

DILIGENCE PATROL MAY 2008 – JUNE 2008



On May 4th, we left Wilmington for our next patrol in the Florida Straits in search of drug smugglers and illegal migrants attempting to enter the US. During our transit down the Cape Fear River, DILIGENCE embarked CDR Gregory Burg, Prospective Commanding Officer of USCGC RELIANCE, and four members of the US Navy League. The Navy League plays a pivotal role in helping to educate the American people about the importance of

seapower to the US and supports US Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard units around the globe. Locally, the Wilmington Chapter of the Navy League officially sponsors DILIGENCE and supports the ship in a variety of ways. After disembarking the members of the Navy League, we headed off on patrol.

Prior to “in-chopping” to our area of operations, we had to first complete

mission-critical training that would aid our boarding teams in the interdiction of “go-fast” smuggling vessels. BM2 Bryan Pate and BM2 Matt



Holston were both certified as Non-Compliant Vessel Use of Force (NCV UOF) boat coxswain and boat gunner during the training.



After completing NCV UOF training, we were off to Miami for our mission in-brief and embarkation of our Aviation Detachment from Air Station Savannah, Georgia. We embarked a shiprider from the Royal Bahamian Defense Force to assist with law

enforcement operations. In addition, we had several Coast Guard boats and aircraft working under our tactical control.

On May 22nd, we pulled into Nassau, Bahamas for our first Mid-Patrol Break. Joined by approximately six cruise ships, New Providence Island was definitely busy. After spending time at local restaurants, all-inclusive resorts, and beaches, the crew departed Nassau back into the Straits of Florida on May 24th.

On the way, DILIGENCE embarked Mr. James Consor, an artist under contract with the Coast Guard Headquarters Art Program to document our operations in the Straits of Florida. While aboard, Mr. Consor took myriad pictures of our operations



and will produce official Coast Guard paintings in the near future based on his time aboard DILIGENCE.

In the mean time, we continued our migrant interdiction operations. Taking on the “Migrant Holding Platform” duties, DILIGENCE embarked approximately 100 Cuban migrants during the patrol,

responded to two Search and Rescue Cases, interdicted one stolen boat, and conducted over 100 helicopter evolutions with our embarked helicopter.

After enjoying two additional port calls in Key West and Miami, FL, DILIGENCE is headed home. We look forward to coming back to Wilmington to spend the remaining summer months with our families and friends. In addition, DILIGENCE wishes all departing Shipmates the best of luck during this transfer season. We also look forward to welcoming those arriving to the Mighty DIL!

See you soon!



From the Captain's Chair

Greetings families and friends of DILIGENCE! As you can see, this patrol has been another busy one for us. We've had a great many operational successes, to include several migrant interdictions, search and rescue cases, and we even embarked a professional painter under contract with the Coast Guard Art Program.

Of course, no summer patrol is complete without the embarkation of Coast Guard Academy Cadets. 1/c Drew Cavanaugh (of Massachusetts), 1/c Mike Langelier (of Massachusetts) and 1/c Urdley Smith (of St Thomas, USVI) did a terrific job blending in with the crew, getting qualified in a variety of watchstations, and they each earned the respected title "shipmate." Mr. Smith also earned the nickname "The voice of God" from the crew, due to his deep, baritone general announcements on the 1MC. Well done gents!

I'd also like to thank Mrs. Jennifer Pullen, our Ombudsman. Thank you Mrs. Pullen for your service over these past months, and we wish you all the best.

As always, thank you, our families and loved ones, for your continued support and sacrifice during another exciting patrol. We'll be home soon and look forward to some summertime barbeque!

Very respectfully yours,

Commander Doug Fears
Commanding Officer
USCGC DILIGENCE (WMEC 616)



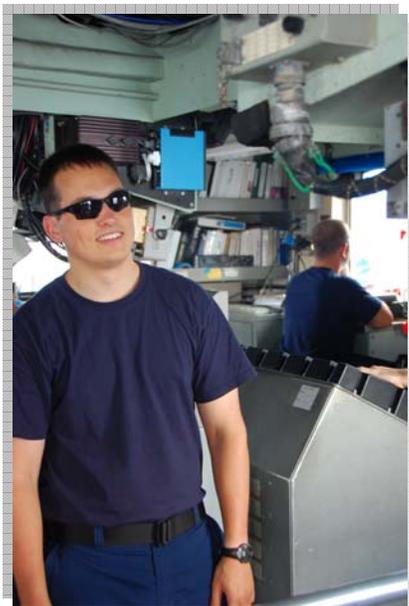
Shipboard Life...



DILIGENCE passed USS NORTH CAROLINA on her way out of Wilmington



Not quite sure why SN LaGreca insists on latching the chin strap, but...



1/c Cavanagh "learnin' the ropes"

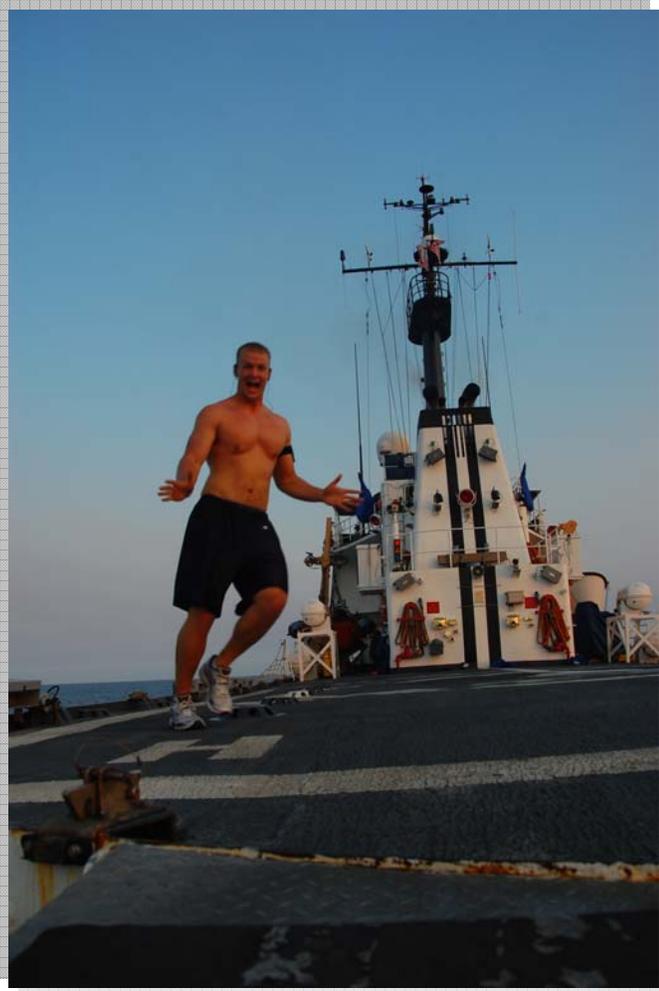


FN Ciulla carries on the Mess Cook duties



FN Sabo hard at work

...It Can Get a Little Crazy...



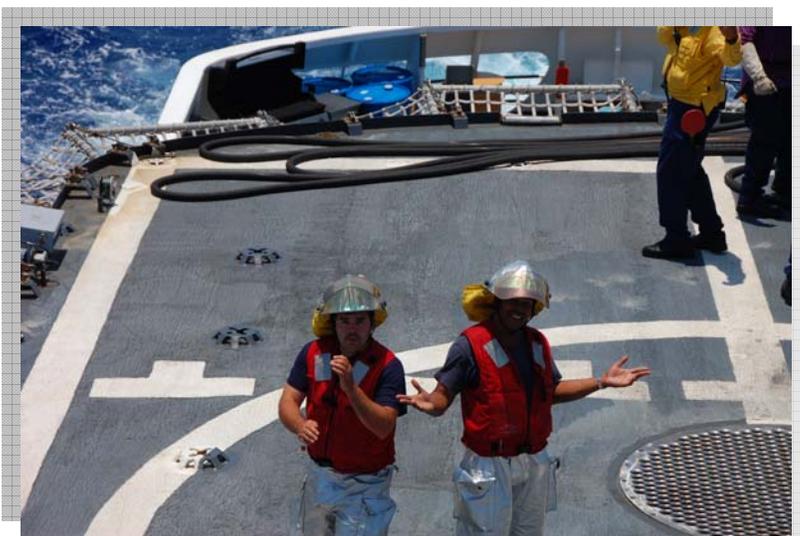
ENS Bonner finally happy with how he looks



LTJG Kilcullen trying to prepare for command with a little help from BM2 Anthony



YN1 Cuomo as the "acting" XO



DC1 Bluthenthal and DC2 Hunt breakin' it down

...OK, It Can Get A Whole Lot of Crazy...



“Jimbo the Pilot”



HS2 Small doing, well, doing Doc things...



The Tie-Down Crew

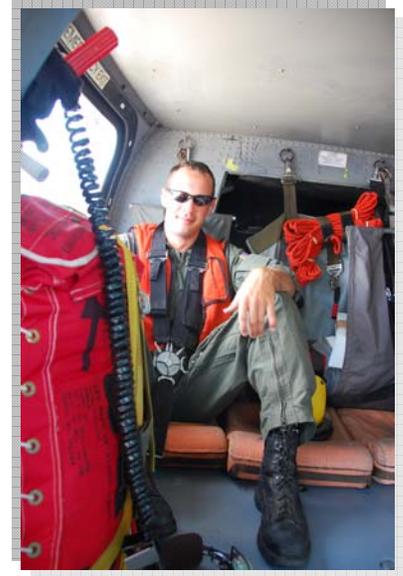


DC2 Hunt has run one too many drills

DILIGENCE Crew Looking "Tough"



FS2 Frazier



SN "Gramps"
Castle...Hi
Mom!

The "Old Man of
the Sea," LT
Blaszak



IS2 Mobley



EM3 Griffin



ET2 Torbett

More "Tough" Guys



MK3 Bindewald



CWO2 Russell



SA Shaffer



SN Suggs



SN Mills

DC Olympics Action



Desmoking the Boatswain's Hole

GM3 Prosser reads his "red book" while DC2 Hunt describes shoring



DC1 Bluthenthal and IS2 Mobley



The Firefighting Team preparing to go in...



Plotting Training by ENS Gonzalez

Memorial Day at Sea



The Memorial Day Steel Beach Picnic



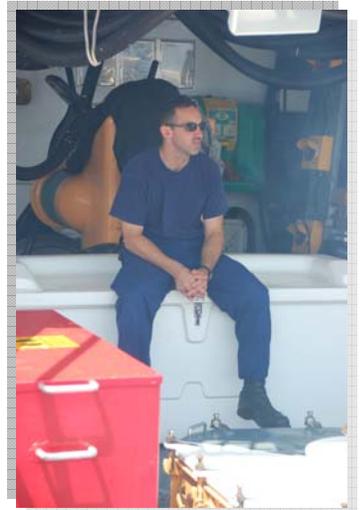
FS3 Rich cooks up the good stuff



1/c Smith and 1/c Langelier



FS3 McGowan tries out the Florida Straits Fishing



LTJG Sauerbrunn ponders life on the Hudson River...sitting on the weight box

Fun on land and sea...



BM2 Uscanga and FN Varela stop at a Starbucks in the Bahamas



ET2 Torbett is welcomed to Nassau



SA Brantley and SN Matthews in front of the Disney Cruise Liner



DILIGENCE's Pro Shop is open for business



YN1 Cuomo tees off

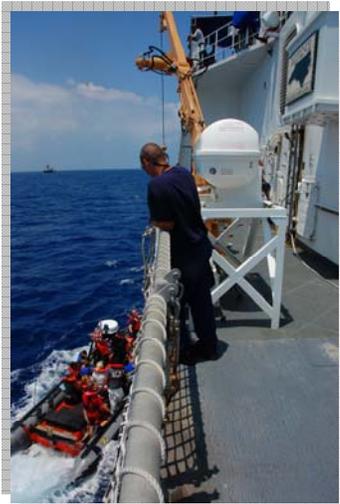
Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations (AMIO)



The Crew prepares to receive Migrants



SN Cruz collecting migrant property



Small boat alongside



MK2 Ricciardi keeps track of property



SK2 Hodges stands a taught security watch

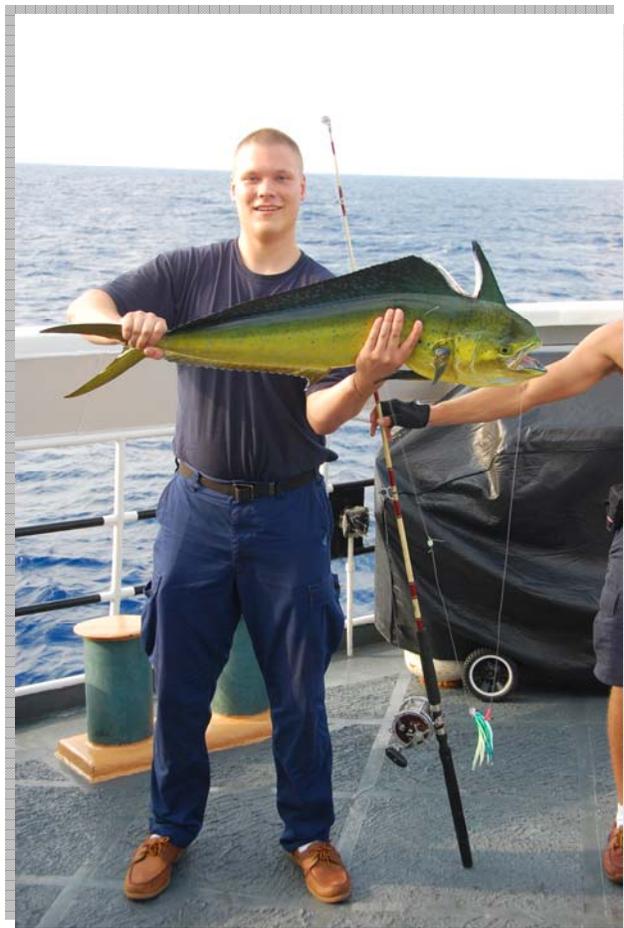


MKC King's ready for action!

We really do work...just not all the time!



MK3 Bindewald got a bite



The result!



FSC Burgener digs for a snack



SA Shaffer poses for his next GQ cover shot



MK2 Timmerman and YN1 Cuomo

Underway Life



BMC Brown assists MKC King with the helicopter in-flight refuel



GM3 Prosser doing what he does best...bein' "Lil' Gunna"



CDR Fears deep in thought



BM2 Holston having a slow day of watch



1/c Cavanagh practicing his "Cel Nav" skills



SA O'Leary stands the lookout

"Hails and Farewells"



Welcome Aboard SA
Brantley



EM1 Luckey receives
the Coast Guard
Achievement Medal



FNMK Jackman
receives the Sea
Service Ribbon



SN Cruz receives
the Sea Service
Ribbon



SA Moreira is
advanced to
Seaman



ENS Gonzalez qualifies as Underway Engineer of the Watch and receives his Temporary Cutterman's Pin...Argh!



MK3 Bindewald receives the Sea Service Ribbon



Welcome Aboard Mr. Consor, our artist, and LT Newcomb, our embarked Public Health Services Officer



BM2 Uscanga receives a Good Conduct Award



SN Cronin is designated DILIGENCE's Leading Seaman



SN Moreira receives his Temporary Cutterman's Pin



SN Parshook receives Oakley sunglasses for being the first to spot a vessel in distress



BM3 Custis receives a Commandant's Letter of Commendation



Petty Officers Dowling and Leonard are promoted to First Class



BM2 Pate receives his Sea Service Ribbon



EM2 Franguille receives a Commandant's Letter of Commendation



FSC Burgener receives a Coast Guard Achievement Medal



ET1 Gemborys receives the Coast Guard Achievement Medal



FS2 Frazier receives a Coast Guard Achievement Medal



FA Velez receives his Temporary Cutterman's Pin



FSC's parting word...Here we go!



LTJG Sauerbrunn
receives a Coast Guard
Achievement Medal



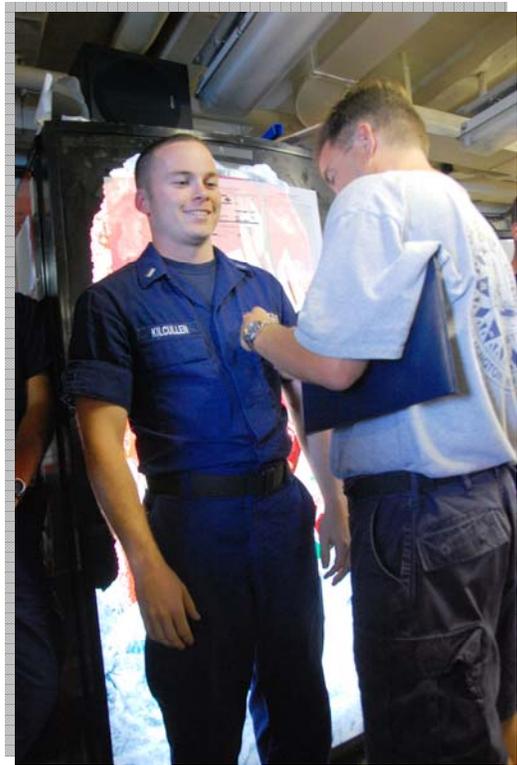
MK2 Graco is awarded a
Coast Guard Achievement
Medal



MK1 Maples
receives a Coast
Guard
Achievement
Medal



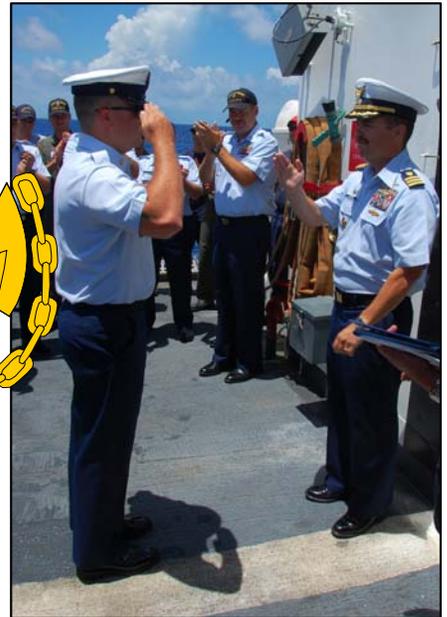
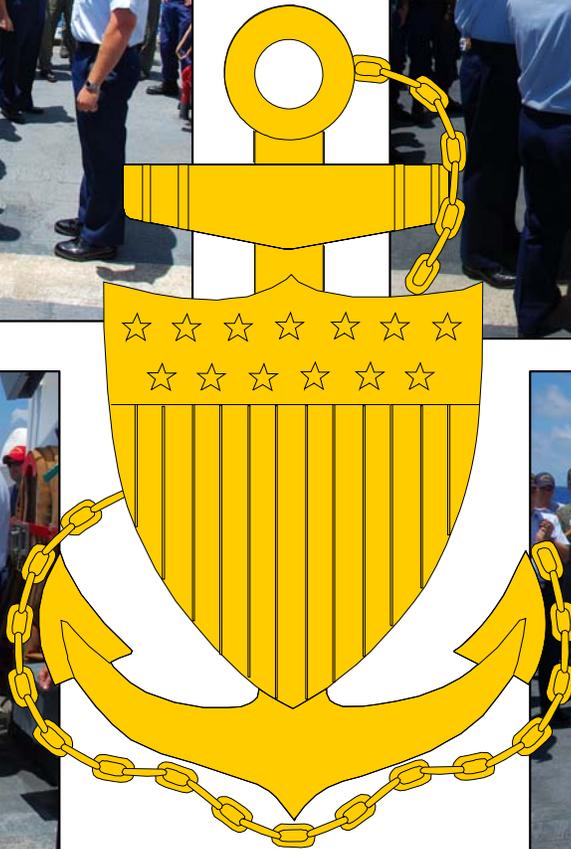
IS2 Mobley
receives a
Commandant's
Letter of
Commendation



LTJG Kilcullen is
awarded a Coast
Guard Achievement
Medal

A Chief is Born

Congrats GMC Dendy!





FS1 Dorreman, ET1 Gemborys, BM2 Pate, and FN Byrne were all Sailor of the Quarter designations from their respective departments



**Sailor of the
Quarter**



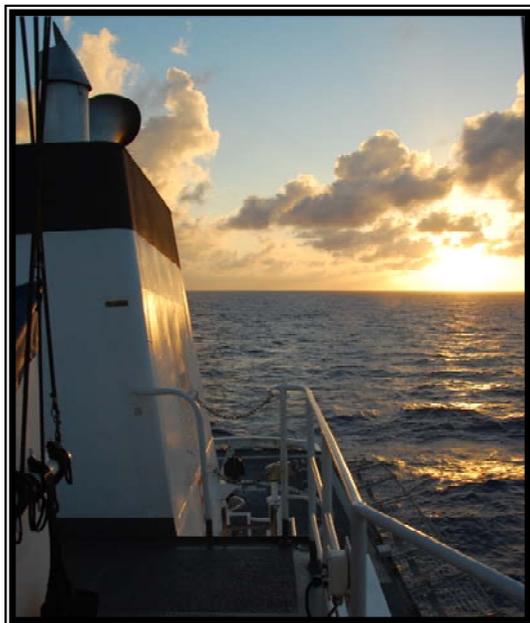
FN Elliott is SOQ for
JAN-MAR 2008



DILIGENCE embarked Aviation Detachment from Savannah, Georgia



DILIGENCE wardroom (with a little extra input from the EO)



We'll be home soon!

Editor- ENS Josh Drysdale, 1/c Drew Cavanagh

**Photographers- SK1 Tyrone Minnifield, IT2 Gabriel Pierce, ET2 Ryan Torbett, Mr. James
Conzor**

**Questions or comments? Please email
Joshua.k.drysdale@uscg.mil with any suggestions!**