



Captain Matthew E. Miller
Commanding Officer

Underway

November 02, 2009

Dear MIDGETT Family and Friends,

I hope that everyone has enjoyed their fall and is preparing for the upcoming busy holiday season. As you likely know by now, we are on our way home after a safe, productive patrol. As we closed out FY-09, the crew was excited to have finished the year with 8 HITRON interdictions, the most of any cutter in PAC/LANT and accounted for 1/4 of all HITRON interdictions. In addition, during the first half of this patrol the crew reacted in an amazingly quick and professional manner in the rescue of 7 fishermen from their sinking vessel 80 miles south of Panama. Even more impressive is the fact that we completed FY-09 without a single unscheduled maintenance day or lost operational day. That is an amazing accomplishment for a 40 year-old cutter; but par for the course for this crew.

The crew performed exceptionally well, even during our port visits. For example, during our 3 day mid-patrol break in Panama City, Panama (following 28 continuous days at sea), a fourth of the crew volunteered to work at Panama's only High School for the Performing Arts, completing a great deal of much needed repair on the aging facility. We have since proposed to the cutter fleet the idea of "adopting" this school for all subsequent Coast Guard COMREL projects in Panama.

Our patrol ends in Seattle on Tuesday, 10 November 2009, but depending on weather we might make in earlier than that date. We will keep you posted as we begin our transit from San Diego to Seattle.

As a final reminder, we are fortunate to have three dedicated OMBUDSMEN volunteers. They are:

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The OMBUDSMEN are a critically important link between the command and the crew's families, and are key in helping the command provide the support you may need. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the OMBUDSMEN if you have questions or need assistance either while we are deployed or while we are inport.

Serving together,



Matthew Miller