



All Hands Messages

Coast Guard Day (All Hands E-Mail)

To the Men and Women of the Coast Guard:

Today marks the 216th Birthday of our Coast Guard. This anniversary offers us a moment to celebrate our rich history, reflect on our past and focus on our future. The Coast Guard's unique legacy as America's lifesaver and maritime guardian evolved from the selfless courage and unflinching determination of our predecessors. It is in their honor that we celebrate today.



In 1790, Congress authorized secretary of the treasury Alexander Hamilton to build a fleet of ten cutters to secure our freedom and protect our coast. For the next eight years, the Revenue Marine was the nation's only naval force. Over time, it evolved and acquired new responsibilities to meet the growing needs of a democracy in the early years of a new nation.

The world has changed dramatically since 1790 and continues to change with every day. The global war on terrorism, the Maritime Transportation Security Act, The Homeland Security Act, the National Strategy for Homeland Security, and the National Strategy for Maritime Security have given the Coast Guard additional areas of mission emphasis. Meeting those new maritime security demands, while sustaining the trust and confidence of the public we serve in preserving our maritime safety and exercising our maritime stewardship duties, requires us to continually challenge ourselves and improve the way we do business. By focusing on superior mission execution in all that we do, our active duty, reserve, civilian and auxiliary men and women are meeting these challenges head on, often times in unique and innovative ways. I am proud of these tremendous efforts and your hard work.

With the arrival of our 217th year of continuous service, we can look forward to the promise of more opportunities to serve America, and even more challenges. I reaffirm my commitment to each of you on this special day to ensure that our Coast Guard men and women are the most versatile workforce in government, equipped with the most capable fleet of ships, aircraft and boats, along with the most effective systems that will support them. We have an extraordinary legacy of excellence as America's Coast Guard. We will build on that legacy. We will rise to meet the challenges facing us. And we will remain always ready.

Happy Birthday and Semper Paratus!

Admiral Thad Allen

[Birthday Congratulations Appended]:



CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

24 JUL 2006

Dear Admiral Allen *Thad*

Congratulations to the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard as you celebrate your service's 216th birthday. The Coast Guard legacy is rich in courage, honor and commitment, and this proud tradition has come to the forefront in today's Global War on Terror.

The men and women of the U.S. Air Force are proud to serve with the U.S. Coast Guard as part of the Joint Team fighting – and winning – this long war, defending our nation's freedoms, and protecting our way of life. America's Airmen salute you.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Michael Moseley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

T. MICHAEL MOSELEY
General, USAF
Chief of Staff

Admiral Thad Allen
Commandant, United States Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, S.W.
Washington DC 20593-0001



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20318-9999

COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY 4 AUGUST 2006

The United States Coast Guard has the distinction of being America's oldest maritime agency. For more than two centuries, the Coast Guard has played a critical role in our national defense, and for that the country is grateful.

Especially since September 11th 2001, the US Coast Guard has been hard at work, day and night, protecting our fellow Americans. The Coast Guard's flexibility and dynamic mix of talent have contributed greatly to the War on Terrorism. Whether conducting sea based operations abroad, security operations within our own ports or maritime rescue missions worldwide, the Coast Guard embodies the motto of *Semper Paratus* ... always ready! The men and women of the US Coast Guard can be proud of their exemplary performance and their dedication to the strengthening of our national security.

The Joint Chiefs and I wish the men and women of the US Coast Guard a happy birthday and thank you for your selfless contributions to our great Nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "VR Peter Pace". The signature is stylized and includes the letters "VR" at the beginning.

PETER PACE
General, United States Marine Corps
Chairman
of the Joint Chiefs of Staff