

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

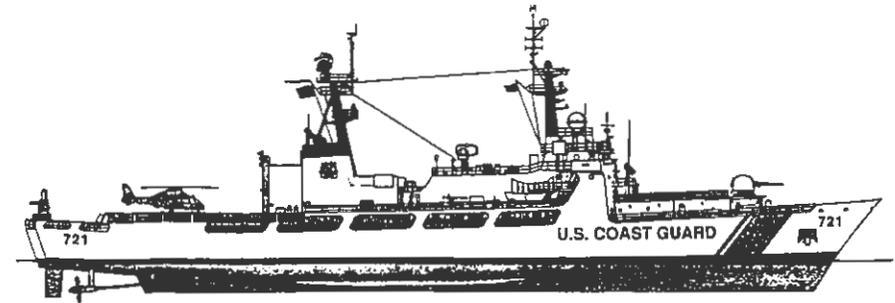
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



Change of Command

*U.S. Coast Guard Cutter GALLATIN
(WHEC-721)*

*North Charleston, South Carolina
15 July 1999*



Cutter Characteristics

Length Overall	378 feet, 3 inches
Beam	42 feet
Navigational Draft	24 feet
Maximum Speed	29 knots
Cruising Speed	15 knots
Propellers	2 controllable pitch
Full Load Displacement	3,250 long tons
Propulsion	Combined Diesel or Gas Turbine (CODOG)
	Fairbanks-Morse Diesels
	3,600 SHP each
	Pratt & Whitney Turbines
	18,000 SHP each

U. S. COAST GUARD

On August 4, 1790, Congress authorized the construction of a fleet of 10 small cutters. Named the Revenue Cutter Service, the cutters operated under the Treasury Department and were commissioned to enforce the revenue laws of our new nation. Today the Coast Guard is the 12th largest naval force in the world. Although the ships now are considerably larger than their sailing predecessors, they are still called Cutters.

The Coast Guard is the primary federal agency with maritime authority for the United States. A complex organization of people, ships, aircraft, boats and shore stations, the service responds to tasks in several mission and program areas. The Coast Guard's multi-mission approach permits a relatively small organization to respond to public needs in a wide variety of maritime activities and to shift emphasis on short notice when the need arises. The Coast Guard's four main missions are maritime law enforcement, maritime safety, environmental protection and national security.

Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

HONOR - Integrity is our standard. We demonstrate uncompromising ethical conduct and moral behavior in all of our personal actions. We are loyal and accountable to the public trust.

RESPECT - We value our diverse work force. We treat each other with fairness, dignity and compassion. We encourage creativity through empowerment. We work as a team.

DEVOTION TO DUTY - We are professionals, military and civilian, who seek responsibility, accept accountability, and are committed to the successful achievement of our organizational goals. We exist to serve. We serve with pride.

These core values are more than just Coast Guard rules of behavior. They are deeply rooted in the heritage which has made our organization great. They demonstrate who we are and guide our performance, conduct and decisions every minute of every day.

USCGC GALLATIN (WHEC-721) CUTTER HISTORY

USCGC GALLATIN (WHEC-721) is the sixth U. S. Coast Guard Cutter to be named after Albert Gallatin, who served as Secretary of the Treasury under Presidents Jefferson and Madison. Albert Gallatin was born in Switzerland in 1761 and came to America in 1780. In his long career of dedicated public service, he held office as a U. S. Representative and a U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania; a U. S. Ambassador to France and to the Court of St. James (Great Britain); and as President of the National Bank. He founded New York University and helped negotiate the Treaty of Ghent to end the War of 1812. Albert Gallatin died in 1849 and is buried at Trinity Church, in New York City, the homeport of GALLATIN prior to September 1996.

The present "GALLATIN" was built by Avondale Shipyard in New Orleans, Louisiana, with an eye toward the changing world in which GALLATIN would carry on the traditions of America's oldest, continuous sea service. GALLATIN was designed and constructed as one of 12 multi-mission Hamilton Class cutters, which incorporated modern concepts of naval architecture and engineering. GALLATIN is a unique naval vessel which balances the need for sophisticated operational capabilities with comfort and convenience for a crew of 21 officers and 158 enlisted personnel.

Commissioned on December 20, 1968, GALLATIN operated on ocean station patrols through 1976. In 1977, the cutter had her first counter-narcotics interdiction. Through the 1980's, she continued her impressive record with a total of 21 seizures. While the cutter performed numerous humanitarian and marine environmental protection missions, she also participated in three U. S. Navy and Allied Forces operations, including OCEAN VENTURE, OCEAN SAFARI, and MAGIC SWORD. In 1989, GALLATIN commenced a two-year Fleet Renovation and Modernization (FRAM) overhaul at Bath Iron Works in Portland, Maine. On December 20, 1991, GALLATIN was recommissioned (Special Status) at Governor's Island, New York.

Through the first half of the 1990's, GALLATIN proved worthy of her humanitarian mission as the Task Unit Commander during Operations ABLE MANNER and ABLE VIGIL. GALLATIN was responsible for

Commander, Atlantic Area Vice Admiral Roger T. Rufe, Jr.

Vice Admiral Roger T. Rufe, Jr., assumed command of Atlantic Area, Fifth Coast Guard District and Maritime Defense Zone Atlantic on 13 May 1997. His last assignment was Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area, Commander U. S. Maritime Defense Zone Pacific and Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District. As Commander, Pacific Area, he was responsible for all Coast Guard operations from the Rocky Mountains to the Far East.

Prior to his assignment in Pacific Area, he was Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District and Commander, Maritime Defense Command Seven in Miami, Florida, where he directed all Coast Guard drug and migrant interdiction operations in the Southeast United States and the Caribbean. He was also the operational commander for the U. S. response to the Cuban shootdown of two Cuban-American aircraft in February of 1996. He served his first flag assignment in Juneau, Alaska, as Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District and Commander, U. S. Naval Forces Alaska. There, his primary responsibilities were fishing vessel safety and fisheries conservation in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska and protection of Alaska's marine environment.

Vice Admiral Rufe has served aboard seven Coast Guard cutters during his career, five as commanding officer. These afloat assignments include duty in the Atlantic and the Pacific and 47 combat patrols while commanding a patrol boat in the Republic of Vietnam. Ashore, he was operations officer of the Greater Antillies Section in San Juan, Puerto Rico; assistant chief of the Environmental Response Division, chief of the Congressional Affairs Staff in Washington, D.C., and chief of staff for the Fifth Coast Guard District in Portsmouth, Virginia. He has also served as a U. S. representative to the International Maritime Organization in London, England, and led the U. S. delegation that negotiated the Cartagena Convention, an international environmental agreement for the Wider Caribbean Region.

Vice Admiral Rufe is a 1965 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, and received a Master of Public Administration degree from New York University. He is a graduate of the Naval War College and the National War College.

His awards include two Legions of Merit, the Bronze Star with Combat "V", three Meritorious Service Medals, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, the Combat Action Ribbon and numerous unit and campaign awards.

A native of Islip Terrace, New York, Vice Admiral Rufe and his wife Barbara have two children, Sarah-Ann and Matthew.

Commanding Officer Captain Joseph Conroy, Jr.

Captain Joseph Conroy hails from Rolling Meadows, Illinois. USCGC GALLATIN is the sixth cutter on which he has served (the third as Commanding Officer).

Upon his 1974 graduation from the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, he served two years as a Deck Watch Officer aboard USCGC DAUNTLESS, a 210 foot medium endurance cutter, homeported in Miami, Florida. Immediately following that assignment, LTJG Conroy took command of the USCGC CAPE KNOX, a 95 foot patrol boat, also homeported in Miami. His next afloat assignment was as Operations Officer aboard the 378 foot USCGC DALLAS, which was homeported at Governors Island, New York. After serving two years as Executive Officer aboard USCGC DILIGENCE, Commander Conroy took command of USCGC VIGILANT in 1993. DILIGENCE and VIGILANT are 210 foot cutters, which were homeported in Port Canaveral, Florida. Captain Conroy took command of GALLATIN on June 12, 1997.

Captain Conroy's shoreside assignments include two tours at Coast Guard Operations Centers, first as a duty officer at the Seventh District Operations Center in Miami, and later as Chief of the Atlantic Area Operations Center in New York. Additionally, he served as Special Assistant to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Southern Command, in Panama. Captain Conroy also served at Coast Guard Headquarters, as Chief of both the Drug and Migrant Interdiction Branches. Immediately preceding his taking command of GALLATIN, Captain Conroy served as Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Department of State.

In addition to the Bachelor of Science degree he received from the Coast Guard Academy, Captain Conroy earned a masters degree in Public Administration at George Washington University.

Upon relief as GALLATIN's Commanding Officer, Captain Conroy will assume duties as Deputy Commander of the Coast Guard's Personnel Command in Washington, D.C.

Significant personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

Captain Conroy is married to the former Eugenie K. Lindquist. The Conroys have three children: Joseph, Ryan, and Christopher.

Prospective Commanding Officer Captain Robert S. Branham

Captain Steve Branham is a surface operations specialist and a financial analyst. He has served in a variety of afloat and administrative assignments on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts as well as the Great Lakes.

Captain Branham's previous assignments include Deck Watch Officer, Navigator, Gunnery Officer, and Combat Information Center Officer on USCGC GALLATIN (WHEC-721), previously homeported in Governors Island, New York; Commanding Officer on USCGC CAPE HEDGE (WPB-95311), a 95 foot patrol boat homeported in Morro Bay, California; Flag Duty Officer in the Pacific Area and Twelfth District Operations Center in San Francisco, California; Commanding Officer on USCGC NEAH BAY (WTGB-105), a 140 foot icebreaking tug homeported in Cleveland, Ohio; program reviewer in the Programs Division, Office of the Chief of Staff, Coast Guard Headquarters; Executive Officer on USCGC TAMPA (WMEC-902), a 270 foot cutter homeported in Portsmouth, Virginia; Chief of the Budget Execution Division, Office of the Chief of Staff, Coast Guard Headquarters; and Commanding Officer on USCGC HARRIET LANE (WMEC-903) homeported in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Captain Branham is a 1977 graduate of the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering. In 1987, he was awarded a Masters in Business Administration degree by the Weatherland School of Management at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. Captain Branham was awarded a Master in National Security Strategy degree by the National War College at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C., in June of this year.

Captain Branham's awards include two Meritorious Service Medals, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal with two bronze stars, and the Coast Guard Sea Service Ribbon with two bronze stars.

Captain Branham is married to Sarah Lukens of Amenia, New York. Their 16 year old son, Matt, is a rising junior at Cape Henry Collegiate School.