

NATIONAL

A N D T H E U . S . C O A S T G U A R D

SECURITY

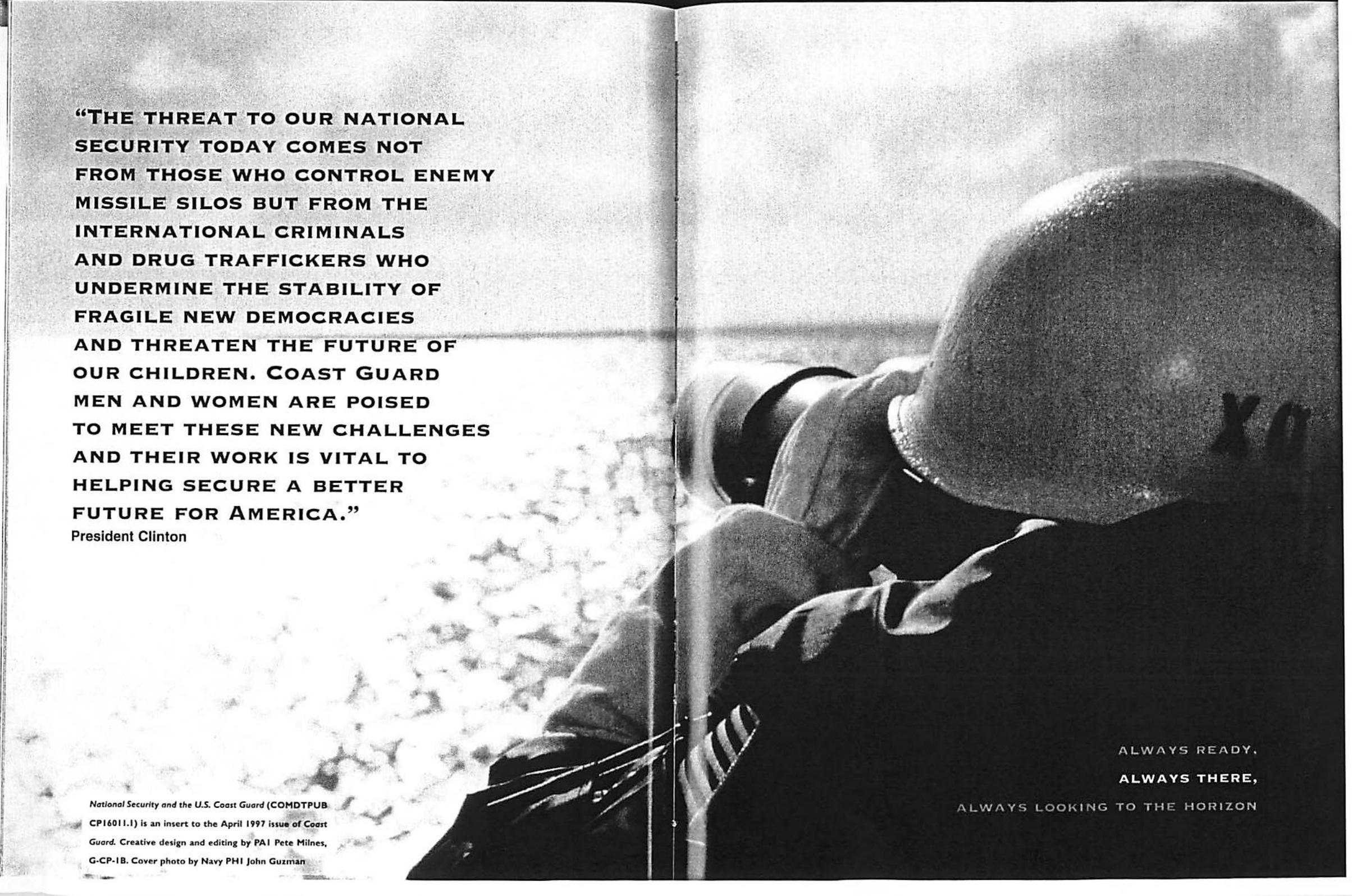


wherever
America
needs
us

"THE THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY TODAY COMES NOT FROM THOSE WHO CONTROL ENEMY MISSILE SILOS BUT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINALS AND DRUG TRAFFICKERS WHO UNDERMINE THE STABILITY OF FRAGILE NEW DEMOCRACIES AND THREATEN THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN. COAST GUARD MEN AND WOMEN ARE POISED TO MEET THESE NEW CHALLENGES AND THEIR WORK IS VITAL TO HELPING SECURE A BETTER FUTURE FOR AMERICA."

President Clinton

National Security and the U.S. Coast Guard (COMDTPUB CPI6011.1) is an insert to the April 1997 issue of Coast Guard. Creative design and editing by PA1 Pete Milnes, G-CP-1B. Cover photo by Navy PHI John Guzman



ALWAYS READY,
ALWAYS THERE,
ALWAYS LOOKING TO THE HORIZON



“V ersatile, multi-mission trained personnel and multi-capable platforms represent the essence of the Coast Guard as an organization. This unique characteristic and comparative advantage allow the Coast Guard to provide the nation a wide range of maritime capabilities that are easily adapted to changing requirements.

“As a branch of the armed forces of the United States, the Coast Guard performs a unique role in the joint military community. In a world whose security environment has become more complex and unpredictable, the Coast Guard continues to emerge as an increasingly critical element of United States global strategy. This document describes how the Coast Guard contributes to national goals as a unique instrument for implementing the president's National Security Strategy.”

ADM Robert Kramek, Coast Guard commandant



Under U.S. Code, Titles 14, 33 and 46, the Coast Guard:

- Responds to calls for assistance throughout the maritime region
- Reduces the loss of life and property through boating safety and other programs
- Operates marine aids to navigation and vessel traffic management systems
- Regulates operation of commercial vessels engaged in U.S. trade
- Acts as the lead agency representing

the U.S. at the UN's International Maritime Organization (IMO) and other international maritime forums

- Regulates construction of commercial and recreational vessels and offshore marine platforms
- Promotes the safe transportation of petroleum and other hazardous materials
- Operates the nation's domestic icebreaker fleet and ensures all-weather commercial access to federal waterways.



The Coast Guard is the world's premier maritime operating agency. It ensures the safe operation of maritime transportation systems, saves life and property at sea, protects the marine environment, enforces federal laws and treaties, and conducts military operations.

In the post Cold War era, a revised concept of national security is emerging that encompasses not only national defense, but also the economic, social and environmental well-being of the nation. All Coast Guard roles — whether rescuing distressed mariners, interdicting drug smugglers, combating major oil spills, or conducting naval warfare missions in support of the unified commanders in chief — contribute directly to the economic, social, environmental and military security of the United States.

The Coast Guard is one of the five branches of the nation's armed forces. While other services concentrate on their national defense role at all times, the Coast Guard has major peacetime roles in addition to national defense. Drawing upon all of its roles, the service provides unique capabilities for national security that are not duplicated by the other military services. Located in the Department of Transportation, the Coast Guard is not only a naval force, but a unique multi-missioned maritime service with a separate identity and diverse purpose.

Maritime safety role

The Coast Guard's maritime safety role ensures the safe operation of ports, the safe movement of cargoes and people, and the safe operation of private and commercial vessels on waterways.

It encompasses the national search-and-rescue system, vessel traffic services, aids to navigation (maritime and aviation), merchant vessel inspections, and international leadership in safety standards development.

It is critical for the United States to have a safe and efficient maritime transportation system. Safe and efficient use of the nation's ports and waterways is as vital to a strong and healthy economy as it is to the resupply of a deployed joint military force.

Maritime law enforcement

The post Cold War era presents a different set of threats to our security. The Coast

AROUND THE CLOCK

Initiatives

- Operation Frontier Shield
- Polar deployment to North Pole
- Bilateral counter-drug agreements
- Port State Control efforts
- Government Industry Partnerships in Marine Safety
- Model Maritime Service Code
- Prevention Through People (PTP)
- International Strategic Plan

National Emergency Response

- TWA Flight 800
- Great Lakes ice flow
- Western River/Pacific Northwest floods
- Hurricanes Bertha, Opal & Fran
- Rhode Island tug & barge oil spill
- Haitian/Cuban mass migrant exodus

U.S. Atlantic Command

- Support to Operation Uphold Democracy
- UNITAS support to Central/South America

U.S. Central Command

- USCGC Morgenthau deployment to Persian Gulf
- Squadron 42 at Kuwait (Iraq threat)
- Law-enforcement detachments and mobile training teams visits to Persian Gulf

AROUND THE WORLD

U.S. European Command

- USCGC Dallas deployment — Mediterranean/Black Sea/Baltic Sea
- USCGC Gallatin — Mediterranean/Black Sea/Baltic Sea
- Port security units to Turkey
- Squadron 42/44 to North Red Sea
- Law enforcement detachments and mobile training teams in Eastern Europe and Adriatic Sea

Inter-agency operability

- Navy Ship Construction Program (SC21) and Coast Guard Future Cutter Study
- DOD/DOT Memorandum of Agreement on use of Coast Guard capabilities and resources
- Joint Vision 2010 involvement
- Commander in Chief's (CinC) conference participant

U.S. Pacific Command

- Port security unit exercise Korea
- 142 foreign port calls
- Law enforcement detachments and mobile training teams visits
- ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) search and rescue forum participant

U.S. Southern Command

- Development of Waterways School in Bolivia and coast guard in Colombia
- Mobile training teams throughout area of responsibility



Guard faces security risks that are not military in nature. Terrorism, narcotics trafficking and illegal migrants can cross any nation's boundaries. Such transnational and trans-agency phenomena has created security implications both for present and long-term American policy.

The Coast Guard's law-enforcement role includes protecting fisheries stocks and other living and mineral resources, interdicting drugs and illegal migrants, ensuring compliance with marine safety standards, and enforcing all federal laws on the high seas and waters under U.S. jurisdiction. Also, the service enforces and assists in the enforcement of applicable treaties and other international agreements.

The Coast Guard's maritime law-enforcement role traces its roots to the Coast Guard's inception as the Revenue Cutter Service in 1790. The Coast Guard has the authority to board any vessel subject to U.S. jurisdiction to make inspections, searches, inquiries and arrests. This unique law-enforcement authority distinguishes the service from the other branches of the armed forces and provides the nation with unique options for responding to national security challenges.

Marine environmental protection

The Coast Guard's role in marine environmental protection includes a three-pronged approach of aggressive prevention, enforcement, and response, with the goal of preventing damage caused by pollutants released into the waterways.

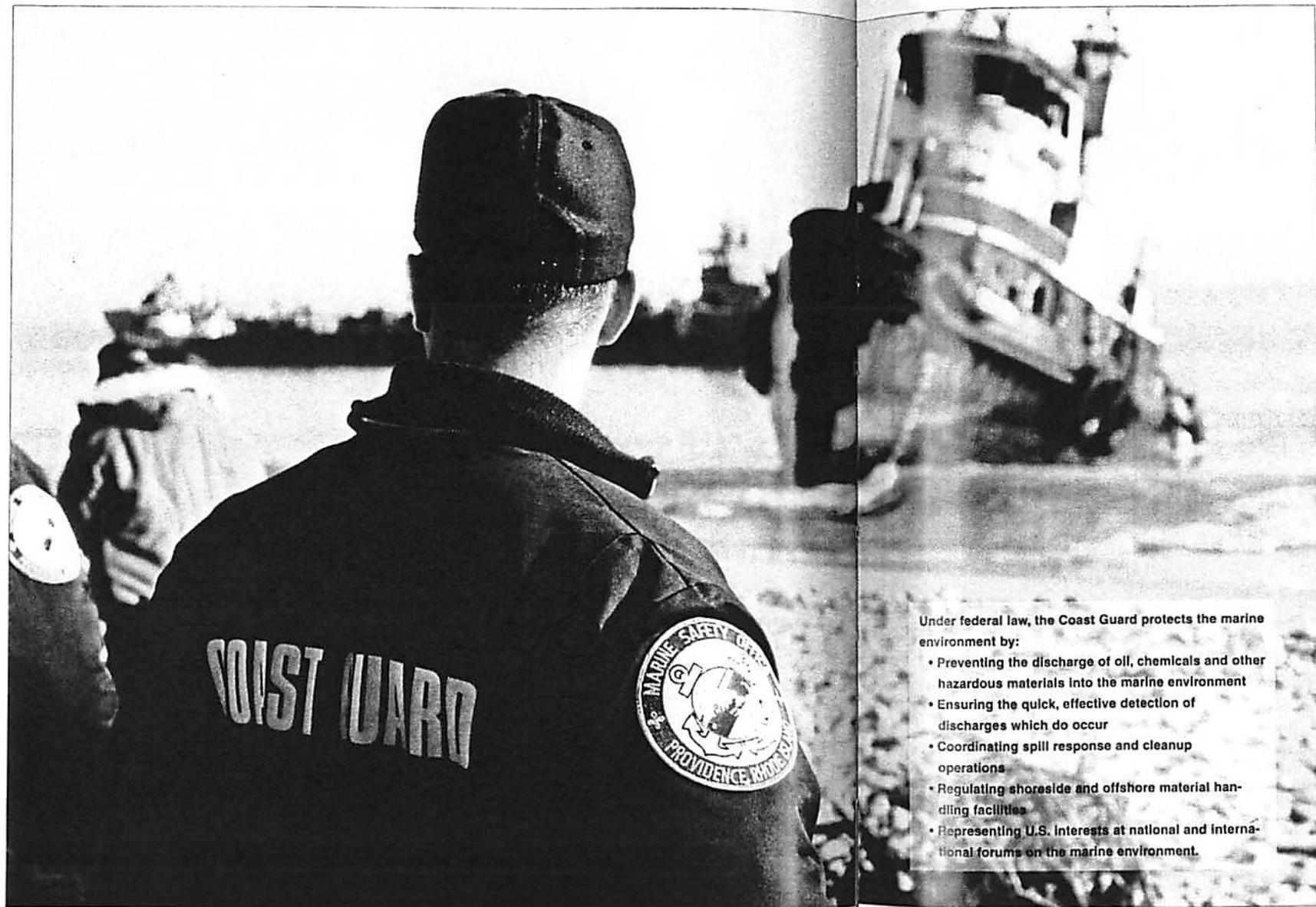
The service's role in the marine environment and resource protection dates from the 1820s. Today, this mission area receives much attention because of great national and global interest in protecting and preserving the environment. There is an ever-growing concern over ocean dumping of solid and medical waste, coastal and riverine pollution, and the impact of oil spills such as the Exxon Valdez incident.

Protecting the U.S. environment has a prominent place on the national agenda. In response to these challenges, the Coast Guard has introduced a new class of ocean-going buoy tenders with pollution-response

The Coast Guard enforces all federal laws on the high seas and waters subject to U.S. jurisdiction. The principal missions are:

- Interdiction of smugglers moving drugs, illegal migrants and contraband into the United States
- Enforcement of Exclusive Economic Zone laws relating to fisheries and other maritime resources
- Inspection of domestic and foreign fishing vessels to ensure compliance with U.S. laws
- Assisting other law-enforcement agencies and enforcing all other U.S. laws associated with marine matters
- Combatting maritime terrorism.





Under federal law, the Coast Guard protects the marine environment by:

- Preventing the discharge of oil, chemicals and other hazardous materials into the marine environment
- Ensuring the quick, effective detection of discharges which do occur
- Coordinating spill response and cleanup operations
- Regulating shoreside and offshore material handling facilities
- Representing U.S. interests at national and international forums on the marine environment.

capabilities, has prepositioned equipment in strategic locations, and has specialized strike teams equipped for quick response.

The four elements that form the principal basis for the Coast Guard's marine environmental mission protection are:

- Water Quality Improvement Act of 1970
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- Clean Water Act of 1977
- Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA-90).

Collectively, these acts, along with other statutes, direct the Coast Guard to prevent marine pollution, respond to polluting discharges and to impose penalties against violators.

The Coast Guard plays an international leadership role in marine environmental protection, a key to a safe, efficient global maritime transportation system. This strong leadership role is of vital importance, since an emerging class of transnational environmental issues are increasingly affecting international stability and consequently present new challenges to U.S. strategy.

National defense role

The Coast Guard's national defense role is to provide non-redundant, complementary naval resources that support the National Military Strategy. Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti is a recent example of this support where Coast Guard aircraft, cutters, buoy tenders, patrol boats and port-security units played a vital role.

Beginning with a military skirmish with France in 1798 and continuing to the Haitian operation — including every war in between — the Coast Guard has helped defend the nation in combat. The service enjoys a unique relationship with the Navy. By statute, it operates in the joint arena and functions as a specialized service in the Navy in time of war and has command responsibilities for the U.S. Maritime Defense Zones. Based on its peacetime capabilities and functions, Coast Guard forces can perform a range of naval warfare duties for the Navy such as convoy escort, search and rescue, salvage, surveillance and interdiction, board and visit teams, and aids to navigation.

In preparing for its national-defense role with the other services, the Coast Guard uses common equipment, common training and common doctrine to achieve interoperability. A landmark Memorandum of Agreement was signed in October 1995 between the secretaries

defense and transportation which formally identifies Coast Guard core capabilities applicable to the national-defense role. These are:

- Maritime Interception Operations
- Deployed port operation, security and defense.
- Environmental Defense Operations.

Maritime Defense Zone commands counter potential threats to American coasts and ports; as such, they concentrate on port security, harbor defense and coastal warfare. However, as evidenced during Operation Uphold Democracy, these commands have developed an expeditionary capability for coastal sea control and harbor defense in foreign areas through the joint use of Coast Guard and Navy forces.

The Coast Guard operates the nation's Polar-class icebreakers to project American national presence and to protect national interests in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. The icebreakers also support the research requirements of the National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense's requirement for resupply of their facilities in the polar regions.

INCREASING DEMANDS & NEW REQUIREMENTS International focus

The Coast Guard is experiencing a progressive international role. Global maritime issues frequently involve the service, and maritime nations of the world are increasingly asking for Coast Guard assistance.

Ocean pollution, over-fishing, unsafe merchant ships, contraband smuggling and marine border disputes are no longer local issues. They have regional and global implications that affect the well-being of many nations. The Coast Guard's unique humanitarian, environmental, and law-enforcement capabilities are being used to help resolve these international maritime issues. An increase in world trade, expanding coastal states rights, greater uses of the oceans, and major changes to the United Nations' Law of the Sea Convention — all place advancing emphasis on the Coast Guard's international maritime role.

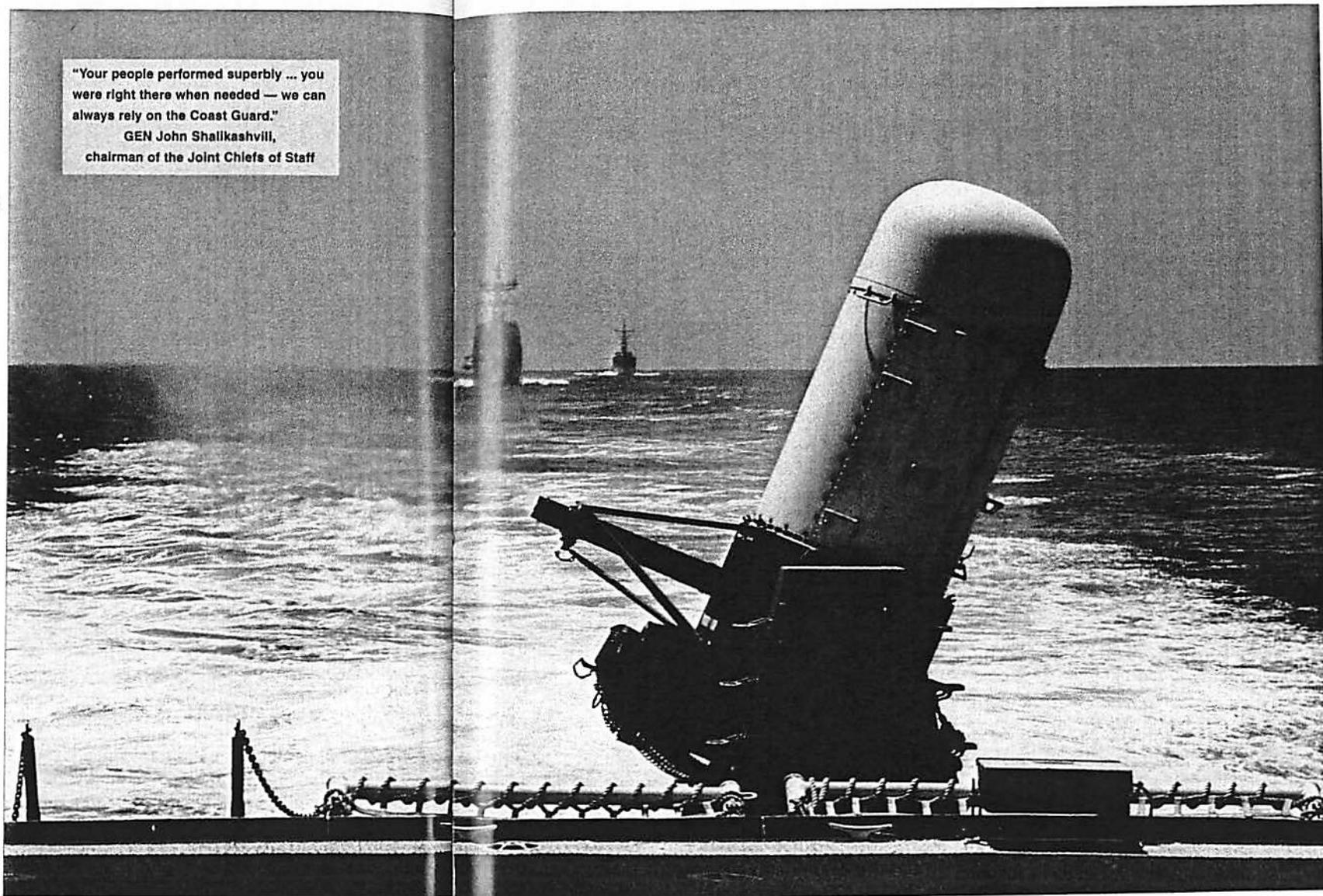
Many of the world's maritime nations have forces that operate principally in the littoral seas and conduct missions that resemble those of the U.S. Coast Guard. These naval or maritime forces enforce laws, protect resources, conduct search and rescue, prevent environmental damage and maintain aids to navigation. With the exception of their combat duties, they resemble the Coast Guard in everything but name. These forces readily relate to the Coast Guard because of the similarity in operating units and mission mix. For maritime nations, the idea of a multi-mission, flexible agency — like the Coast Guard — offers many benefits. There is

an ever-increasing demand for the Coast Guard to assist these international naval and maritime forces.

With this growth in the international arena, the Coast Guard is emerging in its own right as a distinct, relevant instrument for achieving U.S. national-security objectives. The Coast Guard's unique status as both a law-enforcement agency and a military force provides the U.S. government with flexible and versatile options when dealing with international crises. Today, the State and Defense Departments are using Coast Guard capabilities more than ever before as part of their efforts to achieve the goals of the President's National Security Strategy.

"Your people performed superbly ... you were right there when needed — we can always rely on the Coast Guard."

GEN John Shalikashvili,
chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff



Upholding maritime sovereignty

Upholding United States maritime sovereignty is no longer a case of defending against an enemy attack from the sea. Although military power is a fundamental element of national security, forces that impact the economic, social, demographic and natural resources of a nation are of emerging concern.

In the maritime region, Americans are faced with growing threats that cross national borders — from narcotics traffickers, migrants, terrorists, the exploitation of fishing stocks, high-density vessel traffic and environmental damage from illegal ocean dumping and

marine pollution. These transnational threats have placed greater emphasis on the Coast Guard's contribution to our nation's security. Whether through interception, deterrence, negotiation, or by its example, the Coast Guard, with its unique identity and diverse purpose, is expected to guard our nation's security in the maritime region.

The service's structured chain-of-command, high degree of discipline, multi-mission character and flexibility to respond 24 hours a day, make it the world's premier maritime service — one that can quickly react to changing national priorities and military crises. ●

**“FROM THIS DAY FORWARD YOU
WILL BE THE GUARDIANS OF
AMERICA’S SECURITY.”**

President Clinton during 1996
Coast Guard Academy commencement

