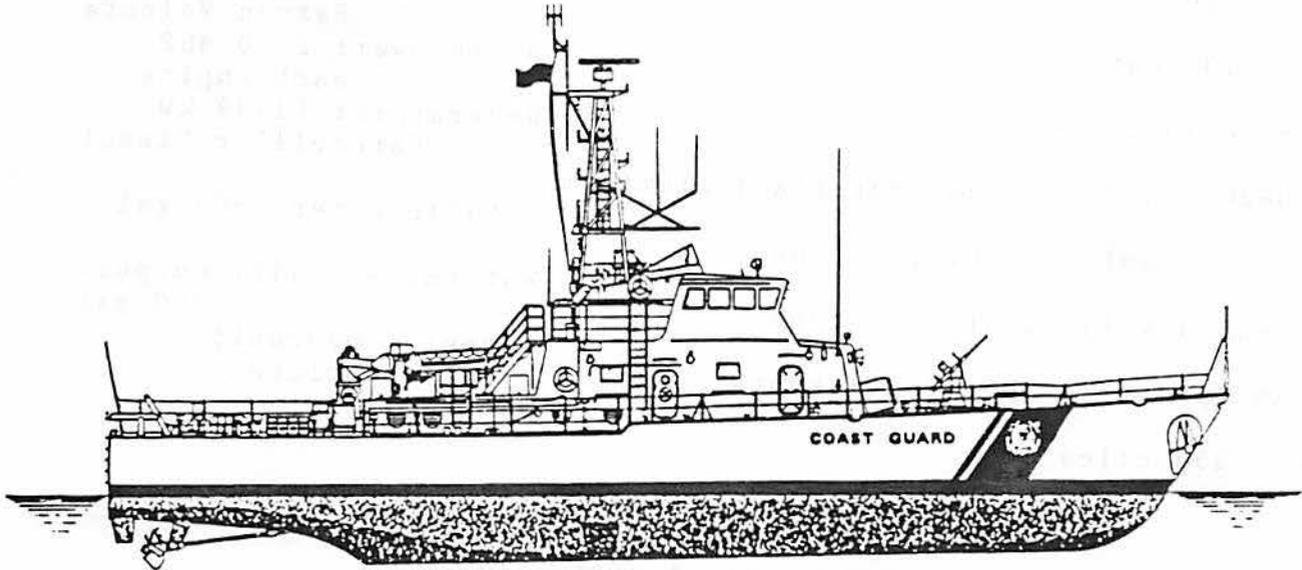




# United States Coast Guard

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## ISLAND CLASS PATROL BOATS

Thirty-seven 110-foot patrol boats (WPBs) will provide valuable support for the Coast Guard in its efforts to stem the flow of illegal drugs into the United States. The vessel's primary job is drug interdiction in South Florida and the Caribbean. In addition to maritime law enforcement, it will be used for search and rescue, and defense operations.

The cutter is designed to complete a five day patrol without replenishment and is manned by a crew of 16, including two officers. The pilothouse and open bridge are characterized by advanced electronics and communication equipment such as LORAN, OMEGA, and satellite navigation equipment, radar with automatic positioning, gyrocompass, and an autopilot. The weaponry includes two M-60 machine guns and a 20mm cannon on the foc'sle.

Named after islands, the cutters are being built by Bollinger Machine Shop and Shipyard in Lockport, Louisiana. Delivery began in 1985 and is scheduled for completion in 1990. The hull and appendage form of the 110' WPBs is based on a successful British design by Vosper-Thornycroft Ltd. The interior and deck arrangements were redesigned to meet the Coast Guard's requirements.

Four cutters are assigned to Squadron One in Miami and five others to Squadron Two at Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. They are grouped in squadrons to consolidate command and control, as well as maintenance and support functions. Five more cutters are stationed in the southeast U.S. and Caribbean, as additional drug interdiction assets. The remaining cutters are being independently homeported as replacements for older patrol boats.

