



Captain Matthew E. Miller
Commanding Officer

Pacific Ocean

November 5, 2008

Dear MIDGETT Family and Friends,

I wanted to take another minute to provide you a final update on our patrol. As you may know, we are on our way home! The crew performed exceptionally well and achieved results that haven't been seen in years in the counterdrug mission area. The amount of praise the crew is receiving from around the Coast Guard is overwhelming. The crew seized 11.85 tons of cocaine, 2.5 tons of marijuana, seized 5 vessels, and made 20 arrests. This included the first ever seizure of a Self Propelled Semi-Submersible (SPSS) drug boat by a Coast Guard Cutter, and played a great part in demonstrating to Congress the inherent danger of boarding these type vessels. As a result, just weeks after our SPSS seizure Congress passed legislation dramatically increasing the criminal penalty for smuggling drugs in this type of vessel. In addition, this was the most successful patrol for the helicopter squadron that supported us since 2005, and the second best of all time. To put these seizures into perspective, we seized two-thirds of the total drugs seized all of last year by the entire helicopter squadron. What makes this more important is that it is the first successful patrol by the Coast Guard's new MH-65C helicopter. In addition, we conducted three search and rescue cases, one of which was a late night medical evacuation of an injured person aboard our helicopter. This too was a first, as it was the first time a deployed MH-65C has been used for search and rescue. As I have mentioned previously, pretty darn impressive! We are still scheduled to return to Seattle as on Saturday, 15 November 2008. We will provide a specific arrival time as we get closer to Seattle.

As a reminder, our OMBUDSMEN is Angela Keane. She has done an exceptional job for you and the crew, so please do not hesitate to contact her if you have questions or need assistance prior to, or after, our return home. Her contact information is:

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Finally, the holidays are right around the corner, so as you prepare for the season, remember to drive and travel safe. And I would add, that this time of the year isn't about spending money on gifts you can't afford, but instead it is about doing something good for a family member, friend, or neighbor.

We are glad to be coming home!

Serving together,



Matthew Miller