



the QUARTERDECK LOG

Membership publication of the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association. Publishes quarterly—Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Not sold on a subscription basis. The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association is a Non-Profit Association of Active Duty, Retired, Reserve and Honorably Discharged Former Members of the United States Coast Guard who served in, or provided direct support to, combat situations recognized by an appropriate military award while serving as a member of the United States Coast Guard.

Volume 36, Number 2

Summer 2021



REMEMBERING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001
AND THE COAST
GUARDSMEN THAT
SACRIFICED THEIR
LIVES THAT OTHERS
MIGHT LIVE

THEY WERE THE FIRST
COAST GUARDSMEN
KILLED IN THE WAR
ON TERROR

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PS2 VINCENT
DANZ



MK1 JEFFREY
PALAZZO

FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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THE QUARTERDECK LOG

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PNP Ed Swift, LM

Small Stores—Rich Hogan, Jr.

COAST GUARD HISTORY CONTRIBUTOR

Dr. William Theisen, Ph.D., CG Historian

As I pen this quarter’s Quarterdeck Log comment, I am honoring the 20th anniversary of one of our Nation’s most tragic events, the terrorist attacks on New York’s World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the heroic, sacrificial downing of the hijacked airliner at Shanksville, PA. Nearly 3000 people were killed and more than 6000 people were injured. The tragedy of 9/11 continues to this day as tens of thousands of people who were in the vicinity of the World Trade Center or worked at ground zero have gotten sick and many have since died of illnesses attributed to the attacks. Sadly, these latter statistics will continue beyond most of our members’ lives; therefore, we each will never forget the victims of the initial attack nor the first responders who have given so much; I salute each of them.



On a lighter note, I celebrated the Coast Guard’s 231st birthday while travelling to Atlantic Beach, NC, to join the celebration of the occasion of the commissioning of the *USCGC Glen Harris (WPC 1144)*. The *Glen Harris* is the 44th of the 64 FRCs to be delivered by the Bollinger shipyards. These 154-foot cutters are replacing the aging 110-foot Island-class patrol boats. As the National President of our Association, I was invited to a Commissioning Committee reception held by the Navy League and Bollinger the evening before commissioning. MCPOCG Charles “Skip” Bowen (ret) was the Master of Ceremony. During the occasion, I presented the Prospective Commanding Officer, LT Reginald W. Reynolds, a plaque honoring the memory of CPO Glen Harris; two books, CWO Paul Scotti’s “Coast Guard Action in Vietnam” and Bob Breen’s “The long Blue line Disrupted”, the story of the Coast Guard manned *USS Serpens*

COVER PHOTO CREDITS

A New York City firefighter looks up at what remains of the World Trade Center after its collapse.
(U.S. Navy photo by PM2 Jim Watson)

Official New York Police Department photograph of NYPD Officer and PS2 Vincent G. Danz.
(NYPD photo)

Official Coast Guard photograph of MK1 Jeffrey Palazzo early in his Coast Guard career.
(U.S. Coast Guard)

FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

(AK97) that was lost in WWII; a CGCVA challenge coin; a *USS Serpens* challenge coin and a commemorative coin that recognizes the coast guardsmen that are buried in cemeteries on foreign soil.

The Vice Commandant, Admiral Linda Fagan presided over the Commissioning Ceremony and assignment of LT Reynolds as the newest FRC's Commanding Officer. As custom dictates, he read his orders to sail his Cutter and crew of 23 to their

homeport of Bahrain where it will support Patrol Forces Southwest Asia (PATFORSWA), the Coast Guard's Largest unit outside of the U.S.A. It's mission is to train, organize, equip, support and deploy combat-ready Coast Guard Forces in support of United States Central Command and national security objectives. The CGCVA wishes the CGC Glen Harris' crew smooth passage across the Atlantic and safe and successful operations hereafter. Semper Paratus ~ Terry O'Connell

FROM THE NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

In addition to my duties as VP, I am also editor of the Quarterdeck Log. You might have noticed that the issues are listed by seasons, Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. That can be confusing at times, especially when the issue is released well into the next season. For instance, this Summer edition will be published and distributed in mid to late October, more than the four weeks following the Fall Equinox, which is September 22. The Fall edition comes out after the Winter Solstice, so hopefully you can see my point. In order to bring some organization to the distribution of the QDL, we have decided to change the name of the issues to follow the four quarters of the calendar year. So the upcoming Winter edition, which is distributed in late March, will be called the First Quarter, and referenced as such Vol 37, 1st Qtr. The Fall 2021 edition will be the last issue for Volume 36.

This edition of the Quarterdeck Log remembers the attacks of September 11, 2001, with the hijacking of four planes by 19 Islamic terrorists of the Al Qaeda terror network and crashing them into the World Trade Center (WTC), the Pentagon and the crashing of United Flight 93 into a field located in Shanksville, PA. Like December 7th, 1941, this date will also live in infamy for the history of America.

The death toll for the WTC was estimated to be

2,606 including 343 members of the NY Fire Department, and 37 members of the Port Authority Police Department. Two members of the Coast Guard Reserve were among the dead, MK1 Jeffrey Palazzo, of the NYFD and PS2 Vincent Danz, of the NYPD. There were 125 people killed in the Pentagon attack and 265 fatalities aboard the four planes that were deliberately crashed in the attack.

Like those who remember exactly where they were when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, or when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963, I clearly remember exactly where I was and what I was doing when I learned of the WTC attack. My wife and I were packing our bags for a trip to London with a group of US Naval Sea Cadets from the Sullivans Division of Buffalo, NY, and watched the attacks unfold on television. When I saw the WTC burning, I knew that my travel plans would be changed, but I didn't know just how much that would be. Within the hour, I learned that I was to be mobilized for two years as a Coast Guard Reservist and to report to my duty station at the Office of Law Enforcement at Ninth Coast Guard District on September 13th. As a drilling Reservist, I was Ninth District's liaison to the various local, state, provincial and federal law



FROM THE NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

enforcement agencies that were along D9's northern border with Canada. With concerns both nations had about possible cross-border terrorist infiltration, I would continue as the District's intermediary in its partnership with the Integrated Border Enforcement Team (IBET). I also realized at that point that I had completed my 25 years with the Amherst, NY, police department and retired as a Detective shortly thereafter.

For the next ten years, I spent a good portion of it on active duty, including a tour as the commanding officer of Port Security Unit 308, then of Gulfport, MS, that included a deployment in 2003-04 to the Port of Ash Shuaiba, Kuwait, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Like many other Coast Guard Reservists, the Coast Guard continued to draw upon the Reserve manpower resources to increase the Service's capabilities to respond to disasters, like Hurricane Katrina and the Deep Water Horizon oil spill, as well as meeting the increased force protection requirements that the Coast Guard was now responsible for under the *Maritime Transportation Security Act* (MTSA)

The attacks of September 11th not only changed the face of the Coast Guard from that of primarily search and rescue that most Americans were familiar with, but highlighted its role as a military service, not seen on this scale since WWII, and that of a law enforcement organization, tasked with protecting the Nation's strategic ports and high values assets (HVA) that transit the waterways of America. The Coast Guard has gained its deserved recognition as a member of the Armed Forces, now and forever more an integral part of the Nation's maritime defense strategy.

This summer, I represented the CGCVA at a dedication ceremony in Charleston, SC. Over the next five years the Coast Guard intends to make Charleston one of its largest military bases in the country. The area currently has three cutters and approximately 1,000 personnel, so the exciting

increase of the Coast Guard's footprint will make Charleston a Coast Guard city.

The CGCVA, along with the Foundation for Coast Guard History purchased a bronze plaque for display on Charleston's waterfront, at 6 Concord Street and N. Adgers Wharf (*See the back cover*). It commemorates the very positive relationship between the City of Charleston and the Coast Guard, as well as the sinking of two Revenue Cutters in Charleston Harbor. The cutters, *USRC Gallatin*, which was destroyed by a catastrophic explosion during the War of 1812 that killed three and wounded five, and in 1853, *USRC Hamilton* sunk in a heavy storm as it was attempting to exit the harbor, taking the lives of 18 crewmembers. The plaque will inform the public of the Coast Guard's historic role in Charleston for the past 231 years.

I am also pleased to announce that the Ship's Store has a new proprietor, Russell Allyson, as of October 01, 2021. He has replaced long serving Richard Hogan who had stepped down after many years of service.

Thank you Richard for your dedicated service in operating the Ship's Store and welcome aboard Russell. Thank you for stepping up and accepting the position.



Russell Allyson

The reunion committee is actively working on the 2023 reunion. Hopefully, we will have our report in the next QDL or the one following.

Finally, On August 25th, I attended a reunion of my former shipmates of Port Security Unit 301 which was then of Buffalo, NY, to commemorate our deployment to Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia, in 1990-91 for Operation Desert Shield, then Desert Storm. It was held in the Buffalo area with about 25 of the original 97 who deployed in attendance.

FROM THE NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

Many are members of the CGCVA and hopefully we will gain a few more as a result of the reunion. It was great seeing everyone.

~ Bruce Bruni

Veterans from the original PSU-301 (Buffalo) at their 31st year reunion commemorating the 1990-91 deployment for Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Uphold Democracy in 1994



FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY / TREASURER

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

I'm writing this on September 11, 2021, the twentieth anniversary of the tragedy of the attacks on American soil, in New York City, Arlington, VA., and Shanksville, PA.

I need to confess that I watched almost none of the ceremonies and speeches this year. It's not that my memories of 9/11 have faded away or I've lost interest in the events of that date. It's an event that will be etched in our minds forever, just like the JFK assassination in Dallas, fifty-seven years ago.

The reason I didn't watch the events of 9/11 was simply that it just makes me so angry!

I hope each of you will "Never Forget" this day in history! I know that I will never forget! May God Bless the United States of America!

RED OR BLUE

In the prior article, I wanted to express my personal opinion and not insinuate that I am expressing an opinion of the Association in any way. I don't think that the events of 9/11/2001 are a Red or

Blue issue, but there's a fine line and I never want to cross it, at any time.

We are a 501(c)19, a tax-exempt military veteran association. We cannot be political or further the opinion of one political side or the other. Our IRS tax status demands neutrality in all matters of politics and keeping that status enables us to enjoy tax exempt status, meaning we don't incur a tax liability for any earnings we generate, and any donation, where the donor does not benefit financially, becomes a tax-deductible donation for the donor.

Part of my job as National Secretary/Treasurer is to make sure we don't violate our tax status, so if you send a political joke or comment to cgcva@comcast.net, I won't reply and will just delete it. Please don't take it personally. I love political humor and living in a country where it's permitted by law.



FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY / TREASURER

QUARTERDECK LOG SUBMISSIONS

Do you have an idea for a great article? Write it down or better yet, write the entire article. We need members to not only submit ideas but do the best they can to put on paper the details of an event that you believe is worthy of publication in the Quarterdeck Log. We will polish it up, make spelling and grammar corrections, if necessary, but we are encouraging you to play an active part in your magazine

Bruce Bruni does an excellent job, publishing the Quarterdeck Log but neither he nor any of the officers or trustees can take an idea of an event, do research, and write the complete article. There is no CGCVA research team or staff. In truth, you are the research team. Do the best you can to gather facts, record the details, including subject, dates, photos, etc. Bruce will review your submission and edit it for publication and include your “by-line”. Get credit for relating a great story or something of benefit to the Association. “Start your military journalism career right here! Submit that article!

NEW SMALL STORES ITEM COMING SOON

You asked for them and you’re gonna get them.

Chieu Hoi polo shirts are being ordered very soon. We are going to order a good quantity of these shirts that sold out at prior reunions. They have never been ordered for sale in small stores, but they are coming soon.

These shirts, with the Chieu Hoi image on the left breast pocket, were first introduced at a previous reunion/convention by Ted Leventini, who generously donated 30 of these shirts and they were an immediate hit with members. The idea for the shirt was Ted’s alone and he really surprised the reunion committee, officers, and trustees with his personal initiative! Thank you Ted!

By the way, did you know that Chieu Hoi is

not only the CGCVA’s official mascot, but it is also a program from Vietnam where the Republic of Vietnam tried to recruit the NVA and Viet Cong to switch sides? So, naming the “Rabine Fajita” after that program seems somehow appropriate.

2023

Yes, 2023 is the year of the next Reunion. The Reunion committee has discussed and reviewed the various cities suggested by the membership and the associated hotel locations. Then the committee contacts the hotel group sales managers to see if an affordable contract can be negotiated for exciting reunion venue. This requires a lot of work, with hundreds of details to consider. It just doesn’t happen on its own. What the Reunion Committee asks of the membership is that you consider attending and taking advantage of what’s been negotiated on the Association’s behalf.

Your attendance is what makes the reunion successful and helps raise some money for the Association. A vast majority of first-time attendees have remarked about what a great event it was. The fellowship with other members, the guest speakers and all the accommodations make it worth your consideration to attend the next reunion.

The Reunion Committee works very hard and the best way to compensate them for their work is to attend and have fun! We hope you will attend next one!

~ G Sherman



BOOSTER CLUB

THE QDL BOOSTER CLUB

The QDL Booster Club is a tax-exempt opportunity to donate funding to offset the cost of printing and mailing the Quarterdeck Log. Donations can be sent to the Administrative Office and marking the memo section of your check with “QDL Booster Club.” Contributed amounts will not be published, only the name of the individual making the donation. Since the publishing of the last edition of the QDL the following members have made contributions to the QDL Booster Club, which is greatly appreciated.

CURRENT QDL BOOSTER DONATIONS

Thomas Frischmann, Robert Breen, Robert Ziehm, Terrence Phillippe, Herbert Cohen

IN MEMORY OF DONATIONS

Charles Bevel IMO Joyce Bevel

CROSSED THE BAR

It is with sadness that we take note of the following members who have crossed the bar.

Evertt J. “Mattie” Matteson, Sr. LM, John P. Jennings, James C. Quinn, LM,
Thomas W. Hart, LM, (Bylaws Chairman since 2009)

NEW MEMBERS

NEW MEMBER	SHIP/UNIT IN COMBAT ZONE	CONFLICT	SPONSOR
Neil E. Talley	CGC Oswego	RVN	M. Placencia / J. Lasher
John A. Breen	USS Serpens—NOK	WWII	Robert Breen
Jerry G. Remillard	CGC Androscoggin	RVN	

AUXILIARY NEWS



AUXILIARY NEWS

By National Aux President

Please let me say a sincere Thank You for having chosen me as your CGCVA National Auxiliary President during the June 2021 reunion.

I am honored to represent this outstanding organization and promise to work closely with Linda Kay, Vice President and Javaughn Miller, Secretary/Treasurer in playing a cooperative and vital role within the CGCVA.

Russ and I attended our first Reunion in 2015 which lead to our ever increasing involvement within this organization. We've been married 47 years. We met in Newport, RI, while Russ was in the Coast Guard and I was a student nurse. Fast

forward 47 years and we now live in Michigan, and have two children and three grandchildren. We're both retired and travel extensively on our boat on the Great Lakes.

Before I conclude, we welcome all Auxiliary members to share advice, news and recommendations to make the Auxiliary more purposeful in our continued support of the CGCVA.

My cell # is 616-837-8891 and email address is weeksbarbaral@gmail.com. Please don't hesitate to contact me at anytime.

Thank you everyone and enjoy the rest of your fall.

Barbara

COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY & ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPLICATION

Membership Type: Auxiliary _____ New _____ Renewal _____ Returning _____
Two Year Membership from May 20 _____ to May 20 _____

Name: _____ Date: _____ 20 _____ Email Address: _____

Home Phone Number: (____) ____ - _____ Cell: (____) ____ - _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Dues: **\$15.00 for a two-year membership.** Make check or money order payable to CGCVA Auxiliary Assn.

Mail to: **Gary Sherman, CGCVA National Secretary/Treasurer, P.O. Box 969, Lansdale, PA 19449**

Auxiliary Membership Qualifications: Family of members of the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association in good standing

Associate Membership Qualifications: All other interested parties. Associated membership is a non-voting membership

For additional information, please contact: Javaughn Miller (Auxiliary National Secretary/Treasurer

Email: jallsmiller0@gmail.com or (619) 328-8576

The Long Blue Line: 20 years after 9/11— A day that changed the Coast Guard forever

*William H. Thiesen, Historian
Coast Guard Atlantic Area*

(Reproduced from The Long Blue Line)

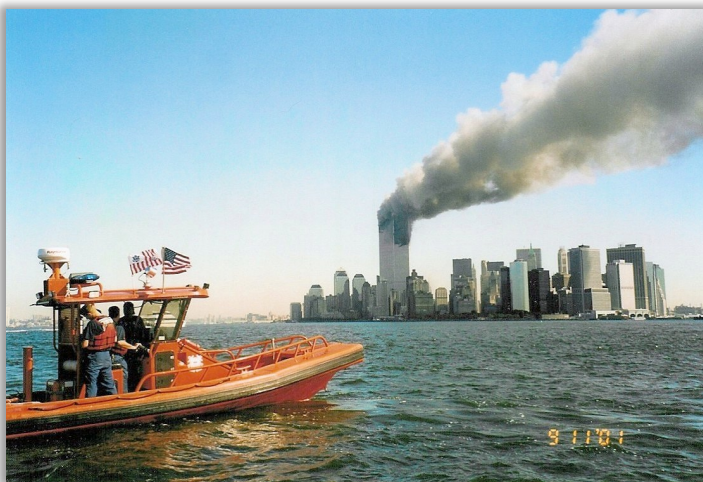
The day war was declared on the Empire of Japan, President Franklin Roosevelt referred to December 7, 1941, day of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, as “a date which will live in infamy.” Little did he know the nation would face a similar day nearly 60 years later. On September 11, 2001, Al Qaeda terrorists hijacked four commercial airliners, crashing two into the World Trade Center, one into the Pentagon and one targeting the Capitol

evacuating civilians by water and assisting those in need. On September 14th, Operation Noble Eagle deployed even more Coast Guard men and women on port security missions, search and rescue efforts and clean-up operations. Thousands of Coast Guard Auxiliarists and Reservists were mobilized in the largest homeland defense and port security operation since World War II.

Eleven days after 9/11, President George W. Bush set-up the Office of Homeland Security. In November 2002, he signed the *Homeland Security Act*, creating the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). By March 2003, the Coast Guard had left the Department of Transportation to become the largest agency within DHS. It was a record-setting sixth executive agency change for the Coast Guard.

In December 2001, President Bush signed legislation amending the *National Security Act*. Coast Guard Intelligence became part of the nation’s intelligence community and our intelligence branch became the Office of Intelligence (CG-2). And, in 2003, the Coast Guard commissioned Maritime Information Fusion Centers for each Area command (MIFC-LANT and MIFC-PAC) to support Coast Guard units and commands.

President Bush also signed the *Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA)* to protect the



Deployed Coast Guard rigid-hull inflatable boat with World Trade Center burning in background. (U.S. Coast Guard)

Building and a third crashing in a Pennsylvania field. The attacks killed nearly 3,000 people, over 500 more than the number lost at Pearl Harbor.

The 9/11 attacks twenty years ago and the subsequent War on Terror set in motion dramatic changes to the Coast Guard. Our units and personnel were some of the first military responders, providing communications and security,



A Coast Guard Reserve Port Security Unit boat providing security in New York Harbor after the 9/11 terrorist attack. (U.S. Coast Guard)

COVER STORY

nation's ports and waterways from terrorist attacks. The MTSA led indirectly to the International Ship and Port Facility Code and the formation of our International Port Security Program, whose staff members monitor security standards in foreign ports. Under the MTSA, the Coast Guard also formed 13 Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSSTs), supporting the Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security (PWCS) mission and providing non-compliant vessel boarding capability for Coast Guard missions. In 2004, the service began forming the Maritime Security Response Team (MSRT) on the East Coast and, in 2013, began forming a second MSRT on the West Coast. In 2007, the service stood-up the Deployable Operations Group (DOG) to oversee the Coast Guard's Deployable Specialized Forces (DSFs), such as the MSRTs, MSSTs, Port Security Units, National Strike Force teams, Coast Guard Dive Locker personnel and Tactical Law Enforcement Teams (TACLETs). Later, the service decommissioned the DOG and Area commands re-assumed tactical control of DSFs.

After 9/11, the Coast Guard focused on unity of effort and responsiveness. In early 2002, the service set-up Joint Harbor Operations Centers in its port commands. In 2003, the Coast Guard adopted the

Incident Command System, enhancing its effectiveness in major domestic response efforts. Prior to 9/11, field commands included separate Marine Safety Offices (MSOs), Vessel Traffic Services (VTSs), and Groups. The service designed a "sector" structure to combine these units and began setting-up local sector commands in 2005.

Beginning in October 2001, the Coast Guard had supported Operation Enduring Freedom with port security, force protection and military outload security. Early 2003 saw Middle East deployment of Coast Guard cutters and DSFs in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Coast Guard also stood-up new units like the Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment (RAID) and Bahrain-based Patrol Forces Southwest Asia (PATFORSWA). While RAID was decommissioned in 2015, PATFORSWA continues to support cutters and DSFs in the Northern Arabian Gulf.

The 2001 terrorist attacks reshaped the Coast Guard, with new homeland security units, alterations in existing Coast Guard units and the transition to a new federal agency. The service's response demonstrated its flexibility, readiness and relevance in the Coast Guard's greatest transformation since World War II.

Vincent Danz—9/11 hero and FRC namesake

William H. Thiesen, Historian Coast Guard Atlantic Area

As a member of the Emergency Service Unit, he and his fellow officers were the first to enter the doomed Trade Center. He called home to his wife and told her it was real bad up in the Towers. His last words were, "Please pray for these people and pray for me."

**Pam Brady, sister of Port Security Specialist 2nd
Class Vincent G. Danz**

On the morning of September 11, 2001, 71 law enforcement officers from eight local, state, and federal agencies were killed when terrorist hijackers working for the Al Qaeda terrorist network crashed passenger jets into the World Trade Center towers in New York City, the Pentagon, and a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.



**PS2 and NYPD
Officer, Vincent G.
Danz (NYPD Photo)**

After the impact of the first plane into the World

COVER STORY

Trade Center's North Tower, New York City police officers put the safety of others before their own. Along with fire and EMS personnel, they rushed to the burning "Twin Towers" to aid victims and lead them to safety.

After impact of the second plane into the South Tower, the building unexpectedly collapsed due to the intensity of the fire caused by the jet crash. The North Tower collapsed a short time later. Seventy-one law enforcement officers, 343 members of the New York City Fire Department and over 2,800 civilians were killed at the World Trade Center. Due to the quick actions of New York's first responders, it is believed that over 25,000 civilians were saved.

Officer Vincent G. "Vinny" Danz was killed while attempting to rescue victims trapped in the Towers. Danz was a Coast Guard Reservist and a New York Police Department (NYPD) officer, who joined the NYPD after serving in the United States Marine Corps. By September 2001, he had served as an officer for 14 years starting on bicycle patrol before joining NYPD's Emergency Services Unit and assigned to ESU Truck Number 3.

Vincent Danz was the first New York City police officer to receive a memorial service. He was also posthumously awarded the New York City



Coast Guard commandant, Admiral Karl Schultz, and Angela Danz-Donahue, right, at the naming ceremony for FRC *Vincent Danz* and FRC *Jeffrey Palazzo*. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA3 John Hightower)

Police Department's Medal of Honor for his heroic actions. On September 9, 2005, all of the public safety officers killed on 9/11, were posthumously awarded the 9/11 Heroes Medal of Valor by President George W. Bush. And, in June 2021, the Coast Guard dedicated Coast Guard Sector New York's unaccompanied personnel housing facility in honor of PS2 Danz.

On November 12, 2019, the Coast Guard announced that two new "Sentinel"-Class Fast Response Cutters would be named after PS2 Danz and fellow Coast Guard Reservist Jeffrey Palazzo, who lost his life on 9/11 as a member of the New York Fire Department. Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral Karl Schultz, made the announcement at Battery Park flanked by New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill.

Commandant Schultz began,



A new Fast Response Cutter in New York Harbor during the FRC *Danz* naming ceremony in November 2019. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA3 John Hightower)

COVER STORY

“We are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to honor these brave men whose service and sacrifice spanned three great first-responder organizations.” Schultz continued:

“Their broad military and public service to both the nation and city of New York demonstrated their incredible dedication and character. When the call came, they answered. We are certain that the men and women who serve aboard Coast Guard Cutter Vincent Danz and Coast Guard Cutter Jeffrey Palazzo in the future will proudly carry on their sense of honor, respect, and devotion to duty.”

Officer Danz is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son. His older sister, Pam Brady, recalled,

“I remember something Vincent said once about being in the Reserves: I don’t know how good I would be at being the one in charge, but as for taking orders, I’m very good at that.” Vincent showed how good he was at taking orders without question and it cost him his life. When I think back to that day when the world changed forever, it is almost too much to bear and even to this day, hard to believe.”

Jeffrey Palazzo—a 9/11 Coast Guard hero’s story

Adapted from the Fall 2020 issue of *The Long Blue Line*, newsletter of the Coast Guard Retiree Association

“Jeff was a force of nature. He was fearless, brave, and determined so when he put his mind to doing something, he would get it done.”

Comments by Chris Cassano, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and New York Police Department, retired

On September 11, 2001, Coast Guard Reservist Jeffrey Palazzo was one of hundreds of New York Fire Department personnel that made the ultimate sacrifice trying to save others. Saving lives was what drew Palazzo to the Coast Guard. According to his mother, Jeff’s first rescue occurred when he was the tender age of eight. In that event, he helped some boaters who had capsized while sailing.

Irene and Anthony Palazzo adopted Jeffrey at the age of five months from the Angel Guardian Orphanage in Brooklyn. *“He was adopted May 1st,”* Irene recalled, *“so that became Jeffrey Day every year his entire life.”* Jeff’s girlfriend and later wife Lisa said, *“I saw it. It was clear that college wasn’t*

his thing. I was writing all his papers for him!” After their sophomore year, the two attended New York City’s 4th of July celebration and Jeff helped some boaters in distress. *“In the process,”* Lisa explained, *“he met some Coasties and the rest is history.”*

Palazzo served in the Coast Guard Reserves as a Machinery Technician 1st Class (MK1) on board the cutter *Cape Horn* out of Station Rockaway. MK1 Palazzo responded to many high-profile incidents and large-scale emergencies. These included the winter 1989 sinking of the *Bronx Queen*, a charter boat lost off the Rockaways in rough seas. During the event, the Coast Guard saved 17 passengers from the sinking ship. Palazzo was part of the crew that decommissioned the *Cape Horn* in 1990 and continued to serve at Rockaway.

In June 1993, MK1 Palazzo was on the first Coast Guard boat to discover the infamous *Golden Venture*, a cargo



**MK1 Jeffrey Palazzo
on patrol at
Coast Guard
Station Rockaway
(U.S. Coast Guard)**

COVER STORY

ship carrying more than 200 Chinese immigrants that ran aground in Queens. *“We heard the cries of distress in the dark and we began pulling people out of the water,”* said fellow Coast Guard Reservist Chris Cassano, who credited Palazzo for saving dozens of people from the water. *“Jeff had a great sense of urgency and that mentality of being ready at a second’s notice. We would sleep in our uniforms in case we got a call in the middle of the night.”*

In Rockaway, Palazzo served much of his time under CWO4 Bruce Schneider, who described him as *“a very ambitious and smart individual. As a Coast Guardsman, Jeff was focused on rescue through and through.”* So, it came as no surprise to Bruce, in 1996, when Palazzo decided to become a New York City firefighter. Following eight years of active duty in the Coast Guard, Palazzo joined the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) while continuing to serve in the Reserves.

Palazzo spent his first five years with FDNY in Brooklyn at Ladder Company 109. In the spring of 2001, he joined Staten Island’s elite Rescue Squad 5 in Concord. *“He was tremendously sincere,”* said firefighter John Drury of

Rescue 5. *“He was not only passionate about his work as a rescue firefighter, but was always quick to tell you a caring story about his own family.”*

Like many New York City first responders, Jeff continued to serve as a member of the Coast Guard Reserve. Fellow Reservist Cassano said, *“Who are the members of the Coast Guard Reserve in New York? Police and firefight-*

ers. There’s a lot of crossover.” Palazzo continued to work alongside his colleagues at Station Rockaway for his weekend shifts, however, when his commanding officer, CWO4 Schneider, was transferred to Station Chatham in Massachusetts, Jeff followed. Schneider allowed Palazzo to store up his time and work in Chatham for a week or more at a time. *“Jeff qualified on the new 47-foot motor lifeboat In Provincetown,”* Schneider remembered, *“When he came up, he would get a lot done.”*

Like so many stories told by the families of people lost on 9/11, Lisa Palazzo described that tragic morning as ordinary, like any other. *“I was at work, so I wasn’t home when he left for his shift. He left me a voicemail, nothing special; you know ‘Headed to work, I love you.’”* That shift would be Palazzo’s last, as he and ten members of the Rescue 5 squad perished trying to save fellow New Yorkers from the terrorist attack. In all, 343 members of the FDNY were lost in the disaster. That day, Lisa lost her husband and their young daughters, Nicole and Samantha, lost their father. After Jeffrey’s passing, Lisa wanted to carry on the family name, and adopted a 13-month old baby boy, naming him Matthew, which was Jeffrey’s birth name.

On November 12, 2019, the Coast Guard announced that two new “Sentinel”-Class Fast Response Cutters would be named after MK1 Palazzo and fellow Coast Guard Reservist Vincent Danz, who lost his life on 9/11 as a member of the New York Police Department. Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral Karl Schultz, made the announcement at Battery Park flanked by New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, NYPD Commissioner James O’Neill, FDNY Chief John Sudnik and FDNY Commissioner Daniel Nigro.

Commandant Schultz began, *“We are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to honor these brave men whose service and sacrifice spanned*



New York firefighter Jeffrey Palazzo dressed out in his helmet and firefighting gear. (Courtesy of the Palazzo Family)

COVER STORY

three great first-responder organizations.” Schultz continued: Their broad military and public service to both the nation and city of New York demonstrated their incredible dedication and character. When the call came, they answered. We are certain that the men and women who serve aboard Coast Guard Cutter Vincent Danz and Coast Guard Cutter Jeffrey Palazzo in the future will proudly carry on their sense of honor, respect, and devotion to duty.



Members from the Coast Guard, New York City Fire Department, and Palazzo family participate in the ribbon cutting when the new Jeff Palazzo Hall was dedicated at Coast Guard Station New York in October 2016. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA3 Steve Strohmaier)

“Firefighter Jeffrey Palazzo bravely served our city and his country, proudly wearing the uniforms of the FDNY and United States Coast Guard,” said Commissioner Nigro. The commissioner continued: We will never forget his bravery and the sacrifice he made working to rescue those trapped at the World Trade Center. His legacy will live on through the Sentinel-Class Fast Response Cutter that will bear his name and rescue New Yorkers from danger for years to come.”

At the announcement ceremony, Matthew Palazzo spoke to a Coast Guard recruiter. What

began with some simple questions turned into a genuine interest to serve. Matthew finished basic training at Cape May on September 4, 2020, just a week shy of the 19th anniversary of 9/11. Today, he carries on Jeff’s tradition of service on board the icebreaker *CGC Polar Star*.

The “Sentinel”-Class Fast Response Cutter is a key component of the Coast Guard’s offshore fleet and it is capable of deploying independently to conduct missions that include ports, waterways and coastal security; fishery patrols; search and rescue; and national defense. It is a fitting cutter to honor the memory of MK1 Jeffrey Palazzo.



One World Trade, formerly the Freedom Tower, opened May 29, 2015, replacing the North Tower and is the tallest building in the U.S. and Western Hemisphere and is the 6th tallest building in the world—(Photo by One World Trade Center - www.onewtc.com, Public Domain)

FEATURED ARTICLES

GM1 Willis Jerry Goff and EN2 Larry D. Villarreal

GM1 Willis “Jerry” Goff and EN2 Larry Villarreal had been assigned to *USCGC Point Banks*, WPB-8237, during its deployment to South Vietnam.

Originally homeported at Woods Hole, MA, *Point Banks* was tasked with search and rescue operations as well as law enforcement missions. But in 1965 that all changed when the US Navy called for Coast Guard support for the war in South Vietnam. *Point Banks* arrived in Vietnam on August 1, 1965, and was assigned to Division 11 of Squadron One and homeported at the An Thoi Naval Base.

Like the other 82 foot cutters now patrolling the waters of South Vietnam, *CGC Point Banks* was involved in Operation Market Time, boarding junks, sampans and freighters searching for weapons. The shallow-draft 82 footers were ideal for operating close to shore with skilled commanding officers maneuvering the vessels along some of the waterways and into river deltas.

With the ability of the 82 foot vessels to get in close to shore, they were often called upon to provide fire support for ground forces and dropping off SEAL Teams for their stealthy missions and later recovering them. The crews also were called on from time to time to recover ground force personnel who may be facing overwhelming enemy forces. One such recovery effort occurred on the night of January 22, 1969, while *Point Banks* was operating on patrol south of Cam Rahn Bay when *Point Banks* intercepted a radio transmission from Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) forces that were surrounded by an overwhelming force of Viet Cong. With the support of two Navy Fast Patrol Craft and an Air Force AC-47 gunship, *Point Banks* quickly responded to the ARVN’s desperate call.

As *Point Banks* fired 81mm mortar rounds ashore, GM1 Goff and EN2 Villarreal manned the *Point Bank*’s small boat and went to the aid of nine stranded ARVN soldiers. For their selfless and heroic actions, Goff and Villarreal were awarded the Silver Star medal for extraordinary heroic action. GM1 Goff is pictured below receiving his



GM1 Willis “Jerry” Goff, USCG, being awarded the Silver Star for his heroic actions on the night of January 22, 1969 (USCG Photo)

Silver Star at Cat Lo, Republic of Vietnam. EN2 Villarreal received his award on February 18, 1969, at the Department of Transportation Headquarters in Washington, DC. Goff’s award citation reads:

“The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Willis J. Goff, Gunner’s Mate First Class, U.S. Coast Guard, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while serving on board the U.S.C.G.C. POINT BANKS (WPB-82327) on 22 January 1969. When his unit was requested to assist nine South Vietnamese Army personnel who were trapped on a beach promontory by two platoons of Viet Cong aggressors, Petty Officer Goff volunteered to pilot the POINT BANKS 14-foot small boat into the beach to rescue the trapped personnel. He made two trips into the beach in heavy surf and was exposed to intense enemy small arms and automatic

FEATURED ARTICLES

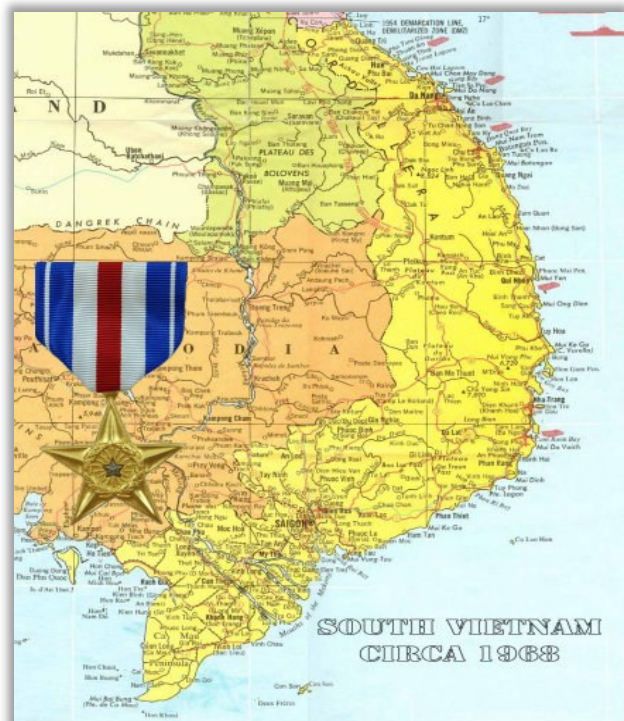
weapons fire and the additional hazard of close-in gunfire support from three naval patrol units and a C-47 aircraft. The situation was further complicated by darkness and by the fact that the position of the friendly personnel was only generally known. During this time, Petty Officer Goff also manned his M-60 machine gun and directed accurate fire toward the enemy. With courageous disregard for his own safety, Petty Officer Goff was able to rescue nine South Vietnamese Army personnel who would have met almost certain death or capture. His outstanding heroism, professionalism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.”

EN2 Larry Villarreal’s citation reads: *“The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Larry D. Villarreal, Engineman Second Class, U.S. Coast Guard, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while serving with Operation MARKET TIME forces in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 January 1969. Petty Officer Villarreal was serving aboard the U.S.C.G.C. POINT BANKS (WPB-82327) when his unit was requested to assist nine South Vietnamese Army personnel trapped on a beach by two platoons of Viet Cong. The sea was the only means of escape. Petty Officer Villarreal, along with a fellow crewman, volunteered to pilot the POINT BANKS’ 14-foot Boston Whaler into the beach to rescue the trapped personnel. Petty Officer Villarreal, acting as small boat coxswain, made two trips into the beach in heavy surf while exposed to intense enemy small arms, automatic weapons fire and the additional hazard of close-in gunfire support from three naval patrol units and a C-47 aircraft. The situation was further complicated by darkness and the fact that the position of the friendly personnel was known only generally. At one point during the evacuation the Boston Whaler outboard motor died, but Petty Officer Villarreal, with outstanding professionalism and composure*

under fire, restarted the motor and continued with the rescue. With courageous disregard for his own safety, Petty Officer Villarreal and his fellow crew member were able to rescue the trapped personnel. Petty Officer Villarreal’s heroic action, professionalism, and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.”

There were a total of 12 Coast Guardsmen who were awarded the Silver Star during the Vietnam War. In addition to GM1 W. Jerry Goff and EN2 Larry Villarreal, there was LT. Lance A. Eagan, LTjg Eugene J. Hickey, LCDR Lonnie L. Mixon, LTjg Charles B. Mosher, LTjg Robert T. Ritchie, LT Jack Columbus Rittichier (Posthumously MIA-KIA), LTjg Barham F. Thomson, III, LTjg Stephen T. Ulmer, EN1 Robert J. Yered and former Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral Paul Alexander Yost, Jr. who was a Commander at the time of the award.

Readers can find the Silver Star citations for each of those listed here at: www.homeofheroes.com/silver-star/vietnam-war/coast-guard.



FEATURED ARTICLES

A KOREAN WAR TALE

By Robert Dell

At the outbreak of the Korean War in June of 1950, the government was looking for any unit that was close and available for use in Korea. It so happened that the Coast Guard Cutter *Winnebago*, WPG-40, was out on weather patrol on Ocean Station Victor in the North Pacific, about three days steaming from Japan. She was immediately ordered to Korea via Japan with a stop at the big naval base in Yokosuka, Japan, to take on supplies. However, there was one problem. Traditionally Coast Guard cutters are painted white with a buff superstructure. They did not want to send a ship in this configuration into a war zone, so the decision was made to give it a new paint job. The ship was literally painted navy gray in less than twenty-four hours using all hands to accomplish the task. The *Winnebago* had a total turn around time of about forty-eight hours before it was on its way to the coast of Korea. There the ship went up and down the South Korean coast dropping supplies and picking up stragglers overrun by the North Koreans during the hectic days of the Pusan perimeter fight. This is another instance of a Coast Guard unit living up to the motto of "Semper Paratus" (Always Ready).

The *Winnebago* was one of thirteen 255-foot



cutters built in 1944/45 to replace cutters that had been given to the British early in WWII on the lend lease plan. The 255's were not popular with their crews because they were considered to have poor sea going qualities and sparse accommodations for those who manned them. However, they did the job they were designed for, long weather patrols in the north Atlantic and Pacific oceans. They lasted into the 70's, including stints of service in Vietnam.

CGC WINNEBAGO IN VIETNAM

Winnebago was assigned to Coast Guard Squadron Three, Vietnam, from 20 September 1968 to 19 July 1969 as part of Operation Market Time. Her commanding officer during the deployment was CDR Bruce W. Dewing. While serving in Vietnamese waters, *Winnebagos'* gun crews destroyed or damaged 42 enemy bunkers, two observation towers, and a large base and several staging areas. In addition, her gunners hit an enemy "infiltration trail and a complex of enemy tunneling that connected underground storage facilities", that also caused heavy secondary explosions and fires. The cutter "investigated more than 1,500 vessels for infiltrators and enemy arms shipments". Her medical staff also treated over 50 South Vietnamese "for a variety of ailments". She participated in four search-and-rescue operations as well, including rescuing "eight Vietnamese, 17 Greeks, and 35 Filipinos" who were rescued from their "sinking ships" during the cutter's deployment.

Upon *Winnebago's* return to the United States, she was stationed at Wilmington, NC, performing search and rescue, law enforcement and ocean station duties from March 1972 to February 27, 1973, when she was decommissioned and sold for scrap, ending a long, distinguished career in the service not only of the Coast Guard from 1945 to 1973.



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Petty Officer Second Class Paul F. Flodge, a Coast Guard reservist with Coast Guard Port Security Unit 311 out of San Pedro, Calif., provides security with a .50 caliber machine gun on the Khawr al Amaya oil terminal off the coast of Iraq. Flodge, who works full time for the Los Angeles Police Department, is one of many reservists called to active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Coast Guard photo)

The Long Blue Line: Coast Guard combat operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom

Written by William H. Thiesen
Coast Guard Atlantic Area Historian

As in so many American conflicts, Coast Guard units and personnel in Operation Iraqi Freedom or OIF, performed several missions: including escort duty, force protection, maritime interdiction operations or MIO, and aids-to-navigation or ATON work. From the very outset of Middle East operations, the Coast Guard's training and experience in these and other maritime activities played a vital role in OIF.

Late in 2002, Coast Guard headquarters alerted various units in the service's Pacific Area and Atlantic Area about possible deployment to the Middle East. From November 2002 through January 2003, these units began activation, training, and planning activities for an expected deployment in early 2003. In January, Pacific Area's first major units deployed to the Arabian Gulf, including the high-endurance cutter *Boutwell* and ocean-going buoy tender *Walnut*. Both vessels had to cross the Pacific and Indian oceans to arrive at the Arabian Gulf and begin operations. Their responsibilities would include Migrant Interdiction Operations (MIO) and *Walnut*, in conjunction with members of the Coast Guard's National Strike Force, would lead potential oil spill containment operations.

Atlantic Area provided many units of its own, sending the high-endurance cutter *Dallas* to the Mediterranean to support and escort Military Sealift Command shipping and Coalition battle groups in that theater of operations. Atlantic Area sent four 110-foot patrol boats (WPBs) to Italy together with support personnel and termed their base of operations "Patrol Forces Mediterranean" or PATFORMED, and it sent four WPBs to the Arabian Gulf with a Bahrain-based command called "Patrol Forces Southwest Asia," PATFORSWA.

The service also activated Port Security Units and law enforcement boarding teams, LEDETs, which had proven successful in the Gulf War in 1990. Atlantic Area sent PSU 309 from Port Clinton, Ohio, to Italy to support PATFORMED while Pacific Area sent PSU 311 from San Pedro, California, and PSU 313 from Tacoma, Washington, to Kuwait to protect the Kuwait Naval Base and the commercial port of Shuaiba, respectively. LEDET personnel initially served aboard the WPBs and then switched to Navy patrol craft to perform MIO operations.

At 8 p.m. on March 19, Coalition forces launched Operation Iraqi Freedom. When hostilities commenced, all Coast Guard units were manned and ready. On March 20, personnel from PSU 311 and PSU 313 helped secure Iraq's offshore oil terminals, thereby preventing environmental damage and ensuring the flow of oil for a post-war Iraqi government.

FEATURED ARTICLES

On March 21, littoral combat operations began, and the WPB *Adak* served picket duty farther north than any other Coalition unit along the Khor Abd Allah Waterway. *Adak* captured the first Iraqi maritime prisoners of the war whose patrol boat had been destroyed upstream by an AC-130 gunship. On that same day, *Adak* participated in the capture of two Iraqi tugs and a mine-laying barge that had been modified to plant its deadly cargo in the waters of the Northern Arabian Gulf.



Port Security Unit 309's Transportable Port Security Boat (TPSB) underway. (U.S. Coast Guard photo.)

Once initial naval operations ceased, Coast Guard units began securing port facilities and waterways for the shipment of humanitarian aid to Iraq. On March 24, PSU 311 personnel deployed to the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr and, four days later, the WPB *Wrangell* led the first humanitarian aid shipment to that port facility. In addition to their primary mission of boarding vessels in the Northern Arabian Gulf, Coast Guard LEDETs secured the Iraqi shoreline from caches of weapons and munitions. Buoy tender *Walnut*, whose original mission included environmental protection from sabotaged oil facilities, surveyed and completely restored aids to navigation for the shipping lane leading to Iraq's ports.

On May 1, President George Bush declared an

**ME3 Nathan Bruckenthal
KIA
April 24, 2004 in support of OIF**



end to combat operations in Iraq. However, in less than a year the Coast Guard suffered its first and only death associated with OIF. On April 24, 2004, terrorists navigated three small vessels armed with explosives toward Iraq's oil terminals. During this attack, the Navy patrol craft *Firebolt* intercepted one of the watercrafts and members of LEDET 403 and Navy crew members proceeded toward the vessel in a rigid-hull inflatable boat or RHIB. Terrorists aboard the small vessel detonated its explosive cargo as the RHIB approached, overturning the boat and killing LEDET member Nathan Bruckenthal and two Navy crew members. Serving in his second tour of duty in Iraq, Bruckenthal had already received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and Combat Action Ribbon. He posthumously received the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. He was the first Coast Guardsman killed in combat since the Vietnam War and was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

In OIF, the Coast Guard demonstrated the importance of a naval force experienced in shallow-water operations, MIO, port security and ATON work. The PSUs performed their port security duties efficiently despite their units being divided between three separate port facilities and two oil terminals. The WPBs operated for countless hours without maintenance in waters too shallow for Navy assets and served as the Coalition fleet's

FEATURED ARTICLES

workhorses in boarding, escort and force protection duties. The personnel of PATFORMED and PSU 309 demonstrated that Coast Guard units could serve in areas, such as the Mediterranean, lacking any form of Coast Guard infrastructure. PATFORSWA performed its mission effectively even though it was the first support detachment established by the Coast Guard. Fortunately, *Walnut* never had to employ its oil spill capability, but

proved indispensable for MIO operations and ATON work on the Khor Abd Allah Waterway. Cutters *Dallas* and *Boutwell* provided much-needed logistical support, force protection and MIO operations. OIF was just one of the many combat operations fought by the Coast Guard since 1790 and its heroes are among the many members of the long blue line.

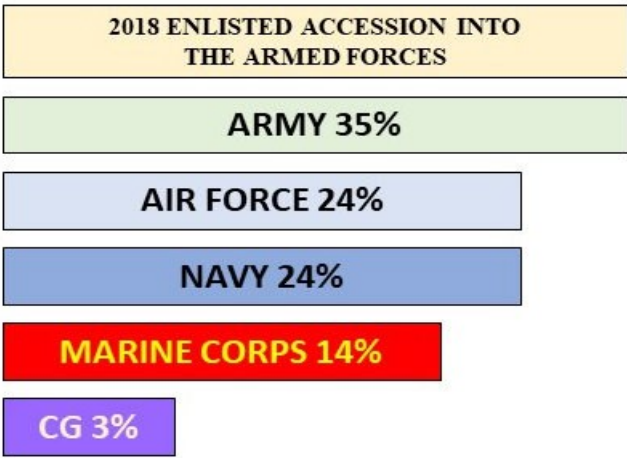
WHO MAKES UP THE ARMED FORCES AND WHERE ARE THEY FROM?

Many often wonder who makes up today's military and which states they are from. The answers might surprise you. The following is information from the 2018 report from Council on Foreign Relations.

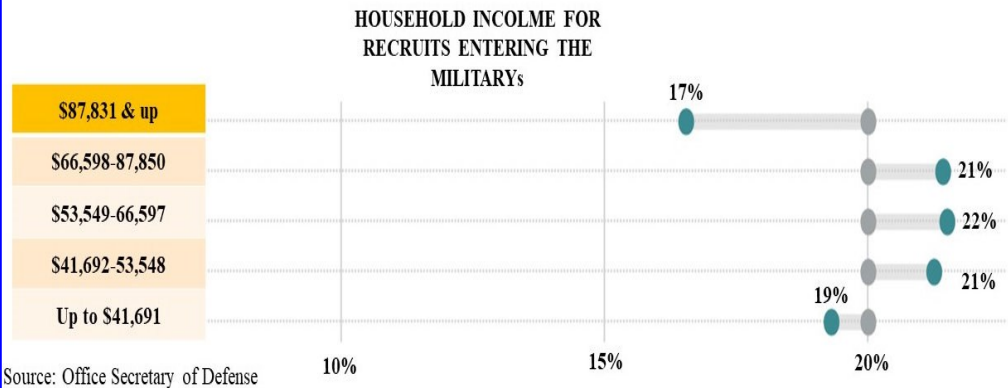
Note: Income ranges represent the median household income statistics for all U.S. census tracts. Each statistic includes 20 percent of the U.S. population. Coast Guard data was not available.

Enlisted military members come from all fifty states and the District of Columbia, but some contribute more than others. In absolute terms, the top six for recruitment in 2018 were California, Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and New York, which is reflective of their relatively large populations.

California had the largest number of people enlisting into the services, with 19,504 recruits, with Texas second with 18,670 and Washington DC with the fewest at 93. The ratio of enlistees to their states civilian population varies widely throughout the country. *South Carolina had the highest representation ratio, at 1.5, meaning it contributed 50 percent more than its share of the country's 18-24 year-old population. Florida, Hawaii, Georgia, and Alabama round out the top five. On*



We often hear that the poor and underprivileged make up today's military, but that is not accurate. Most recruits are from Middle Class neighborhoods. The three middle statistics shown in the graph for household income were overrepresented among enlisted recruits and the top and bottom statistics were underrepresented.



FEATURED ARTICLES

the other end of the spectrum—jurisdictions that contribute fewer recruits than their share of 18-24 year-olds, or those with ratios less than 1.0—are Washington, DC, North Dakota, Massachusetts, Utah, and Rhode Island.’

MINORITY MAKEUP

The racial and ethnic makeup of the Armed Forces is frequently a topic of discussion and often incorrect when it fits a narrative.

The US government classifies race into five distinct groups, White, Black/African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. Ethnicity is distinctly different from race and is divided into two categories, Hispanic or Latino and NOT Hispanic or Latino. The racial and ethnicity of the enlisted recruits that make up the Armed Forces varies considerably across all Services and between genders.

Minority representation in all services is higher among female recruits than among male recruits and the representation of Black women in the Army

is significantly higher than in the civilian population.

Although the Marine Corps has an overrepresentation of Hispanic men and women, they are underrepresented by Black men and women.

The Coast Guard has the highest representation of White male and female recruits out of all other Services. It also has the highest number of female officers than other Services at 23 percent with the Air Force following at 21 percent and Marine Corps on the bottom at 8 percent. Coast Guard female enlisted is at 13 percent, which is below the Navy and Air Force at 20 percent and Army at 14 percent. Only the Marine Corps is lower at 9 percent.

The Coast Guard continues to improve the level of diversity among its workforce, ensuring that the Service recruits the best to meet the mission. The Coast Guard might be a small Service, but it can be proud of the quality of people that make up the officer and enlisted ranks of this premier maritime force.

NEWS AND NOTICES

MANAMA, Bahrain — Capt. Benjamin D. Berg relieved Capt. Willie Carmichael as commander of Patrol Forces Southwest Asia aboard Naval Support Activity Bahrain, on Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

During his 13-month tenure as the senior U.S. Coast Guard representative in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, Carmichael led PATFORSWA to support maritime security operations in the north, central, and south Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

Vice Adm. Steven Poulin, commander of U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area, presided over the

ceremony and commended Carmichael for his

**NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY BAHRAIN
Vice Adm. Steven Poulin, Commander, U.S. Coast
Guard Atlantic, gives remarks during a change
of command ceremony for Patrol Forces
Southwest Asia (PATFORSWA) onboard Naval**



**Support Activity
Bahrain,**

*(U.S. Navy photo by
Mass*

*Communication
Specialist 2nd Class
Matthew Riggs)*

NEWS AND NOTICES

leadership and performance.

"Through your personal sacrifice and your dedication, PATFORSWA cutters spent more than 7,000 hours deployed throughout the entire year providing 365 days of continued support for U.S. Naval Forces Central Command strategic objectives," said Poulin.

Carmichael will report to the Legend-class *USCGC Midgett (WMSL 757)* in Alameda, California, as the prospective commanding officer.

"I cannot thank you enough for supporting one another, the mission, and adding to the legacy of PATFORSWA," said Carmichael. "It has been an honor to serve as your commodore."

Berg is reporting from the Coast Guard Thirteenth District in Seattle, where he served as chief of planning for contingency preparedness and force readiness.

"It truly is an honor to be officially joining this outstanding team today," said Berg.

PATFORSWA, attached to CTF 55, comprises six patrol vessels, shoreside mission support personnel, and the Maritime Engagement Team.



From Left to Right: CAPT Willie Carmichael, (outgoing Commander, PATFORSWA) VADM Steven Poulin, (Commander, LANTAREA) and CAPT Benjamin Berg (incoming Commander, PATFORSWA)

They play a crucial role in maritime security, maritime infrastructure protection, and theater security cooperation in the region. The unit also supports other U.S. Coast Guard deployable specialized forces operating throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

-USCG-

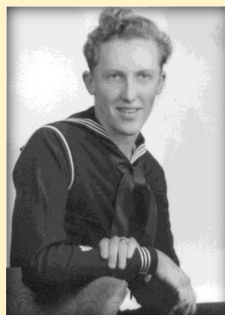
WWII VETERAN TO INAUGURATE CEREMONIAL SHIP'S BELL

By the Green Valley News, July 13, 2021

A local World War II veteran will have the honor of being the first to officially ring a new ceremonial Ship's Bell purchased by The Desert Coasties, a group of Coast Guard veterans.

But the Coasties say the honor is all theirs to have 94-year old Joe Ferrang at the ceremony Monday (July 19, 2021).

The ringing of the Ship's Bell shows respect and honor for fallen heroes from the military, law enforcement, firefighting, EMS and others on the front lines. It is sounded at funerals, memorials and other special occasions.



Joe Ferrang in WWII

Ferrang, who lives in Green Valley, enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1944 at the age of 17, during World War II. He did his basic training at Manhattan Beach, New York. He was assigned to *FS-176*, a freighter supply ship operating in the southwest Pacific, delivering ammunition, food and other supplies to ports and PT boats.



Joe Ferrang in 2021

Ferrang received the Asiatic Pacific Area Campaign Medal with service star, the Philippine Liberation Medal with

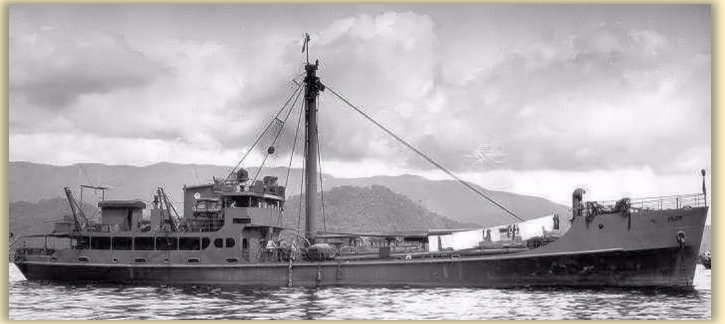
NEWS AND NOTICES

service star, the American Campaign Medal and WWII Victory Medal.

In an interview with the Green Valley News in 2014, Ferrang said he believed using the atomic bomb was necessary to end the war with Japan. He said he was glad President Truman “had the guts” to use it, but was sorry it had to happen.

“It’s hard to understand human beings and why they have to be so cruel to one another,” he said.

Ferrang married in 1947 and worked as a cabinet maker, tool and die maker and as a lithographer and printer in the Pittsburg area. He and his wife, Mary,



A Coast Guard manned supply ship FS-177, similar to FS-176, the ship Joe Ferrang sailed on

whom he met at a dance, moved to Green Valley in 1978.

Coast Guard Veteran Gifts the Coast Guard with Historical Flag

(Coast Guard News Release, November 22, 2019)

A Coast Guard WWII veteran presents the Coast Guard Cutter *Tampa* (WMEC 902) with a historical flag in Portsmouth, VA., Thursday afternoon.

Alex Obrizok is a 98-year-old man and resident of North Carolina. He served in the Coast Guard from 1942 to 1946. In addition to his Coast Guard service, Obrizok is also a Navy and Sea Bee veteran with over 20 years of cumulative service to his country. He participated in operations for both WWII and the Korean War.

Obrizok was attending a wedding in September of this year; at the wedding, he met Patricia Larkin, a 2003 Coast Guard Academy Graduate, and Coast Guard veteran. Obrizok and Larkin both served on a Coast Guard Cutter with the same namesake, the *Tampa* (WPG-48).

Obrizok then went into a storage chest where he retrieved a Coast Guard ensign that belonged to the original *Tampa*. He presented the flag to Larkin and asked her if she would return the flag to the current *Tampa* because of its historical significance.

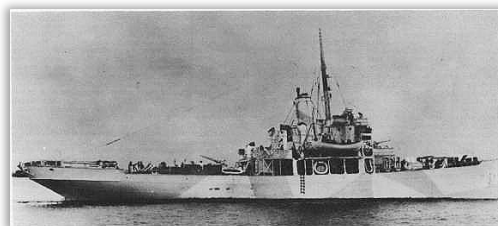
“It’s a beautiful flag,” said Obrizok. “It survived all these years and belongs with her namesake, it

belongs to the *Tampa*.”

Larkin contacted the Coast Guard and brought attention to the historical flag and the man who has had it for over 70 years.

Obrizok, his daughter and son-in-law drove from Selma, N.C., to Portsmouth, VA., to give the flag to the current *CGC Tampa*. The flag was flown on the ship during his visit and remained flying during quarters where Obrizok read the promotion certificate for three officers, promoted from Ensigns to Lieutenant Junior grades. Vice Adm. Scott Buschman, Coast Guard Atlantic Area Commander, presided over the ceremony and thanked Obrizok for the historical flag, his service to his country and for making the trip to meet the crewmembers aboard the *Tampa*.

During WWII, *Tampa* was part of the historical Greenland Patrol and was an escort vessel for the *SS Dorchester* convoy. That *Tampa* was decommissioned late in 1946.



USCGC Tampa (WPG-40) in WWII blue camouflage

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BENEFITS

VA SPOTLIGHTS SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR ELDERLY WARTIME VIETERAN POPULATION

In their follow up of the August 14th National Financial Awareness Day, the VA has launched an awareness campaign to inform elderly wartime veterans and their families for the lesser-known pension, funeral, burial and survivor benefits.

The following benefits are available through the VA's Pension and Fiduciary (P&F) Service (https://benefits.va.gov/FIDUCIARY/docs/VA_Fiduciary_Guide_Apr2020.pdf) for use in planning for the future.

- VA Pension (<https://www.va.gov/pension/>) is payable to wartime veterans who are permanently and totally disabled due to non-service connected disability, or who are 65 years old or older, and who meet certain income and net worth limits.
- Special Monthly Pension (<https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/limitedincome/EnhancedSpecialPension.pdf>) is an additional benefit for Veterans in receipt of pension who are housebound, require the aid and attendance of another person to help them with daily activities (such as eating, bathing and dressing), have very limited eyesight or require nursing home care.
- For Surviving Spouses, there are two types of benefits P&F Service offers. The Survivor's Pension that provide monthly payments to qualified surviving spouses and unmarried dependent children of wartime Veterans who meet certain income and net worth limits. Special monthly payments is also available to surviving spouses who are housebound or require the aid and attendance of another person. (<https://www.va.gov/pension/survivors-pension/>).
- Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (<http://www.va.gov/disability/dependency-indemnity-compensation/>) is available to dependents and parents and generally is not based on income and assets (except the income limits apply to parents). DIC is a monthly benefit paid to a surviving spouse, child or parent of a veteran who died from service-related injury or illness, or when an active-duty service member dies in the line of duty. Special monthly DIC is also available to surviving spouses who are housebound or require the aid and attendance of another person.
- A surviving spouse of a Veteran who served on a Blue Water Navy vessel offshore of the Republic of Vietnam or on another U.S. Navy or Coast Guard ship operating in the coastal waterways of Vietnam between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975, may be leigible for DIC benefits—even if they were previously denied. (<https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/>)
- VA's funeral and burial benefits (<https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/>) are available for both service-related and non-service related deaths. New regulations allow a flat-rate burial and plot or internment allowance with decreased paperwork and maximum payment permitted by law.
- For those interested in burial benefits such as a Presidential Memorial Certificate, burial flag, headstone or marker, the National Cemetery Administration has information about pre-need eligibility. (https://www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits/index.asp)

Factsheets are available to assist Veterans with limited resources. (<https://benefits.va.gov/benefits/factsheets.asp#BM3>)

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BENEFITS

Pension eligibility information (<https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/limitedincome/pensionprogram-and-representation.pdf>) details on how Veterans and their families can get help filing their claim for free.

Many vulnerable senior wartime Veterans are targeted with misinformation. In many cases, this is because they are not fully aware of their benefits, which increases the chance of them being taken advantage of and/or defrauded.

The VA encourages elderly wartime Veterans and their family members to consult a VA-accredited representative (<https://www.benefits.va.gov/vso/index.asp>) if they want or need help filing a claim.

They are reminded to beware of individuals or companies that promise benefits or ask for money upfront, as only the VA can make a final determination of eligibility.

(<https://www.va.gov/pension/eligibility>)

AGENT ORANGE BIRTH DEFECTS IN KIDS AND GRANDKIDS: WHAT THE VA NEEDS

(*Excerpts from www.woodslawyers.com*)

Exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange has not only proven dangerous to the exposed Veteran but has carried on to children and grandchildren. The VA can assist with disability compensation benefits for eligible dependents of the Veteran.

RECOGNIZED AILMENTS OF AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE

Excessive skin oiliness, Dark body hair, Numerous blackheads, Fluid-filled cysts, Open sores, Permanent scarring, Thickening of the skin, Flaking or peeling of the skin, Leukemia, Porphyria cutanea tarda, Early-onset peripheral neuropathy, Multiple myeloma, AL amyloidosis, Ischemic heart disease, Hodgkin's lymphoma, Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Prostate cancer, Parkinson's disease, Soft tissue sarcoma, Type II diabetes, Various respiratory cancers, Hypertension (as of 2018), Bladder Cancer and Hypothyroidism (as of 2020).

IMPACT OF AGENT ORANGE OF KIDS AND GRANDKIDS

Over the decades since the end of the Vietnam War, a common thread has been noticed among the children and now grandchildren of the returning Vietnam Veterans. Of the birth defects, the VA only recognizes spina bifida as related to exposure of Agent Orange in male Veterans. However, the

VA has requested continued research to determine what other conditions in children can be related to their father's exposure to Agent Orange.

However, the VA does recognize that children born to female veterans exposed to Agent Orange have a higher incidence of birth defects. They include: Cleft lip or palate, Clubfoot, Achondroplasia, Hip dysplasia, Congenital heart disease, Esophageal and intestinal atresia, Fused digits (syndactyly), Pyloric stenosis, Neural tube defects, Hallerman-Streff syndrome, Hypospadias, Poland syndrome, Williams syndrome, Imperforate anus, Tracheoesophageal fistula, Hirschsprung's disease, and Undescended testicle.

While all these defects are recognized by the VA, making the female Veteran and her child eligible for VA disability, the VA does not associate the cause to exposure to any herbicides, but rather to the Veteran's service in Vietnam.

THIRD GENERATION BIRTH DEFECTS AND HEALTH CONDITIONS

In addition to the conditions detailed above, parents and doctors theorize that the following conditions found in grandchildren can be linked to exposure to Agent Orange: Skin disorders, Endocrine conditions, Ehler-Danlos syndrome (a connective tissue disorder), Hypermobility, Sleep apnea, Vision issues, Dysautonomia, Muscle

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BENEFITS

weakness, Epilepsy, Long QT syndrome, Orthostatic hypotension, Joint pain, GI problems (including acid reflux and stomach pain), Balance issues, Migraines, Heart arrhythmias, Heart problems, Chiari malformation.

In 2018, researchers found a link between dioxin and autism, concluding that dioxins may be a contributing factor in ASD. It would stand to reason that exposure to Agent Orange, which contains TCDD, a dioxin that is a byproduct of the production of the herbicide, could lead to instances of autism. However, at this time, the government does not recognize the connection.

AGENT ORANGE AND MENTAL ILLNESS IN OFFSPRING

Veterans exposed to Agent Orange also claim that there are neurobehavior difficulties associated with the herbicide, with include: Cognitive decline, Memory problems, Dementia, Difficulty

DESERT STORM, OIF, OEF, OND VETERANS—HAVE YOU REGISTERED WITH THE BURN PIT REGISTRY YET?

As a method to track their health, the Burn Pit Registry was created. It includes all veterans, not just those involved in burn pit operations, who have served in the Middle East, Africa and Afghanistan, which covered Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, as well as those who served in Djibouti, on or after September 11, 2001, or in the Southwest Asia theater of operations on or after August 2, 1990.

The Burn Pit Registry can be found at: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/registry.asp>.

Participation is not required for other VA disability compensation. Enrollment in the VA health program is not required.

concentrating, and Depression.

The VA will approve disability benefits to some veterans with dementia or Alzheimer's, but at this time, they do not recognize a link between neurobehavior issues and Agent Orange exposure in veterans, much less their descendants.

AGENT ORANGE VICTIMS AND WIDOWS SUPPORT NETWORK

The Agent Orange Victims and Widows Support Network is a non-profit, chartable organization that draws attention to the devastating effects of Agent Orange on Veterans and their families. Veterans or surviving family members of veterans can join the network to give and receive support. They can be found at:

www.agentorangequiltotears.com

HELPFUL VA PHONE NUMBERS

Office	Toll-free #	Hours
Health Care Benefits	877-222-8387	Mon-Fri 8:00am to 8:00pm ET
My Healthy Vet help desk	877-327-0022	Mon-Fri 8:00am to 8:00pm ET
Caregiver Support line	855-260-3274	Mon-Fri 8:00am to 100pm ET & Sat 8:00am to 5:00pm ET
VA Benefits hotline	800-827-1000	Mon-Fri 8:00am to 9:00pm ET
GI Bill hotline	888-442-4551	Mon-Fri 8:00am to 7:00pm ET
Special Issue hotline Blue Water Navy Act, Gulf War, Agent Orange, other info	800-749-8387	Mon-Fri 8:00am to 9:00pm ET
Women Veterans Hotline	855-829-6636	Mon-Fri 8:00am to 10pm ET and Sat 8:00am to 6:30pm ET
Headstones and Markers	800-697-6947	Mon -Fri 8:00am to 5:00pm ET
White House VA Hotline	855-948-2311	24/7

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BENEFITS

VA HOME LOAN GUARANTEE

Many veterans have received a VA Home Loan Guarantee when purchasing their home. But did you know that not only the honorably discharged veteran is eligible, but also currently serving active duty personnel, certain surviving spouses and members of the Reserve and National Guard are eligible to obtain, retain, and adapt homes in recognition for their service to the nation? Eligibility applications can be submitted electronically through eBenefits (www.ebenefits.va.gov) or by going through your lender, who will use the Automated Certificate of Eligibility system.

For general program information or to obtain VA loan guaranty forms please visit www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/ or call 1-877-827-3702.

REPLACING MILITARY RECORDS

If a discharge or separation document has been lost, Veterans or the next of kin, if the veteran is deceased, may obtain duplicate copies through the eBenefits portal (www.ebenefits.va.gov) or by completing forms found on the internet at www.archives.gov/research/index.html and mailing or faxing them to the NPRC or alternatively, write to:

**National Personnel Records Center,
Military Personnel Records
1 Archive Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138-1002**

Specify that a duplicate separation document is needed. The Veteran's full name should be printed or typed but the request must also contain the signature of the Veteran or the signature of the next of kin, if the Veteran is deceased. Include the Veteran's branch of service, service number, and exact or approximate dates and years of service. Use Standard Form 180, "Request Pertaining to Military Records." The form can be obtained at a

VA office or the internet at www.va.gov/vaforms/

Use the same form for requests for replacement medals, decorations, and awards and should be directed to the branch of the military in which the veteran had served. Forms, addresses, and other information on requesting medals can be found on the Military Personnel Records section of the NPRC's website at www.archives.gov/stlouis/militarypersonnel/index.html.

BURIAL AND MEMORIAL BENEFITS

The VA operates more than 140 national cemeteries, of which more than 95 are open to internments of either casket or cremains. Burial options are limited to those available at a specific cemetery and may include in-ground casket, or internment of cremated remains in a columbarium, in ground, or in a scattering area. For more information, visit the National Cemetery Administration website at www.cem.va.gov.

Burial in a national cemetery is open to all members of the Armed Forces, and Veterans who have met minimum active duty service requirement and were discharged under conditions OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE.

Members of the Reserve components of the Armed Forces who die while on active duty, while on training duty or were eligible for retired pay, or were called to active duty and served full term of service for which they were called, may also be eligible for burial.

Their surviving spouse, minor children, and under certain conditions, unmarried adult children with disabilities, may also be eligible for burial. Eligible spouses and children may be buried even if they predecease the Veteran.

Application for a Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery can be made using VA Form 40-10007 which can be obtained at www.va.gov/vaforms.

DESERT STORM, OIF, OEF AND OND INFORMATION

THREE NEW PRESUMPTIVE CONDITIONS FOR TOXIC EXPOSURE ARE VA APPROVED

VA has started processing disability benefits claims for veterans suffering from **asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis** as a result of their military service in Southwest Asia.

VA's rulemaking will address veterans who were deployed to the Southwest Asia theater of operations beginning Aug. 2, 1990, to the present, or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria, or Djibouti

beginning Sept. 19, 2001, to the present. Those operations includes Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and the airspace above these locations. This regulation will be legally effective on August 5, 2021.

The *Comprehensive and Overdue Support for Troops (COST) Act 2021* affects 3.5 million Iraqi and Afghan War veterans.

GULF WAR SYNDROME

A prominent condition affecting Gulf War Veterans is a cluster of medically unexplained chronic symptoms that can include fatigue, headaches, joint pain, indigestion, insomnia, dizziness, respiratory disorders, and memory problems. VA refers to these illnesses as "chronic multisymptomatic illness" and "undiagnosed illnesses." This is what is commonly known as "Gulf War Syndrome" because it was first reported by Gulf War Veterans.

The VA presumes certain chronic, unexplained symptoms existing for 6 months or more are related to Gulf War service without regard to cause. These "presumptive" illnesses must have appeared during active duty in the Southwest Asia theater of military operations or by Dec. 31, 2021, and be at least 10% disabling. These illnesses include:

- Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, a condition of long-term and severe fatigue that isn't relieved by rest and is not directly caused by other conditions.
- Fibromyalgia, a condition characterized by widespread muscle pain. Other symptoms may include insomnia, morning stiffness, headache, and memory problems.
- Functional gastrointestinal disorders, a group of conditions marked by chronic or recurrent

symptoms related to any part of the gastrointestinal tract. Examples include irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), functional dyspepsia, and functional abdominal pain syndrome.

- Undiagnosed illnesses with symptoms that may include, but are not limited to: abnormal weight loss, fatigue, cardiovascular disease, muscle and joint pain, headache, menstrual disorders, neurological and psychological problems, skin conditions, respiratory disorders, and sleep disturbances.

Gulf War Veterans who meet these criteria don't need to prove a connection between their military service and illnesses to get VA disability compensation.

UPDATE

The VA has extended the time limit for Gulf War veterans to claim presumptive disability for certain chronic illnesses related to their military service in Southwest Asia. The time limit had been set at December 31, 2021, but has been extended five years to December 31, 2026.

Normally, there is no time limit for claiming disability from the VA, but some presumptive conditions do have restrictions.

To qualify as disabling, a covered illness must be the cause of the illness, or the symptoms thereof,

DESERT STORM, OIF, OEF AND OND INFORMATION

for at least six months and:

- Occurred during service in the Southwest Asia theater of military operations from 02 August 1990, to the present. This also includes Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003-2010) and Operation New Dawn (2010-2011), or
- Been diagnosed as at least 10 percent disabling by the VA after service.

According to the September 14, 2021 Federal Register posts regarding the change, the reasoning behind the change of the cutoff date is because there has been no established end date for the Persian Gulf War and the medical evidence is still unclear as to how long illnesses caused by Persian Gulf service will take to show up in affected veterans.

Like many of the service connected claims from veterans exposed to Agent Orange, the associated illnesses and symptoms do not become evident until

long after the veteran has left military service. It took many years for researchers to connect the illnesses associated with their exposure to the herbicide.

The Gulf War illnesses can vary somewhat among individuals and include fatigue, headaches, cognitive dysfunction, musculoskeletal pain, insomnia, and respiratory, gastrointestinal and dermatological complaints. These symptoms may have been caused by the veterans exposures to a toxic chemical or environment during the 1990-91 Gulf War or during Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation New Dawn.

According to the Disabled Veterans of America (DAV), Gulf War Syndrome affects approximately 200,000 veterans of the 650,000 service members who served in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm with one or more of the presumptive illnesses.

Toys for Tots is a Top-Rated Charity

Christmas is not far off and the US Marine Corps is again looking for donation for their Toys for Tots program. Over 97% of your donation goes directly to the mission of providing toys, books, and other gifts to less fortunate children. The 3 percent spent on support principally covers fundraising expenses — not one donated dollar goes to salaries or any other manpower costs. Help the Marines and Santa out this year with a donation to the Marines' Toys for Tots charity.

The Impact

The Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program has been delivering hope since 1947 with the distribution of 604 millions toys to date and supporting 272 million children to date.

Donations of toys can be made at various drop off points throughout your local community. You can also provide direct funding support through the Toys for Tots website: www.toysfortots.org.



SHIP'S STORE

MAIL ORDERS TO:

Russell Allyson
193 Durham Point Road
Durham, NH 03824

SMALL STORES ORDERING

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS:

Please email Russ at:
Rallyson@comcast.net

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Pay by check, payable to: CGCVA
Debit / Credit Cards payments are
made via the CGCVA website
www.coastguardcombatvets.org

NEW ITEMS FOR THE SHIP'S STORE: These Coast Guard campaign patches are 2" x 4" in size and are perfect for your hat, jacket, motorcycle vest or anywhere that you want at only \$6.00 each includes shipping.



OUR BEST SELLING ITEMS

CGCVA GOLF SHIRT: With embroidered CGCVA flash on left breast: Sizes S, M, L, XL, \$27.50. XXL \$31.00. Only available in Navy Blue. Free Shipping.

CGCVA BASEBALL CAP: Blue/Black with gold lettering and CGCVA logo, full back and comes in two sizes, S/M (6-7/8 to 7-1/4) and L/XL (7- 3/8 to 7-5/8). Please specify size. \$25.00

CGCVA GARRISON CAP: (Must specify size) Fore'n aft cap with embroidered CGCVA color logo and in white lettering "COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION". \$27.50

CGCVA CHALLENGE COIN: CGCVA logo on obverse, U.S. Coast Guard logo on reverse. \$12.00

CGCVA 8" OVAL WINDOW STICKER: Vinyl and will stick to your car, boat, motor home or just about anything. \$6.00

USCG ACTION IN VIETNAM: By Paul Scotti, PNP, LM. A great history of the U.S. Coast Guard's participation in the Vietnam War. \$22.00

CGCVA AND USCG VIETNAM PATCHES: CGCVA (small) \$4.00, CGCVA (large) \$5.00, RONONE, CON-SON, ELD—Eagle, Market Time, Squadron Three, USCG LORSTA Sattahip, Thailand, ELD CG Vietnam, \$5.00 each, Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club \$6.00





COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)

PERSONAL INFORMATION



Last Name	First Name	MI	Suffix	DOB
Street Address	City	State	Zip	
Telephone: Cell	Home	Other	Primary Email	

Many members have dual addresses, relocating to the south during winter months and back to the north in summer. In order to receive the Quarterdeck Log at your current location, it is important that you notify the CGCVA Secretary/Treasurer when you travel between residences at cgcva@comcast.net to ensure delivery. All change of address requests are to be made to the same email account.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Applicants must have been a member of the U.S. Coast Guard at the time of deployment during a qualifying period for CGCVA membership. This application MUST be accompanied by a copy of one or more of the following documents that indicates your participation in or in direct support of combat operations: DD-214 (all pages), DD-215, NAV/CG-523, Letter(s) of awards or other "official" documentation of your participation. Active Duty may submit their Employee Summary Sheet which lists duty stations and awards. If there is no documentation available to validate eligible service for membership, a certified statement from a former shipmate who is a CGCVA member in "Good Standing" will serve as your sponsor and affirm that you served with them with a specific unit, in a theatre of operations that qualifies for CGCVA membership. All CGCVA applications are verified. For all applications, please provide the sponsor's name if necessary or that of someone who is referring you for membership.

Qualifying Service Medal Awarded	Dates in Theatre of Operations and Campaign Name	Ship(s) or Unit(s) at time of deployment and Authorized Period

Dues: \$40.00 for two (2) years membership

Current active duty members, including SELRES on Title 10, receive four years membership for \$40.00. SELRES on Title 10 or LONG TERM ADOS must submit a copy of their orders along with their DD214.

Send membership application to:
CGCVA Secretary-Treasurer
P.O. Box 969, Lansdale, PA 19446
Make check or money order payable to:
CGCVA

Print name of CGCVA sponsor or referral	Signature of applicant	Date
-----------------------------------------	------------------------	------

Indicate in check box if applying for: Regular membership Associate membership Other

**Please! Look at the Exp. Date on your label
and renew if due. The Quarterdeck Log**

**COAST GUARD COMBAT
VETERANS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 969
LANSDALE, PA 19446**

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The Coast Guard in Charleston

Authorized by Congress on August 4, 1790, US Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton established the United States Revenue Cutter Service as an armed customs enforcement agency, stationing one of the first fleet of ten cutters, *South Carolina*, in Charleston.

Later, during the Quasi War with France (1798-1800), a second cutter named *South Carolina* distinguished itself in combat. During that conflict, Charleston native Hugh Campbell became one of the nation's most successful combat captains. He later became a foremost US Navy officer. During the War of 1812, Revenue Cutter *Gallatin* served out of Charleston and on April 1, 1813, suffered a catastrophic explosion in the magazine while anchored near this site with the loss of three crewmembers.

After the peace, cutters continued to serve Charleston. During the Nullification Crisis of 1832, cutters enforced US tariff laws in Charleston and, on December 9, 1853, Charleston-based Revenue Cutter *Hamilton* was lost with 18 crewmembers while attempting to sail out of the harbor when a severe storm struck.

Charleston also saw the Revenue Cutter Service participate in the start of the Civil War. In April 1861, President Abraham Lincoln sent a troop convoy to Charleston, escorted by Revenue Cutter *Harriet Lane*, to relieve the garrison at Fort Sumter. During the famous bombardment of the fort by Confederate forces, *Harriet Lane* fired a shot over the bow of the un-flagged vessel Nashville. It is considered the first shot fired from a naval vessel in the Civil War.

During the 1800s, the US Coast Guard predecessor services, the US Lighthouse Service and the US Life-Saving Service, established lighthouses and boat stations in the lowcountry region. In 1915, the Life-Saving Service merged with the Revenue Cutter Service to form the modern Coast Guard, thereby increasing its overall support of the area. Later, the Lighthouse Service and the Bureau of Marine Inspection also became part of the Coast Guard, further increasing its involvement in Charleston's maritime heritage.

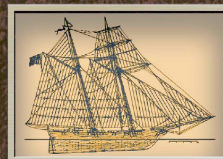
During World War I and World War II, the Coast Guard oversaw missions essential to the security of Charleston, including port security and shore patrols, in addition to its ordinary missions of law enforcement and marine safety. In 1942, Charleston received the first US captured German POWs of World War II, when the Coast Guard Cutter *Icarus* delivered the surviving submariners from the vanquished U-352.

Since World War II, Charleston has grown in importance as a port of operations for the Coast Guard. Law enforcement is the service's original mission dating back to Alexander Hamilton's founding in 1790, and remains its primary duty to this day.

In Memory of Lost Crewmembers



Similar to Revenue Cutter *Gallatin*
1807-1813



Revenue Cutter *Hamilton*
1830-1853

ERECTED BY THE FOUNDATION FOR COAST GUARD HISTORY AND THE COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION