



U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

July Daily Chronology of Coast Guard History

1 July

- 1797-Congress passed "An Act providing a Naval Armament," empowered the President to "cause the said revenue cutters to be employed to defend the seacoast and to repel any hostility to their vessels and commerce, within their jurisdiction, having due regard to the duty of said cutters in the protection of the revenue." The act also increased the complements of the cutters from ten men to a number "not exceeding 30 marines and seamen."
- 1885-The Bureau of Navigation was permanently organized in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress of 3 March 1885.
- 1903-The Lighthouse Service, along with other activities having to do with navigation, was transferred from the Treasury Department to the newly created Department of Commerce and Labor.
- 1910-Under the Organic Act of 1910, Mr. George R. Putnam and Mr. John S. Conway took office as the first Commissioner of Lighthouses and first Deputy Commissioner of Lighthouses, respectively.
- 1910-The Lighthouse Board was terminated, its place being take by the newly organized Bureau of Lighthouses.
- 1918-Congress directed that retired officer personnel may be recalled to active duty during war or national emergency.
- 1921-A system of longevity increase of pay, after six months' service for the un-appointed members of the crews of Light-house Service vessels, was introduced for the first time as a means of maintaining "a more efficient personnel on these vessels."
- 1921-The Coast Guard's first air station, located at Morehead City, North Carolina, was closed due to a lack of funding.
- 1924-An adjustment of the compensation of vessel officers in the Lighthouse Service was made effective in order to bring the pay of these positions more nearly on a level with that of similar Positions in the U .S. Shipping Board, the Lake Carriers Association, and other shipping interests.
- 1939-Lighthouse Service of Department of Commerce transferred to Coast Guard under President Franklin Roosevelt's Reorganization Plan No. 11. Under the President's Reorganization Plan No. 11, made effective this date by Public Resolution No. 20, approved 7 June 1939, it was provided "that the Bureau of Lighthouses in the Department of Commerce and its functions be transferred to and consolidated with and administered as a part of the Coast Guard. This consolidation made in the interest of efficiency and economy, will result in the transfer to and consolidation with the Coast Guard of the system of approximately 30,000 aids to navigation (including light vessels and lighthouses) maintained by the Lighthouse Service on the sea and lake coasts of the United States, on the rivers of the United States, and on the coasts of all other territory under the jurisdiction of the United States with the exception of the Philippine Island and Panama Canal proper." Plans were put into effect, "Providing for a complete integration with the Coast Guard of the personnel of the Lighthouse Service numbering



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about 5,200, together with the auxiliary organization of 64 buoy tenders, 30 depots, and 17 district offices."

- 1941-The "Northeast Greenland Patrol" was organized in Boston.
- 1946-As a final step in the return of the Coast Guard to the Treasury Department from wartime operation under the Navy Department, the Navy's direct control of the following Coast Guard functions was terminated: search and rescue, maintenance and operation of ocean weather stations and air-sea navigational aids in the Atlantic, continental United States, Alaska, and Pacific east of Pearl Harbor.
- 1949-The Seventeenth Coast Guard District, eliminated in 1947, was reestablished on 1 July 1949 with its headquarters in Juneau, Alaska.
- 1957-CGC *Storis*, *Bramble*, and *Spar* departed Seattle for their traversal of the Northwest Passage. The three arrived in Boston after the successful completion of the mission on 19 September 1957.
- 1958-The new Atlantic merchant vessel position reporting program [known by the acronym AMVER] was established. It was aimed at encouraging domestic and foreign merchant vessels to send voluntary position reports and navigational data to U.S. Coast Guard shore based radio stations and ocean station vessels. Relayed to a ships' plot center in New York and processed by machine, these data provided updated position information for U.S. Coast Guard rescue coordination centers. The centers could then direct only those vessels which would be of effective aid to craft or persons in distress. This diversion of all merchant ships in a large area became unnecessary.
- 1968-The Coast Guard's Merchant Marine Detachment-Saigon was formally established at the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, Republic of Vietnam.
- 1991-A 14th Coast Guard District LEDET, all crewmen from CGC *Rush*, deployed on board the U.S. Navy's USS *Ingersoll*, made history when they seized the St. Vincent-registered M/V *Lucky Star* for carrying 70 tons of hashish, the largest hashish bust in Coast Guard history to date. The team, led by LTJG Mark Eyler, made the bust 600 miles west of Midway Island.
- 1991-A high personnel retention level led the Commandant, ADM J. William Kime, to begin implementing a high-year tenure program, otherwise known as an "up or out" policy to "improve personnel flow and opportunities for advancement." Two significant points of the program were that they limited enlisted careers to 30 years of active service and established "professional growth points" for paygrades E-4 through E-9, which had to be attained in order to remain on active duty. Up until this time, enlisted members could remain on active duty until age 62 -- the only U.S. military work force with that option.
- 1995-The 750-foot Greek-flagged freighter *Alexia* collided with the 514-foot Singapore-flagged *Enif* near the mouth of the Mississippi River, 70 miles south of New Orleans. The two ships were joined at the point of collision and drifted through the maze of oil and gas platforms scattered across the area, narrowly missing one by a mere 25 yards. CGC *Courageous* served as the on-scene commander to coordinate the response. AIRSTA New Orleans launched three helicopters to provide SAR coverage and to evaluate the damage suffered by the foundering vessels. Personnel from MSO New Orleans and the Gulf Strike Team were sent on-scene to deal with the 80,000 gallon fuel-oil spill. CGC *White Holly* and M/V *Secore Osprey* provided skimming resources.



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The freighters were separated successfully, their remaining fuel was lightered off and they made it to Mobile escorted by CGC *Point Lobos*.

2 July

- 1836-Congress authorized pay increases for the officers in the Revenue Cutter Service. Captain's pay increased to \$1200 per annum, First Lieutenant's to \$960, Second Lieutenant's to \$860, and Third Lieutenant's to \$790.
- 1937-CGC *Itasca*, while conducting re-supply operations in the Central Pacific, made the last-known radio contact with the famed aviatrix Amelia Earhart and her co-pilot Fred Noonan. *Itasca* later joined the Navy-directed search for the aircraft. The search was finally called off on 17 July with no trace of the aircraft or its occupants having been found.
- 2005-The CGC *Jarvis* and the Russian Northeast Border Directorate vessel *Vorovsky* rendezvoused about 450 miles southwest of Alaska's Aleutian Island chain and 250 miles east of Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula to perform the first joint security exercise of the "North Pacific Heads of Coast Guard Agencies."

3 July

- 1905-An Executive Order extended the jurisdiction of the Lighthouse Service to the noncontiguous territory of the American Samoan Island.
- 1918-Congress passed the Migratory Bird Act and the Coast Guard became responsible for the Act's enforcement after the 1936 passage of the "Act to Define Jurisdiction of Coast Guard."
- 1927-Ensign Charles L. Duke, in command of CG-2327, boarded the rumrunner *Greypoint* in New York harbor and single-handedly captured the vessel, its 22-man crew, and its cargo of illegal liquor.
- 1986-The Statue of Liberty Centennial Celebration took place in New York harbor. The Coast Guard was in the "forefront" of the celebration due in part to the Coast Guard's base on Governor's Island.
- 2002-The first of the Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSSTs), MSST-91101 was commissioned in Seattle, Washington on 3 July 2002. MSSTs were created in response to the terrorist attacks on the U.S. on 11 September 2001. A total of 12 MSST units were planned for deployment around the nation.

4 July

- 1979-While on a 10-week cadet cruise CGC *Ingham* located the 75-foot Honduran fishing trawler *Mary Ann* about 500 miles southwest of San Juan, Puerto Rico. A boarding team seized the trawler after they discovered 15-tons of marijuana aboard. The *Mary Ann* first attempted to evade the boarding and actually rammed *Ingham*, causing some damage to the cutter. The trawler finally hove to after *Ingham* fired a number of warning shots.
- 1994-Cutters assigned to Operation Able Manner, which commenced under presidential order on 15 January 1994, rescued 3,247 Haitian migrants from 70 grossly overloaded sailboats in the Windward Passage. They rescued a total of 15,955 during the month of July, 1994.



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5 July

- 1884-An Act of Congress (23 Stat. L., 118) created a special service known as the Bureau of Navigation, under the Treasury Department, with the duty of supervising the work having to do with the administration of American navigation laws. "The act specifically allotted to the bureau the numbering of vessels and the preparation of the annual list of merchant vessels of the United States."
- 1996-The Coast Guard commissioned CGC *Juniper* (WLB 201) on this date in 1996. The new 225-foot WLB was the lead ship in the Coast Guard's Buoy Tender Replacement Project, a major acquisition to replace the service's 26 180-foot buoy tenders constructed during World War II. A total of 16 225-foot WLBs were built by Marinette Marine Corporation for the Coast Guard. *Juniper* was assigned to its homeport of Newport, Rhode Island.
- 2000-HH-65A CGNR 6539 rescued 51 persons from a burning oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico. The aircrew responded to the fire and safely airlifted 15 people to a nearby platform nine miles from the fire. They then evacuated another 36 people to awaiting boats. One of the 6539's crew had landed on the platform to coordinate the rescue. As the helicopter returned to retrieve him, the rig exploded and sent a fireball 100 feet into the air. Unsure whether he survived, the 6539 flew into the thick, black column of smoke and safely rescued him. All four aircrew were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

6 July

- 1809-Congress authorized the construction of twelve new cutters to enforce President Thomas Jefferson's embargo.
- 1942-Coast Guard amphibious aircraft V-166 landed in the open ocean and took aboard 21 survivors of a torpedoed tanker in Gulf of Mexico.

7 July

- 1798-Hostilities began in the Quasi-War with France. The Revenue cutters *Pickering*, *Virginia*, *Scammel*, *South Carolina*, *Governor*, *Jay*, *Eagle*, *General Greene*, and *Diligence* were the first to be placed under Naval orders, comprising about one-third of the U.S. Fleet.
- 1801-In a cost saving measure the Treasury Department sent circulars to the various Collectors looking toward reducing the size of the cutters and their crews.
- 1838-Under the authority of an Act of Congress passed this date, the President divided the Atlantic coast into six, and the Great Lakes coast into two, lighthouse districts. A naval officer was detailed to each lighthouse district, a revenue cutter or a hired vessel was placed at his disposal, and he was instructed to inspect all aids to navigation, report on their conditions, and recommend future courses of action.
- 1838-On 7 July 1838 Congress passed the first legislation "*to provide better security of the lives of passengers on board of vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam.*" (5 Stat.L., 304) The Act specified that the program would be administered by the Justice Department whereby U.S. District court judges were to appoint engineers to inspect merchant steamboats. This Act laid the groundwork for what later became the Steamboat Inspection Service.



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- 1884-Congress directed that cutters be used exclusively for public service and "in no way for private purposes."
- 1911-Convention signed between United States, Great Britain, Japan and Russia prohibiting taking of fur seals and sea otters in North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, north of 300 latitude, except for food and clothing.
- 1938-The Coast Guard began an operation to transport and guard each shipment of 77,000,000 pounds of silver bars from New York City to the silver depository at West Point, New York for the Bureau of the Mint. The 1,101,320 bars of silver were moved by truck and the Coast Guard contingent responsible for its safe delivery were under the command of CDR Stephen S. Yeandle, who at the time served as the Intelligence Officer for the Coast Guard's New York Division.
- 1939-On this date, "the Lighthouse Bureau went out of existence and its personnel moved themselves and their equipment to Coast Guard Headquarters from the Commerce Department building. Thus did lighthouses return to the Treasury Department from the Department of Commerce.

8 July

- 1791- Secretary of the Treasury authorized Collectors of Customs to disburse for cutters and to pay officers as agents of the Secretary.
- 1977-A Coast Guard HH-3F from AIRSTA Cape Cod flew 260 miles offshore to hoist an ill crewman from the 500-foot Soviet refrigerator ship *Skaltste Bereg*.

9 July

- 1942-CGC *McLane* and the Coast Guard-manned patrol craft USS *YP-251* reportedly sank the Japanese submarine *RO-32* off Sitka, Alaska. However, the Navy Department did not officially credit either vessel with the sinking. The *RO-32* was stricken from the Japanese Navy rolls in April, 1942 as obsolete and Japanese records indicated that no Japanese submarine was lost or damaged in Alaskan waters on that date.
- 1943-Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily, commenced on this date. Coast Guard-manned ships landed the first Allied troops in the assault, including 24 LCI(L)s of Flotilla 4 under the command of CAPT Miles Imlay and LSTs 326 and 381. Coast Guard-manned attack transports USS *Joseph T. Dickman*, *Leonard Wood*, and *Samuel Chase* also participated.
- 1946-Sixteen Coast Guardsmen were killed when the B-17 aircraft they were flying as passengers in crashed into Mount Tom, Massachusetts. These Coast Guardsmen were all returning from duty in Greenland.
- 1986-A fire broke out at the Bayonne, New Jersey transfer facility. Coast Guard units responded to fight the fire.

10 July

- 1820-The Revenue cutter *Gallatin* captured 19 men illegally recruited for the Columbian privateer *Wilson* and chased that vessel and her Spanish prize, *Santiago*, to sea from the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina.
- 1882-At 5 o'clock in the afternoon, during a violent storm of wind and rain, the steam-yacht *John Bueg*, of Rochester, New York, having on board a party of twelve excursionists, consisting of two men, two women, and eight children, was driven ashore



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one mile and a half east of the harbor piers at Charlotte, Lake Ontario, New York. She was discovered by a surfman of Station No. 4, Ninth District, who waded out to her in the surf, carried the children in his arms, and then assisted the women to shore. The yacht was towed off by a steamer, having sustained slight damage.

11 July

- 1804-Vice President Aaron Burr mortally wounded Alexander Hamilton in a duel in Weehawken, New Jersey. Hamilton died the following day. Hamilton had been the first Secretary of the Treasury and had founded the Revenue Marine.
- 1818-The Revenue Cutter *Dallas* seized and libeled the Venezuelan privateer *Cerony* off Savannah for having violated the nation's neutrality laws.
- 1941-Congress reconfirmed the military "status" of the Coast Guard, stating: "The Coast Guard shall be a military service and constitute a branch of the land and naval forces of the United States at all times and shall operate under the Treasury Department in time of peace and operate as part of the Navy, subject to the orders of the Secretary of the Navy, in time of war or when the President shall so direct." (14 U.S.C. 1)
- 1942- The U.S. Maritime Service was transferred back to the War Shipping Administration after being under Coast Guard administration since February 28, 1942.

12 July

- 1953- Coast Guard aircraft and surface craft of the Search and Rescue Group at Wake Island joined with a large naval task unit in conducting an intensive search for a Transocean Air Lines DC-6 aircraft last reported about 300 miles east of Wake Island. The scene of the crash was located although there were no survivors.
- 1994-Coast Guard HH-65 CG-6541 crashed in the early hours of 12 July 1994 near Shelter Cove, California, while responding to a sailing vessel in distress. When heavy pre-dawn fog made a visual approach impossible, the air crew performed several unsuccessful approaches to the sailing vessel, striking a shoreline cliff on the third attempt and taking the lives of all four crew members: LT Laurence Williams, LT Mark Koteek, ASMCS Peter Leeman, and AM1 Michael Gill.
- 2013-The Coast Guard opened its seasonal forward operating location (FOL) in Kotzebue on 12 October 2013 in preparation for the anticipated increase of maritime activities in Western Alaska and the Bering Strait. FOL Kotzebue, part of Coast Guard Arctic Shield 2013, consisted of one Kodiak-based MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter with supporting air and ground crews, and was based out of the Alaska Army National Guard Hangar in Kotzebue.

13 July

- 2001-CGC *Sherman* became the third cutter to circumnavigate the globe when she returned to the United States from a six-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf in support of U.N. operations. During this cruise she conducted 219 queries, 115 boardings, and five divers. Her crew saved 38 lives, including 11 Iraqi smugglers when their vessel sank in a storm off UAE. She towed a 33,000 ton carrier foundering in 50-foot seas off the Cape of Good Hope, saving 22 lives and keeping the ship from running aground at the entrance to Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Her crew also saved 5 Costa Rican fishermen found after they were adrift for 21 days. (CGC *Eastwind* was the first



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cutter to circumnavigate the globe on a cruise in 1960-1961 and *Southwind* followed in 1968-1969.)

14 July

- 1926-The first radio-beacon established in Alaska was placed in commission at Cape Spencer.
- 1949-U.S. Coast Guardsmen from Point Allerton and Boston Lifeboat Stations figured prominently in one of the largest rescue operations in the history of Boston Harbor Massachusetts when they helped in removing 690 persons from the excursion steamer *Nantasket*, which had gone aground in a thick fog off Peddock's Island.
- 1960-Following the loss of a propeller, which resulted in fuselage damage and an engine fire, a Northwest Airlines DC-7C airliner carrying 58 persons ditched in Philippine waters. During the Coast Guard-coordinated air search in the vicinity of the Polillo Islands, a Coast Guard UF amphibian aircraft sighted four life rafts, landed, and rescued 23 survivors. A U.S. Navy P5M seaplane, meanwhile, rescued 34 others and also recovered from the water the body of the only fatality.
- 1963-Pier 7 at Tacoma, Washington was engulfed in flames. CG-82336, based at Tacoma, proceeded immediately to the scene to assist the first department in fighting the blaze. The cutter towed the M/V *Sanyo Maru* away from the pier and was relieved of the tow by a tug. CG-82336 returned to the pier and towed the M/V *Kikulo Maru* to safe anchorage. The Tacoma fire department then requested CG-82336 to coordinate fire fighting efforts on the bay side of the pier, as the fire department was unable to cover the entire area because of the intensity of the fire. Unable to fight the fire under the pier, CG-82336 proceeded to a local boat mooring and acquired seven rental boats to assist. These boats, manned by local firemen and Coast Guard personnel, fought the fire under the pier. The fire was brought under control the next morning and Coast Guard units were secured. A fire Battalion Chief died and seven firemen were injured but there were no Coast Guard casualties.
- 1977-Ten Coast Guard women were selected and ordered to CGC *Gallatin* to report aboard on 26 October 1977. "This action was in keeping with the Commandant's most recent program of placing women in afloat assignments" on CGCs *Morgenthau* and *Gallatin*. Each of the women chosen were volunteers. They were: ET2 L. D. Canatore; RM2 J.K. Shawdah; SK2 R.G. Burright; BM3 D.K. Skinner; HM3 D.K. Cummings; RM3 V.L. Robillard; YN3 M.F. Kelly; SA A. Clark; SA D.A. Collins and SA D.A. Hughes.

15 July

- 1870-Congress directed that the revenue cutters on the northern and northwestern lakes, when commissioned, shall be specially charged with aiding vessels in distress on the lakes.
- 1870-An Act of Congress (16 Stat. L., 291, 309) directed the Lighthouse Board to mark all pierheads belonging to the United States situated on the northern and northwestern lakes, as soon as it was notified that the construction or repair of pierheads had been completed.
- 1967-CGC *Point Orient* (WPB 82319) of Coast Guard Squadron One captured a communist trawler in Vietnam.



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- 1972-CGC *Absecon* was decommissioned and transferred to the South Vietnamese Navy. This was the last of the seven 311-foot *Casco*-class cutters to be transferred to the South Vietnamese. She was commissioned as the *Tham Ngu Lao* (HQ-15) on 15 July 1972. She was seized by the North Vietnamese when the South fell in 1975. The North Vietnamese gave her the hull number HQ-1 but did not apparently name her. She was refitted with two or possibly four SS-N-2 launchers. Her current status remains unknown.

16 July

- 1946-Pursuant to Executive Order 9083 and Reorganization Plan No. 3 the Bureau of Marine Inspection was abolished and became a permanent part of the Coast Guard.
- 1965-Coast Guard 82-foot patrol boats assigned to Division 12 of Coast Guard Squadron One (RONONE) depart Manila Bay on their own, bound for Vietnam and service with the Navy in Operation *Market Time*. The cutters had been brought to the Philippines "piggy-backed" on board freighters.

17 July

- 1893-Life-saving Station Keeper H .E. Wilcox of Cape Arago Life-Saving Station rescued 55 of 56 passengers of SS *Emily* that was capsizing in a raging sea. Persons were transported from the doomed vessel to the lifeboat via a life raft.
- 1994-CGC *Polar Sea* departed from Victoria, British Columbia on operation Arctic Ocean Section 1994 and became the first U.S. surface vessel to reach the North Pole. She then transited the Arctic Ocean back to her homeport in Seattle, Washington.
- 1996-TWA Flight 800 crashed off New York with no survivors. Numerous Coast Guard units conducted search and rescue operations and then aided in recovery operations.

18 July

- 1818-The Revenue Cutter *Active* captured the pirate vessel *India Libre* in the Chesapeake Bay.
- 1866-Congress authorized officers to search vessels and persons suspected of concealing contraband.
- 1928-Clarence Samuels assumed command of Coast Guard Patrol Boat *AB-15* on 18 July 1928, thereby becoming the second African-American to command a Coast Guard vessel, the first being Revenue Captain Michael Healy.
- 2015-CGC *Stratton* seized a self-propelled semi-submersible vessel carrying more than 16,000 pounds of cocaine in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. *Stratton's* crew apprehended four suspected smugglers and seized 275 bales of cocaine worth more than \$181 million wholesale from the self-propelled semi-submersible. A U.S. Navy maritime patrol aircraft detected the 40-foot semi-submersible vessel more than 200-miles south of Mexico. After removing 12,000 pounds of the narcotics aboard, *Stratton* attempted to tow the vessel to shore as evidence; however, the semi-submersible began taking on water and sank. Approximately 4,000 pounds of cocaine left in the SPSS vessel to stabilize it during the towing evolution sank in over 13,000-feet of water and is unrecoverable. *Stratton* interdicted or disrupted 15 different drug smuggling attempts since April 2015 including another self-propelled semi-submersible vessel carrying 5,460 pounds of cocaine 16 June. *Stratton* has seized more than 33,000 pounds of



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cocaine since May 2015. The 18 July semi-submersible seizure is the largest recorded semi-submersible interdiction in Coast Guard history. *Stratton's* semi-submersible busts are also the first and second by a Legend Class Cutter. This is the first interdiction of two semi-submersibles in a single patrol at sea where Coast Guardsmen recovered both the narcotics and the vessels. CGC *Mohawk* from Key West, Florida, interdicted two semisubmersibles in the Caribbean in 2011; however, both vessels sank during the course of the interdiction. There have been 25 known semi-submersible interdictions in the Eastern Pacific Ocean since November 2006 when the first documented interdiction occurred. A semi-submersible is a vessel constructed for illicit trafficking that is mostly submerged with just a cockpit and exhaust pipe visible above water. These vessels are extremely difficult to detect and interdict because of their low-profile and ability to scuttle. U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Air and Marine also assisted by monitoring the semi-submersible using a maritime patrol aircraft during the course of the interdiction 18 July.

19 July

- 2001-The first set of the newly authorized Helicopter Rescue Swimmer insignia, or "wings", were presented to the senior rescue swimmer in the Coast Guard, Master Chief Aviation Survival Technician (AST) Keith Jensen, at Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, D.C.

20 July

- 1917- An Executive Order extended the jurisdiction of the Lighthouse Service to the non-contiguous territory of the American Virgin Islands.
- 1942-The *Herald-Tribune* of July 20, 1942, carried the following story: "A new Coast Guard regiment, made up of tough, hand-picked men, all heavily armed and with the headquarters company mounting machine guns in speedy jeep cars, has been organized for extra protection of the Port of New York, it was announced yesterday. Regimental offices of the commando-like outfit, led by Captain Francis V. Lowden, will be in the Barge Office at the Battery. There will be five battalion headquarters -- one each in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island and New Jersey, and a floating one set up a harbor patrol craft. The new contingent for sabotage precaution will be known as the Port Security Regiment . . . The selected men recruited for the Port Security Regiment are being trained in a variety of rough and rigorous combat tactics to fit them for meeting surprise actions. Captain Lowden, on leave from his post as Mayor of Roselle, N.J., has had twenty years of experience in organizing protective services for the port properties of Standard Oil of New Jersey."
- 1965-Division 12 of Coast Guard Squadron One (RONONE) arrived at Da Nang and Coast Guard Operation *Market Time* patrolling began.
- 1979-President Jimmy Carter signed Executive Order 12148 that completed the establishment of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- 2007-The Coast Guard commissioned the newly organized Deployable Operations Group (DOG) at Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. The DOG provided properly equipped, trained and organized Deployable Specialized Forces (DSF) to Coast Guard, DHS, DoD and inter-agency operational and tactical commanders. Formerly headquartered in Arlington, Virginia, it was decommissioned on 1 October 2013. Upon



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decommissioning, the units previously assigned to the DOG were split between Coast Guard Pacific and Atlantic Area commands.

- 2015-CGC *Mellon* returned to its homeport of Seattle, WA, following a 14-week patrol that covered nearly 20,000 miles of the North Pacific Ocean. After leaving Seattle 13 April 2015, *Mellon* joined Operation North Pacific Guard and patrolled the high seas for illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activity, including high seas pelagic driftnet fishing. *Mellon's* crew coordinated with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and inspected five Chinese Taipei vessels. During the boardings, *Mellon* law enforcement team members educated fishermen about the importance of long-term fish stock conservation. The crew also participated in an intercultural community relations event in Yokosuka, Japan with the USO. *Mellon* volunteers tutored more than 120 Toyo Himeji High School students to help teach them English.

21 July

- 1944-The attack and liberation of Japanese-occupied Guam commenced during World War II. Participating vessels included the Coast Guard tender CGC *Tupelo* and the Coast Guard-manned Navy attack transports and cargo vessels included *Cor Caroli*, *Aquarius*, *Centaurus*, *Sterope*, *Arthur Middleton*, *LST-24*, *LST-70*, *LST-71* and *LST-207*.
- 1947-President Truman signed H.R. 3539, which became Public Law No. 209, authorizing the Coast Guard to construct a suitable chapel for religious worship by any denomination, sect or religion at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London.
- 1952-CGC *Mackinac*, enroute from New York to Ocean Station ECHO, and the SS *Gripsholm*, removed 45 of the 49 persons on board the SS *Black Gull*, which had caught fire in a position south of Block Island, Long Island, New York.
- 1965-Crewmen began painting the white hulls of the 82-foot patrol boats assigned to Coast Guard Squadron One in Vietnam Navy gray.
- 1997-USS *Constitution*, "Old Ironsides," set sail in Boston Harbor for the first time in more than a century. Prior to this her Navy crew received training in sailing a square rigger aboard *Eagle*. The Coast Guard then enforced security and safety zones around the Navy frigate during her brief voyage around the harbor. More than 800 Coast Guard personnel, 10 cutters, three helicopters and 81 small boats were involved in the operation.
- 1999-Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd., agreed to pay a record \$18 million criminal fine and pled guilty to 21 felony counts for dumping oil and hazardous chemicals in U.S. waters and then lying about it to the Coast Guard. The investigation began in October of 1994 when Coast Guard officials noticed an oil slick behind the ship *Sovereign of the Seas* as it approached San Juan, Puerto Rico. Between the day Coast Guard officials first boarded the ship and when they again boarded it four days later, crewmen had removed a bypass pipe which they had been using to dump hazardous material from the ship.
- 2015-A Coast Guard rescue swimmer gained international acclaim when he swam 1,750 yards in 5-foot seas and 30-mph winds to rescue four people after their fishing vessel grounded near Cape Blanco. AS2 Darren Harrity individually pulled each fisherman more than 250 yards in 57 degree water from their life raft to shore, where they were met by EMS. Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector North Bend received a report from



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the crew of *Jamie K*, a 52-foot commercial fishing vessel, via VHF-FM marine radio channel 16 at 0140 hours stating that they were taking on water and had lost power. The vessel subsequently ran aground, at which time the crew donned survival suits and abandoned ship into their life raft. An MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew from Air Station North Bend and two 47-foot Motor Life Boat crews from Coast Guard Search and Rescue Detachments Rogue River and Coquille River launched to assist. The aircrew arrived on scene at 0249 hours and lowered Harry into the water next to the life raft. Shortly after, the aircrew reported experiencing mechanical issues with the helicopter and was unable to safely complete additional hoists. The aircrew remained on scene until all of the fishermen and rescue swimmer had safely made it to shore and then landed on the nearby beach.

22 July

- 1881-A young man named Joseph Ryan, of Buffalo, New York, while bathing off the lighthouse pier at that place, was seized with cramps and sunk. One of the surfmen belonging to Station No. 5, Ninth District, about a quarter of a mile distant, was on duty at the pier and saw him disappear. Without a moment's hesitation, he plunged into the water and succeeded in grasping Ryan by the hair and brought him safely to the shore.

23 July

- 1836-Seminole Indians attacked and burned the Cape Florida lighthouse during the Second Seminole War.
- 1947-Congress approved Public Law 219 which provided for the integration of the personnel of the former Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation into the regular military organization of the Coast Guard. This was effected during Fiscal Year 1948, "and the Service thus had a single unified organization to carry forward the correlated duty which prior to 1939 were divided among three different Federal agencies the Coast Guard, Lighthouse Service, and Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation."
- 1967-CGC *Northwind* diverted from her Bering Sea Patrol to assist the Canadian Survey Ship *Richardson* which was beset in the ice off Point Barrow, Alaska. *Northwind* freed the stricken vessel which was then taken in tow by the Canadian icebreaker CCGS *Camsell*.

24 July

- 1915-SS *Eastland* was a Chicago-based passenger ship used for vacation and sightseeing tours. On 24 July 1915, the ship rolled over at her dock while preparing to depart on a cruise. A total of 844 passengers and crew were killed in what became the largest loss of life from a maritime disaster on the Great Lakes. Surfmen from Station Old Chicago participated in the emergency response effort, making it the "modern" Coast Guard's first major rescue operation.
- 1936-While on a cadet cruise through European waters CGC *Cayuga* was ordered to San Sebastian, Spain after the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War necessitated the evacuation of U.S. citizens. While on this deployment the U.S. ambassador to Spain and his staff came on board *Cayuga* and the cutter then served as the official U.S. embassy in Spain.
- 1944-The assault on Tinian Island, one of the Marshall Islands, commenced. Coast Guard-manned attack transports that participated included USS *Cambria* and *Cavalier*.



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- 1965-Division 11, Coast Guard Squadron One (RONONE) departed for An Thoi.
- 1981-Station Brant Point received a call from the Nantucket Hospital requesting Coast Guard assistance in transporting a patient suffering from a brain tumor. A Coast Guard HU-16 was dispatched to medevac the patient, Mildred "Madaket Millie" Jewett, a long-time friend of the Coast Guard and an honorary CWO4.

25 July

- 1947-The Women's Reserve of the Coast Guard Reserve (SPARS) was formally disestablished.
- 1956-The Swedish liner *Stockholm* collided with the Italian liner *Andrea Doria* off Nantucket. Coast Guard cutters and aircraft as well as other vessels responded. *Andrea Doria* sank 10 hours after the collision, resulting in 52 deaths.
- 1995-A LEDET under the command of LTJG Robert Landolfi out of Mobile first boarded the Panamanian registered fishing vessel *Nataly I*. The LEDET seized the *Nataly I* when the team discovered 24,325 pounds of cocaine hidden on board, making this the largest U.S. maritime seizure of cocaine to date.

26 July

- 1886- An Act of Congress (24 Stat. L., 148) authorized an increase in the number of lighthouse districts to 16 within the Lighthouse Establishment.
- 1846- Revenue Cutter *Woodbury* put down a mutiny on board the troop ship *Middlesex* during the Mexican War.
- 1948-President Harry Truman ordered the integration of the armed forces of the United States with Executive Order 9981, signed 26 July 1948. By this time the Coast Guard had already opened up all of its rates to all qualified persons regardless of race. The Coast Guard noted "the importance of selecting men for what they are, for what they are capable of doing, and insisting on good conduct, good behavior, and good qualities of leadership for all hands. . .As a matter of policy Negro recruits receive the same consideration as all others."

27 July

- 1793-President ordered full complements for cutters and increased monthly pay to \$40 for Captains, \$26 for 1st mates, \$20 for 2nd mates, and \$18 for 3rd mates. Captains to have subsistence of Captain in Army, three mates subsistence of Army Lieutenants and mariner's subsistence not to exceed \$10 per month.
- 1868-Congress directed the Secretary of the Treasury to enforce the law prohibiting the unauthorized killing of fur seals in Alaska. Also the President was authorized to regulate traffic in firearms, ammunition and spirituous liquors in Alaska. The President assigned the enforcement of those laws to the Revenue Marine, thereby establishing the service's close connection with Alaska.
- 1957-A Captain of the Port patrol vessel discovered a fire of unknown origin at the Mystic Coal Yard in Boston, MA. The Coast Guard Base, Boston, immediately rushed the CGC *Cactus*, 150 Coast Guardsmen, and portable fire-fighting equipment to the scene. While the cutter moved a 450-foot Norwegian freighter away from the flaming dock, the shore party with the assistance of local agencies brought the fire under



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control. Eight Coast Guardsmen were hospitalized because of the injuries they received while fighting the fire.

- 2015-CGC *Aspen* and a team from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration established a new NOAA environmental buoy and serviced three existing buoys approximately 30 nautical miles west of Monterey Bay from 27-30 July 2015. The newly established buoy named 46FLO, referred to as “Flossie,” is a six-meter boat-shaped Navy Oceanographic Meteorological Automatic Device buoy. Funded by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Coastal Hydrology Lab, Flossie, contains three separate wave systems that will collect data and aid the Army Corps of Engineers in using 20 years of historical data from NOAA Data Buoy Center buoys. 46FLO was named Flossie in honor of Navy CDR Florence “Flossie” Van Straten, a pioneer in naval meteorology and oceanography and a key player in the development of the automated buoy systems the National Data Buoy Center currently uses. *Aspen* and the NOAA team also performed scheduled maintenance and hull reliefs on buoys 46042, 46013, and 46026 ensuring the continued transmission of critical weather data and surf forecasts, as well as providing tsunami alerts to the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas. The Coast Guard and NOAA partnership originated in the late 1960s when buoy development and operations were conducted solely by the Coast Guard. The program was transferred to NOAA in 1970, but the Coast Guard continues to support buoy deployments, retrievals, and other maintenance.

28 July

- 1884-The Senate approved the appointment of Captain Jarvis Patten as Commissioner of Navigation to direct the work of the organization of the Bureau of Navigation, under the supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury.
- 1942-Coast Guard J4F Widgeon V-214, piloted by Chief Aviation Pilot Henry White and carrying crewman RM1c Henderson Boggs, attacked a surfaced German submarine off the coast of Louisiana with a single depth charge. After the war, the U.S. Navy credited V-214 with sinking the Nazi sub *U-166*. White was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Boggs was awarded the Air Medal. Nevertheless the *U-166* was later learned to have been sunk a few days earlier by a Navy patrol vessel, USS PC-566. White and Boggs had actually attacked the *U-171*, which reported in her war diary as having been attacked by an unidentified aircraft in the very location that White reported attacking a U-boat. The *U-171* escaped with no damage.
- 2014-CGC *Mellon* returned to its homeport of Seattle, Washington, after an 86-day patrol of the Bering Sea that covered nearly 15,000 miles. *Mellon* departed Seattle 10 May 2014 to conduct SAR and fisheries missions throughout the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea. Those efforts included 41 law enforcement boardings and more than 100 hours aboard commercial fishing vessels. While patrolling the Aleutian Islands, the crew came to the aid of a fishing vessel crew following an engine-room fire. The cutter's damage control team performed a thorough post-fire analysis and eliminated or isolated damaged engine-room wiring to mitigate the risk of the fire re-igniting. In an evolution that took more than 15 hours, the Coast Guardsmen escorted the fishing vessel safely to Dutch Harbor, Alaska. The crew also participated in community relations events while taking time in port to resupply the cutter. During a port call to Unalaska Island, Alaska,



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the crew helped with landscaping and painting at the Holy Ascension Russian Orthodox Church, a national historic site.

29 July

- 1898-The Revenue Cutter *Bear* took aboard 97 survivors of whaling vessels, who had been caught in Arctic ice and rescued by the Overland Expedition, and transported them to San Francisco.
- 1948-Congress approved Public Law 810 allowing retirement pay at age 60 for reservists with 20 years of service. Some consider this to be the "birth" of the modern Coast Guard Reserve.
- 1970-CGC *Vigorous* became the first 210-foot cutter to cross the Arctic Circle. This took place while she was part of the 1970 Cadet Cruise Squadron. CDR George Wagner was the commanding officer.
- 1997-MLB-44300, the first 44-foot MLB to enter service, suffered an engine casualty in response to a SAR mission conducted for Station Cape Disappointment. She was retired from duty shortly thereafter.

30 July

- 1965-Commander, Task Force 115 (Operation *Market Time*) was established for service in Vietnam. Also on this date Division 11 of Coast Guard Squadron One (RONONE) arrived at An Thoi.
- 1966- When the Coast Guard Station at Belle Isle, Michigan, received a report of a cabin cruiser afire at a boat dock, patrol boats were dispatched to the scene by radio. Within minutes, they were alongside the burning vessel, spraying water on the fire. The entire cabin cruiser was in flames, since its gas tanks had already blown up. The patrol boats, to minimize the damage to nearby facilities, towed the burning craft out of the marina. When notified that a woman was still on board, two Coast Guardsmen boarded the flaming cruiser and checked the cabin, only to find no one. As it turned out, the woman had already jumped overboard and made her way to shore safely. The fire was eventually brought under control, but not before the expenditure of many gallons of foam.
- 2014-CGC *Waesche* returned to port at Coast Guard Base Honolulu after spending three weeks at sea participating in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2014 exercises. During the exercises *Waesche* demonstrated the Coast Guard's unique capabilities and partnership with Department of Defense entities and international partners along the Pacific Rim by serving as the Combined Task Force 175 commander. While in this role, *Waesche* led vessels from China, Brunei, Mexico, France, Brunei, and the U.S., through numerous multinational exercises including ship handling, boarding exercises, replenishment at sea, and a live-fire gunnery exercise.

31 July

- 1876-Congress re-established Revenue Cutter cadet training after three years suspension and instituted promotion by examination.
- 1894-The Treasury Department created the Division of Revenue Cutter Service with Captain of the Revenue Cutter Service as its Chief.



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- 1985-The Coast Guard conducted a fleet dedication ceremony in Lockport, Louisiana for the new 110-foot "Island Class" patrol boats.