

## ALAUX 14-13 - THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

27NOV2013

To the Men and Women of Our Coast Guard Auxiliary,

Please allow me to extend ADM Papp's Thanksgiving message, along with my humble appreciation for your tireless efforts in service to our organization and nation. Each day I see examples of the work you do to promote recreational boating safety and support to the Coast Guard. Your contribution does not go unnoticed.

On behalf of the entire Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, THANK YOU for all that you do. I look forward to entering the 75th year of the Auxiliary's service with all of you.

CAPT F. Thomas Boross  
Chief, Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety

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UNCLAS //N01000//  
ALCOAST 507/13  
COMDTNOTE 1000  
SUBJ: HAPPY THANKSGIVING

1. Shipmates, this week we are attending the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London. The Assembly, which meets every two years, is IMO's highest governing body, and all 170 member nations are invited to attend. Yesterday, as head of the United States delegation, I had the privilege of speaking for our nation on the importance of maritime governance (safety, security, stewardship), the work our Coast Guard does every day.
2. Over the past year, we have met with coast guards and small navies from around the world, global leaders in maritime industry, and students at the IMO World Maritime University. The United States Coast Guard is universally respected and the model of a maritime governance force for the rest of the world to emulate.
3. That would not be possible without the devoted efforts of our entire Coast Guard. Over the past year, we have confronted not only significant mission challenges in an inherently dangerous maritime domain, but also the persistent pressure of the current Federal budget realities. While addressing hurricanes, oil spills, marine casualties and transnational organized crime, we have also faced the impacts of budget reductions, sequestration, and a temporary government shut down.
4. Through it all you have remained steadfast in your devotion to duty and service to the Nation. Words alone cannot adequately express my appreciation the leadership and commitment of our Coast Guard men and women. Unfortunately, our civilian workforce has borne the brunt of many of these budget impacts, and our civilian shipmates often do not receive the public recognition for the critical work that they perform every day. We are inspired and humbled by the dedicated service of our civilian personnel. Each deserves our sincere thanks.

5. Although Linda and I are away from home and our family during our favorite holiday, we will have a proper Thanksgiving dinner with members of our Coast Guard Family who are here with us. Linda and I thank you all for your friendship, hard work, and commitment to our Coast Guard. Wherever you might be celebrating, have a Happy Thanksgiving. Be safe.

6. Stand a taut watch. Semper Paratus.

7. Admiral and Mrs. Papp send.

8. Internet release authorized.