

AL AUX 14-14 - 224TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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From: Zukunft, Paul ADM

Sent: Monday, August 04, 2014 3:18 PM

Subject: 224th Anniversary of the United States Coast Guard

Together, we share in celebrating the 224th anniversary of the founding of the Revenue Cutter Service, the predecessor of the modern Coast Guard. This is a day we affectionately refer to as "Coast Guard Day" and the "Coast Guard's Birthday." Over the past three days, the Vice Commandant and I spoke to a variety of Coast Guard personnel, families and members of the American public at events within our Nation's Capitol, the annual Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Michigan, and Coast Guard Headquarters. I also had the privilege of participating in this morning's boat crew relief at Station Washington, and embarked in a morning patrol with the crew aboard a new second generation Response Boat - Small. During every opportunity, we emphasized the substantial relevance of our Service in today's world, and heralded the significant efforts that our people put forth on a daily basis, every day of the year, regardless of the weather or location of the mission. I am continually impressed and inspired by your dedication to mission execution and mission support around the world.

Please take this day to remember the distinguished history of our Coast Guard. Throughout our history, we have exemplified those tenets I have stressed in my direction - Service to Nation, Duty to People, and Commitment to Excellence. This is the most complex and uncertain environment I have seen in my 37-year career, and that means the Coast Guard is more relevant and more valuable than ever before. My ALCOAST (<http://allhands.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2014/08/04/commandants-birthday-message/>) provides greater detail on our past successes and future challenges relative to this direction. I also call your attention to the letter from President Obama in congratulatory observance of today's anniversary, posted at (<http://coastguard.dodlive.mil/2014/08/president-obamas-birthday-message-to-the-coast-guard-3>).

Semper Paratus!

Admiral Paul F. Zukunft

Commandant