

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD IN WORLD WAR I

TRANSFER

- Date of transfer to U.S. Navy control: April 6, 1917, after broadcast of message "Plan One, Acknowledge".
- Number of Coast Guard cutters transferred to Navy control: 47 (cruising cutters and harbor cutters).
- Number of Coast Guard stations transferred: 279.

PERSONNEL

- Coast Guardsmen served during the war: 8,835
- Women who served: 2 yeomanettes and one active duty
- Killed in action: 111 (7 were commissioned officers)
- Died of other causes: 81

OFFICERS

- Coast Guard officers: 223
- Number of warship commanders: 52
- Number of training camp commanders: 5
- Number of troop transport commanders: 4
- Number of naval air station commanders: 4



SHIPS

War's largest cutter unit: U.S. Navy Squadron 2, Division 6, Gibraltar (Cutters *Ossipee*, *Seneca*, *Yamacraw*, *Algonquin*, *Manning*, and *Tampa*)

Ships Lost

- *Tampa* and *Diamond Shoals Lightship* (lost to u-boat attacks),
- *Lightship LV-6* (weather) and *McCulloch* (collision)



U.S. Naval Forces greatest combat loss of life in action: *Tampa* (torpedoed on 26 September 1918 with loss of 115 crew and 16 passengers)



OTHER

- **Wartime missions & duties:** shore patrol, port security, convoy escort, search and rescue, aids to navigation, maritime interdiction, naval aviation, marine safety, law enforcement and humanitarian response.
- **Largest wartime Coast Guard command:** New York Division (1,400 officers and men; four tugs; five harbor cutters)
- **Medals awarded:** Distinguished Service Medal (2); Gold Life-Saving Medal (8); Navy Cross (49); Foreign Awards (11)



QUOTE

"The professional ability of the Coast Guard officers is evidenced by the fact that twenty-four commanded combatant ships in European waters, five vessels of the patrol force of the Caribbean Sea, and twenty-three combatant craft attached to naval districts. . . The Navy Department, naturally enough, assigned to the command of combatant ships only [to] officers whose experience and ability warranted such detail and only those officers in whom the Department had implicit confidence."

- Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels regarding the Coast Guard in World War I, published in his book, *Our Navy at War*

