

Ice Ops: A History of Coast Guard Ice Operations



Cutter *Alex Haley* patrolling in brash ice in Alaska, May 2003

Coast Guard Ice Operations: A History

- Purpose
- Polar Operations
- Domestic Ice Operations
- International Ice Patrol
- Marine Science



Cutter *Northland* under sail



Newest Polar icebreaker, USCGC *Healy*

Revenue Cutter Service in Alaska

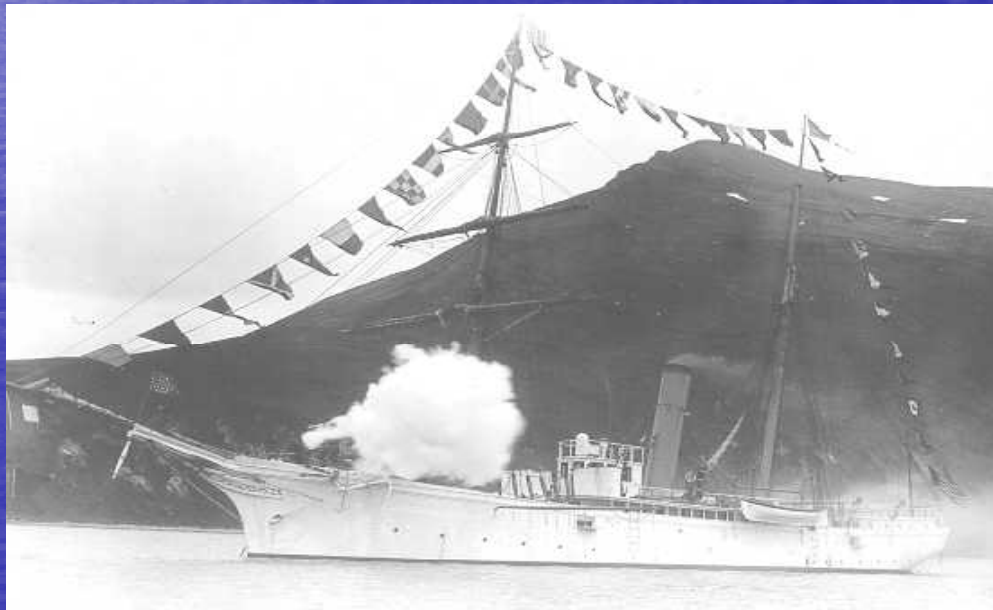
- RCS becomes the law in the Territory
- “Court Cruise”



Officers of Cutter *Thetis*

Bering Sea Patrol

- *Rush*
- Seal poachers reaction
- “Get there early to avoid the *Rush*!”
- 1908 - Alaskan game laws



USRC Cutter *Rush*

Revenue Cutter *Bear* in Alaska



The Greely Rescue



Lieutenant A. W. Greely, U.S. Army

“Hell-Roarin” Mike Healy

- 1st African-American officer in any branch of federal service
- Commander of cutters *Corwin* and *Bear*
- Court-martialed, Reinstated
- Retired as the third-most senior officer



Captain Michael A. Healy

Reindeer from Siberia

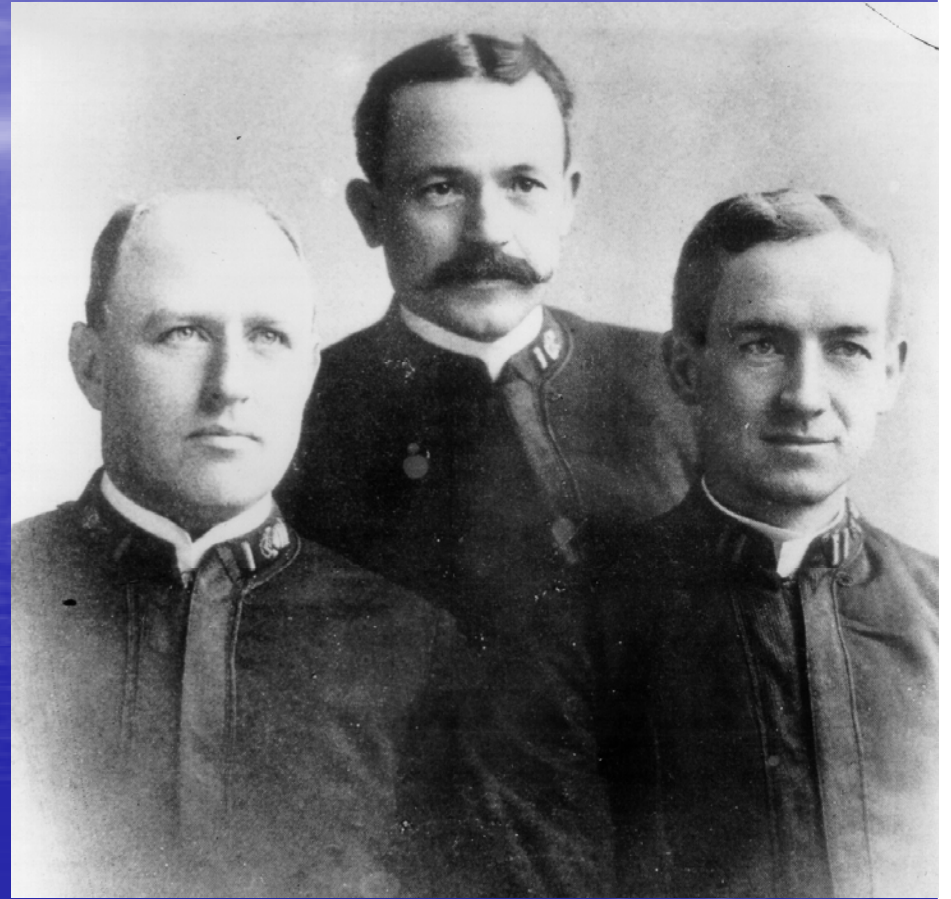
- Healy transferred reindeer from Siberia to feed the Inuits in Alaska



Bear transporting reindeer to Alaska

1897, Trapped Whaling Ships

- 1897- ships trapped near Point Barrow, Alaska
- Appeals to President McKinley
- November 1897 - USRC *Bear* sailed northward
- Party put ashore to drive reindeer to Point Barrow
- Jarvis, Bertholf and Call



Bertholf, Jarvis, and Call (left to right)

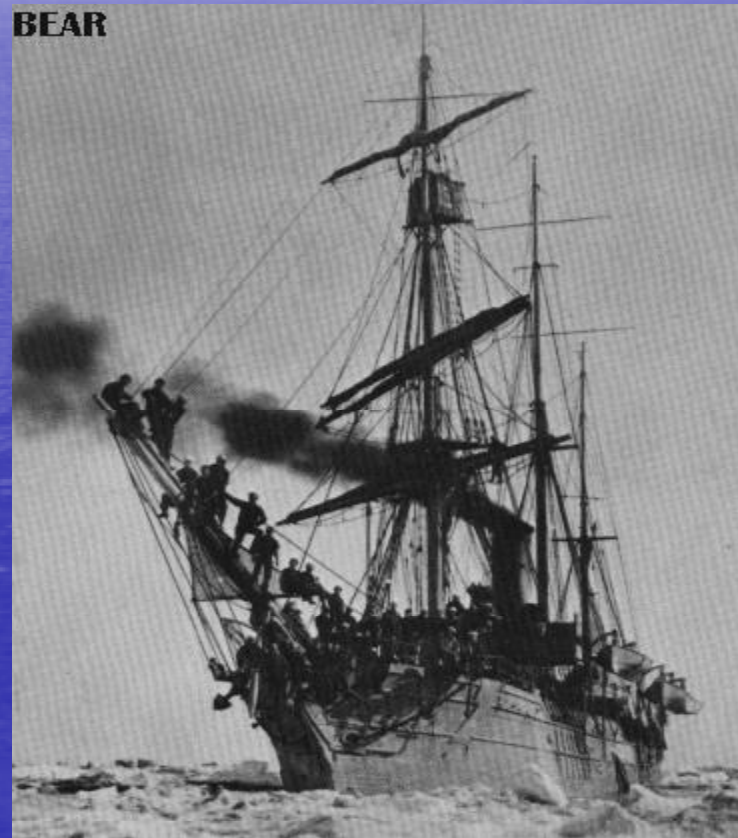
Overland Expedition

- 16 December-
began expedition
- 29 March 1898-
arrived at Point
Barrow
- Gold Medal from
Congress



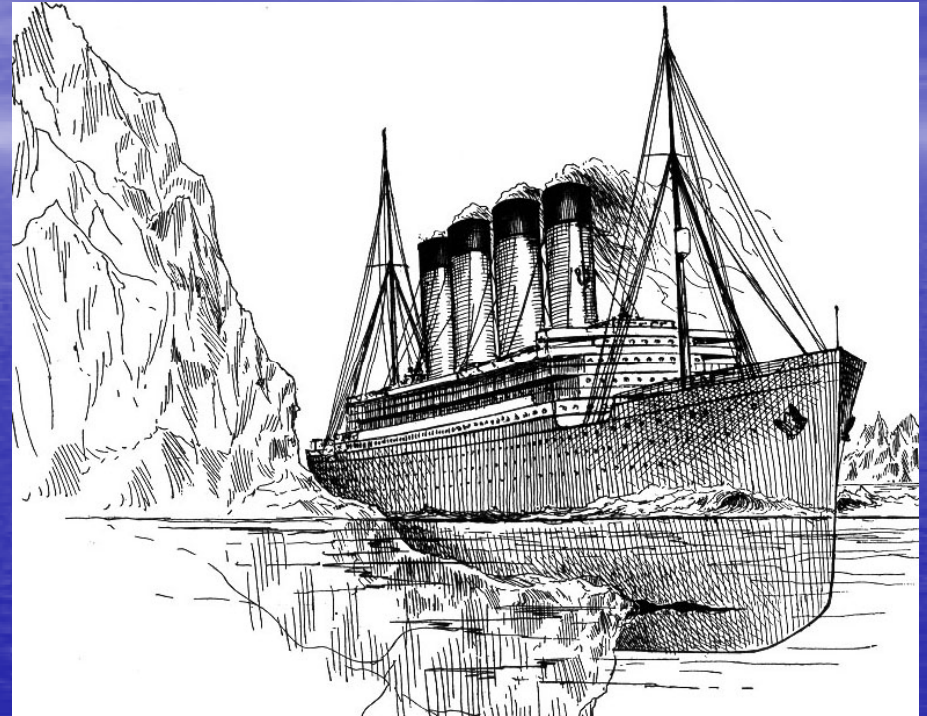
Overland Expedition arrives at the stranded whaling ships

Cutter *Bear* sails to Antarctica with Admiral Richard Byrd



RMS *Titanic* Disaster

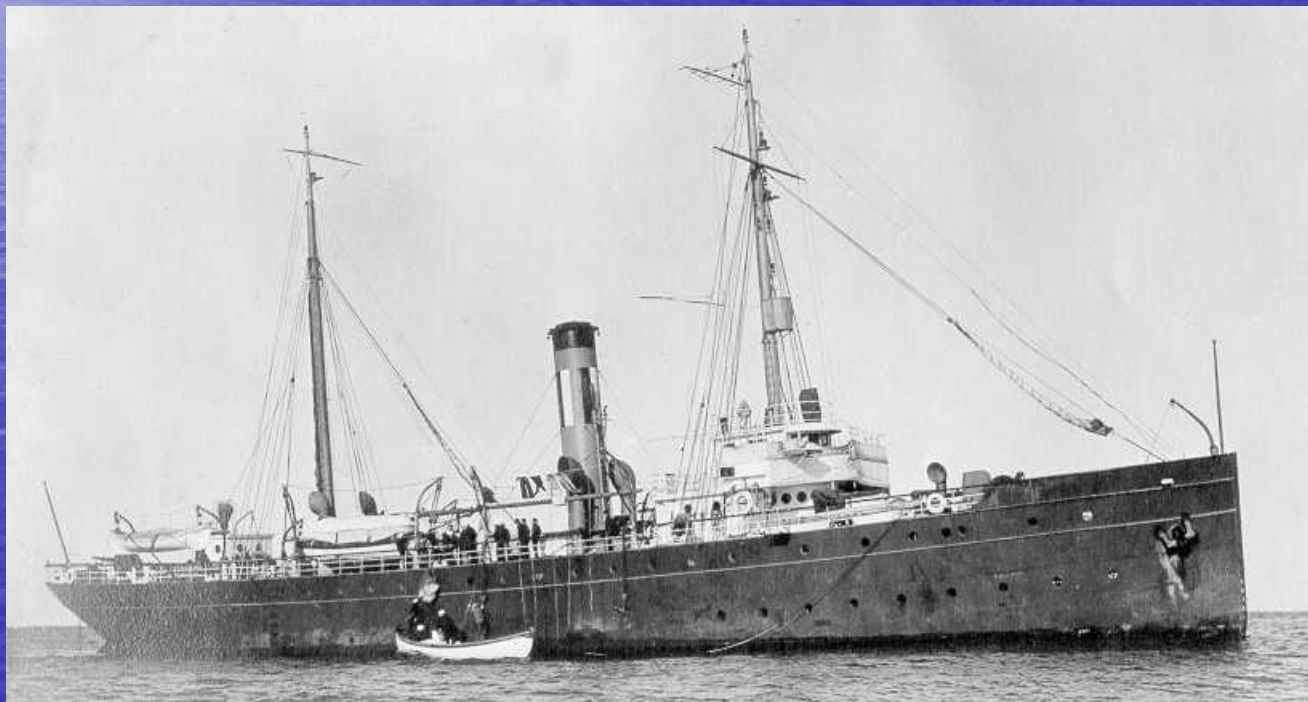
- RMS *Titanic*
- 1913- Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention



RMS *Titanic* strikes an iceberg

International Ice Patrol

- Navy could not spare ships for 1913
- Revenue Cutter Service assumes the duty
- *Seneca* and *Miami* conduct subsequent patrols



USRCS Cutter *Seneca*

International Ice Patrol



Titanic Memorial Ceremony

Edward H. “Iceberg” Smith

- International Ice Patrol
- Edward H. Smith
- Oceanographic unit
- Woods Hole



Edward “Iceberg” Smith

Iceberg Smith and the *Marion* Expedition



USCG Cutter *Marion*

Greenland during World War II



Danish cryolite mine at Ivigtut, Greenland

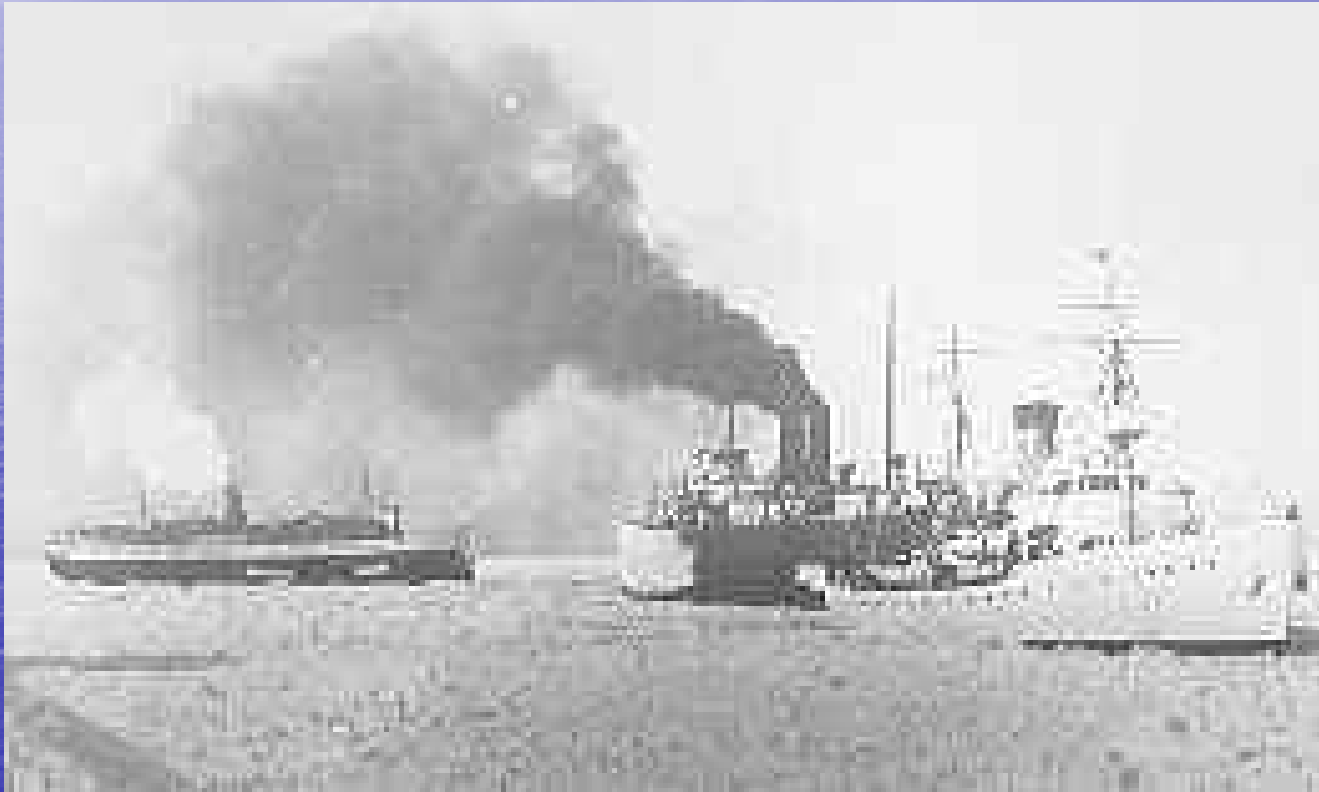
Greenland Patrol during World War II

- Convoy Duty
- Engaging U-Boats



Northland in the ice off of Greenland

The S.S. *Dorchester* and Cutter *Escanaba*



Escanaba breaks ice on the Great Lakes before World War II

Operation High Jump



Icebreaker *Northwind* during Operation High Jump

Cold War Ice Operations

- Breaking ice
- DEW line



Ice Breaker *Westwind* breaking ice, 1960

Northwest Passage, 1957

- Finding the NW Passage an ambition for 400 years!



Map showing North American Arctic waters

Storis, Spar and Bramble

- Breaking ice
- Stuck in the ice
- Breakout & completion



USCGC *Storis* in 1957



Storis, Spar, & Bramble make their way through the ice

Operation Deep Freeze



USCGC *Eastwind* in the Antarctic, Operation Deep Freeze (1955-56)

Operation Deep Freeze



Eastwind opens a channel to frozen McMurdo Sound for scientific stations in the Antarctica.

Modern Polar Ice Operations



Newest Polar icebreaker, USCGC *Healy*

Modern Domestic Ice Operations



Newest domestic icebreaker *Mackinaw*

Modern International Ice Patrol



C-130 Hercules Conducting Current International Ice Patrol Ops

Semper Paratus!

