America’s Guardians & Warriors:

The Coast Guard at War
Coast Guard “History 101”

U. S. Revenue Cutter Service, 1790

Dept of Treasury
1790

Dept of Transportation
1967

Dept of Homeland Security
2003

Bureau of Marine Inspection, 1946

U.S. Lighthouse Service, 1939

U.S. Coast Guard, 1915

U. S. Life-saving Service, 1871

U. S. Revenue Cutter Service, 1790
Maritime Defense of the New Republic

- “The system of cutters"
- Enforced national laws
- No United States Navy
- Cutters provide the only maritime force
- The “oldest continuously serving sea service”
Quasi-War with France 1798-1801

- Operational area
- Prizes
- Cooperation with the U.S. Navy
- Revenue Cutter *Pickering*

Cutter *Pickering* during Quasi War

USRCS *Eagle*

Cutter *Eagle* captures French privateer *Mehitable*
War of 1812

- 18 June 1812- U.S. declares war on Great Britain
- U.S ships vs. Royal Navy
- Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin
- The revenue cutters augment the Navy with shallow-draft craft
- “Brown Water" combat operations
- Revenue Cutter Jefferson

Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin
USRC *Surveyor* vs. HMS *Narcissus*

12 June 1813

- One of the most hotly contested engagements of the war
- *Surveyor* was captured
- British commander’s remarks:

  “Your gallant and desperate attempt to defend your vessel against more than double your number excited such admiration on the part of your opponents as I have seldom witnessed, and induced me to return you the sword you had so ably used...I am at loss which to admire most, the previous arrangement on board the Surveyor or the determined manner in which her deck was disputed inch-by-inch.”

   Lieutenant John Crerie, RN
Cutter *Vigilant* vs. British Sloop *Dart*  
13 October 1813

- *Dart* had captured two dozen merchantmen
- Captain John Cahoone sailed in search of the enemy
- *Vigilant* located *Dart*, off the east end of Block Island
- Crew took her as a prize
USRC *Eagle* vs. HMS *Dispatch*
18 October 1814

- *Eagle* run ashore
- Used logbook for wadding
- Fired back enemy’s shot
- Cutter’s flag shot away and replaced three times

Artist’s rendering of the action between Cutter *Eagle* and HMS *Dispatch*
Seminole Wars, 1836-1842

- Supported Army and Navy Operations
- Dispatched landing parties and artillery
- Duties performed throughout Florida
Mexican-American War, 1846-48

- Principal naval operations
- US Navy short of shallow-draft vessels
- Five cutters were engaged
- Also served on blockade duty

McLane and Forward support U.S. Navy operations in June 1847
War Between the States

- Cuttermen were divided in 1860
- Treasury Secretary John A. Dix
- Cutter Robert McClelland
- Many cuttermen joined the Confederacy
Early Revenue Cutter Service Action

- Revenue Cutter Service
- Union cutters
- Confederate cutters

Cutter Harriet Lane and S.S. Nashville in front of Fort Sumter
Revenue Cutters in the Civil War

• Notable actions
  • *Miami*
  • *Naugatuck*
  • *Hercules*
  • *Reliance*
  • 21 April 1865
Spanish-American War, 1898

- USRC *McCulloch* at Manila Bay
- USRC *Manning* and USRC *Woodbury* and the blockade of Cuba
- USRC *Hudson* at Cardenas Bay
World War I

- 6 April 1917-- US declares war on Germany
- Coast Guard transferred to U.S. Navy
- Cutters, Districts & Personnel
- Command of Air Stations & Naval Vessels

President Wilson asks Congress to declare war on Germany

Coast Guardsman Drill at Ft. Trumbull, Connecticut

Coast Guard and Navy officers
Loss of Cutter *Tampa*

- Convoy escort duty
- 26 September 1918
- 131 dead
- Largest U.S. naval loss of the war

USCGC *Tampa* before the war

Artist's depiction of *Tampa*'s sinking
The Rum War

Sixty-fifth Congress of the United States of America;

At the Second Session,

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the third day of December, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Resolution by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (the House conceiving thereon), That the following amendment to the Constitution be, and hereby is, proposed to the States, to become valid as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of the several States provided by the Constitution:

"ARTICLE —

"SECTION 1. After one year from the ratification of this article, this article, and the amendment thereof, shall be known as the "Sixteenth Amendment."" It is hereby made a part of the Constitution of the United States of America."

"SECTION 2. This article, together with the amendment thereof, shall be voted on by the States, and the ratification thereof shall be deemed valid when ratified by the legislatures of the several States, or such other form of ratification as may be provided by the Constitution of the United States of America."

"SECTION 3. The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Government agents destroy barrels of liquor

Coast Guard Destroyer Beale (CG-9)

Rum Runner smuggling illegal liquor
The Coast Guard Intelligence Office

- Captain Charles S. Root
- RDF technology
- Elizebeth Friedman
Coast Guard in Early World War II, 1941-42

- Pearl Harbor
- USS Wakefield
- Crotty
The Greenland Patrol

- First Vessel Capture
- *Dorchester & Escanaba*
- Lt. Pritchard Rescues

U.S. Army Transport *Dorchester*

*Pritchard preparing for take-off in Greenland*

*Cutter *Escanaba* in camouflage paint scheme*
“Corsair Fleet” & Beach Patrol

- Coastal Picket Patrol or “Corsair Fleet”
- Operation PASTORIOUS
- SN2 John Cullen

“Hooligan Navy” in winter  
Disney’s Corsair Fleet logo  
Mounted and armed beach patrol  

SN2 John Cullen
The Coast Guard Pioneers Equality for Minorities

- War and social change
- Volunteers accepted
- All rates opened
- Shore stations
- USS Sea Cloud

African American officers

USS Sea Cloud
Women serve in World War II

- 23 November 1942
- Over 10,000 SPARS
- Dorothy Stratton
- “Semper Paratus – Always Ready”

First African American women in the service

Captain Dorothy Stratton
Recruiting poster
SPARS undergo training
Battle of the Atlantic

- USCG role is often overlooked
- U-Boats offshore
- Convoy duty & “Bloody Winter”
- Victories, but loss of *Alexander Hamilton*

*Cutter engages a U-boat with depth charges*

*Alexander Hamilton sinking after a torpedo hit*
Coast Guard in the P.T.O.

- Amphibious Operations
- Manned Hundreds of Navy and Army ships

Coast Guard LSTs landing troops and supplies in the Pacific

Marines express their appreciation of the Coast Guard
Guadalcanal, 1942

- Signalman Douglas A. Munro
- Killed by enemy fire
- Only Coast Guardsman awarded Medal of Honor

Douglas Munro
Medal of Honor engraving
Artist rendering of rescue at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal
Amphibious Operations in the E.T.O.

- European Theatre of Operations, 1942-1944
- TORCH through ANVIL
- D-Day: OPERATION OVERLORD
  - OPERATION NEPTUNE
    - Assault Transports
    - Rescue Flotilla
    - Landing Craft
    - LCDR Walsh at Cherbourg

Coast Guard LCVPs land troops at on D-Day

83-foot cutters of the First Rescue Flotilla

LCDR Quentin Walsh
World War II Coast Guard Develops the Helicopter

- U-boat losses
- Captain Frank Erickson
- Future role in the Coast Guard

Captain Frank A. Erickson
Desegregating the Service

- World War II: 5,000 African Americans serve / nearly 1,000 NCOs
- 1945: All rates opened up to minority recruiting
- 1948: Truman’s 1948 executive order
Korean War

- Training Korean Navy
- Search and Rescue
- LORAN
- Weather Patrols
- Port Security

LORAN station Pusan, Korea

USCG PBM-5 amphibian and Cutter Vance

South Korean Navy officer and Coast Guard trainer
Operation Market Time

- Interdiction mission
- Success
- Enemy logistics diverted to the Ho Chi Minh Trail
Multi-Mission Role in Vietnam

LORAN stations

Tending Aids to Navigation

HH-3 “Jolly Green Giant” helicopter in action

Explosive Loading Detachment
Desert Shield & Desert Storm

- 1 August 1990
- LEDETs
- Reserves & PSUs
- National Strike Force
9/11 and Operation Noble Eagle

- 11 September 2001
- Activities New York
- 5 November 2001

Cutter Tahoma controls vessel traffic in New York on 9/11

Damage to the Pentagon

CG on patrol after 9/11

September 20– Pres. Bush announces “War on Terror”
Operation Iraqi Freedom

- Missions
  - Port security
  - Secure oil terminals
  - Maritime Environmental Response
  - Navigational Survey
- Brown water patrol assets
- 1,250 Coast Guard personnel