

Coast Guard, Partners Conduct Enforcement Operation Covering More Than 500 Miles of East Coast



The U.S. Coast Guard conducted a maritime law enforcement operation Aug. 9 and Aug. 10 from Carteret County, North Carolina, to Brevard County, Florida, in coordination with 104 units from several federal, state and local agencies. U.S. Coast Guard

CHARLESTON,

S.C. – The U.S. Coast Guard and partner agencies conducted a maritime law

enforcement operation Aug. 9 and Aug. 10 from Carteret County, North Carolina,

to Brevard County, Florida, that covered more than 500 miles of coastline, the

Coast Guard 7th District said in a release.

Coast Guard

crews conducted the operation in coordination with 104 partner agency units

from several federal, state and local agencies. The operation focused on the

education and enforcement of boating safety and maritime security throughout

the Southeast.

“We thank

each organization for the level of coordination and collaboration in planning

and executing this year’s iteration of Operation Shrimp and Grits,” said

Rear Adm. Eric Jones, commander of Coast Guard 7th District.

“The operational contributions to our collective missions of maritime security and marine safety, with special emphasis on enforcing compliance with passenger charter, living marine resources and recreational boating safety laws, go a long way toward achieving the objectives of each of our agencies. We trust the collaborative nature of these types of interagency operations will also contribute to our ability to respond holistically in times of crisis. Thank you all and *Semper Paratus.*”

During the operation, 62 law enforcement/fire vessels, 18 auxiliary vessels, two fixed-wing law enforcement aircraft, two auxiliary fixed-wing aircraft, five helicopters, 4 Civil Support Teams, an aircraft-mounted Mobile Detection System and a Transportation Security Administration surface inspection team were used.

Over the two-day operation, 568 vessel boardings were conducted resulting in 48 U.S. Coast Guard violations, 22 Department of Natural Resources and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission violations, 35 local police department citations, and 12 vessel terminations.

Violations were issued for various reasons, to include: BUI [boating under the influence], possession of controlled substances, fisheries violations, illegal charter enforcement and recreational boating safety.

MARAD Seeks Comments on Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Designation Policy

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration (MARAD) announced in an Aug 9 release progress in establishing Centers of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education (CoE), which would recognize and support community colleges and training institutions that prepare Americans for careers in the maritime industry. The Maritime Administration is seeking public comment on the proposed policy.

“These educational institutions benefit America’s national security and economy by growing and strengthening our maritime work force,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

“America must be a strong maritime nation to continue its global leadership in the world,” said Administrator Buzby, “which is why the Maritime Administration wants to spotlight institutions that excel at training Americans to serve on our domestic waters, dockside, and in related industries. The maritime industry provides rewarding, good-paying careers that also help to support our national and economic security goals.”

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2018 provides the

Secretary of
Transportation with discretionary authority to designate
eligible and qualified
entities as CoEs. CoE designations will serve to assist the
maritime industry
in obtaining and maintaining the highest quality workforce
while also enhancing
diversity and inclusion within its workforce.

When the CoE program is ready to accept applications,
institutions can apply to the Maritime Administration to seek
designation as a CoE by highlighting their success in
preparing workers for maritime careers. If designated as a
CoE, institutions may enter into cooperative agreements with
the Maritime Administration to advance recruitment of students
and faculty, enhance facilities, award student credit for
military service, and potentially receive assistance in the
form of surplus equipment or temporary use of Maritime
Administration vessels. The public may submit comments until
Sept. 17, 2019 on the CoE policy by visiting
<http://www.regulations.gov>, searching for “MARAD-2018-0088”
and following the embedded instructions.

State Dept. Approves Possible Sale of MH-60R Helicopters to South Korea



Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Nathaniel Smith directs an MH-60R
Sea Hawk helicopter, assigned to the “Grandmasters” of
Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 46, aboard the
guided-missile destroyer USS Bainbridge (DDG 96) Aug. 6, 2019.

The State Department has approved sales of the MH-60R to South Korea. U.S. NAVY / Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jason Waite

WASHINGTON –

The State Department has made a determination approving a possible foreign military sale to South Korea of MH-60R multimission helicopters with support for an estimated cost of \$800 million, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) said in an Aug. 7 release. The same day, DSCA delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale.

South Korea

has requested to buy 12 MH-60R Seahawks, along with mission systems, sensors, crew-served guns and 1,000 AN/SSQ-36/53/62 sonobuoys. The purchase also would include “spare engine containers; facilities study; design and construction; spare and repair parts; support and test equipment communications equipment; ferry support; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$800 million,” the release said.

“The proposed

sale will improve the Republic of Korea Navy’s capability to perform

anti-surface and antisubmarine warfare missions, along with the ability to

perform secondary missions including vertical replenishment,

search and rescue,
and communications relay," the release said. "The Republic of
Korea will use
the enhanced capability as a deterrent to regional threats and
to strengthen
its homeland defense. The Republic of Korea will have no
difficulty absorbing
these helicopters and support into its armed forces."

The prime
contractor will be Lockheed Martin Rotary and Mission Systems,
Owego, New York.

Coast Guard Interdicts 6 Migrants 7 Miles East of Boca Raton

BOCA RATON,
Fla. – The Coast Guard interdicted six migrants Monday 7 miles
east of Boca
Raton, the Coast Guard 7th District said in an Aug. 7 release.

The Coast
Guard Cutter Ibis (WPB-87338) crew arrived on scene and
interdicted the six
male Cuban migrants. The crew safely embarked all six migrants
aboard the
cutter.

Coast Guard
Sector Miami watchstanders received a report from a good
Samaritan of a suspicious

15-foot wooden vessel with six people aboard transiting near Boca Raton.

“People attempting to illegally enter the United States put their lives and their loved ones at risk.” said Petty Officer 1st Class Paula Verden, Coast Guard Sector Miami command center. “These unseaworthy crafts do not have navigational or safety equipment on board, exposing its occupants to a tragic scenario. The Coast Guard continues to maintain a focused and coordinated efforts with multiple agency assets to interdict any attempt to immigrate by sea to the United States, Individuals interdicted at sea attempting to illegally immigrate will be repatriated to their country in accordance with existing U.S. immigration policy.”

The six adult male migrants were transferred to Cuban authorities by Coast Guard Cutter Robert Yered (WPC-1104) for repatriation purposes.

Once aboard a Coast Guard cutter, all migrants receive food, water, shelter and basic medical attention.

BAE Systems to Enhance Maritime Operations and Flight Safety Systems Aboard Large-Deck U.S. Navy Ships and New-Construction Aircraft Carriers



BAE Systems has won a Navy contract to enhance maritime operations and flight safety systems aboard new construction aircraft carriers and large deck amphibious ships. BAE SYSTEMS MCLEAN,

Virginia – The U.S. Navy has awarded BAE Systems a prime contractor position on a new indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract to enhance maritime operations and flight safety systems aboard new construction aircraft carriers and large deck amphibious ships, to include refueling and complex overhaul ships, the company said in an Aug. 8 release.

BAE

Systems was one of three contractors awarded the opportunity to bid on future integration, engineering, assembly, testing and installation focused task orders awarded throughout an eight-year ordering period. The work will be performed to enhance a variety of distributed systems that provide network capabilities, communications, command and control,

intelligence, and non-tactical data management.

“As a leading systems integrator, we continuously seek to broaden our support to the U.S. Navy to advance its C5ISR [command, control, communications, computers, combat systems, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance] capabilities,” said Mark Keeler, vice president and general manager of BAE Systems’ Integrated Defense Solutions business. “We are working with our defense customers to innovate our approach to systems development to better meet their ever-evolving mission requirements in alignment with construction and modernization priorities.”

A majority of the work awarded will take place near the U.S. Navy’s Test and Integration Facility Complex, alternatively known as the C4I-System Innovation Facility, located at Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic in Charleston, South Carolina. Additional work is slated for shipyards in Pascagoula, Mississippi, Newport News, Virginia, and Norfolk, Virginia.

Coast Guard’s Newest National Security Cutter Seizes 2,100-

Plus Pounds of Cocaine



A boarding team member from the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Midgett (WMSL 757) inspects contraband discovered within a suspected drug smuggling vessel interdicted in international waters of the Eastern Pacific Ocean, July 26, 2019. U.S. COAST GUARD

ALAMEDA,

Calif. – Crews aboard the pre-commissioned Coast Guard Cutter Midgett (WMSL

757) seized more than 2,100 pounds of cocaine worth approximately \$64 million

from a low-profile go-fast vessel interdicted in international waters of the

Eastern Pacific Ocean, the Coast Guard Pacific Area said in an Aug. 7 release.

On July 25

a U.S. Navy MH-60R Seahawk aircrew embarked aboard the USS Michael Murphy (DDG

112) sighted a low-profile go-fast vessel. As the helicopter approached, a

hatch opened on the top of the vessel and three passengers were seen

jettisoning objects.

The

Michael Murphy remained with the suspected smuggling vessel until the Midgett

arrived on scene to conduct a law enforcement boarding.

Midgett's boarding team

seized approximately 2,100 pounds of cocaine from the interdiction and

apprehended three suspected smugglers.

“Even

though the cutter is still in a pre-commission status, this

interdiction

showcases how ready our crew is and how capable the national security cutters

are," said Capt. Alan McCabe, Midgett's commanding officer. "It also

demonstrates the importance of our partnership with the U.S. Navy, whose

contributions are vital in stemming the flow of drugs into the United States."

Nearly 80%

of all known illegal narcotics coming into North America are smuggled by

international cartels through the Eastern Pacific corridor.

As these cartels become more advanced in

their methods at sea, the Coast Guard is recapitalizing its fleet with modern

assets equipped to detect, interdict and disrupt the growing flow of illegal

drugs, weapons and people in the Eastern Pacific.

Midgett,

the Coast Guard's eighth national security cutter, was accepted by the Coast Guard

in April. The cutter passed through the Panama Canal in July and is sailing to

Midgett's future homeport in Honolulu, where it will be commissioned Aug. 24,

along with its sister-ship, the Coast Guard Cutter Kimball (WMSL 756).

While

national security cutters like the Midgett possess advanced operational

capabilities, more than 70% of the Coast Guard's offshore presence is the

service's aging fleet of medium-endurance cutters, many of which are over 50

years old and approaching the end of their service life.

Replacing the fleet with new offshore patrol cutters is one of the Coast Guard's top priorities.

The offshore patrol cutter will provide a critical capability bridge between national security cutters like the Coast Guard Cutter Munro (WMSL 755), which offloaded 39,000 pounds of cocaine last month, and fast-response cutters like the Robert Ward, which recently seized more than 3,000 pounds of the cocaine in the first cocaine seizure made by a fast-response cutter in the Eastern Pacific.

Bollinger Delivers 35th FRC to Coast Guard



The newest FRC is named after Coast Guard hero Master Chief Petty Officer Angela McShan. MCP0 McShan was a pioneer for women and African Americans. She was the first African American woman to be promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer. BOLLINGER SHIPYARD.

LOCKPORT, La.

– Bollinger Shipyards has delivered the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) Angela

McShan, the 35th fast-response cutter (FRC) to the U.S. Coast

Guard, the company said in an Aug 2 release. The Coast Guard took delivery on Aug. 1 in Key West, Florida.

“We are very pleased to announce the latest FRC delivery, the USCGC Angela McShan,” said Ben Bordelon, Bollinger president and CEO. “Previous cutters have been stationed around the nation including Alaska and Hawaii. The Angela McShan, the third of three fast-response cutters to be home-ported in Cape May, New Jersey, will join the cutters Rollin Fitch and Lawrence Lawson. The vessel’s commissioning is scheduled for October 2019 in Cape May.

“FRCs already in commission have protected our country by seizing multiple tons of narcotics, interdicted thousands of illegal aliens and saved hundreds of lives,” Bordelon said. “The FRC program is a model program for government acquisition and has surpassed all historical quality benchmarks for vessels of this type and complexity. The results are the delivery of truly extraordinary Coast Guard cutters that will serve our nation for decades to come. We are extremely proud that the delivery of the FRC-35 marks the 175th patrol boat built by Bollinger Shipyards. This includes the USCG Island class, USCG Marine Protector class, USN Cyclone class and USCG Sentinel Class fast-response cutters.”

The 154-foot Sentinel-class fast-response cutter has a flank speed of 28 knots; state-of-the-art command, control, communications and computer technology; and a stern launch system for the vessel's 26-foot cutter boat. The FRC has been described as an operational "game-changer" by senior Coast Guard officials. Recently, the Coast Guard deployed the FRC 1124 Oliver Berry from Hawaii across the Pacific to the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The 4,400 nautical mile trip marked the furthest deployment of an FRC to date. This trip showcases the hugely expanded operational reach and capability that the FRC provides.

Each FRC is named for an enlisted Coast Guard hero who distinguished him or herself in the line of duty. This vessel is named after Coast Guard hero Master Chief Petty Officer Angela McShan. MCPO McShan was a pioneer for women and African Americans. She was the first African American woman to be promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer. She served over two decades with great devotion and is remembered as an exemplary leader and professional. She inspired the many she trained, and has been described as a positive, kind and motivational person. MCPO McShan was a stellar performer, mentor teacher and inspirational leader. The Master Chief Angela M. McShan Inspirational Leadership Award was established in her memory.

Orange Flag Demonstrates F-35, Army Missile Defense Integration

FORT

BLISS, Texas – Lockheed Martin, the Army Integrated Air and Missile Defense

(AIAMD) Project Office and the U.S. Air Force successfully integrated F-35

track data with the IAMD Battle Command System (IBCS) during Orange Flag

Evaluation (OFE) 19-2 here and at Palmdale, California.

This was

the first-time live F-35 track data has been sent to IBCS via the F-35 ground

station and F-35-IBCS adaptation kit, both developed by Lockheed Martin. This

allowed IBCS to receive and develop fire control quality composite tracks during

the exercise, leveraging the F-35 as an elevated sensor. This capability

enables multidomain operations and the detection of threats that could

challenge ground-based sensors.

“This

demonstration represents a significant growth in capability for the Army IAMD

program and Army for multidomain operations. The capability creates additional

battlespace awareness, and the ability to track incoming targets and take

action, if necessary,” said Scott Arnold, vice president and deputy of

Integrated Air and Missile Defense at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control.

“The F-35, with its advanced sensors and connectivity, is able to gather and seamlessly share critical information, enabling greater joint force protection and a higher level of lethality of Army IAMD forces.”

This capability further demonstrates the Army IAMD program’s ability to gather sensor data from multiple platforms and is another building block for the future Army IAMD force.

In 2016, the F-35 and Aegis Combat System successfully demonstrated the integration of the F-35 in support Naval Integrated Fire Control-Counter Air (NIFC-CA). The F-35 ground station has been relocated to White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, to support follow on F-35 integration testing during AIAMD developmental testing.

Raytheon Delivers First Next-Generation Jammer Mid-Band Pod for Navy Testing

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. – Raytheon Co. delivered the first Next-Generation Jammer Mid-Band (NGJ-MB) Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) pod to the U.S. Navy to begin ground and aircraft integration testing, the company said in an Aug. 5 release. Raytheon will deliver 15 EMD pods for mission systems testing and qualification as well as 14 aeromechanical pods for airworthiness certification.

Because of the NGJ-MB's increased jamming capabilities, the EA-18G Growler electronic attack aircraft can operate in more optimum locations to support both strike aircraft and weapons.

NGJ-MB is a high-capacity and power airborne electronic attack weapon system for the EA-18G. It will protect air forces by denying, degrading and disrupting threat radars and communication devices.

"The first NGJ-MB pod is out the door," said Stefan Baur, vice president of Raytheon Electronic Warfare Systems. "We are one step closer to extending the Navy's jamming range and capability. Delivery of this pod will allow for the initial verification of ground procedures, mass properties, aircraft installation and built-in-test checks in preparation for future chamber and flight test."

Additionally, in the third quarter of 2019, Raytheon will utilize a Prime Power Generation Capability pod installed on a commercial Gulfstream aircraft to conduct power generation flight testing and risk reduction efforts in support of the initial flight clearance process.

Raytheon's NGJ-MB architecture and design include the ability to operate at a

significantly enhanced range, attack multiple targets simultaneously and advanced jamming techniques. The technology can also be scaled to other missions and platforms.

Kongsberg Awarded Contract for Air-to-Air Pylons for Joint Strike Fighter

OSLO – Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace AS has signed a contract with Marvin Engineering worth 113 kroner to supply air-to-air pylons for the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter program. The agreement covers production lot 12 for air-to-air pylons for all variants of the fighter.

“This contract reflects the position Kongsberg has achieved by delivering high-quality components time after time to our customers on the F-35 Program. The contract also extends our relationship with Marvin Engineering and ensures continued production of these parts throughout 2020,” said Eirik Lie, president of Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace.