Coast Guard commissions fast response cutter USCGC Marvin Perrett



NEW ORLEANS – The Coast Guard commissioned its newest Sentinel-class fast response cutter USCGC Marvin Perrett (WPC 1164) during a ceremony held Thursday at the Julia Street Cruise Ship Terminal in New Orleans, marking the cutter's entry into active service.

Following the commissioning, the cutter and its crew will transit to its homeport in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Operating across the Caribbean and the U.S. southern maritime approaches, the Marvin Perrett will execute Coast Guard missions, including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement and homeland security.

The ceremony was presided over by Commander Atlantic Area Vice Adm. Jo-Ann Burdian.

"Commissioning the USCGC Marvin Perrett delivers a capable new asset and a crew ready to protect our nation's southern maritime border and serve the people of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and our Caribbean partners," said Burdian. "Marvin Perrett piloted a Higgins landing craft through the uncertainty and danger of World War II, carrying troops to the beaches of Normandy and later serving in the Pacific. Today, this cutter and its crew carry forward his fighting spirit and sacred trust with the American people, standing always ready to meet the demands of an increasingly complex maritime domain."

The cutter is named for Marvin Perrett, a New Orleans native and Coast Guard veteran who served as a landing craft, vehicle, personnel (LCVP) or Higgins boat coxswain during

World War II. After completing Coast Guard training, Perrett reported aboard the Coast Guard-manned Navy troopship USS Bayfield and deployed to Europe in 1944.

Perrett participated in the D-Day invasion at Normandy and the invasion of southern France and operations at Okinawa and Iwo Jima. During the Iwo Jima operation, he maneuvered his landing craft to avoid injuring a U.S. Marine, sacrificing the boat in the process.

Following the war, Perrett dedicated himself to sharing his experiences and educating younger generations about the Coast Guard's role in World War II. He was named an honorary chief by the Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Association and awarded a Knight of the Legion of Honor medal by the consul general of France.

Representing the Coast Guard's ongoing investment in a modernized 21st-century fleet, Sentinel-class fast response cutters are engineered for rapid deployment. Equipped with next-generation maritime sensors, integrated intelligence and communications suites, and the over-the-horizon pursuit boat deployment capabilities, the Marvin Perrett significantly expands the Service's ability to control, secure, and defend the U.S. border and maritime approaches along with conducting complex search and rescue operations.

From U.S. Coast Guard Southeast District, Nov. 19, 2026