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STATEMENT BY
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U. S. COAST GUARD

BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL

FOR

TOTAL FORCE POLICY
SECOND SESSION, 101ST CONGRESS

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SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

GOOD MORNING MISTER CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

I AM REAR ADMIRAL JOHN FAIGLE, CHIEF OF THE OFFICE OF READINESS AND RESERVE, UNITED STATES COAST GUARD. I AM PLEASED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY, MY FIRST SINCE ASSUMING THESE DUTIES, TO PRESENT TO YOU A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE AND TO CONVEY TO YOU OUR READINESS TO MEET NATIONAL SECURITY TASKINGS.

THROUGHOUT 1990 THE COAST GUARD WILL BE CELEBRATING ITS 200TH YEAR OF SERVICE TO THIS COUNTRY, WITH THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE OCCURRING THE FOLLOWING YEAR, ON FEBRUARY THE 19TH, 1991. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR ILLUSTRIOUS HERITAGE AND OUR CONTINUED PERFORMANCE AS PERHAPS THIS NATION'S MOST UNIQUE ARMED FORCE. FOR ALMOST FIFTY YEARS THE COAST GUARD RESERVE HAS PLAYED AN INVALUABLE ROLE IN SUPPORTING THE MISSIONS OF THE COAST GUARD AND THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC.

IN ADDITION TO OUR REQUIRED STATUTORY FUNCTIONS ENFORCING A VARIETY OF THIS NATION'S LAWS, PROTECTING ITS ENVIRONMENT, AND ENSURING COMMERCIAL VESSEL SAFETY, AND SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, THE COAST GUARD HAS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN SUPPORT OF THE NAVY AND THE UNIFIED AND SPECIFIED COMMANDERS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. OUR MULTI-MISSION CAPABILITY OVER THE ENTIRE CRISIS SPECTRUM ENABLES THE COAST GUARD TO FULFILL ITS STATUTORY MISSIONS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME HONING ITS SPECIALIZED MILITARY CAPABILITIES. IN FACT, MANY OF THE COAST GUARD'S CONTINGENCY CAPABILITIES ARE JUST EXTENSIONS OF OUR PEACETIME PROGRAMS, AND

OUR PEACETIME MODE OF TRAINING OPTIMIZES THE FAMILY OF SKILLS THAT EACH RESERVIST WILL NEED WHEN MOBILIZED.

STATUTORY MISSIONS

IN PEACETIME, THE EFFORTS OF THE COAST GUARD AND ITS RESERVE, IN OBSERVANCE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION'S NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY, ENSURE THE SAFETY OF MARITIME TRANSPORTATION. COAST GUARD OPERATIONS IN THE SPHERE OF MARITIME SAFETY ^{are} IS CRITICAL TO THE MAINTENANCE OF A STRONG NATIONAL ECONOMY; OUR AIDS-TO-NAVIGATION ARE USED FOR THE SAFE OPERATION OF SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT AROUND THE WORLD; THE COAST GUARD'S PORT SAFETY AND SECURITY PROGRAMS REDUCE THE POTENTIAL FOR LOSS OF LIFE AND THE DESTRUCTION OF PORT FACILITIES; AND COAST GUARD PATROLS IN PORTS AND HARBORS REDUCE THE POTENTIAL FOR DISRUPTION RESULTING FROM ACCIDENTAL OR MALICIOUS ACTIVITY. THE ROUTINE DAILY OPERATIONS OF COAST GUARD CUTTERS, SMALL BOATS AND AIRCRAFT WITHIN THE U.S. MARITIME REGIONS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA, THE COAST GUARD'S FREQUENT INTERACTION WITH OTHER NATIONS ALLOWS US TO EXHIBIT, FOR CONSIDERATION AND INTEGRATION INTO THEIR MARITIME FORCES, SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES IN THE AREAS OF MARITIME SAFETY, SEARCH AND RESCUE PROCEDURES, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNIQUES. COAST GUARD

TRAINING TEAMS, WHICH OFTEN INCLUDE RESERVISTS SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY, THUS WORK TO HELP ESTABLISH OR IMPROVE THE CAPABILITIES OF FOREIGN COAST GUARDS AND NAVIES IN MANY OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

RECENT LAWS AND POLICY DETERMINATIONS HAVE EXPANDED THE ROLE OF THE COAST GUARD AS THIS NATION'S PRIMARY MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY. COAST GUARD RESERVISTS HAVE MADE DRUG SEIZURES AND FLOWN DRUG SURVEILLANCE MISSIONS, SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDING THE CAPABILITY OF OUR REGULAR COMPONENT TO CONDUCT PRIORITY LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.

CONTINGENCY PREPAREDNESS

IT IS IN THE EXPANSION OF COAST GUARD FORCES IN A CRISIS THAT THE COAST GUARD RESERVE PLAYS PERHAPS ITS MOST VITAL ROLE. THE COAST GUARD IS REQUIRED BY TITLE 14 OF THE U. S. CODE TO MAINTAIN A STATE OF READINESS TO FUNCTION AS A SPECIALIZED SERVICE. WE ARE ALSO TASKED, UNDER TITLE 14, WITH COOPERATING WITH OTHER FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES TO PERFORM ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH OUR PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES ARE ESPECIALLY QUALIFIED. THUS, COAST GUARD CONTINGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANS FOR NATURAL DISASTERS, CIVIL EMERGENCIES, REGIONAL CRISES, LOW INTENSITY CONFLICT, ON THROUGH TO CONVENTIONAL WAR, ARE BEING REFINED TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE 1990s.

THE COASTAL DEFENSE MISSION OPTIMIZES THE COAST GUARD'S RESOURCES, KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITIES, BY COMBINING THEM WITH THE RESOURCES OF SPECIALLY-TRAINED NAVY ACTIVE AND RESERVE UNITS, IN THE EVENT THAT CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS BECOME NECESSARY IN THE COASTAL AREA.

MARITIME DEFENSE ZONES

IN 1984, THE SECRETARIES OF THE NAVY AND TRANSPORTATION ENTERED INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WHICH ESTABLISHED THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE ORDERLY CONTROL AND SECURITY OF THIS NATION'S CRITICAL PORTS AND WATERWAYS, WHICH TIE OUR COUNTRY ECONOMICALLY TO THE REST OF THE WORLD. THIS IMPORTANT COMMAND STRUCTURE -- WITH TWO MARITIME DEFENSE ZONES (MDZ), ONE FOR THE ATLANTIC AND GULF COASTS, AND THE OTHER FOR THE PACIFIC COAST, ALASKA AND HAWAII -- IS JUST AS INEXTRICABLY INTERWOVEN WITH THIS NATION'S FUTURE NATIONAL MARITIME STRATEGY NOW AS IT WAS UPON ITS INCEPTION. THIS IS TRUE FOR TWO REASONS:

FIRST, THE VERY ESSENCE OF OUR ECONOMY, AND THE LIFEBLOOD OF OUR NATION, ARE DIRECTLY DEPENDENT UPON THE COMMERCE SUPPORTED BY OUR NAVIGABLE WATERS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE EFFICIENT CONTROL AND SAFETY OF THOSE PORTS AND THE KEY ASSETS THAT AROUND OUR WATERWAYS AND COASTAL APPROACHES, ARE PARAMOUNT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY. EVEN IN LOW INTENSITY CONFLICTS OR OTHER CONTINGENCIES, THE ORDERLY

MOVEMENT AND PROTECTION OF WATERBORNE EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES CAN BEST BE ACCOMMODATED BY IMPLEMENTING THE MDZ COMMAND INFRASTRUCTURE.

SECOND, UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE MDZ IS THE LINKAGE THAT HAS PROVIDED THE COAST GUARD AND NAVY WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK CLOSELY IN SPECIALIZED JOINT OPERATIONS AND TRAINING. THE CHARTER OF THE MDZ COMMANDS IS PREDICATED ON PLANNING AND EXERCISING ACTIVE AND RESERVE FORCES OF BOTH SERVICES. AS AN EXAMPLE, THE MDZ HAS PROVIDED AN ADDITIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE COAST GUARD AND NAVY IN EXECUTING THE CONGRESSIONALLY-MANDATED ROLE OF DOD IN DRUG INTERDICTION EFFORTS. SPECIFICALLY, INTELLIGENCE (DETECTION AND MONITORING) AND COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED IN A SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP.

THE COAST GUARD RESERVE'S ROLE IN MDZ IS A MAJOR ONE. RESERVISTS PROVIDE ALMOST 85% OF THE COAST GUARD'S MDZ-RELATED PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS. AS A RESULT, APPROXIMATELY 90% OF THE COAST GUARD'S SELECTED RESERVE IS ORGANIZED AND TRAINED TO PROVIDE AN ALMOST TENFOLD INCREASE IN PORT SECURITY FORCES UNDER THE MDZ.

TRAINING

THE CORNERSTONE OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE TRAINING PROGRAM REMAINS THE CONGRESSIONALLY-MANDATED AUGMENTATION TRAINING. THIS TRAINING SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS NECESSARY TO MEET THE COAST GUARD RESERVE'S CONTINGENCY PREPARATIONS WHILE MEETING STATED NEEDS OF THE ACTIVE COAST GUARD. APPROXIMATELY 12,000 COAST GUARD SELECTED RESERVISTS PROVIDE NEARLY 2.6 MILLION MAN-HOURS OF RESERVE DUTY ANNUALLY, PERFORMING A VARIETY OF COAST GUARD MISSIONS AND SUPPORT FUNCTIONS. RESERVISTS WORK SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH THEIR ACTIVE DUTY COUNTERPARTS, PROVIDING OPERATIONAL AUGMENTATION TRAINING SUPPORT IN SEARCH AND RESCUE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, PORT AND MARINE SAFETY, PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND A MULTITUDE OF OTHER COAST GUARD PEACETIME MISSIONS.

FOR YEARS RESERVISTS HAVE MANNED AND OPERATED SEASONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE STATIONS IN THE GREAT LAKES. RECENTLY, THE COAST GUARD RESERVE HAS EXPANDED ACTIVITY IN THIS MISSION AREA BY CONDUCTING SEARCH AND RESCUE SORTIES ON THE COLORADO RIVER WHERE, DURING FISCAL YEAR 1989, THE COLORADO RIVER PATROL PERFORMED 277 BOARDINGS AND PROSECUTED 68 SEARCH AND RESCUE CASES. RESERVISTS ALSO PROVIDE WATERBORNE SECURITY FOR ALL SPACE SHUTTLE LAUNCHES, THE 1984 SUMMER OLYMPICS, AND FOR THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT

REAGAN AND PRESIDENT GORBACHEV HELD AT GOVERNOR'S ISLAND, NEW YORK IN DECEMBER 1988. THESE, HOWEVER, WERE PLANNED OCCASIONS WHERE THE REQUIREMENT FOR RESERVE PRESENCE WAS KNOWN IN ADVANCE. THE COAST GUARD TAKES GREAT PRIDE IN ITS ABILITY TO RESPOND TO THE UNKNOWN -- TO BE ALWAYS READY.

FROM ALASKA TO THE GULF OF MEXICO, FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO RHODE ISLAND'S NARRAGANSETT BAY, THE COAST GUARD RESERVE HAS SHOWN ITS ABILITY TO USE THE SKILLS ACQUIRED THROUGH TRAINING FOR NATIONAL SECURITY TASKINGS TO RAPIDLY MOBILIZE ALONGSIDE ITS ACTIVE DUTY COUNTERPART IN AN EFFORT TO COMBAT ANY ENVIRONMENTAL OR ECONOMIC THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN HOURS OF THE GROUNDING OF THE EXXON VALDEZ AND THE RESULTING OIL SPILL, RESERVISTS WERE REPORTING TO ACTIVE COMMANDS TO ASSIST IN MINIMIZING THE DAMAGE TO ALASKA'S ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT. FROM MIDWAY THROUGH THE END OF SEPTEMBER, OVER 300 COAST GUARD RESERVISTS SERVED AS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SPECIALISTS, RADIOMEN, WATCHSTANDERS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL, CONTRIBUTING OVER 13,000 MAN-DAYS OF EXPERTISE TO THE CLEAN-UP OF THIS NATIONAL CATASTROPHE.

IN THE CARIBBEAN SEA AND ALONG THE ATLANTIC COAST THE DESTRUCTION WHICH RESULTED FROM HURRICANE HUGO LAST FALL LED TO YET ANOTHER INSTANCE IN WHICH RESERVISTS QUICKLY TOOK POSITIONS ALONGSIDE THEIR ACTIVE DUTY COUNTERPARTS TO EXPAND THE COAST GUARD'S CAPABILITIES. THE SECURITY AND RECOVERY ROLES PERFORMED HELPED

RETURN LIFE TO A SEMBLANCE OF NORMALCY IN AREAS DEVASTATED BY THAT STORM. RESERVISTS FROM THROUGHOUT THE SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES CONVERGED ON CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, JUST HOURS AFTER THE STORM PASSED, WHILE OTHER RESERVISTS PROVIDED VALUABLE ASSISTANCE IN STORM-RAVAGED PUERTO RICO AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS.

AT THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES, RESERVE RESPONSE TO THE DISASTER WROUGHT BY THE SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE WAS IMMEDIATE, WITH RESERVISTS THROUGHOUT THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA PROVIDING SUPPORT TO ACTIVE DUTY COUNTERPARTS IN DAMAGE ASSESSMENT, PORT SECURITY, AND LOGISTICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE.

WHEN THE TANKER WORLD PRODIGY GROUNDED IN NARRAGANSETT BAY LAST JUNE, THREATENING STILL ANOTHER ECOLOGICAL DISASTER, COAST GUARD RESERVE UNITS RESPONDED TO THE CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS.

RESERVISTS PERFORMED A WIDE ARRAY OF TASKS WITH AS MANY AS HALF THE BOAT CREWS ON SCENE BEING RESERVE. QUICK ACTION BY THE COAST GUARD AND OTHER PARTICIPATING AGENCIES HELPED TO PREVENT A MAJOR DISASTER AND PRESERVE THE FRAGILE ECOLOGY OF NARRAGANSETT BAY.

THE FACT THAT TRAINED RESERVISTS WERE ABLE TO AUGMENT THE CAPABILITIES OF OUR ACTIVE FORCES IN THESE DIVERSE MISSION AREAS SO QUICKLY, ATTESTS NOT ONLY TO THE EFFECTIVE TRAINING AND

DEDICATION OF OUR COAST GUARD RESERVISTS, BUT ALSO TO THE BENEFITS TO BE GAINED FROM FULLY INTEGRATING RESERVE AND ACTIVE DUTY FORCES IN A WIDE VARIETY OF MISSIONS. A CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN HONING THE SKILLS OF OUR RESERVISTS TO THE CURRENT HIGH STATE OF READINESS IS PARTICIPATION IN THE BROAD SPECTRUM OF INTRASERVICE AND INTERSERVICE READINESS EXERCISES.

EXERCISE PARTICIPATION

IT BECAME APPARENT SEVERAL YEARS AGO, THAT OF THE LIMITED TRAINING TIME AVAILABLE TO OUR RESERVISTS, A CERTAIN PORTION OF THAT TIME WOULD BE WELL SPENT PARTICIPATING IN READINESS EXERCISES. THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF (JCS) PLAN FOR AND EXPECT THE COAST GUARD, AS ONE OF THE ARMED SERVICES, TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE DOD IN JCS DIRECTED EXERCISES. COAST GUARD RESERVE INVOLVEMENT IN READINESS EXERCISES PROVIDES THE ONLY REALISTIC GAUGE OF OUR DEGREE OF MOBILIZATION READINESS.

IN FY89, PARTICIPATION IN JCS AND SERVICE GENERATED EXERCISE PROGRAMS INCLUDED THE EMPLOYMENT OF COAST GUARD FORCES IN THIRTY-SIX FIELD TRAINING EXERCISES (FTX), TWO FLEET TRAINING EXERCISES (FLT EX), AND TEN COMMAND POST EXERCISES (CPX). IN THE JCS EXERCISE, PROUD EAGLE 90, FIFTY MAJOR COAST GUARD COMMANDS PARTICIPATED WITH JCS, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND OTHER FEDERAL AND CIVIL AGENCIES IN A GLOBAL TEST OF MOBILIZATION

PLANS AND PROCEDURES IN AN ESCALATING CRISIS. ALSO OF PARTICULAR NOTE WAS OUR INVOLVEMENT IN FTX PACEX 89. THIS EXERCISE UTILIZED COAST GUARD ACTIVE DUTY AND RESERVE PERSONNEL, BOATS, CUTTERS, AIRCRAFT, AND SHORE FACILITIES FROM CALIFORNIA, WASHINGTON, ALASKA, AND HAWAII. DEVOTING OVER 12,000 MANDAYS, NEARLY FORTY-THREE PERCENT OF ALL COAST GUARD RESERVE PERSONNEL IN THESE FOUR STATES PARTICIPATED IN EITHER THE EXERCISE ITSELF, OR IN ITS PRE/POST EXERCISE PLANNING AND ANALYSIS SEGMENT. THIS EVOLUTION WAS ACTUALLY A SERIES OF FTX'S COMBINED UNDER ONE UMBRELLA OPERATION WHICH LASTED OVER SIX MONTHS. COMMANDER, PACIFIC AREA UNITS WERE FULLY INVOLVED FOR FOUR WEEKS, PRACTICING MARITIME DEFENSE ZONE (MDZ) OPERATIONS AND TESTING THE CONCEPT OF THE NEWLY FORMED ALASKA COMMAND (ALCOM). THIS WAS THE LARGEST COMBINATION OF U.S. AND NATO FORCES SINCE WORLD WAR II.

COAST GUARD PARTICIPATION IN THESE FIELD, FLEET, AND COMMAND POST EXERCISES IS ESSENTIAL TO ALLOW OUR ACTIVE AND RESERVE FORCES TO BETTER DEFINE INDIVIDUAL ROLES, IDENTIFY STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES, AND SUBSTANTIALLY TEST OUR PLANS AND TRAINING FOR BOTH FULL MOBILIZATION AND A BROAD SPECTRUM OF CONTINGENCIES. WE CURRENTLY DEVOTE TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF OUR SELECTED RESERVE'S TOTAL ANNUAL ACTIVE DUTY TRAINING (ADT) TIME TO PARTICIPATION IN SUCH EXERCISES. THE USE OF ADT IS NOT GENERALLY FEASIBLE, HOWEVER, FOR THE IMPORTANT NO-NOTICE EXERCISES IN WHICH WE

PARTICIPATE. THESE NO-NOTICE INTEROPERABILITY EXERCISES ARE DESIGNED TO ENHANCE OUR ABILITY TO EXECUTE CONTINGENCY PLANS FORMULATED TO RESOLVE A SMALL-SCALE REGIONAL CRISIS ON SHORT NOTICE. GIVEN THE LIKELIHOOD OF COAST GUARD INVOLVEMENT IN EITHER LOW INTENSITY CONFLICTS OR DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS WORLD-WIDE, I BELIEVE MORE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED UPON GREATER COAST GUARD RESERVE PARTICIPATION IN THESE IMPORTANT EXERCISES.

SELECTED RESERVE STRENGTH

CURRENT PLANNING PROJECTIONS FOR THE AVAILABILITY OF TRAINED PERSONNEL DURING THE INITIAL STAGES OF MOBILIZATION SHOW A SIGNIFICANT SHORTFALL. A MAJORITY OF OUR SELECTED RESERVISTS WOULD BE NEEDED IN THE EVENT OF A PRESIDENTIAL ACTION UNDER TITLE 10 U. S. CODE, SECTION 673B. SELECTED RESERVE ON-BOARD STRENGTH AT THE END OF NOVEMBER 1989 WAS 11,985--ONLY FORTY-FOUR PERCENT OF OUR HIGH PRIORITY MOBILIZATION REQUIREMENT OF 27,500 AND FIFTY-SEVEN PERCENT OF OUR LOW-END CONTINGENCY MANPOWER REQUIREMENT OF 20,850. BY COMPARISON, THE FUNDED LEVELS OF THE DoD RESERVE COMPONENTS ARE AT NEARLY FULL STRENGTH OF THEIR HIGH-PRIORITY REQUIREMENT. IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT OUR FISCAL YEAR 1990 APPROPRIATION DID NOT SUPPORT ANY REAL GROWTH; IN FACT OVERALL COAST GUARD SELECTED RESERVE FUNDED STRENGTH DECLINED SLIGHTLY FROM 12,100 TO 12,050. THE FY 1991 PRESIDENT'S BUDGET CONTAINS FUNDING TO FULLY SUPPORT A SELECTED RESERVE STRENGTH OF

12,700. THIS RELATIVELY MODEST INVESTMENT IN GROWTH OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE WILL PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH A DOUBLE RETURN ... A MILITARY FORCE ABLE TO BETTER MAINTAIN THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF VITAL U.S. PORTS AND WATERWAYS AND AN OPERATIONAL AUGMENTATION TRAINING SUPPORT FORCE WHICH PROVIDES THE COAST GUARD WITH A FLEXIBLE AND RESPONSIVE SURGE CAPACITY TO MEET DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONAL CONTINGENCY COMMITMENTS.

EQUIPMENT

THE COAST GUARD IS CONTINUALLY REVIEWING FIELD INPUT AND UPDATING LOGISTICS SHORTFALLS. OUR LOGISTICS PLANS PRESENTLY ADDRESS FULL MOBILIZATION. HOWEVER, WE ARE AGGRESSIVELY ADDRESSING PLANS PREDICATED ON THE EVER-PRESENT AND CHANGING THREATS. ANALYSIS INDICATES LOWER-INTENSITY CONFLICTS AND CONTINGENCIES AS THE MOST LIKELY FUTURE ENVIRONMENT. ACCORDINGLY, ON-GOING EQUIPMENT SHORTFALL ANALYSES ARE BEGINNING TO FOCUS UPON EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS THAT WILL SUPPORT COAST GUARD TASKING DURING SUCH CONTINGENCIES. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT COAST GUARD MOBILIZATION EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT JUST FOR THE RESERVE FORCE. CONSEQUENTLY, SHORTFALLS IN MOBILIZATION EQUIPMENT ARE NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE RESERVE COMPONENT, BUT TO THE ACTIVE DUTY COMPONENT WHICH HAS BEEN TASKED WITH MOBILIZATION LOGISTICS RESPONSIBILITIES. MOBILIZATION EQUIPMENT SHORTFALLS ARE LISTED IN THE COAST GUARD'S ANNUAL INPUT TO THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT REPORT.

FULL-TIME SUPPORT PERSONNEL (FTS)

TO SUPPORT OUR RESERVE TRAINING EFFORTS IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT OUR RESERVE FULL-TIME SUPPORT CAPABILITIES EXPAND AS INCREASES IN THE SELECTED RESERVE FORCE ARE AUTHORIZED. WITH ONLY 711 FULL-TIME PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED (599 MILITARY AND 112 CIVILIAN) -- LESS THAN ONE FULL-TIME SUPPORT BILLET FOR EVERY 17 RESERVISTS -- WE ARE FINDING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPPORT TO OUR EXISTING SELECTED RESERVE FORCE. OUR FULL-TIME SUPPORT CAPABILITIES, IN FACT, PALE IN COMPARISON WITH THE LEVEL OF SUPPORT AUTHORIZED THE OTHER RESERVE COMPONENTS WHICH AVERAGE ONE FULL-TIME SUPPORT BILLET TO EVERY SEVEN RESERVISTS. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF TRAINING WE NOW PROVIDE -- TRAINING THAT PROVED ITS WORTH IN THE MANY NATURAL DISASTERS DESCRIBED EARLIER -- IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE MAINTAIN AT LEAST THE CURRENT RATIO OF FULL-TIME SUPPORT TO SELECTED RESERVE STRENGTH THROUGH ANY INCREMENTAL GROWTH OF OUR SELECTED RESERVE, AND STRIVE TO OBTAIN MORE SUPPORT IN FUTURE BUDGET YEARS.

I AM SURE THE CONGRESS RECOGNIZES THE RETURN THE COAST GUARD RESERVE GIVES THE PUBLIC AND OUR GREAT NATION IN TIME OF WAR AND PEACE. WE HAVE AGAIN RISEN TO THE DISPARATE CHALLENGES PLACED UPON OUR RESERVE IN JUST THIS LAST YEAR -- PACEX89, THE ALASKAN AND RHODE ISLAND OIL SPILLS, HURRICANE HUGO, AND THE SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE -- AND HAVE EMERGED AS A RESERVE FORCE NOT

ONLY AVAILABLE TO AUGMENT OUR ACTIVE COMPONENT IN MEETING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT ABLE AS WELL TO PROVIDE WELL-TRAINED PERSONNEL TO SUPPLEMENT THE SKILLS OF THE ACTIVE COAST GUARD IN RESPONDING TO ANY AND ALL NATURAL DISASTERS AND DOMESTIC EMERGENCIES.

I WILL BE PLEASED TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.