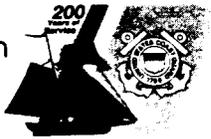


U.S. Department
of Transportation
**United States
Coast Guard**



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

Washington, D.C. **20593-0001**
Staff Symbol:
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

U. S. COAST GUARD

STATEMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL J. WILLIAM KIME

CONFIRMATION HEARING

**BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION**

UNITED STATES SENATE

10 MAY 1990



RADM J. William Kime

Rear Admiral John William Kime assumed the duties of Commander of the Eleventh Coast Guard District in May 1988. He also serves as the Commander of the Central California Sector of the U.S. Maritime Defense Zone, Pacific and as Coordinator of the Pacific Region of the National Narcotics Border Interdiction System.

Admiral Kime graduated from Baltimore City College in 1951 and from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1957. He received a Master of Science degree in naval architecture and marine engineering and the Professional Degree of Naval Engineer from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1964).

Admiral Kime served in deck and engineering assignments on board the Coast Guard Cutter CASCO before assuming command of Loran Station Wake Island in 1960. He served at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC in the Merchant Marine Technical and Naval Engineering Divisions. While at Headquarters, he served as the principal U.S. negotiator at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London during the drafting of the IMO Code for Liquefied Gas Ships and was in charge of the structural design of the Polar Star class of Coast Guard icebreakers. Subsequently, he served as the first engineering officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter BOUTWELL stationed in Boston.

In 1977, Admiral Kime was a distinguished graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and was again assigned to Coast Guard Headquarters as Assistant Chief of the Merchant Marine Technical Division, and as both general coordinator and a member of the U.S. Delegation to the International Conference on Tanker Safety and Pollution Prevention (TSPP) in London in 1978.

Admiral Kime assumed duty as Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Office Baltimore in 1978. He was assigned to Coast Guard Headquarters in 1981 as Deputy Chief of the Office of Marine Environment and Systems.

From 1982 through 1984, Admiral Kime was assigned as Chief of the Operations Division of the Seventh Coast Guard District, Miami, where his duties included daily direction of Coast Guard drug and illegal migrant interdiction in the Caribbean.

In 1986, Admiral Kime became Chief of the Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection in Washington, DC. This office was formed by combining the Offices of Merchant Marine Safety and Marine Environment and Systems, each of which Admiral Kime had previously headed. His duties in this position included heading the U.S. Delegations to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee and Maritime Environmental Protection Committee.

Admiral Kime is a registered Professional Engineer, a member of Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi, A.S.M.E., A.S.N.E., and S.N.A.M.E. His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, five Meritorious Service Medals, three Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbons with operational distinguishing device, two Unit Citations with operational distinguishing device and Meritorious Unit Citation.

Admiral Kime, a native of Greensboro, North Carolina, is married to the former Valerie Jean Hiddlestone of Pontardulais, South Wales.



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
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MAY 10, 1990

GOOD MORNING, MR. CHAIRMAN. I AM PLEASED TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THIS DISTINGUISHED COMMITTEE TODAY.

LET ME FIRST SAY THAT I AM DEEPLY HONORED BY THE PRESIDENT'S NOMINATION TO SERVE AS THE NINETEENTH COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD. I ALSO APPRECIATE THE TIME MANY OF YOU HAVE TAKEN TO MEET WITH ME TO DISCUSS PRIORITIES PRIOR TO THIS HEARING. IN MY OVER THIRTY-TWO YEARS' SERVICE, I HAVE FOUND THE COAST GUARD TO BE A HIGHLY COMPETENT AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION. IN FACT, THESE ATTRIBUTES--COUPLED WITH OUR DEDICATED PERSONNEL, OUR MILITARY ORGANIZATION AND DISCIPLINE, OUR COMMAND AND CONTROL STRUCTURE, OUR SUPPORT STRUCTURE, AND OUR INVENTORY OF HIGHLY-CAPABLE MULTI-MISSION RESOURCES--GIVE US UNMATCHED FLEXIBILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS. I SINCERELY BELIEVE WE ARE THE LEANEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TODAY. I FEEL I HAVE THE NECESSARY EXPERIENCE, ABILITY AND ENERGY, AND LOOK FORWARD TO LEADING THE COAST GUARD. I AM VERY PLEASED WITH REAR ADMIRAL DANIELL'S NOMINATION TO BE MY VICE COMMANDANT. HE WILL SERVE WITH DISTINCTION.

MUCH OF THE CREDIT FOR THE CURRENT EXCELLENT STATE OF THE COAST GUARD BELONGS TO THE PRESENT COMMANDANT, ADMIRAL PAUL YOST. HIS STRONG LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN GUIDING OUR SERVICE THROUGH THE MANY CHALLENGES OF THE PAST FOUR YEARS. THE COAST GUARD'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS UNDER HIS DIRECTION, ALONG WITH THE

RESPECT HE HAS EARNED FOR THE COAST GUARD THROUGHOUT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND IN CONGRESS, PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT BASE ON WHICH I CAN BUILD DURING MY TOUR AS COMMANDANT.

AS THE COAST GUARD COMPLETES 200 YEARS OF PROUD SERVICE TO THIS NATION, I SEE US AS BEING WELL-POSITIONED TO ENTER OUR THIRD CENTURY OF PERFORMING A VARIETY OF MARITIME MISSIONS. I PLEDGE THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE QUALITY OF SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND THE WORLD IN MARITIME SAFETY, PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT, MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND DEFENSE PREPAREDNESS.

AS COMMANDANT, I WILL WORK TO MEET NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS BY APPLYING COAST GUARD RESOURCES TOWARD ENSURING SAFETY ON THE WATER, PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO OIL SPILLS, CONTRIBUTING TO NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERDICTING ILLEGAL DRUGS, PROVIDING FOR THE SAFE MOVEMENT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, REMOVING UNNECESSARY REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY, AND SUPPORTING OTHER GOALS SET FORTH BY PRESIDENT BUSH, SECRETARY SKINNER AND THE CONGRESS.

PEOPLE ARE OUR MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE. COAST GUARD PEOPLE--REGULAR, RESERVE, OFFICER, ENLISTED, CIVILIAN, AUXILIARY--ARE TOP-NOTCH. THEY ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE, DEDICATED, WITH A CAN-DO ATTITUDE THAT IS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HIGH LEVEL OF MISSION PERFORMANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS I MENTIONED EARLIER. OUR PEOPLE DESERVE THE BEST SUPPORT WE CAN PROVIDE. AS COMMANDANT, I WILL WORK TO BE CERTAIN THAT OUR PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO ADEQUATE HOUSING, PROPER MEDICAL CARE, AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES. OUR PEOPLE MUST BE SUFFICIENTLY TRAINED, AND PROVIDED

THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT TO DO THE JOB. MY NEW MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE COAST GUARD, MASTER CHIEF ROBERT LLOYD, WILL BE MY LINK TO OUR ENLISTED MEN AND WOMEN.

IN A BROADER CONTEXT, SUPPORT FOR OUR PEOPLE INCLUDES PROVIDING THE BEST POSSIBLE LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR COAST GUARD UNITS OPERATING WORLD-WIDE. RECRUITING AND RETENTION OF FEMALES AND MINORITIES IN THE COAST GUARD IS A MUST, AND AS COMMANDANT I WILL PURSUE PROGRAMS TO ASSURE SUCCESS HERE.

I HAVE CHARACTERIZED THE COAST GUARD AS FLEXIBLE. I BELIEVE THIS ATTRIBUTE HAS RARELY BEEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN NOW, AS WE FACE THE EMERGING PRIORITIES OF THE 1990'S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND VESSEL SAFETY ARE IMPORTANT. I WANT THE COAST GUARD TO MAINTAIN ITS NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THESE AREAS. WE ARE ALREADY WORKING ON A NUMBER OF INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE OUR NATION'S OIL SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE CAPABILITIES, AND I WILL ENSURE THAT THESE ARE PURSUED AGGRESSIVELY.

PASSAGE OF REALISTIC OIL SPILL LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION LEGISLATION IS ESSENTIAL. AS CONGRESS DELIBERATES ON THE OIL SPILL BILL, I WILL ENSURE THAT OUR YEARS OF EXPERTISE IN THIS FIELD CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE TO THE CONFEREES AND STAFF, IN A COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO DEVELOP LEGISLATION WHICH WILL BEST SERVE THE NATION.

OUR COUNTRY NEEDS WORLD-CLASS VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICES IN OUR MAJOR PORTS; AS SUCH, I WILL EMPHASIZE PLANNED AND ONGOING STUDIES, AND ENSURE THAT THE VTS PROGRAM IS A TOP PRIORITY.

OUR TRADITIONAL MISSIONS IN **MARITIME SAFETY** WILL CONTINUE AS A NATIONAL PRIORITY IN THE DECADE AHEAD. WE CAN NEVER NEGLECT OR EVEN DIMINISH OUR ROLE AS "LIFESAVERS"--REPRESENTED BY THE SEARCH AND RESCUE, AIDS TO NAVIGATION AND BOATING SAFETY PROGRAMS. THIS ROLE IS THE CORE AROUND WHICH THE ENTIRE COAST GUARD IS BUILT; IN FACT, OUR CONSIDERABLE MARITIME EXPERTISE EVOLVES FROM THESE MISSIONS.

IN 1989, HURRICANE HUGO AND THE CALIFORNIA EARTHQUAKE HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COAST GUARD IN NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE. OUR ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVE, CIVILIAN AND AUXILIARY PERSONNEL PERFORMED ADMIRABLY DURING THOSE EMERGENCIES, AND WE MUST MAINTAIN AND EXPAND UPON THIS ABILITY.

IN **MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT**, I SEE THE COAST GUARD CONTINUING ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE IN DRUG INTERDICTION. I PLAN TO CONTINUE--AND WHERE POSSIBLE, IMPROVE ON--THE CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE COAST GUARD, THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, THE CUSTOMS SERVICE, AND OTHER AGENCIES WE WORK WITH IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT FIELD. IN THE AREA OF FISHERIES LAW ENFORCEMENT I LOOK FORWARD TO A CONTINUING CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE.

IN **DEFENSE PREPAREDNESS**, THE COAST GUARD WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT ROLE. IF THE U. S. DRAWS DOWN FORCE LEVELS OVERSEAS, A VIABLE MILITARY SEALIFT CAPABILITY AND SECURE OPERATION OF U. S. PORTS IN TIME OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WILL TAKE ON GREATER IMPORTANCE. THE COAST GUARD'S PORT SAFETY AND SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES WILL PLAY A KEY ROLE HERE. AS SUCH, WE

WILL REVIEW WITH THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS AND THE FLEET COMMANDERS IN CHIEF OUR MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES, TO BE CERTAIN THE ROLE THE COAST GUARD WILL PLAY UNDER THE MARITIME DEFENSE ZONE CONCEPT IS RESPONSIVE TO THESE CHANGING NATIONAL NEEDS. IN ADDITION, I SEE OUR ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA GROWING IN THE YEARS AHEAD, AS WE CONTINUE TO SHARE OUR TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL EXPERTISE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES' NAVAL AND COAST GUARD FORCES. NEW COAST GUARD INITIATIVES INVOLVING TRAINING AND OPERATIONS WITH PANAMA'S NATIONAL MARITIME SERVICE ARE A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THESE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

IN SUMMARY, I VIEW THE COAST GUARD'S BICENTENNIAL NOT SO MUCH AS THE END OF 200 YEARS' SERVICE, BUT AS A MILESTONE IN OUR CONTINUING ROLE AS A DIVERSE, RESPONSIVE MARITIME AGENCY. I SEE THE COAST GUARD ENTERING ITS THIRD CENTURY OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION, READY, WILLING AND ABLE TO RESPOND TO CHANGING NATIONAL NEEDS AND PRIORITIES, WHILE MAINTAINING THE PROPER BALANCE AMONG ITS VARIED OPERATIONAL AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS.

I WILL WORK WITH BOTH THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONGRESS TO ENSURE THE COAST GUARD IS RESPONSIVE TO NATIONAL PRIORITIES, AND HAS THE NECESSARY RESOURCES TO PROVIDE THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE QUALITY OF SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. I PLEDGE THAT, AS COMMANDANT, I WILL ENSURE THOSE RESOURCES ARE USED EFFICIENTLY AND IN A BALANCED WAY.

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK BEFORE YOU TODAY. I WILL BE HAPPY TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT HAVE.