

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to receive the report of the Interagency Task Force on the U.S. Coast Guard Roles and Missions. I extend my sincere appreciation to Chairman Mortimer Downey and the fifteen other members who provided advice as to the appropriate future roles and missions for our Coast Guard. I also would like to commend the leadership of Secretary Rodney Slater and the Department of Transportation for their vision and vigilance in maintaining safety – my administration's highest transportation priority.

As we have witnessed time and again, and most recently with the tragic loss of Alaska Air Flight 261, the Coast Guard provides America with a maritime military, and a multi-mission presence that is flexible and adaptable.

The Coast Guard will continue to safeguard America's maritime safety and security. I look forward to working with the Congress to ensure that the world's best Coast Guard remains as its motto proclaims; Semper-Paratus – Always Ready.

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**A Coast Guard For
the
Twenty First Century**

**Report of the
Interagency Task Force
on U. S. Coast Guard
Roles and Missions**

December 1999

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