

### ***PSU 313 2003 Deployment***

*On 17 February 2003, USCG Port Security Unit 313 out of Tacoma, Washington deployed from McChord Air Force Base for a period of up to 6 – 12 months in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The unit's primary mission would be to provide security to the Mina al Bakr and Khor al Amaya Gas and Oil Platforms located just 12 miles off the coast of Iraq in the Northern Arabian Gulf.*

*These two platforms, property of the Iraqi people, were of critical importance for the economic recovery of Iraq following cessation of hostilities. While unlike anything ever done by the United States Coast Guard in its 200+ years, it was determined that a Port Security Unit was uniquely suited for this mission. Thus, PSU 313, assisted by PSU 311 out of Long Beach, California, was chosen.*

*Once in Kuwait, the PSUs quickly proved to be an asset to the naval services in the area due to their flexibility and adaptability. During the 6-1/2 months they were ultimately deployed, PSU 313 carried on the proud tradition of the Coast Guard and met every challenge faced. They not only provided security for one, then both the GoPlats, they also provided the logistical support to both, as well as providing security support to the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army at Kuwait Naval Base and the key Port of Shuaiba. Additionally, PSU 313 provided engineering expertise and assisted with boat repairs for U.S. Navy Naval Coastal Warfare units, the Kuwaiti Navy and U.S. Army boat units.*

*PSU 313 served with distinction from February 2003 until August 2003, when they were relieved by PSU 309 out of Port Clinton, Ohio. They were welcomed home by loving families on the ramp at McChord AFB on 27 August 2003.*

*Mission Complete*