



ADMIRAL
R. R. WAESCHE
Commandant
U. S. Coast Guard

The Commandant of the U. S. Coast Guard, in an address before a headquarters conference of Temporary Reserve Commanding Officers, said in part:

"**Y**OU and the men under you have served many a lonesome, weary, tedious tour of duty. You have encountered evidences of carelessness and have prevented great losses that might have come about through fires of careless origin, but very few of you have ever encountered an enemy saboteur, and I know that some of your men are wondering just how important their port security posts of duty are.

"It is true that they have seldom, if ever, seen the enemy, but it is probably equally true that more than once the lurking enemy saboteur has seen them walking up and down or cruising the harbor in the dead of night, foul weather and fair, in the uniform of the U. S. Coast Guard. If the enemy has been there, he has seen them, and, seeing, has slunk away unable to accomplish his desire to sabotage.

"How many times such an enemy has seen a volunteer Temporary Reservist of the Coast Guard, no one will ever know but the mere presence of the Coast Guardsmen at the posts of duty has, without question, been a deterrent to whatever plans such enemies may have had.

"Not a single serious loss has been suffered in any facility that has been under the protection of the Volunteer Temporary Reserve of the U. S. Coast Guard.

"The proof of the value of their Coast Guard duty lies in the fact that they have helped keep the ports of America open and active every day and every night during the war.

"This is the practical answer to any questions that may be in their minds regarding the importance of their work, and for that splendid record, the Coast Guard thanks you and them, and America honors you."

Tribute By Admiral Waesche to the Temporary Reservist