

munition, prisoner of war details, special (troop transport) details, boarding duties, communications; radio sealing and many other former responsibilities of the regular Coast Guard.

Each Flotilla or Unit commander was directly responsible to the Division officers and the Director of Auxiliary for the control and performance of his Unit. From a small Auxiliary organization, Division 3A of the First Naval District was developed. It was destined to become the largest and most continuously active Temporary Reserve Division in any Naval Dis-

trict of the United States.

Over 7,500 men enrolled and saw service with Division 3A. In 1944 alone, 147,470 watches were stood, making a total of 1,500,000 hours of duty performed in one year by Temporary Reserve personnel in this Division! It is estimated over 600 regular and reserve personnel were thus released for other duty.

All who were in the Coast Guard, whether Regulars, Reservists or Temporary Reservists wore the same uniform. All performed the same duties, all had the same purpose—early and complete victory.



"Nippon, Here We Come" — With the Coast Guard shield painted on its blunt bow and with Coast Guardsmen at the controls, this LAMP hits the surf to land on the beach of a Jap-held island in the Pacific. Glistening Marines hold fingers aloft in "V for Victory" sign. Similar scenes were reenacted in North Africa,

Sicily, Italy, Normandy and Southern Islands. The Coast Guard was given the job of bringing the Yanks ashore on all the invasion shores. These barges, carried on Coast Guard-manned attack transports, shuttled back and forth between transport and beach.



Convoy Moving East. . . . In the wake of a Coast Guard-manned troop transport, part of a convoy steams eastward over the Atlantic with reinforcements and war material for the battle of Germans. Drafted to help win the war, these liners and

cargo vessels "hacked up the line" of allied fighting men, running the dangerous passages overseas with escorts of Coast Guard combat cutters, DEs, corvettes and frigates.

How the TR Served

All volunteer port security forces, assigned to safeguard the nation's ports (5,000,000 linear feet of wharfrage), realized they were relieving Coast Guard Regulars for other war service.

Where were they and what were their assignments? Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, Chief of Naval Operations during the war, answered that question in his second official report to the Secretary of the Navy covering combat operations.

"Coast Guard personnel man nearly 300 vessels of the fleet," said Admiral King, "transports, cargo vessels, fuel ships, destroyer escorts and landing craft of various types—which have participated in numerous amphibious operations in both the Atlantic and Pacific—as

well as 600 Coast Guard cutters and 3,000 small craft employed in escort service and harbor security duty. Also, 221 cargo vessels under Army control are manned by Coast Guard crews."

Admiral Waesche said, in his address on Boston Common, 7 May 1944, "As I stand here today and reviewed your regiment, I could not help but visualize the large group of Coast Guardsmen who were formerly doing the work which you are now doing, and who now, through your patriotic services, have been released for duty on our fighting ships throughout the world."

The Coast Guard increased from a prewar strength of 10,000 men to a wartime peak of 172,000, including women in the Spars.