



The PCF (Patrol Craft, Fast), better known as the "Swift" boat is a 51-foot long, aluminum hulled patrol craft capable of speeds in excess of 25 knots. It draws less than a foot of water when underway and is capable of getting around in the shallow, crooked rivers and canals leading inland from the coast as well as patrolling an area at sea near the coast for many days with little maintenance. It carries a turret-mounted twin .50 caliber machine gun atop its fiberglass superstructure and an over-and-under configuration of a single .50 caliber machine gun and 81 millimeter mortar on its fantail. During river assault missions its crew of from five to ten men is also armed with several M-16 rifles, M-60 automatic rifles, and M-79 Grenade Launchers. The Coast Guard 82-footers have five .50 caliber machine guns and an 81 mm mortar plus many small arms and automatic weapons.

