

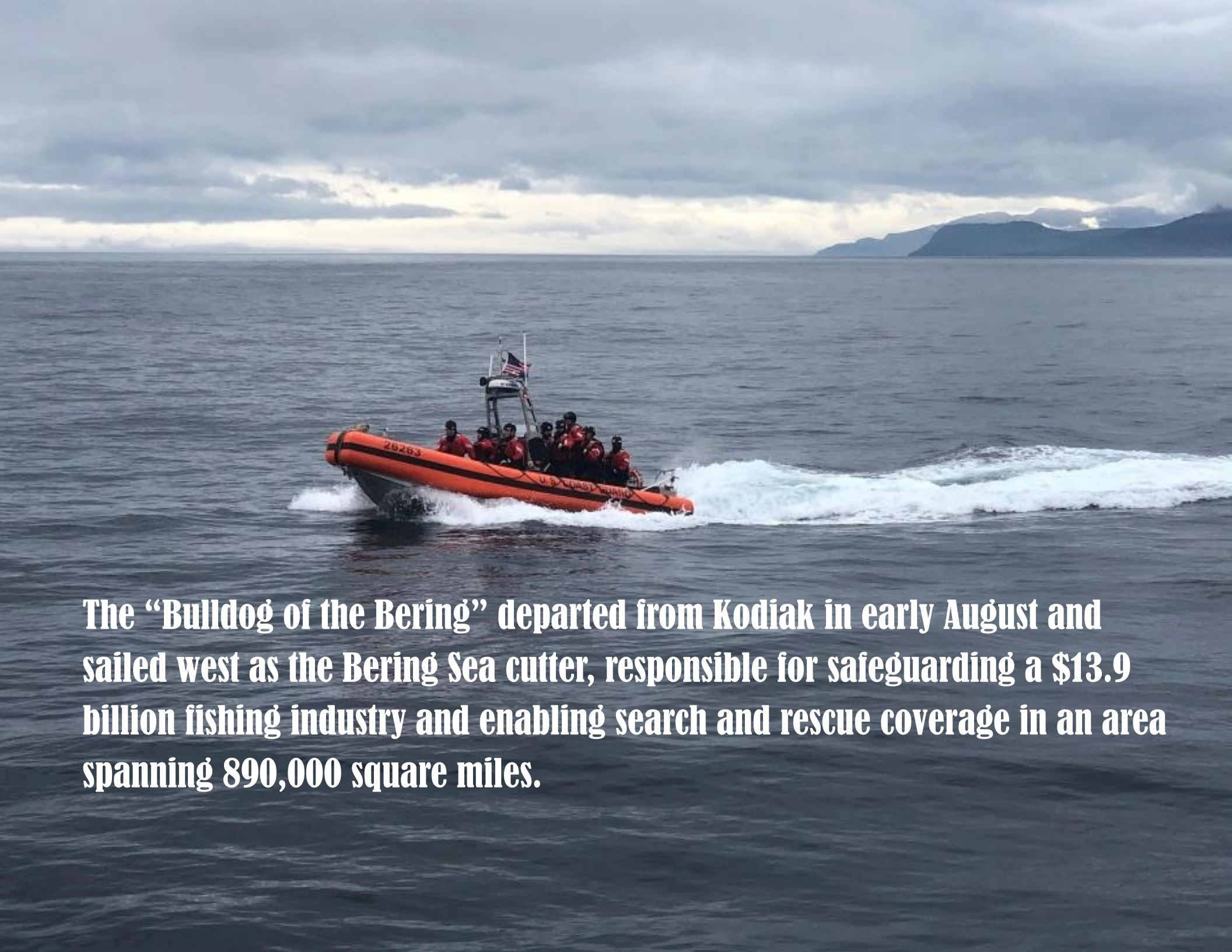
# The Bulldog Newsletter

August—October 2020

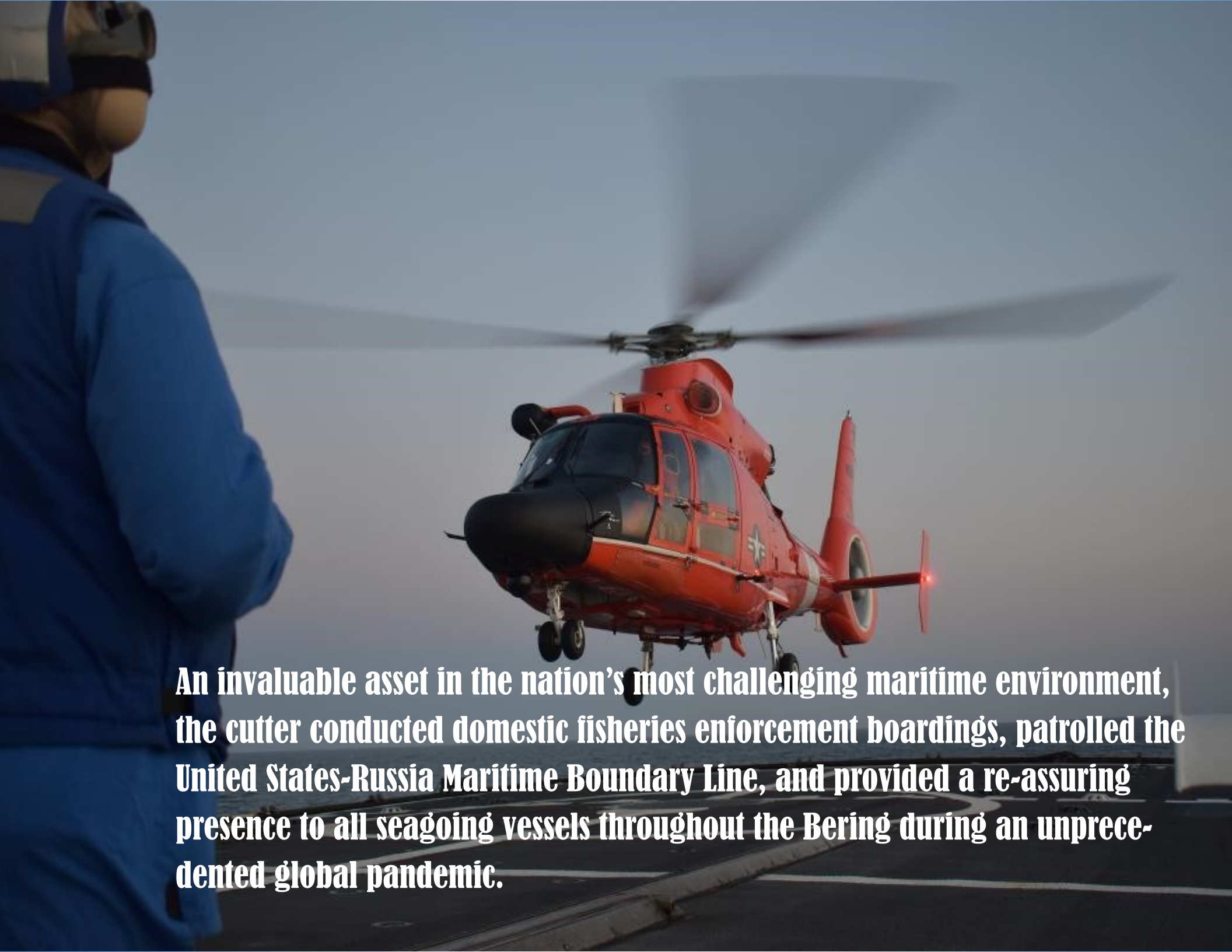




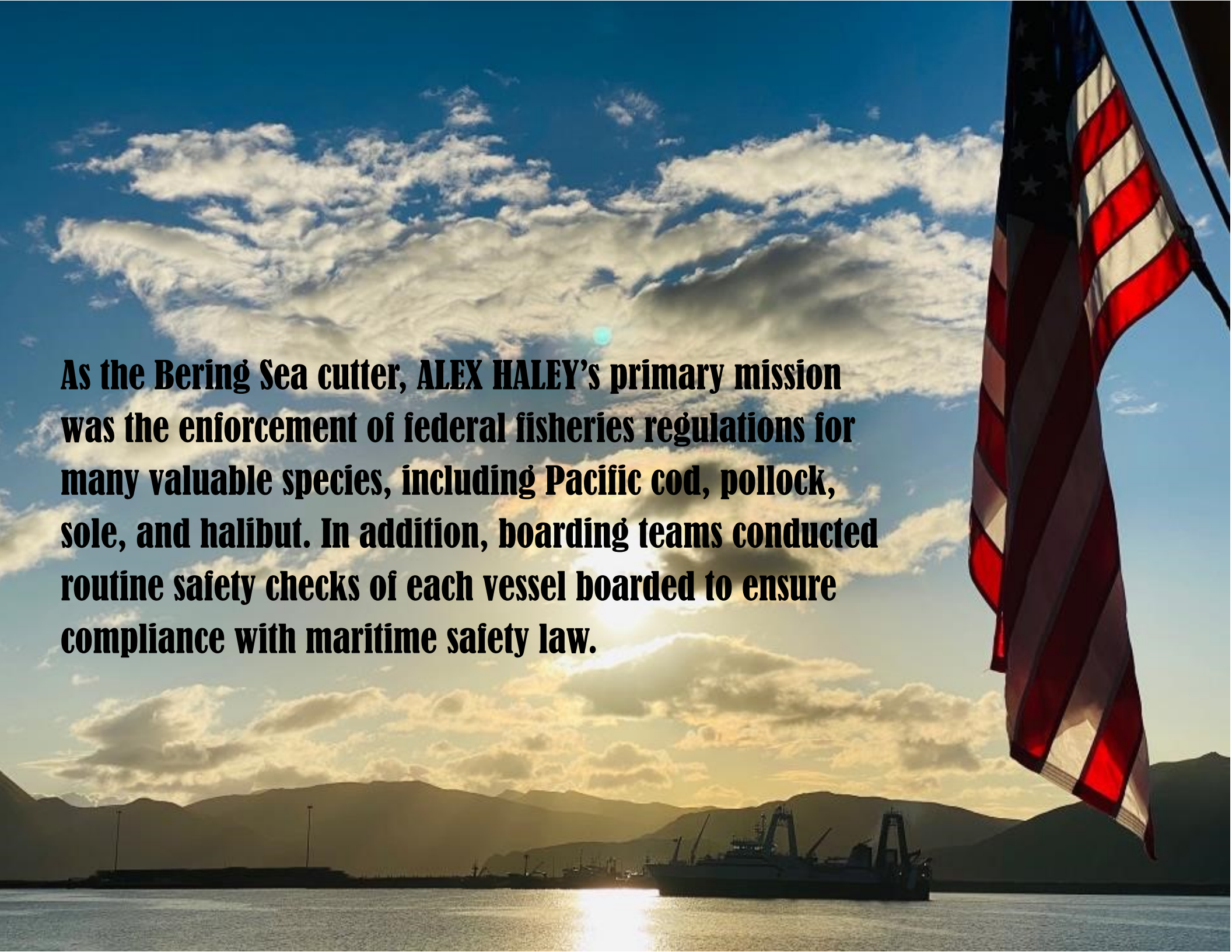
**Kodiak, Alaska — The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter ALEX HALEY returned to Kodiak on Thursday afternoon following a successful 85-day deployment, having patrolled more than 11,000 miles throughout the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea.**



**The “Bulldog of the Bering” departed from Kodiak in early August and sailed west as the Bering Sea cutter, responsible for safeguarding a \$13.9 billion fishing industry and enabling search and rescue coverage in an area spanning 890,000 square miles.**



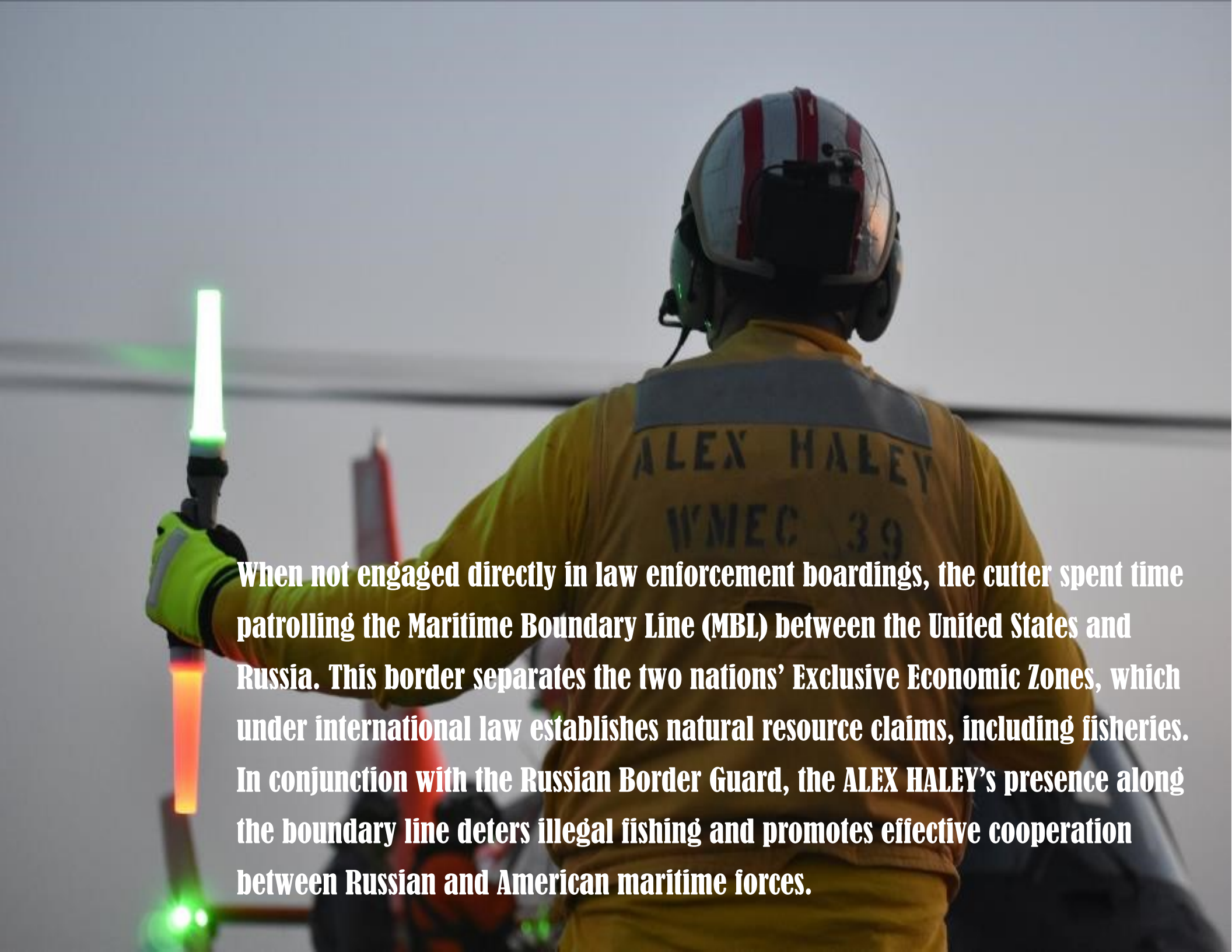
**An invaluable asset in the nation's most challenging maritime environment, the cutter conducted domestic fisheries enforcement boardings, patrolled the United States-Russia Maritime Boundary Line, and provided a re-assuring presence to all seagoing vessels throughout the Bering during an unprecedented global pandemic.**

The image features a large American flag on the right side, waving against a sky filled with soft, white clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow and a shimmering reflection on the water. In the background, a large fishing vessel is docked at a pier, with mountains visible in the distance. The overall scene is peaceful and patriotic.

**As the Bering Sea cutter, ALEX HALEY's primary mission was the enforcement of federal fisheries regulations for many valuable species, including Pacific cod, pollock, sole, and halibut. In addition, boarding teams conducted routine safety checks of each vessel boarded to ensure compliance with maritime safety law.**

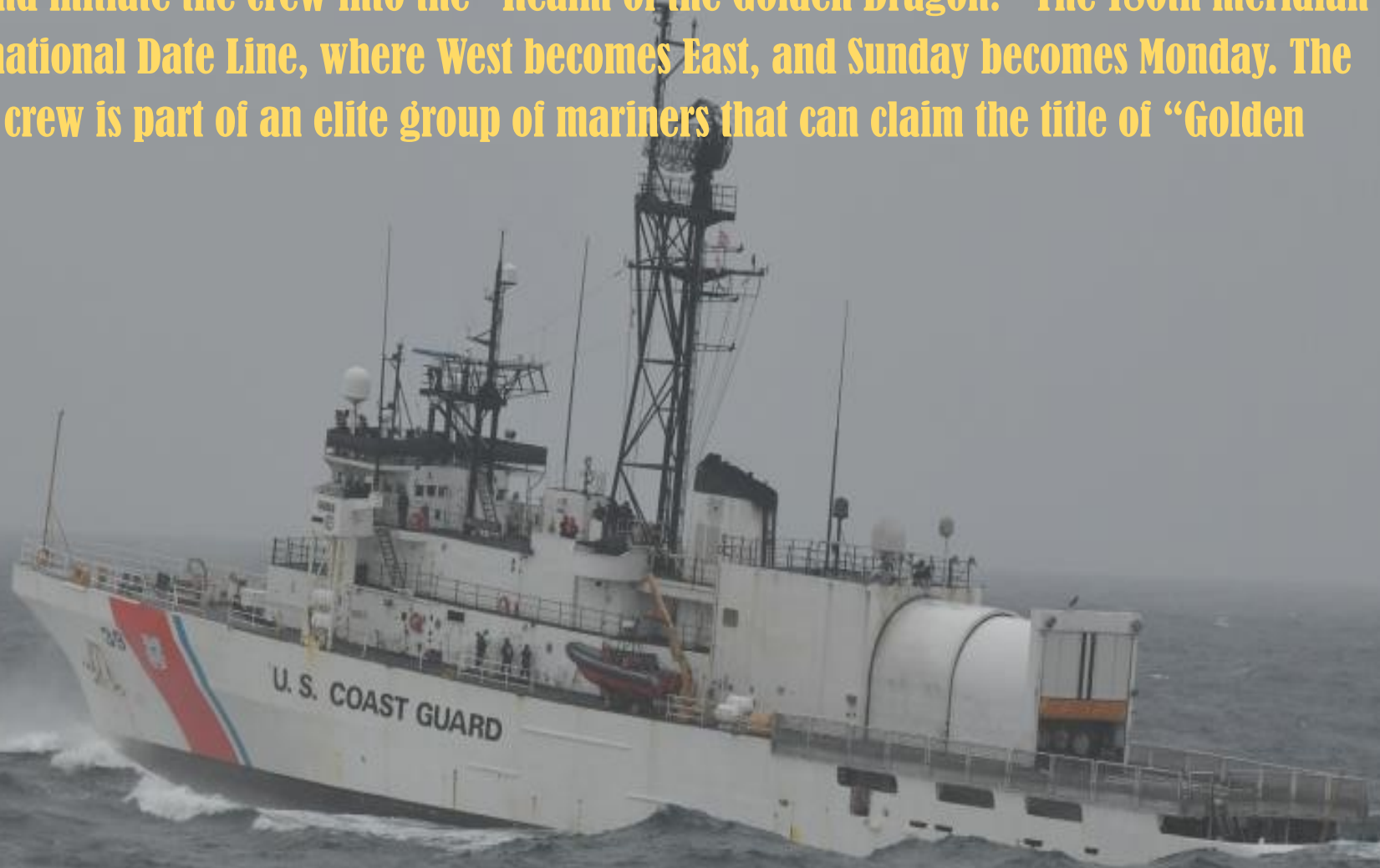


**As summer gave way to fall, the focus shifted towards the highly visible red king crab fishing fleet of 'Deadliest Catch' fame, rounding out a patrol in which 20 boardings were conducted for vessels participating in nearly 10 different fisheries.**



**When not engaged directly in law enforcement boardings, the cutter spent time patrolling the Maritime Boundary Line (MBL) between the United States and Russia. This border separates the two nations' Exclusive Economic Zones, which under international law establishes natural resource claims, including fisheries. In conjunction with the Russian Border Guard, the ALEX HALEY's presence along the boundary line deters illegal fishing and promotes effective cooperation between Russian and American maritime forces.**

**While operating along the MBL, they had a unique opportunity to cross the 180th parallel of longitude and initiate the crew into the “Realm of the Golden Dragon.” The 180th meridian is the International Date Line, where West becomes East, and Sunday becomes Monday. The ALEX HALEY crew is part of an elite group of mariners that can claim the title of “Golden Dragon!”**





**In addition to patrolling the Maritime Boundary Line, ALEX HALEY joined the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force vessel KASHIMA for a high-latitude exercise in early September.**

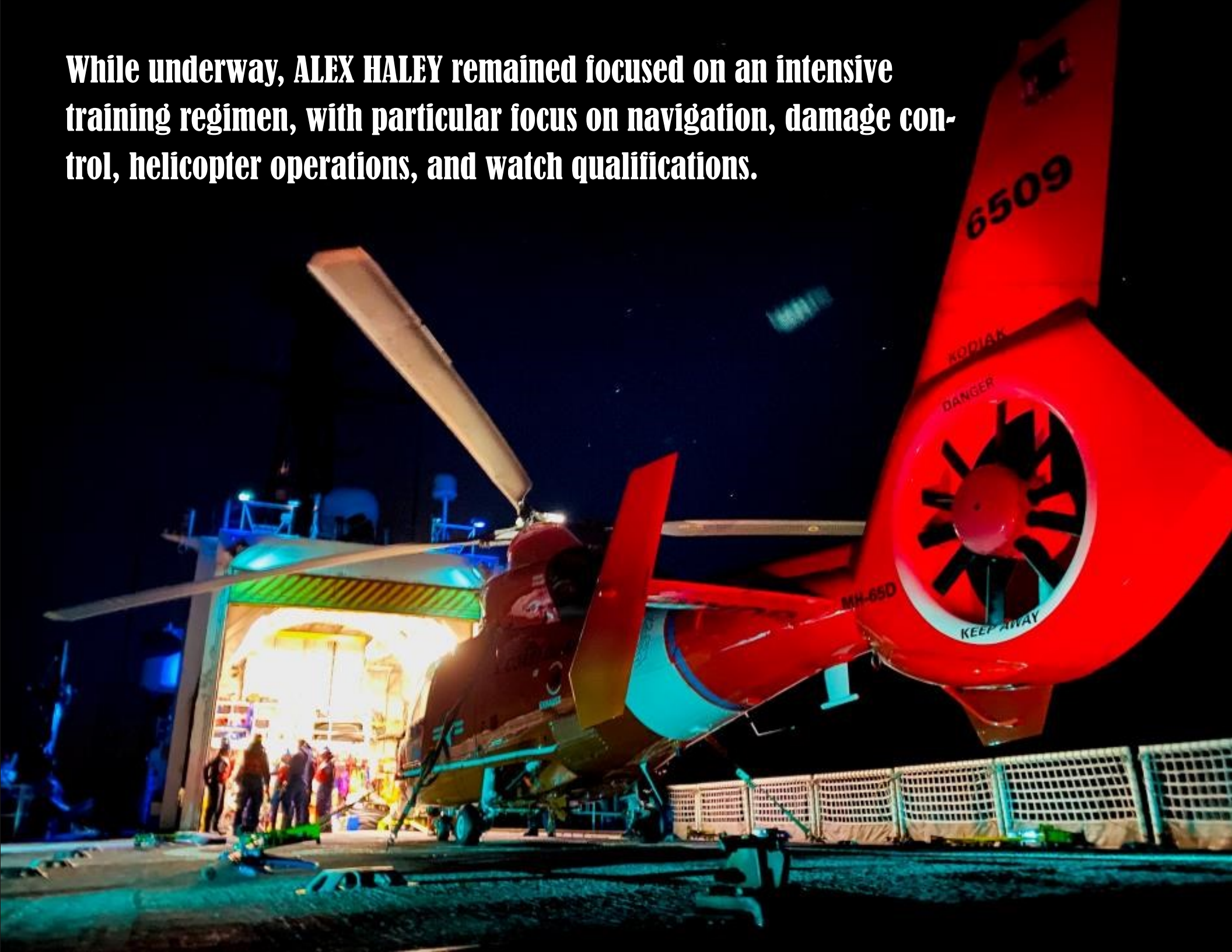
**The two vessels completed tactical formation maneuvering and visual communication exercises in a show of international cooperation and goodwill.**



**With the Arctic regions and Bering Sea becoming increasingly important to national strategic interests, cooperation between the U.S. and maritime allies is crucial to American economic strength and security.**

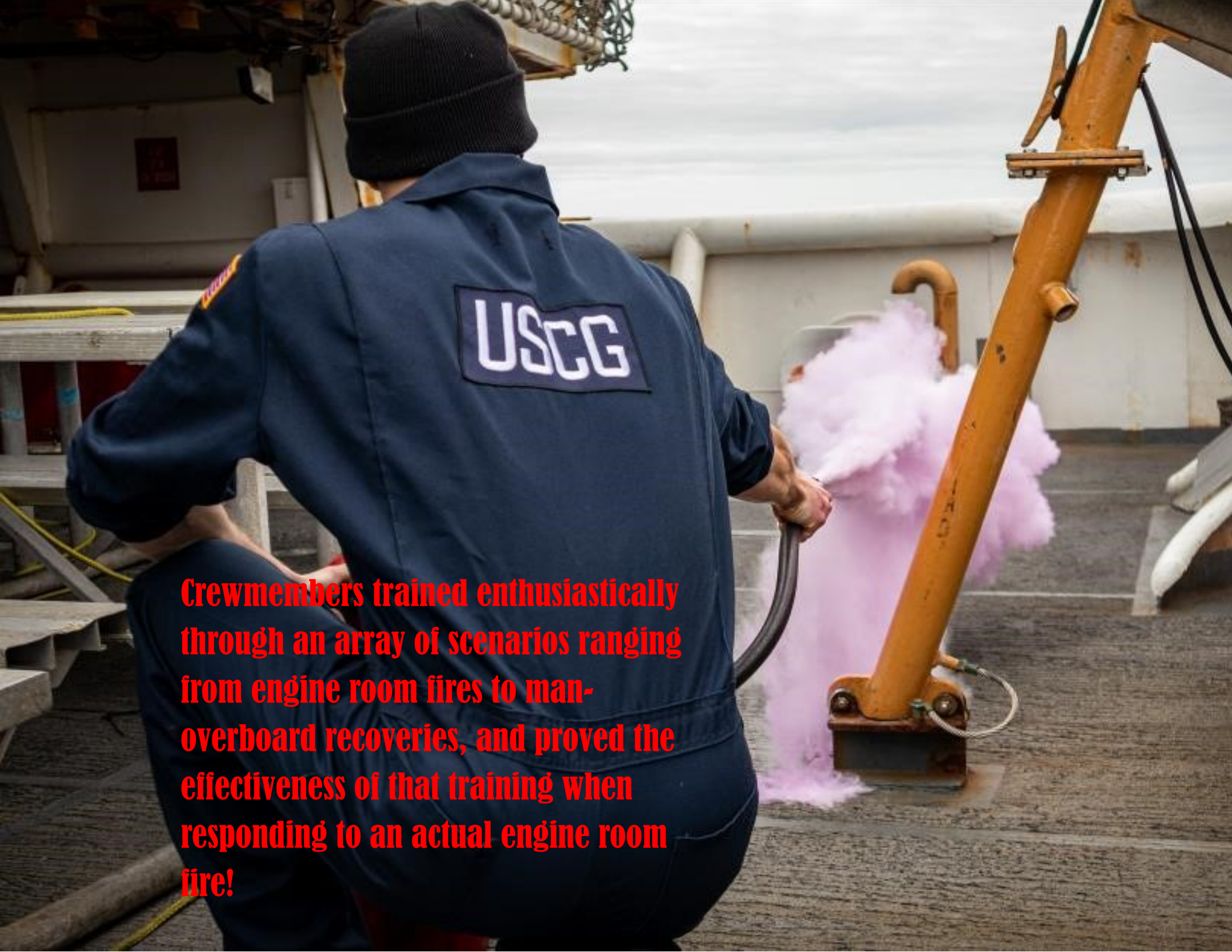


**While underway, ALEX HALEY remained focused on an intensive training regimen, with particular focus on navigation, damage control, helicopter operations, and watch qualifications.**



A crew member in a blue uniform and cap is operating a high-pressure water spray on a ship's deck. The spray is directed towards a white structure. The background shows the ship's interior with pipes and a sign that reads "DO NOT STAY SEA TRANSFER".

**With over 30 new crewmembers arriving during a busy summer transfer season, the need for effective training was vital in keeping ALEX HALEY operating safely and efficiently.**



**Crewmembers trained enthusiastically through an array of scenarios ranging from engine room fires to man-overboard recoveries, and proved the effectiveness of that training when responding to an actual engine room fire!**



# Welcome to NOME Inc 1901

**Despite the pace of operations and multiple unanticipated changes to the schedule, ALEX HALEY crewmembers found some time to relax and enjoy the unique experiences that the Bering Sea has to offer. Whether panning for gold in Nome, chasing Dolly Varden trout and salmon in Dutch Harbor, flexing their artistic skills during paint night, hauling 100lb halibut out of the deep, or participating in an underway triathlon challenge, the crew managed to find plenty of morale opportunities throughout the Last Frontier!**

**Commander Benjamin Golightly, Commanding Officer of USCGC ALEX HALEY:**

**“Despite the extraordinary challenges imposed by the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, the crew of the ALEX HALEY displayed remarkable perseverance throughout the duration of my third patrol as Commanding Officer. While nearly three months away from home can be daunting, the enthusiasm, maturity, and dedication from all hands made this patrol a resounding success. Whether conducting Law Enforcement boardings to protect our nation’s largest fishery or effecting critical machinery repairs necessary for the continuous operation of the cutter, the men and women of ALEX HALEY answered the call when the need for U.S. presence in the Bering Sea remains as vital as ever.”**





**All smiles after a successful beach cleanup in Dutch Harbor!**





**Firemen Keller Syverson and Taylor Allen square off on the chess board.**



**The ladies of Alex Haley break out the palettes and brushes!**



**Alex Haley command and crew pay respects during a traditional burial-at-sea.**



**Repair Locker  
Three's finest  
following an  
intense fire drill.**



**A bird's eye view of the crew during the Veteran Suicide Awareness 22-pushup challenge.**

**Petty Officer Third Class Robert Zipper with a 100+ pound halibut.**



**Chief Warrant Officer  
Joshua Calderón hoists a  
trophy 24 pound  
yelloweye rockfish.**

**Thanks for reading, and stay  
tuned for the next installment of  
the Bulldog Newsletter!**

