

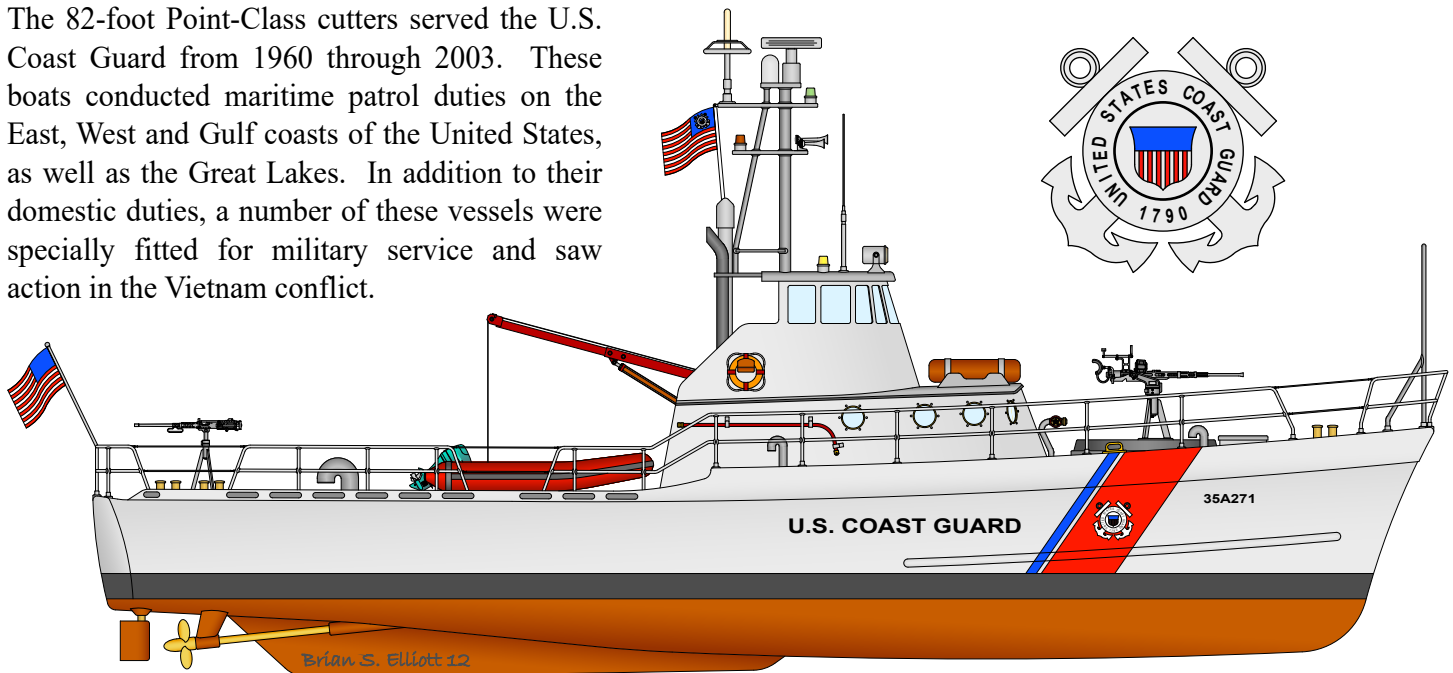
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82-Ft. USCG Point-Class Cutter

by Brian S. Elliott

The 82-foot Point-Class cutters served the U.S. Coast Guard from 1960 through 2003. These boats conducted maritime patrol duties on the East, West and Gulf coasts of the United States, as well as the Great Lakes. In addition to their domestic duties, a number of these vessels were specially fitted for military service and saw action in the Vietnam conflict.



Specifications

L.O.A.:	82 Feet
Beam:	17 Feet
Draft:	6 feet
Engines:	Two 600 HP Diesels
Displacement:	65 Tons
Speed:	18 Knots
Range:	1270 Miles
Crew:	8
Armament:	One 20mm Automatic Cannon Two M2 HB .50 Machine Guns
Construction:	1960 Through 1970
Service:	1960 Through 2003
Number Built:	79

The basic construction called for a steel hull fitted with an aluminum superstructure. They were powered by two 600 or 800 horsepower diesel engines, which propelled the boats at a cruise speed of 11 knots and a top speed of 17 knots.

These boats had excellent sea-keeping characteristics and, in addition to working offshore, they could be comfortably handled in the port and bay areas that dot the coastlines of the U.S.

Replacement of the Point-Class Cutters started in the 1990's with the introduction of the Marine Protector-Class boats. The last Point-Class cutter was decommissioned in 2003.

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