



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
20511

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 2, 2009

ODNI News Release No. 32-09

**REAR ADMIRAL ANN D. GILBRIDE HONORED AT
NATIONAL MARITIME INTELLIGENCE CENTER**

Rear Adm. Ann D. Gilbride, the first Director of the National Maritime Intelligence Center (NMIC), was honored today with the Intelligence Community (IC) Seal Medallion during a change-of-office ceremony. The award was presented by U.S. Army Lt. Gen. John F. Kimmons, Director of the Intelligence Staff, Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) who presided over the ceremony.

The NMIC was formally established by the Director of National Intelligence on Jan. 14, 2009, to integrate the unique capabilities of interagency, private sector, and foreign partners across the Global Maritime Community of Interest, and to promote effective sharing of information and maritime intelligence.

“Ann’s leadership, clear vision, relentless drive and the dedication of her talented team have grown NMIC into the nationally significant capability it is today,” said Lt. Gen. Kimmons during his remarks at the change-of-office ceremony. “The oceans and seas are mostly ungoverned spaces and her team identified knowledge and intelligence gaps, and partnering with the Coast Guard and commercial maritime industry, devised strategies to fill them.”

Most notably, Rear Adm. Gilbride directed the launch of the Maritime Domain Awareness Vessel Information Hub, which will enable effective vessel-related information sharing across the global maritime community. In addition, she coordinated an interagency agreement between the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to share commercially purchased vessel characteristics data. This information, when linked by CBP with identified cargo content and onboard crew members, serves as a useful security risk indicator for maritime vessels.

Rear Adm. Gilbride also established the first nationally coordinated Intelligence Community Maritime Operational Threat Response during the Maersk Alabama piracy incident that occurred in April 2009. During this incident, which ended with the death of three pirates and one pirate being prosecuted in New York, Gilbride integrated all maritime intelligence from across the IC and Maritime Community of Interest in support of national policy deliberations.

“In the eight short months since the inception of the NMIC, Rear Adm. Gilbride has made great strides in integrating intelligence across the maritime domain,” Lt. Gen. Kimmons said. “She has successfully positioned the NMIC to deliver unprecedented access to maritime intelligence to a wide range of domestic and international partners, to make the whole greater than the sum of its parts.”

The NMIC is co-located in Suitland, Md., with the ONI and the Coast Guard Intelligence Coordination Center. Composed of interagency representatives from across the government and the Intelligence Community, the NMIC aims to identify and track potential maritime threats to U.S. interests and provide accurate, timely, and predictive intelligence to decision-makers and operational personnel. As the maritime environment continues to grow in importance and complexity – the volume of international trade by sea, already at 95 percent, is expected to double over the next decade, for example – the NMIC’s role in integrating the global maritime community is more important than ever.

Rear Adm. Gilbride, who is retiring from the U.S. Navy after 31 years of service, is succeeded by Rear Adm. Thomas Meek, former Vice Director of Security and Intelligence, U.S. Southern Command.

###