CAPT [redacted]

From: 01 Captain [redacted] [01@ccdg2.navy.smil.mil]
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2000 12:58 AM
To: 'CAPT [redacted]
N20 LCDR [redacted] DESRON22 HOLST
Subject: RE: JAGMAN Force Protection Questions ICO USS COLE

[redacted]

My bust on the Threat Level -- I knew that, but happened to be working two port visit Inport Security Plans today and had THREATCON on the brain. Although the GWBATGRU had a great reputation in FP during the IDTC evaluations, we still have vulnerabilities as evidenced by COLE. FYI, we've redoubled our efforts and now have just published the first edition of an OPTASK FORCE PROTECTION to try to consolidate guidance that's "out there" into one document. We've just put it out so the jury's still out on whether it's a practical addition or just another pain in the butt instruction for ships to respond to.

Thanks for illuminating me on your direction. I've asked 5th Fleet COS to clue us in on the investigations (i.e. who's doing what when) instead of us just getting emails out of the blue with questions (no offense, but just want to make sure this all is wrapped tightly so we can learn the most in the aftermath).

I've contacted the CDS-22 Commodore tonight re: HAWES and COOK and will try to get them to answer your queries. In fact, if you want to send them to me, I'll work through the Commodore, [redacted] and I'm sure he can break any perceived logjam. I know both those ships have been busy lately down [redacted], but they also have an obligation to respond and I'm sure they will at their earliest opportunity.

[redacted]s for giving me a little insight -- we're proud of all the GWBATGRU ships and fully committed to contributing all we can to the investigative processes related to this incident.

R, [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: CAPT [redacted] [mailto:CAPT_[redacted]@tarawa.navy.smil.mil]
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 9:43 AM
To: '01 Captain [redacted]
Subject: RE: JAGMAN Force Protection Questions ICO USS COLE

[redacted]

The "THREATCON" that you referenced is actually "Threat Level." I do not want to create more paperwork or inundate our ships with unnecessary tasks either. I also, having over 31 years of active duty, believe in trust and responsibility. What I am looking at is our CO's that may think we want them to do things that they can't, and the fact that we should be following the rules we can while protecting our ships. I am also looking at things like crew awareness, because if the folks don't know the threat, they won't see it. I'm also looking at how we can help each other, such as catching mistakes like our ships thinking they are in a medium threat level when they are actually in high. And common sense "stuff": if there is no brow down and no liberty, how can you do things like station an armed pier sentry, deploy barriers, post signs in local language (why, if nobody is coming aboard), inspect pier vehicles, direct departing and arriving liberty boats, review the liberty policy, establish an armed brow watch, etc.

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I am also looking at things like not paying attention to the references. This may indicate, though it appears only administrative in nature, that we're not looking at the right ones.

help will be greatly appreciated; since 26 OCT, when I queried COOK and VES, I have received only a question from COOK on the 27th and nothing e. All my best, [redacted]

> -----Original Message-----
> From: 01 Captain [redacted] [SMTP:01@ccdg2.navy.smil.mil]
> Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 10:54 PM
> To: 'CAPT [redacted]
> Cc: N20 LCDR [redacted]
> Subject: JAGMAN Force Protection Questions ICO USS COLE
>
> Captain Holland,
> I'm [redacted] COS for GWBATGRU, and have been working with our FPO [redacted] to ensure you get what you need for the JAGMAN. As you might
> expect, while we're going to provide anything people investigating this
> attack want, we're also being very careful to not have folks come at all
> levels of our staff to get info and end up having our own staff answering
> the same questions differently at the various levels in the Chain of
> Command. Therefore, I will see all questions and proposed answers that
> come
> in and go out, respectively. In order to get some more clarity to some of
> your questions, I am contacting the C.O. of Hawes and Cook, asking them to
> provide some elaboration relevant to your line of questioning,
> specifically
> the issue of THREATCON you asked [redacted] bout earlier. As [redacted] has
> written
> u, we don't require a specific after action report that tells us
> npletion of each security measure taken for port visits. We do ask CO's
> rovide us any info on unusual happenings/experiences that occur during
> visits. Let [redacted] and I know if we can be of any further assistance.
>
> R, COS
>
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: N20 LCDR [redacted]
> > Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 11:31 AM
> > To: 'CAPT [redacted] 01 Captain [redacted]
> > Subject: RE: Force protection
> >
> > Sir,
> > The ref line in DCK's message should have read OPNAVINST 5530.14C
> > (Navy Physical Security). I have it on the CD I and the FPO's on DCK and
> > HAW received from the FPAT course at EWTGLANT at NAB Little Creek. As
> for
> > your second question IRT those measures - each of those measures has
> some
> > applicability to their plan, or they probably would have suspended those
> > measures. I cannot confirm that they performed measure 31; our
> assumption
> > is that if a measure is taken it is performed.
> > v/r, LCDR [redacted]
> >
> >
> -----Original Message-----
> From: CAPT [redacted] [SMTP:CAPT_[redacted]@tarawa.navy.smil.m
> Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 2:10 PM
> To: 'N20 LCDR [redacted]
> Subject: RE: Force protection
>

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> > Also, can you direct me where to find ref A of the FPP's you
> > approved?
> > Thanks, [redacted]
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: CAPT [redacted]
> > Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 4:10 PM
> > To: 'N20 LCDR [redacted]
> > Subject: RE: Force protection
> > >
> > > LCDR, if no one was going ashore, what about measures 10, 12,
> > 13,15,17,22,
> > > 27, 33?. And if they did not have a brow, there are others that
> > may not
> > > have applied. Do you know for sure that they performed 31?
> > Thanks, [redacted]
> > >
> > > -----Original Message-----
> > > From: N20 LCDR [redacted] [SMTP:n20@ccdg2.navy.smil.mil]
> > > Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 7:00 PM
> > > To: 'CAPT [redacted]
> > > Subject: RE: Force protection
> > >
> > > Sir,
> > > Measure 30 in the COMUSNAVCENT/COMFIFTHFLT Force
> > Protection
> > > OPORD
> > > 99-01 states "Remind personnel to lock their parked vehicles
> > and to
> > > carefully check them before entering." I did not question
> > the
> > > omission of
> > > this measure in HAW or DCK's plan since neither ship was
> > going
> > > ashore and it
> > > did not apply.
> > > v/r, LCDR [redacted]
> > > >
> > > >
> > > > -----Original Message-----
> > > > From: CAPT [redacted]
> > > [SMTP:CAPT.[redacted]@tarawa.navy.smil.mil]
> > > > Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 9:45 AM
> > > > To: 'N20 LCDR [redacted]
> > > > Subject: RE: Force protection
> > > > >
> > > > > One other question.
> > > > >
> > > > > Both ships mentioned they were not doing measure # 30, but
> > did not
> > > say
> > > > > why.
> > > > > Why didn't you go back and ask why they were deviating
> > from
> > > measure #30?
> > > > > Thanks for all your help, [redacted]
> > > > >
> > > > > > -----Original Message-----
> > > > > > From: N20 LCDR [redacted]
> > SMTP:n20@ccdg2.navy.smil.mil]
> > > > > > Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 3:00 PM
> > > > > > To: 'CAPT [redacted]
> > > > > > Subject: RE: Force protection
> > > > > >

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> > > > Sir,
> > > > I don't hold a reference that states the terrorist
> > threat
> > > for Yemen
> > > > at MEDIUM. The NCIS threat assessment I cited to DCK in
[redacted] CTF 50
> 181910Z
> > > AUG,
> > > > dated 8 Sep 99, holds Yemen at HIGH. I did not cite the
> > threat
> > > > assessment
> > > > to
> > > > HAW. Both ships referred to an NCIS Threat Assessment in
> > their
> > > messages.
> > > > > The
> > > > > only one that existed was the 8 SEP 99 threat assessment
> > and
> > > that is the
> > > > > one
> > > > > we used in approving their plan. Neither ship asked for
> > any
> > > waivers or
> > > > > measures above their initial request. Both ships' plans
> > were
> > > consistent
> > > > > with
> > > > > THREATCON BRAVO, the theater THREATCON at that time.
> > > > > v/r, LCDR[redacted]
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > > > -----Original Message-----
> > > > > > From: CAPT[redacted]
[redacted] > > [SMTP:CAPT[redacted]@tarawa.navy.smil.mil]
> > > > > > Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2000 7:37 AM
> > > > > > To: 'n20@ccdg2.navy.smil.mil'
> > > > > > Subject: FW: Force protection
> > > > > >
> > > > > > LCDR[redacted] my number on board Tarawa is 619
> > 545-8507. DSN:
> > > 735
> > > > > 8507.
> > > > > > This is extremely important info. Thanks, Capt [redacted]
> [redacted]
> > > > > >
> > > > > > > -----Original Message-----
> > > > > > > From: CAPT[redacted]
> > > > > > > Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2000 8:53 PM
> > > > > > > To: 'n20@ccdg2.navy.smil.mil'
> > > > > > > Subject: Force protection
> > > > > > >
> > > > > > > LCDR[redacted] I'm Capt[redacted] CTF 53, and I'm
> > the head
> > > of the
> > > > > > JAGMAN
> > > > > > > for the USS Cole. I'm trying to close the loop on
> > two
> > > previous
> > > > > ships
> > > > > > > that
> > > > > > > CTF 50 approved FPP's for. They are the USS Hawes
[redacted] d the
> > USS
> > > > Donald

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> > > > > > Cook.
> > > > > > >
> > > > > > > Hawes sent their FPP (161400Z AUG 00) and Cook sent
> > their
> > > FPP
> > > > > (171700Z
> > > > > > AUG
> > > > > > > 00) stating that Yemen is assessed as threat level
> > medium,
> > > > which you
> > > > > > > > approved both. To the best of my knowledge and
> > research I
> > > > hold
> > > > > > Yemen
> > > > > > as
> > > > > > > > High and has been that way for a while. Do you have
> > a
> > > > reference
> > > > > > that
> > > > > > > > shows that the threat level is medium during that
> > time?
> > > > > > > >
> > > > > > > > Also, if they came back to you and asked for any
> > waivers to
> > > > any
> > > > > > > measures
> > > > > > > > I
> > > > > > > > would like to know that.
> > > > > > > >
> > > > > > > > If you need to talk to me regarding this, I am on
> > board the
> > > > Tarawa
> > > > > > off
> > > > > > > > of
> > > > > > > > Aden, Yemen. Just call and tell them who you need
> > to talk
> > > > with and
> > > > > > or
> > > > > > > > get
> > > > > > > > a hold of the XO and he will know where I am at.
> > > > > > > >
> > > > > > > > R/ Capt [redacted]

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