

130croc

I was in my rack in Berthing 3. It was sometime between 1100 & 1200. I was awoken by a loud explosion and thrown upward about three inches. I didn't know what happened, but I knew that anything that could throw me out of my rack had to be bad.

When I awoke, looking around, all I saw was the look of confusion on everybody's faces. We initially thought that a fuel line had exploded. When I made my way to the main deck, I knew that the unimaginable had just taken place. The smoke, dust and fuel vapors were the first things that I noticed. Everyone was yelling to goto our GQ stations, but there was no way to get there. We couldn't go past midships, and we couldn't go topside. I was stuck on the starboard side. I saw one of the guys that I work with & he was covered in black dust. He said he was O.K. and said he thinks it was a bomb or missile, somewhere around the galley. At this point, I knew things were going from bad to horrible.

I have only been on the Cole for a little over a month, so I didn't know everybody. I guess this was good in one respect, because I didn't recognize the dead and injured, so I remained calm. My main concern was to make sure that the injured were removed from the scene to prevent further harm & also we needed to stop the flooding & make sure that all fires were contained.

The reports started coming in immediatly. Somebody told me that SN [REDACTED] was dead & reality set in. After that, the fire parties were running by, and I was pushed into the log room. Since the log room is a fairly decent size, that is where they started to bring the wounded. The first person they brought in was SN [REDACTED]. I didn't know that a human being could sustain this much damage and continue living. I held his head on continued talking to him, giving him reassurance. He wasn't responding in anyway, but I knew in my mind that he was could hear me, because he kept gasping for breath after breath. He didn't give up until [REDACTED]

Amt

Very difficult

shipmates & our ship.

Like a team/safely more like a family, & save ourselves
on a ship with a safe/nearly crew, we pulled together
when and night, I am extremely grateful this is
high or flight mode.

To shield some of the first inside, we are all 62-66
very near future. And I think happens, we can't
shipmates can get simple safe and satisfy in the
way I am hoping and praying that we had my
terrible injured, some physically & the rest of the crew
happen to the ship & the crew. The whole crew was
Now I am writing to find out what is going to
happening

for the injured. What is what I did for the rest of the
of the ship, but they wanted me to stay behind as a doctor
we donated our blood, they draw most of my shipmates back
I believe there were 19 of us first out of the hospital. After
the war this called people to give volunteers to donate blood
pills & control damage.

This remained of my time on this ship was spent helping to patch
the ship to the flight deck. HMC & HMC set up a triage area
from that point on, we moved everybody from the deck of
but they got the job done.

had to climb over the wounded to get to the flooding & fire
far fire & super fire or another bombing. The fire came
battle dressing station) and we were & more prepared to the
messdecks were destroyed we couldn't move forward to the
extremely difficult to move about the ship, because the
also had two people in the Party who were injured. It was
later. They brought three other people into the log room, and they

14 OCT 00

This is my statement about the events involved in pulling into Aden, Yemen.

I was on watch, (Qmow 02:07). At approx 0500, we started heading North towards the harbor. Around 0520, the CO came on the bridge and asked what time we would be at the pilot pick-up point. I told him 0630. We then began to call the harbor control on both channel 13 & 16. The pilot wouldn't answer us, but I did hear him answer other ships who were pulling in. Since we couldn't get a hold of harbor control, we had to circle outside of the harbor for about an hour.

I do not know if this is normal procedure, or if something else was going on. I just wanted to make sure the info was passed on.

Very Respectfully,

Encl (66)
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Qm2(SU)