

GM3 [REDACTED] was interviewed via telephone by LCDR Thomas L. Copenhaver, JAGC, USN, on 16 November 2000. GM3 [REDACTED] resides [REDACTED]

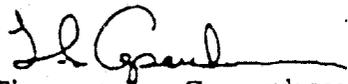
[REDACTED] A summary of his interview is provided below.

GM3 [REDACTED] was not on watch during the explosion. He was in the ship's gym working out.

1. What guidance was provided to the crew regarding the port of Aden? No guidance really. There is usually a CO's call prior to any port visit over the 1MC. These briefs cover the usual items discussed prior to pulling in and going on liberty. No brief was conducted and no warnings given. GM3 [REDACTED] did not even know what country they were pulling into or the port's name. There was an OPS/Intell brief, but that was not given to the entire crew and GM3 [REDACTED] was not present. Everyone that was not involved in the UNREP/on watch was relaxing in berthing or working out.

Were there any threats facing the crew? None.

2. Why were you surprised that there were armed rovers? GM3 [REDACTED] was surprised because there was no information put out that this was a dangerous port or that there was a threat. Thought that it was strange to have sentries because they were only going to a barge out in the water; it was just a quick stop, not even pier side.



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