



March 24, 2003

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN....05-03

Subj: EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY: COAST GUARD ARMED DURING HOMELAND SECURITY MISSIONS

In response to the increased security posture for Coast Guard Forces, and the heightened alert for new terrorist activity, all Coast Guard personnel from Marine Safety Office Huntington will bear arms while conducting the Maritime Homeland Security Mission. During boat and vehicle patrols, facilities can expect Coast Guard personnel to be in uniform, to have valid ID's and to bear arms. I encourage you to call the Command Duty Officer (CDO) at **(304) 617-7168** to validate the Coast Guard personnel.

While our staff is out conducting these missions, you can expect them to perform security spotchecks, validate procedures, and ask questions about any current suspicious activity that may have taken place in the previous few hours.

I would like to remind all facilities that under 33 CFR 6, 127 & 154; the Captain of the Port may enter a facility "at any time, to make any examination" and to take such action as is necessary to safeguard the port. To date, most facilities have been working with the federal, state and local authorities to maximize safety and security. This effort is much appreciated.

Questions or reports of suspicious activities may be reported to MSO Huntington via the CDO at the above number or the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about this bulletin or any other Port Security matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. D. Stroh".

L. D. Stroh
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard
Commanding Officer
Huntington, WV