



RHUMB LINES

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Navy Anti-Terrorism / Force Protection – Establishing the Culture

"Every Navy command, from headquarters to individual unit, shall establish, as a daily regimen, a force protection posture and vigilant mindset designed to safeguard their assets and personnel, assure mission accomplishment, and thwart existing and emergent threats."

– Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations

The terrorist threat to the Navy is real and worldwide as Al-Qaida and like-minded extremists remain determined to target our ships, Sailors, and installations. Incidents like the Ft. Hood shootings and the recent plot to bomb an Armed Forces Career Center in Baltimore show just how real the threat is. Navy force protection requires an all-hands effort to manage this risk; Sailors and their families must remain vigilant both on-duty and off.

Threat – Since 2009, the Navy and [Department of Defense](#) (DoD) have been [targeted](#) numerous times by extremists in the homeland, resulting in the injury and death of DoD personnel.

- Diverse actors, tactics, targets and hazards present an increasingly complex and challenging threat environment for which we must be alert, focused, and prepared.
- Terrorist demographics span citizenship, gender, race, color, creed and age.
- Terrorist attacks have included guns, explosives, and shoulder-fired missiles.
- Terrorists have identified all aspects of the Navy, including family members, as legitimate targets. The USFF [fleet anti-terrorism portal](#) provides daily threat and intelligence information.

Anti-Terrorism / Force Protection (AT/FP) 10 Year Assessment – In the year leading up to the 10th anniversary of USS Cole (DDG 67) attack, Navy performed an extensive Navy AT/FP program [assessment](#), which included tabletop and operational exercises, fleet-wide interviews and administrative reviews. While deployed and deploying units have embraced lessons from the Cole attack, the freedoms and open society we enjoy in homeport create potential vulnerabilities.

Core Competency – Force Protection is a Navy core competency, and every Sailor plays a part in establishing the required force posture. Navy leaders must ensure Sailors and families understand the threat and that their individual efforts contribute to this competency. Installations, tenant commands, and ships in port must work together to achieve seamless defense in depth. Individual Sailors must not only know their own job but also understand what to expect from the ship across the pier.

Guidance – The 2010 [CNO's AT Strategic Guidance](#) is a seminal document, providing guiding principles that inform our decisions at all levels of the chain of command. Achieving the objectives laid out in the Strategic Guidance will require unity of effort across all Navy enterprises. In 2011, this guidance will be broadened into an all-hazards Force Protection approach including terrorism, natural hazards, disasters, infectious disease, and other events which could significantly impact Navy's power projection capability and force readiness.

Key Messages

- The threat is real – the U.S. Navy has been attacked and continues to be targeted.
- Antiterrorism is an inherent function of Command and must be embedded in every facet of our Navy's culture.
- Be alert, focused, and prepared to defend against local threats – ANYTIME, ANYWHERE. Consult local fleet, intelligence and NCIS threat information portals.
- If you SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING... Force Protection is everyone's responsibility and a key component in disrupting terrorist plots. Report suspicious activity to: ncistipline@navy.mil; 202-433-9490.

Facts & Figures

- [NCIS](#) participates on 26 regional Joint Terrorism Task Forces around the U.S. and has nearly 400 personnel worldwide dedicated to terrorism investigations and FP support to naval commanders.
- Sailors can learn more about defending against threats by logging onto [Navy Knowledge Online](#).
- There are currently [47 recognized Foreign Terrorist Organizations](#) operating worldwide.
- The Department of State has issued a [Worldwide Caution](#) on the continuing threat of terrorist actions and violence against U.S. citizens around the world.