



April 7, 2014

Dear Guest,

As we are about to transit through areas which have been known to be affected by pirate activity, I would like to ask your cooperation and understanding for some of the security measures we will have in place. These measures are not taken because of a specific threat, but to be prepared for the unlikely event that a threat might develop. You could compare this to doing a boat drill before departure.

While I am not at liberty to discuss our measurements in detail, you will most likely see some of the things we have in place.

- A In an effort to sail through as unnoticed as possible, we will reduce the outside lights of the ship. We fully realize that we can't switch off all the lights. However the less light we display, the better our security and bridge personnel can see boats approaching in the dark. So please be aware that the outside decks will not be fully lighted. Also, when you leave your stateroom in the evening, please close the curtains and keep them closed till the morning. If you have a verandah then please do not switch on your light outside
- B We have extra security personnel on board and they are on extra duty 24 hours a day.
- C In the unlikely event that suspicious crafts are approaching the ship, I might decide to alert you by giving a long (6 continuous seconds or more) signal on the ships alarm bells. If you hear this signal, I ask you to vacate your stateroom, vacate the outside decks, vacate decks 8 & 9 completely, move away from windows and remain in your corridor to await further instructions.)
- E You will see fire hoses pre-rigged on the outside decks. The flow of water to these hoses can be started remotely.
- F While there are other things we do, our best protection is our speed and our high decks which make it very difficult to board. There have been no successful attacks on ships sailing at speeds higher than 16 knots (16 miles per hour). We are planning our transit with a speed of 20 knots and we have extra engines on immediate notice which allow us to increase to 25 knots.
- G We are continuously being monitored by war ships of the coalition forces and while you might not see them, they are never far away.

Please rest assured that I would not sail through these waters if I did not feel comfortable about the measurements we have taken. As with all the safety precautions, such as drills, fire simulations and boat drills, the safety of our guests and crew and the security of the ship is of my utmost concern and I believe that we better over prepare than the other way around.

We hope you have a great continuation of your cruise with us,

Kind regards,

Captain Marco Alexander Carsjens
Master ms Rotterdam