

Masters Guidelines for Operating with Armed Guards

ASKET Guidelines for Masters when Embarking, Transiting and Disembarking Armed Guards



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It can be a daunting situation for a Master to have armed security on his vessel, especially if for the first time.

These guidelines and check list have been designed to help the Master or SSO to better understand what to expect from the PMSC team that has been allocated by his company to protect his vessel.

Embarkation

- Embarkation should be controlled by the bridge
- Embarking personnel should be wearing floatation devices and PPE
- Sea conditions should be monitored and all assistance given to a safe boarding
- All heavy equipment should be lifted with a line or crane
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First 12 hours or before entering the HRA

- An officer should provide a ship familiarisation and health and safety brief at the first opportunity
- The Master should meet the team leader and guards as soon as possible
- Documents should be collected from the embarked personnel, check they match the allocated team and log them on board
- Confirm weapon serial numbers match the paperwork
- Confirm ammunition type and number match the documentation
- Discuss and confirm the RUF in use, and understanding of the Masters authority
- Discuss transit route and intelligence picture
- Confirm BMP4 measures in place, location of citadel
- Confirm allocated MVHF channels for vessel and security team
- Test communications
- Team leader should conduct a review of BMP4 measures and provide advice and guidance on improvements
- Confirm a time and location to brief the crew and conduct rehearsals
- Confirm time and location for test fire of weapons

Briefing, Training, Drills and Rehearsals

- Conduct crew briefing (See ASKET Bridge and Crew Training Tab in the App)
- Crew should be warned against handling PMSC weapons or equipment
- Conduct training drills and rehearsals for the whole ships company

- Re affirm and test again if not satisfactory
- PMSC to conduct confirmatory test fire and sighting of weapons, ships crew should be inside through out
- A suitable target should be supplied and rounds fired at various ranges to test sight/ weapons alignment and firers safety and capability

Daily Routine

- Unless agreed the watch routine should be no more than 4 hours
- Handovers should include a brief of the situation and equipment states
- The team should keep watch keepers and bridge team updated on any developing situations
- Assistance with radar adjustments or tracking of suspicious targets should be done by the bridge team
- A log book should be kept by the PMSC
- The PMSC should provide its own radios, binoculars and night vision equipment

Disembarkation

- Before disembarkation ensure all weapons and ammunition are accounted for and secured
- Provide assistance including a safety brief to the team
- Provide floatation devices and PPE to the disembarking crew

Masters Feedback

- Feedback is important for both the contracting company and the PMSC
- Ensure the feedback is an honest and accurate reflection of the teams integration and professional ability

For more information or advice please contact one of our team at ASKET, or download our app, search ASKET in the App Store or on Google Play.