

Ships Under Attack – Approach Stage

A proper lookout is critical for the ship's protection.

It will ensure the detection of a suspicious approach or attack early on, which allows defences to be deployed.

Sound the emergency alarm and make an attack announcement, in accordance with the ship's emergency communication plan. Initiate emergency procedures.
Activate water spray.
Make a mayday call on VHF Ch. 16. Send a distress message via the Digital Selective Calling (DSC) system and Inmarsat-C, as applicable.
Activate the SSAS.
If not already at full speed, increase to maximum to open the distance.
Steer a straight course to achieve maximum speed quickly.
Activate the emergency communication plan.
Report the attack immediately to MDAT-GoG by telephone +33 298 228888 and email watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org
Ensure the AIS is switched on.
Ensure that all external doors and, where possible, internal public rooms and cabins are fully secured.
All crew not required on the bridge or in the engine room should muster at the safe muster point or citadel.
When sea and navigational conditions allow, consider altering course to increase an approaching skiff's exposure to wind/waves.
Sound the ship's whistle/foghorn continuously and put all deck lights on to demonstrate to any potential attacker that the ship is aware of the attack and is reacting to it.
Check Vessel Data Recorder (VDR) is recording and the data saved.