

**PAGE DAILY DEATH AND DANGER**

# HIGH SEAS

## to fend off the maritime threat of pirates

He says bodyguards are in big demand all over the world. And some of the exotic locations are straight out of a Bond fantasy.

You could be fighting off pirates in the Gulf of Aden or the Malacca Straits between Indonesia and Malaysia or the Niger Delta, protecting convoys or dignitaries in Iraq, guarding oil-rigs in Iran or Nigeria, or minding royal families and CEOs anywhere in the world.

Piracy has become a scourge – but it has turned out to be a treasure trove for brave bodyguards who guard ships and oil rigs. Governments are willing to pay big bucks to protect staff working abroad.

The British Foreign Office has spent more than £148 million on security firms in Iraq over the past three



years, and awarded contracts worth more than £42 million to security workers in Afghanistan in the past 18 months.

Meanwhile workers laying roads in Nigeria rely on professional bodyguards to protect them from militant political activists such as the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta.

Bodyguards are also in demand to mind CEOs, royalty, foreign dignitaries, politicians, high-profile business people – and even lawyers who are targeted by criminals.

Some of the 007 types doing the course even double-up as chauffeurs, specialising in “defensive and evasive driving”, Danny adds. But he warns that it is a dangerous job. “Many are killed or injured at the hands of kidnapers.”

“It can involve early starts, potentially lots of travelling, maybe abroad, and late nights.

“CEOs work both indoors and at outdoor venues. Some work in very hostile countries”, he adds.

Of course, anyone thinking of applying for the course should be fit, with good vision and hearing, Danny says.

They also need “excellent observation skills so they can spot potentially dangerous situations before anything starts”, should be “able to react quickly using their own initiative and enjoy working with people from diverse backgrounds.”

### Serious

They need to get a doctor’s cert and agree to undergo Garda vetting before they can be accepted.

But they will have on-suite bedrooms, use of a spa and gym and all mod cons on the purpose-built campus which is on 100 acres of secluded forest near Clara, Co Offaly.

The course runs from August 23 to September 5. To book, call 086 1042516 / 057 9330184 or email [info@easterhillsecurity.com](mailto:info@easterhillsecurity.com).

### Dublin City Council

Planning Permission is being sought by Ms. Georgina Byrth to change the use of ground and first floors from retail to coffee shop and café with some takeaway of hot food sold for consumption off the premises, and associated improvements to facades onto Lower Gardiner Street and Frenchman’s Lane, all at this site. No. 58 Lower Gardiner Street / No. 1 Frenchman’s Lane, Dublin 1. The application may be inspected or purchased for a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Dublin City Council during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.



**ON GUARD:** Bodyguards protect CEOs or politicians or they may go to Iraq (above) where they train with Danny

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