

Dear People of the Coast Guard,

Before a single round is fired in floating test ranges on our Great Lakes, the question must be asked and must be answered. How many rounds have been fired on the Lakes in aggressive attack against Coast Guard personnel, or other citizens, in the past 25 or even 40 years? If there has been minimal threat, then why the all-out firepower preparations with mounted machine guns? Does this idea for turning our Great Lakes into a simulated battleground come from serving officers of the regional Coast Guard, or from national level Homeland Security ideologues?

If we keep reacting in knee-jerk, flash-in-the-pan, wasteful reactions to contrived situations here in our homeland, when the real catastrophic mayhem is happening in the Middle East and Afghanistan, then we will always be afraid of shadows, and never up to facing the actual threats with strength and wisdom.

Thank you for your consideration, and in expectation of timely accurate answers to these questions.