

Since one of the things we're discussing in this issue is marinas, let's talk about a big concern on the part of marina owners and operators: security. Deterrents and protection are the name of the game. Manufacturers are always adding to the theft prevention market with propeller locks, outboard motor locks, canvas alarms, cabin-intruder detectors, and lately entire marina protection alarms. Protecting a marina is not a cheap proposition, and so this month OFF BALLAST offers some

INEXPENSIVE MARINA SECURITY IDEAS...

By Dick DeBartolo

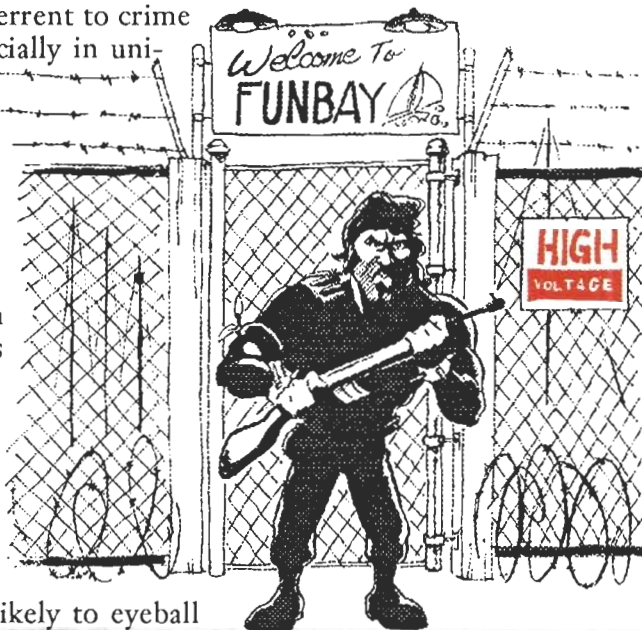
INFLATE-A-COP. There is no deterrent to crime like a security person on patrol, especially in uniform. But one or more round the clock security guards can add a huge amount to your yearly operating costs. Inflate-a-cop, however, is the next best thing. All you have to do is inflate some balloons, tie them together and dress them up in old security guard uniforms. Place them in dimly lit places and would-be crooks will look elsewhere.

LOCKS are also a good deterrent. But how many keys can you carry? Here's a neat idea. Cut pictures of heavy duty locks out of catalogs and laminate them with plastic. Place them in areas that are a little back from the road where a crook is just likely to eyeball them — and then leave, discouraged!

APPREHEND POSTERS. Go to your local post office and ask for a supply of "Wanted Posters." You know the ones. A picture of a thief wanted by the F.B.I. Place them in conspicuous places around your marina, but write across the front of each one in red marker: "Apprehended by the staff of (YOUR NAME) Marina! Crooks seeing these will find a less intimidating target."

Finally, studies have shown that crooks usually avoid places that have **BURGLAR ALARMS**, or even burglar alarm warnings. It seems there are so many targets for a thief, they hardly ever take a chance that the alarm warnings may not be backed up by an actual alarm. So, without taking any responsibility, here is an alarm warning sticker for you to cut out, duplicate and post in prominent places!

Good luck.





WARNING!!

These premises and boats protected by

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