In The Navy

Imagine you are as a guest on a voyage with an American warship. It is October 10th, and you are off the coast of Newfoundland. In the radio room, you can hear the following conversation with a Canadian authority over the loudspeaker (US = America, C = Canada):

US: Please alter your course 15 degrees to the north to avoid a collision.

C: We recommend that you yourself alter your course by 15 degrees to the south to avoid a collision.

US: This is the captain of a US navy ship. I repeat, alter your course.

voyage: trip to the sea
to alter: to change
to avoid: to prevent
collision: crash
fleet: navy
to escort: to accompany
destroyer: battleship
vessel: ship
to demand: to ask
to initiate: to begin, to undertake
countermeasures: own actions
to ensure: to guarantee
to witness: to observe

C: No, I repeat, you alter your course.

US: This is the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln, the second largest ship in the United States Atlantic Fleet. We are escorted by three destroyers and numerous support vessels. I demand that you alter your course 15 degrees north, in words one-five degrees north. Otherwise, we will initiate countermeasures to ensure the safety of our ship.

C: We are a lighthouse.

Now you're back home and telling your friends about the incident:

Then, as we were sailing along the coast of Newfoundland, I witnessed… .....

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