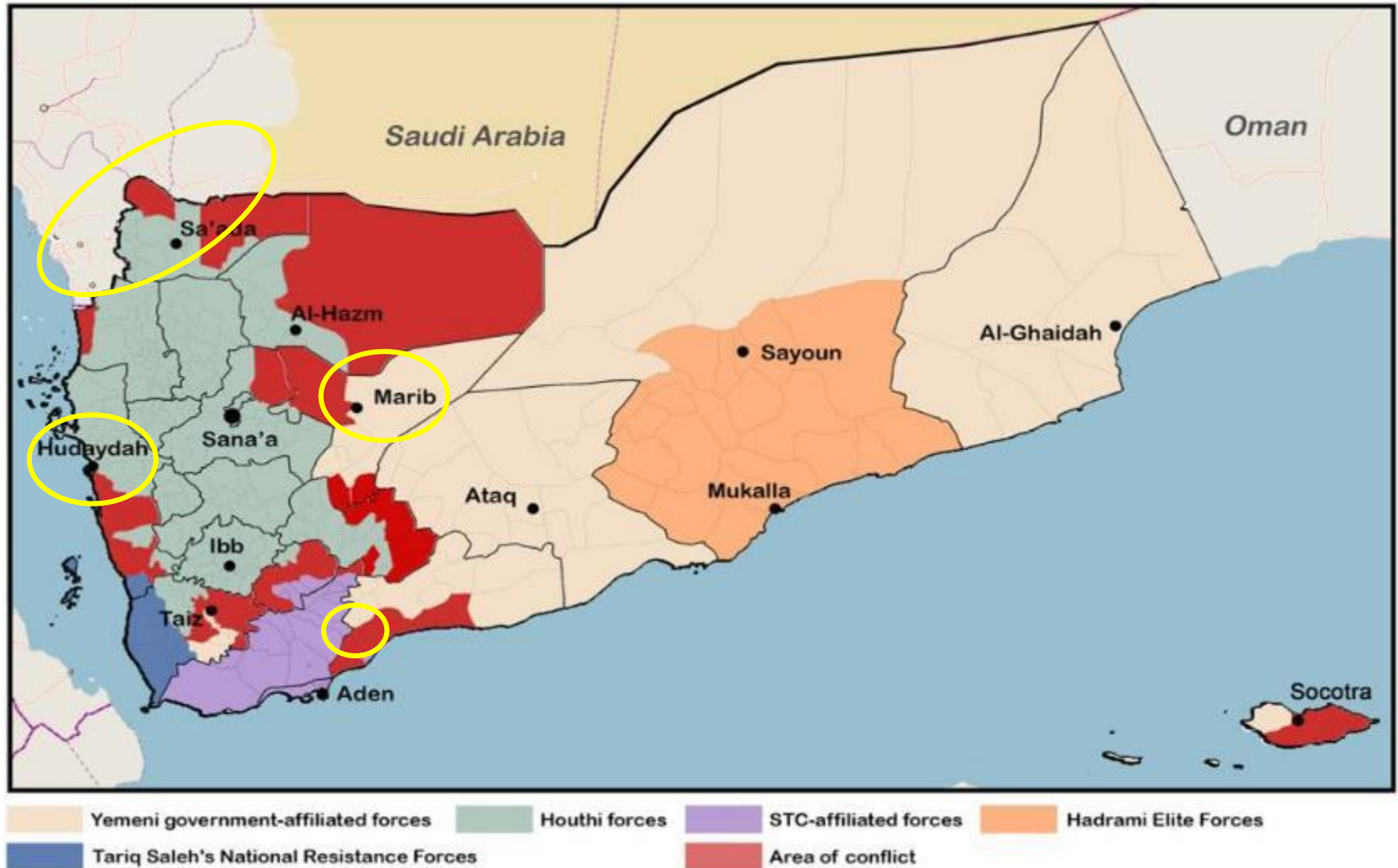




Commander Mark Frost Royal Navy BE Sana'a Maritime Security Advisor

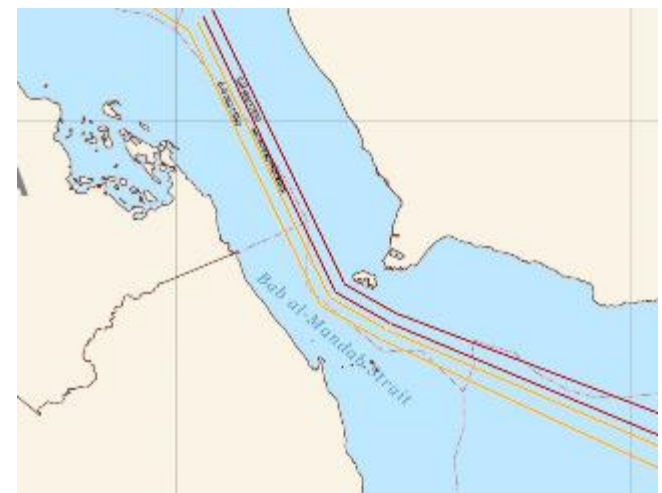
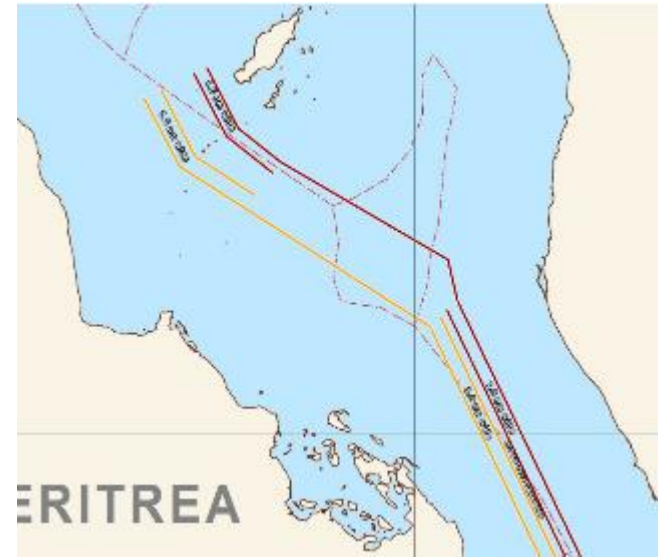
Maritime Information Exchange Vessel Operators' Meeting
12 Nov 20

Yemen – Current Status



Guidance for transiting the Bab el Mandeb (BeM) Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS)

- 6 Sep 17 - CMF released additional guidance to transit the BeM with the establishment of a Maritime Security Transit Corridor (MSTC).
- Current guidance recommends vessels use the **western TSS** to transit the BeM, and **staying west** of the Hanish Islands.



Yemen Port – Current Status



UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism (UNVIM)

- Balancing the requirement for necessary Maritime Security whilst ensuring Commercial/Humanitarian access is a key factor.
- Since May 16 UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism (UNVIM) provides a process for commercial ships to gain access to Red Sea ports.
- Recognise need to maintain confidence of the shipping industry whilst acknowledging security concerns of KSA (UNSCR 2216).
- WFP ships are exempt this process.
- Fuel vessels are currently experiencing delays entering Hodeidah.
- Seen re-introduction of commercial containerised imports into Hodeidah in 2020.



Maritime Threats

- Sea Mines
- Water-Bourne Improvised Explosive Devices
- Violence at Sea
- Other



Maritime Threat Assessment

- A risk will always remain – the biggest risk is currently assessed to be through mis-identification or collateral damage.
- It is assessed that the Houthis will not deliberately target international shipping. This is based on:
 - It would result in further international condemnation.
 - Potential application of economic sanctions against key members of the organisation.
 - Potential escalation in military hostilities by the Saudi Led Coalition.
 - Result in a loss in revenue.
- Maritime activity by Yemen-based terrorist organisations in Gulf of Aden and Southern Red Sea is assessed as being low.

Maritime Security

- The international community are working closely with the UN and the Yemen Coast Guard to rebuild the capacity to support International shipping.
- Working with Port Authorities on governance and security – Port of Aden, a new Vessel Traffic and Management Information System (VTMIS).



Summary

- Risk to commercial shipping exists around Yemen (GoA and Red Sea) - mis-identification or collateral damage.
- The international community are working closely with the UN and other agencies to rebuild the capacity of the Yemen Coast Guard, Port Authorities to support International shipping.
- Houthi are aware that targeting merchant vessels will significantly harm their cause internationally and impact on their revenue generation.
- Balancing the requirement for necessary Maritime Security whilst ensuring Commercial/Humanitarian access is a key factor.
- It is recognised that building and maintaining commercial shipping confidence remains key to feeding and fuelling Yemen.

Questions?