



Joint Maritime Information Center

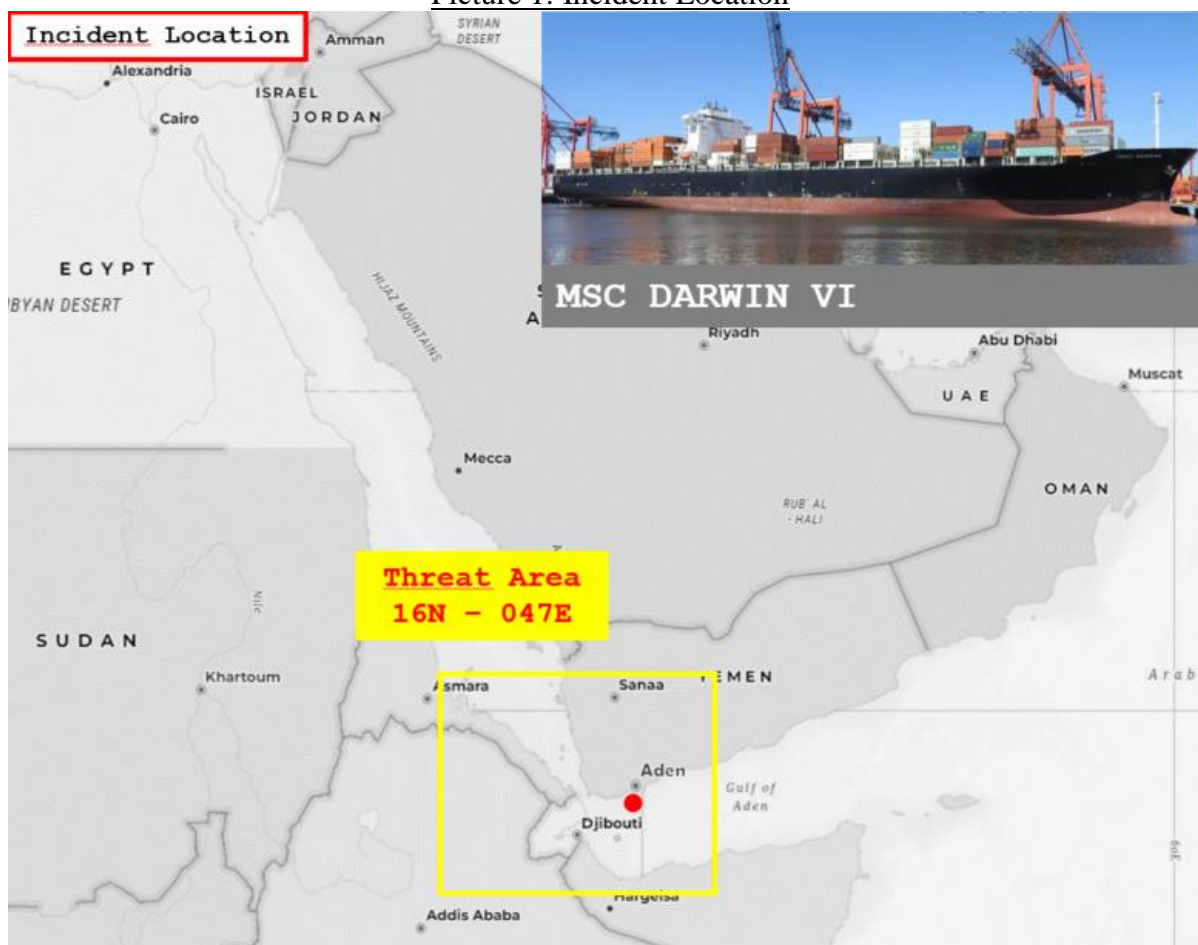


JMVIC INFONOTE 25APR_03 – ATTEMPTED MISSILE ATTACK/TARGETING OF LIBERIA-FLAGGED CARGO VESSEL, MSC DARWIN VI, 15NM SW OFF THE PORT OF ADEN.

INCIDENT REPORT

1. There was a reported attempted missile attack on a Liberia-flagged Cargo Vessel, MSC DARWIN VI (IMO: 9200689), while the vessel was transiting in the Gulf of Aden (GOA) approximately 15nm SW of port of Aden on 25 Apr 24 at 0715 (UTC). Reference UKMTO Incident Warning 065. (See **Picture 1** for incident location).

Picture 1: Incident Location





2. The JMIC has confirmed that MSC DARWIN VI was targeted by a missile. MSC DARWIN VI was underway with AIS on since departure from Aden. AIS was turned off immediately following the attack. The vessel was not hit and all crew on board are safe (no injury reported). MSC DARWIN VI was last reported proceeding to next port of call.

3. JMIC assesses that MSC DARWIN VI was likely targeted due to perceived Israeli affiliation.

JMIC GUIDANCE

4. Freedom of navigation and the free flow of maritime commerce continue as a top priority while the southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden from 16N to 047E remain a threat area based on the Houthis ability to attack vessels with various capabilities.

- a. The current threat assessment identifies vessels with an Israeli, United States or United Kingdom association at highest risk

5. Vessels intending to transit the threat area are recommended to:

- a. Exercise caution
- b. Conduct a risk assessment prior to entering the area
- c. Review security measures/incorporate appropriate vessel hardening measures into their security plans
- d. Ensure AIS is transmitting, consistent with provisions of the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
 - i. Except when believed that continuing to operate AIS might compromise safety and security of the vessel
 - ii. If AIS is turned off, alter course and speed to minimize tracking by DR
 - iii. Do not loiter
- e. If contacted on VHF by “Yemeni Navy”:
 - i. Ignore the VHF call and continue passage if safe to do so
 - ii. Describe incident in movement reporting to UKMTO and NAVCENT NCAGS.
- f. Share instances of suspicious activity with UKMTO



- i. UAV sightings
 - ii. Communications challenges
6. **Shipping Companies** are recommended to:
 - a. Conduct threat & risk assessment of all their vessels and especially those that may have previous US, UK or Israel ownership or associations
 - b. If an association is made, shipping companies are recommended to provide the information to UKMTO prior to transiting the threat area
 - c. Ensure their managed vessels receive and follow the guidance for vessels
 - d. Review digital footprint

Additional Resources on Incident:

UKMTO Reporting Visit: <https://www.ukmto.org>

Email: watchkeepers@ukmto.org

Emergency Tel: +44 (0)2392 222060

Additional Resources on Industry Guidance:

BMP 5 – Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea:

<https://www.ics-shipping.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/bmp5-hi-res-min.pdf>

ATP – 02.1 NCAGS Guide to Owners, Operators, Masters and Officers:

https://shipping.nato.int/systems/file_download.ashx?pg=692&ver=2