

UKMTO

Weekly Report

12 - 18 Aug 17

IN THIS ISSUE

Command Overview

1. This week UKMTO issued one Advisory, see page 3 for full details.
2. It was reported to UKMTO on 18 Aug 17 that a multiple number of skiffs approached a vessel to the west of Perim Island in the Bab El Mandeb (BeM) straits. Ref ADVISORY NOTICE 002/AUG/2017. Vessel and crew reported safe.
3. The international counter piracy efforts continue and are evidenced in articles (a), (b) and (c).
4. Legal action being taken against an alleged pirate six years on after the event. Article (d) refers.
5. Radio conversation that discusses the origins and history of Piracy including Somalia refer (e).
6. Open Source Media Articles of interest. UKMTO is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting:
 - a. 18 Aug 17 - UK-French team complete joint command of CTF150 in Indian Ocean - <http://bit.ly/2vacuZt>
 - b. 17 Aug 17 - Swedish soldiers to fend off pirates near Somalia - <http://bit.ly/2wd9ArM>
 - c. 17 Aug 17 - Serbian Maritime Protection Team Joins Operation Atalanta in Djibouti to Continue EU NAVFOR's Protection of WFP Vessels Delivering Food Aid to People of Somalia - <http://bit.ly/2vMn4JL>
 - d. 13 Aug 17 - Somali refugee arrested over pirate attack on Italian oil tanker in 2011 - <http://bit.ly/2w580Yf>
 - e. 15 Aug 17 - Radio discussion on Piracy - history and stories of piracy off Somalia - <http://ab.co/2uXoe1c>



ATTACKED, BOARDED OR HI-JACKED

- (1) **Attacked**
No incidents to report.
- (2) **Boarded**
No incidents to report.
- (3) **Hijacked**
No confirmed incidents

Vessels & persons under pirate control

Details of Vessel	No. Vessels held	No. Souls held	Date Taken
Merchant Vessels	0		
Dhows/Fishing Vessels	0	0	0
Dhow		8	26/03/15
Total	0	8	

FUTURE EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
21-22 Nov 17	SHADE	Bahrain
30 Nov 17	MIEVOM	Dubai

LIAISON AND VISITS

MNLO Capt Per Laursen Balle, represented UKMTO at Maersk Tankers Bi-annual Seminar in Dubai on 15 Aug 17.

Should anyone wish to visit our office in Dubai please contact Lt Cdr Beaton E-mail: dubai-oic@ukmto.org

ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[NATO Maritime Command \(MARCOM\)](#)
[MSCHOA](#)
[Combined Maritime Forces \(CMF\)](#)
[Middle East Navigation Aids Service \(MENAS\)](#)
[United Kingdom Hydrographic Office](#)
[IMB Live Piracy Reports](#)
www.marad.dot.gov/MSCI
www.ukmto.org

SHIPS BRIEFED

Date	Location	Vessel
15/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	ELLY MAERSK
15/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	MSC ALEXANDRA
15/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	NEPTUN D
15/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	RED SEA PEARL
16/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	ILIA
16/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	MYKONOS DAWN
16/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	SAKIZAYA KALON
17/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	FOTINI LADY
17/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	JO JIN MARU
17/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	TD HAMBURG
18/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	APL BARCELONA
18/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	CENTAURUS
18/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	KOTA CEPAT
18/08/2017	JEBEL ALI	PRABHU LAL

WARNINGS

No warnings issued this week.

ADVISORIES

002/AUG/2017

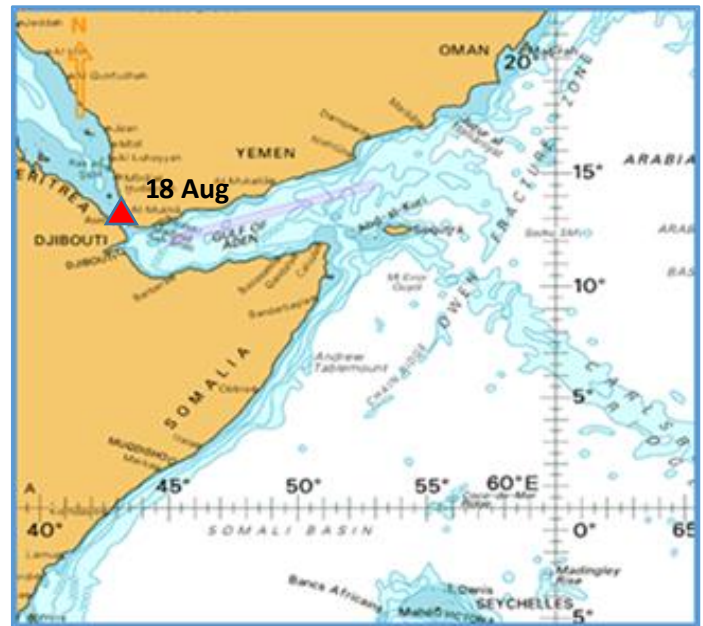
Category: Suspicious Vessel.

Description: On 18/08/2017 at 1132Z a Merchant Vessel was approached by a number of skiffs with 5/6 POB in each skiff and ladders sighted. Armed Security team on board and fired warning shots. Sighted in psn 1238N 04321E.

NOTES

Any queries regarding these Advisory Notices ring:
0044 2392 222060 only, for further information.

THESE ADVISORIES are not Classified as a Maritime Security Events and have not been verified by UKMTO. This information is provided to Inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. UKMTO is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.



NOTICE

RELEASED ON BEHALF OF UK GOVERNMENT's DfT

UKMTO NOTICE 001/AUG/2017

1. **Category: Notice**
2. **Description: Guidance on transits through the Bab el Mandeb and associated waters.**

The following information from the UK government relates to transits through the Bab El Mandeb (BeM) and associated waters. It replaces previous guidance UKMTO Notice 001 July 2017 (which refers to CMF advice dated 16 July 2017) and UKMTO Notice 002 July 2017.

Recent attacks against merchant shipping in the Gulf of Aden and Bab El Mandeb have highlighted the risks associated with transiting these waters. Daylight attacks by small boats were conducted against two tankers in the southern approaches to the BeM. The method of these attacks has seen two or more skiffs approaching at high speed. In each case, one or more have fired small arms and Rocket Propelled Grenades and carried explosives. In both attacks, the skiffs carrying explosives detonated at a distance from the target vessel, but the presumed intent was to detonate the explosives against the hull. The assessment of the attacks against merchant vessels in the southern approaches to the BeM indicates that due to the low levels of sophistication, the exposure to the threat is greater in daylight hours. However, an attack during the hours of darkness cannot be excluded.

The risk of the conflict in Yemen spilling into the maritime domain also continues to exist in the area to the North of the BeM and around the Hanish Islands. Even though we do not expect merchant vessels to be targeted by the forces fighting in Yemen, the threat of collateral damage to commercial shipping is present and should not be ignored. This threat is assessed as greater in the hours of darkness (when attackers may be more likely to misidentify their targets) to the North of the Traffic Separation Scheme to the West of the Hanish Islands.

Therefore, operating in these waters requires thorough planning and the use of all available information. The maritime threat environment is dynamic; the risks will not remain constant for subsequent visits. It is essential therefore, that Masters, Ship Security Officers and Company Security Officers carry out detailed Risk Assessments for each voyage to the region and for each activity within the region.

All vessels transiting the Gulf of Aden and Bab El Mandeb should follow the guidance of BMP4 to the maximum extent possible and consider the use of embarked armed security. Recent attacks in 2017 serve to emphasise the importance of robustly following this guidance.

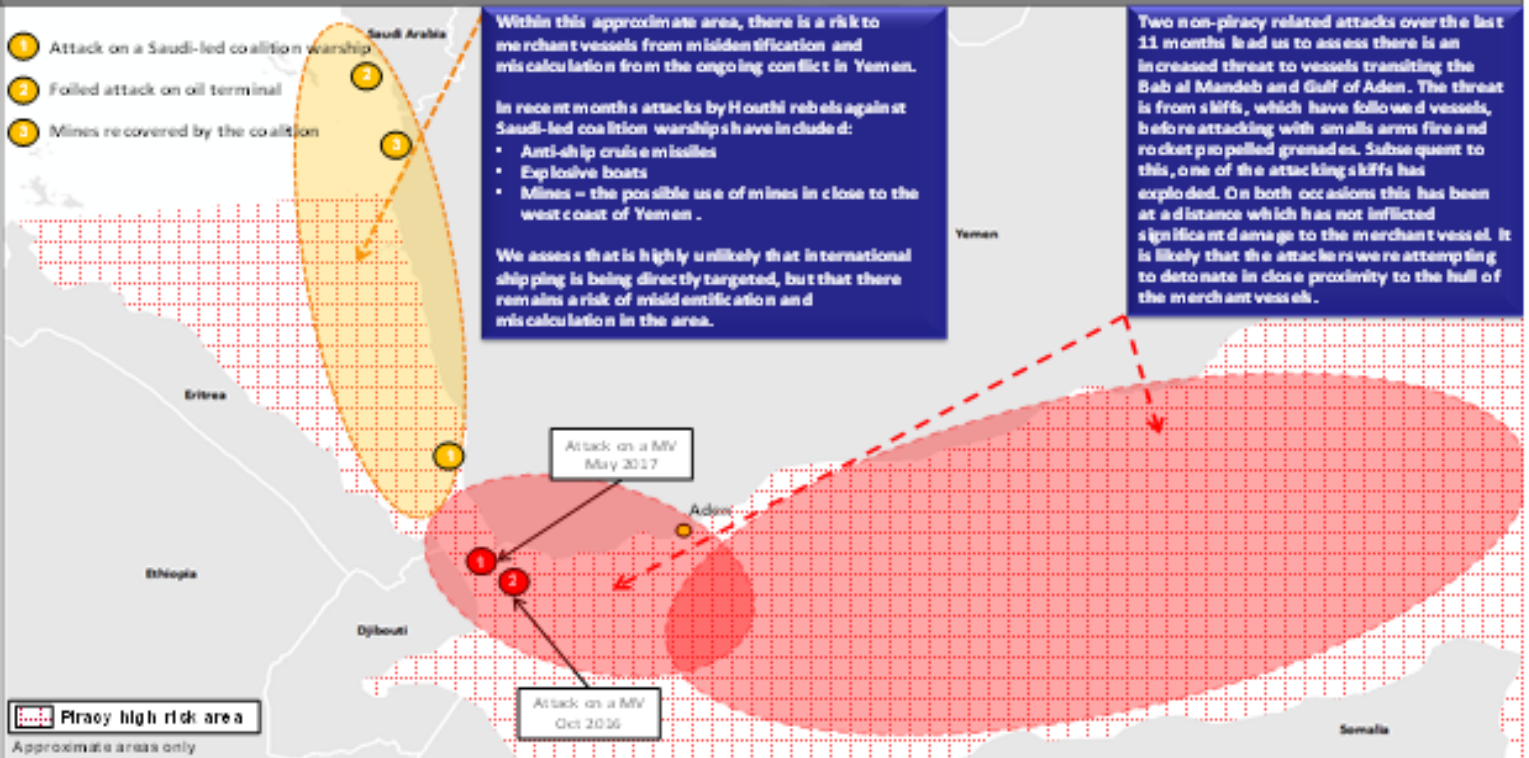
This information is aimed to help inform effective mitigating actions and has been developed through cooperation between Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) and UKMTO. The use of BMP4, armed security, shifting transit times, or any other defensive measures remain the sole decision of the vessel operator based on its own dedicated risk assessment and the requirements of the flag state.

3. **Cancel UKMTO Notice 001/JUL/2017 & UKMTO Notice 002/JUL/2017**
4. **Any queries regarding this UKMTO Notice ring 0044 2392 222060 only for further information.**

OFFICIAL

THE THREAT IN THE BAB EL MANDEB

ATTACKS IN THE BAB EL MANDEB



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