

UKMTO

Weekly Report

11 – 17 Mar 17

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

IN THIS ISSUE

Command Overview

- UKMTO released two Advisories this week with two subsequent updates (see page 3).
- On 13 Mar 17 the Comoros flagged oil tanker MV Aris 13 reported being approached by two skiffs in psn 1201.67N 05127.25E off the NE coast of Somalia. The MV reported seeing armed persons in one of the skiffs. Communications were lost with the MV but SSAS tracking showed that the vessel had changed course and eventually anchored off the town of Caluula in NE Puntland. The operations company representing the ship's owner confirmed to UKMTO that there were 8 Sri Lankan nationals on-board and that they had been contacted by the persons holding the vessel but no ransom demands had been made. On 16 Mar after negotiation between the Somali Government, the Puntland Maritime Defence Force and local elders the MV was released by it's captors and is currently achored off the Somali port of Bosaso. All the crew are safe. (a) and (b).
- This event was the first Hijacking of a merchant vessel in the HRA since May 2012. Although it is still unclear why the ship was taken, it is likely to be attributable to a number of social and economic reasons. Illegal fishing inside Somali TTW, the onset of famine and lack of employment has created conditions which could see a return to sustained piracy off the Somalia coast (c) and (d).
- Furthermore, this incident serves as a timely reminder to the Maritime Shipping Industry to guard against complacency, merchant ships are strongly advised to comply with BMP4 guide lines and register their passage with UKMTO and MSCHOA, transit the Gulf of Aden using the full extent of the IRTC and maintain a high state of vigilance throughout the HRA.
- Open Source Media Articles of interest:
 - 17 Mar 17 - 'Somali pirates release oil tanker and crew' (Time): <http://ti.me/2nxUJEf>
 - 16 Mar 17 - 'Somalia Ship Hijack' (BBC News): <http://bbc.in/2mRqh6g>
 - 15 Mar 17 - 'Somalis consider piracy again' (News 13): <http://bit.ly/2nHxWBF>
 - 14 Mar 17 - 'Did piracy ever really go away?' (CS Monitor): <http://bit.ly/2nuDKPQ>
 - 13 Mar 17 - 'Seychelles repatriates Somali pirates' (Africa Review): <http://bit.ly/2nd0KWl>

REPORTED TO UKMTO

(Numbers after incidents refer to the Advisory number, see page 3 for this week's Warnings/Advisories)



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ATTACKED, BOARDED OR HI-JACKED**(1) Attacked**

No incidents to report.

(2) Boarded

No incidents to report.

(3) Hijacked

MV Aris 13

Vessels/Crew under pirate control

Merchant Vessel	0	Personnel
Dhows/Fishing Vessels	8	Personnel
Other crew still held	0	Personnel
Total	8	

Vessel name		Date taken
Dhow Siraj	8	26/03/15

FUTURE EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
25 – 27 April 17	SHADE	Bahrain
18 May 17	MIEVOM	Dubai

LIAISON AND VISITS

Nil

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
12/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	OCEAN ROYAL
12/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	ELLY MAERSK
13/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	OOCL TOKYO
13/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	MSC FEDERICA
13/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	MSC KATIE
13/03/2017	TELECON	LEGEND OF THE SEAS
13/03/2017	TELECON	PACIFIC PRINCESS
14/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	CHEMSTAR JEWEL
14/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	EASTGATE
14/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	BF AYITA
15/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	SCANDINAVIAN EXPRESS
15/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	ESTIA
15/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	MSC EMANUELA
16/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	MARI UGLAND
16/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	MSC ASYA
16/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	MSC JUDITH
16/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	PORT CANTON
16/03/2017	TELECON	MS AMSTERDAM
17/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	MAERSK TUKANG
17/03/2017	JEBEL ALI	SEA CHALLENGER
17/03/2017	ABU DHABI	ANTHEIA
17/03/2017	ABU DHABI	METSOVO

ADVISORIES

003/MAR/2017

Category: Intelligence Alert

Description: On 10 Mar 2017. Investigations are currently on-going following reports that a Yemeni Coast Guard vessel may have struck a mine in Yemeni Territorial Waters (TTW), in the vicinity of the port of Al Mukha. The advice previously issued in UKMTO advisory 001/Feb/2017 remains extant: Masters should consider increasing vigilance, maintain the furthest possible distance from the Yemen coast, transit the Bab el Mandeb strait during daylight hours and use the western TSS wherever possible.

004/MAR/2017

Category: Hijack

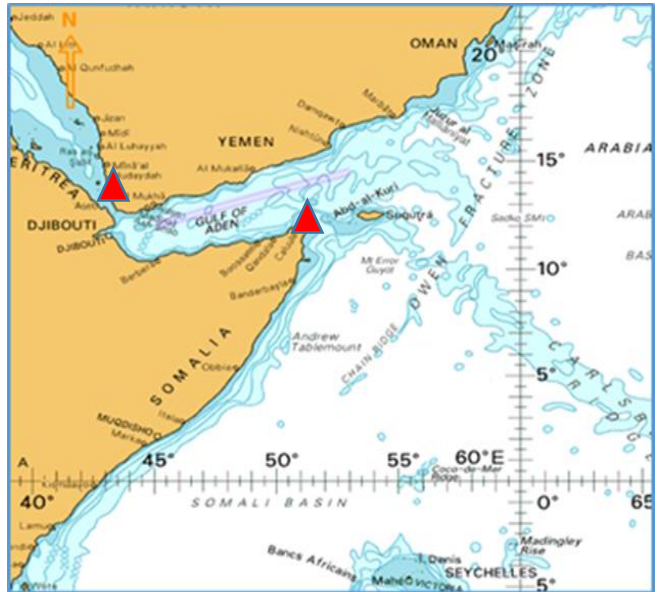
Description: Investigations are currently on-going following reports that at 131154 UTC MAR 17 communications were lost with an MV in position: 1201.67N 05127.25E.

004/MAR/2017 Update 1

Description: On 13 Mar 2017. An MV has been hijacked in position 1158N 05045E, off of the NE coast of Puntland Somalia. Investigations are ongoing.

004/MAR/2017 Update 2

Description: Navigation Warning released for NAVAREA IX 074/17 Gulf of Aden. Raas Caluula. Charts BA 100, 2964, 2970, 4071 AND 4704. M/V "ARIS 13" Hijacked by pirates in 11-59N 050 45E at 141830 UTC MAR 2017. Vessels are advised to keep clear of this position and to exercise extreme caution.



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.