

UKMTO Weekly Report

16 - 22 Feb 2020

Command Overview

1. UKMTO issued two warnings this week after two separate incidents involving suspicious approaches to merchant vessels by multiple skiffs took place. One incident took place in the middle of the IRTC with a second near Djibouti, both vessels and crew are safe.
2. The UK Royal Navy had their second major drugs bust in the Gulf of Oman in three weeks when HMS MONTROSE intercepted a suspicious dhow in an area known to be popular with drug smugglers (see media articles a. & b.)
3. Fairfishing, a Danish & Somali NGO, has played a key role in giving local people a viable alternative to Piracy. Set up in 2011 in the areas of Somaliland and Puntland, it has created thousands of jobs and provides training and equipment to more than 3000 locals including women (see article d.).

Warnings, Advisories & Notices

Warning 001/Feb/2020

A merchant vessel has reported a suspicious approach at 1824 UTC on the 20th Feb, by 3 skiffs in Posn 1327N 04942E (in vicinity of the IRTC) to within a range of 1NM. Situation still ongoing. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution.

Warning 001/Feb/2020 - Update 001

Incident now complete vessel is safe. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution.

Warning 002/Feb/2020

On 22nd Feb 2020 at 0748UTC, an MV in Posn 1210.0N 04331.3E reports a suspicious approach by 11 skiffs with 4-5 POB, ladders sighted. Warning shots fired. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution.

Warning 002/Feb/2020 - Update 001

Incident now complete vessel is safe. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution.

No Advisories or Notices were issued.



For further information or queries regarding UKMTO Warnings, Advisories or Notices ring: 0044 2392 222060.
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.



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Vessels and Persons Held Captive

Details of Vessel	Vessels held	Souls held	Date Taken
Merchant Vessels	0		
Fishing Boats	0		
Dhows	0	3	26/03/15
Total	0	3	

Future Events

Date	Event	Location
27 - 28 May 2020	SHADE	Bahrain
11 June 2020	MIEVOM	Dubai

Liaisons and Visits

19 Feb 20 - Rahul Chittiboina, Pietro Torrente and Sarah Thompson from Chevron Shipping visited the UKMTO office.

If anyone wishes to visit our Dubai Office or to arrange a briefing from UKMTO please contact:

Ships Briefed

Date	Location	Vessel
16/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	ALIGOTE
16/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	CLARITY
16/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	ARDMORE SEAHAWK
16/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	ABU DHABI III
17/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	MORGENSTOND I
17/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	SMART TINA
17/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	BW CANOLA
17/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	GAO CHENG 3
18/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	JPO LIBRA
18/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	JAG AMISHA
18/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	MARIA SCHULTE
20/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	OPAL
20/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	APL FULLERTON
20/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	DIANA
20/02/2020	JEBEL ALI	LEONIDIO

Open Source Media Articles

UKMTO is not responsible for the accuracy of these open source media articles of interest.

a. 21 Feb 20 - Busy Weekend for CTF 150. Impressive Drug Seizure for HMS Montrose (CMF): <http://bit.ly/38SKXQT>

b. 20 Feb 20 - HMS MONTROSE captures drugs worth £6m in Gulf (Forces Network): <http://bit.ly/37NsmV7>

c. 19 Feb 20 - CTF 150 reaches halfway mark, celebrates success (CFB Lookout): <http://bit.ly/2HJZN06>

d. 18 Feb 20 - Fairfishing: Turning pirates into fishermen (Fair Planet): <http://bit.ly/2SNUdAq>

e. 21 Feb 20 - RFA Wave Knight Returns From Six Month Mission In Middle East (Forces Network): <http://bit.ly/32jllne>

f. 20 Feb 20 - EU welcomes formation of Red Sea Council (Arab News): <http://bit.ly/3bRN49A>

Additional sources of Information

www.ukmto.org
[MSCHOA](#)
[Combined Maritime Forces \(CMF\)](#)
[United Kingdom Hydrographic Office](#)
[IMB Live Piracy Reports](#)

www.marad.dot.gov/MSCI
[NATO Maritime Command \(MARCOM\)](#)
www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org
[Middle East Navigation Aids Service \(MENAS\)](#)



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