

UKMTO Weekly Report

1 - 7 Mar 2020

Command Overview

1. UKMTO issued Advisory 002/Mar/2020 with subsequent updates following the report of a suspicious approach to a vessel IVO point B of the IRTC. Later reports indicated that unmanned small craft were involved in the incident. Investigations are ongoing. The vessel and crew are safe.
2. Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) & the European Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) released a Joint Industry Releasable Threat Assessment (IRTA) on 1 March 2020 available at www.mschoa.org, log-in required.
3. CMF reported the change of Command of Task Force 152, Cdr Omar Alodat of the Royal Jordanian Navy assumes Command. Task Force 152's mission is to promote the free flow of commerce and build regional maritime counter-terrorism capability. Link: <https://bit.ly/39tHuZr> refers.

Warnings, Advisories & Notices

Advisory 001/Mar/2020

A merchant vessel has reported a suspicious approach at 0806UTC on 1 Mar 2020 in Posn: 2443.07N 05738.54E (Gulf of Oman). Two skiffs approached and circled the vessel. A Coalition Warship was in the vicinity and on its approach the 2 skiffs departed. Vessel and crew are safe. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise caution.

Advisory 002/Mar/2020

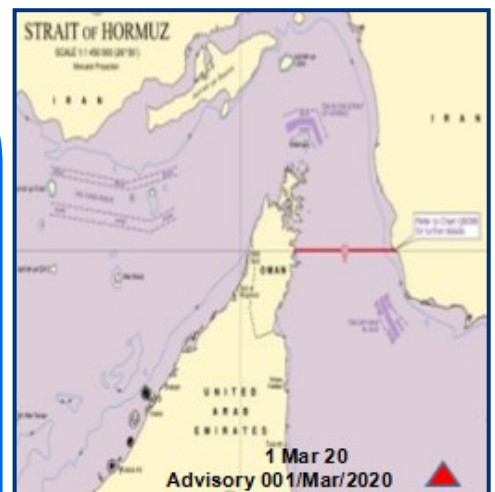
UKMTO have received reports of a concentration of fishing vessels (some unmanned) in vicinity of Posn: 1418.06N 05229.18E (point Bravo of the IRTC). Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise caution.

Advisory 002/Mar/2020 Update Number 1

A merchant vessel in Posn: 1418.06N 05229.18E (point Bravo of the IRTC) at 1020UTC on 3 Mar 2020 was closed by 3 small craft. One of the craft was unmanned and approached the vessel to extreme close quarters. The Vessel followed BMP5 procedures and all of the small craft withdrew. The details of the incident remains under investigation. All vessels are encouraged to exercise extreme caution when transiting this area and report any unusual sightings/observations to UKMTO as soon as possible.

Advisory 002/Mar/2020 Update Number 2

A merchant vessel in Posn: 1418.06N 05229.18E (point Bravo of the IRTC) at 1020UTC on 3 Mar 2020 was closed by 3 small craft. One of these craft was unmanned and approached the vessel to extreme close quarters. This approach caused no damage, nor were any crew members injured. The Merchant Vessel and crew are safe. The early indications are that the unmanned craft was probably remote controlled. The details of the incident remain under investigation. All vessels are encouraged to exercise extreme caution when transiting this area and report any unusual sightings/observations to UKMTO as soon as possible.



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

1 Mar 2020 Omar Ali Khan, Monjasa Group, visited the Dubai Office.

If anyone wishes to visit our Dubai Office or to arrange a briefing from UKMTO please contact:
Lt Cdr Chris Long email: dubai-oic@ukmto.org

Ships Briefed

Date	Location	Vessel
01/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	X-PRESS KANGCHENJUNGA
02/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	D&K YUSUF I.ALGHANIM
02/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	LOUISE
02/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	SKS DOYLES
02/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	CMA CGM COLUMBA
03/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	CHEM LITHIUM
03/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	BOS ANGEL
03/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	HAMMER
03/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	NEW VICTORY
04/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	EVER LIBRA
05/03/2020	MINA SAQR	AHLAM
05/03/2020	MINA SAQR	PORTLAND II
06/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	NORTHERN GENERAL
06/03/2020	JEBEL ALI	ATLANTIC FLOSTA

Open Source Media Articles

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

- 6 Mar 20 - CMA CGM sees China operations returning to normal (Reuters): <http://bit.ly/2lvcKv8>
- 5 Mar 20 - The Royal Australian Navy frigate HMAS *Toowoomba* has successfully completed its first patrol in the Middle East region as part of the six-month deployment in support of Operation Manitou. (Defence Connect): <http://bit.ly/39xwv1c>
- 4 Mar 20 - Albatross helo provides surveillance and security for Middle East merchant shipping (South Coast Register): <http://bit.ly/32XQaVg>
- 4 Mar 20 - Bahrain's Prince Salman holds talks with US-led maritime coalition (National): <http://bit.ly/2lseVj7>
- 4 Mar 20 - Two Filipino seafarers' tale of surviving piracy (Manila Times): <http://bit.ly/335rfiY>
- 4 Mar 20 - She helped save Capt. Phillips from Somali Pirates. Then became the first female 4-Star Admiral (Military): <http://bit.ly/2VQGvyw>
- 1 Mar 20 - Singapore Maritime Week postponed due to Coronavirus (gCaptain): <https://bit.ly/39yHDed>

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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