

# United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations

## Weekly Report: 11 to 17 April 2021

1. On 13 April, UKMTO issued an advisory for a possible incident in the vicinity East of Fujairah to promote maritime situational awareness for mariners in the region. Investigations are ongoing. [See Advisory 003/APR/2021.](#)
2. Egypt became the 34th member of Combined Maritime Force (CMF) which aims to tackle and disrupt non-state malign activity. [See Media Story f.](#)
3. UKMTO would like to highlight the guidance in BMP5 Section 4, which recommends that ships keep their Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) switched on throughout passages in the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) and High Risk Area (HRA).

## Warnings, Advisories and Notices

Please see below a list of all recent and extant UKMTO warnings, advisories and notices. Full details can be found on the website [UKMTO](#). UKMTO is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.

Warnings		
No Warnings issued this week.		

Advisories		
Number	Category	Remarks
003/APR/2021	<a href="#">Incident</a>	Gulf of Oman East of Fujairah

Notices		
Number	Category	Remarks
008/FEB/2021	<a href="#">Transiting the Strait of Hormuz</a>	In force until further notice
010/FEB/2021	<a href="#">UKMTO (Dubai) Vessel Briefings</a>	In force until further notice
007/MAR/2021	<a href="#">Military Exercise</a>	Cancel 301800UTC APR 2021
006/APR/2021	<a href="#">Firing Practice</a>	Cancel 2013000UTC APR 2021
007/APR/2021	<a href="#">Firing Practice</a>	Cancel 20 Apr 2021

For further information or queries regarding UKMTO warnings, advisories or notices call: +44 2392 222060.

UKMTO 24/7 contact	+44 2392 222060	<a href="mailto:watchkeepers@ukmto.org">watchkeepers@ukmto.org</a>
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## Open Source Media Articles

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

**a. Merchant Shipping Reassurance through Deterrence**

Confidence in the rules-based international system is essential to the stability of the global economy. Without it commerce could not flow as freely as necessary to keep up with the world's demand. For this reason eight partner nations work together within the International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC) to cultivate that confidence in the Middle East region.

16 Apr 21 - Hellenic Shipping News: <https://bit.ly/3ebnZlx>

**b. Belgian Navy's Leopold I Frigate Joined Operation AGENOR**

Belgian Navy frigate Leopold I this week joined Operation AGENOR, the military part of the European-led Maritime Awareness in the Strait of Hormuz (EMASOH).

16 Apr 21 - Naval News: <https://bit.ly/3ssziBc>

**c. IMB Reports Q1 Piracy Decline but Increase in Violence Against Crews**

The ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) released its quarterly report on maritime piracy showing that there was an overall decline in incidents in the first quarter of 2021. However, they cautioned that while the number of reported piracy attacks against commercial shipping declined in 2021, violence against crew is on the rise with the Gulf of Guinea remaining the world's piracy hotspot in 2021.

16 Apr 21 - Maritime Executive: <https://bit.ly/3ggqADG>

**d. Marine Nationale achieves high-value drugs bust**

French frigate FS Guépratte has seized 1,380 lbs (626 kg) of methamphetamine worth more than \$17 million, during the latest Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) counter-narcotics operation in the Arabian Sea, April 9.

15 Apr 21 - CMF: <https://bit.ly/3mXH9ph>

**e. Counter Narcotics Drug Smuggling In Commercial Shipping**

Illicit drug producers continue to develop complex trafficking patterns, targeting commercial vessels and their crew to transit their supply through multiple stopover and transit points.

14 Apr 21 - Hellenic Shipping News: <https://bit.ly/3dvcRYd>

**f. Egypt joins multinational Combined Maritime Forces coalition**

Egypt became the 34th member of the Combined Maritime Forces, which works to combat illicit non-state elements at sea and maintain the region's maritime security.

15 Apr 21 - The National: <https://bit.ly/32qSwPI>

14 Apr 21 - Combined Maritime Forces (CMF): <https://bit.ly/3dxaSTf>

## Engagement and Visits

This week the OiC and MNLO visited Capt Andrias Smith of NYK shipping.

To contact our Dubai office, arrange a visit or request a briefing please contact Lt Cdr Sam Yee by telephone: +971 (0)501 898 389 or email: [dubai-oic@ukmto.org](mailto:dubai-oic@ukmto.org).

## Maritime Security Briefs

Company Security Officers and Masters wishing to receive the latest regional maritime security brief should contact Lt Cdr Sam Yee email: [dubai-oic@ukmto.org](mailto:dubai-oic@ukmto.org).

Date	Location	Vessel
13/04/2021	Telephone Brief	GREEN RIDGE
Face to face briefings are currently paused due to Covid		

## Future Events

Date	Event	Location
26-27 May 2021	SHADE	Bahrain
10 Jun 2021	MIEVOM	Dubai International Seafarer's Centre

## UKMTO Dubai Contact Details

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## Additional Sources of Information

[United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations \(UKMTO\)](#)

[Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa \(MSCHOA\)](#)

[International Maritime Security Construct \(IMSC\)](#)

[Combined Maritime Forces \(CMF\)](#)

[Maritime Global Security](#)

[International Maritime Bureau \(IMB\) Live Piracy Reports](#)

[United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration](#)

[Oil Companies International Marine Forum \(OCIMF\)](#)

[Middle East Navigation Aids Service \(MENAS\)](#)

[United Kingdom Hydrographic Office](#)

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