

# United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations

## Weekly Report: 18 to 24 April 2021

1. In accordance with previously promulgated guidance by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), vessels should consider transiting the region via the Maritime Security Transit Corridor (MSTC) exiting the TSS to the West of the Hanish Islands. Follow link for details <https://bit.ly/3iNoeL9>.
2. Military exercises within the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) may involve the use of drones. Masters are encouraged to report suspicious/irregular activity to UKMTO, including any sightings of drones.
3. Thursday 10 June - Another reminder to 'save the date' for the upcoming Maritime Information Exchange Vessel Operators' Meeting (MIEVOM). It is still expected to run as a hybrid event being face to face but with the ability to join virtually. Further details, including the calling notice will be promulgated shortly.
4. EUNAVOR held a Change of Command ceremony in Rota on 21 April with Vice Admiral José María Nuñez Torrente from the Spanish Navy taking command and continuing to implement their increased Operation ATALANTA mandate, extended until December 2022. [Media article e. refers.](#)
5. EUNAVORs latest bulletin references the impact of the MV EVER GIVEN on their operations. [See media article h.](#) Other news articles illustrate some of the continued effects from the grounding in the Suez Canal. [See media articles b.& c.](#)

## 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.

Warning & Advisories	
No Warning or Advisories issued this week.	

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
008/APR/2021	<a href="#">Firing Practice</a>	Cancel 261600UTC APR 2021
009/APR/2021	<a href="#">Firing Practice</a>	Cancel 281200UTC APR 2021

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

UKMTO 24/7 contact

+44 2392 222060

[watchkeepers@ukmto.org](mailto:watchkeepers@ukmto.org)

## Open Source Media Articles

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

**a. Maritime Security Agency arrests 28 foreign fishermen in offshore operation**

A spokesman for the Maritime Security Agency said five foreign fishing boats violating Pakistan's territorial waters were seized and twenty-eight foreign fishermen aboard those boats were arrested.

23 Apr 21 - Dunya News: <https://bit.ly/3aBeG3O>

**b. Predicting Ship Transits in Capacity-Constrained Areas**

The Suez Canal blockage prompts us to revisit access arrangements and practices for individual ships using capacity-constrained maritime infrastructures and passages. Such information is important for planning different operations and optimizing infrastructure utilization along the maritime supply chain.

22 Apr 21- Maritime Executive: <https://bit.ly/2QO3Jot>

**c. Container shortages, delays beset shipping industry as 'ripple effect' of Suez Canal blockage continues**

In Europe, carriers have begun skipping port calls to avoid congestion and loading only empty containers before heading back to Asia, where containers are in high demand for exports and business is most lucrative because of record freight rates.

22 Apr 21- South China Morning Post: <https://bit.ly/3aD0pUd>

**d. Combined Task Force visits Senior Oman Armed Forces Leadership**

Commander of Combined Task Force (CTF) 151, Commodore Abdul Munib SI (M) visited the Chief of Staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces, Vice Admiral Abdullah Bin Khamis Al Raisi, and the Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman, Rear Admiral Saif Bin Nassir Al Rahbi in Oman.

22 Apr 21 - Commander Maritime Forces (CMF): <https://bit.ly/3aCAfAT>

**e. EUNAVFOR Somalia - Operation Atalanta holds change of command ceremony**

Admiral Eugenio Díaz del Río Jáudenes (Spanish Navy), Operation Commander European Naval Force Somalia – Operation ATALANTA, handed over command to Vice Admiral José María Nuñez Torrente (Spanish Navy).

21 Apr 21 - EU Naval Forces (EUNAVFOR): <https://bit.ly/3dMY1MD>

**f. John Steed: The hostage hunter who freed 191 captives**

Retired Army officer John Steed overcame indifference, red tape and even a heart attack to outwit vicious pirates off Somalia

20 Apr 21 - Daily Express: <https://bit.ly/2QwWpO9>

**g. Germany redeploys its contingent in Djibouti**

The German national contingent operating out of the French Naval Airbase in Djibouti will close its doors after 19 years serving as a hub for transportation, logistical supply and medical support to deployed assets in the area.

19 Apr 21 - EU Naval Forces (EUNAVFOR): <https://bit.ly/2PIHlm4>

**h. EUNAVFOR ATALANTA Monthly Bulletin March/April 2021**

This new publication is to provide insights into assessments and activity of EUNAVFOR assets in the area of operations covering the Southern Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and Western Indian Ocean and contribute to the safety, security and freedom of navigation of merchant vessels in the region.

19 Apr 21 - EU Naval Forces (EUNAVFOR): <https://bit.ly/3evjVmz>

## Engagement and Visits

No visits took place this week.

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
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

Job title & Name	Telephone Numbers	Contact email
Officer in Charge (OIC) Lt Cdr Sam Yee RN	Office: +971 4309 4268 Mobile: +971 501 898 389	<a href="mailto:dubai-oic@ukmto.org">dubai-oic@ukmto.org</a>
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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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