

United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations

Weekly Report: 25 April to 1 May 2021

1. There have been a number of maritime drug seizures over the past week with the Royal Canadian Navy setting the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) record in a back-to-back drugs bust off the coast of Oman as part of CTF-150. See media articles [a.](#) and [b.](#)
2. On 30 Apr 2021 the UK Department of Transport (DfT) issued Maritime Security Notice 006/CSO/2021 for Saudi Arabian Red Sea Ports. You must be registered with UK DfT to access this notice.
3. UKMTO issued a warning on 27 Apr 2021 relating to an incident in the vicinity of the port of Yanbu. Investigations are still ongoing. See media article [f.](#)
4. The 48th Shared Awareness and De-Confliction Conference hosted by EUNAVFOR on 26-27 May is now being run virtually. For more details, please visit the MSCHOA website, you will need a secure login.
5. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Yemen has published their first quarterly migration report for 2021 which shows a slight increase in migrants from the Horn of Africa since the last quarter. Media article [e.](#) refers.

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		
Number	Category	Remarks
001/APR/2021	Incident	Red Sea off Yanbu
001/APR/2021	Incident - Update 001	Red Sea off Yanbu

Advisories		
No Advisories issued this week.		

Notices		
Number	Category	Remarks
008/FEB/2021	Transiting the Strait of Hormuz	In force until further notice
010/FEB/2021	UKMTO (Dubai) Vessel Briefings	In force until further notice
010/APR/2021	Military Live Firing Exercise	Cancel 021400UTC MAY 2021
011/APR/2021	Military Exercise	Cancel 311800UTC MAY 2021
012/APR/2021	Military Exercise	Cancel 051200UTC MAY 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

[Open Source Media Articles](#)

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

a. Royal Canadian Navy sets new CMF heroin record seizure in back-to-back drugs busts

The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) ship HMCS Calgary has made the largest ever heroin bust in Combined Maritime Forces history, operating under the command of the Canadian-led Combined Task Force (CTF) 150.

30 Apr 21 - Combined Maritime Forces (CMF): <https://bit.ly/3ubvq9F>

b. French ship seizes drugs worth \$17m in Arabian Sea

A French ship monitoring drug trafficking in the Arabian Sea seized narcotics worth \$17 million on its latest mission. French frigate *FS Guepratte* seized 626 kilograms of methamphetamine during the latest Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) counter narcotics operation in the Arabian Sea.

29 Apr 21 - National: <https://bit.ly/3ubDZRE>

c. France, Australia, UK, U.S. Conduct Mine Countermeasures Exercise in the Arabian Gulf

The French Marine Nationale, Royal Australian Navy, Royal Navy, and U.S. Navy participated in multi-lateral mine countermeasures (MCM) exercise Artemis Trident (AT) 21 in the Arabian Gulf, April 18-29. This was the fifth iteration in the series of MCM exercises between the four partner nations held to enhance mine hunting and communications interoperability.

29 Apr - DVIDS: <https://bit.ly/3nAdFhI>

d. Mozambique Could Become Africa's Next Piracy Hot Spot

Given its proximity to nearby maritime trade routes, the insurgency militant group Ansar al-Sunna now poses a serious maritime security threat. In fact, all the right elements appear to be in place for the Mozambique Channel to follow the Gulf of Aden and the Gulf of Guinea in becoming the next hotspot for piracy.

29 Apr 21 - World Politics Review: <https://bit.ly/3t6HqaU>

e. IOM Yemen Quarterly Migration Overview (January - March 2021)

In the first quarter of 2021, migrant arrivals into Yemen remained low compared to pre-pandemic years, despite some loosening of movement restrictions and border security. Some 5,113 migrants arrived in Yemen in the first quarter of this year, compared with 27,948 in the same period in 2020, and 37,109 in 2019.

29 Apr 21 - Reliefweb: <https://bit.ly/3xDbzC6>

f. Saudis destroy armed drone boat 'targeting Red Sea ships'

Saudi Arabia claims to have destroyed an explosives-laden drone boat that was poised to attack shipping in the Red Sea off its west coast.

28 Apr 21 - The Times: <https://bit.ly/3aSCro3>

g. Huge Spike In Shipping Containers Lost At Sea

The shipping industry is seeing the biggest spike in lost containers in seven years. More than 3,000 boxes dropped into the sea last year, and more than 1,000 have fallen overboard so far in 2021.

27 Apr 21 - Bloomberg: <https://bit.ly/3xBahYE>

h. UN calls for urgent Yemeni port repairs to reduce food costs

The UN called Monday for the swift repair of two ports in southern Yemen to reduce the cost of imported food, as the war-torn country races against the threat of large-scale famine.

27 Apr 21 - Dunya News: <https://bit.ly/2PB5s05>

i. Damage and Capacity Assessment: Port of Aden and Port of Mukalla

On 26 Apr 2021 a key report, [Damage and Capacity Assessment: Port of Aden and Port of Mukalla](#), was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Yemen that outlines urgent capacity and infrastructure needs of the Ports in Aden and Mukalla to help keep the world's potentially largest famine in 40 years at bay.

26 Apr 21 - ReliefWeb: <https://bit.ly/2QMqUGJ>

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.

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.

Date	Location	Vessel
Face to face briefings are currently paused due to Covid		

Future Events

Date	Event	Location
26-27 May 2021	SHADE	Virtual
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	dubai-oic@ukmto.org
Ops Room Manager CPO Anne McGarva RN	Office: +971 4309 4462 Mobile: +971 505 532 967	dubai-ors1@ukmto.org
Merchant Navy Liaison Officer Chris Scothern	Office: +971 4309 4366 Mobile: +971 566 865 509	dubai-mnlo1@ukmto.org/ mmnlo.dubai@ocimf.org

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](#)

UKMTO 24/7 contact	+44 2392 222060	watchkeepers@ukmto.org
--------------------	-----------------	------------------------