

UKMTO Weekly Report

21 to 27 February 2021

Command Overview

1. On 25 Feb 2021 a Vehicle carrier reported they had experienced an explosion, details can be found at our Advisory Notice 002/Feb/2021.
2. In relation to the above incident on 26 Feb 21 the UK Department of Transport released Notice 2021/03 and the US Department of Transportation released Maritime Alert 2021-003A Gulf of Oman - Threat to Commercial Vessels.
3. With current Global measures to restrict the spread of COVID-19 being increased and some countries introducing new lockdowns, UKMTO (Dubai) personnel have temporarily paused their visits to vessels alongside ports of the UAE. CSOs and Masters can continue to receive the latest Maritime Security Brief either by telephone or virtual via zoom by sending their request to Dubai-OiC@ukmto.org with a preferred date and time.
4. Last week I had the pleasure of speaking at both the IFC SAM (Information Fusion Centre Shared Awareness Meeting) Singapore and also the IMSC Stakeholder conference, both held on Zoom. It was great to see and hear from all the other speakers and see the merchant maritime community join together to promote and share their experience and knowledge to keep mariners safe. You can read more in the media articles at the last page of this report in links c. and e.

Warnings, Advisories and Notices

Details of all UKMTO Warnings, Advisories and Notices released this week or that remain in force can be found below.

Warnings

No Warnings issued this week.

Advisories

002/Feb/2021- Category: Explosion in Gulf of Oman

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
012/FEB/2021	Military Operation	26 Feb to 5 Mar 2021
013/FEB/2021 Update 001	Interim Telephone Number	Self cancelled 23 Feb 2021
016/FEB/2021	Navigation Hazard	In force until further notice
017/FEB/2021	Military Exercise	311800UTC MAR 2021
018/FEB/2021	Firing Exercise	071900UTC MAR 2021



A/Lieutenant Commander Sam Yee RN, OiC UKMTO
Tel: +971 50189 8389 E-mail: Dubai-OiC@ukmto.org



ADVISORY NOTICES

ADVISORY NOTICE 002/FEB/2021

1. **Category:** Explosion
2. **Time:** 25 FEB 2021 at 2040 UTC.
3. **Description:** UKMTO has been informed that an MV has experienced an explosion in position 2423N 05833E. Investigations are ongoing. Vessel and crew are safe and proceeding to NPOC.
4. **Position:** 2423N 05833E (Approximately 44NM North of Muscat).
5. **Source:** Master.



VESSELS TRANSITING THE AREA ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE CAUTION

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.

NOTICES

UKMTO NOTICE 008/FEB/2021

1. UKMTO is issuing this Notice to global maritime operators in order to remind mariners and ship operators of the recommended procedures for transiting the Strait of Hormuz.

BMP5 remains the basis for merchant ship conduct, reporting and monitoring in the area. In addition vessels and companies will need to be aware of their own Flag State guidance. All vessels are strongly advised to remain within International Waters and, where practicable, should avoid transiting through Iranian TTW, including the areas claimed by Iran around the islands of:

- Abu Musa 25° 52'N 55° 02'E
- Greater Tunb 26° 15'N 55° 16'E
- Lesser Tunb 26° 14'N 55° 08'E

In the event of merchant vessels being hailed masters should respond with ship's name, flag state and confirm that they are proceeding in accordance with International Law. If contacted by Iranian authorities, it is recommended that masters contact UKMTO.

UKMTO recommends all merchant shipping maintain transmissions on AIS throughout the region to avoid mis-identification and to assist with merchant shipping monitoring.

2. Any queries regarding this UKMTO Notice ring 0044 2392 222060 only for further information.



NOTICES

UKMTO NOTICE 010/FEB/2021

1. **Category:** UKMTO (Dubai) Vessel Briefings
2. **Description:** Industry can be reassured that UKMTO (Dubai) remains fully operational during the COVID-19 global pandemic. However, due to the current increase in UAE COVID-19 restrictions we have temporarily paused our face-to-face briefs.

Commercial shipping companies and ship's masters are still able to receive the latest UKMTO Maritime Security updates and briefs via telephone, teleconference (Zoom) or by e-mail using the following contact details contained within the Maritime Security Chart (Q6099) and/or directly from Dubai-OiC@ukmto.org +971 43094268/4462

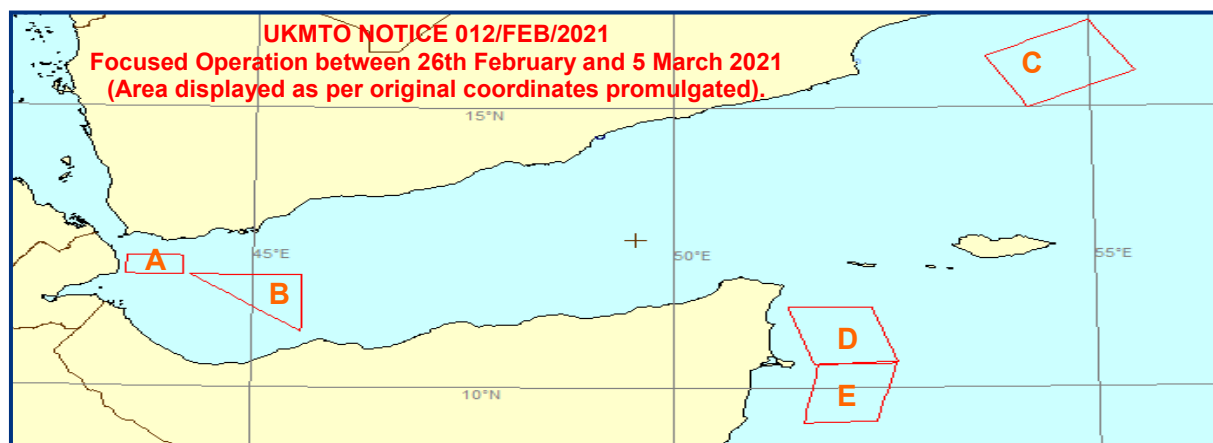
3. A further Notice will be issued when normal service is resumed

UKMTO NOTICE 012/FEB/2021

1. **Category:** Military Operation
2. **Description:** Military Operation - released on behalf of Combined Maritime Forces (CMF). A Maritime Security Operation (Focused Operation) will be conducted by Combined Task Force (CTF) 151 in the Gulf of Aden between 26 February and 05 March 2021. An increase of multinational naval units, aircraft and personnel will be operating under CTF 151 (Counter Piracy). Mariners are reminded to navigate with caution whilst transiting this area.

3. Focused Ops Area coordinates:

A. 1220N 04330E	B. 1100N 04535E	C 1632N 05500E
1200N 04330E	1200N 04535E	1555N 05345E
1200N 04410E	1200N 04415E	1500N 05415E
1220N 04410E	1100N 04535E	1538N 05533E
D. 1126N 05121E	E. 1025N 05142E	
1126N 05220E	1026N 05237E	
1028N 05237E	0934N 05223E	
1025N 05139E	0922N 05131E	



3. **Source:** CTF 151
4. Any queries regarding this Notice ring +44 2392222060 only for further information. This NOTICE is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region.



UKMTO NOTICE 013/FEB/2021 UPDATE 001

1. **Category:** Interim Telephone Number

2. **Description:** Essential Maintenance on the UKMTO contact number is now complete. UKMTO telephone service resumed. Please revert to UKMTO registered telephone numbers below:

Emergency telephone +44 (0) 2392 222 060

Emergency telephone +971 (0) 5055 23215

3. Normal service has resumed.

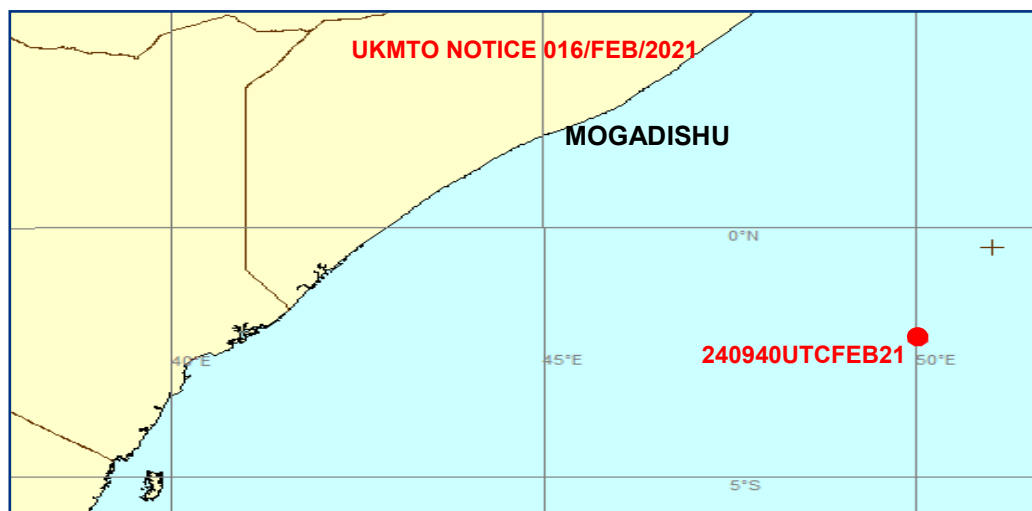
UKMTO NOTICE 016/FEB/2021

1. **Category:** Navigation Hazard

2. **Description:** On the 24 FEB 21 at 0940UTC it has been reported to UKMTO that an object has been sighted in position 021342S 0500206E and is described as an upturned enclosed lifeboat. An MV has reported checking the upturned enclosed lifeboat and there are no persons onboard. Coast guards have been informed.

3. All ships are to keep a vigilant look out in the area. Position 021342S 0500206E (380NM South East of Mogadishu).

4. **Source:** Master of MV.



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5. Any queries regarding this UKMTO Notice ring 0044 2392 222060 only for further information.



UKMTO NOTICE 017/FEB/2021

1. Category: Military Exercise

2. Description: Naval ships will carry out surface, anti-aircraft and depth charge live firing practice between 0400 to 1700 UTC from 01-05, 08-12, 15-19, 22, 24-26 and 29-31 Mar 2021 in following areas:

A. 24-19.00N 066-58.00E 24-00.00N 066-39.00E
24-11.00N 066-27.00E 24-24.30N 066-42.00E

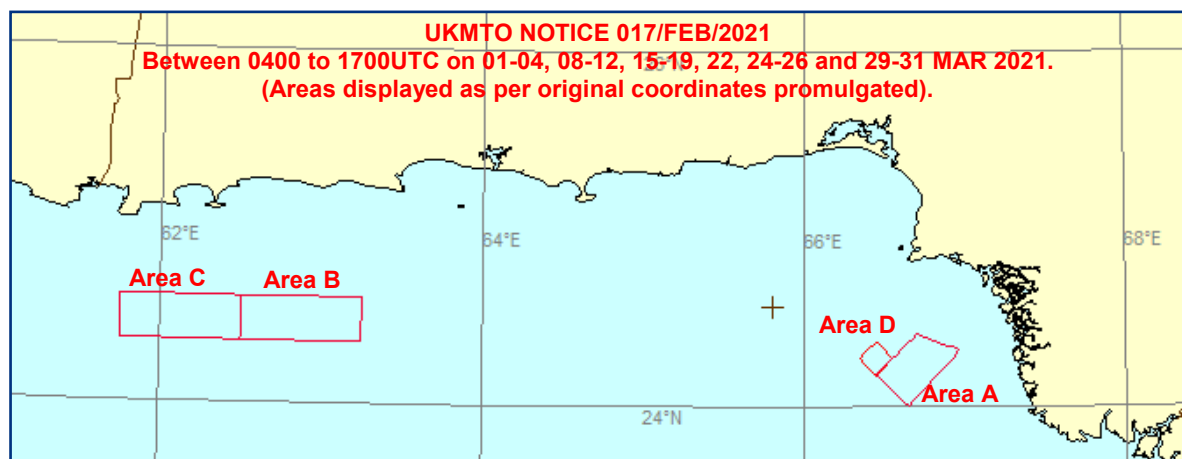
B. 24-36.02N 063-15.03E 24-36.02N 062-30.03E
24-21.02N 063-15.03E 24-21.02N 062-30.03E

C. 24-36.02N 062-30.03E 24-36.02N 061-45.03E
24-21.02N 062-30.03E 24-21.02N 061-45.03E

D. DEPTH CHARGE FIRING AREA

24-16.18N 066-20.50E 24-22.00N 066-27.00E
24-16.30N 066-33.00E 24-10.30N 066-27.00E

3. Ships and Craft are to keep well clear of assigned danger areas on above specified schedule. All vessels in the vicinity are to stay vigilant and to report any incidents to UKMTO. All vessels are requested to inform UKMTO if any interference is noted on Radios/Radars/GPS.



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4. Source: Pakistan Navy Navwarn 74-21

5. Any queries regarding this UKMTO Notice ring 0044 2392 222060 only for further information.

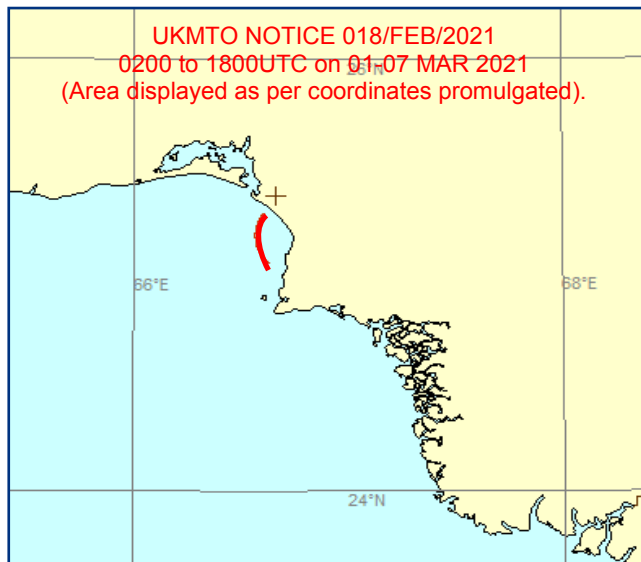


UKMTO NOTICE 018/FEB/2021

1. **Category:** Firing Exercise

2. **Description:** Firing practice with live ammunition by air defence units will be carried out from 01 to 07 March 2021 between 0200-1800 UTC in area bounded by an arc of radius 10 nm centred at position 25-11N 066-45E between 220 to 310 degrees clockwise.

3. Ships and Craft are to keep well clear of assigned danger areas on above specified schedule. All vessels in the vicinity are to stay vigilant and to report any incidents to UKMTO. All vessels are requested to inform UKMTO if any interference is noted on Radios/Radars/GPS.



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4. **Source:** Pakistan Navy Navwarn 075/21

5. Any queries regarding this UKMTO Notice ring 0044 2392 222060 only for further information.

For further information or queries regarding UKMTO Warnings, Advisories or Notices call: 0044 2392 222060.
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Maritime Security Briefing

Date	Location	Vessel
No briefings took place this week.		

Liaisons and Visits

No visits took place this week.

If anyone wishes to contact our Dubai office, arrange a visit or request a briefing on Maritime Security via the telephone, please contact Lt Cdr Sam Yee by telephone: +971 (0)501898389 or email: dubai-oic@ukmto.org

Open Source Media Articles

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

- a. 26 Feb 21 - Explosion Strikes Israeli-owned Ship in Mideast Amid Tension (Bloomberg): <http://bloom.bg/3aXFdbX>
- b. 25 Feb 21 - IMO and WISTA International Launch First Women in Maritime Survey (HomelandSecurity): <https://bit.ly/3kAH2in>
- c. 25 Feb 21 - Security Conference Updates Merchant Shipping Interests on the Guardians of Middle Eastern Waters (HandyShippingGuide): <http://bit.ly/3pZBZsQ>
- d. 24 Feb 21 - Operation ATALANTA bids farewell to Deputy Commander Rear Admiral Corrado Campana (EUNAVFOR): <http://bit.ly/3bFgMzk>
- e. 24 Feb 21 - Engaging Maritime Stakeholders at the 37th Shared Awareness Meeting (Mindef.Gov.SG): <http://bit.ly/37V9J4u>

Bridge cards

- IMSC Bridge Cards - produced by the International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC) for use on board vessels transiting the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden and Red Sea region and intended to complement BMP 5 and existing Industry guidance. <https://bit.ly/37c34Cs>
- OCIMF Bridge Cards - produced by the Oil Companies Maritime Forum (OCIMF) for use on board vessels transiting the Gulf of Guinea region and intended to complement BMP West Africa and existing Industry guidance. <http://bit.ly/37a1UZG>

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



A/Lieutenant Commander Sam Yee RN, OIC UKMTO
Tel: +971 50189 8389 E-mail: Dubai-OiC@ukmto.org

