

UKMTO Weekly Report

28 February to 6 March 2021

Command Overview

1. On 1st March 2021 the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF and EU Naval Forces (EUNAVFOR) released their latest Industry Releasable Threat Assessment (IRTA). IRTAs are released quarterly and can be accessed at www.mschoa.org (log-in required).
2. 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.
3. [Advisory 002/FEB/2021](#) - Though the circumstances of the incident on the 25th February 2021 are not entirely clear, it still serves as a timely reminder of the importance of maintaining an effective lookout and enhanced vigilance particularly when transiting through chokepoints to protect the ship, as per Section 5 of BMP5. Media stories [a](#), [b](#), and [c](#). on the final page of this report refers to the latest on the incident.

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

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
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
001/MAR/2021	Air Defence Firing Exercise	221900UTC MAR 2021

For information or queries regarding UKMTO Warnings, Advisories or Notices call: 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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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.

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 016/FEB/2021

1. **Category:** Navigation Hazard

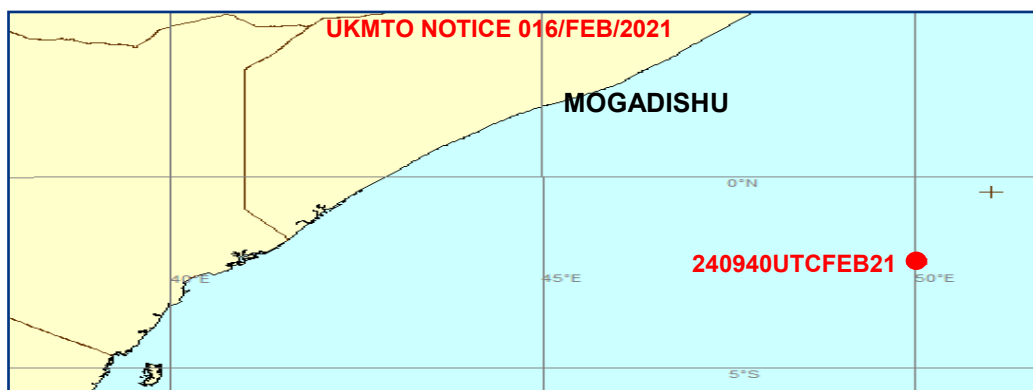
2. **Description:** On the 24 FEB 21 at 0940UTC it has been reported to UKMTO that an object has been sighted in position 021342S 0500206E and is described as an upturned enclosed lifeboat. An MV has reported checking the upturned enclosed lifeboat and there are no persons onboard. Coast guards have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



UKMTO NOTICE 016/FEB/2021 (Continued)



VESSELS ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN TRANSITING THE AREA

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:

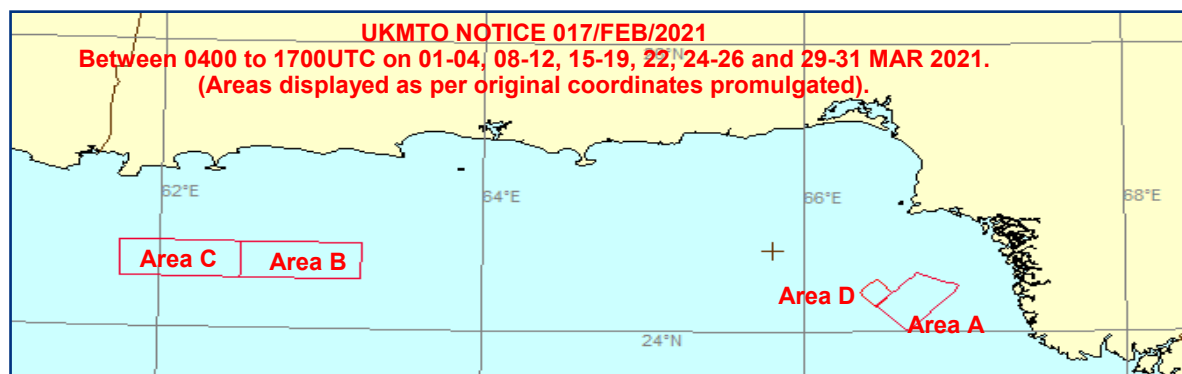
A. 24-19.00N 066-58.00E 24-00.00N 066-39.00E
24-11.00N 066-27.00E 24-24.30N 066-42.00E

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.



VESSELS ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN TRANSITING THE AREA

4. **Source:** Pakistan Navy Navwarn 74-21

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

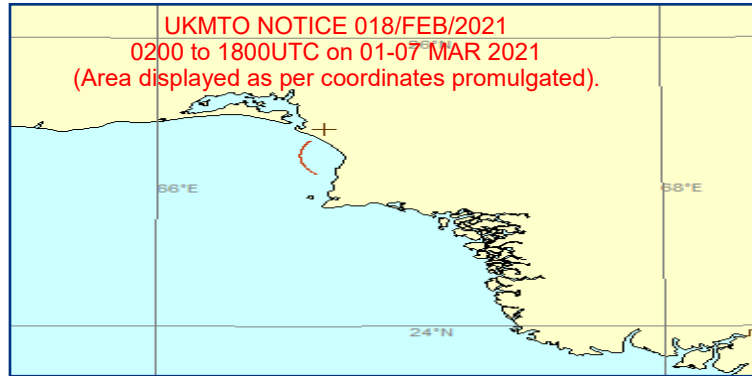


UKMTO NOTICE 018/FEB/2021

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

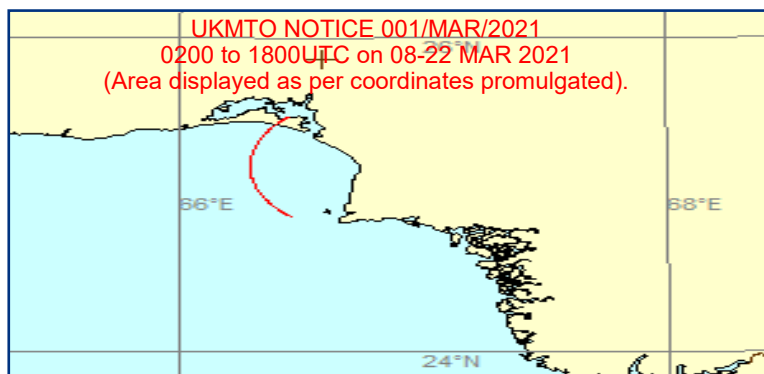
5. Any queries regarding this UKMTO Notice ring 0044 2392 222060 only for further information.

UKMTO NOTICE 001/MAR/2021

1. **Category:** Air Defence Firing Exercise

2. **Description:** Firing practice with live ammunition by air defence units will be carried out from 08 – 22 March 2021 between 0200 – 1800utc in area bounded by an arc of radius 25NM centred at position 25-11N 066-45E between 220 to 320 degrees clockwise.

3. Ships and Craft are to keep well clear of assigned danger area 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.



VESSELS ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN TRANSITING THE AREA

4. **Source:** <https://www.paknavy.gov.pk/089-21>

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



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. 5 Mar 21 - Israeli-owned cargo ship back at sea after suspected attack (The Tribune): <http://bit.ly/3uYD9bU>
- b. 28 Feb 21 - Israeli security officials in Dubai to inspect ship hit by blast in Persian Gulf (Times of Israel): <http://bit.ly/3efFFV1>
- c. 28 Feb 21 - RoRo Hit By Explosion Hobbles Into Dubai For Assessment (Reuters): <https://bit.ly/2NX6zGQ>
- d. 5 Mar 21 - Sea transportation: The Pirates of the Guinea Gulf (Strategy Page): <http://bit.ly/38aBqGH>
- e. 5 Mar 21 - Out to sea, keeping tabs on the global Cruise fleet (Cruise Critic): <http://bit.ly/2MQoogi>
- f. 3 Mar 21 - Smugglers Throw Migrants Overboard; at Least 20 Are Feared Drowned (New York Times): <http://nyti.ms/20kQHO1>

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/37aIUZG>

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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