

UKMTO Weekly Report

16 - 22 Aug 2020

Command Overview

1. In a welcome development in Somalia this week, the Nairobi based Hostage Support Partnership (HSP) negotiated the release of three Iranian hostages being held by Somali pirates. The crew of the Iranian fishing vessel FV SIRAJ were originally captured in March 2015. This constitutes something of a landmark as these three hostages were the last to be held during the current era of Somali Piracy (see media articles).
2. U.S Maritime Advisory 2020 - 15 was released, all active Advisories/Alerts are posted at <https://www.marad.dot.gov/MSCI>
3. The Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) issued Alert 006/2020 and subsequent amplifying report regarding an incident off the coast of Puntland, Somalia. The Alert can be viewed on the MSCHOA website at <https://bit.ly/3aPyXBJ> (login required).
4. Commercial shipping companies and ship's masters can receive the latest UKMTO Maritime Security Brief via telephone or by e-mail, using the contact details at the bottom of this page. UKMTO Dubai and the Maritime Trade Information Centre (MTIC) remains fully operational throughout the duration of the global pandemic and can be contacted as usual using the details promulgated in BMP5.

Warnings, Advisories & Notices

ADVISORY NOTICE 002/AUGUST/2020

Category: Reported BOARDING

Description: UKMTO was advised on 20 Aug 2020 that a Tanker, anchored 2 to 5nm off the coast of Somalia in position 1154N 05103E, had suffered mechanical issues and had been boarded by persons unknown. This was widely reported in Open Source media. Subsequent investigation by Combined Maritime Forces and EUNAVFOR units on scene have established that this was a case of armed robbery, which has since been resolved. The crew is safe and the vessel will proceed to its next port of call. The incident is assessed as closed.

Source: Third party reporting.



For further information or queries regarding UKMTO Warnings, Advisories or Notices ring: 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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Vessels and Persons Held Captive

Details of Vessel	Vessels held	Souls held	Date Taken
Merchant Vessels	0	0	
Fishing Boats	0	0	
Dhows	0	0	
Total	0	0	

Maritime Security Briefing (Telephone)

Date	Vessel
18 Aug 20	PACIFIC PRINCESS
18 Aug 20	PACIFIC DAWN
18 Aug 20	PACIFIC ARIA

Future Events

Date	Event	Location
3 - 5 Nov 2020	SHADE	Bahrain
12 Nov 2020	MIEVOM	Dubai

Liaisons and Visits

With current restrictions due to COVID-19, all visits to our office and ships visits by Briefing Officers have been cancelled until further notice.

If anyone wishes to contact our Dubai office or to arrange a telephone briefing from UKMTO, please contact Lt Cdr Chris Long at +971 (0)50189 8389 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. 22 Aug 20 - Panama-flagged ship boarded by Somali police is safe and underway: EU force. (REUTERS): <https://reut.rs/3hpLQET>
- b. 22 Aug 20 - Somali pirates free three Iranian hostages held since 2015 (Borneo Bulletin): <https://bit.ly/2QfEqYL>
- c. 21 Aug 20 - Somali pirates release last 3 hostages as armed men attack Panama-flagged ship (REUTERS): <https://bit.ly/3aWrz7C>
- d. 21 Aug 20 - Same armed guard who took Eagle Bulk crew hostage takes over another vessel (SPLASH 247): <https://bit.ly/31IEOLZ>
- e. 19 Aug 20 -CMF members bid goodbye to VADM Malloy (CMF): <https://bit.ly/2Qjinkt2>

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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