



Weekly Report: 13 April to 19 April 2022

1. **New International Task Force to Enhance Red Sea Security.** Manama, Bahrain: Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) established a new international naval task force on April 17 to enhance maritime security in the Red Sea region. Vice Admiral Brad Cooper, Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, U.S. 5th Fleet and Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) speaks at the Combined Task Force (CTF) 153 commissioning ceremony April 17, at CMF headquarters in Bahrain. During a ceremony at the U.S. Navy’s regional headquarters in Bahrain, Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, U.S. 5th Fleet and CMF, commissioned **Combined Task Force (CTF) 153** said: *“This is a tangible and meaningful demonstration of our commitment to ensuring regional maritime security and stability through international cooperation”.* <https://bit.ly/3y6GSWu>

2. **New Face at UKMTO (Dubai).** The small team (of three) at UKMTO (Dubai) welcomes our new Kiwi Liaison Officer, **Captain Phillip O’Connell**. Fresh from New Zealand, Phillip is pictured being welcomed to the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) by the OiC, Dougie Bell. and boosts the team strength to four.



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		
No new Warnings were issued this week.		

Advisories		
Number	Category	Remarks
No new Advisories were issued this week.		

Notices		
Number	Category	Remarks
008/FEB/2021	Transiting the Strait of Hormuz	In force until further notice

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

Open Source Media Articles

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

a. Combined Task Force (CTF) 151 - Counter Piracy.

Manama, Bahrain: Pakistan Navy Commodore Ahmed Hussain relieved Royal Jordanian Navy Col. Mohammad Al-Tarawneh as commander of Combined Task Force (CTF) 151 during a change-of-command ceremony, April 14, at Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) headquarters in Bahrain. Established in 2009, CTF 151 enhances regional maritime cooperation and protects global maritime commerce by deterring, disrupting and suppressing piracy and armed robbery at sea. ... During the change-of-command ceremony, Ahmed told the audience the Pakistan Navy believes in collaborative efforts to maintain security and stability for the uninterrupted flow of maritime traffic through the Middle East.

- 12 Apr 22 - CMF: <https://bit.ly/3y6GSWu>

b. Grundberg in Aden to Consolidate Yemen Truce.

United Nations envoy to Yemen Hans Grundberg arrived in Aden on Monday as part of his efforts to consolidate the two-month truce that was declared at the beginning of the month. Hopes are pinned on the truce becoming a permanent ceasefire to pave the way for peace consultations that would end the Iran-backed Houthi militias' coup. Grundberg is scheduled to meet with government officials and members of the new Presidential Leadership Council. On Monday, he met with head of the council, Rashad al-Alimi, and Foreign Minister Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak in Riyadh where the truce was declared during the intra-Yemeni consultations. Talks with Alimi focused on the implementation of the truce agreement, tweeted the envoy's office. *"They agreed on the importance of building on the truce towards reaching negotiated political solution to the conflict."* ... The FM said lifting the siege was among the truce's top priorities. ... The terms of the truce include facilitating the entry of 18 fuel ships into the ports of Hodeidah and allowing two commercial flights a week to and from Sanaa airport.

- 12 Apr 22 - News Arab World: <https://bit.ly/3jVFMXz>

c. UAE Navy and USCG conclude Exercise Sentinel Shield.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Navy and the US Coast Guard, member nations of Coalition Task Force (CTF) Sentinel, have concluded exercise Sentinel Shield. Conducted in the Arabian Gulf, the exercise series is designed to ensure maritime commerce in the Middle East. CTF Sentinel is the operational arm of International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC). The multinational task force comprises the US, Albania, the UAE, Lithuania, the UK, Estonia, Romania, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia. Together, the eight-member nations task force supports the maritime security and regional stability. The exercise Sentinel Shield enhanced interoperability in operations, tactics and manoeuvres between the participating nations. IMSC and CTF Sentinel commander Commodore Don Mackinnon said: *"I was delighted to see our Emirati partners participating in this month's exercise. "Sentinel Shield exercises better train our Task Force while strengthening our ability to handle real-world scenarios and better communications with our partner nations."*

- 19 Apr 22—Naval Technology: <https://bit.ly/38cfcHi>

d. India and Sri Lanka Sign Pacts to Enhance Maritime Security.

Amid increased Chinese activity, India and Sri Lanka focus on their shared strategic interests in the Southern Indian Ocean region. During the visit of Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to attend the 8th Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) meeting in March in Colombo, India and Sri Lanka signed several agreements including a defense-related pact to expand maritime security. As such, a joint Maritime Rescue Coordination Center (MRCC) will be set up to strengthen Sri Lanka's capacities in its search and rescue region with a \$6 million grant funded by the Indian government.

- 15 Apr 22—The Diplomat: <https://bit.ly/3uWKlay>

e. Arab Parliament Warns Houthis Against Turning Safer into a Political Bargain.

UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen David Gressly announced a UN plan consisting of two tracks to avoid any oil leakages or an explosion of the FSO Safer tanker off Yemen's Red Seas coast. Gressly explained that the first includes the installation of a long-term replacement vessel for the FSO Safer within a target period of 18 months. The second track implements a four-month emergency operation to eliminate the immediate threat by transferring oil from "Safer" to a safe temporary vessel. The two tankers will remain in place until the oil is transferred to the permanent replacement vessel, at which point the existing Safer would be towed to a yard and sold for salvage.

- 16 Apr 22 - News Arab World: <https://bit.ly/3MI92TE>

Engagement and Visits

- BW LNG.** The UKMTO (Dubai) team was delighted to host a visit from long-term colleague and friend Capt Geoff Pearson from BW LNG this week. We are also most grateful for Geoff's feedback on last week's UKMTO (Dubai) Summary, highlighting an editorial error, which was promptly corrected. Thank you.
- UKMTO (Dubai) Office Visits.** To contact our Dubai office, arrange a visit or request a briefing please contact Lt Cdr Dougie Bell 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 Dougie Bell by email: dubai-oic@ukmto.org.

Maritime Security Briefs

Date	Location	Vessel
15/04/2022	JEBEL ALI	MBS BRATAN
15/04/2022	JEBEL ALI	VEGA FALKTIND
15/04/2022	JEBEL ALI	MAGIC VELA
15/04/2022	JEBEL ALI	OCEAN SUCCESS
18/04/2022	JEBEL ALI	ORIENTAL HIBISCUS
18/04/2022	JEBEL ALI	GRIETJE
18/04/2022	JEBEL ALI	NYON

UKMTO Dubai Contact Details

Job title & Name	Contact email	Telephone Numbers
Officer in Charge (OIC) Lt Cdr Dougie Bell RN	dubai-oic@ukmto.org	Office: +971 4309 4268 Mobile: +971 501 898 389
Ops Room Manager CPO Anne McGarva RN	dubai-ors1@ukmto.org	Office: +971 4309 4462 Mobile: +971 505 532 967

Additional Sources of Information

[United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations \(UKMTO\)](#)
[Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa \(MSCHOA\)](#)
[International Maritime Security Construct \(IMSC\)](#)
[International Maritime Bureau \(IMB\) Live Piracy Reports](#)
[United States Dept of Transportation Maritime Administration](#)
[Combined Maritime Forces \(CMF\)](#)
[Maritime Global Security](#)
[Oil Companies International Marine Forum \(OCIMF\)](#)
[Middle East Navigation Aids Service \(MENAS\)](#)
[United Kingdom Hydrographic Office](#)

UKMTO 24 / 7 / 365 Contact	+44 2392 222060	watchkeepers@ukmto.org
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