

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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SHIP SECURITY ADVISORY No. 04-17

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Company Security Officers, Recognized Security Organizations

Subject: YEMEN / SOUTHERN RED SEA / BAB EL MANDEB STRAIT

Date: 29 March 2017

Sources: United States (U.S.) Maritime Advisory [2017-002](#)

U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) [Alerts 2017-001a](#), [2017-002a](#), and [2017-002b](#) available at: www.marad.dot.gov/msci/

This Ship Security Advisory (SSA) supersedes No. 02-17, which is now revoked. It is also noted that this SSA expires 24 September 2017.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) would like to draw your attention to the following:

1.0 Issue

Continued regional tensions in Yemen have increased the risks to RMI-flagged commercial vessels transiting the Southern Red Sea. The Houthi rebels have conducted attacks against a Saudi warship and United Arab Emirates logistics vessels, as well as an attempted but failed attack against U.S. Navy ships in the Southern Red Sea. There has been increased fighting along the Red Sea coast and, as a result, RMI-flagged commercial vessels operating in the area could be associated with anti-Houthi operations, or are otherwise at risk.

2.0 Guidance

RMI-flagged vessels operating in the vicinity of the Southern Red Sea should exercise extreme caution and adhere to the following guidelines:

- .1 It is recommended that RMI-flagged commercial vessels avoid entering or loitering near Yemen's Red Sea ports, and that vessels at anchor, operating in restricted maneuvering environments or at slow speeds, be especially vigilant. RMI-flagged commercial vessels transiting the region should conduct a pre-voyage risk assessment and incorporate appropriate protective measures into their vessel security plans.

- .2 RMI-flagged commercial vessels in the region should operate under a heightened state of alert due to the potential for direct or collateral damage. These threats may come from a variety of different sources including, but not limited to, missiles, projectiles, mines, small arms, or waterborne improvised explosive devices. Vessels in this region should report hostile activities immediately and contact coalition naval forces on Very High Frequency (VHF) channel 16. Suspicious activities and events must be reported by RMI-flagged vessels by submitting RMI Form [MI-109-2](#) to shipsecurity@register-iri.com as required by RMI Marine Notice [2-011-39](#). Vessels operating in this region are also advised to establish contact with the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Office (UKMTO). UKMTO advisories, warnings, and contact info are available at www.ukmto.org.

3.0 Contact Information

- .1 For further information, contact shipsecurity@register-iri.com.

4.0 Cancellation of Prior Advisories

- .1 MARAD has cancelled the following Advisories:
 - a. Legacy Special Warning 134 (*Red Sea, Bab-el-Mandeb Strait and Gulf of Aden*);
 - b. Legacy MARAD Advisory 2005-001 (*Threat Info and Maritime Industry Reporting of Suspected/Actual Terrorist Incidents*); and
 - c. Legacy MARAD Advisory 2010-006 (*Guidance to Vessels Transiting High Risk Waters - Gulf of Aden, Red Sea, Horn of Africa*).