



## Weekly Report: 23-29 November 2022

1. **MIEVOM 2022.** Thank you to all of those that joined us at the Dubai International Seafarers' Centre (DISC), and on-line, for this year's MIEVOM. We hope that you found it informative. Thank you in particular to our guest speakers who worked so hard to whet our appetites with the latest & most stimulating developments. Presentations have been posted on our website at: [www.ukmto.org](http://www.ukmto.org).

2. **MIEVOM 2023.** Please save **Thursday 11 May 2023** in your diaries for the next MIEVOM. Whilst we actively encourage physical attendance in Dubai, to enrich the side bars, the event will also be Hybrid. Much more detail to follow in due course.

3. **IMSC SENTINEL Watch.** The November 2022 'Special Edition' is posted at: <http://bit.ly/3Tn8AYq>

4. **Indian Ocean Sunrise.** Thank you to the Master of FS DILIGENCE who shared this splendid picture of Today's Sunrise. "Gyro tested correct at Sunrise Sir!".



## Warnings, Advisories and Notices

5. Please see below a list of all recent and extant UKMTO warnings, advisories and notices. Full details can be found on the website [UKMTO](http://UKMTO). UKMTO is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.

Warnings		
Number	Category	Remarks
No new Warnings were issued this week		

Advisories		
Number	Category	Remarks
No new Advisories were issued this week		

Notices		
Number	Category	Remarks
005/OCT/2022	<a href="#">Military Exercise</a>	Cancel this notice 301700UTC NOV 22
003/NOV/2022	<a href="#">Military Exercise</a>	Cancel this notice 301700UTC DEC 22

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

<b>UKMTO 24/7 contact</b>	<b>+44 2392 222060</b>	<b><a href="mailto:watchkeepers@ukmto.org">watchkeepers@ukmto.org</a></b>
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## Open Source Media Articles

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

### 1. **A Royal Navy officer whose ship has delivered blows to both drug smugglers and terrorists in 2022 has been decorated in the King's first Operational Honours for the forces.**

Commander Claire Thompson Royal Navy will receive the OBE on her return to the UK, recognition for her deeds and accomplishments captaining HMS Montrose in the Gulf. The frigate has proved to be one of the Royal Navy's most successful and effective warships this year, with Commander Thompson and her 200-strong team of sailors and Royal Marines scoring four major drugs busts, plus two illegal arms caches.

24 Nov 22 - Royal Navy: <https://bit.ly/3VEB2GN>

25 Nov 22 - Forces Net: <http://bit.ly/3EP2quT>

### 2. **Somali pirates have all but disappeared but other threats remain at sea.**

Cases of piracy in the Indian Ocean have fallen significantly but maritime security experts say other illicit activities remain a concern. "Piracy areas have been shrinking," said Olli Pekka Suorsa, assistant professor in homeland security at the UAE's Rabdan Academy. "The industry is planning to altogether remove the high-risk area in the Indian Ocean in January 2023." This will come into effect after several reductions in the size of the high-risk areas in the region, which are currently around the Horn of Africa," he said at an event hosted by Trends Research and Advisory. "This decision comes from the shipping industry itself, a regional stakeholder, and reflects the dramatic decline in actual piracy incidents," Mr Suorsa said. However, he and other security experts urged naval efforts to continue as practices such as weapon smuggling and environmental crimes such as illegal fishing remain.

24 Nov 22 - Hellenic Shipping News: <http://bit.ly/3AWeBoC>

### 3. **Massive drug bust for US Navy in the Gulf of Aden.**

The US Navy's guided-missile destroyer USS Nitze has seized an estimated \$20 million worth of illegal drugs from a fishing vessel while patrolling the Gulf of Aden. The USS Nitze was operating in support of Combined Task Force (CTF) 153, established by the Combined Maritime Forces in April to boost multinational collaboration in the Red Sea, Bab al-Mandeb and Gulf of Aden. On 22 November, the vessel seized 2 200 kilograms of hashish and 330 kilograms of methamphetamine as the fishing vessel transited international waters, the US Navy said.

25 Nov 22 - Defence Web: <http://bit.ly/3ATipa2>

### 4. **20 foreigners held, being interrogated over claims that al-Shabaab abducted them.**

**MOGADISHU, Somalia.** Police in Somalia on Sunday said that 20 foreigners are being interrogated after they said that they were in the al-Shabaab terror group's captivity for years. Sadik Adan Ali, a police spokesman, said in a statement that the foreigners, including 14 Iranians and six Pakistanis, were apprehended by police in the country's coastal town of Hobyo. He said some of these individuals were said to be abducted by the al-Qaeda-affiliated terrorist group Al-Shabaab in early 2014, while others were kidnapped by the group in the middle of 2019 near the coast of Harardere. "Four of the foreigners have physical injuries," said the police statement. According to local media, the foreigners claimed that they are fishermen and were held captive by al-Shabaab terror groups for years before they arrived in the government-controlled area as they were released by the terrorist group. Further investigation into the individuals is currently underway, according to the Somali police

27 Nov 22 - AA: <http://bit.ly/3UIIF4J>

27 Nov 22 - Barrons: <http://bit.ly/3EKx6qD>

## Engagement and Visits

1. **Engagement - BW Fleet Management.** Pictured with UKMTO (Dubai) OiC, Lt Cdr Dougie Bell RN, is long-term UKMTO colleague and friend Mr Geoff Pearson of BW Fleet Management. It was a pleasure as always to provide Geoff with an update on Maritime Security matters in the region, following-on from the MIEVOM the day before and prior to returning to the office.



2. **UKMTO (Dubai) Office - Visits, Briefings & Maritime Security Briefings.** To contact our Dubai office, arrange an office visit, request a briefing on UKMTO or request a regional Maritime Security Brief please contact Lt Cdr Dougie Bell RN by telephone: +971 (0)501 898 389 or email: [dubai-oic@ukmto.org](mailto:dubai-oic@ukmto.org). Please note that any emails received between 13:00UTC on Friday afternoon and 04:00UTC on Monday morning, may not be actioned before 04:00UTC on Monday.

3. **Urgent and Short-Notice Briefing Requirements.** Security Officers and Masters should contact the Duty UKMTO Officer on: +971 (0)50 559 3983 who will be able to arrange urgent and/ or short-notice briefings that fall outside of the above times.

## Maritime Security Briefs

Date	Location	Vessel
28/11/2022	MS TEAMS	SEABOURN ENCORE

## UKMTO Dubai Contact Details

Job title & Name	Contact email	Telephone Numbers
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## 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](#)

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