GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Security Update Brief Persian Gulf

(Timeframe 131200ZAUG –201200ZAUG)

General Situation

The security situation in the Persian Gulf, and in particular in the Strait of Hormuz, remained extremely tense throughout the reporting period. Despite isolated transit movements, there are no indications of a normalization of shipping traffic. Commercial shipping traffic through the Strait of Hormuz remained at a low level. Independent tracking data indicate a significantly reduced volume of traffic. Since the last Security Update Brief dated 13th August, a total of five (5) attacks on civilian vessels have occurred in the Strait of Hormuz. These actions continue to underscore Iran's intention to demonstrate a presence along key transit routes and to maintain pressure on transiting vessels. The threat posed by mines in the Strait of Hormuz and by disruptions to navigation systems also persists.

The naval blockade of Iranian ports by the US Navy remains unchanged. On 13th August, the US Department of Defense stated that the blockade could be maintained indefinitely through the rotation of deployed naval units. The objective remains to restrict Iranian maritime traffic while simultaneously supporting the passage of non-Iranian commercial vessels. Iran, in particular the IRGC, continues in turn to maintain control over and restrict shipping traffic through the Strait of Hormuz. According to the Iranian position, passage is permitted only with Iranian authorization. On 18th August, Tehran further clarified its position, stating that the strait would remain closed until, among other things, the United States lifts the blockade of Iranian ports.

US NCAGS continues to support vessels intending to leave the Persian Gulf via the southern route. If a passage is planned, contact should be established with US NCAGS (m-ba-navcent-ncags@us.navy.mil). No renewed direct use of weapons between the United States and Iran has been confirmed during the reporting period to date.

In the southern Red Sea and the Bab al-Mandeb Strait, the blockade announced by the Houthis on 20th July against vessels with links to Saudi Arabia also remains in effect. Since the last Security Update Brief, one (1) further attack on a merchant vessel occurred in the Bab al-Mandab Strait on 17th August. EU Operation ASPIDES, which operates in this area to protect commercial vessels, has so far reported no attacks on vessels under its escort. Commercial shipping in the southern Red Sea is generally being maintained.

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Operational Overview

Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman

Since the beginning of the war, a total of 56 merchant vessels (complete list in appendix) have been hit in the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman. Since the last Security Update Brief dated August 13th, 2026, five (5) attacks on a merchant vessel occurred:

- NAVIG8MESSI (IMO 9482859): Tanker (Singapore). Struck on 13th August. Hit by UAVs. Minor damage. The vessel was able to continue under its own power.
- TARIF (IMO 9828390): Tanker (Liberia). Struck on 13th August. Hit by UAVs. Minor damage. The vessel was able to continue under its own power.
- AL WATAN (IMO 9615030): Bulk carrier (United Arab Emirates). Struck on 14th August. Hit by a projectile on the starboard side. Fire extinguished. No casualties.
- MINOAN DIGNITY (IMO 9294484): Container ship (Liberia). Struck on 17th August. Hit by an unidentified projectile in the engine room. One fatality.
- RIYAN STAR (IMO 9156761): Bulk carrier (Liberia). Struck on 15th August. Hit on the starboard side below the gangway. One fatality.

Southern Red Sea and Bab El-Mandeb

Since the Houthis announced on July 20th the blockade of the Red Sea/Bab al-Mandeb for vessels linked to Saudi Arabia, ships have been attacked (complete list in appendix). Since the last Security Update Brief of August 13th, there has been one additional attack on a merchant vessel:

- AMIR KHAN 1468 (IMO 1088504): Deck cargo vessel (Unknown). Struck on 17th August. Multiple hits to the hull. Complete destruction of the vessel's structure.

Piracy

On 17th August, the Cameroon-flagged general cargo vessel LUTUF was attacked by pirates off the Somali coast and subsequently hijacked. The incident occurred approximately four nautical miles south of Maraya while the vessel was proceeding on a southerly course. Due to adverse weather conditions, the LUTUF had previously chosen a route close to the coast. In addition, according to reports from 20th August (today), the tanker SEAMULL (SIBU 1) was hijacked in the Gulf of Aden by six armed individuals, who are now in control of the vessel and intend to divert it to Somalia.

With the pirate attacks on the LUTUF and SEAMULL (SIBU 1), the series of piracy incidents off the Somali coast continues. Since April 2026, six (6) vessels are now being held by pirates in this maritime area:

1. HONOUR 25 (21th April)
2. SWARD (26th April)
3. EUREKA (4th Mai)
4. ASANA (17th Juli)
5. LUTUF (17th August)
6. SEAMULL (SIBU 1) (20th August)

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Port Status and Infrastructure

No change since the last last Security Update Brief.

Impact on German Interests (DEU)

According to AIS data and consultations with shipping companies, there are approximately 127 vessels with German links in the Area of Interest (see annex), 17 of which are currently in the Persian Gulf. In total 3 ships with German interest have been attacked.

Assessment

The security situation in the Persian Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Gulf of Oman remains highly volatile. Repeated attacks on merchant vessels, as well as the continuing military presence, demonstrate that merchant shipping remains directly affected by the conflict. Traffic volumes through the Strait of Hormuz remain significantly below pre-crisis levels. Despite isolated transit movements, regular and unrestricted shipping traffic has not yet resumed. The opposing positions of the United States and Iran regarding the status of the strait further increase uncertainty for commercial shipping.

Merchant shipping continues to face an elevated and immediate threat, particularly in the Strait of Hormuz. Direct attacks on merchant vessels, potential mine threats, as well as disruptions to navigation and communication systems must be taken into account when planning routes. No short-term easing of the situation is currently apparent. It remains the case that passage through the strait should only be conducted via the southern route through Omani territorial waters (TTW). Use of the northern route controlled by Iran is strongly discouraged. Passage out of the Persian Gulf should be coordinated through US CENTCOM/US NCAGS. Coordination via PGSA/Iran is not recommended.

In the Bab al-Mandeb and the southern Red Sea, an elevated threat to commercial shipping also remains due to the continuing Houthi threat. The continuation of general shipping traffic should not be interpreted as a normalization of the security situation. Current security and navigational advisories issued by the relevant authorities should be continuously taken into account before and during any passage.

Passage through the Red Sea should be registered with MSCIO (postmaster@mscio.eu).

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Conclusion

In view of the ongoing dynamic developments and the still uncertain situation in the Eastern Mediterranean, an elevated risk to civilian shipping must be assumed within the area of interest (see Annex). The warning levels / threat assessments are as follows:

Persian Gulf	MODERATE
Strait of Hormuz	SEVERE
Gulf of Oman	SUBSTANTIAL
Arabian Sea	MODERATE
Gulf of Aden	SUBSTANTIAL
Somalian Coast / Somalian Basin	MODERATE
Bab El-Mandeb / southern Red Sea	SUBSTANTIAL
Northern Red Sea / Suez Canal	MODERATE
Eastern Mediterranean	LOW

SOLAS Security Level 3 applies to vessels flying the German flag, among others, in the following maritime areas:

Persian Gulf, Iranian territorial waters and Iranian ports in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, territorial waters and ports of Bahrain, Strait of Hormuz, Southern Red Sea, Bab al-Mandab, Gulf of Aden and territorial waters and ports of Yemen.

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Appendix

Position of possible mines

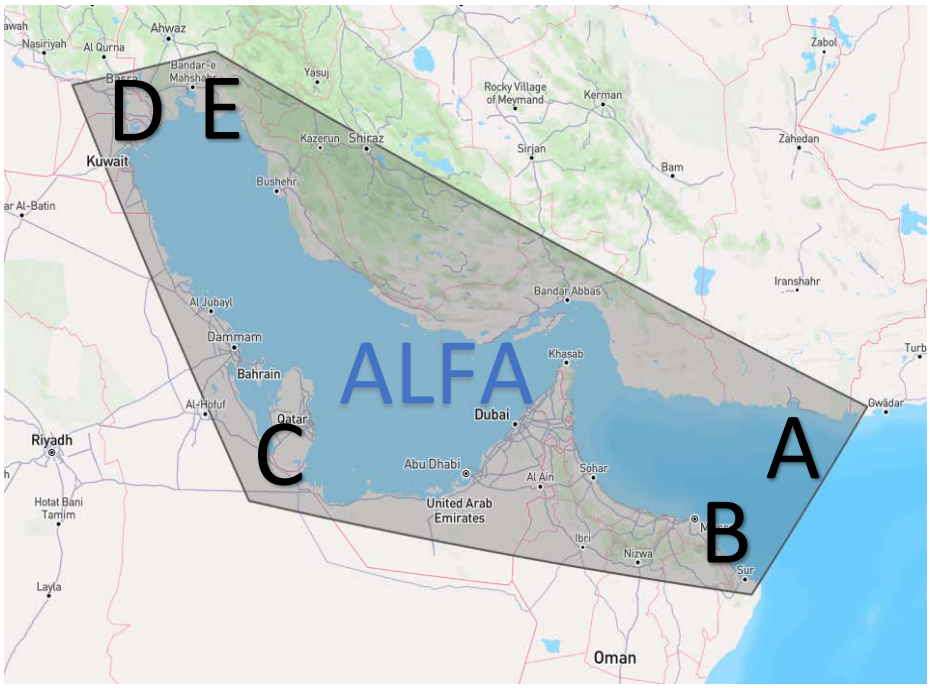
The following positions reported as mine locations cannot be verified by the Germany:

26°24’35,6“N 056°20’33,3“E	US 5th Fleet
26°24’36,7“N 056°20’37,3“E	US 5th Fleet
26°24’44,6“N 056°20’46,6“E	US 5th Fleets
26°24’18,0“N 056°20’36,0“E	NAVWARN

US NCAGS advises to pass these positions at least 1 nm south of them.

Area of Interest DEU NCAGS

Persian Gulf / Strait of Hormus / Golf of Oman:

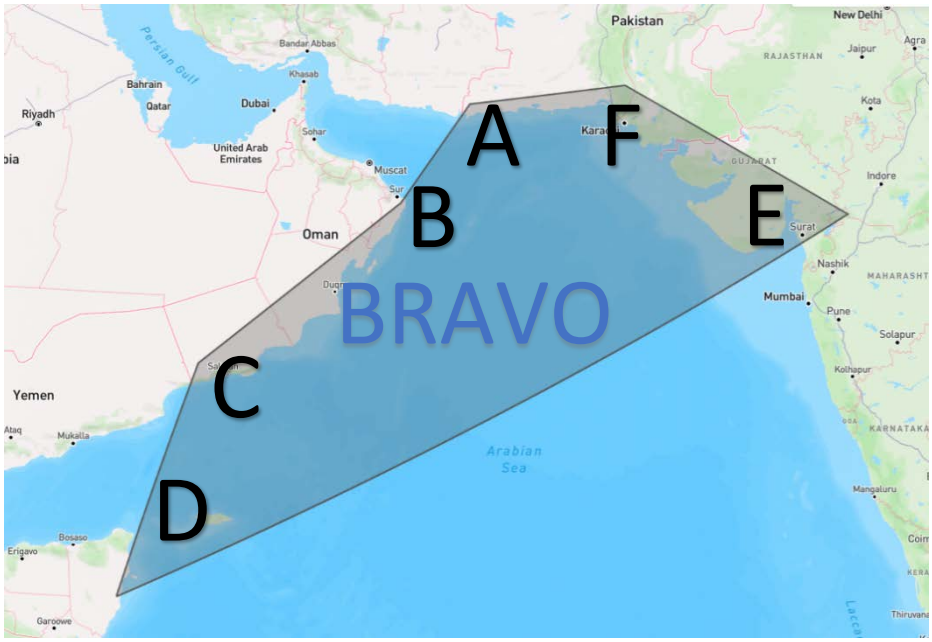


- REF A: LAT: 25° 15' N LON: 61° 57' E
- REF B: LAT: 22° 18' N LON: 59° 37' E
- REF C: LAT: 23° 58' N LON: 50° 22' E
- REF D: LAT: 30° 31' N LON: 46° 50' E
- REF E: LAT: 31° 07' N LON: 49° 35' E

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

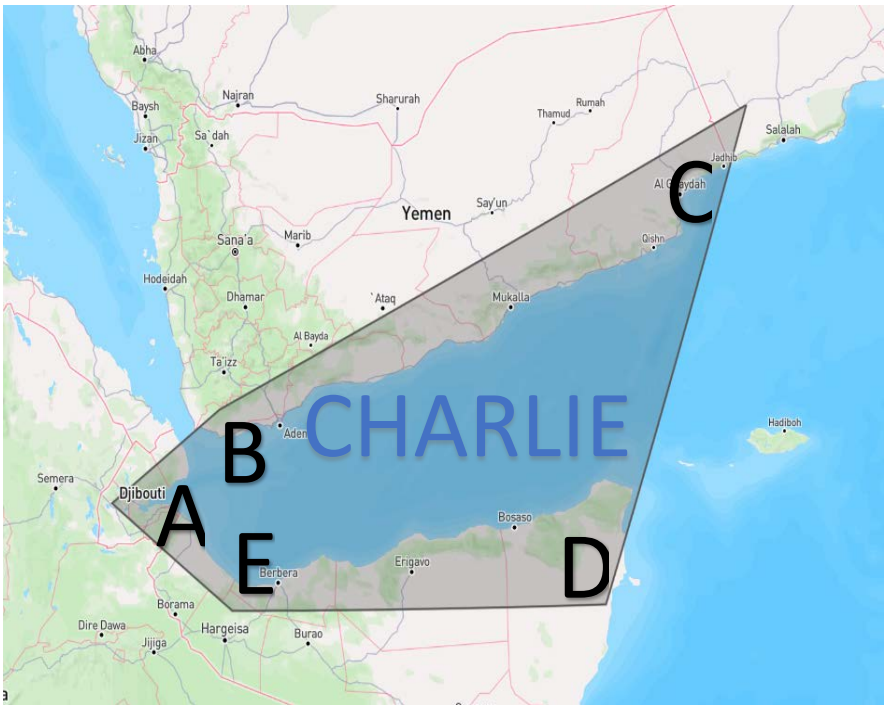
GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Arabian Sea NORTH:



- REF A: LAT: 25° 15' N LON: 61° 57' E
- REF B: LAT: 22° 18' N LON: 59° 37' E
- REF C: LAT: 17° 50' N LON: 53° 30' E
- REF D: LAT: 09° 59' N LON: 50° 48' E
- REF E: LAT: 21° 53' N LON: 74° 40' E
- REF F: LAT: 26° 03' N LON: 66° 39' E

Gulf of Aden:

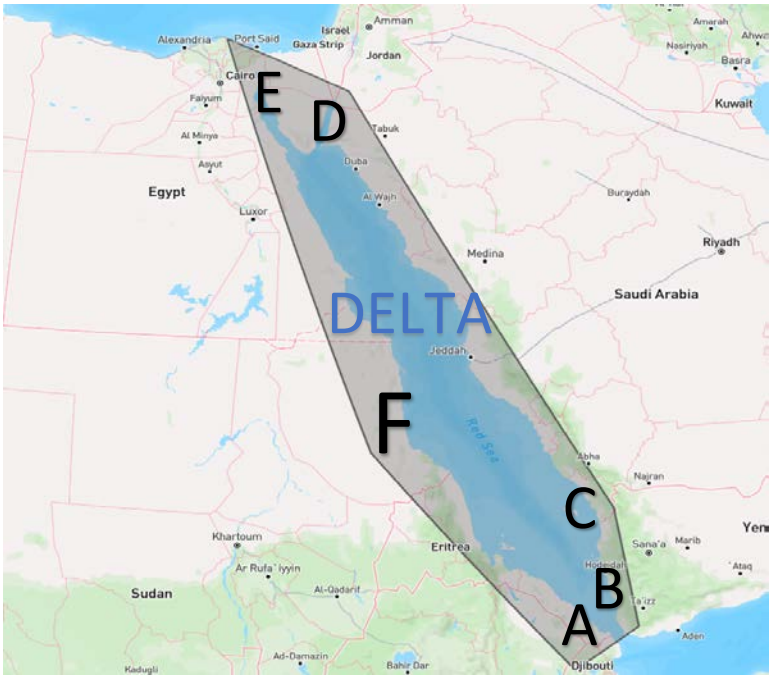


- REF A: LAT: 11° 37' N LON: 42° 05' E
- REF B: LAT: 12° 59' N LON: 43° 54' E
- REF C: LAT: 17° 50' N LON: 53° 30' E
- REF D: LAT: 09° 59' N LON: 50° 48' E
- REF E: LAT: 09° 55' N LON: 44° 07' E

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

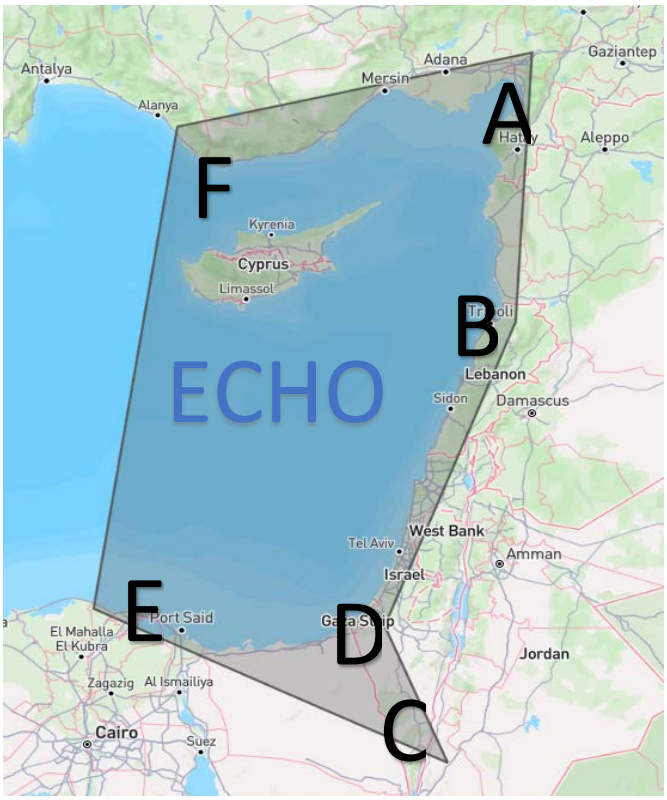
GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Red Sea:



- REF A: LAT: 11° 37' N LON: 42° 05' E
- REF B: LAT: 12° 59' N LON: 43° 54' E
- REF C: LAT: 16° 50' N LON: 43° 12' E
- REF D: LAT: 29° 49' N LON: 35° 23' E
- REF E: LAT: 31° 31' N LON: 31° 17' E
- REF F: LAT: 18° 35' N LON: 36° 19' E

Mediterranean Sea EAST:



- REF A: LAT: 37° 10' N LON: 36° 19' E
- REF B: LAT: 34° 27' N LON: 36° 07' E
- REF C: LAT: 31° 18' N LON: 34° 37' E
- REF D: LAT: 29° 49' N LON: 35° 23' E
- REF E: LAT: 31° 31' N LON: 31° 17' E
- REF F: LAT: 36° 25' N LON: 32° 13' E

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

List of all attacks against merchant ships

Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman

1. SKYLIGHT (IMO 9330020): Chemical tanker (Palau). Hit on Feb 28th north of Khasab (OMN). 4 crew members injured; evacuation completed; vessel sank.
2. MKD VYOM (IMO 9284386): Crude oil tanker (Marshall Islands). Hit on March 1st in the Gulf of Oman. Vessel is drifting and severely disabled; 1 confirmed fatality, unit evacuated. Heavy hull damage above the waterline and fire in the engine room.
3. HERCULES STAR (IMO 9916135): Product tanker (Gibraltar). Hit on March 1st, 20 nautical miles northwest of Dubai. Fire extinguished.
4. OCEAN ELECTRA (IMO 9402782): Product tanker (Liberia). Hit on March 1st by a drone or missile, no major damage.
5. STENA IMPERATIVE (IMO 9666077): Oil/chemical tanker (USA). Hit on March 2nd in the port of Muharraq (Bahrain). Fire extinguished; crew evacuated.
6. GOLD OAK (IMO 9806342): Bulk carrier (Panama). Lateral hit on March 3rd while at anchor in Fujairah (UAE).
7. PELAGIA (IMO 9433626): Bulk carrier (Malta). Loud explosion and smoke observed near the vessel on March 3rd.
8. LIBRA TRADER (IMO 9562673): Tanker (India). Hit on March 3rd by an unknown projectile on March 3, minor damage.
9. SAFEEN PRESTIGE (IMO 9593517): Container ship (Malta). Hit on March 4th; projectile passed through the vessel; fire broke out. Crew abandoned ship. Further attack on March 18th, fire broke out; no crew on board (since March 4th).
10. SONANGOL NAMIBE (IMO 9325049): Crude oil tanker (Bahamas). Hit on March 4th at anchor in Iraqi waters; water ingress and ballast water leakage.
11. MUSSAFAH 2 (IMO 9522051): Tug (UAE). Hit on March 6th while in route to salvage the SAFEEN PRESTIGE; struck by two missiles. 4 dead, 3 injured.
12. ARABIA III (IMO 8771332): Drilling rig (Liberia). Hit on March 7th; fire under control, one injured, crew reduced to minimum.
13. MAYUREE NAREE (IMO 9323649): Bulk carrier (Thailand). Hit on March 11th; fire under control, 3 missing.
14. ONE MAJESTY (IMO 9424912): Container ship (Japan). Hit on March 11th, damage to the vessel's stern above the waterline.
15. STAR GWYNETH (IMO 9301031): Bulk carrier (Marshall Islands). Hit on March 11th; punctures in cargo hold and ballast tank, vessel is listing.
16. ZEFYROS (IMO 9515917): Oil/chemical tanker (Malta). Hit on March 11th during STS (ship-to-ship transfer) with SAFESA VISHNU; fire, one fatality.

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

17. SAFESA VISHNU (IMO 9327009): Crude oil tanker (Marshall Islands). Hit on March 11th during STS with ZEFYROS; fire.
18. SOURCE BLESSING (IMO 9243198): Container ship (Liberia). Hit on March 12th; fire extinguished (German link).
19. AL SALMI (IMO 9534793): Tanker (Kuwait): Hit on March 30th, drone impact on the starboard side, resulting in fire.
20. AQUA 1 (IMO 9573660): Tanker (Panama): Two hits on March 31st, one explosion and one unexploded charge in the engine room; recovery of the explosive charge is underway.
21. QINGDAO STAR (IMO 9318163): Container ship (Marshall Islands): Hit by an unknown projectile on April 7th; damage sustained above the waterline.
22. GOLD AUTUMN (IMO 9220483): Bulk carrier (Panama): Struck on April 7th, by up to two missiles/drones 200 nm south of Pakistan. A fire broke out and the crew was rescued by Pakistan.
23. SANMAR HERALD (IMO 9330563): Tanker (India): Attacked on April 18th, by IRGC boats; small arms fire, damage to bridge windows.
24. CMA CGM EVERGLADE (IMO 9894985): Container ship (France): Hit by a drone on April 18th; damage to containers.
25. MEIN SCHIFF 4 (IMO 9678408): Cruise ship (Malta), German connection: Observation of an impact in the water 150 m away; hailing via VHF.
26. EPAMINONDAS (IMO 9153862): Container ship (Liberia): Fired upon on April 22nd, with RPGs and small arms; bridge heavily damaged.
27. MSC FRANCESCA (IMO 9401116): Container ship (Panama): Fired upon on April 22nd; damage to hull and accommodation; vessel was also ordered to anchor by the IRGC via VHF, seized by Iran.
28. EUPHORIA (IMO 9235828): Container ship (Panama): Fired upon on April 22nd, by the IRGC; crew retreated to the citadel, was able to escape IRN seizure.
29. BARAKAH (IMO 9902615): Tanker (Liberia): Hit on May 3rd, by an unknown projectile, likely drones, in the engine room and cargo hold; the crew has abandoned the ship.
30. MINOAN FALCON (IMO 9605841): Bulk carrier (Liberia): Fired upon on May 3rd, by several small boats; damage to the bridge and superstructure.
31. JV INNOVATION (IMO 9276688): Tanker (Marshall Islands): Hit on May 4th, by an unknown projectile; reported by third parties; heavy damage to the hull.
32. CMA CGM SAN ANTONIO (IMO 9294173): Container ship (Malta): Hit on May 5th, by an unknown projectile; several injuries, some serious; the injured were evacuated to shore (German connection).
33. SAFESEA NEHA (IMO 9563392): Bulk carrier (Marshall Islands). Hit on May 10th, by a drone, fire was extinguished, light damage in the area of the quarterdeck.
34. MSC SARISKA V (IMO 8715857): Container ship (Panama). Struck on June 1st on the starboard side. Damage at the waterline; fire could be extinguished.
35. BOCHEM MARENGO (IMO 9749025): Oil and chemical tanker (Hong Kong). According to US NCAGS as of June 14th, it was hit by a cruise missile, with damage to the ballast tank and cargo hold.
36. EVER LOVELY (IMO 9629110): Container ship (Singapore). Hit on June 25th by a projectile causing minor damage on the bridge
37. KIKU (IMO 9329796): Crude oil tanker (Panama). Hit on June 27th by a projectile, no major damage

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

38. AL REKAYYAT (IMO 9397339): LNG-Tanker (Marshall Islands). Hit on July 7th, fire in engine room was extinguished, crew abandoned ship which is now being towed
39. WEDYAN (IMO 9524970): Crude oil tanker (Saudi Arabia). Hit on July 7th with minor structural damages
40. CYPRUS PROSPERITY (IMO 9595216): Crude oil tanker (Liberia). Hit on July 7th with minor structural damages
41. GFS GALAXY (IMO 9401271): Container vessel (Cyprus). Hit on July 11th, resulting in a fire. The crew abandoned the vessel; one person is missing. The vessel was towed to Khor Fakkan.
42. STOLT MAGNESIUM (IMO 9739317): Tanker (Liberia). Hit on July 13th, resulting in a fire and the complete evacuation of the crew. All crew members were rescued.
43. MOMBASA B (IMO 9739501): Tanker (Liberia). Hit on July 13th, resulting in a fire. The fire was extinguished using onboard firefighting equipment. One person was killed and several others were injured.
44. AL BAHYAH (IMO 9937799): Tanker (Liberia). Hit on July 13th, resulting in a fire. The fire was extinguished using onboard firefighting equipment. Eight people were injured, including four with serious injuries.
45. IDI (IMO 9307982). Tanker (Marshall Island). Hit on July 17 on port side. Tanker was able to proceed under own power to an anchorage.
46. KAVOMALEAS (IMO 1042823) Tanker (Malta). Hit on July 19 resulting in fire on board. Crew abandoned the vessel and was saved by the Omani Coast Guard.
47. ACHELOS (IMO 1087524). Tanker (Liberia). Hit July 19 in the steering gear room. Tanker was able to proceed under own power to an anchorage.
48. KAIFAN (IMO 9656046). Tanker (Kuwait). Hit on July 20 resulting in fire on board. Crew abandoned the vessel, 2 lightly injured, and was saved by the Omani Coast Guard.
49. GASLOG SHANGHAI (IMO 9600528). LNG-Tanker (Bermuda). Hit on July 31st on the port side at the engine room, resulting in a fire. This caused a blackout and loss of propulsion.
50. MINOAN PIONEER (IMO 9471630). Bulker (Liberia). Hit on August 3rd in the engine room which resulted in a fire. 22 crew evacuated the ship, 1 is missing, ship is at anchor.
51. Unknown. Tanker. Hit on August 8th reportedly causing a fire to break out on board. The fire was brought under control.
52. NAVIG8MESSI (IMO 9482859): Tanker (Singapore). Struck on 13th August. Hit by UAVs. Minor damage. The vessel was able to continue under its own power.
53. TARIF (IMO 9828390): Tanker (Liberia). Struck on 13th August. Hit by UAVs. Minor damage. The vessel was able to continue under its own power.
54. AL WATAN (IMO 9615030): Bulk carrier (United Arab Emirates). Struck on 14th August. Hit by a projectile on the starboard side. Fire extinguished. No casualties.
55. MINOAN DIGNITY (IMO 9294484): Container ship (Liberia). Struck on 17th August. Hit by an unidentified projectile in the engine room. One fatality.
56. RIYAN STAR (IMO 9156761): Bulk carrier (Liberia). Struck on 15th August. Hit on the starboard side below the gangway. One fatality.

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine

GERMAN NAVY SHIPPING CENTRE

Southern Red Sea and Bab El-Mandeb

1. ENCELIA (IMO 9240172). Tanker (Saudi-Arabia). Hit on July 22nd on the starboard side resulting in a fire. Fire could be extinguished with the help of a Navy vessel.
2. NCC MASA (IMO 9688336). Tanker (Saudi Arabia). Struck on July 24th but was able to continue its voyage after sustaining only minor damage.
3. MSV FAIZE NOORE – Merchant vessel (India). Hit on August 4th, resulting in a fire. The crew was rescued, and the vessel subsequently sank.
4. TIHAMAH (IMO 1031329). General cargo vessel (Tanzania). Hit on August 11th, resulting in a fire on board, 2 fatalities, and 4 injured. According to UKMTO, two additional members of the Yemeni Coast Guard were killed.
5. AMIR KHAN 1468 (IMO 1088504): Deck cargo vessel (Unknown). Struck on 17th August. Multiple hits to the hull. Complete destruction of the vessel's structure.

Marinekommando
Dezernat Marineschifffahrtleitung
E-Mail: MarKdoM34MSchLtg@bundeswehr.org
Telefonnummer: +49(0)4086648-4560
Mo - Do 0700 - 1600, Fr 0700 - 1300
+49(0)30185450-1500
24/7 MSZ Cuxhaven Verbindungselement Marine