



MARAD ADVISORY MESSAGES QUERY RESULTS

Between Dates: 01/01/2008 to 12/31/2008

2008 - 9 GULF OF ADEN PIRACY COUNTERMEASURERS.

1. THIS MARAD ADVISORY PROVIDES SUGGESTED ANTI-PIRACY DISTRESS CALLING PROCEDURES FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS TRANSITING THE GULF OF ADEN.
2. WHEN IN DISTRESS, CALL FOR HELP ON VHF-16 AND MF/HF DSC.
3. IMMEDIATELY CONTACT UKMTO BY PHONE: 971 50 552 3215, E-MAIL: UKMTO@EIM.AE.
4. IF NO ANSWER CALL MARLO BAHRAIN PHONE: 973 3940 1395, E-MAIL: MARLO.BAHRAIN@ME.NAVY.MIL.
5. ALSO ACTIVATE SSAS (SHIP SECURITY ALERT SYSTEM).
6. THIS ADVISORY WAS COORDINATED WITH UKMTO (UNITED KINGDOM MARITIME TRADE ORGANISATION) AND MARLO (MARITIME LIAISON OFFICE) BAHRAIN.
7. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT MR. RAWLINS, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE: MAR-420, ROOM W23-440, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, S.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20590, PHONE: 202 366 5524, FAX: 202 366 3954, TELEX II: 710 822 9426 (MARAD DOT WSH) OR E-MAIL: MARADSECURITY@DOT.GOV.

(071424Z NOV 2008)

2008 - 8 GULF OF ADEN PIRACY COUNTERMEASURERS.

1. THIS MARAD ADVISORY PROVIDES SUGGESTED PIRACY COUNTERMEASURES FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS TRANSITING THE GULF OF ADEN. THESE GUIDELINES USED INPUT FROM IMO/MSC/CIRCULAR 623/REV.3, WHICH SHOULD BE REVIEWED FOR APPROPRIATE IMPLEMENTATION ([HTTP://WWW.IMO.ORG/INCLUDES/BLAST_BINDOC.ASP?DOC_ID_941](http://www.imo.org/INCLUDES/BLAST_BINDOC.ASP?DOC_ID_941) AND FORMAT PDF).
2. AN OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE REVIEW OF INCIDENT REPORTS IN THE GULF OF ADEN 15 JUL THRU 15 SEP 08 INDICATES THAT:
 - A. ALL BUT ONE HIJACKING OCCURRED DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. NO VESSELS HAVE BEEN ATTACKED IN THE GULF OF ADEN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 1800 AND 0400 LOCAL TIME.
 - B. VESSELS OPERATING UNDER 16 KNOTS AND WITH A LOW FREEBOARD (LESS THAN SIX METERS) SHOULD CONSIDER THEMSELVES AT EXTREMELY HIGH RISK OF BEING ATTACKED BY PIRATES.
 - C. OPERATORS OF VESSELS WITH THESE CHARACTERISTICS SHOULD CONSIDER THE LACK OF PIRATE ACTIVITY AT NIGHT WHEN PLANNING A TRANSIT.
3. PREPARATION OF TRANSIT:
 - A. NOTIFY MARLO BAHRAIN OF SCHEDULE 48 HOURS PRIOR TO PASSAGE. CONTACT MARLO AT PHONE: 9 733 940 1395, E-MAIL: MARLO.BAHRAIN@ME.NAVY.MIL.
 - B. SECURE A PRE-DESIGNATED AREA FOR CREWMEMBERS TO MUSTER.
 - C. SECURE ALTERNATIVE STEERING LOCATION, IF POSSIBLE.
 - D. PREPARE A LIST OF CONTACT NUMBERS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR ASSISTANCE.
 - E. EMPHASIZE EXTRA SECURITY MEASURES BY ADDING MORE SECURITY PERSONNEL AND ROVING WATCHES AS NECESSARY.
 - F. ESTABLISH DURESS WORD FOR CREW.
 - G. ENSURE CREW RADIOS AND IN-VESSEL COMMUNICATIONS (PHONES) ARE IN GOOD WORKING ORDER.
 - H. STAGE ANTI-PIRACY EQUIPMENT (FIRE HOSES, SPOTLIGHTS, ETC.).

- I. REMOVE ANY EQUIPMENT HANGING OVER THE SIDE THAT COULD BE USED TO GAIN ACCESS, E.G. RAISING THE ACCOMODATION LADDER.
- J. PRACTICE PIRACY DRILLS, PROVIDE REFRESHER TRAINING FOR THE CREW CONCERNING ANTI-PIRACY MEASURES.
4. MAKING THE PASSAGE:
 - A. USE GULF OF ADEN TRANSIT CORRIDOR (REF ADVISORY 2008/05).
 - B. CHECK IN WITH MARLO BAHRAIN UPON ENTERING TRANSIT CORRIDOR.
 - C. TRANSIT AT HIGHEST PRACTICABLE SPEED.
 - D. MOUNT FULLEST WATCH POSSIBLE-ASSURE THAT LOOKOUTS ARE POSITIONED TO ENSURE 360 DEGREE COVERAGE.
 - E. USE EXTRA RADAR WATCH.
 - F. SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY INTO THE HOUSE.
 - G. SECURE DECK LIGHTING (EXCEPT FOR MANDATORY NAVIGATION LIGHTS).
5. IF UNDER ATTACK:
 - A. MAKE OBVIOUS MEASURES (E.G. MUSTER, MAN HIGH-PRESSURE HOSES, ALTER COURSE, FIRE FLARES, TURN ON ALL LIGHTS IF AT NIGHT).
 - B. SOUND ALARM SIGNALS.
 - C. ACTIVATE SSAS.
 - D. NOTIFY MARLO BAHRAIN.
6. IF PIRATES OPEN FIRE:
 - A. CHANGE COURSE REPEATEDLY IF UNABLE TO OUTFRAN PIRATE CRAFT (CONSISTENT WITH SAFE NAVIGATION).
 - B. HOSE TEAM TO REMAIN BEHIND COVER UNTIL IT CAN BE USED EFFECTIVELY.
 - C. USE HOSES TO PREVENT BOARDING.
 - D. REMAINDER OF CREW TO GO TO SECURE LOCATION.
 - E. IF CANNOT USE HOSES, SEND CREW TO SECURE LOCATION AND/OR ALTERNATIVE STEERING POSITIONS.
7. IF PIRATES BOARD, DO NOT RESIST.
8. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT MR. RAWLINS, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE: MAR-420, ROOM W23-440, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, S.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20590, PHONE: 202 366 5524, FAX: 202 366 3954, TLX II 710.822.9426 (MARAD DOT WSH), OR E-MAIL: MARADSECURITY@DOT.GOV.

(231850Z OCT 2008)

2008 - 7

GULF OF ADEN.

1. THIS MARAD ADVISORY PROVIDES SUGGESTED ANTI-PIRACY PRECAUTIONS FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS TRANSITING THE GULF OF ADEN. ALL VESSELS ARE ADVISED TO PROCEED THROUGH THE ENTIRE GULF OF ADEN AT MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SPEED. VESSELS WITH SPEEDS OF 15 KNOTS OR LESS, AND WITH LOW FREEBOARD, SHOULD TRANSIT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OF THE EASTERN GULF OF ADEN IN HOURS OF DARKNESS.
2. REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF RECENT ATTACKS IN THE EASTERN GULF OF ADEN HAVE BEEN OCCURRING DURING HOURS OF DAYLIGHT. THE AVERAGE SPEED OF BOARDED VESSELS WAS 14 KNOTS. ATTACK ACTIVITY WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES IS LIKELY DUE TO A COMBINATION OF FACTORS THAT IMPACT SMALL BOAT OPERATIONS SUCH AS CURRENTS, PREVAILING WINDS, SEA STATE AND DISTANCE FROM PIRATE STAGING AREAS.
3. VESSELS ARE ADVISED TO STAY AT LEAST 200 NM FROM THE EAST COAST OF SOMALIA. VESSELS ADVISED TO TRANSIT THROUGH THE RECOMMENDED GULF OF ADEN CORRIDOR OF WAYPOINTS (REF. ADVISORY 2008-05, HYDROPAC 1656/08). THE BOUNDARIES FOR THE EASTERN GULF OF ADEN ARE 046-38E AND 050-32E OF LONGITUDE.
4. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT MR. RAWLINS, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE: MAR-420, ROOM W23-440, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, S.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20590, PHONE: 202 366 5524, FAX: 202 366 3954, TLX II 710 822 9426 (MARAD DOT WSH), E-MAIL: MICHAEL.RAWLINS@DOT.GOV.

(100715Z OCT 2008)

2008 - 6 GULF OF ADEN.

1. THIS MARAD ADVISORY PROVIDES SUGGESTED REPORTING PROCEDURES FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS TRANSITING THE GULF OF ADEN.
2. VESSELS ARE ADVISED TO CHECK IN WITH MARLO BAHRAIN AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO ENTERING THE SUGGESTED CORRIDOR (REF. ADVISORY 5/08) THROUGH THE GULF OF ADEN. CHECK IN AGAIN UPON ENTERING THE CORRIDOR AND CHECK OUT UPON EXITING THE CORRIDOR.
3. CHECK IN POINTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
EASTBOUND TRAFFIC: WAYPOINT: 12-15N 045-00E.
WESTBOUND TRAFFIC: WAYPOINT: 14-45N 053-00E.
4. THE FOLLOWING IS THE MARLO REPORT FORMAT:
 - A. SHIP NAME:
 - B. IRCS (CALL SIGN):
 - C. IMO #:
 - D. CARGO:
 - E. LAST PORT:
 - F. NOON POSITION (GMT):
 - G. NEXT PORT:
 - H. ADDITIONAL PORTS:
 - I. SECURITY TEAM ABOARD(Y/N):
 - J. REPORTING VIA AMVER?:
 - K. PUBLICATION 117 ABOARD?:
 - L. PRESENT POSITION:
5. CONTACT MARLO AT: MARLO.BAHRAIN@ME.NAVY.MIL
DUTY PHONE: 973 3940 1395 (E-MAIL PREFERRED).
6. VESSELS ARE ADVISED THAT THE PRESENCE OF LARGE GROUPS OF YEMENI FISHING VESSELS IN THE CORRIDOR ARE LIKELY AND THE POSTING OF ADDITIONAL LOOKOUTS IS RECOMMENDED.
7. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT MR. DOHERTY, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE: MAR-420, ROOM W23-312, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, S.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20590, PHONE: 202 366 1883, FAX: 202 366 3954, TELEX II: 710 822 9426 (MARAD DOT WSH), OR E-MAIL: OWEN.DOHERTY@DOT.GOV.

(291304Z SEP 2008)

2008 - 5 GULF OF ADEN.

1. THIS MARAD ADVISORY PROVIDES SUGGESTED WAY POINT FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS TO TRANSIT THE GULF OF ADEN.
2. MARLO BAHRAIN SENT A MESSAGE ON 25 AUGUST WHICH STATED THAT THE COMMANDER, U.S. NAVAL CENTRAL COMMAND HAS DIRECTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MARITIME SECURITY PATROL AREA (MSPA) IN THE GULF OF ADEN.
3. FURTHERMORE, A FORCE OF COALITION NAVY WARSHIPS WILL PATROL THE AREA, AND AIRCRAFT WILL FLY IN THE AIRSPACE ABOVE. COMMODORE BOB DAVIDSON (CANADIAN NAVY), COMMANDER COMBINED TASK FORCE 150, WILL COMMAND NAVAL FORCES IN THE PATROL AREA. THE MSPA IS BEING ESTABLISHED IN SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION'S (IMO) ONGOING EFFORTS. COALITION ACTIONS WILL GIVE THE IMO TIME TO WORK INTERNATIONAL PREVENTATIVE EFFORTS THAT WILL ULTIMATELY LEAD TO A LONG TERM SOLUTION. COALITION SHIPS ARE IN THE AREA AS PART OF OUR CONTINUAL PRESENCE IN THIS REGION. WHILE THEY HAVE CONDUCTED ROUTINE OPERATIONS IN THE AREA IN THE PAST, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MSPA WILL FOCUS THE EFFORTS TO COUNTER DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION AND IMPROVE SECURITY WHILE LONG-TERM INITIATIVES MATURE.
4. SUGGESTED CORRIDOR THROUGH THE GULF OF ADEN ALONG TRACKLINE JOINING:

- 12-15N 045-00E, 12-35N 045-00E, 13-35N 049-00E, 13-40N 049-00E,
14-10N 050-00E, 14-15N 050-00E, 14-35N 053-00E, 14-45N 053-00E.
5. MARLO BAHRAIN MAY BE CONTACTED AT DUTY PHONE: 973 3940 1395,
DUTY E-MAIL: MARLO.BAHRAIN@ME.NAVY.MIL FOR REGIONAL INFORMATION
IN THE USCENTCOM AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.
 6. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT MR.
DOHERTY, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE: MAR-420,
ROOM W23-312, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, S.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20590, PHONE:
202 366 1883, FAX: 202 366 3954, TELEX II: 710 822 9426 (MARAD DOT WSH)
OR E-MAIL: OWEN.DOHERTY@DOT.GOV.

(261409Z AUG 2008)

2008 - 4 GULF OF ADEN.

1. THIS MARAD ADVISORY ALERTS MARINERS TO BE VIGILANT IN THE GULF
OF ADEN. THERE IS EXTREMELY HIGH ACTIVITY IN THE GULF OF ADEN WITH
FOUR VESSELS HIJACKED AND TWO ATTACKED BETWEEN 19 AND 21 AUG.
2. ONI FURTHER ADVISES MARINERS TO BE ON HIGH ALERT WHEN TRANSITING
THIS AREA, PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE END OF NOVEMBER, WHEN MILD
WEATHER OF THE FALL TRANSITION PERIOD IS CONDUCIVE TO SMALL BOAT
OPERATION.
3. UKMTO RELEASES FLASH SECURITY ALERT FOR THE GULF OF ADEN, 21 AUG.
TWO VESSELS HAVE BEEN TAKEN THIS MORNING ON 21 AUG. IT IS STRONGLY
ADVISED THAT VESSELS TRANSIT THE REGION MAINTAINING 35 TO 40 MILES
OFF THE YEMEN COAST AND KEEP CLEAR OF THE AREA BOUNDED BY
12-40N 046-40E SOUTH OF THE SOMALI COAST AND FROM 14-30N 053-00E
SOUTH TO SOCOTRA (REMAINING AT THE VERY LEAST 50 MILES FROM THE
ISLAND). IT MUST BE POINTED OUT THOUGH THE LAST INCIDENT WITH THE
CHEMICAL TANKER (IRENE) HAS TAKEN PLACE NORTH OF THE NORTHERN
ATTACK LINE AND UKMTO IS MONITORING THIS CLOSELY. CTF 150 CONTINUES
TO PATROL ITS REGION (UKMTO).
4. IMB ISSUED A PIRACY WARNING TO ALL VESSELS SAILING THE GULF OF ADEN,
19 AUG. IN ADDITION TO THE MOST RECENT ACTIVITY, THERE HAVE BEEN FOUR
FURTHER HIJACKINGS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF JUNE. THREE ADDITIONAL
VESSELS HAVE ALSO BEEN FIRED UPON SINCE THAT TIME. IMB DIRECTOR
POTTENGAL MUKUNDAN STATED, THE SITUATION IN THIS REGION IS GRAVE. WE
ARE SEEING AT LEAST ONE ATTACK EVERY COUPLE OF WEEKS. THESE
PIRATES ARE NOT AFRAID TO USE SIGNIFICANT FIREPOWER IN ATTEMPTS TO
BRING VESSELS UNDER THEIR CONTROL. UNLESS FURTHER ACTION IS TAKEN,
SEAFARERS REMAIN IN SERIOUS DANGER WHILST NAVIGATING THE GOA. IN
ALL REPORTED INSTANCES, VESSELS HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY
SPEEDBOATS CONTAINING MEN ARMED WITH MACHINE GUNS AND RPG
LAUNCHERS. IN THEIR ATTEMPTS TO SLOW DOWN AND BOARD THE VESSELS,
THE PIRATES HAVE OPENED FIRE AGAINST THE UNARMED MERCHANT SHIPS. IT
IS UNDERSTOOD THAT COALITION WARSHIPS HAVE INTERVENED AND HELPED
PREVENT TWO OF THE ATTACKS. THIS IS IN LINE WITH UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1816 (2008) THAT ALLOWS STATES
COOPERATING WITH SOMALIA TO ENTER ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS IN ORDER
TO REPRESS ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY, BY ALL NECESSARY
MEANS. MR. MUKUNDAN CONTINUED, WHILST THE INTERVENTION OF COALITION
NAVIES HAS HELPED IN ISOLATED CASES, IT IS BY NO MEANS A LONG TERM
SOLUTION. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE THREAT OR PRESENCE OF COALITION NAVIES
HAS DONE LITTLE TO STEM THE TIDE OF ATTACKS IN THIS REGION. THE IMB
ADVISES THAT MASTER MAINTAIN STRICT 24 HOUR PIRACY WATCHES AND BE
ESPECIALLY WARY OF ANY APPROACHING SMALLER CRAFTS. THE IMB URGES
THE REPORTING OF ALL ACTUAL OR ATTEMPTED ATTACKS, AS WELL AS ANY
SUSPICIOUS VESSEL MOVEMENTS, TO THE IMB PIRACY REPORTING CENTRE.
ONI COMMENT: SHORTLY AFTER THIS REPORTING WAS RELEASED, THE
(BUNGA MELATI DUA) WAS HIJACKED IN THE GULF OF ADEN. THREE MORE
VESSELS, INCLUDING THE (IRENE) WERE HIJACKED ON 21 AUG IN THE EASTERN
GULF OF ADEN AS WELL (IMB, ONI).
5. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT MR.
DOHERTY, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE: MAR-420,

ROOM W23-312, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, S.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20590, PHONE:
202 366 1883, FAX: 202 366 3954, TELEX II: 710 822 9426 (MARAD DOT WSH) OR
E-MAIL: OWEN.DOHERTY@DOT.GOV.

6. CANCEL MARAD ADVISORY 04/07.

(261326Z AUG 2008)

2008 - 3 OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES IN GEORGIA

1. RECENT OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES BETWEEN RUSSIA AND GEORGIA HAS RISEN TO A LEVEL WHERE THERE ARE REPORTS OF RUSSIAN PLANES BOMBING INFRASTRUCTURE.
2. A TRAVEL WARNING ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON AUGUST 11, 2008 UPDATES INFORMATION ON THE ARMED CONFLICT IN SOUTH OSSETIA BETWEEN GEORGIAN FORCES ON THE ONE HAND AND RUSSIAN AND SEPARATIST FORCES ON THE OTHER.
3. ON AUGUST 09, 2008 THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZED THE DEPARTMENT FROM GEORGIA OF ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS. THE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS THAT AMERICAN CITIZENS DEFER NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL TO GEORGIA AND THAT AMERICAN CITIZENS REMAINING IN GEORGIA REVIEW THEIR SECURITY SITUATION. U.S. CITIZENS REMAINING IN GEORGIA SHOULD AVOID UNNECESSARY TRAVEL WITHIN GEORGIA, DEFER ALL TRAVEL NORTH OF GORI AND AVOID ALL TRAVEL TO THE SEPARATIST REGIONS OF SOUTH OSSETIA AND ABKHAZIA. PRIVATE AMERICANS UNABLE TO REACH TBILISI SHOULD CONSIDER TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE IN THE BATUMI AREA.
4. THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION ADVISES VESSEL OPERATORS TO CHECK THE CURRENT WARNING STATUS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, TASK FORCE 1, TELEPHONE: 202-647-6611, OR E-MAIL: TASKFORCE-1@STATE.GOV, BEFORE APPROACHING SEAPORTS IN GEORGIA.
5. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT MR. DOHERTY, MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE: MAR-420, ROOM W23-312, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, S.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20590, TELEPHONE: 202-366-1883, FACSIMILE: 202-366-3954, TLX II: 710 822 9426 (MARAD DOT WSH), OR E-MAIL: OWEN.DOHERTY@DOT.GOV.

(140205Z AUG 2008)

2008 - 1 NIGERIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS

TO: OPERATORS OF U.S. FLAG AND EFFECTIVE U.S. CONTROLLED VESSELS AND OTHER MARITIME INTERESTS

1. THIS MARAD ADVISORY ON MARITIME CRIME IN NIGER DELTA AREA OF NIGERIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS ORIGINATED FROM THE NATIONAL MARITIME INTELLIGENCE CENTER, OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.
2. NINETEEN ACTS OF AGGRESSION AGAINST VESSELS HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE NIGER DELTA REGION SINCE SEPTEMBER 2007. SIXTEEN INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN RIVERS STATE IN THE VICINITY OF BONNY RIVER BETWEEN PORT HARCOURT AND BONNY. THREE OCCURRED IN THE VICINITY OF ESCRAVOS IN DELTA STATE.
3. A LEADING NIGER DELTA MILITANT GROUP SAID ON 10 JAN 08 THAT IT SPONSORED "FREELANCE FREEDOM FIGHTERS" WHO REPORTEDLY SHOT AT SIX OIL INDUSTRY SHIPS ON 09 JAN 08, AND THREATENED A BIGGER ATTACK. IN AN EMAIL TO THE MEDIA LOOSELY IDENTIFIED GROUP REFERRED TO AS THE MOVEMENT FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF THE NIGER DELTA (MEND) SAID IT SPONSORED GUNMEN WHO SHOT AT SIX OIL INDUSTRY VESSELS IN THE

BONNY RIVER CHANNEL, IN WHICH TWO PEOPLE WERE INJURED. "MEND WILL BE SUPPORTING THESE SMALL INDEPENDENT GROUPS TO HARASS AND SABOTAGE THE OIL INDUSTRY AT WILL," THE GROUP SAID. MEND IS AN UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FOR SEVERAL HEAVILY-ARMED MILITIAS IN THE NIGER DELTA, AN IMPOVERISHED REGION OF MANGROVE-LINED CREEKS AND SWAMP WHICH IS HOME TO MOST OF NIGERIA'S OIL RESERVE.

4. ADDITIONALLY, IN 2007, THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF EXCESSIVE FINES LEVIED BY NIGERIAN DRUG ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ON CREWMEMBERS FOR VESSELS CALLING ON NIGERIAN PORTS. THE PORT OF LAGOS HAD 24 INCIDENTS OF CONCERN REPORTED BY MARINERS IN 2007.

5. EXTREME CAUTION AND VIGILANCE SHOULD BE EXERCISE IN NIGER DELTA AREA OF NIGERIAN WATERS.

6. US-FLAG VESSEL OPERATORS AND OWNERS SHOULD REFER TO THE SECURITY REQUIREMENTS DETAILED IN THE MOST RECENT MARSEC DIRECTIVE 104-6, GUIDELINES FOR U.S. VESSELS OPERATING IN HIGH RISK WATERS, DATED DECEMBER 29, 2005 WHEN OPERATING IN NIGERIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS. A COPY OF THE CURRENT MARSEC DIRECTIVES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM YOUR LOCAL USCG CAPTAIN OF THE PORT. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING MARSEC DIRECTIVE 104-6, CONTACT LCDR MALCOLM MCLELLAN, VESSEL ACTIVITIES (CG-5432), VESSEL SECURITY PROGRAM MANAGER, PHONE: 202-372-1223 EMAIL: MALCOLM.R.MCLELLAN@USCG.MIL.

7. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ADVISORY, CONTACT THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF SECURITY, CODE MAR-420, 2W23-312, 1200 NEW JERSEY AVE, SE, WASHINGTON, DC 20590; TELEPHONE 202-366-1883, OR BY E-MAIL TO OWEN.DOHERTY@DOT.GOV.

8. SUSPECTED ACTIVITY OR ACTUAL PIRACY/ TERRORIST INCIDENT REPORTING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED IN MARAD ADVISORY 05-01.

(121314Z FEB 2008)

Please direct any questions or comments pertaining to the site to webmaster_nss@nga.mil

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