SHIP SECURITY ADVISORY No. 12-16 Revised

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

Subject: SPECIAL WARNING: HOSTILE INCIDENT IN THE BAB EL MANDEB STRAIT

Date: 14 October 2016


US Navy Forces Special Warning – Notice to Mariners (09 Oct 2016)

Commercial vessels in the region of the Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, and the Gulf of Aden should operate under a heightened state of alert as increasing tensions in the region escalate the potential for direct or collateral damage to vessels transiting the region. These threats may come from a variety of different sources such as missiles, projectiles, or waterborne improvised explosive devices.

Houthi rebels claimed responsibility for an 01 October 2016 rocket attack on a United Arab Emirates (UAE) flagged military vessel. This attack has been linked with the conflict in Yemen.

Vessel operators should remain cautious when transiting the Bab el Mandeb Strait and consider the continued application of BMP4 ship protection measures until well out of the strait.

Vessels in the region should report hostile activities immediately to United Kingdom Marine Trade Operations (UKMTO) and Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA), and also contact coalition naval forces via Very High Frequency (VHF) bridge to bridge radio Channel 16, email: catleader@me.navy.mil and cusnc.bwc@me.navy.mil or phone: +973 1785 3879.

The United States Navy Forces issued a Special Warning in a Notice to Mariners on 09 October 2016.
Subsequent to the United States Navy’s Special Warning, UKMTO has provided the following diagram to clarify guidance relating to the Traffic Separation Scheme west and south of Hanish Al Kabra, as ships exit the Bal el Mandeb strait.