

Joint Maritime Information Center

JMIC Advisory Note: 006-26 | May 29, 2026

Blockade of Iran Ports

Area of Concern:

Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, and North Arabian Sea

JMIC# 006 - 26

Regional Threat Level: **CRITICAL**

1. Blockade Activity

JMIC is sharing information on the following page for the awareness of owners, operators, and Mariners. Specifically, it details U.S. blockade of Iran ports.

The maritime security threat level in the SoH remains **CRITICAL** due to blockade operations. Mariners should expect increased naval presence, enhanced force protection postures, potential VHF hailing, and congestion near anchorage areas.

Masters should consider:

- Continuous monitoring of VHF Channel 16
- AIS transmission in accordance with company policy
- Demonstrating clear transit intentions
- Compliance with direction of blockading forces
- Reporting unusual activity to recognized reporting centers

UKMTO: watchkeepers@ukmto.org +44 (0)2392222060



BLOCKADE OF IRAN PORTS REMAINS IN EFFECT. A restricted Area Exists Due to Military Blockade Operations in the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, North Arabian Sea, and the Strait of Hormuz

A military blockade of Iranian ports remains in effect restricting all traffic inbound and outbound from these ports. Ships aiding vessels violating the blockade by conducting ship-to-ship transfers with them are also in violation of the blockade. Enforcement actions include disabling and destructive fires upon vessels who do not demonstrate immediate compliance with blockading forces.

Action: Vessels subject to blockade enforcement should continue compliance with direction from blockading forces. Failure to immediately comply may result in rapid escalation to disabling or destructive fire.

Aircraft and ships traversing the identified area are advised to navigate with caution and avoid navigation within this zone, if possible. The blockade is being enforced strictly and rapidly. While the maritime warning zone is not intended to impede neutral or merchant shipping, vessels should make their intentions clear, particularly demonstrating that they are not intending to visit/depart from an Iranian port. If vessels do not comply with blockading forces immediately upon being contacted, they risk being fired upon. Vessels are free to navigate international waters. However, the establishment of the warning zone is intended to provide notice that dangerous military operations are taking place from within these locations and the U.S. Navy cannot guarantee the safety of neutral or merchant shipping. Ships or aircraft traversing the area that threaten U.S. naval forces may be subject to proportional measures in self-defense. Ships and aircraft should maintain a listening watch on VHF channel 16 and be prepared to respond to any hails or queries from U.S. military forces.

In addition to the potential use of self-defense measures, aircraft and vessels may put themselves at risk from misidentification by forces hostile to the U.S. Recommend aircraft and ships keep clear of the designated area. Vessels continuing to transit the areas should maintain a standoff of 30 nautical miles from U.S. units to reduce risk of being mistaken as a threat.