

Joint Maritime Information Center

JMIC Information Note 130

HOUTHİ ACTİVİTY

JMIC# 130 28 Mar

Incident report Ref. N/A

Red Sea, Bab-el-Mandeb,
Gulf of Aden

28 March 2026 – Houthi Aggression Towards Israel

On 28 March 2026, Houthi forces publicly claimed responsibility for the launch of multiple ballistic missiles toward military targets in southern Israel. The Houthis stated that the missile launches were conducted in direct support of Iran amid the ongoing conflict and framed the operation as part of the broader "Axis of Resistance" campaign. The group further asserted that operations would continue until perceived aggression ceases.

Although the reported ballistic missile launches were land-focused, operators should account for the increased risk of secondary maritime effects, including misidentification, escalation, falling debris, unexploded ordnance (UXO), and retaliatory actions that may impact sea lines of communication, port approaches, anchorages, and offshore infrastructure during transit through most likely targeting areas of the Red Sea, Bab al-Mandab Strait, Gulf of Aden, and adjacent approaches. Commercial vessels operating within the wider Middle East maritime region are advised to maintain heightened situational awareness during regional military activity and demonstrated kinetic capabilities of state and non-state actors.

JMIC encourages review of the following risk mitigation measures:

- Masters are strongly encouraged to conduct dynamic risk assessments prior to and during transit through high-risk areas, particularly in the Red Sea, Bab al-Mandab Strait, Gulf of Aden, and adjacent approaches; and to review contingency routing and port call flexibility where feasible.
- Vessels should maintain compliance with SOLAS requirements while reviewing internal AIS transmission policies within their security management frameworks, considering the prevailing threat environment and company guidance.
- Operators are advised to maintain regular reporting and liaison with relevant maritime security centres, (UKMTO, MSCIO) and to ensure that onboard security plans, bridge procedures, and emergency response measures are reviewed and understood by all watchkeepers.
- Mariners should remain alert to the potential presence of debris or unexploded objects at sea or in port areas following regional military activity and treat any suspected ordnance as extremely hazardous in accordance with established BMP and safety guidance

