Office of
Deputy Commissioner
of Maritime Affairs

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

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22 July 2026

MARINE SECURITY BULLETIN – 20/2026

Dear Shipowners, Operators and Masters

Subject: Vessel attacks in the Gulf of Oman

On July 19, 2026, a vessel in the vicinity of Kumzar, Oman was struck by an unknown projectile, causing a fire onboard. The crew safely abandoned the vessel and were recovered by a tug boat with all crew members accounted for. The fire onboard has not been extinguished and is currently adrift. There is no current environmental impact reported.

On the morning July 20, 2026, a Liberian flagged oil tanker was struck by a missile in position 25-57.93N 056-30.67E after exiting from the Strait of Hormuz. Missile attack caused damage to the vessel steering gear area, the ship was able to anchor off the coast of Oman to conduct a damage assessment. The Master reports no injuries to crew members and no risk of pollution.

Recommendations

Mariners are strongly advised to refer to the Joint Maritime Information Centre (JMIC) advisories: https://www.ukmto.org/partner-products/jmic-products for authoritative detail, including geographic limits, conditions of transit, and inspection and authorization requirements, including additional guidance to the threats, mitigations and considerations to transiting this area. Vessels operating in the Strait of Hormuz approaches, Gulf of Oman, and adjacent waters are advised to maintain heightened awareness, ensure maximum bridge readiness, and exercise appropriate caution with bridge-to-bridge VHF communications.

All owners, operators, and crews should remain cognizant of the elevated threat in the affected area and perform detailed, vessel-specific, voyage- specific and activity specific risk assessments for any operations or transit through the affected area.

All vessels should report to the UKMTO and register with the Maritime Security Centre for the Indian Ocean (MSCIO) in accordance with industry BMP (Best Management Practices) and take

advice from the coalition forces operating in the area. Best Management Practices for Maritime Security (BMPMS) will continue to provide the necessary guidance for shipping to ensure threat and risk assessments are developed for every voyage to mitigate the risks presented by remaining security threats in the region. The shipping industry will continue to monitor and advise on maritime security threats to assist the safe transit of vessels and the seafarers.

UKMTO acts as the primary point of contact for merchant vessels and liaison with military forces in the region. Vessels are encouraged to register with UKMTO and report their positions (By email daily at 08.00 UTC) whilst operating in the area.

The MSCIO is the planning and coordination centre for the EU Naval Forces (EU NAVFOR). MSCIO encourages companies to register their ships' movements before entering the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA).

All vessels transiting the Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman and North Araiian Sea are also encouraged to report to the Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFCIOR), this is a voluntary reporting measure that promotes cooperation, stability and communication with partner stakeholders in the region as well as aligns with the most recent measures published in BMP MS. Vessels with voyages through this area can use the Vessel's Reporting Form at IFCIOR's website.

Contact Information

In an emergency, vessels transiting the Arabian Sea, Straits of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman should contact NAVCENT Battle Watch Phone: +1-813-529-7430, Email: cusnc.bwc.mil@us.navy.mil; Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping (NCAGS) Primary Watch Floor Phone: +1-813-529- 7108, Alternate Mobile Phone: +973- 3986-4800, Email: m-ba-navcent-ncags@us.navy.mil or mba-navcent-ncags-ice@us.navy.mil

Contact MSCIO prior to transiting the Western Indian Ocean, the Somali Basin, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and the Red Sea.

The contact details of MSCIO are:

Maritime Security Centre – Indian Ocean (MSCIO) Email: postmaster@mscio.eu

Telephone +33 (0) 298 220 220 +33 (0) 298 220 170
Fax +44 1923 958520 Website www.ukmto.org

When transiting the Western Indian Ocean, the Somali Basin, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and Red Sea. Register their vessels with UKMTO

Email: watchkeepers@ukmto.org and ukmto@eim.ae

Phone: +44 - 2392-222060, +971-50-552-3215
Fax +44 1923 958520

Please keep LISCR's Security Department informed of any security incidents at: Office of the Senior Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs Republic of Liberia

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