

Joint Maritime Information Center

Update 001 - JMIC Advisory Note

12 JUNE 2025

Escalating Regional Tensions – Potential Impact on Maritime Security

Area of Concern:

Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Northern Arabian Sea

JMIC# 008-25

Threat Level: Elevated

Update 001:

Based on open-source media, Israeli authorities forwarded an ultimatum to both Iran and the United States, stating that a nuclear agreement must be reached by Sunday between the two countries. If not, Israeli leadership has an intent to initiate military action against Iran. The statement introduces a short operational pause until Sunday to allow diplomatic efforts.

Currently, there is no indication that the maritime nexus is changed. JMIC continues to monitor the situation closely and will provide timely updates accordingly if there should be any changes.

1. Summary:

Open-source information and regional diplomatic developments indicate a marked escalation in tensions between Israel and Iran. The situation remains fluid and highly volatile. At present, *there is no direct evidence* that commercial shipping is being targeted. However, given the proximity of regional flashpoints to major maritime routes and chokepoints, the potential for rapid escalation involving the maritime environment should not be discounted. **Additional threats from non-state actors such as the Houthis, who have publicly stated their intent to respond if the U.S. is perceived to be involved, also increase the risk of a broader regional impact.**

2. Current Situation:

- Diplomatic efforts between the United States and Iran concerning nuclear negotiations have reportedly stalled.
- Rhetoric from regional actors has intensified; increasing the probability of a military operations involving direct engagement.
- There is a possibility potential operations could spill over beyond bilateral hostilities into the wider region.

3. Maritime Implications:

While there are no confirmed indications of an immediate threat to maritime traffic, the following scenarios could prompt a reassessment:

- Use of ballistic or cruise missiles near major maritime chokepoints.
- Targeting of western-aligned or affiliated commercial vessels.
- Collateral risks from regional conflict expanding to coastal or port infrastructure.

4. Recommended Actions:

- **Threat Level:** Threat will be elevated until further notice for vessels operating in or transiting the Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Northern Arabian Sea.
- **Situational Monitoring:** Shipmasters and CSOs are advised to maintain close contact with regional maritime security centers (UKMTO and MSCIO) and monitor official government and military advisories.
- **Communications:** Vessels should report any unusual activity or security incidents to UKMTO via established Voluntary Reporting Schemes and keep communication equipment manned and functional at all times.
- **Planning:** Companies are urged to apply BMP MS and review contingency plans for routing, crew welfare, and emergency response in the event of a significant regional escalation.
- **JMIC recommend following best Management Practices and industry recommended MSTC-ME when transiting the Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Northern Arabian Sea. Given the current operational pause, this window may be used to move, load or discharge vessels and if necessary, reposition into international waters. Should strikes occur, consider staying within territorial waters.**

5. Additional Notes:

This update is based on the most recent development over the past twenty-four hours. JMIC will issue daily updates until the outcome of the expected talks on Sunday is known

Further updates will be issued as the situation evolves.

Issued by:

JMIC in consultation with UKMTO & MSCIO

