

## **"SARNIA NEWS" CIRCULAR**

(Ref: 320/17/GP)

TO ALL SHIPOWNER CLIENTS

### **Re: YEMEN ALERT – UAE Vessel hit by missile at port of Al-Mokha**

Please find here attached a new **ALERT** from Gray Page, a specialist maritime consulting group, advising of a recent incident that occurred near the Yemeni port of Al-Mokha. A UAE vessel was hit by a missile fired by the Houthi forces and one crew member was reported injured. For all ship owners' whose trading warranty within their insurance terms includes this area we would strongly recommend that Kidnap & Ransom insurance is arranged if trading to the 'high' risk areas, along with breach war insurance.

We would suggest this information is distributed to your office, as well as being sent to the Master(s)/Chief Officer(s) of your vessel(s) if relevant.

Best regards,

Loss Prevention Team

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## A new alert from Gray Page

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**UAE vessel hit by missile****Background**

The Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen says Houthi forces have fired a missile at a United Arab Emirates (UAE) ship.

The incident happened on June 14 near the Yemeni port of al-Mokha.

One member of the crew was reported injured. The ship was undamaged, according to a senior UAE military official.

**Assessment and Analysis**

The UAE news agency WAM said the ship, which was carrying medical supplies, was struck near al-Mokha.

The Saudi state news agency had earlier reported that the vessel had been leaving the port when it was hit.

A Houthi-run media outlet posted a video claiming to show the moment the missile struck.

Iran-backed Houthi militias have been fighting the Yemen government for over two years. The government is backed by the Saudi-led military coalition, of which the UAE is a part.

It is not the first time ships linked to the Saudi-led coalition have been targeted by Houthi forces.

In January a Saudi warship was attacked by what were described as 'suicide boats' and in October 2016 a UAE vessel was hit by a missile while sailing near the Bab al-Mandeb Strait.

There is a risk that fighting in the Yemen civil war could pose a threat to commercial shipping.

Three days before the latest missile attack the US-led Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), which aims to protect shipping from terrorism and piracy, said it was stepping up its presence in the western Gulf of Aden, which includes the coast off southern Yemen.

It urged ships to provide information if they were entering region so naval units could better respond to any threats.

**Go to Threat Picture**

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