



DEC 15, 2023

Escort operations as the Counter-Piracy Operation off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden (NOV 2023)

Record of Mission

1. Direct Escort

(1) Number of direct escort operations: 1

(2) Number of escorted vessels: 1

(Accumulated Total (AT) of 3,951 escorted vessels since the start of operations under Japan's Anti-Piracy Measures Law)

[Breakdown]

– Japanese-registered ships: 0 (AT: 26)

– Foreign ships operated by Japanese shipping companies: 0 (AT: 701)

(Foreign ships which carry Japanese nationals: 0 (AT: 51))

– Foreign ships other than above: 1 (AT: 3,224)

*The record above does not include the 1st - 41st escort operation performed as Maritime Security Activities.

2. Zone Defense

(1) Number of days: 21 days (AT: 2,653days)

(2) Number of commercial vessels confirmed: 137 vessels (AT: 32,898 vessels)

3. Action in Response to Incidents

Receiving information that “CENTRAL PARK”, a Liberian tanker operated by an UK company, was hijacked by someone on the Gulf of Aden on November 26, we immediately sent P-3C and JS “Akebono” of our counter-piracy enforcement to the site and promptly provided information gathered there to Combined Task Force 151, which is in charge of counter-piracy missions, while conducting surveillance and information gathering activities.



A scene from an Anti-Piracy drill



“AKEBONO” crew members on duty