



FEB 16, 2024

Escort operations as the Counter-Piracy Operation off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden (JAN 2024)

Record of Mission

1. Direct Escort

(1) Number of direct escort operations: 2

(2) Number of escorted vessels: 3

(Accumulated Total (AT) of 3,955 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: 3 (AT: 3,228)

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

2. Zone Defense

(1) Number of days: 18 days (AT: 2,690days)

(2) Number of commercial vessels confirmed: 198 vessels (AT: 33,242 vessels)

3. Action in Response to Incidents

Receiving information that “GIBRALTAR EAGLE”, a Marshall-Islands flagged American-owned cargo ship, was struck by an anti-ship ballistic missile in the Gulf of Aden on January 15, the shipboard helicopter of JS “AKEBONO” from our counter-piracy enforcement communicated with the vessel. The information gathered was provided to the Combined Task Force 151, which is in charge of counter-piracy missions.



A group picture taken on JS "AKEBONO" ' s flight deck



A JS "AKEBONO" crew member during a rappelling descent training