



MAR 15, 2024

Information Gathering Activities by the SDF Necessary for Ensuring the Safety of Japan -Related Vessels in the Middle East (FEB 2024)

1. Status of Activity Area

No abnormalities were confirmed during information gathering activities in the areas where the SDF operated.

As part of counter-piracy operations, having received information that an Iranian-flagged fishing boat “AL AMEEN” was being attacked by a small vessel suspected of piracy off the coast of Somalia on February 7, we immediately sent JS “AKEBONO” from our counter-piracy unit to the site, and conducted surveillance and information gathering activities along with our shipboard helicopter. JS “AKEBONO” communicated with the boat and confirmed that its safety had already been secured and that there was no need for assistance. The information gathered was provided to the Combined Task Force 151, which is in charge of counter-piracy missions.

2. JS AKEBONO (Deployment Surface Force for Counter-Piracy Enforcement)

- (1) Area of Activity: the high seas of the Gulf of Oman and the high seas of the northern Arabian sea
- (2) Number of confirmed vessels: 436 ships (Accumulated Total (AT): 90,384 ships)

3. P-3C (Deployment Air Force for Counter-Piracy Enforcement)

- (1) Area of Activity: the high seas of Gulf of Aden and the high seas of the western part of the northern Arabian Sea
- (2) Number of confirmed vessels: 418 ships (AT: 82,190 ships)



A JS “AKEBONO” crew member on duty



P-3C crew members identifying navigating vessels