



## **Society for Indian Ocean Studies**

### **SIOS NEWS BRIEF: 6-11 May**

#### **Houthi rebels claim attacks in Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden**

The Houthis have asserted responsibility for an assault on a ship in the Indian Ocean and for two missile attacks on ships in the Gulf of Aden, targeting Panama flagged container vessel. The attacks targeted the *MSC Gina* and *MSC Diego*, both of which escaped unscathed. The ships were “likely targeted due to perceived Israeli affiliation”, according to the Joint Maritime Information Centre. Brg. Gen. Yahya Saree made the claims, he also alleged an attack on *MSC Vittoria* in the Indian Ocean and warned the group would target ships heading to Israeli ports “in any area we are able to reach”. The Houthis have launched over 50 attacks on shipping and the attacks raise concerns about the security of international shipping lanes.

[URL:https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/5/9/yemens-houthis-say-they-attacked-ships-in-gulf-of-aden-indian-ocean](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/5/9/yemens-houthis-say-they-attacked-ships-in-gulf-of-aden-indian-ocean)

#### **US forms ‘Squad’ to counter China in the Indo-Pacific**

Amid increasing concerns in the South China Sea and growing concerns over Taiwan, the US Secretary of defense Llyod Austin, is bolstering its regional defense strategy to counter China’s increasing threats in the Indo-Pacific. This initiative has led to the formation of strategic alliance dubbed “Squad” consisting of Australia, Philippines, United States, and the Japan. Defense leaders from these four nations convened in Hawaii, to outline their collective vision. Austin said, “We have charted an ambitious course to advance that vision together”.

[URL:https://www.timesnownews.com/world/us/us-news/what-is-squad-us-plan-to-counter-china-indo-pacific-south-china-sea-article-109926996](https://www.timesnownews.com/world/us/us-news/what-is-squad-us-plan-to-counter-china-indo-pacific-south-china-sea-article-109926996)

#### **Germany deploys two warships to Indo-Pacific amid China and Taiwan tensions**

In order to bolster its military presence amid increasing tensions between China and Taiwan, as well as disputes in the South China Sea, Germany has sent two warships to the Indo-Pacific region. The Defense Minister Boris Pistorius highlighted the significance of these tensions and emphasised “Germany cannot afford to ignore these developments”, and stated “Maintaing a presence in the Indo-Pacific in support of the international rules-based order is imperative”.

[URL:https://myind.net/Home/viewArticle/amid-china-and-taiwan-tensions-germany-deploys-two-warships-to-indo-pacific](https://myind.net/Home/viewArticle/amid-china-and-taiwan-tensions-germany-deploys-two-warships-to-indo-pacific)