

Multinational efforts to protect Gulf shipping

A growing number of countries are taking part in naval missions in the Middle East to safeguard shipping lanes amid continuing tensions with Iran

USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier with UK and U.S. destroyers transiting Strait of Hormuz, Nov 19



■ **June 19:** Pentagon announces plans for **Operation Sentinel** – multinational maritime security effort – after alleged Iranian attacks on oil tankers near Strait of Hormuz

■ **June 21:** India says it is deploying two warships to Gulf to protect Indian-flagged shipping

■ **July 24:** Royal Navy begins escorting UK-flagged ships in Strait of Hormuz after Iran seizes British vessel

■ **Nov 7:** Launch of Operation Sentinel to protect key Middle East waterways, with participants from U.S., UK, Australia, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and UAE

■ **Nov 25:** Kuwait and Qatar say they will join U.S.-led coalition



■ **Nov 25:** Netherlands says it will send ship to join French-led naval mission in Strait of Hormuz starting in January

■ **Dec 5:** Japan proposes sending escort ship to Middle East to guard Japanese merchant vessels