

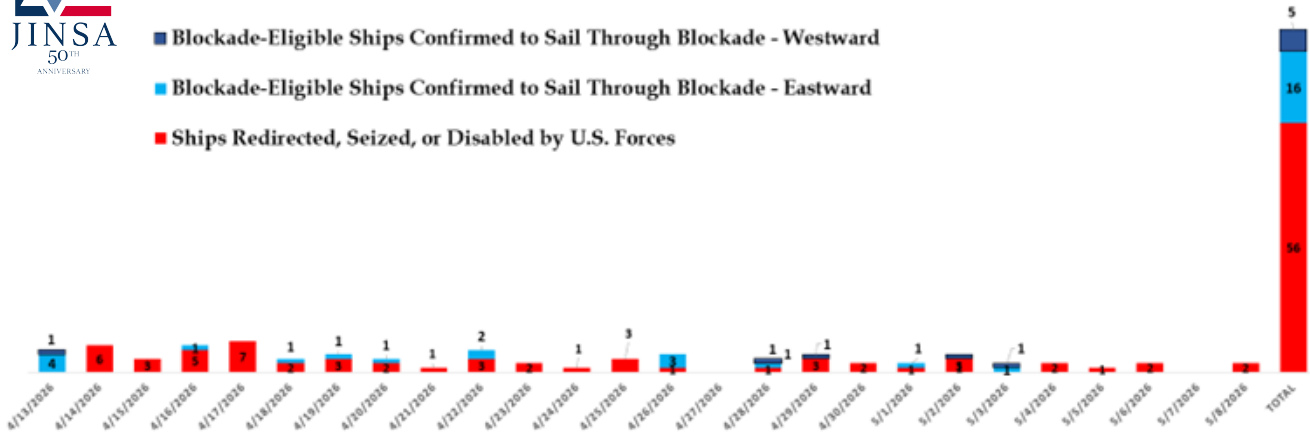
# Blockade Evasion Update:

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- Blockade-Eligible Ships Confirmed to Sail Through Blockade - Westward
- Blockade-Eligible Ships Confirmed to Sail Through Blockade - Eastward
- Ships Redirected, Seized, or Disabled by U.S. Forces



Since JINSA last released blockade enforcement data in its May 1 [report \*Turning Tides\*](#), several key blockade-related developments have occurred, including:

- An additional eight ships attempting to evade the blockade were redirected by U.S. forces, and another three were disabled by U.S. strikes.
  - » On May 8, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) conducted airstrikes on “two Iranian-flagged unladen oil tankers attempting to pull into an Iranian port,” the *Sea Star III* and the *Sevda*, according to a CENTCOM [press release](#). Previously, on May 6, the Iranian-flagged oil tanker *Hasna*, was disabled by a U.S. F/A-18 jet’s cannon gun as the tanker [tried to reach](#) an Iranian port.
  - » In total, 56 blockade-eligible vessels attempting to breach the blockade have been blocked, with 52 of the 56 being redirected back to port. In addition to the three now-incapacitated ships listed above, a fourth, the *Touska*, was [struck and disabled](#) by the U.S. Navy on April 19.
  - » At least eight of those 52 redirected vessels, new United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI) data released on May 5 [indicated](#), were tankers attempting to transport Iranian oil past the blockade line likely en route to East Asia.
- Four blockade-eligible vessels crossed the blockade line since May 1, for a total of 21, according to JINSA-reviewed data from the shipping analytics firm Kpler. These were:
  - » The Marshall Islands-flagged *Star Laura* bulk carrier, traveling from Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran, to Santos, Brazil;

- » The Comoros-flagged cargo ship *Gulf King*, traveling from Bandar Abbas, Iran to an unknown location, which is now near Yemen’s coast;
- » The Liberian-flagged *Star Despoina*, traveling from Karachi, Pakistan to Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran; and
- » The Maltese-flagged bulk carrier *Seamelody*, traveling from Rio Grande, Brazil to Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran.
  - The *Seamelody* is transmitting a message that it is transporting food. Such ships are exempt from the blockade, per the U.S. Navy, but are subject to inspection by U.S. forces. It is unclear if the bulk carrier was, in fact, searched.
  - Iran and Brazil have [extensive](#) commercial ties, particularly trading large quantities of corn and grain. However, the *Seamelody* may not be benign, and its claim to have humanitarian aid may be a façade.
  - Though potentially unrelated, the Brazilian and Iranian foreign ministers spoke by phone on May 3 about unknown topics.
- The only two-blockade eligible vessels JINSA detected breaching the blockade en route to East Asia have now anchored at ports, likely offloading their cargo. When JINSA last released blockade evasion data, the ships were still at sea.
  - » One of these ships, the Iranian-flagged *Shabdis*, is now anchored off the coast of Zhuhai, China, where it has previously docked.
    - The *Shabdis*, at the height of the war in early March, reportedly [transferred](#) chemical fuel inputs from the Zhuhai port, where a chemical storage loading terminal is located, back to Iran for the Iranian regime to create additional missile fuel.
  - » Another, the Iranian-flagged *Azargoun* container ship, is now anchored at the Malaysian port of Port Klang. The vessel has previously [been linked](#) to the transfer of components used to assemble ballistic missiles and drones.
- Two vessels changed their stated destination following JINSA’s May 1 report about Santos’s role in Iranian illicit networks.
  - » Two Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carriers that evaded the blockade, the *LB Energy* and the *Ponente*, each changed their declared destination from Santos, Brazil, to Paranagua, Brazil—150 miles away—following JINSA’s May 1 report [highlighting](#) that, according to a former senior State Department official, the port of Santos is [connected](#) to Iranian and Hezbollah international financial networks.

## Last Known Location of Vessels That Evaded Blockade



## Unverified Claims of Additional Blockade Violations

Since JINSA's last release of blockade evasion data, additional claims have surfaced indicating that five energy tankers may have violated the blockade. JINSA has not been able to independently verify these claims, some of which lack direct evidence, and they are excluded from JINSA data. They include:

- On May 5, Windward Intelligence [asserted](#) that an unnamed Vietnamese-flagged gas tanker, in mid-April, crossed the blockade line en route to East Asia, though there is no evidence the ship ever was docked in Iran.
  - » Windward Intelligence said the ship “likely spoofed its location to conceal an Iranian loading following the April 13 blockade,” without elaborating.
- On May 4, Windward Intelligence [alleged](#) that a Madagascan-flagged gas tanker in East Asia, which it did not name, had an “Iran-linked deception pattern” and may have crossed the blockade line between April 13 and April 20. The firm did not provide evidence of links between the ship and Iran.
- On May 4, Windward Intelligence [said](#) that the Botswanan-flagged *Vigor* crossed the blockade line en route to Iran between April 20 and 26, after traveling there from Indonesia, and proceeded to Iran’s Kharg Island export terminal.
  - » Once the *Vigor* arrived at the Kharg Island terminal, according to Windward Intelligence’s review of commercial satellite imagery, it loaded 2 million barrels of crude oil. Its present location is unknown.

- On May 4, TankerTrackers.com [claimed](#) on X that the *Xavia*, a Guinean-flagged gas tanker, traveled into the Arabian Sea in early April after loading in Iran.
  - » It did not specify if this after the blockade began, and it has [previously combined](#) pre-blockade and post-blockade activity in its X posts.
- On May 4, the United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI) watchdog organization [asserted](#) that it tracked the Iranian-flagged crude oil tanker *Huge* transiting the Lombok Strait in Indonesia, possibly en route to China.
  - » UANI said the *Huge* left Iran's Chabahar port on April 14 after previously loading cargo at Kharg Island. The tanker's last known location, according to Kpler data, was the Lombok Strait as of May 3.

## Operation Economic Fury Updates

The U.S. naval blockade is just one, though significant, component of the multi-agency effort called Operation Economic Fury.

As part of Operation Economic Fury, the Treasury Department has targeted other key nodes in Iran's illicit energy supply chain over the past month.

Since JINSA's last blockade data release on May 1, several key Economic Fury-related developments have taken place, including:


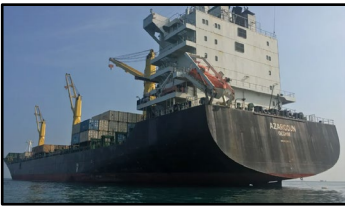

- On May 7, the Treasury Department [sanctioned](#) Iraq's Deputy Minister of Oil, Ali Maarij Al-Bahadly, for facilitating Iranian oil shipments to Iraq to be blended with Iraqi oil, then resold.
- On May 7, *Bloomberg* [reported](#), "China's financial regulator advised the country's largest banks to temporarily suspend new loans to five refiners recently sanctioned by the U.S. over their ties to Iranian oil," citing insider sources.
  - » One of these, Hengli Petrochemical Refinery, is among China's largest private refineries. The Treasury Department [sanctioned](#) it on April 24 for purchasing billions of dollars of Iranian petroleum in recent years.
- On May 1, the Treasury Department sanctioned three Iranian foreign currency exchanges for [facilitating](#) billions of dollars of Iran-China oil trade, specifically by helping conduct transactions in Chinese yuan.
- On May 1, the Treasury Department [sanctioned](#) a Chinese oil terminal that is a major importer of Iranian oil, as well as Britain-based and Hong-Kong based ship management companies and two tankers involved in Iran-China oil transfers.
- New public data was released highlighting Economic Fury's overall impact.
  - » On May 7, *The Washington Post* [reported](#) that the volume of Iranian oil on tankers in Asia's Riau Archipelago, where ship-to-ship transfers facilitating Iran-China oil trade routinely occurred before the war, has decreased by 53 percent since February.
  - » This is likely due to a combination of the war's impact on regime operations, the blockade, and other Economic Fury measures.

## Big Picture: Blockade Enforcement and Strategic Context



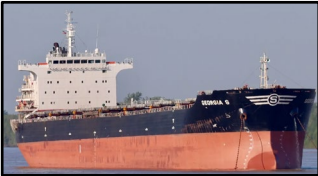



The U.S. blockade’s impact is not fully reflected in shipping data. The data does not account for all the shipping firms, shipowners, port and refinery owners and energy companies that the blockade deterred from aiding Iran’s energy trade in the first place.

Nor is the naval blockade geared solely at blocking Iranian energy trade. It is also impeding Iranian military efforts and the regime’s overall operations. The blockade, JINSA’s [May 1 report](#) underscored, also “constricts the regime’s ability to import weapons components, assembled weaponry, inputs for missile fuel, [and] cash.”

Below is the full list of blockade-eligible vessels JINSA has monitored breaching the blockade line. For an explanation of what makes a vessel blockade-eligible, [click here](#) to read JINSA’s detailed clarification of misconceptions surrounding the blockade.

JINSA-Monitored Blockade-Eligible Vessels That Evaded Blockade						
Ship Name (Flagged Nation)	Ship Type	Date Crossed Blockade Line	Declared Origin (at time of evasion)	Declared Destination (at time of evasion)	Location as of May 7	Notes
Safari 25269 (Iran)	Small Cargo Vessel	13-Apr	Al Hamriya, UAE	Karachi, Pakistan	Returned to Iranian waters	
<b>Azargoun (Iran)</b> 	Container Vessel	13-Apr	Unspecified	Colombo, Sri Lanka	Anchored near Port Klang, Malaysia	Reportedly linked to Iran drone and missile shipments
Ashkan3 25278 (Iran)	Small Cargo Vessel	13-Apr	Chabahar, Iran	Karachi, Pakistan	Last detected in Karachi, Pakistan on April 17	
<b>Shabdis (Iran)</b> 	Container Vessel	13-Apr	Chabahar, Iran	Zhuhai, China	Anchored near Zhuhai, China	Reportedly linked to Chinese transfer of missile fuel inputs to Iran
TLHA 2 90 (Iran)	Unspecified	13-Apr	Unspecified	Unspecified	Returned to Iranian waters	
11458 (Iran)	Unspecified	16-Apr	Chabahar, Iran	Karachi, Pakistan	Near Gwadar, Pakistan	

<b>Ponente (Marshall Islands)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	18-Apr	Chabahar, Iran	Santos, Brazil	Off the coast of South Africa	Changed declared destination mid-trip
<b>Basel (Liberia)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	19-Apr	Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran	Santos, Brazil	Off the coast of South Africa	
<b>Ceci (Marshall Islands)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	20-Apr	Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran	Rio Grande, Brazil	Off the coast of South Africa	
Fahimi 25134 (Iran)	Small Cargo Vessel	22-Apr	Chabahar, Iran	Unspecified	Last detected in Karachi, Pakistan on April 24	
<b>Locarno (Marshall Islands)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	22-Apr	Chabahar, Iran	Santos, Brazil	Off the coast of South Africa	
<b>Ascanio (Marshall Islands)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	26-Apr	Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran	Rio Grande, Brazil	Off the coast of Mozambique	
Alyasin11932 (Iran)	Small Cargo Vessel	April 26	Konarak, Iran	Unspecified	Last detected in Arabian Sea on May 1	

<b>LB Energy (Panama)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	26-Apr	Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran	Santos, Brazil	Off the coast of Mozambique	<i>Changed declared destination mid-trip</i>
M13526 (Iran)	Small Cargo Vessel	28-Apr	Karachi, Pakistan	Unspecified	Last detected near Chabahar, Iran on April 28	
<b>Lianstar (Gambia)</b> 	Cargo Vessel	28-Apr	Bushehr, Iran	Karachi, Pakistan	Directly off the coast of Karachi, Pakistan	
<b>Georgia S (Portugal)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	29-Apr	Paranagua, Brazil	Chabahar, Iran	Chabahar, Iran	
<b>Star Laura (Marshall Islands)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	5/1/2026	Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran	Santos, Brazil	Last detected in Arabian Sea on May 4	
<b>Gulf King (Comoros)</b> 	Cargo Vessel	5/2/2026	Bandar Abbas, Iran	Unspecified	Gulf of Aden	
<b>Star Despoina (Liberia)</b> 	Bulk Carrier	5/3/2026	Karachi, Pakistan	Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran	Gulf of Oman <i>Past Blockade Line</i>	

<b>Seamelody (Malta)</b> 	<b>Bulk Car- rier</b>	<b>5/3/2026</b>	<b>Rio Grande, Brazil</b>	<b>Bandar Imam Khomeini, Iran</b>	<b>Gulf of Oman Past Blockade Line</b>	<i>Claimed to be transport- ing food to Iran</i>
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*All data and imagery sourced from Kpler. Images not publicly available for all ships.*