

Statement by Pentagon Press Secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby on the Transfer of Syria Chemical Material to Motor Vessel Cape Ray

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The transfer of Syrian chemicals from the Danish container ship Ark Futura to the Motor Vessel Cape Ray is complete. Cape Ray departed the Italian port of Gioia Tauro this afternoon for international waters in the Mediterranean Sea, where neutralization operations will soon begin. The neutralization process should take several weeks to complete.

Secretary Hagel is grateful to Danish and Italian authorities for their support in this process and is enormously proud of everyone who helped make possible this safe and incident-free transfer. He extends a special thanks to the men and women of the Cape Ray, Naval Forces Europe, and U.S. European Command teams for their impeccable planning and execution.

For more information regarding the Cape Ray mission, please visit our Web site at http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2014/0114_caperay/