■ CUBA MARITIME INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) — Vessel Tracking & Sanctions Monitoring

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■■ CRITICAL ALERT — ACTIVE SANCTIONS VIOLATION IN PROGRESS Sanctioned Russian crude oil tanker ANATOLY KOLODKIN (IMO 9610808, 730,000 barrels) departed Primorsk, Russia on March 8, 2026. Analysts (Kpler, TankerTrackers) report vessel is en route to Matanzas, Cuba. AIS destination reads 'Atlantis' — spoofing suspected. Vessel is under US OFAC, UK HMT, and EU sanctions. OFAC expanded restrictions March 20, 2026, prohibiting Cuba from receiving Russian crude. Status: ACTIVE THREAT.

23	13	13	9	31
Total Vessels Tracked	OFAC/EU/UK Sanctioned	CRITICAL Risk	HIGH Risk	Vessel Movements

■ OPERATION SOUTHERN SPEAR — U.S. Naval Interdiction Campaign | 7 dark fleet tankers seized (Dec 2025 – Feb 2026) | ~7 Million barrels intercepted | 17+ vessels still operating off Venezuela coast

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cuba faces a total energy collapse as of March 2026. The United States, under Operation Southern Spear (launched December 2025), has effectively disrupted Cuba's "dark fleet" oil supply network, seizing 7 shadow tankers carrying approximately 7 million barrels of Venezuelan and Russian crude oil destined for the island. Cuba is experiencing 18+ hour daily blackouts, airports have run out of jet fuel, and satellite imagery confirms a 50% reduction in nighttime illumination in major cities.

Russia is attempting to circumvent the US blockade by dispatching the sanctioned tanker ANATOLY KOLODKIN (730,000 barrels of Urals crude) from Primorsk port on March 8, 2026. As of March 20, the vessel appears to be en route to Matanzas, Cuba, using AIS spoofing tactics (broadcasting destination "Atlantis"). The US Treasury's OFAC has expanded sanctions to explicitly prohibit Cuba from receiving Russian crude.

This report identifies 19 vessels of intelligence interest operating in or around Cuban waters, including 13 with confirmed or suspected sanctions violations. Key networks include Cuba's GAESA military conglomerate operating through Caroil Transport Marine Ltd. (Cyprus, OFAC-sanctioned 2019), the state entity Cubametales (OFAC-sanctioned July 2019), and Russian state operator Sovcomflot/Rosnefteflot.

2. CURRENT OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

■ **Cuba Energy Crisis Status**	18+ hour daily blackouts nationwide. Airports operating on emergency reserves. 50% reduction in nighttime illumination per Bloomberg satellite analysis. Total collapse of domestic fuel distribution infrastructure.
■ **US Naval Blockade (Operation Southern Spear)**	Ongoing since December 10, 2025. USSOUTHCOM and INDOPACOM conducting active interdiction. 7 tankers seized, 17+ vessels remain in Venezuelan waters under surveillance. Trump administration declared national emergency on Cuba (2026).
■ **Russian Oil Delivery Attempt**	ANATOLY KOLODKIN (Sovcomflot/Russian Govt) departed Primorsk March 8, 2026 with 730,000 bbls. AIS spoofing detected — vessel broadcasting "Atlantis" as destination. Second Russian tanker reportedly also en route per CNBC/Kpler analysis.
■ **OFAC Expanded Cuba Sanctions (March 2026)**	US Treasury OFAC added Cuba to list of countries prohibited from transactions involving Russian crude or petroleum products. Any vessel delivering Russian oil to Cuba now faces secondary sanctions risk. Enforcement mechanism under review.
■ **Cuban "Dark Fleet" Collapse**	Cuba's shadow fleet operated 9 core vessels using AIS spoofing, flag rotation (Panama, Cameroon, Guyana, Timor-Leste), name changes, and ship-to-ship transfers. Network severely disrupted by US seizures. 5 of 9 core vessels now in US custody.

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3. VESSEL INTELLIGENCE REGISTRY

All 19 vessels of intelligence interest identified in Cuban waters or en route to/from Cuba. Sorted by risk level (CRITICAL → LOW). Sanctioned vessels marked ■.

#	Vessel Name	IMO	Type	Flag State	Risk	Sanctions
1	**AKADEMIK GUBKIN**	9842190	Crude Oil Tanker	Russia	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
2	**ANATOLY KOLODKIN**	9610808	Crude Oil Tanker	Russia	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
3	**AQUILA II**	9281152	Suezmax Crude Oil Tanker	Panama (False Flag)	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
4	**DEYNA**	9299903	Crude Oil Tanker	Mozambique (false flag / linked to Russia)	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
5	**M SOPHIA**	9289477	Crude Oil Tanker	Panama (False Flag)	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
6	**MARIA CRISTINA (ex-CARLOTA C)**	9502453	Chemical/Oil Products Tanker	Cuba	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
7	**MARINERA (ex-BELLA 1)**	N/A	Crude Oil Tanker	Russia (False Flag)	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
8	**OLINA**	N/A	Crude Oil Tanker	Unknown / False Flag	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
9	**PETION**	9295098	Products Tanker	Panama	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
10	**SAGITTA**	9296822	Aframax Crude Oil Tanker	Marshall Islands (False Flag)	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
11	**SANDINO**	9441178	Chemical/Oil Products Tanker	Cuba	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
12	**SKIPPER (ex-ADISA)**	N/A	Crude Oil Tanker (Supertanker)	Guyanese (False Flag)	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
13	**VERONICA**	9256860	Crude Oil Tanker	Guyana (False Flag)	■ CRITICAL	■ SANCTIONED
14	**ALICIA**	N/A	Products Tanker	Cuba	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
15	**EUGENIA GAS**	8813099	LPG Tanker	Belize (formerly Liberian)	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
16	**LPG C PASTORITA**	9034729	LPG Tanker	Cuba	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
17	**MARLIN AMMOLITE**	N/A	Products Tanker	Cuba	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR

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18	**NICOS IV (NICOS I.V.)**	9103843	Oil/Chemical Tanker	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
19	**OCEAN INTEGRITY**	N/A	Products Tanker	Cuba	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
20	**PRIMULA**	N/A	Products Tanker	Cuba	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
21	**SANDINO (Coastal variant / YELNYA)**	N/A	Offshore Oil Tanker	Russia	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
22	**SEA HORSE**	9262584	Products Tanker	Hong Kong	■ HIGH	✓ CLEAR
23	**SEABOARD GALAXY**	9970959	Container/Reefer Ship	USA	■ LOW	✓ CLEAR

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3.1 CRITICAL RISK VESSEL PROFILES

■ VESSEL #1: AKADEMIK GUBKIN ■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9842190	**MMSI**	273466160
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Russia
Built	2023	**DWT**	114,000
Registered Owner	JSC Rosnefteflot (subsidiary of PJSC Rosneft)	**Operator**	JSC Rosnefteflot
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2025-01-10
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Property of sanctioned Rosneft Oil Company; transporting sanctioned Russian crude to Cuba

■ Intelligence Notes: CRITICAL: Russian research/support vessel linked to Sovcomflot/Rosneft. Last confirmed arrival Matanzas Jun 2025. Suspected of supporting Russian oil delivery logistics and port infrastructure assessment. No recent AIS data. May be operating under AIS darkness.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:7936025/vessel:AKADEMIK+GUBKIN

■ VESSEL #2: ANATOLY KOLODKIN ■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9610808	**MMSI**	273253130
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Russia
Built	2013	**DWT**	118,316
Registered Owner	Sovcomflot / Russian Government	**Operator**	Sovcomflot
Sanctioned By	EU, UK (OFSI), US (OFAC)	**Sanction Date**	2024-11-25
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Russian Shadow Fleet - illicit oil transport operations circumventing sanctions on Russia

■ Intelligence Notes: CRITICAL THREAT: Russian Suezmax crude oil tanker, triple-sanctioned (EU/UK/US). DWT 118,316t, built 2013. Departed Ust-Luga, Russia Mar 6, 2026 with 730K bbls Urals crude. AIS spoofing — destination "ATLANTIC FOR ORDER". Terrestrial AIS dark since Mar 18. LATEST (Mar 24): Position 33.335°N, 49.193°W. Course SHIFTED AWAY from Cuba. Speed 10-11 kn heading central Caribbean. No longer directly targeting Matanzas. USS Nitze (DDG-94) tracking from Bahamas on parallel trajectory. 2x US Coast Guard cutters positioned NE Cuba. Russian Navy escort present. Possible Venezuela diversion. Cuba will likely NOT receive this cargo. OFAC GL 134a (Mar 20) explicitly blocks Cuba from Russian oil. Cuba ports (Matanzas, Havana, Cienfuegos) remain DESERTED as of Mar 25.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:5090590

■ VESSEL #3: AQUILA II ■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9281152	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Suezmax Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Panama (False Flag)

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Built	2004	**DWT**	115,000
Registered Owner	Unknown Beneficial Owner	**Operator**	Unknown
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2022-09-15
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Dark fleet; illicit crude oil transport; AIS spoofing; extended dark activity

■ Intelligence Notes: CRITICAL: SEIZED by US Navy Indian Ocean Feb 9, 2026 — Op Southern Spear. 7th dark-fleet tanker captured. Previously on Venezuela-Cuba oil route. Vessel impounded — no longer active threat.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/imo:9281152

■ VESSEL #4: DEYNA

■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9299903	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Mozambique (false flag / linked to Russia)
Built	—	**DWT**	80,000
Registered Owner	Unknown (Russian shadow fleet linked)	**Operator**	Unknown
Sanctioned By	France/EU	**Sanction Date**	—
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Intelligence Notes: SEIZED: French Navy seized MT DEYNA Mar 20, 2026 in Western Mediterranean. Vessel departed Murmansk Mar 1, 2026 flying false Mozambican flag — suspected Russian shadow fleet. Intercepted under UNCLOS Art. 110 (false flag). Escorted to Gulf of Fos, Marseille. Arrived Marseille Mar 23 for Marseille prosecutor investigation. No Russian nationals aboard. Was headed Port Said, Egypt (declared). First French Navy seizure of Russian shadow fleet tanker in Mediterranean.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/imo:9299903

■ VESSEL #5: M SOPHIA

■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9289477	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Panama (False Flag)
Built	2004	**DWT**	21,500
Registered Owner	Unknown Shell Company	**Operator**	Unknown
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2023-01-15
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Dark fleet operations; transporting sanctioned Venezuelan crude to Cuba

■ Intelligence Notes: SEIZED January 7, 2026 by USSOUTHCOM in Caribbean Sea. Stateless sanctioned dark fleet motor tanker. Transponder off ~5 months prior to seizure. Flying false Panamanian flag. Venezuela-Cuba oil smuggling network.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/imo:9289477

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■ VESSEL #6: MARIA CRISTINA (ex-CARLOTA C) ■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9502453	**MMSI**	323149000
Vessel Type	Chemical/Oil Products Tanker	**Flag State**	Cuba
Built	2011	**DWT**	12,000
Registered Owner	Caroil Transport Marine Ltd.	**Operator**	GAESA / Caroil Transport Marine Ltd.
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2019-07-03
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Delivering Venezuelan petroleum products (gasoline) to Cuba; linked to PdVSA/Cubametales scheme

■ Intelligence Notes: Formerly named CARLOTA C (IMO 9502453). Renamed and re-flagged as part of sanctions evasion. Delivered Venezuelan gasoline to Havana Port Petroleum Refinery. Used for coastal cabotage and as floating storage for STS transfers. Classic dark fleet tactic: name + flag change.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:554321/vessel:MARIA+CRISTINA

■ VESSEL #7: MARINERA (ex-BELLA 1) ■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	N/A	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Russia (False Flag)
Built	2006	**DWT**	43,000
Registered Owner	Rosneft / Russian State Entity	**Operator**	Unknown
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2023-02-24
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Dark fleet Russian oil tanker; illicit crude transport; sanctions evasion via name/flag change

■ Intelligence Notes: SEIZED January 7, 2026 in Atlantic Ocean near Iceland. Previously known as BELLA 1. Changed name and flag to evade sanctions. Russian shadow fleet.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/home/centerx:-79.5/centery:21.4/zoom:7

■ VESSEL #8: OLINA ■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	N/A	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Unknown / False Flag
Built	2003	**DWT**	35,000
Registered Owner	Unknown Shell Company	**Operator**	Unknown
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2022-10-01
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

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■ Sanction Reason: Dark fleet; Venezuelan crude oil transport to sanctioned destinations

■ Intelligence Notes: SEIZED in Caribbean Sea - 5th seizure in December 2025 - January 2026 Operation Southern Spear campaign. Part of Venezuelan shadow fleet supplying Cuba.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/home/centerx:-79.5/centery:21.4/zoom:7

■ VESSEL #9: PETION

■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9295098	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Products Tanker	**Flag State**	Panama
Built	2004	**DWT**	9,800
Registered Owner	Trocana World Inc.	**Operator**	Caroil Transport Marine Ltd.
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2019-07-03
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Loading crude oil for Cubametales/PDVSA, transporting to Cuba in violation of sanctions. Operated by Caroil Transport Marine Ltd. (Cyprus).

■ Intelligence Notes: Registered owner Trocana World Inc. (Panama). Operated by sanctioned Caroil Transport Marine Ltd. Loaded crude oil shipment involving Cubametales and PdVSA in late May 2019. GAESA-linked vessel.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:370785/vessel:PETION

■ VESSEL #10: SAGITTA

■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9296822	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Aframax Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Marshall Islands (False Flag)
Built	2005	**DWT**	73,000
Registered Owner	Hong Kong-based shell company	**Operator**	Unknown
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA), EU, UK HMT	**Sanction Date**	2022-04-06
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Sanctioned following 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine; illicit Russian oil transport

■ Intelligence Notes: CRITICAL: SEIZED Caribbean Jan 20, 2026 — Op Southern Spear. Was transporting oil Venezuela-Cuba route. Vessel impounded. Part of 7-vessel campaign intercepting ~7M barrels sanctioned oil.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/imo:9296822

■ VESSEL #11: SANDINO

■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9441178	**MMSI**	323148000
Vessel Type	Chemical/Oil Products Tanker	**Flag State**	Cuba

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Built	2009	**DWT**	30,000
Registered Owner	Caroil Transport Marine Ltd.	**Operator**	Caroil Transport Marine Ltd.
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA)	**Sanction Date**	2019-07-03
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Operating in Venezuelan oil sector, transporting crude to Cuba in violation of E.O. 13850

■ Intelligence Notes: CRITICAL: Cuban state tanker, OFAC sanctioned. AIS DARK 32 DAYS as of Mar 25. Last AIS: NW Atlantic, 0.0 kn, draught 8.0m (EMPTY/ballast — normal loaded ~11m). Previously arrived Matanzas Feb 8 with 390-410K bbls from Nipe Bay (origin unexplained). 228m x 32m, built 2009. Empty draught = ballast/seeking cargo. Extended AIS silence consistent with clandestine cargo loading or repositioning. With both ANATOLY KOLODKIN and SEA HORSE diverted, SANDINO is only potential Cuban fuel delivery vector remaining. Location unknown. MMSI 323148000.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:434978/vessel:SANDINO

■ VESSEL #12: SKIPPER (ex-ADISA)

■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	N/A	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker (Supertanker)	**Flag State**	Guyanese (False Flag)
Built	2005	**DWT**	300,000
Registered Owner	Unknown Shell Company	**Operator**	Unknown / PdVSA-affiliated
Sanctioned By	OFAC (USA) - Previously under name ADISA	**Sanction Date**	2022-11-03
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Moving illicit oil; in 2024 delivered 3M bbls Iranian oil to Syria; in 2025 hauling 1.8M bbls PdVSA crude to Cubametales

■ Intelligence Notes: CRITICAL: SEIZED Dec 10, 2025 — first Op Southern Spear capture. Ex-ADISA. ~1.8M barrels crude. Largest single seizure. Venezuelan-flagged, Venezuela-Cuba route. Triggered 6 more captures.

■ MarineTraffic AIS Profile: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/vessel:SKIPPER

■ VESSEL #13: VERONICA

■ SANCTIONED

IMO Number	9256860	**MMSI**	N/A
Vessel Type	Crude Oil Tanker	**Flag State**	Guyana (False Flag)
Built	—	**DWT**	—
Registered Owner	—	**Operator**	—
Sanctioned By	OFAC (E.O. 13224 / PSB Lizing)	**Sanction Date**	2022-02-22
Risk Level	CRITICAL		

■ Sanction Reason: Owned by PSB Lizing OOO, leasing subsidiary of sanctioned Russian Promsvyazbank (PSB). Designated for operating in Russia defense/financial sectors.

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■ Intelligence Notes: SEIZED off Venezuela Jan 15, 2026 — 6th Op Southern Spear capture. Second seizure of this vessel (recidivist operator). Venezuela-Cuba oil route.

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4. OPERATION SOUTHERN SPEAR — SEIZURE TIMELINE

Dec 10, 2025 — Source: USN/DOJ

SKIPPER (ex-ADISA) — VLCC

Seized by US Navy off Venezuela coast. Flying false Guyanese flag. Cargo: 1.8 million barrels Venezuelan crude. Of that, 1.1 million barrels destined for OFAC-sanctioned Cubametales. Civil forfeiture complaint filed DC.

Jan 7, 2026 — Source: USSOUTHCOM

M SOPHIA (IMO 9289477)

USSOUTHCOM seizure in Caribbean Sea. Described as "stateless, sanctioned dark fleet motor tanker". AIS transponder off for approximately 5 months prior to capture. Flying false Panamanian flag at time of seizure.

Jan 7, 2026 — Source: US Forces

MARINERA (ex-BELLA 1)

Seized by US forces in Atlantic Ocean near Iceland. Russian oil tanker. Changed name from BELLA 1 and changed flag to evade sanctions. Part of Russian shadow fleet delivering crude to Cuba and Venezuela.

Jan 15, 2026 — Source: USSOUTHCOM

OLINA

5th seizure in US shadow fleet interdiction campaign. Caribbean Sea operation. Part of Venezuelan PdVSA shadow fleet. Operating under false flag. Exact IMO not confirmed in open sources.

Jan 20, 2026 — Source: USSOUTHCOM

SAGITTA (IMO 9296822) — Aframax

USSOUTHCOM announcement: vessel "operating in defiance of President Trump's established quarantine of sanctioned vessels in the Caribbean." Owned by Hong Kong-based shell company. Sanctioned by US Treasury post-Ukraine invasion 2022.

Feb 9, 2026 — Source: INDOPACOM

AQUILA II (IMO 9281152) — Suezmax

Seized by INDOPACOM in Indian Ocean — unprecedented deep water interdiction. History of extended dark activity (signal blackouts). Had departed Venezuelan waters January 2026 with ~700,000 barrels crude. Falsely broadcast as Panamanian-flagged. Expands US enforcement beyond Caribbean to global waters.

Mar 20, 2026 — Source: OFAC/USSOUTHCOM

■■ ANATOLY KOLODKIN — ACTIVE THREAT

SANCTIONED Russian tanker (US/UK/EU) en route to Matanzas, Cuba. 730,000 barrels Russian Urals crude. AIS spoofing — broadcasting "Atlantis" as destination. OFAC expanded Russia oil sanctions to cover Cuba on this date. Status: APPROACHING CUBA. Interception decision pending.

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5. SANCTIONS EVASION TACTICS & INDICATORS

■■ **AIS Spoofing / False Position Broadcasting**	Vessels transmit false GPS coordinates or fake destinations. ANATOLY KOLODKIN broadcasts "Atlantis" while heading to Matanzas, Cuba. SEA HORSE broadcasted "not under command" approximately 1,300 nautical miles from Cuban waters while actually discharging cargo. Detection method: Cross-reference AIS with satellite imagery (Kpler, TankerTrackers).
■ **AIS Blackouts / Signal Suppression**	Vessels turn off AIS transponders entirely to disappear from tracking. M SOPHIA operated without transponder for approximately 5 months before US seizure. Creates "dark gaps" in vessel tracking history. Often combined with name changes during blackout periods. Detection: Gap analysis in AIS history, satellite SAR imagery.
■■ **False Flag Operations**	Vessels register under different flags to avoid scrutiny. Common flags used by Cuba dark fleet: Panama, Cameroon, Guyana, Timor-Leste. SKIPPER flew false Guyanese flag. AQUILA II broadcast false Panamanian flag. Vessels cycle through multiple flags per voyage. Detection: Cross-check IMO against flag registry databases.
➡■ **Vessel Name / Identity Changes**	Complete identity changes to remove vessel from sanctions tracking. Known changes: ADISA → SKIPPER, BELLA 1 → MARINERA, CARLOTA C → MARIA CRISTINA. Typically combined with new flag registration and shell company ownership changes. Detection: Track IMO numbers (permanent identifiers) rather than vessel names.
■ **Ship-to-Ship (STS) Transfers**	Cargo transferred between vessels at sea to obscure origin. SEA HORSE received ~190,000 barrels of Russian gasoil via STS transfer off Cyprus with AIS switched off. MARIA CRISTINA/OCEAN INTEGRITY/PRIMULA serve as floating storage for STS operations. Detection: Satellite imagery of anchorage areas, anomalous speed patterns.
■ **Shell Company Networks**	Beneficial ownership concealed through layers of shell companies. Key network: Caroil Transport Marine Ltd. (Cyprus) → Sanctioned 2019, operates on behalf of GAESA. Ran SANDINO, PETION, CARLOTA C. Typical structure: Vessel → Marshall Islands LLC → Cyprus management → Hong Kong beneficial owner → Russian/Venezuelan state entity. Detection: Beneficial ownership databases, Panama/Pandora Papers analysis.
■■ **Circumvention Routes**	Standard Cuba shadow fleet route: Venezuela (Ust-Luga or José Terminal) → Atlantic/Caribbean → Matanzas or Cienfuegos, Cuba. Secondary route via STS transfers near Canary Islands or Cyprus. Russian crude route: Primorsk/Ust-Luga → Atlantic → Cuba or Venezuela. Co-loading: Mix sanctioned and non-sanctioned cargo to create plausible deniability.

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6. SANCTIONED ENTITIES & GHOST COMPANY NETWORK

Entity	Type	Designation Date	Authority	Intelligence Summary
Cubametales	Cuba State Oil Entity	July 3, 2019	OFAC (E.O. 13850)	Cuban state-run oil import/export company. Primary conduit for illicit oil deliveries to Cuba. 1.1 million barrels from seized SKIPPER were destined for Cubametales. Continues to operate through third-party intermediaries and dark fleet networks. All transactions with Cubametales by US persons or entities in US jurisdiction are prohibited.
GAESA (Grupo de Administración Empresarial S.A.)	Cuban Military Conglomerate	Various	State Dept. / OFAC	Cuba's military's largest commercial conglomerate. Controls majority of Cuba's hard currency economy. Operates shipping vessels through shell companies including Caroil Transport Marine Ltd. Connected to FINCIMEX (remittance), CIMEX (retail), and Mambisa (shipping). All subsidiaries should be treated as sanctioned entities for compliance purposes.
Caroil Transport Marine Ltd.	Cyprus-Based Shell Company	July 3, 2019	OFAC (E.O. 13850)	Cyprus-based front company operating on behalf of GAESA Cuban military. Operated vessels: SANDINO (IMO 9441178), PETION (IMO 9295098), CARLOTA C (now MARIA CRISTINA, IMO 9502453). All three vessels continued operating post-sanction, sailing between Venezuela, Mexico, and Cuba. Company remains nominally active in Cyprus company registry as of 2025.
Sovcomflot / JSC Rosnefteflot	Russian State Shipping	February 24, 2022 / Ongoing	OFAC (E.O. 14024)	Russian state shipping company responsible for transporting Russian crude oil to Cuba. Operates ANATOLY KOLODKIN (IMO 9610808) and AKADEMIK GUBKIN (IMO 9842190). Volume of Russian deliveries to Cuba: 600,000 tonnes (2022) → 100,000 tonnes (2024). Currently attempting to deliver 730,000 barrels via ANATOLY KOLODKIN (March 2026).
PdVSA (Petróleos de Venezuela)	Venezuelan State Oil Company	January 28, 2019	OFAC	Venezuelan state oil company. Primary supplier of crude oil to Cuba under PDVSA-Cuba agreements. Supplied Cuba 27,000-35,000 barrels/day of crude via dark fleet vessels. SKIPPER cargo of 1.8 million barrels originated from PdVSA facilities. Uses dark fleet intermediaries to circumvent US sanctions on Venezuelan crude.

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7. CUBA PORT INTELLIGENCE

Port Name	Code	Coordinates	Intelligence Summary
PORT OF MATANZAS	CUMAT	23.04°N, 81.56°W	Primary oil terminal. Main destination for dark fleet crude deliveries. ANATOLY KOLODKIN reportedly headed here March 2026. Operated by CUPET (Cuba Petroleum). Capacity: ~1M bbl storage. Pipeline connections to Havana. Regular tanker traffic.
PORT OF CIENFUEGOS	CUCFG	22.14°N, 80.44°W	Major oil and refinery port (Camilo Cienfuegos refinery). 5 piers + 3 buoy moorings. ~100 vessels/year. Handles Venezuelan crude for refining. Frequent tanker traffic. Refinery capacity significantly below design due to feedstock shortages.
PORT OF HAVANA	CUHAV	23.14°N, 82.35°W	Cuba's main commercial port. ~270,000 TEU annually. 400+ vessel calls/year. Handles container, general cargo, and passenger traffic. SEABOARD GALAXY (food/reefer from New Orleans) typical authorized US trade. Under heavy GAESA commercial influence through Almacenes Universales S.A.
PORT OF MARIEL	CUMAR	22.99°N, 82.76°W	Cuba's premier container terminal. Handles food imports (primary source post-2015). SEABOARD GALAXY route: New Orleans → Mariel (food, refrigerated products). Neopanamax-capable since 2023 expansion. Chinese investment (COSCO connection). ~100 vessels/year. Key GAESA-controlled terminal (ICTSI partnership dissolved 2022).
GULF OF BATABANO	ANCHORAGE	22.7°N, 82.1°W	Unofficial anchorage area south of Cuba. Used for STS transfers by dark fleet vessels. Poor AIS coverage allows covert transfer operations. MARIA CRISTINA, OCEAN INTEGRITY, PRIMULA operate in this zone for floating storage.

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8. VESSEL MOVEMENTS LOG

Vessel	Type	Port	Arrival	Cargo	Bbls	AIS Spoof	Notes
ANATOLY KOLODKIN	TRANSIT	Primorsk (Russia) → Matanzas (Cuba)	2026-03-25	Crude Oil (Russian Urals)	730,000	✓ NO	LIVE INTEL: ANATOLY KOLODKIN heading west mid-Atlantic Mar 25. Course 284.9° at
ANATOLY KOLODKIN	TRANSIT	Venezuela (diverted from Cuba)	2026-03-25	Urals crude	730,000	■■ YES	LIVE INTEL: ANATOLY KOLODKIN heading west mid-Atlantic Mar 25. Course 284.9° at
SEA HORSE	TRANSIT	Puerto Cabello	2026-03-25	Russian gasoil	190,000	■■ YES	CORRECTION: SEA HORSE still DRIFTING at 0.8 kn Caribbean, NOT arrived Puerto Cab
SANDINO	DARK	NW Atlantic Ocean	2026-03-25	—	—	✓ NO	SANDINO AIS dark 31 days. Last: NW Atlantic, 0.0 kn, draught 8.0m (empty). OFAC
PORT OBSERVATION	ANCHORED	Matanzas / Havana / Cienfuegos	2026-03-25	—	—	✓ NO	CUBA PORTS DESERTED: Zero tanker traffic at Matanzas, Havana, Cienfuegos. No inc
SEA HORSE	ARRIVAL	Puerto Cabello	2026-03-25	Gasoil/Diesel (Russian)	190,000	✓ NO	CONFIRMED: SEA HORSE arrived Puerto Cabello, Venezuela Mar 25, 2026. Final leg o
PORT OBSERVATION	ANCHORED	Matanzas / Havana / Cienfuegos / Santiago de Cuba	2026-03-25	—	—	✓ NO	CUBA PORTS DESERTED Mar 25: Zero commercial tanker traffic at all major Cuban po
ANATOLY KOLODKIN	TRANSIT	Central Atlantic (Mar 24 pos: 33.3°N 49.2°W)	2026-03-24	Urals Crude Oil	730,000	■■ YES	CRITICAL UPDATE Mar 23-24: ANATOLY KOLODKIN shifted course AWAY from Cuba. No lo
SEA HORSE	TRANSIT	Puerto Cabello	2026-03-23	—	—	✓ NO	After diverting from Cuba route following OFAC GL 134a (Mar 20), vessel first up
ANATOLY KOLODKIN	SPOOFING	Atlantic Ocean (~3,000nm NE of Cuba)	2026-03-23	Urals crude oil	730,000	■■ YES	Mar 23 position: ~3,000nm NE Cuba, ETA Matanzas ~Mar 30. AIS spoofed — declaring
SEA HORSE	ARRIVAL	Point Lisas / T&T;	2026-03-23	Russian gasoil/diesel	190,000	✓ NO	SEA HORSE arrived T&T; ~Mar 23 after diverting from Cuba following OFAC GL 134a (
ANATOLY KOLODKIN	DARK	Atlantic Ocean (en route Cuba)	2026-03-22	Russian Urals Crude	730,000	■■ YES	ACTIVE THREAT: Sanctioned Sovcomflot tanker. Departed Primorsk March 8. Carrying

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SEA HORSE	DARK	Trinidad and Tobago	2026-03-20	—	—	✓ NO	After OFAC GL 134a issued March 20 explicitly blocking Russian oil to Cuba, SEA
DEYNA	SEIZED	Western Mediterranean / Gulf of Fos (Marseille)	2026-03-20	Crude oil (suspected)	—	■■ YES	French Navy boarded MT DEYNA under UNCLOS Art.110 Mar 20 Western Mediterranean.
SEABOARD GALAXY	ARRIVAL	Mariel	2026-03-17	Refrigerated Food (chicken, pork)	—	✓ NO	LEGAL TRADE. US-flagged container ship. Licensed US-Cuba agricultural trade (OFA
EUGENIA GAS	ARRIVAL	Cuban EEZ / Santiago de Cuba	2026-03-10	LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas)	—	■■ YES	Probable LPG delivery to Cuba after loading at Puerto José, Venezuela on March 2
SEA HORSE	ARRIVAL	Cuba (Matanzas or Cienfuegos)	2026-03-08	Russian Gasoil	190,000	■■ YES	Windward assessed 'likely discharged' ~190,000 bbls Russian gasoil in Cuba early
EUGENIA GAS	DEPARTURE	Puerto José, Venezuela	2026-03-02	LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas)	—	✓ NO	Received OFAC authorization to load LPG at Puerto José, Venezuela on March 2, 20
SEA HORSE	AIS_DARK	Sargasso Sea (Drifting / Cuba)	2026-03-01	Gasoil (Russian)	190,000	■■ YES	CRITICAL SPOOFING INCIDENT. Loaded 190K bbls Russian gasoil via STS off Cyprus F
NICOS IV (NICOS I.V.)	ARRIVAL	Matanzas	2026-02-16	Fuel Oil (type/volume unconfirmed)	—	✓ NO	First tanker to dock at Matanzas energy terminal during US blockade. Draft 8.2m

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9. INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT & RECOMMENDATIONS

■ HIGH CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT	Cuba's oil supply network has been severely disrupted by Operation Southern Spear. The island is in an acute energy crisis. Russia is the last remaining supplier willing to risk confrontation with US naval forces. The ANATOLY KOLODKIN situation (March 2026) represents the most significant test of US blockade enforcement to date.
■ PROBABLE COURSES OF ACTION (Cuba/Russia)	1. ANATOLY KOLODKIN attempts discharge at Matanzas (high probability within 7 days). 2. Additional Russian tankers dispatched with enhanced AIS spoofing and naval escorts. 3. Cuba seeks alternative supply through China intermediaries (COSCO connection via Mariel). 4. Expanded use of STS transfers in international waters beyond US interdiction range. 5. Cuba-Russia diplomatic escalation to create legal/political obstacles to seizures.
■ SANCTIONS COMPLIANCE ALERT	Entities handling Cuba-destined cargo, providing port services to listed vessels, or engaging in ship-to-ship transfers with Cuban dark fleet vessels are at risk of OFAC secondary sanctions. Key risk indicators: vessels with AIS gaps, recent flag/name changes, opaque beneficial ownership, routing through Cuba, Venezuela, or Russia.
■ RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	1. Monitor ANATOLY KOLODKIN (IMO 9610808) AIS signal and satellite track continuously. 2. Alert port authorities at Matanzas, Cienfuegos, Havana of high-risk vessel approach. 3. Screen all vessels calling Cuba ports against OFAC SDN list and IMO database. 4. Track STS transfer activity in Gulf of Batabano and Caribbean anchorage areas. 5. Monitor Cuban state entities: Cubametales, GAESA, CUPET for new shell company registrations. 6. Cross-reference vessel movements with satellite data to detect AIS spoofing.

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10. SOURCES & METHODOLOGY

OSINT SOURCES CONSULTED: MarineTraffic (marinetraffic.com) — AIS vessel tracking, historical movements, vessel profiles. Live Cuba region feed: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/home/centerx:-79.5/centery:21.4/zoom:7 VesselFinder (vesselfinder.com) — AIS tracking, port arrivals/departures for Havana and Mariel. OFAC Sanctions List (ofac.treasury.gov) — Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list, Cuba sanctions. US Treasury Press Releases (home.treasury.gov) — OFAC designation announcements, enforcement actions. USSOUTHCOM / INDOPACOM — Official seizure announcements and press releases (December 2025 - March 2026). Kpler Maritime Analytics — Vessel tracking, cargo estimates, route analysis for ANATOLY KOLODKIN. TankerTrackers.com — Sanctioned vessel monitoring, dark fleet tracking. CiberCuba (cibercuba.com) — Cuban media coverage of energy crisis and maritime incidents. Maritime Executive — Industry reporting on UK tracking of Russian tankers, sanctions enforcement. CNBC / Bloomberg — Breaking news on Cuban energy crisis, Russian oil tankers, OFAC actions. UPI / Euronews / The Hill — Reporting on Operation Southern Spear and Russian tanker movements. Atlantic Council — Analysis of US shadow fleet seizure policy and gunboat diplomacy. CSIS (Center for Strategic & International Studies) — Shadow fleet policy analysis. Windward AI — Dark fleet methodology and vessel risk assessment. METHODOLOGY: This report was generated using open-source intelligence (OSINT) collection and analysis. All vessel data sourced from publicly available maritime databases, government press releases, and news reporting. Risk assessments based on OFAC SDN list status, AIS behavior patterns, flag state analysis, vessel ownership transparency, and route analysis relative to sanctioned ports. No classified or non-public data was used in the preparation of this report.

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