



OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

(U) HORN OF AFRICA/GULF OF GUINEA/ SOUTHEAST ASIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly (PAWW) Report for 24 - 30 August 2017

31 August 2017

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1. (U) Horn of Africa - Piracy Events Over The Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in East Africa waters is at a low level. One suspicious event was reported in the Red Sea this past week.

A. (U) Details:

(U) **Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

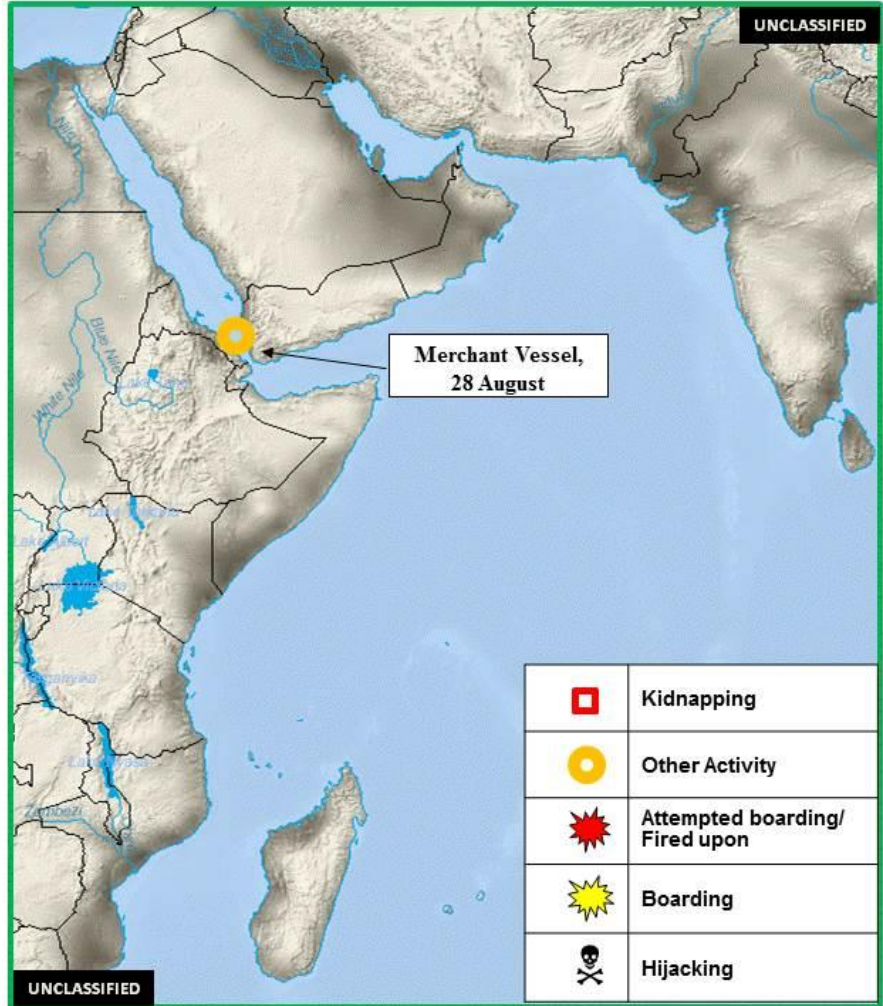
(U) **Vessels Boarded:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:** No incidents to report.

(U) Other Activity:

1. (U) RED SEA: On 28 August, a merchant vessel reported sighting 4 skiffs with 5 to 6 persons in each boat, near position 13:00N - 043:10E. Vessel reports seeing one ladder on board two of the skiffs, no weapons were sighted. The skiffs did not approach any closer than 0.8 nm. Onboard security team showed their weapons and skiffs turned away. Vessel is safe. (UKMTO)

B. (U) Incident Disposition:



(U) Figure 1. HoA Maritime Crime Activity, 24 - 30 August 2017

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Horn of Africa Activity

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(U) Table 1.
(U) Summary of Horn of Africa Piracy Events

Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Aug 2017	July 2017	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Hijacked	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Boarding	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	9
Total	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	2	9

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(U) Table 1 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. Note: The above statistics do not include regional dhows/fishing vessels that were hijacked. Hijacked dhows are frequently used as motherships by pirates and released without a ransom being paid.

2. (U) Weather Forecast for 31 August - 6 September 2017 and Graphic Aids to 10-Day Weather Conditions and Small Boat Operations Capabilities

(U) Horn of Africa Weather Forecast for 31 August - 6 September 2017

A. (U) NORTH ARABIAN SEA: Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, with seas of 5 - 7 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 20 knots, with seas of 5 - 7 feet.

B. (U) GULF OF OMAN: Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

D. (U) SOMALI COAST: Southwest winds of 25 - 30 knots, gusting to 35 knots, and seas of 10 - 14 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet in the southern section of the coastline. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 25 - 30 knots, gusting to 35 knots, and seas of 10 - 14 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with south-southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet in the southern section of the coastline.

E. (U) CENTRAL AFRICAN COAST/INDIAN OCEAN: Southeast winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** South-southeast winds of 20 - 25 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet.

F. (U) MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL: Southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, with seas of 5 - 7 feet in the southern Channel. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 20 - 25 knots, and seas 11 - 13 feet in the southern Channel.

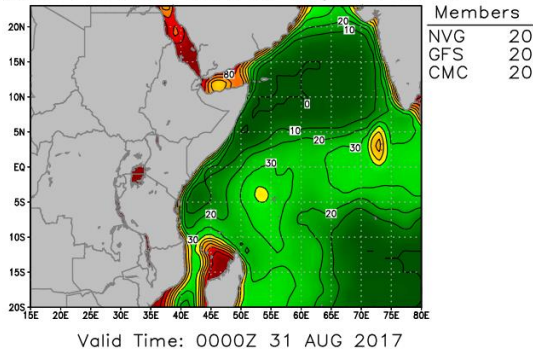
G. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS: The northern Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden currents are variable with most areas having an average speed of 1 knot. The Mozambique Channel currents are variable having an average speed of 2 knots. Current's speeds along the Somali Basin are northeasterly averaging between 2 - 3 knots.

H. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: High pressure will dominate the weather pattern over much of the AOR producing mostly clear skies. Isolated rain showers and thunderstorms can be expected during the forecast as an area of low pressure moves through the region. Expect increased localized wind flow through the Strait of Hormuz due to funneling effects and occasional shamal winds across the Arabian Gulf.

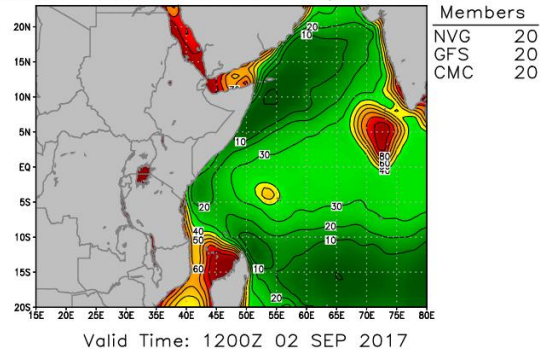
Approved for Public Release

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2017082812

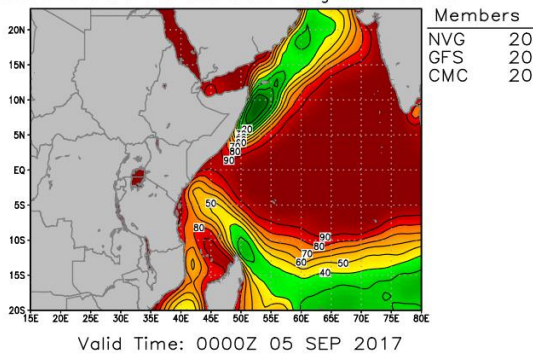
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



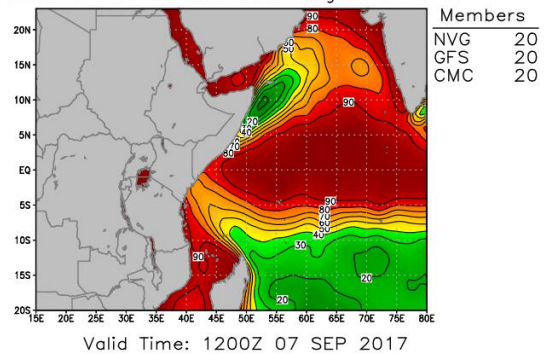
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



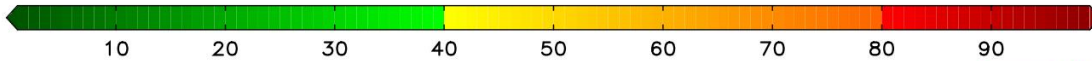
Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



probability (%)



Approved for Public Release

(U) Figure 2. Ten-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast (Graphic courtesy of the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center, FNMOC)

(U) In the graphic above, green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while red represents an increased likelihood of pirate activity.

3. (U) Gulf of Guinea - Piracy Events Over The Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in West Africa waters is at a low level. One probable militant attack occurred this past week; with late reporting on two kidnapped hostages released from a previous week.

A. (U) Details

(U) Vessels Hijacked: No incidents to report.

(U) Kidnapping:

- (U) NIGERIA: On 30 July, armed pirates boarded the general cargo ship OYA 1 underway near position 04:10N - 006:59E, 15 nm southwest of Bonny Island. The pirates kidnapped five crewmen and escaped. The Nigerian Navy was alerted and the vessel was taken to Bonny Island for further investigation. (IMB;

www.fleetmon.com) UPDATE: On 19 August, the two Moroccan sailors kidnapped on 30 July were released, according to a spokesman for the Moroccan government. (TelQuel Online)

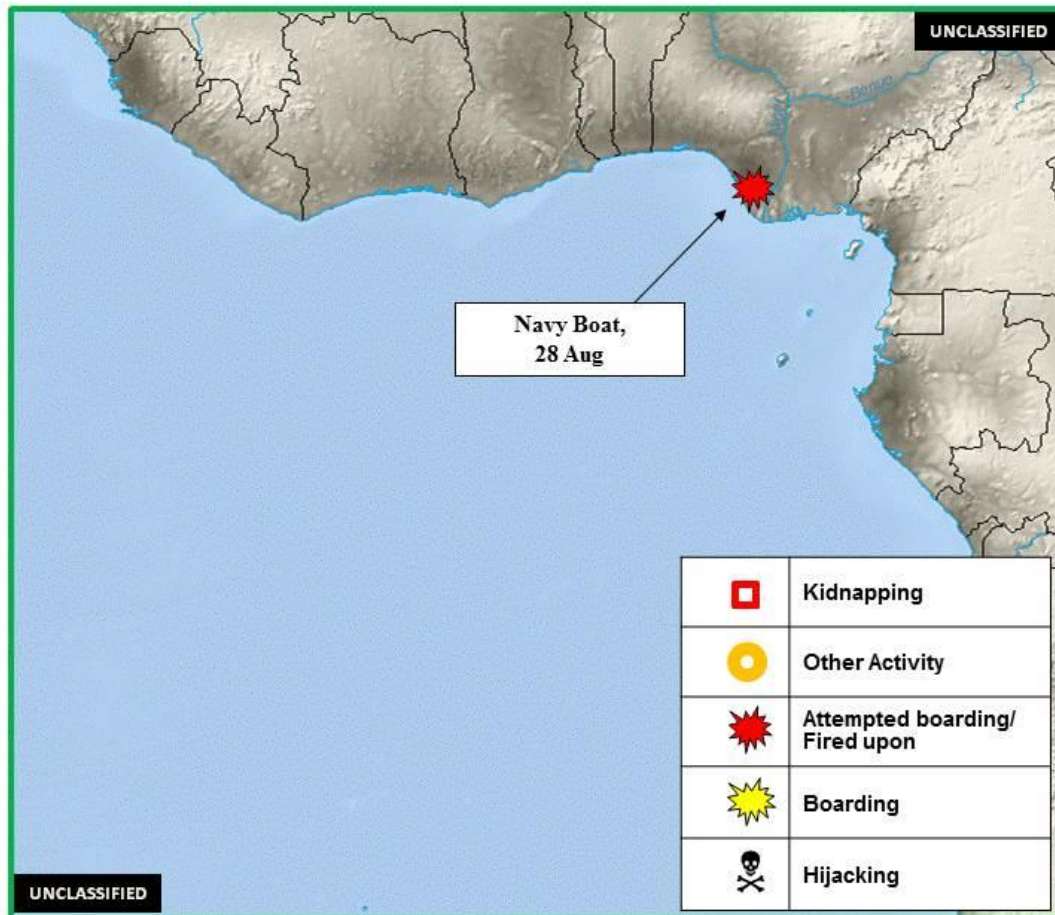
(U) Vessels Boarded:

(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack:

1. (U) NIGERIA: On 28 August, unknown gunmen, suspected to be militants, attacked a Navy boat and killed four soldiers and a civilian in Bayelsa State. The suspects were said to have laid an ambush for the soldiers along the waterways of Letugbene, Ekeremor Local Government Area of the State. Security sources confirmed that a team of soldiers were returning from Letugbene community when they were attacked. (www.nigeriatoday.ng)

(U) Other Activity: No incidents to report.

B. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 3. GoG Maritime Crime Activity, 24 - 30 August 2017

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Gulf of Guinea Activity

UNCLASSIFIED									
(U) Table 2. (U) Summary of Gulf of Guinea Piracy Events									
Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Aug 2017	July 2017	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Hijacked	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	9	11
Boarding	0	2	5	3	24	38	29	33	26
Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding	1	0	1	1	13	54	41	31	43
Niger Delta Militant Attacks	0	0	0	0	2	48	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kidnapping	0	0	1	3	18	28	25	26	32
Total	1	2	7	7	58	171	97	99	112
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(U) Table 2 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. This table includes incidents not described in this product line.

4. (U) Gulf of Guinea Weather Forecast for 31 August - 6 September 2017

A. (U) GULF OF GUINEA: Southerly winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southerly winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet.

B. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: High pressure continues to dominate the weather in the region producing relatively light winds across the Somali Basin. Isolated thunderstorms and rain showers can be routinely expected along the Somali and West Africa coasts with increased southerly wind flow through the Bab el Mandeb Strait due to funneling effects.

5. (U) Southeast Asia - Piracy Events Over The Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in Southeast Asia waters is at a low level. A boarding event occurred this past week, with no further information available. A kidnapped Vietnamese merchant sailor was rescued in the previous week.

A. (U) Details

(U) Vessels Hijacked: No incidents to report.

(U) Kidnapping:

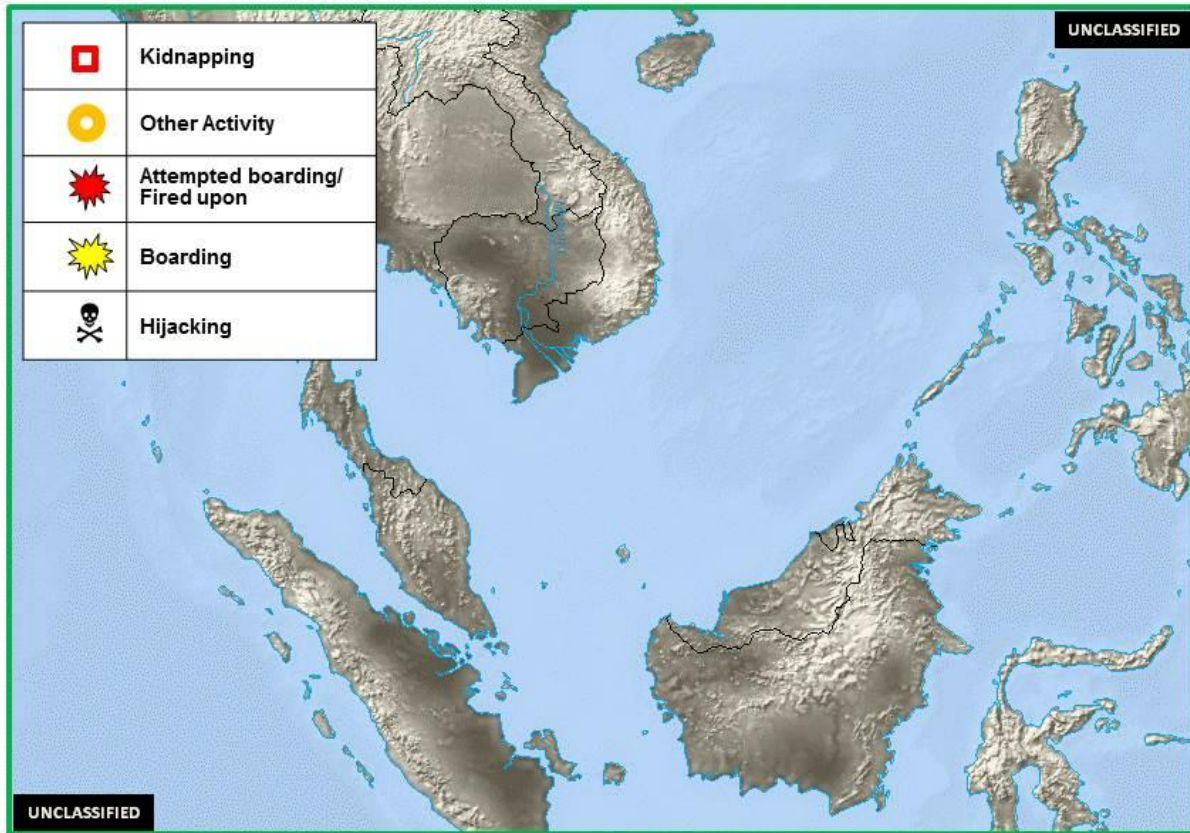
1. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 11 November 2016, ten persons armed with guns approached the underway bulk carrier ROYAL 16 near position 06:40N - 122:31E, 10 nm north-northeast of Basilan Island. Ship's master raised the alarm and activated the SSAS. The armed persons boarded the vessel and took its crew hostage. They stole ship's properties, kidnapped six crewmen, and escaped. One crewman was injured during the incident. Incident reported to the Philippines Coast Guard. A patrol vessel was dispatched and the authorities boarded and escorted the vessel to a safe port. (IMB; www.fleetmon.com; gCaptain)
UPDATE: On 19 August, Philippine troops raided an Islamist militants' camp on a remote southern island and rescued a Vietnamese sailor held captive for nine months, a navy spokeswoman said. Do Trung Huige, 33, was left behind when troops attacked an Abu Sayyaf camp on Mataja Island. Two Vietnamese sailors are still being held, two were beheaded and another was rescued. (Reuters)

(U) Vessels Boarded: No incidents to report.

(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack: No incidents to report.

(U) Other Activity: No incidents to report.

B. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 4. Southeast Asia Maritime Crime Activity, 24 - 30 August 2017

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Southeast Asia Activity

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(U) Table 3. (U) Summary of Southeast Asia Piracy Events									
Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Aug 2017	July 2017	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Attacks, Boardings, Attempted Boardings	1	1	6	2	47	96	238	177	175
Hijackings	0	0	0	0	1	2	16	16	7
Kidnappings	0	0	0	0	3	19	0	4	1
Total	1	1	6	2	51	117	254	197	183

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(U) Table 3 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. This table includes incidents not described in this product line.

6. (U) Southeast Asia Weather Forecast for 30 August 5 September 2017

A. (U) Southern South China Sea: Southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet.

B. (U) Malacca Strait: Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the northern Strait; with variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the southern Strait. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the northern Strait; with variable winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the southern Strait.

C. (U) Andaman Sea: West-southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the northern section; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the southern section. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern section; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the southern section.

D. (U) Southern Sulu Sea - Northern Celebes Sea: Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet.

E. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS: Currents in the southern South China Sea, Malacca Strait, and Andaman Sea are generally less than 1 knot with a few areas in the southern South China Sea averaging 1 knot.

F. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: An area of low pressure moving off of China will produce slightly increased wind flow in the South China Sea. Expect strong gusts in and around scattered thunderstorms, throughout the Malacca Strait and the Andaman Sea due to funneling effects and daytime heating. **Forecaster's Note:** The west Pacific Ocean's Tropical Cyclone Season runs from April to October. Expect numerous Tropical Cyclones to impact the region during this timeframe.

(U) Appendix

(U) Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting, and it also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity, are independent of target vessel status, and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities.

(U) Terms of Reference

(U) The following terms have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis:

- **(U) Attempted Boarding** – Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.
- **(U) Blocking** – Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.
- **(U) Boarding** – Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.
- **(U) Fired Upon** – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.
- **(U) Hijacking** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.
- **(U) Kidnapping** – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.

- **(U) Robbery** – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.
- **(U) Suspicious Approach** – All other unexplained activity in close proximity by an unknown vessel.

(U) Piracy levels

- **(U) High:** 5 or more piracy incidents in this one-week period.
- **(U) Moderate:** 2–4 piracy incidents in this one-week period.
- **(U) Low:** 0–1 piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Sourcing

(U) Information contained in this report is derived through direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources:

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- BBC News
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- LSS-SAPU.com (LSS)
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S.
- Maritime Security Centre - Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)
- Marine Domain Awareness for Trade - Gulf of Guinea (MDAT- GoG)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- Noonsite.com (Noonsite), website
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- The Maritime Executive (website)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

(U) ICOD: 30 August 2017

(U) The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted each week on the ONI Intel Portal and can be found at:
<http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence-Community/Piracy>