(U) Horn of Africa - Piracy Events Over the Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in East Africa waters is at a moderate level. Three attacks on merchant shipping were reported 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:

1. (U) RED SEA: On 26 July, Saudi Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih said that yesterday, on 25 July, two Saudi Arabia-flagged oil tankers were attacked by Houthis near position 1447N - 04144E, 70 nm west of Hodeidah, Yemen. One of the tankers sustained minimal damage. “Saudi Arabia is temporarily halting all oil shipments through Bab al-Mandeb Strait immediately until the situation becomes clearer and the maritime transit through Bab al-Mandeb is safe,” the statement said. (UKMTO; www.pviltd.com; Reuters)

2. (U) SOMALIA: On 22 July, a merchant vessel near position 01:062N - 044:02E, in the vicinity of Baraawe Port, southwest of Mogadishu, reported being under attack. The ship subsequently reported that the attack had ended and the ship is safe in the port. (UKMTO, www.pviktd.com)

(U) Other Activity: No incidents to report.
B. (U) Incident Disposition:

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

(U) Table 1.

(U) Summary of Horn of Africa Piracy Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vessels</th>
<th>This Week</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>July 2018</th>
<th>June 2018</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hijacked</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarding</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. (U) Weather Forecast for 26 July - 1 August 2018 and Graphic Aids to 10-Day Weather Conditions and Small Boat Operations Capabilities

(U) Horn of Africa Weather Forecast for 26 July - 1 August 2018

A. (U) NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA: Southwest winds of 25 - 30 knots, gusting to 35 knots, with seas of 12 - 15 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 25 - 30 knots, gusting to 35 knots, with seas of 9 - 12 feet.

B. (U) GULF OF OMAN: Westerly winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Northwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 9 - 12 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

D. (U) SOMALI COAST: Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 9 - 12 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with south-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 9 - 12 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.

E. (U) CENTRAL AFRICAN COAST/INDIAN OCEAN: Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 9 - 12 feet.

F. (U) MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL: Southeast winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the southern Channel. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southeast winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas building to 7 - 9 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas abating to 5 - 7 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. Currents’ speed along the Somali Basin are northeasterly averaging between 2 - 3 knots.

H. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: High pressure continues to dominate the weather pattern over much of the region producing mostly clear skies with isolated area of thunderstorm activity. Expect increased localized wind flow through the Strait of Hormuz due to funneling effects and occasional shamal winds across the Arabian Gulf.
(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 moderate level. One suspicious approach and one boarding event were reported this past week; with no further information available on the boarding.

A. (U) Details

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

(U) **Kidnapping:** No incidents to report.

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

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

1. (U) GULF OF GUINEA: On 22 July, a merchant vessel was approached by a blue and white fishing vessel near position 01:30N - 001:15E, 274 nm southeast of Takoradi, Ghana. The fishing vessel launched 2 skiffs which approached the merchant vessel. The vessel conducted evasive maneuvers preventing skiffs getting within 0.5 nm. (MDAT-GoG, www.pviktd.com)

B. (U) Incident Disposition

(U) Figure 3. Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 19 - 25 July 2018
C. (U) Tabulated Data for Gulf of Guinea Activity

(U) Table 2.

(U) Summary of Gulf of Guinea Piracy Events*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vessels</th>
<th>This Week</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>July 2018</th>
<th>June 2018</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hijacked</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarding</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fired Upon/Attempted</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>Boarding</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(U) Table 2 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. * Militant activity is no longer listed in this table.

4. (U) Gulf of Guinea Weather Forecast for 26 July - 1 August 2018

A. (U) GULF OF GUINEA: Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet. EXTENDED FORECAST: Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet.

B. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: High pressure continues to dominate the weather in the region. Isolated thunderstorms and rain showers can be routinely expected along the West Africa coast.

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. No events were reported this past week.

A. (U) Details

(U) Vessels Hijacked: No incidents to report.

(U) Kidnapping: No incidents to report.

(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

![Map of Southeast Asia with various icons indicating incidents]

(U) Figure 4. Southeast Asia Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 19 - 25 July 2018

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Southeast Asia Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vessels</th>
<th>This Week</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>July 2018</th>
<th>June 2018</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attacks, Boardings, Attempted Boardings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidnappings</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(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 26 July - 1 August 2018

A. (U) SOUTHERN SOUTH CHINA SEA: Southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet. EXTENDED FORECAST: Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet.

B. (U) MALACCA STRAIT: Southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the northern Strait; with southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the southern Strait. EXTENDED FORECAST: Southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the northern Strait; with southerly winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the southern Strait.

C. (U) ANDAMAN SEA: West-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet in the northern section; with west-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet in the southern section. EXTENDED FORECAST: West-southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 9 - 12 feet in the northern section; with west-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 9 - 12 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: Low pressure over Sea of Japan and associated front has increased winds and seas from Sea of Japan through the northern portion of 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 that could change the forecast.

(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 embarkation 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
- DNK Intelligence & Operations Centre (DNK IOC)
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Lloyd’s
- 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**: 25 July 2018

(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