



UNCLASSIFIED

(U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report 30 July - 29 August 2018



30 August 2018

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1. (U) Scope Note

1. (U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) message provides information on threats to merchant vessels, the shipping industry, and other maritime stakeholders worldwide in the last 30 days. This report is produced primarily to inform merchant mariners and naval forces.

2. (U) Warnings and Advisories:

A. (U) No current incidents to report.

3. (U) Summary:

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 28 August, a US Navy ship, USS JASON DUNAM, seized hundreds of small arms from a small boat in the Gulf of Aden.

B. (U) FRANCE: On 27 August, French and British fishermen clashed over scallop fishing stocks in the Normandy area.

C. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 August, gunmen attacked a market boat at the Igbematoru-Koluama creek.

D. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 August, the Nigerian Navy in Bonny, Rivers State, seized 1.22 million liters of smuggled diesel.

E. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 August, two robbers attempted to board an anchored bulk carrier during cargo operations in Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda.

- F. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 27 August, four robbers in a boat attempted to board a berthed product tanker in the Insular Oil Terminal, Davao.
- G. (U) YEMEN: On 23 August, it was reported that Houthi rebel forces had launched an attack by an explosive-laden boat against a ship in the southern Red Sea.
- H. (U) THAILAND: On 20 August, Thai authorities announced that they had rescued the last four of a group of 11 Malaysian fishermen kidnapped the day before.
- I. (U) ECUADOR: On 20 August, two persons in a small skiff came alongside a container vessel underway near Estero Salada Passage, Guayaquil.
- J. (U) SPAIN: On 19 August, the yacht HCH-X was intercepted by Spanish Customs patrol boat 15 nm west of Ibiza, Balearic Islands, on a suspicion of drugs trafficking.
- K. (U) BANGLADESH: On 17 August, robbers boarded an anchored container vessel in Chittagong Outer Anchorage.

4. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements

- A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for August and September 2018. To apply for JMSDF escort, visit http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html, please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MILT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932; Fax: +81-3-5253-1643. Email: INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp. (MSCHOA)
- B. (U) GULF OF ADEN: China Navy convoy schedule for August and September 2018. For further information, please email: planavy@navy.mil.cn or etg546cn@163.com, or call Tel: 00870 773 120 772. (MSCHOA)
- C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: India Navy convoy escort schedule for August 2018. To register, email: gcommcentre-dgs@nic.in; or visit ww.dgshipping.com. Telephone numbers for contact are: 91-22-22614646 or fax at 91-22-22613636. (MSCHOA)

5. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region

(U) This section lists reports of active violence against shipping, credible threats to shipping, or the potential for a situation to develop into a direct threat to shipping over the last 30 days. Every effort is made to ensure that incidents are not double-counted. In the event double-counting is detected, or an incident is later found to be different than initially reported, an explanation of the cancellation of the inaccurate report will be made in at least one message prior to dropping the erroneous report.

- A. (U) NORTH AMERICA:** No current incidents to report.

B. (U) CENTRAL AMERICA - CARIBBEAN - SOUTH AMERICA:

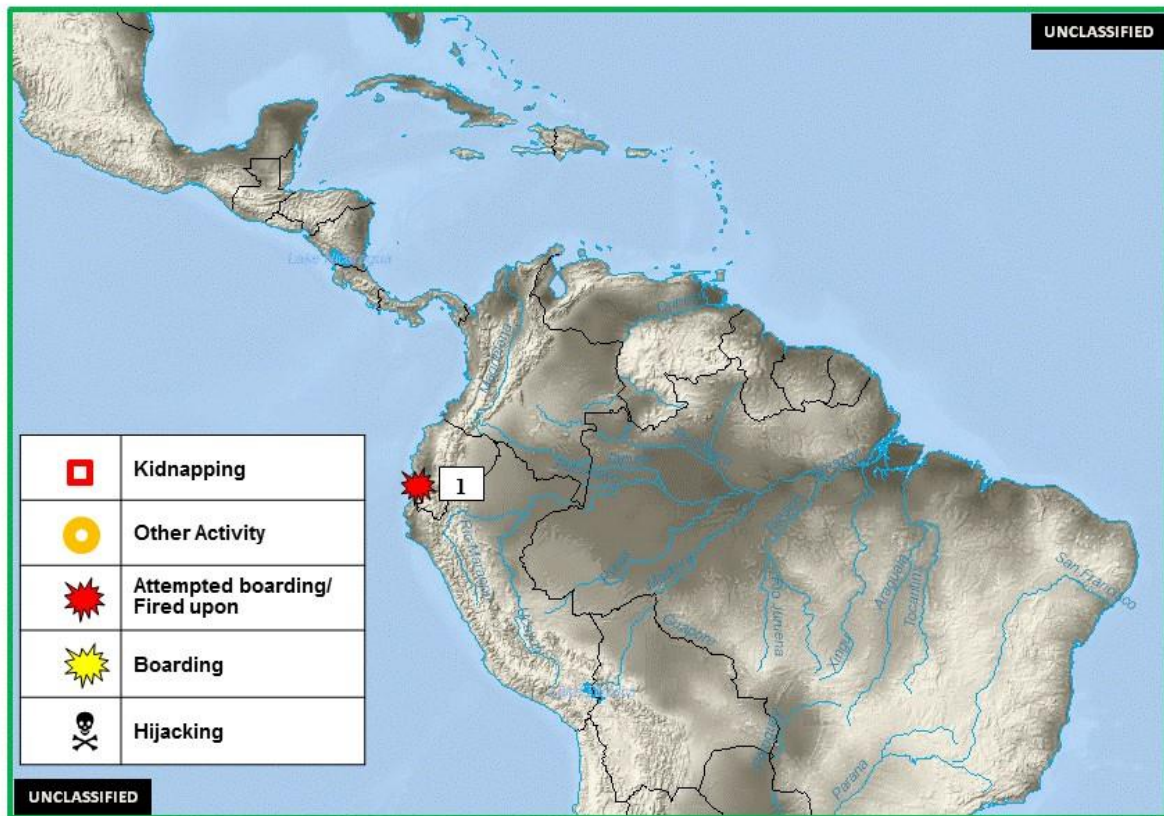


Figure 1. Central America - Caribbean - South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) ECUADOR: On 20 August, two persons in a small skiff came alongside a container vessel underway near position 02:22S - 080:00W, Estero Salada Passage, Guayaquil. The onboard security guards spotted the persons, raised the alarm and switched on all deck lighting. Seeing the crew's alertness, the persons aborted the attempted boarding and moved away. Incident reported to Guayaquil Port Control. (IMB)

2. (U) ST MARTIN: On 8 August, an in-the-water dinghy and outboard was stolen from a yacht anchored in Marigot Bay. A police report was made. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

3. (U) COLOMBIA: On 1 August, authorities intercepted a semi-submersible vehicle carrying 748 kilograms of cocaine near Gorgona Island. Authorities arrested four Colombian crew members. (www.pvilt.com)

4. (U) GUYANA: On 26 July, robbers boarded a container ship berthed near position 06:47N - 058:10W, Port of Georgetown. The thieves stole ship's stores and escaped. The theft was noticed during routine rounds. Incident reported to local agent. (IMB)

5. (U) BRAZIL: On 12 August, the Italy-flagged ro-ro GRANDE FRANCIA was boarded by several armed men from a boat, which came alongside the ship while at anchor in the Santos Outer Anchorage. The crew who spotted intruders alerted the bridge, master activated security system and informed port authorities, requiring immediate assistance. The crew blocked the superstructure entrances. Navy patrol came too late to intercept the intruders because of foul weather, and the armed men fled the ship. Cargo area was searched, two broken containers were found, with nothing stolen. But

two other containers' bags were found with 1,322 kilograms of cocaine in them. (www.fleetmon.com)

6. (U) BRAZIL: On 7 August, authorities in the Port of Santos spotted suspicious activity where the Italy-flagged ro-ro ship GRANDE NIGERIA was berthed. A speedboat reportedly came alongside the ship and objects were hoisted from boat to ship's cargo deck, indicating that there were possibly people onboard waiting for boat with its' cargo. Police and port security officers couldn't reach the ship in time to detain perpetrators. During a search of the ship, 18 large suitcases were found in containers with rice and scrap. Waterproof suitcases contained 1.2 tons of cocaine. An investigation was launched, probing both port workers' and crew's probable involvement. (www.fleetmon.com)

7. (U) COSTA RICA: On 2 August, authorities announced the detention of three Colombian men and a boat carrying 2,000 kilograms of cocaine 80 nautical miles from Quepos, Puntarenas. (www.news.co.cr)

8. (U) CHILE: On 1 August, naval forces seized two Peruvian fishing boats illegally fishing in Chilean waters 498 km south of Antofagasta. The navy escorted the two vessels to the Port of Arica, where crew were handed over to authorities. (www.pvilt.com)

9. (U) BRAZIL: On 5 August, robbers boarded a bulk carrier anchored near position 00:04.0N - 050:58.5W, Macapa Anchorage unnoticed. The robbers stole ship's stores and escaped. The theft was noticed during routine rounds. Incident reported to local agent. (IMB)

10. (U) COLOMBIA: On 2 August, the container ship CAP SAN TAINARO was intercepted by Colombian Navy and fast response team in the Caribbean off Cartagena, while the ship was en route to Caucedo, Dominican Republic. Anti-drug team boarded the ship, checked containers and found 1,144 kilograms of cocaine, hidden in a container loaded with wine. The 15 persons allegedly related to this shipment were arrested, with several crewmen among them. (www.fleetmon.com)

C. (U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA:

1. (U) SPAIN: On 7 August, authorities working a joint investigation intercepted a boat named TITAN III off the country's northwest coast and arrested 4 men. A search of the boat revealed 2,500 kilograms of cocaine. (www.maritimeherald.com)

2. (U) PORTUGAL: On 1 August, an elite unit of Portugal's maritime police rescued a French citizen who was kidnapped and held captive on his own yacht by a compatriot accused of drug dealing. The police staged the dramatic rescue, with help from the air force, swooping on the vessel after the victim managed to tip off a friend in France by telephone and the latter raised the alarm, judicial police revealed. The kidnapper, from the French island of Corsica, forced the yacht owner to raise anchor at Leixoes, a port near the northern city of Porto, threatening his family if he did not comply. Police said the kidnapper was looking to take delivery of a stash of drugs in Morocco. The rescue came after authorities located the yacht 300 kilometers off Portugal's southern Algarve coast. (www.expatica.com)

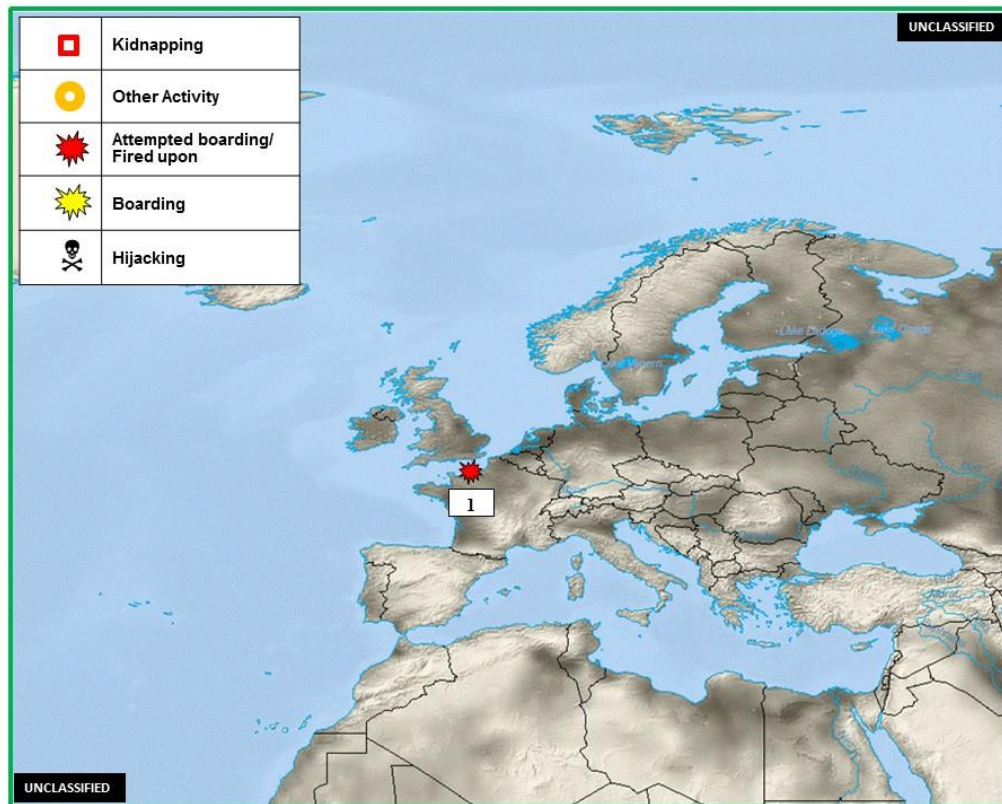
D. (U) NORTHERN EUROPE - BALTIC:

Figure 2. Northern Europe – Baltic Area Piracy
and Maritime Crime

1. (U) FRANCE: On 27 August, French and British fishermen clashed over scallop fishing stocks in the Normandy area. Authorities said they would increase the police presence "if necessary" to prevent a repeat of clashes in which boats collided and stones and metal objects were thrown. French fishermen sent nearly 40 boats to confront UK rivals they accuse of depleting scallop stocks. (www.bbc.com)

2. (U) BELGIUM: On 12 August, officials conducting an inspection in the port of Antwerp found 1,561 kilograms of cocaine, reports the Federal Finance Ministry. The drugs were concealed in a container with tree trunks originating in Colombia. (Het Laatste Nieuws Online)

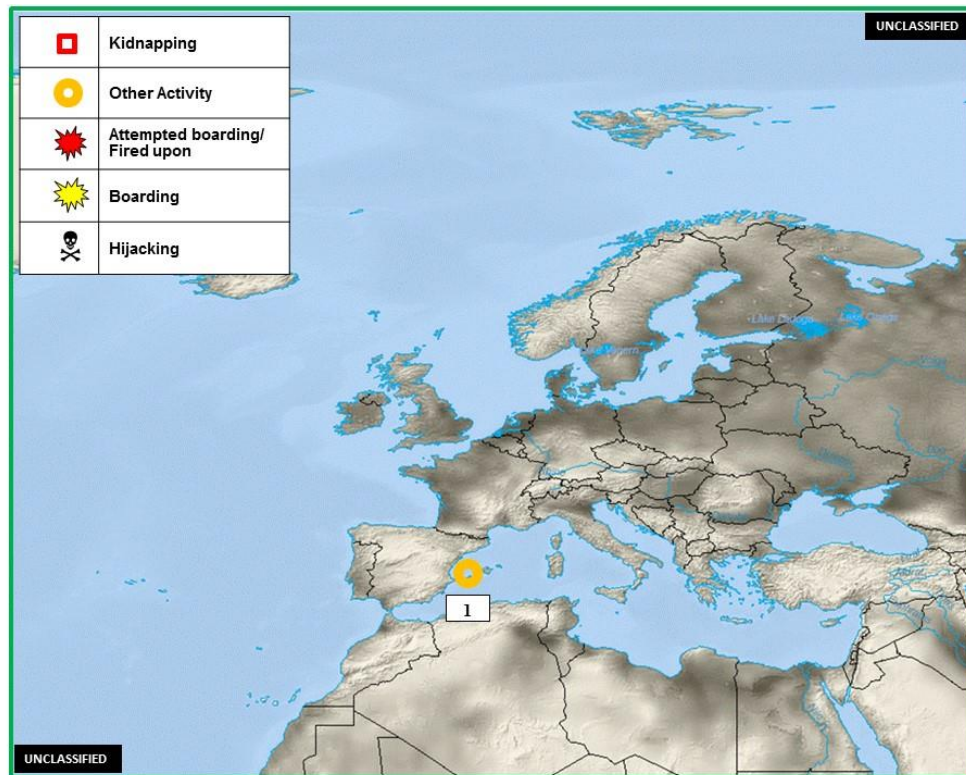
E. (U) MEDITERRANEAN - BLACK SEA:

Figure 3. Mediterranean – Black Sea Piracy
and Maritime Crime

1. (U) SPAIN: On 19 August, the yacht HCH-X was intercepted by Spanish Customs patrol boat 15 nm west of Ibiza, Balearic Islands, on a suspicion of drug trafficking. During a search of the vessel, 300 kilograms of cocaine hidden inside yacht's interior and Captain's cabin. The crew of 5 was arrested. (www.fleetmon.com)

2. (U) LIBYA: On 12 August, the coast guard intercepted 60 undocumented migrants off the coast of the northwestern city of Zawiya. The migrants were all nationals of various unspecified African countries. (www.pvilttd.com)

3. (U) ITALY: On 9 August, Italian police announced they had intercepted the Panama-flagged research ship REMUS and took the ship to Sicily for further investigation. A search of the ship revealed 20 tons of hashish hidden in the ship's fuel tanks. The entire 11-person crew, all from Montenegro, were arrested for international drug trafficking, Italy's finance police said in a statement. The research and survey vessel Remus left the Canary Islands bound for Egypt and Turkey, but police surveillance showed it had turned off its position transmitter near the coast of North Africa, raising investigators' suspicions. (www.uk.reuters.com)

4. (U) LIBYA: On 1 August, a private news website stated that the Libyan Coast Guard had rescued 292 migrants, including 42 women and 10 children, from three inflatable boats off the coast near the northwestern city of Zawiya. It also quoted the spokesman for the Libyan naval forces as saying that 181 migrants, including 24 women and nine children, were also rescued off the coast of Garabulli, about 50 km east of the capital Tripoli. The migrants were handed over to the relevant authorities after receiving humanitarian and medical aid, the website said. (Cairo-based news website Al-Wasat, focusing on Libyan affairs.)

5. (U) LIBYA: On 30 July, the Italy-flagged anchor handling tug ASSO VENTOTTO was tasked to pick up migrants from an inflatable boat which was floating 1.5 nm off the Sabratah oil platform, located 57 nm from Tripoli. The tug picked up 101

migrants and, as ordered by authorities, sailed to Tripoli escorted by a Libyan patrol boat. Migrants were safely disembarked in Tripoli. (www.fleetmon.com)

F. (U) WEST AFRICA:

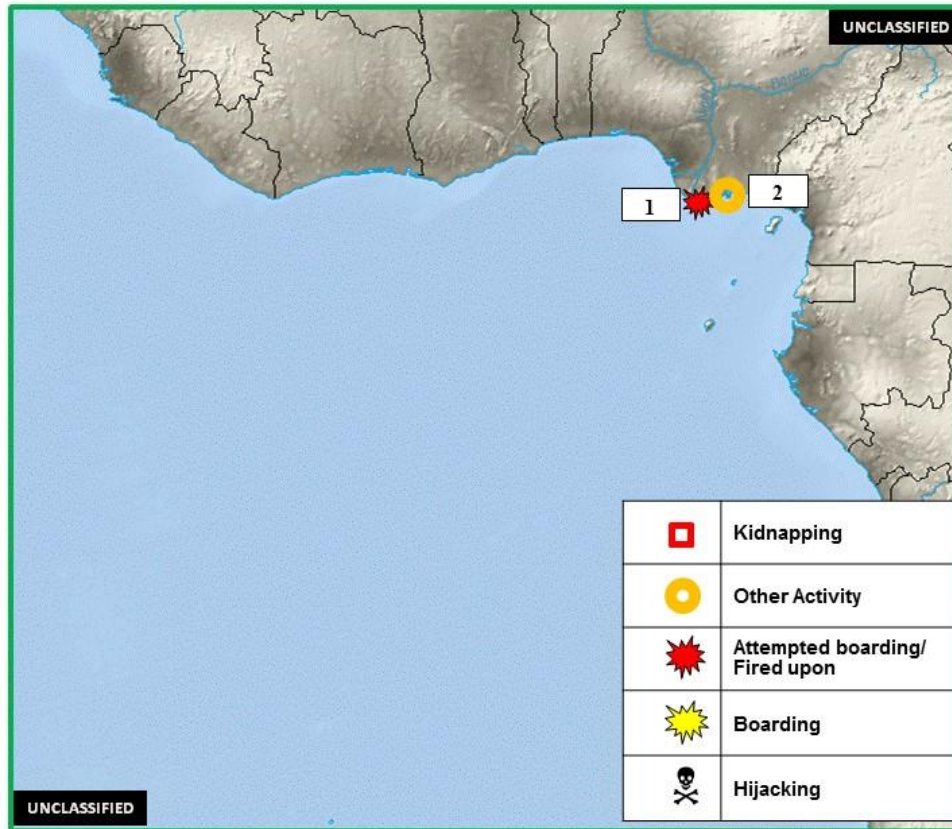


Figure 4. West Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 August, gunmen attacked a market boat at the Igbematoru-Koluama creek, and opened fire on the villagers in the course of the attack, leaving three critically injured with gunshots and others also receiving treatment. (www.naijiloaded.com.ng)

2. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 August, the Nigerian Navy in Bonny, Rivers State, seized 1.22 million liters of smuggled diesel from six crewmen. The suspects, who were arrested along the state waterways, were alleged to have smuggled the petroleum products from Lagos. Cdr. Ibrahim Gwaska, the acting Commanding Officer, Forward Operating Base, Bonny, presented the eight suspected smugglers, vessel and diesel to journalists. "The arrest followed routine patrols of one of our capital ships, NNS OKPABANA, deployed on the sea to stem crude oil, illegal bunkering and other illicit activities within the maritime environment. "In the course of such patrols, NNS OKPABANA intercepted, MV PRINCEHOOD, over the vessel's suspicious movements." (www.todayng.com)

3. (U) NIGERIA: On 21 August, a vessel was boarded at Onne Port Anchorage, near position 04:40N - 007:09E. Four intruders boarded the vessel with weapons. Cans of oil were stolen and the intruders left without entering the ship. Vessel and crew are safe. (MDAT-GoG)

4. (U) GABON: On 13 August, Panama-flagged tanker PANTELENA was reported missing. PANTELENA has a crew of 17 Georgian citizens and two Russians. The tanker's last known position was 00:32N - 008:48E, approximately 40 nm west of

Libreville on 13 August at 2100 UTC. (www.fleetmon.com) UPDATE: On 23 August, reports indicate that the vessel has been located. Unconfirmed reports report that all crew and vessel are safe. (MDAT-GOG)

5. (U) GHANA: On 9 August, authorities in the Port of Tema arrested a Ghanaian citizen attempting to stowaway aboard a cargo ship in the harbor. (www.modernghana.com)

6. (U) GHANA: On 3 August, authorities arrested 17 persons suspected to be part of a cartel dealing in the smuggling of petroleum products. Most were arrested following a tip-off that they were transferring fuel from a ship to drums on the shores of Aflao in the Volta Region. Seven drums filled with diesel, 76 empty drums, 32 filled 25-liter containers of diesel and 20 empty containers were seized. A statement said four others were arrested while siphoning fuel from two "canoe tankers" to fuel a tanker truck at the Tema Fishing Harbour. A tanker truck was impounded along with 16,000 liters of fuel, a pumping machine and fuel hose but the tanker boats and its operators escaped. (www.allafrica.com)

G. (U) ARABIAN GULF:

1. (U) OMAN: On 9 August, officials announced the arrest of 12 persons and the seizure of a ship carrying 50,000 liters of smuggled diesel fuel off the Bukha coast. (www.menafn.com)

H. (U) INDIAN OCEAN - EAST AFRICA - RED SEA:

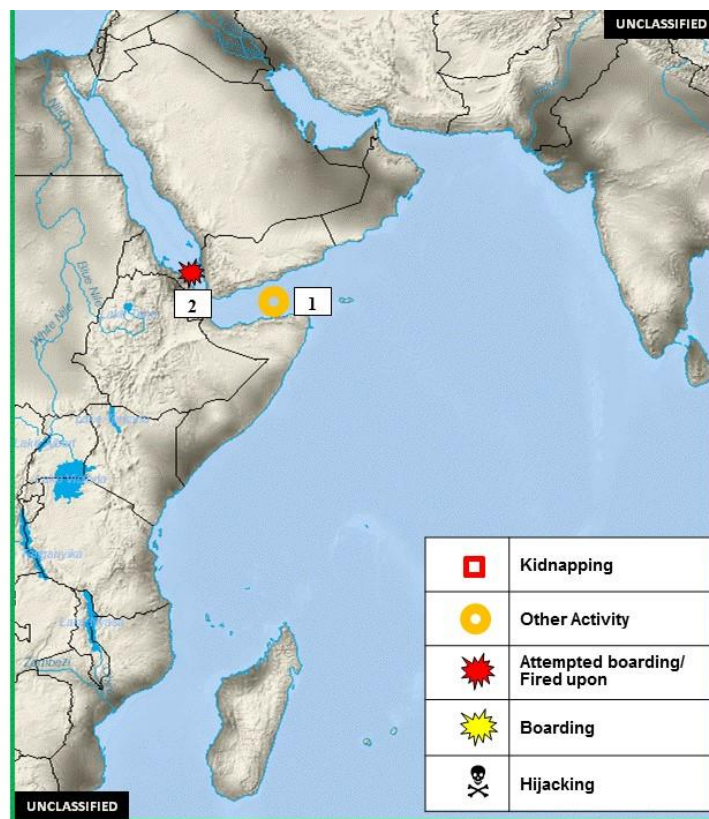


Figure 5. Indian Ocean - East Africa - Red Sea
Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 28 August, a US Navy destroyer, USS JASON DUNAM, seized hundreds of small arms, including Kalashnikovs and AK-47s, from onboard a small boat in the Gulf of Aden, a Pentagon official said. The official added that the boat was seized in an area where weapons were previously smuggled by the Houthi militias. He stated that the seized weapons were now being held onboard the ship. (Reuters; www.english.alarabiya.net)

2. (U) YEMEN: On 23 August, it was reported that Houthi rebel forces had launched an attack by an explosive-laden boat against a ship in the southern Red Sea. Saudi-led coalition forces thwarted the attack, said to have been near al-Hudaydah. (BBC; www.english.alarabiya.net)

3. (U) SOUTH AFRICA: On 19 August, authorities from the port of Elizabeth impounded 20 shipping containers from the Russia-flagged ship LADA. Illegal weapons and explosives were found after an anonymous tip reporting possible arms trafficking. The ship was bound for Lagos, Nigeria. (www.fleetmon.com)

4. (U) YEMEN: On 19 August, port officials in Aden announced that they had seized a shipment of antiques they suspect to be part of what the Yemeni government says is looting of the country's heritage by Houthis to fund their insurgency. The consignment of eight objects seized arrived by truck from Sanaa, the rebel-held capital, on its way to an address in Djibouti, according to a statement released by the head of the harbor security force. Port officials asked an official at Yemen's antiquities authority, to examine the objects. "We found that they were artefacts from early Islamic history: jars, jugs, jambiyas, necklaces, rings; some made of silver mixed with gold, housewares made of silver and gems, in addition to boxes made of decorative wood," the statement said. (www.thenational.ae)

5. (U) INDIA: On 10 August, 10 to 12 perpetrators in a boat came alongside a Liberia-flagged general cargo ship anchored near position 21:41N - 088:01E, 2.75 nm off Sagar Light, near Calcutta Port. Two of the perpetrators boarded the ship. A duty crewman on routine rounds saw the perpetrators transferring bundles of rope to the boat and alerted the crew. Upon realizing the crew had been alerted, the perpetrators escaped. The master reported the incident to the local agent and Indian Coast Guard (ICG). The ICG followed up by deploying a ship to investigate. (www.pviltld.com)

I. (U) EAST ASIA - SOUTHEAST ASIA - INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:

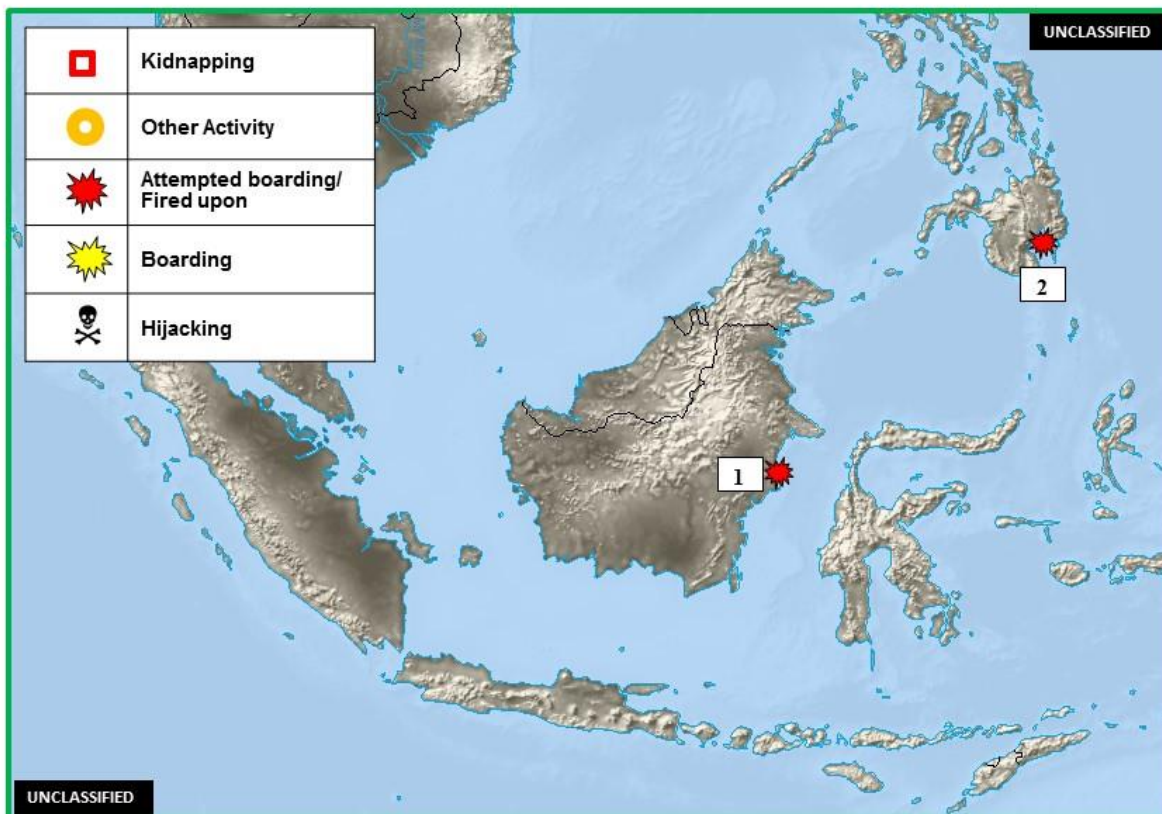


Figure 7. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

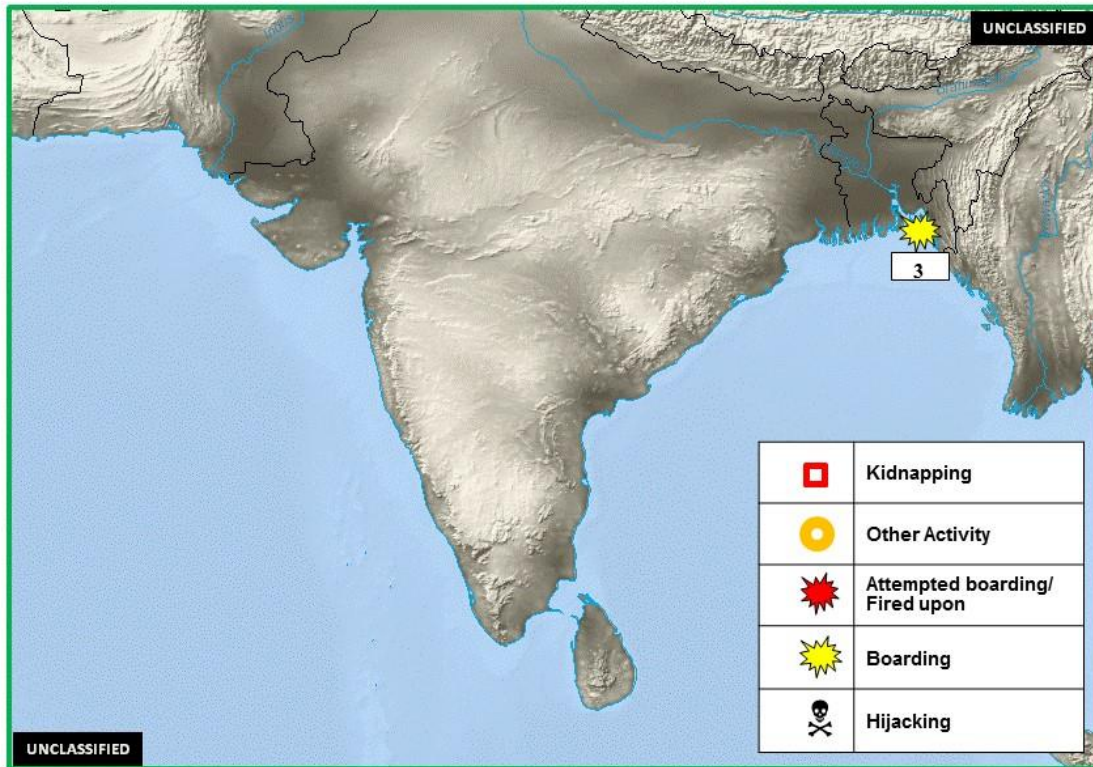


Figure 8. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 August, two robbers attempted to board an anchored bulk carrier during cargo operations near position 00:15S - 117:41E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda. Alert duty crewman stationed on the forecandle deck spotted the robbers and immediately notified the master and duty officer. Alarm was sounded and crew made their way to the forward deck. Hearing the alerted crew approach, the robbers aborted the attempt and escaped in their boat. Incident reported to the agent. (IMB)

2. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 27 August, four robbers in a boat attempted to board a berthed product tanker near position 07:06N - 125:39E, Insular Oil Terminal, Davao. Duty crewman noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers aborted the boarding attempt and escaped. Coast Guard informed. (IMB)

3. (U) BANGLADESH: On 17 August, robbers boarded an anchored container vessel unseen and escaped with stolen ship's stores near position 22:06N - 091:44E, Chittagong Outer Anchorage. The theft was noticed during routine rounds. Incident reported to Chittagong Port Control. (IMB)

4. (U) MALAYSIA: On 10 August, several persons in speed boats boarded a tug towing a barge underway near position 05:29N - 119:09E, near Tambisan Island. The crew locked all access into the tug and contacted the local authorities who dispatched a security boat. Due to the hardening of the tug, the persons were unable to enter the accommodation and escaped when they noticed the security boat approaching. The tug continued her voyage to the next port. Crew is reported safe. (IMB; www.thestar.com.my; www.pvilt.com)

5. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 9 August, Bureau of Customs seized a shipment of smuggled sugar at the Port of Manila. The shipment, transported in forty-five 20-foot shipping containers and declared as packaging materials, kitchen utensils and paper, was confiscated after it was abandoned by the importer. (www.philstar.com)

6. (U) INDONESIA: On 3 August, robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier near position 06:02S - 106:53E, Tanjung Priok Anchorage, Jakarta, stole engine spares and escaped. The theft was noticed during routine rounds and a search throughout the vessel was carried out. (IMB)

7. (U) BANGLADESH: On 2 August, six robbers in a small boat boarded an anchored tanker near position 22:01N - 091:46E, Kutubdia Anchorage, using a hook attached with a rope. They stole ship's stores and properties and escaped. The incident was reported to the Bangladesh Coast Guard who searched the area. (IMB)

8. (U) INDONESIA: On 1 August, duty personnel onboard a bulk carrier anchored near position 00:14S - 117:33E, Samarinda Anchorage, saw five robbers on the forecastle deck armed with knives and immediately informed the duty officer. Alarm was raised. Seeing the alerted crew approach the forecastle deck, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. (IMB)

J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA:

1. (U) EAST CHINA SEA: On 31 July, the Japanese government announced that a North Korean tanker was spotted alongside a ship displaying what looked like a Chinese flag, presumably engaged in an illegal cargo transfer. Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that the ships were found by a Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force supply vessel around 400 kilometers southeast of Shanghai and that they were connected by hoses. Japan notified the U.N. Security Council Committee and related countries, including China, about the incident, although the identity of the second vessel is unknown. (www.panorientnews.com)

K. (U) AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND - PACIFIC OCEAN AREA:

1. (U) AUSTRALIA: On 1 August, authorities announced the arrest of 2 men caught trying to smuggle 600 kilograms of cocaine in a yacht near Byron Bay. (www.dailymail.co.uk)

6. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources

(U) This appendix provides contact information for the author of the WTS as well as other entities that can be contacted with maritime crime reports. It also lists other resources where the WTS is posted and where piracy and maritime crime incident information can be found.

(U) Contact

(U) Originator of this WTS report requests consumer feedback. Originator will incorporate all anti-shipping events and violence against the maritime industry into this weekly message where appropriate. To aid in our reporting, please add the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to your normal corporate and organizational reporting requirements. The 24-hour watch can be reached at +1 (301) 669-4053.

(U) Other Resources

(U) This Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report is posted at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Maritime Safety site: <http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MSI.portal>. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) also publishes a live piracy report based on reporting from the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, listing all piracy and armed robbery incidents in the last ten days: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/>. The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm.

7. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also

identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. ONI welcomes comment and suggestions for addition or amendment.

(U) Terminology

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, the following have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities:

(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 of an unknown vessel.

(U) Sourcing

(U) ONI derives information in this report from 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: 29 August 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>