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(U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 14 June – 12 July 2023**



12 July 2023

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1. (U) **Scope Note**

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) report 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, Advisories and Alerts:** See Appendix C for active advisories.

3. (U) **Summary:**

A. (U) **INDONESIA:** On 12 July, five robbers armed with knives boarded an underway bulk carrier in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS).

B. (U) **GHANA:** On 10 July, two robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier at Takoradi Anchorage.

C. (U) **SIERRA LEONE:** On 5 July, eight robbers boarded a fishing vessel in waters near the border with Guinea.

4. (U) **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 past 30 days. Every effort is made to ensure that incidents are not double-counted. In the event that 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.

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

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

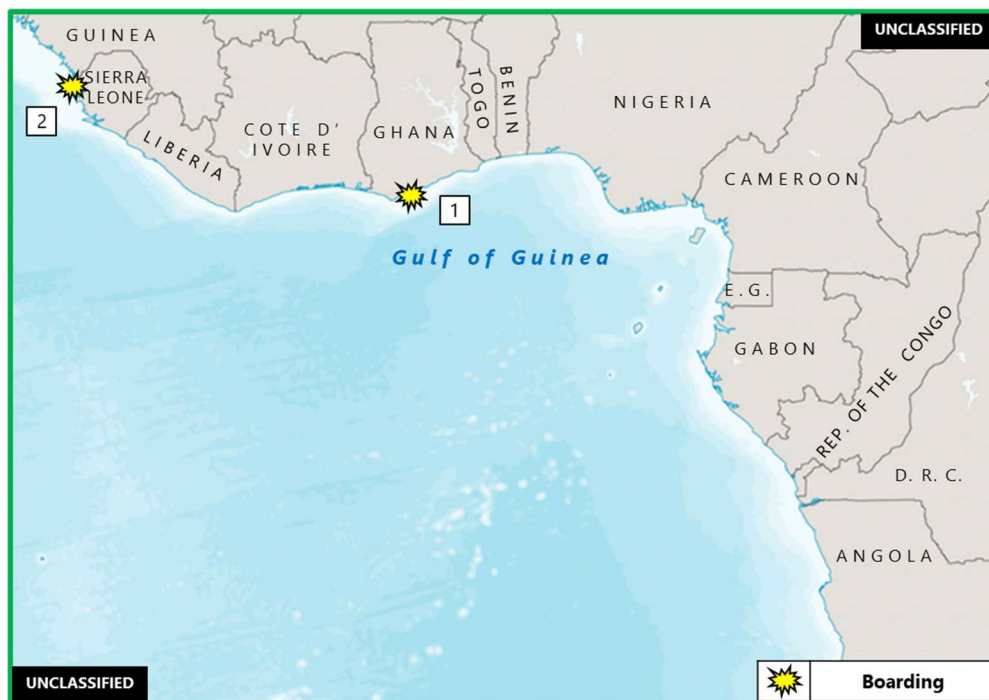
1. (U) PERU: On 21 June at 0001 local time, robbers boarded the anchored Liberia-flagged bulk carrier CAIPIRINHA at Callao Anchorage, near position 12:02S – 077:11W. Robbers stole ship's stores before escaping unnoticed. The duty crew discovered the theft during routine rounds and the ship reported the incident to the local agent. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)

C. (U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA: No current incidents to report.

D. (U) NORTHERN EUROPE – BALTIC: No current incidents to report.

E. (U) MEDITERRANEAN – BLACK SEA: No current incidents to report.

F. (U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA:



(U) Figure 1. West Africa – Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea

1. (U) GHANA: On 10 July at 0035 local time, two robbers boarded the anchored Portugal-flagged bulk carrier UAL OSPREY at Takoradi Anchorage, near position 04:53N – 001:41W. The duty crew reported that razor wire on the forward, port side had been partly removed and they spotted two perpetrators on the upper deck. The bridge sounded the alarm, the crew mustered, and the ship notified port control. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the

crew's alertness, the perpetrators escaped into a waiting blue wooden boat. A search of the vessel confirmed that nothing had been stolen. A patrol boat arrived later at the ship's location and checked the area surrounding the vessel, but did not find any perpetrators. (Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)

2. (U) SIERRA LEONE: On 5 July at 0335 UTC, eight robbers boarded a fishing vessel in the northern part of Sierra Leone waters close to the border with Guinea, near position 08:53N – 013:31W. The robbers stole personal belongings and ship's stores before destroying cameras and communications equipment. During the incident, the master was shot and later hospitalized in stable condition. A Sierra Leone Navy patrol boat was sent to the fishing vessel's location and the vessel then headed to Freetown Port. (Clearwater Dynamics; MDAT-GoG)

3. (U) GUINEA: On 5 July at 0200 local time, six perpetrators attempted to board a tanker anchored 14 NM south of Conakry, near position 09:17N – 013:45W. Duty crew spotted the perpetrators trying to board the tanker from a small boat using a ladder. Duty crew directed a light at the individuals attempting to board, causing them to flee empty-handed. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)

4. (U) CAMEROON: On 30 June at 2345 local time, perpetrators kidnapped five crew members from the anchored Panama-flagged bulk carrier OYA 1 near buoy 27 at Douala Anchorage, near position 04:00N – 009:38E. The ship raised the alarm and notified the Cameroon Navy and Bataillon Intervention Rapide of the incident. A patrol boat came to assist and the remaining crew are reported to be safe. (Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive; MDAT-GoG; IMB; vesseltracker.com)

5. (U) CAMEROON: On 30 June at 2240 local time, armed individuals fired upon two China-flagged fishing vessels, HAI LU FENG 13 and HAI LU FENG 14, while underway in the Wouri River near buoy 14 off Douala, near position 03:56N – 009:35E. The perpetrators approached the two fishing vessels onboard several speedboats, and exchanged gunfire with members of the Cameroonian military aboard the fishing vessels. One of the perpetrators was likely killed during the exchange. The fishing vessels and crew were reported safe and sailed to Douala following the incident. (Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive; IMB)

6. (U) GHANA: On 28 June at 0055 local time, three robbers boarded an anchored cargo ship at Takoradi Anchorage, near position 04:53N – 001:38W. The robbers were seen lowering paint buckets down the side of the vessel into a boat. The alarm was raised, crew mustered, and port control was notified. Following a search of the ship it was discovered that ship's stores had been stolen, including twelve drums of paint. (Clearwater Dynamics)

7. (U) NIGERIA: On 26 June at 1800 local time, perpetrators kidnapped eight oil workers off a passenger boat transiting through Lagos Lagoon toward Tin Can Island, near position 06:25N – 003:21E. The perpetrators forced the oil workers onto their vessel and fled the area. The passenger boat was later found at a jetty in the northeast part of the Lagos Lagoon. Police confirmed the incident and have launched a manhunt for the suspected kidnappers. UPDATE: The eight kidnapped oil workers were released on the evening of 2 July. (Clearwater Dynamics)

8. (U) GUINEA: On 22 June at 0435 local time, four armed robbers boarded an anchored Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier NYON approximately 14 NM south of Conakry, near position 09:13N – 013:50W. They used force to steal money from the ship's safe and escaped. All crew were reported safe. (MDAT-GoG; Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; vesseltracker.com)

G. (U) ARABIAN GULF: No current incidents to report.

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

1. (U) YEMEN: On 27 June at 0921 local time, two skiffs with up to six persons armed with guns onboard each skiff approached to within 50 meters on the port side of an underway tanker approximately 20 NM west of Al Hudaydah, near position 14:46N – 042:34E. No shots were fired. The vessel increased speed and commenced evasive maneuvers, resulting in the skiffs departing the area. The tanker and crew are safe. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)

I. (U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA:



(U) Figure 2. East Asia – Southeast Asia Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 12 July at 0300 local time, five robbers armed with knives boarded the underway Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier ATLANTIC PRESTIGE in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), near position 01:05N – 103:33E. The master reported all crew safe and accounted for, and that ship's stores and spares had been stolen. The vessel did not require assistance and continued its voyage to Singapore. (Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 4 July at 0900 local time, four robbers boarded a barge under tow by a Malaysia-flagged tug in the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), near position 01:16N – 104:08E.

The master reported seeing the robbers transferring scrap metal from the barge onto a sampan. (Clearwater Dynamics)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 3 July at 0345 local time, duty crew on routine rounds discovered an unauthorized person on the aft deck of a tanker anchored at Tanjung Priok Anchorage, Jakarta, near position 06:01S – 106:54E. After the raising of the alarm, the crew mustered and the perpetrator escaped with his accomplices in a waiting boat. A subsequent search of the vessel found that nothing had been stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)

4. (U) MALAYSIA: On 1 July at 2050 local time, five robbers boarded a barge under tow by a tug in the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:13N – 103:30E. Once on the barge, the perpetrators transferred scrap metal from the barge onto two sampans. The Malaysian Marine Police from Johor subsequently detained the five perpetrators and two sampans and seized an estimated 100 tons of stolen scrap metal. (Clearwater Dynamics)

5. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 June at 0300 local time, three perpetrators armed with steel bars boarded an anchored tanker at Dumai Inner Anchorage, near position 01:42N – 101:28E. Duty crew noticed the perpetrators near the engine room. The perpetrators threatened to attack a crewman, but he escaped. The bridge raised the alarm and the crew mustered. The perpetrators, aware of the crew's alertness, escaped. The crew conducted a search and reported nothing missing. The local agent notified authorities of the incident. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

6. (U) INDONESIA: On 26 June at 2215 local time, one perpetrator boarded the underway Iran-flagged bulk carrier DARYABAR in the Phillip Channel of the Singapore Strait, near position 01:03N – 103:35E. The master reported all crew safe and accounted for, and that no items had been stolen. The vessel did not require assistance and continued its voyage to China. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

7. (U) INDONESIA: On 24 June at 0030 local time, four robbers boarded the underway Hong Kong-flagged bulk carrier BONNY ISLAND in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:16N – 104:11E. The duty crew had discovered the robbers in the engine room and the master confirmed that all perpetrators had departed the vessel. No injuries occurred to the crew, and the vessel did not require assistance. The master reported engine spare parts stolen. The ship continued its voyage to South Africa. (ReCAAP; IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

8. (U) INDONESIA: On 22 June at 0305 local time, two perpetrators armed with knives boarded the underway Malta-flagged tanker SEAVIGOUR in the Phillip Channel of the Singapore Strait, near position 01:04N – 103:42E. The master reported no items stolen. All crew were safe and accounted for. The vessel did not require assistance and continued its voyage to Singapore. (Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com; IMB; ReCAAP)

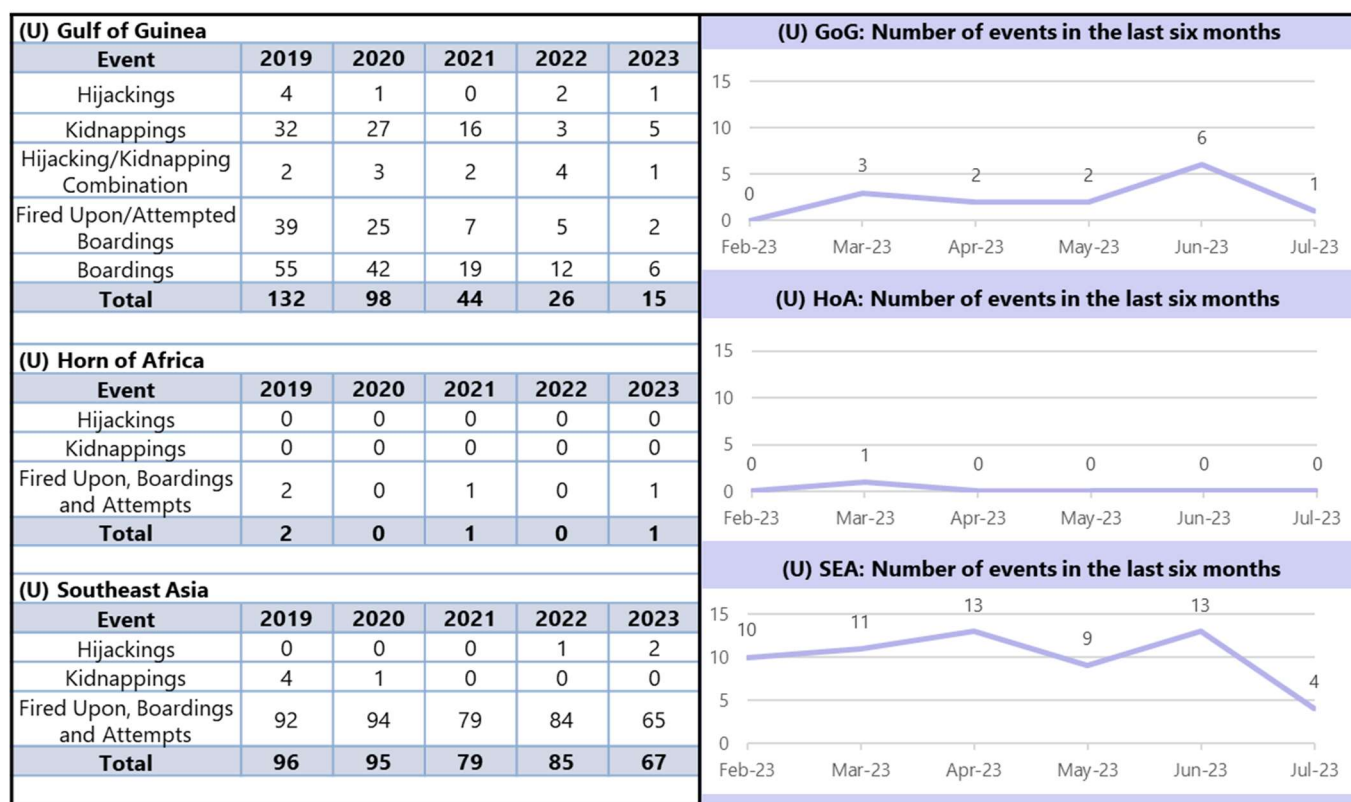
9. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 June at 0445 local time, four robbers armed with knives boarded the underway Philippines-flagged bulk carrier VINCENT TRADER in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:16N – 104:12E. Duty crew sighted the four perpetrators in the engine room. The master sounded the alarm, mustered the crew, and had the crew conduct a security search. The master reported no further sighting of the perpetrators. One crewman was injured and engine spares were stolen. The ship continued its voyage to South Korea. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com)

10. (U) **INDONESIA:** On 16 June at 2350 local time, robbers boarded the underway Vietnam-flagged offshore supply vessel HAI DUONG 55 in the eastbound lane of the Malacca Strait TSS, near position 01:12N – 103:22E. After the vessel's closed-circuit television captured suspicious movement on the main deck, the master raised the alarm and mustered the crew. A search of the vessel revealed no further sightings of the perpetrators. The master confirmed that items from a container and a coil of mooring rope had been stolen. The vessel reported all crew safe. Upon arrival in Singapore on 17 June, the master reported the incident to the local agent and the port operations control center. (ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com)

J. (U) **INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:** No current incidents to report.

K. (U) **AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA:** No current incidents to report.

5. (U) Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends



6. (U) Appendix B: Definitions and Sourcing

A. (U) **Definitions:** In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, we use the following definitions to describe a range of criminal antishipping 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) **Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement who forcefully remove crew members from vessel when disembarking.
- (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.

B. (U) Sourcing: ONI derives information in this report primarily from government agencies, piracy reporting centers, maritime security companies, and open press.

7. (U) **Appendix C: Active U.S. Maritime Advisories**

Title	Effective Date	Expiration Date
2023-008-Gulf of Guinea – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	30 JUN 23	29 DEC 23
2023-007-Global – Overview of the U.S. Maritime Advisory System	6 JUN 23	3 DEC 23
2023-006-Worldwide – U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Industry Cybersecurity Resource Center Website	24 APR 23	23 OCT 23
2023-005-Various – GPS Interference & AIS Spoofing	8 MAR 23	4 SEP 23
2023-004-Black Sea and Sea of Azov – Military Combat Operations	3 MAR 23	30 AUG 23
2023-003-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Aden, Bab el Mandeb Strait, Red Sea, and Somali Basin – Threat to Commercial Vessels	23 FEB 23	22 AUG 23
2023-002-Worldwide – Maritime Port Vulnerabilities – Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence	17 FEB 23	16 AUG 23

(U) **ICOD:** 12 July 2023

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intelligence Portal:
<https://www.oni.navy.mil/ONI-Reports/Shipping-Threat-Reports/Worldwide-Threat-to-Shipping/>