



UNCLASSIFIED

(U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 29 May–26 June 2024**



26 June 2024

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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.

A. (U) U.S. Maritime Advisory 2024-007: Gulf of Guinea – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom

Issued on 24 June 2024. This revised advisory cancels U.S. Maritime Advisory 2023-016. Piracy, Armed Robbery, and Kidnapping for Ransom (KFR) pose significant threats to vessels transiting or operating in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) as well as mariners onboard a vessel or transiting to or from a vessel in the GoG. Details of incidents in the GoG can be found in the Office of Naval Intelligence Worldwide Threat to Shipping reports, posted at <https://www.oni.navy.mil/ONI-Reports/Shipping-Threat-Reports/Worldwide-Threat-to-Shipping/>. For more information about U.S. Maritime Alerts and Advisories, including subscription details, please visit <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/msci/maritime-security-communications-industry-msci-web-portal>. This advisory will automatically expire on 21 December 2024.

3. (U) **Summary:**

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 25 June, a missile impacted the water in close proximity to a bulk carrier underway approximately 53 NM south of Aden, Yemen.

B. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 24 June, an explosion occurred in close proximity to a container ship underway approximately 246 NM southeast of Nishtun, Yemen.

C. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 23 June, a merchant vessel issued a distress call reporting flooding that could not be contained approximately 96 NM southeast of Nishtun, Yemen.

D. (U) RED SEA: On 23 June, an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) struck a bulk carrier underway approximately 65 NM west of Hodeida, Yemen.

E. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 21 June, three projectiles exploded in close proximity to a bulk carrier underway approximately 126 NM east of Aden, Yemen.

F. (U) ANGOLA: On 20 June, an unspecified number of robbers boarded a container ship at Luanda Anchorage.

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.

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

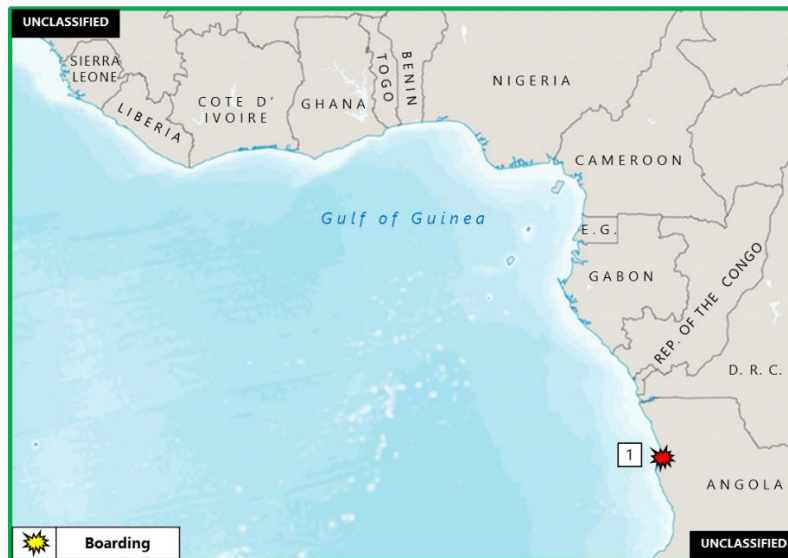
B. (U) CENTRAL AMERICA – CARIBBEAN – SOUTH AMERICA: No current incidents to report.

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:

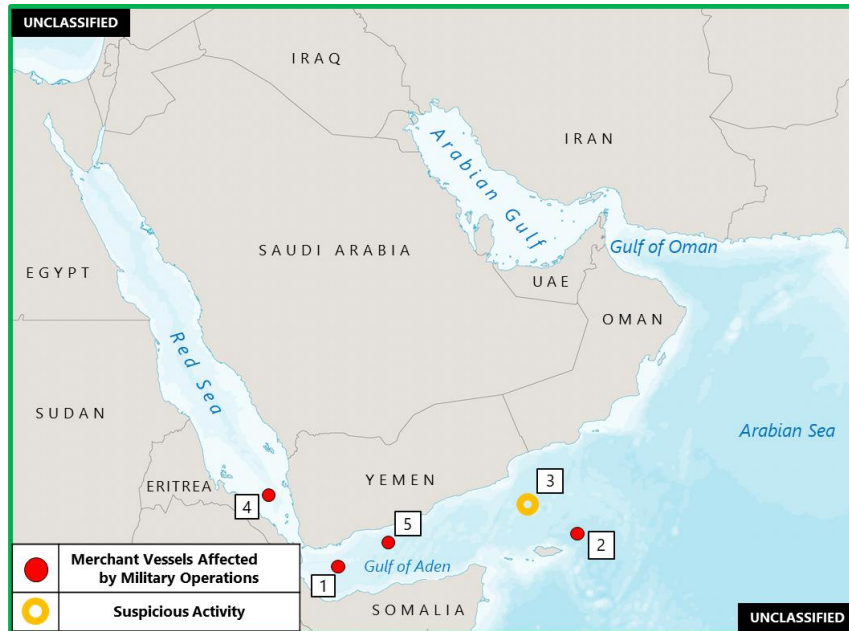


(U) Figure 1. West Africa Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea

1. (U) ANGOLA: On 20 June at 0250 local time, an unspecified number of robbers boarded a Singapore-flagged container ship at Luanda Anchorage, near position 08:44S – 013:19E. During security rounds, the duty crew discovered footprints near the hawse pipe. The crew determined that ship's stores had been stolen but found no perpetrators onboard. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)
2. (U) NIGERIA: On 13 June at 1800 UTC, a passenger boat was attacked in the Lagos waterways while transiting between Apapa and Banana Island, near position 06:28N – 003:24E. Initial reports indicate that up to four Lebanese and Syrian passengers were kidnapped. One of the passengers is reported to be the CEO of LG Nigeria. (Clearwater Dynamics)
3. (U) GABON: On 5 June at 1050 UTC, a small vessel with 15 persons onboard approached a Singapore-flagged container ship approximately 40 NM west of Sette Cama, near position 02:33S – 009:05E. The small vessel approached to within 0.8 NM of the ship's stern, and then departed the area after 10 minutes. (Clearwater Dynamics; MDAT-GoG)
4. (U) EQUATORIAL GUINEA: On 29 May at 2210 local time, as many as nine pirates in a speedboat boarded an underway Ghana-flagged cargo ship approximately 28 NM southwest of Bioko Island, near position 03:12N – 007:58E. The pirates kidnapped the captain, a Ghanaian, and the chief engineer, a Nigerian, and stole ship's and crew's properties before leaving the vessel with the abducted crew members. After the incident, the ship returned to Douala, Cameroon. (MDAT-GoG; Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)

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

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



(U) Figure 2. East Africa – Red Sea Military Operations against Merchant Vessels

1. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 25 June at 1700 UTC, a missile impacted the water in close proximity to a St Kitts and Nevis-flagged bulk carrier underway approximately 53 NM south of Aden, Yemen, near position 11:53N – 045:11E. The master reported no damage to the ship, that all crew members were safe, and that the vessel is continuing to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 24 June at 0444 UTC, an explosion occurred in close proximity to the Liberia-flagged container ship MSC SARAH V underway approximately 246 NM southeast of Nishtun, Yemen (exact position not specified). The master reported that the crew were safe, and that the vessel is proceeding to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)

3. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 23 June at 0841 UTC, a merchant vessel issued a distress call reporting flooding that could not be contained approximately 96 NM southeast of Nishtun, Yemen, near position 14:29N – 053:08E. The master and crew abandoned ship and were recovered by an assisting ship. As of 1223 UTC, the abandoned ship remained adrift near position 14:31N – 053:08E. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

4. (U) RED SEA: On 23 June at 0300 UTC, an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) struck the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier TRANSWORLD NAVIGATOR underway approximately 65 NM west of Hodeida, Yemen (exact position not specified). The master reported minor damage to the vessel, that all crew members were safe, and that the vessel was continuing its voyage to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; U.S. Central Command)

5. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 21 June at 1935 UTC, three projectiles exploded in close proximity to the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier TRANSWORLD NAVIGATOR underway approximately 126 NM east of Aden, Yemen, near position

12:40N – 047:10E. The master reported that all crew members were safe, the vessel did not sustain any damage, and it was proceeding to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive; aljazeera.com)

6. (U) BAB EL MANDEB STRAIT: On 16 June at 0130 UTC, two missiles impacted the water approximately 100 meters from Malta-flagged crude oil tanker CAPTAIN PARIS while underway approximately 40 NM south of Mokha, Yemen, in the Bab El Mandeb near position 14:41N – 043:21E. No damage was sustained, the crew were reported safe, and the vessel continued its voyage. (Clearwater Dynamics, vesseltracker.com, UKMTO).
7. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: On 14 June at 2031 UTC, a Yemeni-flagged fishing dhow requested a rescue approximately 200 NM southeast of Harardhere, Somalia, near position 03:56N - 051:18E. The crew reported their dhow was boarded by pirates who disembarked, leaving the dhow stranded without food or fuel. (Clearwater Dynamics)
8. (U) RED SEA: On 13 June at 1127 UTC, an explosion occurred in close proximity to the Malta-flagged cargo vessel SEAGUARDIAN approximately 82 NM northwest of Hodeida, Yemen (exact position not specified). No damage was sustained, the crew were reported safe, and the vessel continued its voyage following the incident. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)
9. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 13 June between 0947 and 1620 UTC, two anti-ship cruise missiles and one anti-ship ballistic missile (ASBM) struck the Palau-flagged cargo vessel VERBENA approximately 123 NM east southeast of Aden, Yemen (exact position not specified). The two cruise missiles struck the starboard side of the main deck and a cargo bay above the waterline, resulting in a fire in cargo bay 2. Subsequently, at 1620 UTC, an ASBM hit VERBENA, resulting in minor damage to the vessel. One crew member was seriously injured during the attack and was medically evacuated by a helicopter from USS PHILIPPINE SEA. The fire onboard was brought under control and the vessel proceeded to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com; U.S. Central Command)
10. (U) RED SEA: On 12 June at 0650 UTC, an unmanned surface vessel (USV) struck the stern of the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier TUTOR while underway approximately 67 NM southwest of Hodeida, Yemen, near position 14:19N – 041:54E. According to the British security firm Ambrey, the incident bore the hallmarks of an attack by Yemen's Huthi militia. Initial reports stated that, after the strike, TUTOR sustained damage in its engine room, had no power, and the engines were not functioning, resulting in the vessel drifting. Following the attack, TUTOR was taking on water and a crew member who was in the engine room at the time of the incident was unaccounted for. The master later stated the vessel had been struck a second time by an unknown airborne projectile. As of approximately 1500 UTC on 12 June, the vessel was still taking on water and was not under the command of the crew. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Reuters)
11. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 9 June at 1430 UTC, a missile launched from Huthi-controlled territory in Yemen targeted the Antigua and Barbuda-flagged general cargo ship NORDERNEY for a second time approximately 89 NM southwest of Aden, Yemen, near Djibouti (exact position not specified). The missile hit the vessel but did not cause any casualties among the crew. The vessel proceeded to its next port of call without further mishap. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; U.S. Central Command; Maritime Executive)
12. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 8 June at 2339 UTC, an ASBM launched from Huthi-controlled territory in Yemen targeted the Liberia-flagged container ship MSC TAVVISHI approximately 70 NM southwest of Aden, Yemen

(exact position not specified). The ASBM struck the vessel's aft section causing a fire that was extinguished. The ship reported no casualties and was under escort by coalition forces. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; U.S. Central Command; Maritime Executive)

13. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 8 June at 2000 UTC, a missile launched from Huthi-controlled territory in Yemen targeted the Antigua and Barbuda-flagged general cargo ship NORDERNEY approximately 82 NM southeast of Aden, Yemen, near position 12:22N – 046:22E. The missile struck the vessel and started a fire near mooring equipment, which the crew quickly extinguished. The master reported no injuries to the crew and that the ship was headed to a safe position for assistance. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; U.S. Central Command; Maritime Executive)

14. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: On 7 June at 0620 UTC, a skiff launched from a mothership approached the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier PACIFIC HONOR approximately 355 NM east-southeast of Mogadishu, Somalia, near position 00:28N – 051:08E. The embarked armed security team fired warning shots that resulted in the skiff aborting its approach. The ship reported no injuries to the crew and no damage to the vessel. The bulk carrier continued its voyage to the next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; vesseltracker.com)

15. (U) RED SEA: On 6 June at 1806 UTC, two explosions occurred in close proximity to the Cyprus-flagged general cargo ship AAL GENOA approximately 27 NM south of Mokha, Yemen (exact position not specified). The master reported no damage to the ship, all crew members were safe, and that the vessel was proceeding to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive)

16. (U) RED SEA: On 1 June at 1630 UTC, a UAV, likely launched from Huthi-controlled territory in Yemen, targeted a Malta-flagged product tanker approximately 66 NM northwest of Jizan, Saudi Arabia, near position 14:41N – 042:07E . The vessel was not hit and did not sustain any damage, and the crew was reported safe. After the incident, the vessel proceeded to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

17. (U) RED SEA: On 1 June at 1430 UTC, an explosion occurred a short distance from the port side of a merchant vessel approximately 50 NM southwest of Al Shuqaiq, Saudi Arabia. After inspecting the vessel for damage, none was found. Vessel and all crew were reported safe, and continued to their next port of call. (UKMTO)

18. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 31 May at 0550 UTC, three skiffs and a mothership approached an underway merchant vessel approximately 130 NM northeast of Bosaso, Somalia, near position 13:27N – 049:47E. The merchant vessel maneuvered, increased its speed, and the armed security team displayed their weapons on the bridge wings. These defensive measures caused the persons aboard the skiffs to abort their approach. The vessel continued its transit. (Clearwater Dynamics)

I. (U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA:

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 15 June at 2012 local time, a vessel made a suspicious approach on an underway tanker in the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), near position 01:14N – 104:03E. The tanker reported spotting a dimly lit boat 1.5 NM from its port bow, the boat began to flash its lights and increase its speed to try to come alongside the tanker. The tanker made evasive maneuvers and notified the Vessel Traffic Information Service. A patrol boat was tasked to assist and the boat aborted its approach and departed. (Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 15 June at 0201 local time, four robbers, one armed with a long knife boarded an underway Liberia-flagged bulk carrier in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:05N – 103:42E. Duty crew member raised the alarm after spotting the four robbers, which caused the robbers to flee. The robbers escaped with ship's equipment. (Clearwater Dynamics)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 11 June at 0430 local time, six robbers armed with knives boarded a bulk carrier while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:37E. The officer of the watch raised the alarm after two crew members were discovered tied up in the engine room workshop. The crew mustered and conducted a search that revealed another crew member on the upper deck had been tied up. The robbers stole ship's engine spare parts and the crew's personal belongings before leaving the ship. The ship reported the incident to Singapore authorities after anchoring. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 10 June at 0435 local time, as many as four robbers armed with knives boarded the underway Bahamas-flagged bulk carrier G.B. CORRADO in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:08N – 103:28E. The ship engineer spotted the robbers in the engine room and notified the officer of the watch. The master raised the alarm and announced the presence of unauthorized persons onboard. Aware of the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped. The crew searched the ship and discovered ship's engine spare parts had been stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; vesseltracker.com; ReCAAP)

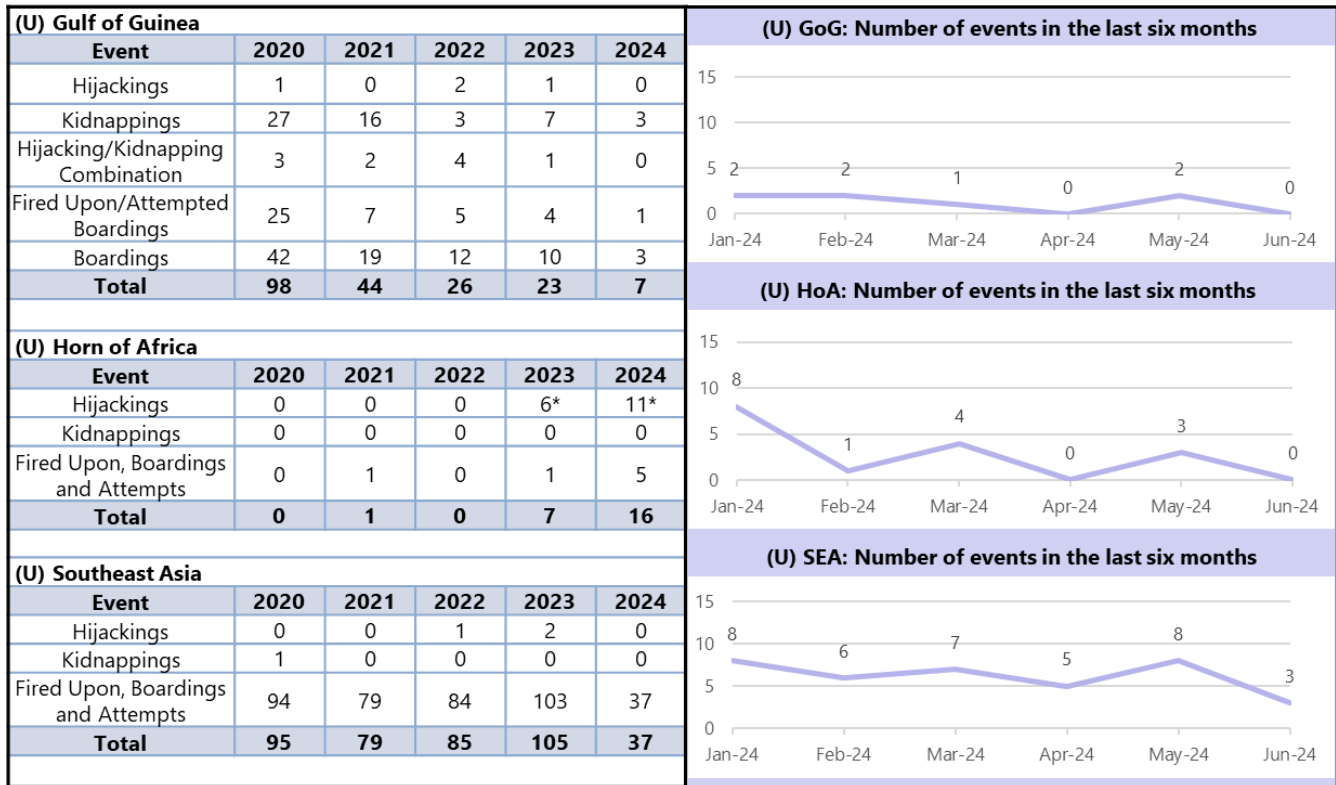
5. (U) INDONESIA: On 5 June at 0040 local time, three perpetrators armed with knives boarded the Singapore-flagged offshore supply vessel AVATAR COURAGE while anchored at Batam Anchorage, near position 01:09N – 103:58E. The duty crew saw the individuals on deck as they attempted to access the vessel's interior. The master raised the alarm, mustered the crew, and notified the Indonesian Navy and Coast Guard. A search of the vessel found no perpetrators onboard. All crew members were reported safe and nothing was stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com; ReCAAP)

6. (U) VIETNAM: On 29 May at 1920 local time, one perpetrator boarded the anchored Liberia-flagged general cargo ship AAL MERKUR at Vung Tau Anchorage, near position 10:12N – 107:03E. After noticing the perpetrator climbing over the ship's railing, the duty crewman shouted at the person and raised the alarm. The perpetrator jumped into a wooden boat and escaped with two accomplices. The master reported to the company security officer that nothing had been stolen. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

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



*Horn of Africa hijacking numbers include Dhows and Fishing Vessels

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 |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| 2024-007: Gulf of Guinea – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom | 24 JUN 24 | 21 DEC 24 |
| 2024-006: Southern Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean, Somali Basin, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman, Strait of Hormuz, and Persian Gulf – Threats to Commercial Vessels | 18 APR 24 | 15 OCT 24 |
| 2024-005: Global – U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts | 16 APR 24 | 12 OCT 24 |
| 2024-003: Black Sea and Sea of Azov – Military Combat Operations | 26 FEB 24 | 25 AUG 24 |
| 2024-002: Worldwide – Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence | 21 FEB 24 | 19 AUG 24 |

(U) **ICOD:** 26 June 2024

(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/>