



UNCLASSIFIED

(U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 12 June–10 July 2024**



10 July 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.

3. (U) **Summary:**

A. (U) **BAB EL MANDEB STRAIT:** On 10 July, a missile exploded about 600 meters from the port side of a crude oil tanker while underway approximately 40 NM south of Mokha, Yemen.

B. (U) **ARABIAN SEA:** On 9 July, the master of a container ship reported an explosion in close proximity while underway approximately 180 NM east of Nishtun, Yemen.

C. (U) **INDONESIA:** On 8 July, four perpetrators boarded a bulk carrier in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS).

D. (U) **INDONESIA:** (Late Reporting) On 25 June, two robbers boarded a heavy lift ship while anchored at Kabil Anchorage, Batam.

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:

1. (U) GABON: On 3 July (time unspecified), three perpetrators boarded a Panama-flagged tanker anchored at Owendo Anchorage, near position 00:17N – 009:25E. The crew mustered in the citadel to avoid the threat from the unauthorized boarding party. (Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) NIGERIA: On 26 June, an unknown number of perpetrators attempted to board a vessel carrying passengers and goods on the Bonny River, south of Port Harcourt (exact time and position not specified). Nigerian Marine Police arrived at the location, disrupted the attack, and apprehended the perpetrators. (Clearwater Dynamics)

3. (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)

4. (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)

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

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



(U) Figure 1. East Africa – Arabian Sea Military Operations against Merchant Vessels

1. (U) BAB EL MANDEB STRAIT: On 10 July at 0240 UTC, a missile exploded about 600 meters from the port side of a Liberia-flagged crude oil tanker while underway approximately 40 NM south of Mokha, Yemen (exact position not specified). The master reported the vessel and all crew members were safe, and that the vessel proceeded to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 9 July at 0435 UTC, the master of the U.S.-flagged container ship MAERSK SENTOSA reported that an explosion occurred in close proximity to the vessel while underway approximately 180 NM east of Nishtun, Yemen (exact position not specified). Later reporting indicated that five missiles had targeted the vessel. One missile exploded 0.5 NM off the port bow and the vessel did not sustain any damage. The vessel and crew were safe and the vessel continued to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; gCaptain; Maritime Executive; vesseltracker.com)

3. (U) RED SEA: On 30 June at 0310 UTC, 12 small craft approached the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier SUMMER LADY underway approximately 12 NM southwest of Mokha, Yemen (exact position not specified). The small craft consisted of fast boats and smaller kayak-type boats, some of which were unmanned. The small craft remained close to the vessel for about an hour before departing the area. The closest point of approach for the small craft was 1.5 NM from the bulk carrier. The master reported that the vessel and crew were safe and the vessel proceeded to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive)

4. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 29 June at 0130 UTC, the Antigua and Barbuda-flagged container ship ROTTERDAM TRADER received a communications challenge while underway approximately 75 NM southwest of Aden, Yemen. A VHF transmission from "Yemeni authorities" indicated that the ship would be targeted if it did not send an email with the vessel's details. The vessel complied and continued its transit. (Joint Maritime Information Center Infonote)

5. (U) RED SEA: On 28 June at 0652 UTC, five missiles targeted the Liberia-flagged product tanker DELONIX underway approximately 150 NM northwest of Hodeida, Yemen (exact position not specified). The master reported that the missiles impacted the water close to the vessel, no damage occurred, and the vessel was continuing north. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)
6. (U) RED SEA: On 27 June at 0644 UTC, an unmanned surface vessel (USV) attacked the Malta-flagged bulk carrier SEAJAY underway approximately 83 NM southwest of Hodeida, Yemen, near position 14:30N – 041:32E. The master reported that the vessel and crew were safe and that the vessel was proceeding to its next port of call. Later reporting indicated that the USV exploded close to the ship's hull, causing minor damage. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive)
7. (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 was continuing to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)
8. (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 was proceeding to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)
9. (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)
10. (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 the next port call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; U.S. Central Command)
11. (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 no casualties among the crew, the vessel did not sustain any damage, and it was proceeding to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive; aljazerra.com)
12. (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).

13. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: On 14 June at 2031 UTC, a Yemini-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)
14. (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)
15. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 13 June between 0947 and 1620 UTC, two anti-ship cruise missiles and one antiship 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)
16. (U) RED SEA: On 12 June at 0650 UTC, an 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)

I. (U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA:



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

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 8 July at 0410 local time, four perpetrators boarded the Japan-flagged bulk carrier ORIHIME in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), near position 01:03N – 103:39E. The duty crew spotted the perpetrators at the vessel's stern. After the master raised the alarm, the crew mustered to conduct a search of the vessel. The ship later reported that all crew members were safe, nothing had been stolen, and that the vessel did not require assistance. The vessel continued its transit to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

2. (U) INDONESIA: (Late Reporting) On 25 June at 0330 local time, two robbers boarded the Republic of Korea-flagged heavy lift ship DONGBANG GIANT No. 6 while anchored at Kabil Anchorage, Batam, near position 01:04N – 104:09E. The duty crew spotted two vessels near the ship's stern, where the robbers climbed onto the low freeboard deck. After entering the engine room, the robbers stole spare parts, injuring one crew member in the process. The ship reported no other injuries. After the master notified the vessel traffic service (VTS) of the incident, the Indonesian authorities boarded the ship for investigation, and found no perpetrators onboard. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 June at 0310 local time, one perpetrator boarded the underway Liberia-flagged bulk carrier IVESTOS 8 in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:10N – 103:28E. The duty crew saw the perpetrator in the steering gear room. The alarm was raised and all crew mustered to conduct a search onboard the ship. Following the search, the master declared nothing was stolen, the crew was safe, and no further assistance was required. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 15 June at 2012 local time, a boat made a suspicious approach on the underway Panama-flagged product tanker FAIRCHEM CONQUEST in the Singapore Strait 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 boarding attempt and departed. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

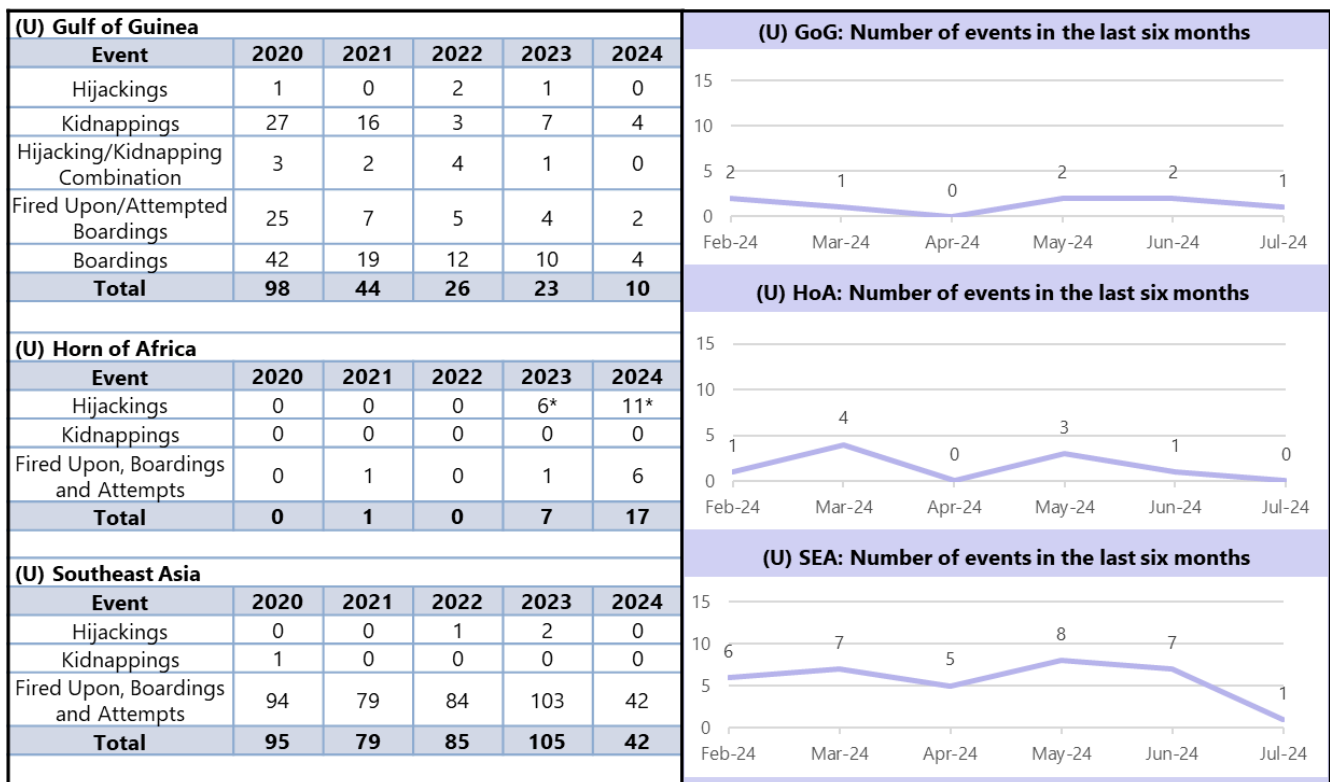
5. (U) INDONESIA: On 15 June at 0201 local time, four robbers, one armed with a long knife boarded the underway Liberia-flagged bulk carrier IVESTOS 9 in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:05N – 103:42E. Duty crew member raised the alarm after spotting the four robbers, which caused the robbers to flee. The robbers escaped with ship’s equipment. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

J. (U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:

1. (U) BANGLADESH: On 15 June at 0001 local time, the watchman and duty crew of the Norway-flagged bulk carrier BELATLANTIC spotted six perpetrators attempting to board the ship through the chain hawse pipe from a small boat at Chattogram Anchorage, near position 22:19N – 091:44E. After realizing the crew had been alerted, the perpetrators aborted their attempt and escaped. (ReCAAP)

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:** 10 July 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/>