

UNCLASSIFIED

## (U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report** **12 March - 11 April 2018**



12 April 2018

### (U) **Table of Contents**

1. (U) **Scope Note**
2. (U) **Warnings and Advisories**
3. (U) **Summary**
4. (U) **Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories**
5. (U) **Details: Monthly Incidents by Region**
6. (U) **Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources**
7. (U) **Appendix B: Terminology and References**

#### 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) **MDAT-GoG Warning 001/APR/2018**: Category: Attack. On 7 April 2018 at 0715Z, an MV is under attack at the following position 03:37N - 007:07E (50 nm south of Bonny River). Four armed pirates are onboard. The crew mustered in citadel, nobody is reported injured. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution. Vessel subsequently boarded by Nigerian Navy personnel who escorted vessel to port. Source: Mail. Any queries regarding this Warning Notice ring 0033 298 22 88 88 for further information. MDAT-GOG Watchkeeper email: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org, emergency tel: +33(0) 298 22 88 88.

#### 3. (U) **Summary**

A. (U) NIGERIA: On 11 April, the Government of India announced that three Indian citizens kidnapped by Nigerian pirates in March had been released.

B. (U) GHANA: On 9 April, the National Petroleum Authority in collaboration with national security arrested five persons suspected to be part of a cartel dealing in illegal smuggling of petroleum products.

C. (U) NIGERIA: On 7 April, four pirates in a speed boat armed with guns chased and boarded the Panama-flagged bulk

carrier M/V DINO underway 41 nm south-southeast of Brass.

D. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 April, Indonesia, acting on a request from Interpol, seized F/V STS-50, after it evaded capture in several countries.

E. (U) SOUTH CHINA SEA: On 6 April, the Hong Kong-flagged catamaran SWISS PRESTIGE was approached to within 200 meters by an unknown vessel as it transited southbound near the Paracel Islands.

F. (U) VENEZUELA: On 6 April, four robbers boarded an anchored cargo vessel in Bahia De Barcelona Anchorage, Jose terminal.

G. (U) TUNISIA: On 6 April, authorities released the Panama-flagged cargo ship URAL after initially seizing the ship in Sfax on 15 February.

H. (U) INDONESIA: On 4 April, robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier during cargo operations in Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda.

I. (U) BRAZIL: On 4 April, two robbers armed with long knives boarded a bulk carrier anchored 6 nm northeast of Macapa Port.

J. (U) TRINIDAD and TOBAGO: On 29 March, an unknown vessel made a suspicious approach on a sailing vessel on a northbound night transit 6 nm south of the Hibiscus gas platform.

K. (U) BRAZIL: On 23 March, authorities intercepted a shipment of 2,052 kilos of cocaine at the port of Santos.

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

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for April 2018. To apply for JMSDF escort, visit [http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime\\_fr2\\_000000.html](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: Korean Navy convoy schedule for April 2018. All merchant vessels wishing to join the convoy group must submit their application forms directly to the ROK naval warship carrying out the mission. The ROK MTG can be reached directly at 001-646-466-9522. Email: chunghae26@navy.mil. (MSCHOA)

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Chinese Navy convoy schedule for April 2018. For further information, please e-mail: [planavy@navy.mil.cn](mailto:planavy@navy.mil.cn) or [etg546cn@163.com](mailto:etg546cn@163.com), or call Tel 00870 773 120 772. (MSCHOA)

D. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Indian Navy convoy escort schedule for April 2018. To register, email: [gcommcentre-dgs@nic.in](mailto:gcommcentre-dgs@nic.in); or visit [ww.dgshipping.com](http://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:**

1. (U) UNITED STATES: On 20 March, a robber stole an undetermined amount of cash from a cash register aboard a ferry ship transiting across Lake Champlain from Vermont to New York. ([www.suncommunitynews.com](http://www.suncommunitynews.com))
2. (U) MEXICO: On 24 March, the Navy reported the seizure of six suitcases containing more than 400 kg of cocaine at Veracruz port. No further details were provided, including whether any arrests were made. ([www.pvilttd.com/news-insight](http://www.pvilttd.com/news-insight))
3. (U) MEXICO: On 21 March, the Navy released a statement saying that an operation involving two boats led to the seizure of almost one ton of cocaine off the coast of Acapulco. Fourteen people, including six Ecuadoreans and one Colombian, were arrested in the operation. ([www.pvilttd.com/news-insight](http://www.pvilttd.com/news-insight))

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

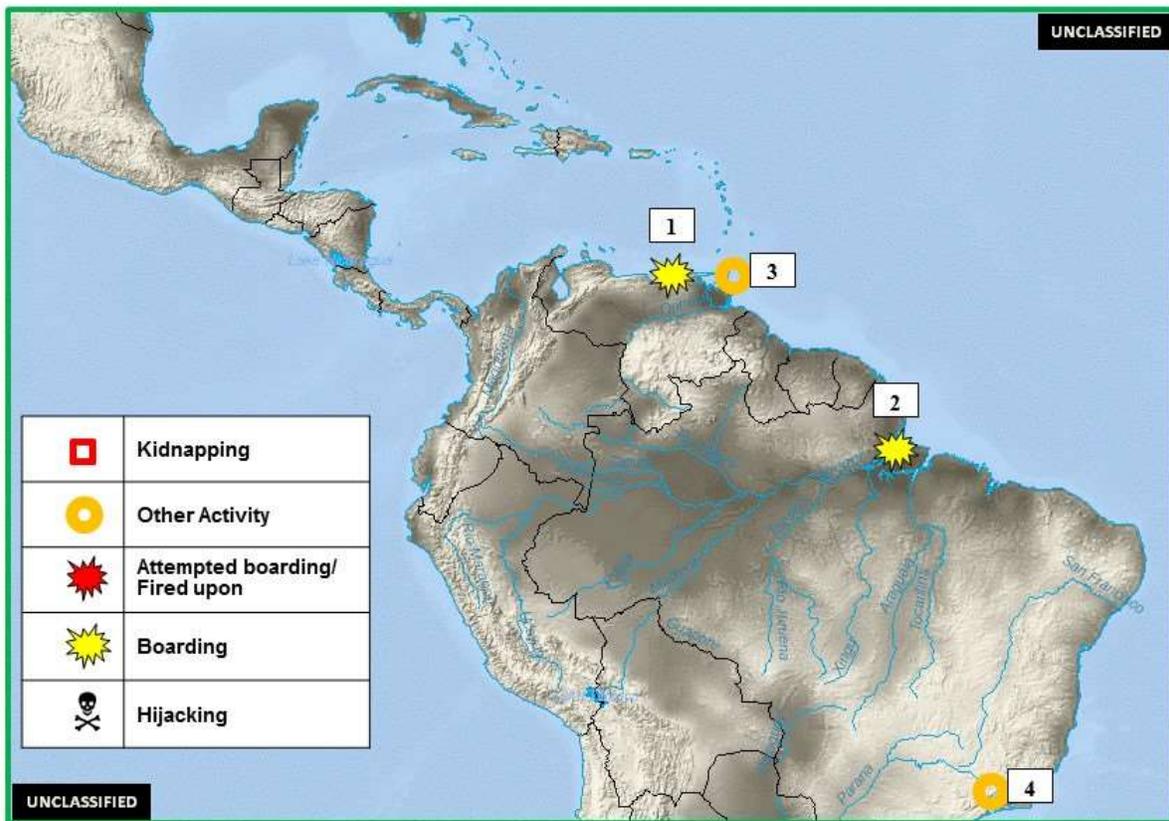


Figure 1. Central America - Caribbean - South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) VENEZUELA: On 6 April, four robbers boarded an anchored cargo vessel in Bahia De Barcelona Anchorage, Jose terminal. A duty crewman on routine rounds saw the robbers and raised the alarm. An announcement followed and all crew mustered on the bridge. The ship's crew tried to intimidate the intruders by shouting, flashing lights and use of the ship's whistle. Due to this action, the intruders jumped overboard. They escaped in a small boat and managed to steal one coil of loose messenger rope lying on the poop deck. A thorough search of the vessel was conducted revealing no breach on the vessel, with the exception of a broken padlock to the paint locker and the security seal of the emergency generator room. ([www.safety4sea.com](http://www.safety4sea.com))

2. (U) BRAZIL: On 4 April, two robbers armed with long knives boarded a bulk carrier anchored near position 00:03N -

050:58W, 6 nm northeast of Macapa Port. Duty crewman noticed the robbers and immediately informed duty officer who raised the alarm, sounded the ship's whistle and alerted the crew on the PA system. Seeing the alerted crew, the two robbers escaped in their speed boat. On searching the ship, nothing reported stolen. (IMB)

3. (U) TRINIDAD and TOBAGO: On 29 March, an unknown vessel made a suspicious approach on a sailing vessel on a northbound night transit 6 nm south of the Hibiscus gas platform. As the unknown vessel closed to within 100 yards astern, the yacht crew doused all lighting, made full sail and readied defensive equipment on deck. After a short period, the unknown vessel dropped back and left the area. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

4. (U) BRAZIL: On 23 March, authorities intercepted a shipment of 2,052 kilos of cocaine at the port of Santos in the country's southeast, near São Paulo. It was the biggest bust ever made at the port, according to Brazil's Federal Revenue service. Brazilian Revenue officials found the drugs at a container terminal at a wharf in Guarujá. During a survey of the containers, customs officials found the drug in three containers, hidden among legal, declared shipments of coffee, sugar, and soy. One container held 1.1 tons of cocaine, another had 500 kilos, and the rest was in the third. The containers were to be loaded on a ship called the CAP SAN MARCO, and were destined for Hamburg, Germany, Le Havre, France, and Algeciras, Spain, port authorities said. (www.businessinsider.com)

5. (U) PANAMA: On 27 March, authorities seized 240 kilos of cocaine and detained two Costa Ricans, one Guatemalan and two Colombians, in a joint operation carried out in Panamanian waters. (www.maritimeherald.com)

6. (U) VENEZUELA: On 24 March, robbers armed with guns boarded a tanker anchored near position 10:17N - 064:42W, Puerto La Cruz Anchorage. Duty crewman on routine rounds noticed the robbers on the forecastle deck and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, two robbers were seen escaping. On conducting a search, the forecastle store padlock was reported broken and ship's properties stolen. Port Control notified via VHF. The Coast Guard later dispatched a vessel to search the anchorage waters around the vessel. (IMB)

7. (U) PERU: On 20 March, Peruvian police seized 1,500 kilograms of cocaine that were to be placed in a container in the port of Callao to be sent to Europe, a police chief said. "We have seized more than a ton and a half of cocaine that was destined for Europe," a senior police spokesman told reporters. The cocaine was discovered in a truck before being placed in a container that was to be loaded onto a ship to Europe, according to police. The spokesman indicated that seven members of the band "Los Ninjas" were captured in this operation. "We thought it was a myth, but this band existed, they are very agile young people dressed in black moved from container to container" to introduce the drug, he explained. (www.maritimeherald.com)

8. (U) PUERTO RICO: On 19 March, customs officials detained a citizen of the Dominican Republic onboard a boat transporting 1,441 kilograms of cocaine along the northern coast of Puerto Rico, coming from the Dominican Republic. The ship was going to the municipality of Vega Alta in Puerto Rico. (www.maritimeherald.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:**

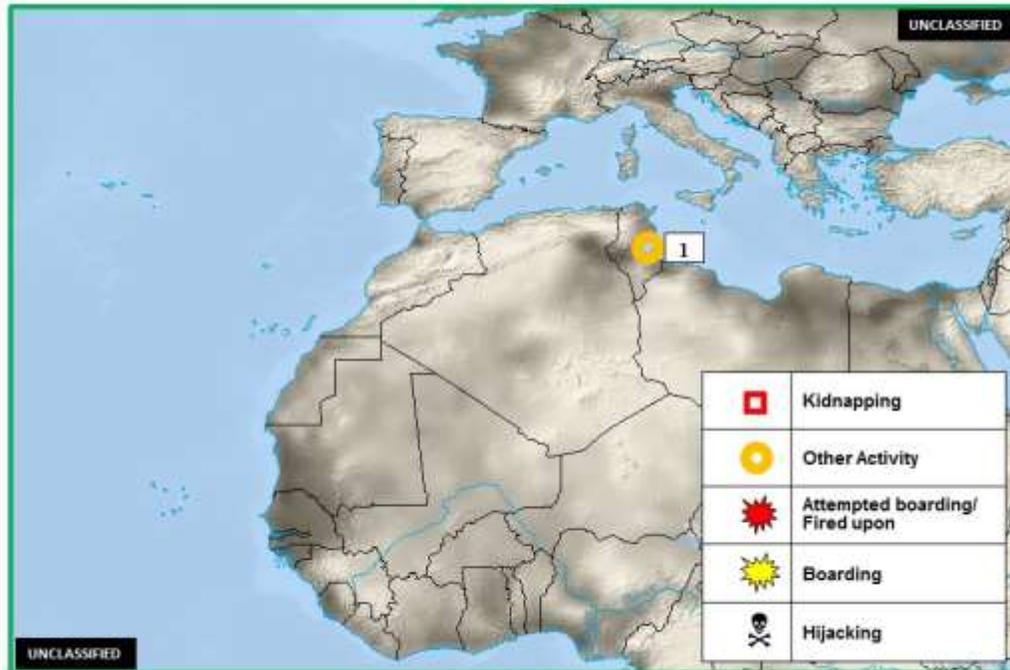


Figure 2. Mediterranean – Black Sea Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) TUNISIA: On 6 April, authorities released the Panama-flagged cargo ship URAL after initially seizing the ship in Sfax on 15 February. The ship was detained after authorities found a large consignment of undeclared military equipment during an inspection. The equipment was seized. ([www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))

2. (U) SPAIN: On 22 March, Spanish Civil Guard troops seized two tons of hashish from two boats in the Guadalmezi coastal zone near Algeciras. ([www.en.yabiladi.com](http://www.en.yabiladi.com))

3. (U) ITALY: On 18 March, an Italian court seized the rescue ship, OPEN ARMS, on charges that its crew helped illegal immigration by rescuing more than 200 migrants from boats before Libya's Coast Guard could move in to take them back to Africa. A day after the ship arrived in the Sicilian port of Pozzallo, a court on the island ordered the ship's seizure on suspicion that three Proactiva members, including the captain of the ship, were operating it as part of a criminal association that favored illegal immigration. (Reuters; [www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))

4. (U) LIBYA: On 13 March, Libya's naval forces seized a Togo-flagged fuel tanker LAMAR, and arrested its Greek crew on suspicion they planned to smuggle oil out of that country, a spokesman for the forces said. It was captured about 8 miles off Abu Kamash town, near the border with Tunisia. ([www.marinelink.com/news](http://www.marinelink.com/news))

#### F. (U) WEST AFRICA:

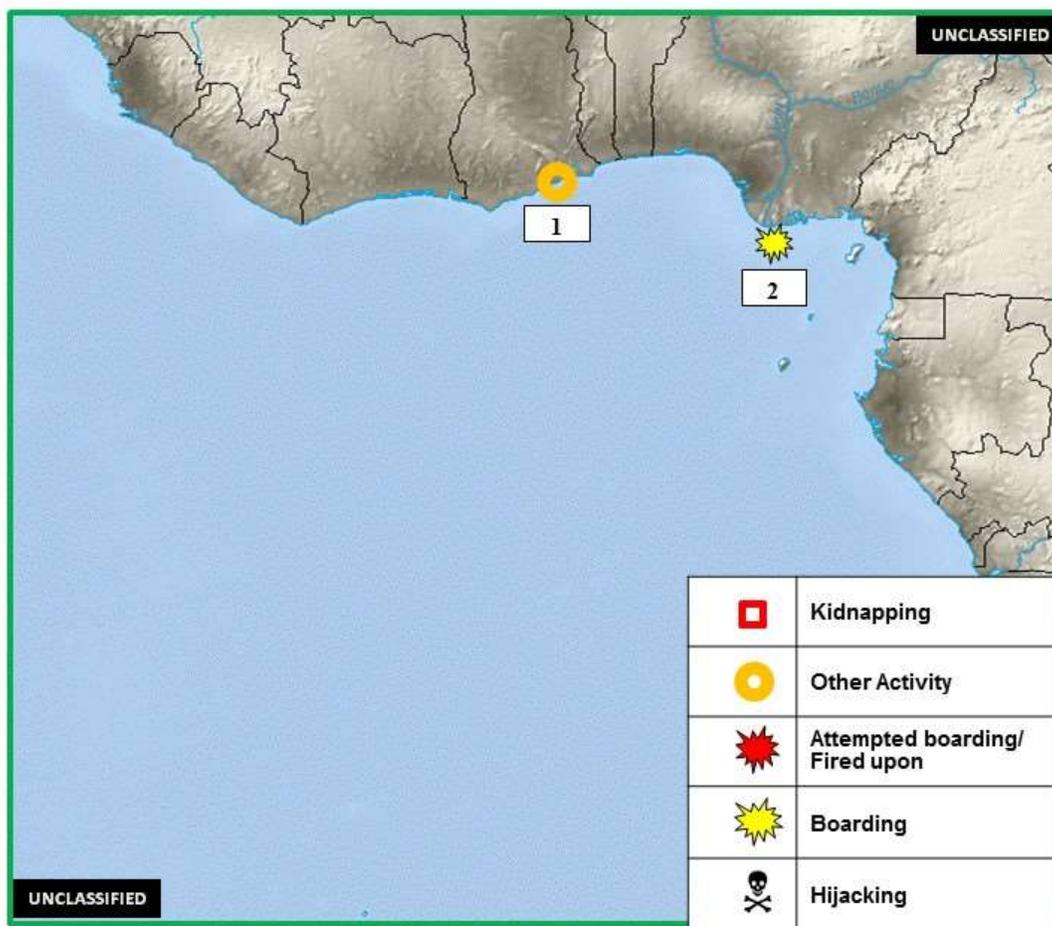


Figure 3. West Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) GHANA: On 9 April, the National Petroleum Authority in collaboration with national security arrested five persons suspected to be part of a cartel dealing in illegal smuggling of petroleum products. The operation took place at Kpone landing beach near Tema. The ringleader Isaac Allotey, 34, with four others including the owner of one of the lifeboats used in the operation, were arrested. Two trucks of fuel containing an estimated 9000 liters and two outboard motors were confiscated by the team. Officials who conducted the operation announced the identification of a route to the open sea where supertankers anchor and then sell low-quality gasoline and diesel to the cartel of 'goro men.' ([www.ghanaweb.com](http://www.ghanaweb.com))

2. (U) NIGERIA: On 7 April, four pirates in a speed boat armed with guns chased and boarded the Panama-flagged bulk carrier DINO underway near position 03:44N - 006:37E, 41 nm south-southeast of Brass. Alarm raised and all crew mustered in the citadel. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre liaised with the Nigerian Navy and the owners. The Navy sent a patrol boat to the location. The pirates fired upon and damaged the ship's equipment and accommodation section, and before escaping with stole ship's cash and property. Naval personnel boarded the ship, rescued the crew and escorted the ship to a safe port. (IMB; [www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))

3. (U) NIGERIA: On 11 April, the Government of India announced that three Indian citizens kidnapped by Nigerian pirates in March had been released. ([www.independent.ng](http://www.independent.ng); [www.tribuneindia.com](http://www.tribuneindia.com))

4. (U) NIGERIA: On 31 March, authorities announced the seizure of a large boat transporting a consignment of 130,000

liters of illegally refined diesel fuel from Rivers State to Calabar. Seven persons were arrested. ([www.thenationonline.ng](http://www.thenationonline.ng))

5. (U) SIERRA LEONE: On 29 March, a merchant vessel reported a suspicious approach near position 07:04N - 014:02W, 95 nm southwest of Freetown. A large fishing vessel transmitting AIS approached the vessel and two small skiffs were released from the fishing vessel and approached the MV at high speed. The merchant vessel used evasive maneuvers and the skiffs moved away. (MDAT-GoG)

6. (U) NIGERIA: On 28 March, two robbers boarded a berthed tanker near position 06:27N - 003:24E, MRS Terminal, Alpha Jetty, Lagos. Duty watchman on routine rounds spotted the robbers trying to hide near a forward cargo tank dome with a flexible hose. Duty officer notified, alarm raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped. Two skiffs with eight robbers were seen moving away from the tanker. The Terminal Watchman and Jetty Duty Officer immediately boarded and searched the tanker. Nothing reported stolen. (IMB)

7. (U) BENIN: On 27 March, two fishing vessels reported that they were under attack near position 04:10N - 002:19E, 100 nm south of Cotonou. (MDAT-GoG)

8. (U) GHANA: On 26 March, pirates boarded the Ghana-flagged fishing vessel MARINE 711 near position 05:20N - 000:51E, 27 nm southwest of Anloga. Pirates left vessel on 28 March, taking with them at least 5 hostages, including the captain, chief officer and chief engineer of Korean nationality, other two are Ghanaian and Greek. (IMB; [www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage](http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage); [www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))

9. (U) NIGERIA: On 22 March, an unidentified group of pirates chased and fired upon a tanker near position 03:35.0N - 006:44.0E, 53 nm southwest of Bonny. The tanker's alarm system and emergency procedures was raised, while armed guards, using small arms on board returned fire, resulting in the pirates moving away from the tanker. (IMB)

10. (U) NIGERIA: ON 22 March, pirates in a speed boat attacked and seized two fishing boats near position 06:10N - 003:12E, 13 nm south of the Nigerian coast. They forced them to sail to Benin waters, releasing the fishing boats but kidnapping two crewmen. (IMB)

11. (U) BENIN: On 22 March, eight pirates armed with guns and knives in a small boat boarded an anchored vessel near position 06:15N - 002:30E, 7.5 nm southeast of Cotonou. The pirates demanded the crew to start the vessel's main engine. However, the engine was unable to start. After one and a half hours, the pirates decided to leave the vessel and stole ship's property and crew's personal belongings. (IMB)

12. (U) EQUATORIAL GUINEA: On 22 March, a merchant vessel was attacked by a speed boat carrying 10 armed persons, 60 nm south of Equatorial Guinea. The armed persons boarded and then hijacked the vessel. It has been reported that the vessel has now been released and the crew is safe. (MDAT-GoG)

13. (U) NIGERIA: On 16 March, armed guards onboard an anchored product tanker noticed three unauthorized persons onboard the vessel and fired a warning shot. The ship was anchored near position 06:17N - 003:25E, 13.5 nm south-southeast of Lagos. One person managed to escape in a small boat while the remaining two were captured and handed over to the Nigerian Navy. (IMB)

14. (U) NIGERIA: On 16 March, eight armed pirates in a small high-speed boat approached and fired upon a tanker underway near position 03:57N - 006:42E, 29 nm southwest of Bonny Island. Master notified the onboard naval armed team, commenced evasive maneuvers and all non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. Seeing the vessel hardening the pirates aborted and moved away. Nigerian Navy notified. (IMB)

15. (U) NIGERIA: On 16 March, a merchant ship reported being attacked near position 04:09N - 006:56E, southwest of

Fairway Buoy. Security team fired warning shots and carried out evasive maneuvers, and the pirates aborted their attempt. The vessel is now safe. (MDAT-GoG)

16. (U) NIGERIA: On 14 March, a merchant tanker reported being attacked near position 03:51N - 006:40E, 29 nm southwest of Bonny. The tanker carried out evasive maneuvers and the pirates were not able to board the ship. The tanker is now safe. (MDAT-GoG)

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

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

1. (U) RED SEA: On 3 April, suspected Houthi rebels attacked a Saudi oil tanker, near position 14:29N - 042:11E, causing "minor damage." The oil tanker has been identified as the Saudi Arabia-flagged ABQAIQ, a 300,000 dwt Very Large Crude Carrier, capable of carrying 2 million barrels of crude oil. A coalition statement says the attack occurred in international waters near the Red Sea port of Hodeida. It did not provide further details on the weapon used or the extent of the damage. The coalition says a naval ship belonging to a member country rapidly intervened, without giving further details. ([www.eunavfor.eu](http://www.eunavfor.eu); UKMTO; [www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com); [www.english.alarabiya.net](http://www.english.alarabiya.net); [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com))

2. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 31 March, a merchant vessel reported being fired upon near position 13:57N - 051:43E, 82 nm southeast of Sharkhat, Yemen. Armed persons in 2 skiffs approached the vessel to within 100 meters and fired upon it, with armed security team aboard the ship returning fire. The skiffs then moved away. Vessel sustained minor damage due to the firing. Ladders sighted in the skiffs. (UKMTO; IMB)

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

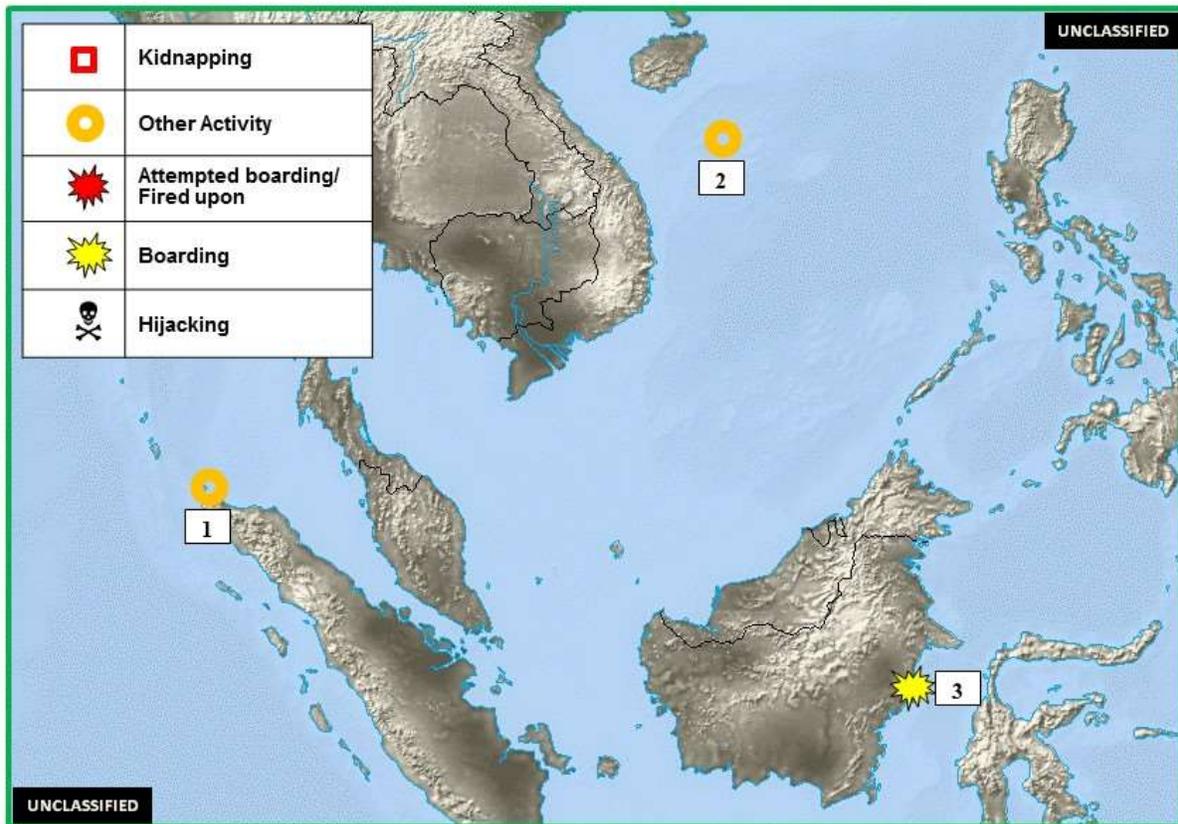


Figure 4. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) INDONESIA: on 7 April, Indonesia, acting on a request from Interpol, seized a fishing boat carrying 600 illegal gillnets that can stretch up to 18 miles after it evaded capture in several countries, the Fisheries Ministry said in a statement. The vessel, the STS-50, had targeted Antarctic toothfish, the ministry said, a cod species that plays an important role in the Southern Ocean ecosystem. Officially stateless, the STS-50 evaded authorities by flying eight different flags at different times, including those of Sierra Leone, Togo, Cambodia, South Korea, Japan, Micronesia and Namibia, the ministry said in a statement. At the time of its capture, the STS-50 had 20 Indonesian and Russian crew, and was boarded near Weh Island, the statement said. (Reuters. [www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com))

2. (U) SOUTH CHINA SEA: On 6 April, the Hong Kong-flagged catamaran SWISS PRESTIGE was approached to within 200 meters by an unknown vessel as it transited southbound near the Paracel Islands. The catamaran made a Mayday call via VHF Channel 16 and increased speed to 8 knots. The suspicious ship moved away from the catamaran but continued on parallel course. The cruise liner DIAMOND PRINCESS responded to the Mayday call and moved to the location. SWISS PRESTIGE communicated with DIAMOND PRINCESS and was told that Falmouth MRCC had been informed. The suspected ship began to move away and depart from the area shortly. SWISS PRESTIGE cancelled its Mayday call and continued towards Johor, Malaysia. ([www.safety4sea.com](http://www.safety4sea.com))

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 4 April, robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier during cargo operations near position 00:15S - 117:34E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda. The thieves broke into the forepeak store, stole ship's stores and escaped unnoticed. The crew noticed a suspicious boat in the vicinity and notified the duty officer who raised the alarm. On searching the ship, the theft was identified. Agent and Port security officer informed. (IMB)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 March, four robbers using a small boat approached an anchored bulk carrier in the proximity of Muara Berau anchorage, Samarinda. While two of the robbers boarded the ship, the other two waited inside the boat. As the ship's duty crewman raised the alarm, the robbers escaped the ship empty handed. (IMB)

5. (U) SINGAPORE: On 22 March, Immigration and Checkpoints Authority personnel seized 10,800 cartons of contraband cigarettes in a shipping container at the Pasir Panjang Scanning Station. An inspection officer noticed anomalies in the scanned images of the container, which had been declared to contain 1,600 pairs of safety shoes in 18 pallets. The seized items were handed over to Singapore Customs for further investigation. ([www.straitstimes.com](http://www.straitstimes.com))

6. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 12 March, customs officials in the Port of Davao discovered a smuggled SUV in a shipping container arriving from South Korea. The shipment was declared to only contain a used dump truck and a tractor head, however, when it passed through the x-ray examination, the examiner saw a vehicle. ([www.sunstar.com.ph/davao/local-news](http://www.sunstar.com.ph/davao/local-news))

#### **J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA:**

1. (U) CHINA: On 24 March, two robbers in a wooden boat came alongside a bulk carrier anchored near position 38:43N - 118:32E, Caofeidian Anchorage. Duty crew noticed the robbers attempting to board the vessel using a ladder and immediately informed the duty officer who raised the alarm. Crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers fled. (IMB)

**K. (U) AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND:** No current incidents to report.

## **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](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 boarding 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
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- LSS-SAPU.com (LSS)
- 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:** 11 April 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>