



UNCLASSIFIED

(U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report** **2 April - 2 May 2018**



3 May 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:**

1. (U) **IMBKL WARNING 030600 UTC MAY 2018:** To: All ships transiting in and off Sabah waters /Tawi Tawi/ Celebes Sea / Sulu Sea / southern Philippines. Planned kidnapping by Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in Tawi-Tawi-Sabah waters. Philippines intel received information that ASG plans to conduct kidnapping activity in Lahad Datu, Sabah and surrounding waters. The group is said to be using a blue 3 engine speedboat. The group is expected to be in Sabah waters within the next 24 hours. Vessels are advised to maintain strict anti-piracy watch and measures. stay clear and monitor any blue 3-engine boat. Report all attacks and suspicious sightings to local authorities and to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre as per IMO Cir 1334. IMB Piracy Reporting Centre 24-hour anti-piracy helpline +603 2031 0014 fax: +603 2078 5769, email: imbkl@icc-ccs.org / piracy@icc-ccs.org.

2. (U) **ReCAAP WARNING 01 May 2018:** Category: Planned Abduction of Crew. Description: The ReCAAP-ISC received information from Philippine Focal Point about the planned kidnapping by the members of Abu Sayyaf. The group will be using a blue 3-Engine speedboat and expected to be underway to Sabah within the next 24hours. All vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution when transiting in the waters in Lahad Datu and surrounding waters in Sabah. Source: Philippine Focal Point. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the area. Any verified information on this incident is appreciated. ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre, email: info@recaap.org, fax: +65 6376 3066.

3. (U) Summary

- A. (U) GHANA: On 30 April, security officials in the port of Tema announced the arrest of 6 stowaways from Tunisia.
- B. (U) GHANA: On 29 April, one robber boarded a merchant vessel anchored in Takoradi anchorage.
- C. (U) INDONESIA: On 29 April, robbers boarded an anchored heavy lift vessel 16 nm northeast of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan.
- D. (U) INDONESIA: On 28 April, four robbers boarded a general cargo vessel anchored in Muara Berau, Samarinda.
- E. (U) SURINAME: On 27 April, pirates attacked a group of 20 fishermen in 4 boats and forced them to jump overboard.
- F. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 April, three South Korean sailors kidnapped in the waters off Ghana in March were released unharmed.
- G. (U) GUATEMALA: On 26 April, authorities intercepted submarine-type vessel with about one ton of cocaine in the eastern Pacific.
- H. (U) CANADA: On 25 April, U.S. and Canadian authorities broke up a drug smuggling ring that moved drugs from the U.S. and handed them over to Canadian smugglers.
- I. (U) INDONESIA: On 25 April, five armed Indonesian men were arrested for attempting to kidnap three Malaysian fishermen.
- J. (U) GULF OF OMAN: On 24 April, a group of Emirati fishing vessels was fired upon by unidentified individuals while sailing in the Gulf of Oman.
- K. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 23 April, Bureau of Customs officials seized over 500 tons of smuggled onions from China.
- L. (U) INDIA: On 22 April, India's Directorate of Revenue Intelligence busted a diesel smuggling racket and seized 14 shipping containers with more than 300,000 liters of diesel.
- M. (U) HONDURAS: On 18 April, a small fishing boat with 10 men onboard made a suspicious approach on a France-flagged sailing yacht 100 nm east of the Honduras/Nicaragua border.
- N. (U) TAIWAN: Between 10 and 11 April, Taiwan Coast Guard vessels seized 3 Chinese ships for illegal fishing activity.
- O. (U) PACIFIC OCEAN: On 7 April, U.S. authorities intercepted a low profile go-fast type boat carrying 1,080 pounds of cocaine in the eastern Pacific Ocean.
- P. (U) MEXICO: On April 7, two boardings occurred in Laguna de Términos; one occurred in the area known as Sonda de Campeche on the northern Yucatan Peninsula.

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

- A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for May and June 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 (MLIT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932; Fax: +81-3-5253-1643. Email: INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp. (MSCHOA)

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

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Indian Navy convoy escort schedule for May and June 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:

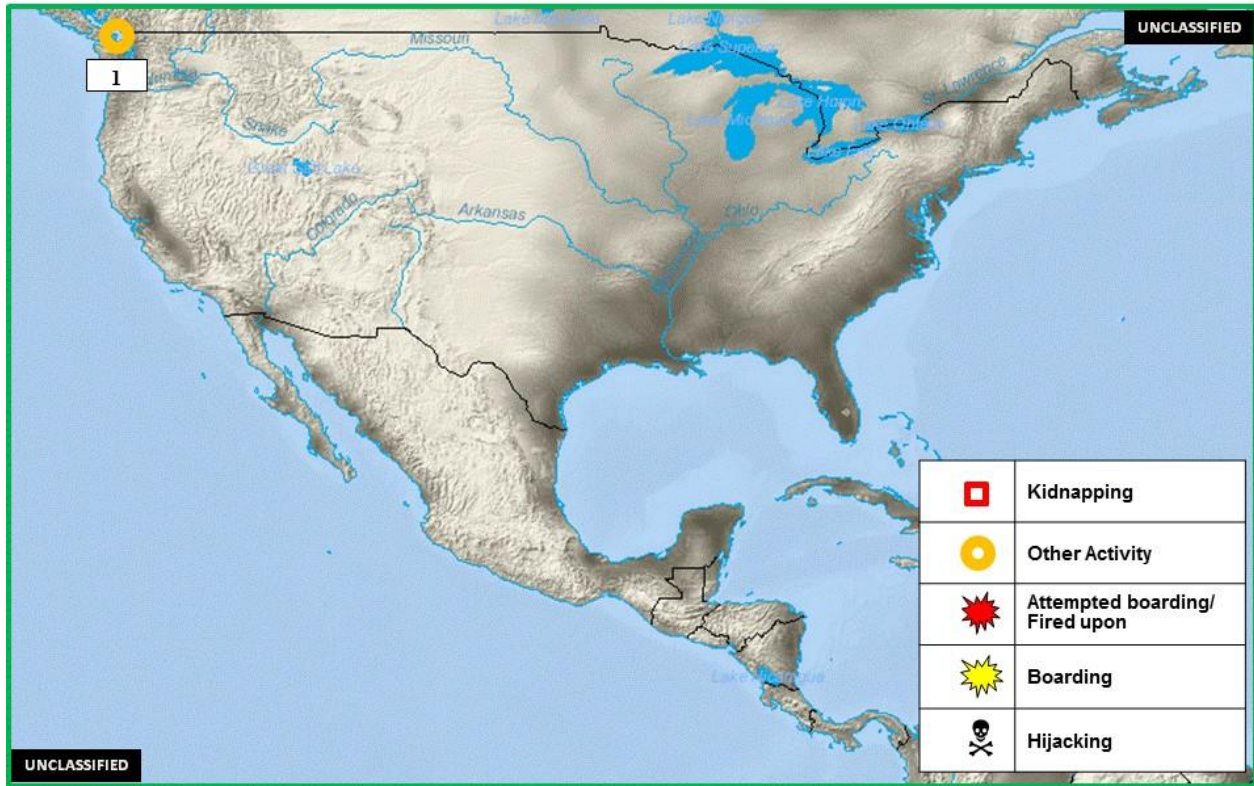


Figure 1. North America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) CANADA: On 25 April, U.S. and Canadian authorities broke up a drug smuggling ring that moved drugs from the U.S. and handed them over to Canadian smugglers. Local media reports that the alleged transactions took place south of San Juan Island between Vancouver Island and Washington state. Law enforcement seized more than 55 kilograms of cocaine, 47 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine and more than 1 kilogram of heroin. Fifteen guns, more than \$150,000 in cash and two high-speed boats were seized. (www.komonews.com)

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

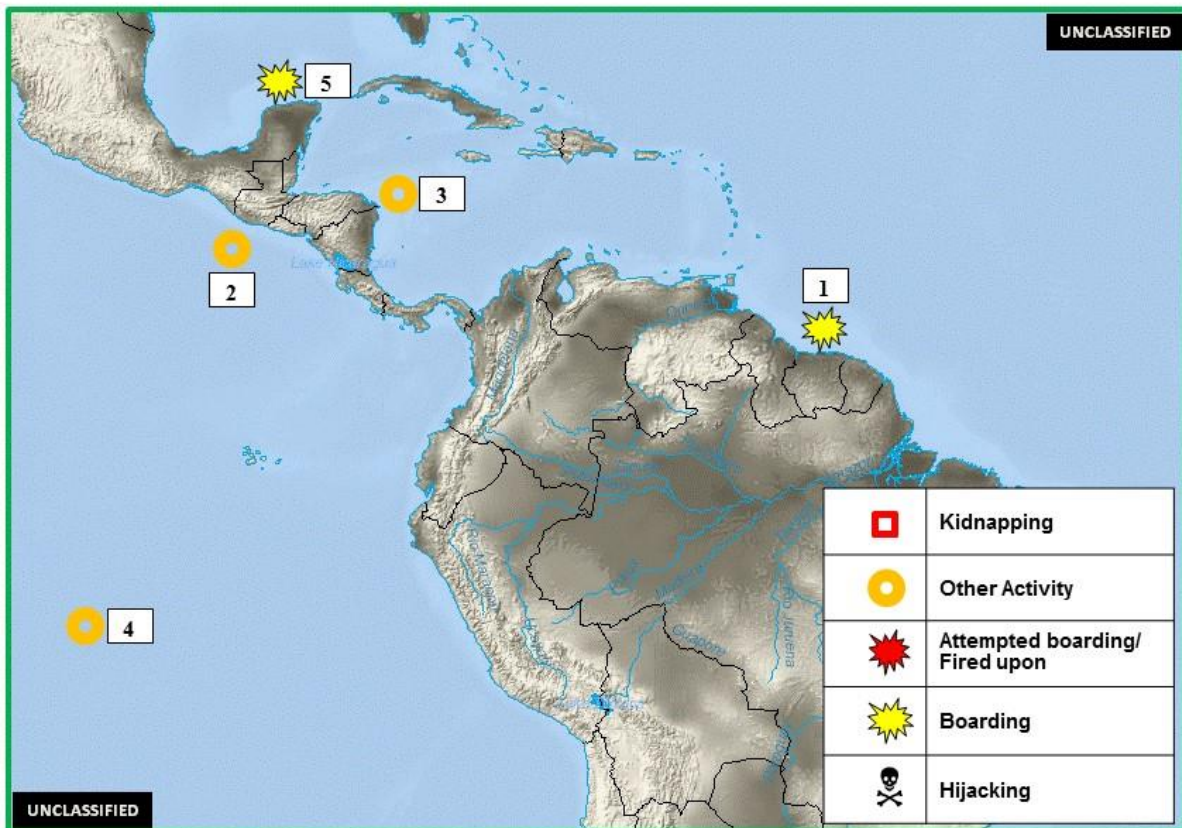


Figure 2. Central America - Caribbean - South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) SURINAME: On 27 April, pirates attacked a group of 20 fishermen in 4 boats and forced them to jump overboard. Four men managed to swim to shore and three of them remain hospitalized. Sixteen fishermen are missing. The survivors told police and the Suriname Coast Guard that the assailants, suspected of being from Guyana because of their accents, beat them with machetes and forced them to jump into the sea. They said some of the victims had batteries tied to their legs to weigh them down. The Coast Guard and police vessels, along with members of the Fisheries Collective Association, have searched for the missing men and the pirates since the attack. (www.stabroeknews.com; www.fleetmon.com)

2. (U) GUATEMALA: On 26 April, authorities intercepted submarine-type vessel with about one ton of cocaine in the eastern Pacific. The operation resulted in the capture of three Colombian drug traffickers. (www.maritimeherald.com)

3. (U) HONDURAS: On 18 April, a small fishing boat with 10 men onboard made a suspicious approach on a France-flagged sailing yacht 100 nm east of the Honduras/Nicaragua boarder. The suspicious boat closed to within 50 meters before the sailing yacht was able to use full sail and increasing seas to move away from the boat. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

4. (U) PACIFIC OCEAN: On 7 April, U.S. authorities intercepted a low profile go-fast type boat carrying 1,080 pounds of cocaine in the eastern Pacific Ocean. Four suspected smugglers onboard the boat attempted to burn the boat and then jumped overboard and were rescued. (www.gcaptain.com)

5. (U) MEXICO: On April 7, two incidents occurred in Laguna de Términos and another in the area known as Sonda de

Campeche, on the northern Yucatan Peninsula. In all cases, men armed with rifles and ski masks stripped fishermen of their outboard motors, fishing nets, fishing catch, radios, cell phones and cash, beat them if they resisted and then left them stranded at sea. (www.theyucatanimes.com)

6. (U) GUYANA: On 20 April, a ship named JUBILEE was seized by Guyana Energy Agency (GEA) authorities on suspicion of fuel smuggling. According to reports in the media, the vessel purchased fuel from neighboring Trinidad with Suriname as its destination port. After the deal fell through, however, the vessel reportedly docked in port Georgetown. Reports indicate that GEA agents boarded the vessel, which was carrying over 500,000 liters of gas and sealed the tanks and pumps after the crew was unable to provide the requisite documentation. (iNewsGuyana; www.stlucianewsonline.com)

7. (U) UNITED STATES: On 14 April, authorities conducting a joint operation intercepted a go-fast type boat carrying 491.5 kilograms of cocaine and 9 kilograms of heroin. Two men were arrested. The seizure took place 80 nm south of Puerto Rico. (www.cbp.gov)

8. (U) ECUADOR: On 10 April, Navy personnel intercepted the ship SOUTH KING and detained 23 crew members and 1,500 kilograms of cocaine. The ship was taken to Galapagos for further investigation. (www.themaritimeherald.com)

9. (U) CURACAO: On 8 April, two outboard motors were stolen from two different boats in Spanish Water. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

10. (U) HONDURAS: On 8 April, an unoccupied yacht on a mooring was broken into, and the dinghy outboard engine stolen from West End, Roatan. The mooring line was cut and the boat had grounded nearby where it was discovered later. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

11. (U) COLOMBIA: On 3 April, a dinghy and outboard motor were stolen from a sailing yacht anchored in Cabo de la Vela. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

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:

1. (U) SPAIN: On 22 April, Customs Department in the port of Algeciras seized 8,740 kilograms of cocaine hidden in a container of bananas from Colombia on the containership LUCIE SCHULTE. The seizure is the largest single seizure of cocaine ever made in Spain as well as the largest in Europe where the drugs were smuggled in a shipping container, Spain's Customs Department said. Working on a tip, agents with Spain's Customs and Tax Agency and National Police carried out a raid of the ship after it had docked. The drugs were found inside a container among 1,080 boxes of bananas loaded at the Port of Turbo in Colombia. (www.gcaptain)

2. (U) SPAIN: On 20 April, agents of the Spanish Civil Guard and the Tax Agency intercepted 325 kilograms of cocaine in two shipping containers of fruit that arrived at the Port of Valencia on a ship from San Antonio, Chile. (www.themaritimeherald.com)

3. (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)

F. (U) WEST AFRICA:

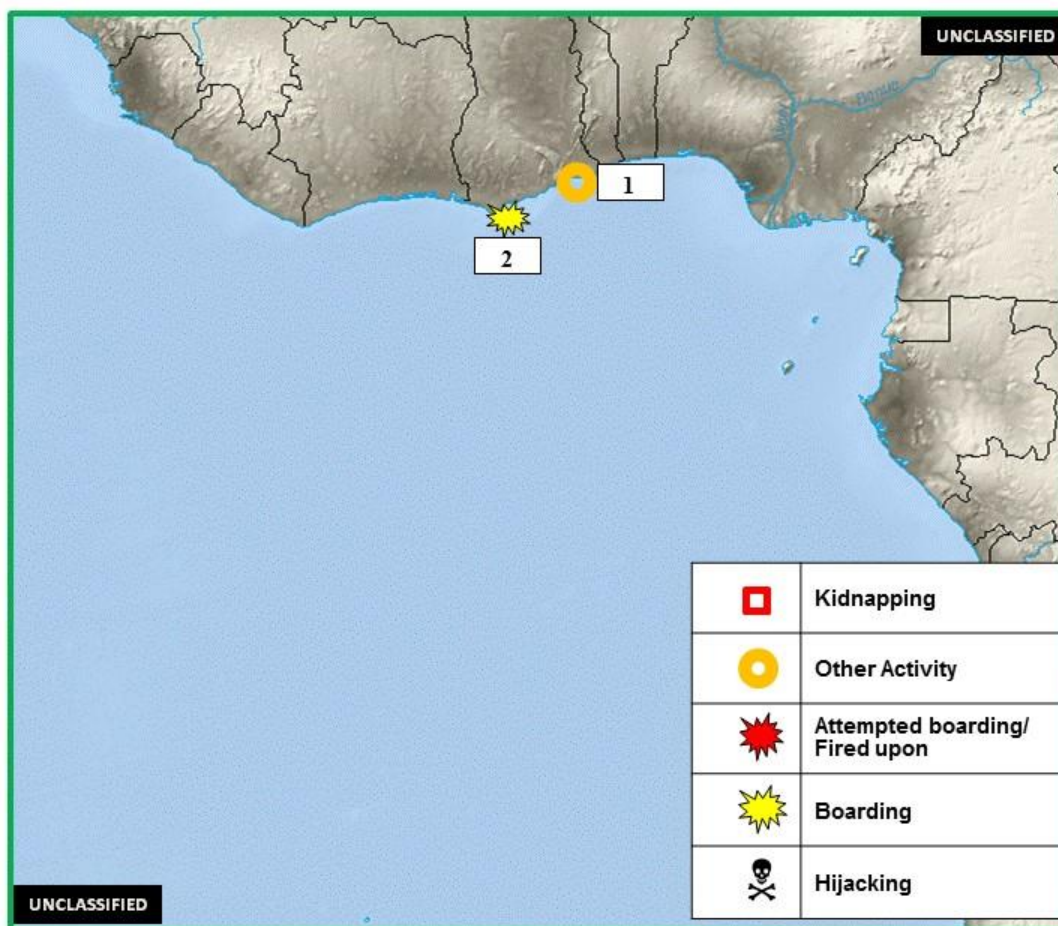


Figure 3. West Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) GHANA: On 30 April, security officials in the port of Tema and the nation's immigration service announced the arrest of 6 stowaways from Tunisia. The foreigners reportedly hid in a cargo container in a vessel which sailed from the Port of La Goulette in Tunisia to the Tema Port. (www.modernghana.com)

2. (U) GHANA: On 29 April, a merchant vessel anchored near position 04:53N - 001:41.32W, Takoradi anchorage, was boarded by one person. Alarm raised resulting in the perpetrator jumping overboard. Nothing reported stolen. (www.pvilttd.com)

3. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 April, three South Korean sailors kidnapped in the waters off Ghana in March released unharmed, Prime Minister Lee Nakyon said Saturday. "All the three sailors were freed safe and sound," Lee said on Facebook. Seoul had deployed an anti-piracy warship to the area after unidentified pirates boarded the MARINE 711 with about 40 Ghanaian and three South Korean sailors on 26 March. The pirates seized the South Koreans -- the captain, engineer and mate, and a Greek sailor, and escaped on a separate speedboat. (AFP World Service; www.pmnewsnigeria.com)

4. (U) NIGERIA: On 21 April, the Netherlands-flagged cargo ship FWN RAPIDE was hijacked near position 03:48N - 006:50E, 38 nm south-southwest of Bonny Island. Eleven crewmen are believed to have been kidnapped. (IMB; www.fleetmon.com)

5. (U) CAMEROON: On 21 April, two robbers attempted to board a berthed utility vessel via the scaffolding installed at the stern near position 04:00.8N - 009:40.3E, Douala Port. The duty watchman noticed the robbers and informed the security guard onboard who fired a warning shot, resulting in the robbers aborting the attempted boarding and escaped. Port

authority informed. (IMB)

6. (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; www.tribuneindia.com)

7. (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 9,000 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)

8. (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 stolen 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)

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

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

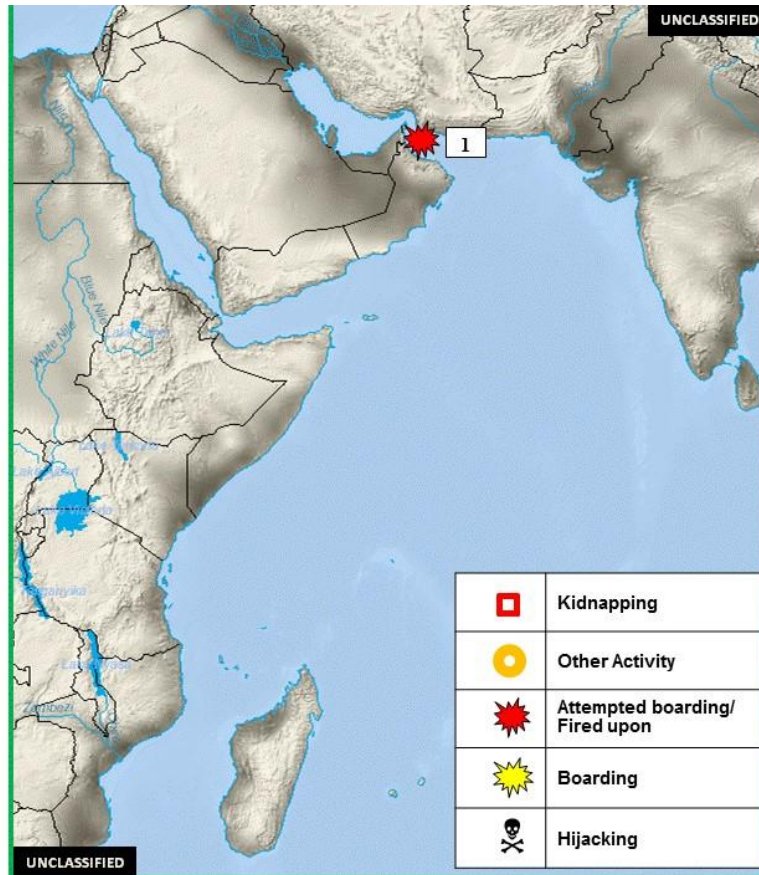


Figure 4. Indian Ocean – East Africa – Red Sea Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) GULF OF OMAN: On 24 April, a group of Emirati fishing vessels was fired upon by unidentified individuals while sailing in the Gulf of Oman. One of the boat captains said the fleet was about 90 kilometers off the coast of Fujairah in international waters. "We tried to escape but they managed to shoot our engines and damaged them. We laid down on the floor to avoid the gunshots and then another boat came to rescue us," he said. He said he was not sure what nationality the men were. His group was searching for tuna fish at the time. (www.thenational.ae)

2. (U) SAUDI ARABIA: On 22 April, authorities seized 2,851,500 amphetamine tablets and 1.5 kilograms of opium on a boat being used to cross to the maritime borders of Tabuk. Two Egyptians were arrested. (www.arabnews.com)

3. (U) INDIA: On 13 April, suspected Sri Lankan pirates attacked an Indian fishing trawler, leaving four fishermen injured south-east of the Kodiyakkarai coast. Fisheries officials said the fishermen, from Seruthur village, put to sea in a fishing boat and when they were fishing near the International Maritime Boundary Line, a group of pirates, who came in a high-speed fiberglass boat attacked them with iron rods. They also looted fish catch, GPS units and mobile phones from the fishermen. The fishermen on returning to the coast were treated at the government hospital. (www.uniindia.com)

4. (U) SRI LANKA: On 12 April, the Sri Lanka Navy caught three people attempting to smuggle 24.2 kg of gold from the country via the sea. The three Sri Lankans were detained in the sea north of Mannar in the island's north. (www.business-standard.com)

5. (U) RED SEA: On 8 April, a vessel's embarked security team fired warning shots after three white-hulled skiffs, each with seven to eight persons onboard, approached the ship in the Bab el Mandeb off Yemen. Weapons were sighted on two of the skiffs as they approached. The vessel attempted to contact a coalition war ship, although it received no answer during the incident. The shots were fired after crew mustered and other anti-piracy measures failed to deter the skiffs, which came within 150 meters of the vessel. The vessel and crew were reported as safe. (www.pvilttd.com)

6. (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; UKMTO; www.gcaptain.com; www.english.alarabiya.net; www.usnews.com)

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

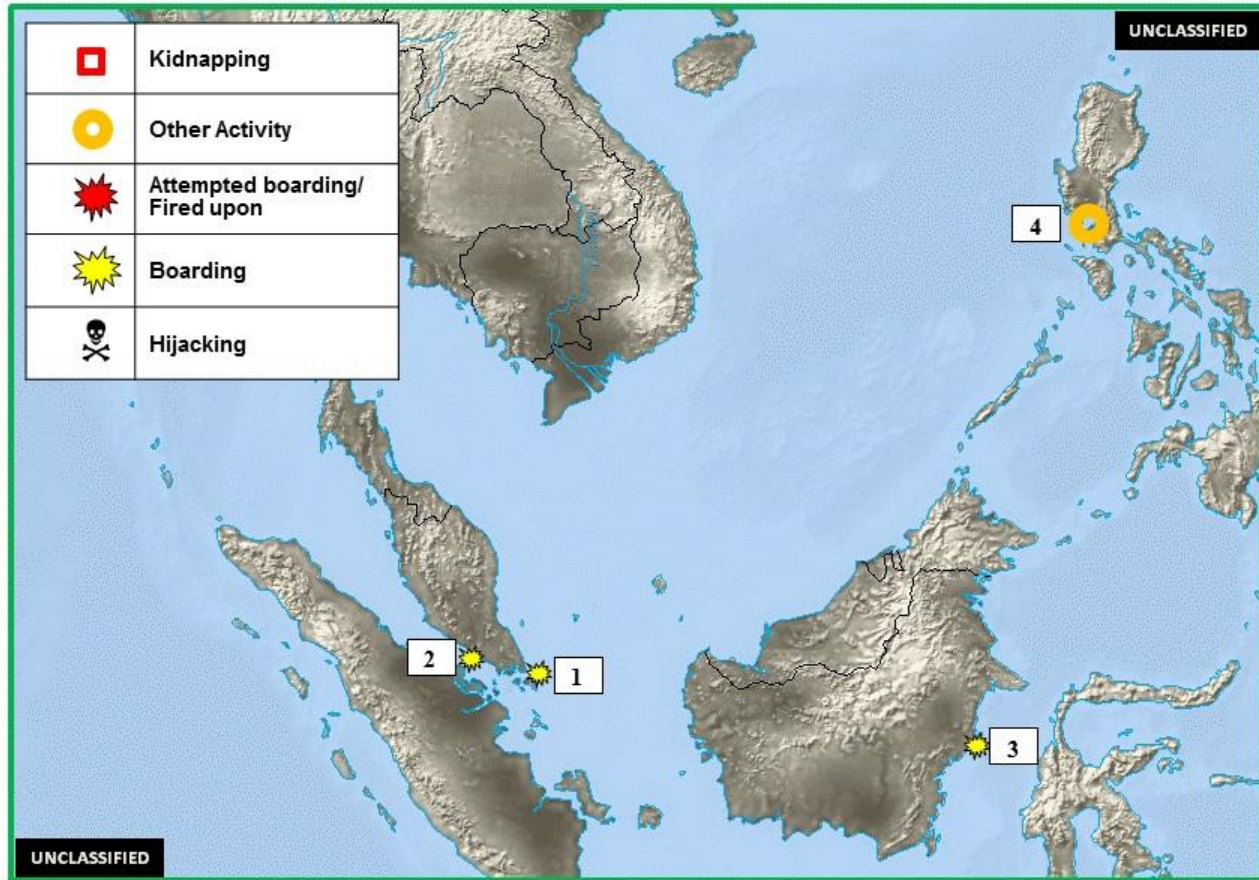


Figure 5. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

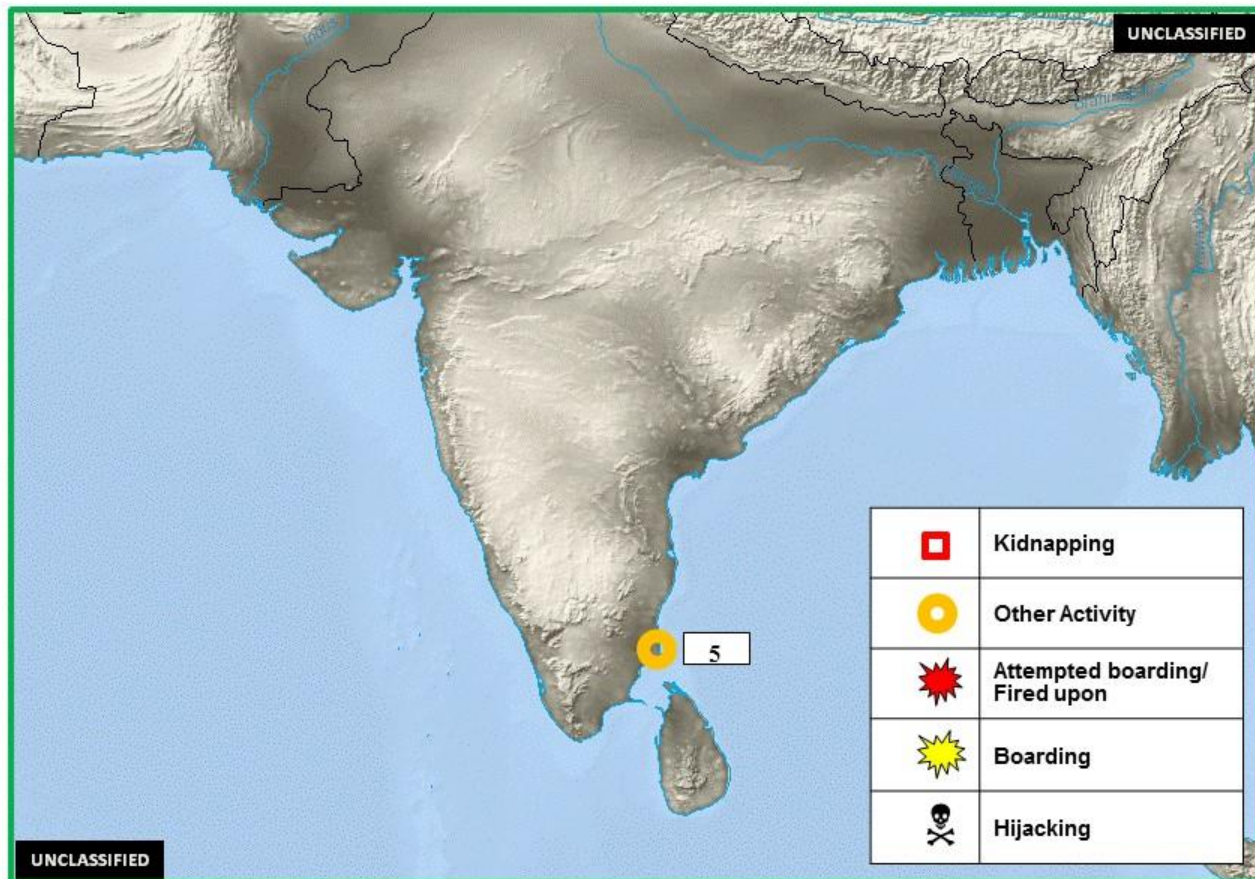


Figure 6. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 29 April, robbers boarded an anchored heavy lift vessel near position 01:24N - 104:46E, 16 nm northeast of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan. While carrying out routine deck work the next day, the Bosun noticed that the paint store room padlock was broken and the door left opened. Further investigation showed that the padlocks to the garbage room, oxygen locker, acetylene locker and the bunker station were also broken into and the doors left open. On investigating, nothing reported stolen. (IMB)

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 28 April, a duty crewman on routine rounds onboard a general cargo vessel anchored near position 00:14S - 117:32E, Muara Berau, Samarinda, was threatened by four robbers armed with knives. The crewman managed to escape and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped in two boats. Nothing reported stolen. (IMB)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 25 April, five armed Indonesian men were arrested for attempting to kidnap three Malaysian fishermen and demanding a ransom after a rescue operation by Malaysian and Indonesian authorities. The day before, the Southern Region Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) received a distress call from a local fishing boat about 15 nautical miles southwest off Tanjung Laboh, Batu Pahat, Johor. The hijacked vessel was released after the five suspects were arrested by Indonesian authorities, and the fishermen were able to return safely. (www.atimes.com)

4. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 23 April, Bureau of Customs officials seized over 500 tons of smuggled onions from China inside 17 shipping containers at the Manila International Container Port. The consignee misdeclared the onions as apples. The smuggled onions were placed inside boxes of apples to hide the contents. (www.untvweb.com)

5. (U) INDIA: On 22 April, India's Directorate of Revenue Intelligence busted a diesel smuggling racket and seized 14 shipping containers with more than 300,000 liters of diesel. Four people allegedly involved in the racket. Diesel was being brought from Dubai in containers at Chennai port for illegal sale in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. (www.timesofindia.com)

6. (U) INDONESIA: On 21 April, robbers in a boat approached an anchored bulk carrier and attempted to board via the anchor chain near position 00:14S - 117:35E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda. Duty crew directed lights towards the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers aborted their attempt and escaped in their boat. (IMB)

7. (U) INDONESIA: On 21 April, duty crewman onboard a bulk carrier underway near position 01:15N - 104:08E, 4.7 nm northeast of Nongsa, Pulau Batam noticed unauthorized persons in the engine room and raised the alarm. Hearing the alarm, the persons escaped. On searching the vessel nothing reported stolen. (IMB)

8. (U) VIETNAM: On 20 April, six Vietnamese fishermen were rescued after their boat was allegedly sunk by two Chinese vessels in disputed waters, a Vietnamese official said. The incident occurred near Lincoln Island in the Paracel Archipelago, according to Nguyen Viet Thang, chairman of the state-run Vietnam Fisheries Society. Thang said the two Chinese boats chased and rammed the Vietnamese boat before armed assailants boarded the vessel and seized equipment and fishing catch from the fishermen. According to Vietnam's Tuoi Tre newspaper, since March, over 10 Vietnamese fishing boats have allegedly been hit and robbed while fishing in the South China Sea. (www.pmnewsnigeria.com)

9. (U) INDONESIA: On 20 April, robbers in a wooden boat tried to board an anchored bulk carrier via the anchor chain near position 00:14S - 117:35E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda. The crew noticed the boats and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers quit the attempted boarding and escaped. (IMB)

10. (U) INDONESIA: On 18 April, robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier near position 00:15S - 117:36 E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda. They stole ship store's and escaped unseen. The theft was noticed during routine rounds. (IMB)

11. (U) BANGLADESH: On 17 April, six robbers in a black boat tried to board an anchored general cargo vessel from astern near position 22:11.3N - 091:42.1E, Chittagong Anchorage. The crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. One robber managed to board the vessel and threatened the crew by showing a knife. Hearing the alarm and seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped without stealing anything. All crew reported safe. (IMB)

12. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 14 April, general cargo ship DIAMOND 8 was seized by Philippine Navy in Zamboanga waters, southwest Mindanao Island. The ship reportedly was smuggling more than 20,000 bags of rice from Vietnam into the country. (www.fleetmon.com)

13. (U) INDONESIA: On 12 April, a shipment of luxury motorbikes and cars was seized in Jakarta onboard the Ro-Ro ship BAJAR FAHARI V, which arrived to Jakarta from Pontianak, West Kalimantan, Indonesia. In total, 27 motorbikes and cars, with Malaysian plates, were seized, including 18 Harley Davidson, BMW and Honda motorbikes, and 9 Toyota, BMW, Nissan Terrano and Porsche cars. (www.fleetmon.com)

14. (U) BANGLADESH: On 12 April, three robbers in small boat boarded an anchored product tanker near position 22:12N - 091:44E, Chittagong Anchorage. alarm raised and crew mustered. the robbers armed with an iron rod, hit the local watchman, stole ship's properties and escaped. incident reported to Bangladesh Coast Guard who dispatched a patrol boat to search the area. (IMB)

15. (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)

16. (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)

17. (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)

J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA:

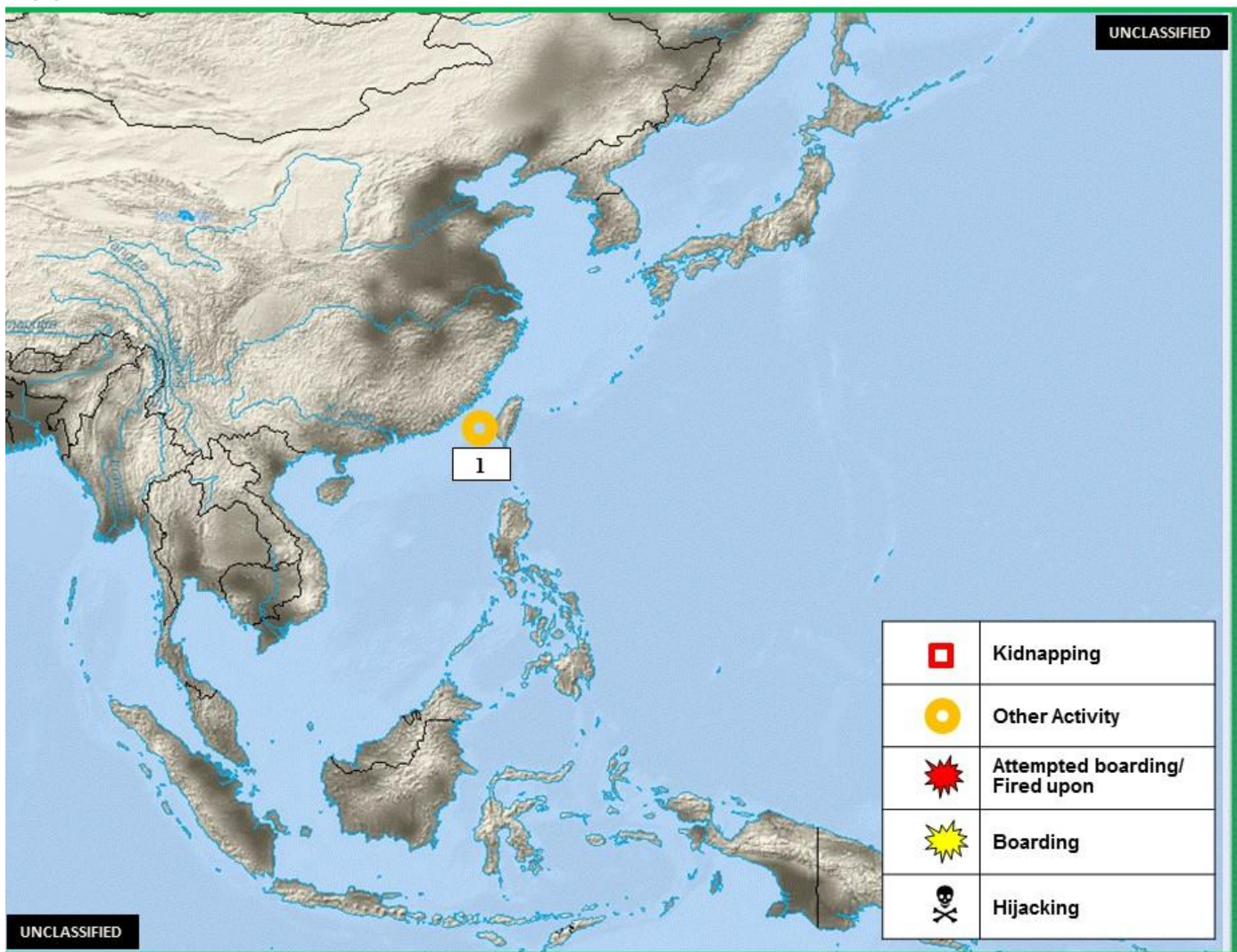


Figure 7. Northeast Asia Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) TAIWAN: Between 10 and 11 April, Taiwan Coast Guard vessels seized 2 Chinese fishing boats for illegal fishing activity; and a third unidentified fishing boat that had been converted into an oil transport vessel was also seized. The seizures took place in the Penghu Island chain. (www.taiwannews.com.tw)

2. (U) SOUTH KOREA: On 13 April, coast guard forces seized a Chinese fishing boat for illegally operating in South Korean waters off the west coast, officials said. The 35-ton dragnet boat was caught fishing in waters about 26 km northwest of South Korea's northernmost island of Baengyeong after crossing the inter-Korean maritime border, known as the Northern Limit Line, 5 km into the South. The Coast Guard chased the boat for two and a half hours before seizing it, officials said. In the course of chasing it, the Coast Guard also chased eight other Chinese fishing boats out of South Korean waters, officials said. About 150 kilograms of blue crabs and some 2,700 kg of skate fish were found aboard the seized boat. (www.english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news)

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.

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: 2 May 2018

UNCLASSIFIED

(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>

UNCLASSIFIED