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(U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report** 23 April - 23 May 2018



24 May 2018

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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) **MARAD 2018-008-Measles Outbreak-Global**: Reference: Centers for Disease Control Travel Health Alert Notice on Measles: (<https://go.usa.gov/xQU8G>). Issue: The Center for Disease Control (CDC) issued a Travel Health Alert Notice regarding Measles Outbreaks in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Pacific. Measles remains a common disease in many parts of the world, including areas in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific. Worldwide, 19 cases of measles per 1 million persons are reported each year; about 89,780 die. In the United States, most of the measles cases result from international travel. Guidance: U.S. maritime industry stakeholders are advised to follow CDC guidelines for vaccinations. Further updates will be provided through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at: <https://go.usa.gov/xQU8G>. Contact Information: Any questions regarding this advisory should be directed to the CDC at: <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/dcs/contactus/form>. 5. Cancellation: This advisory will automatically expire on 13 November 2018.

2. (U) **MDAT-GoG Advisory 003/MAY/2018**: Category: Attempted boarding. Description: At 2255UTC on 21 May 2018, in position 03:46N - 001:30E (approximately 140 nm south of Lome, Togo) an attempt was made by one individual to board an MV. The attempt was thwarted by a crewmember and the perpetrator fled in a skiff with a further six POB. Vessel and crew are safe. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution. Source: Reported to MDAT-GoG via telephone. Any queries regarding this Advisory Notice ring 0033 298 22 88 88 for further information. This advisory is not classified as a Maritime Security Event and has not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this

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reporting. MDAT-GoG Watchkeeper email: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org, emergency Tel: +33(0) 298 22 88 88.

3. (U) Summary

A. (U) NIGERIA: On 23 May, Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a statement saying that 11 kidnapped crew of Dutch freighter FWN RAPIDE were released.

B. (U) RED SEA: On 23 May, UAE coalition forces had destroyed five boats threatening merchant shipping.

C. (U) GULF OF GUINEA: On 21 May, one pirate attempted to board a drifting product tanker approximately 140 nm south of Lome, Togo.

D. (U) BRAZIL: On 20 May, officials from the state of Maranhão said a local fishing boat found a drifting vessel with 27 people aboard, including migrants from Senegal, Nigeria, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Cape Verde, along with two Brazilians.

E. (U) SPAIN: On 19 May, the Spanish National Police intercepted a fishing boat 110 nm off the eastern Spanish coast, carrying 15 tons of hashish.

F. (U) NIGERIA: On 19 May, seven robbers attempted to board an anchored bulk carrier using a rope attached to a hook in Lagos Anchorage.

G. (U) INDIA: On 19 May, officials announced they had broken a fuel smuggling ring in the port of Kandla.

H. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 May, three robbers armed with knives, boarded a bulk carrier anchored in Merak Anchorage.

I. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 May, six robbers boarded a tanker underway 2.5 nm east-northeast of Pulau Karimun Kecil.

J. (U) PACIFIC OCEAN: On 17 May, an Indonesian fisherman aboard F/V MING MAN HSIANG No. 38 was reported missing approximately 530 nautical miles northeast of Guam, after a fight with another crewman.

K. (U) SOMALIA: On 17 May, local media announced that Al-Shabab extremists had resumed exports of charcoal from the port of Burgabo, a small coastal town situated south of Kismayo city in the Lower Jubba region.

L. (U) MEXICO: On 16 May, the Mexican Navy seized a boat carrying a shipment of 1.3 tons of cocaine off the Pacific coast in the state of Michoacan.

M. (U) INDONESIA: On 15 May, robbers boarded a product tanker anchored in Tanjung Uban anchorage.

N. (U) HONG KONG: On 15 May, Customs officials impounded a shipping container found to be carrying 630 kilograms of smuggled pangolin scales and 2,660 kilograms of smuggled mercury.

O. (U) PUERTO RICO: On 14 May, authorities intercepted a 28-foot boat near Cabo Rojo. An inspection of the boat found 601 kilograms of cocaine.

P. (U) INDONESIA: On 5 May, robbers boarded a tanker anchored 12 nm north-northeast of Tanjung Berakit, Bintan Island.

Q. (U) TAIWAN: On 4 May, police and Customs officials in Keelung cracked a firearms smuggling ring and confiscated guns and ammunition.

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 (MILT), 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)

D. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Korean Navy convoy schedule for May and June 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)

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:

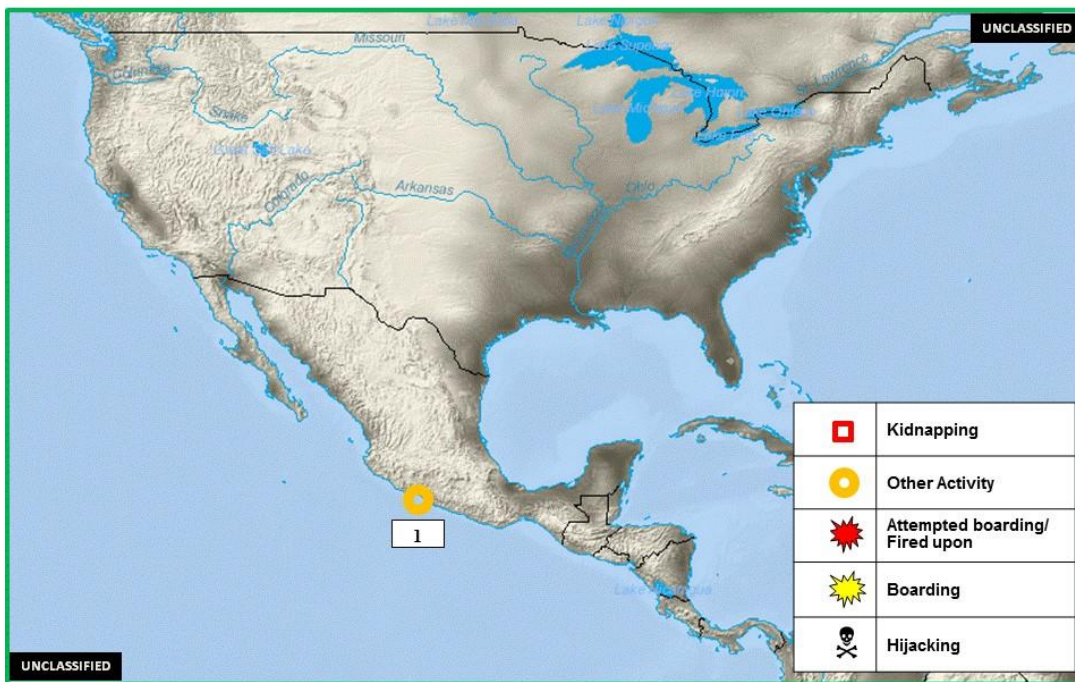


Figure 1. North America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) MEXICO: On 16 May, the Mexican Navy seized a boat carrying a shipment of 1.3 tons of cocaine off the Pacific coast in the state of Michoacan. The Ministry of the Navy and Army indicated that soldiers arrested six Mexican nationals and

two Ecuadorians during the operation, 166 kilometers southwest of the port of Lazaro Cardenas. (www.xinhuanet.com)

2. (U) UNITED STATES: On 12 May, police near Santa Barbara, California, intercepted a panga-type boat carrying 3,000 pounds of marijuana and arrested 18 persons on suspicion of drug smuggling. (www.keyt.com)

3. (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:

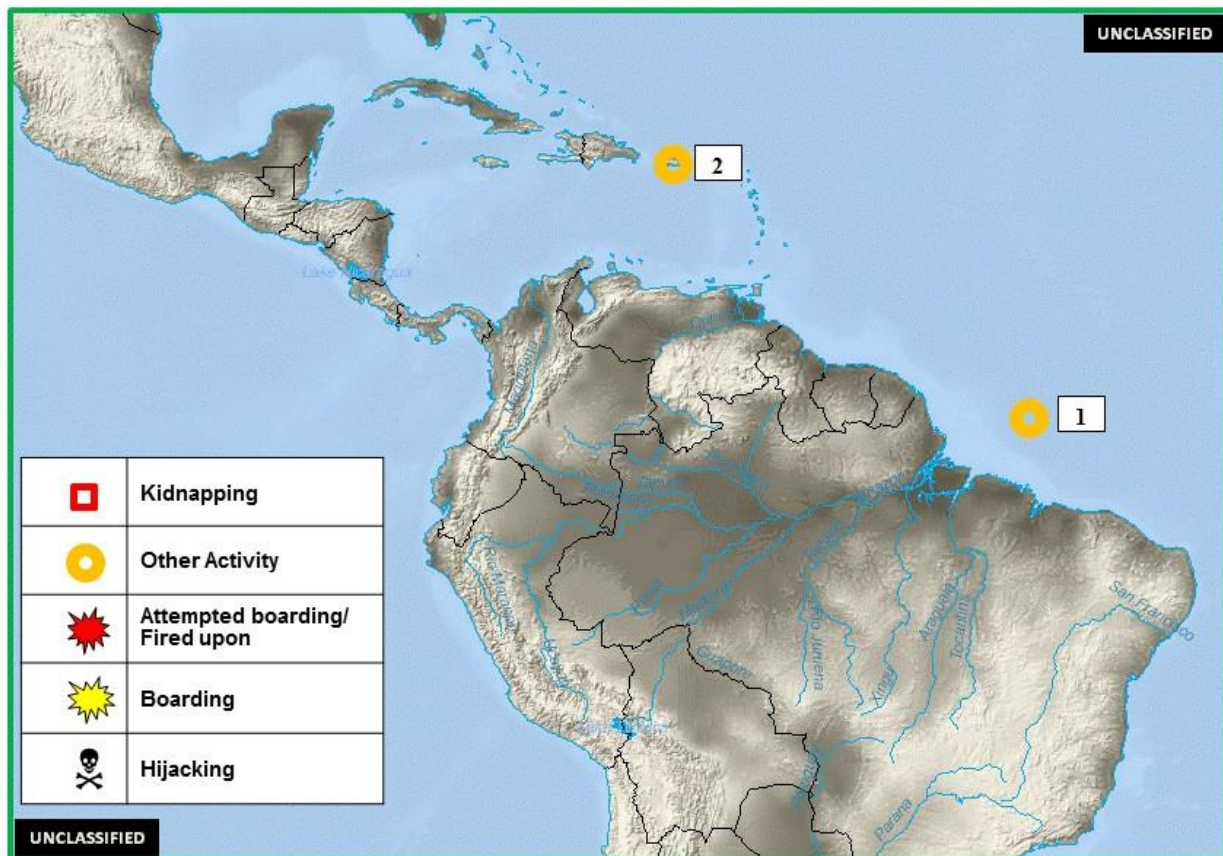


Figure 2. Central America - Caribbean - South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) BRAZIL: On 20 May, officials from the state of Maranhão said a local fishing boat found a drifting vessel with 27 people aboard, including migrants from Senegal, Nigeria, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Cape Verde, along with two Brazilians, the government said in a statement. Some were suffering from dehydration. A Brazilian newspaper, citing a Federal Police officer, said that both rescued Brazilians were arrested for human trafficking. The official also said the migrants paid to be illegally transported to Brazil. The boat had reportedly been at sea for five weeks. (www.yahoo.com)

2. (U) PUERTO RICO: On 14 May, authorities intercepted a 28-foot boat near Cabo Rojo. An inspection of the boat found 601 kilograms of cocaine. Two men on the boat were arrested. (www.viconsortium.com)

3. (U) PERU: On 5 May, three robbers in a wooden boat with an outboard engine boarded an anchored bulk carrier near position 12:01S - 077:10W, Callao Anchorage. They boarded using a hook attached to a rope. Duty lookout saw the robbers, raised the alarm and crew mustered. Duty officer sounded the ship's whistle and notified the port authorities. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores.
4. (U) GUATEMALA: On 4 May, authorities intercepted M/V TIAMAT and escorted it to the port of Puerto Quetzal for a thorough search of the ship. During the search, 2.8 tons of cocaine was found. The ship was en route from Ecuador to Ensenada, Mexico. (www.fleetmon.com)
5. (U) PERU: On 3 May, Peruvian authorities in Callao seized 400 kilograms of marijuana aboard the Portugal-flagged cargo ship EVER CONQUEST, which came from the Colombian port of Buenaventura, according to the Peruvian Prosecutor's Office. The contraband was found in rectangular packages inside five black sports bags in the crew compartments. (www.maritimeherald.com)
6. (U) JAMAICA: On 3 May, the Jamaica Defense Force (JDF) Coast Guard seized approximately 765 pounds of compressed marijuana when it intercepted a vessel off the coast of Westmoreland and detained three men, two locals and a Haitian. A JDF Coast Guard patrol team on board HMJS Cornwall was conducting routine patrols off the coast of Westmoreland when they spotted a blue motor-vessel acting suspiciously. "The Coast Guard team approached the vessel in order to carry out a board and search, when the three men were spotted throwing a number of packages over board. The Coast Guard team recovered five packages that were thrown overboard and another 11 that were still on board. (www.caribbean360.com)
7. (U) SURINAME: On 2 May, pirates attacked another fishing boat, killing at least one fisherman. According to Mark Lall, secretary of Visserscollectief, a local fishermen's association, the captain of the boat was killed. The whereabouts of his crew members is unknown. (www.demerarawaves.com)
8. (U) TRINIDAD and TOBAGO: On 1 May, police arrested a Venezuelan man after he came ashore in a small boat near Boleau Beach Road, Icacos Village, Cedros. A search of the man revealed 10.8 kilograms of cocaine in his backpack along with a loaded .380 caliber semi-automatic pistol. (www.menafn.com)
9. (U) HONDURAS: On 29 April, police intercepted a boat transiting from Colombia to Belize that was transporting 700 pounds of cocaine. (www.reporter.bz)
10. (U) HONDURAS: On 29 April, authorities seized 319 kilograms of cocaine on a Panama-flagged ship in Caribbean waters, in an operation that also arrested two Colombians and one Honduran, an official source said. The vessel was intercepted by a patrol of the Honduran naval force off the coast of the eastern department of Gracias a Dios, in the Caribbean of the Central American country, armed forces spokesman Jose Domingo Meza told reporters. (www.maritimeherald.com)
11. (U) VENEZUELA: On 28 April, a duty crewman onboard a bulk carrier anchored near position 10:09N - 064:48W, Puerto Jose Anchorage saw several robbers trying to access the vessel via the hawse pipe. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped in empty handed. (IMB)
12. (U) COSTA RICA: On 24 April, Costa Rica's National Coast Guard Service intercepted a vessel carrying 809 kilograms of cocaine near Punta Burica. The four men onboard were arrested on charges of drug trafficking. (www.news.co.cr)
13. (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)

14. (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)

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

D. (U) NORTHERN EUROPE - BALTIC:

1. (U) IRELAND: On 8 May, a teen stowaway was discovered in a truck at a stadium in Dublin after traveling from Calais, France, across the English Channel, through England and across the Irish Sea. The truck is part of a convoy hauling equipment for an upcoming music concert. (www.irishmirror.ie)

E. (U) MEDITERRANEAN - BLACK SEA:

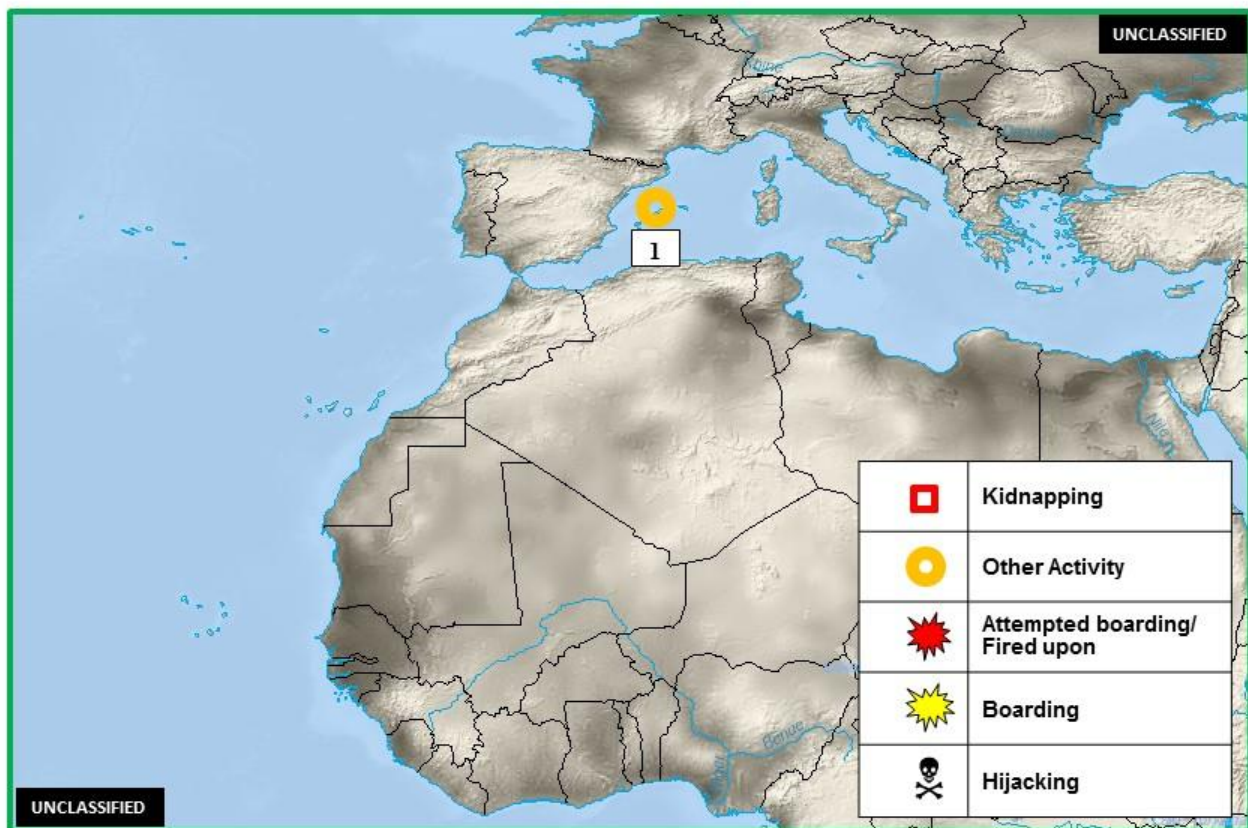


Figure 3. Mediterranean – Black Sea Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) SPAIN: On 19 May, the Spanish National Police intercepted a fishing boat 110 nm off the eastern Spanish coast, carrying 15 tons of hashish. The fishing boat was illegally sailing under a Maltese flag when it was spotted. All four of the ship's crew, consisting of a Bulgarian national and three Dutch citizens, were arrested. (www.pvilt.com)

2. (U) LIBYA: On 7 May, government officials announced that their coast guard had intercepted over 500 migrants in two separate operations off the country's northwestern coast. Over 400 migrants were intercepted off Garabulli while another

100 were stopped near Sabratha, the naval coast guard spokesman said. The migrants were taken to a detention center in Tripoli. (www.pvilttd.com)

3. (U) AEGEAN SEA: On 4 May, a Greek navy gunboat was nudged by a Turkish cargo vessel while on patrol for unauthorized migrant crossings in the Aegean Sea, the Greek Navy said. The gunboat ARMATOLOS was on patrol off the island of Lesbos as part of a NATO operation when the incident occurred. A Turkey-flagged vessel "approached and touched" the Greek gunboat, the navy said in a statement. It then accelerated toward Turkish shores and did not respond to subsequent radio calls from the Greek gunboat, according to the statement. The Greek Navy said NATO authorities had been informed, adding that there were no injuries or any serious damage to the ship. Turkey's transport ministry later confirmed that there were no casualties on either side following the collision. (Reuters)

4. (U) ITALY: On 2 May, authorities intercepted a small ship carrying 2.5 tons of marijuana near Brindisi. Four Albanian smugglers were arrested. (www.ansa.it)

5. (U) TURKEY: On 1 May, a total of 89 kilograms of cocaine was seized at Istanbul's Ambarli Port. According to Turkey's Customs and Trade Ministry. The cocaine was hidden inside a container from South America loaded with bananas. (ww.aa.com.tr)

F. (U) WEST AFRICA:

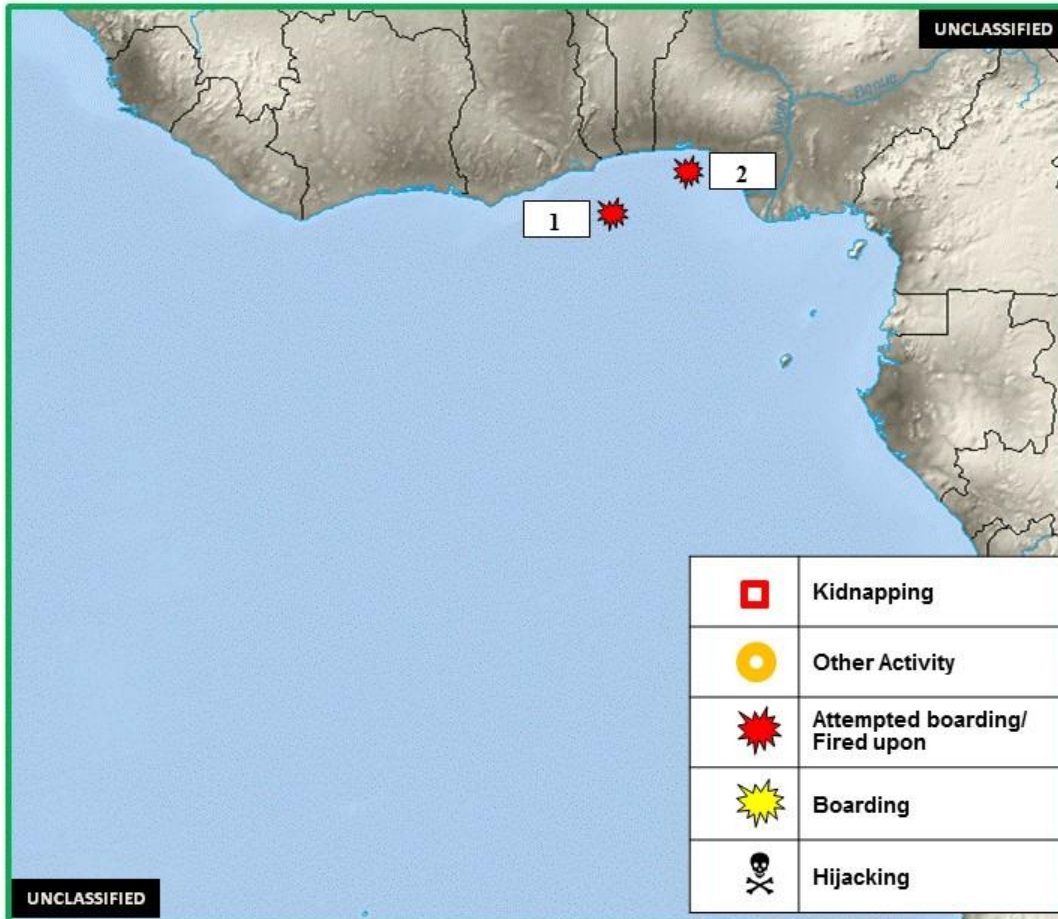


Figure 4. West Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) GULF OF GUINEA: On 21 May, one pirate attempted to board a drifting product tanker near position 03:46N –

001:30E, approximately 140 nm south of Lome, Togo. The attempt was thwarted by a crewmember and the perpetrator fled in a skiff with a further 6 accomplices. Master reported a suspicious vessel in the vicinity from which the pirates could have approached his vessel. (IMB; MDAT-GoG)

2. (U) NIGERIA: On 19 May, seven robbers attempted to board an anchored bulk carrier using a rope attached to a hook near position 06:26N - 003:23E, Lagos Anchorage. Duty crewman noticed the robbers, raised the alarm and alerted the security watchmen who notified the local authorities. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers aborted the attempted boarding and moved away. (IMB)

3. (U) NIGERIA: On 23 May, Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a statement saying that 11 kidnapped crew of Dutch freighter FWN RAPIDE were released by pirates. No details were released. General cargo ship FWN RAPIDE was attacked by pirates in the Port Harcourt approaches, Nigeria on the morning 21 April. (www.fleetmon.com)

4. (U) NIGERIA: On 17 May, pirates attacked a merchant ship near position 03:53N - 006:42E, near Okwori Oil Field and kidnapped 4 crewmen. (MDAT-GoG)

5. (U) NIGERIA: On 8 May, six pirates in a speedboat came alongside and attacked a bulk carrier underway near position 03:37N - 006:16E, 41 nm south of Brass. They hooked a ladder on the ship's railing and attempted to board. Master raised the alarm, activated SSAS, took evasive maneuvers and non-essential crew members mustered in the citadel. Due to the hardening measures taken by the master, the pirates aborted the attempted attack and moved away leaving their ladder hanging on the ship's side. (IMB)

6. (U) GHANA: On 3 May, two robbers boarded an offshore supply vessel anchored near position 04:54N - 001:42W, Takoradi Anchorage. Duty watchman saw the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping. The crew noticed the padlock for the paint locker broken but no items stolen. Port control informed. (IMB)

7. (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)

8. (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)

9. (U) GHANA: On 29 April, crew onboard a bulk carrier anchored near position 04:54N - 001:41W, Takoradi Anchorage, noticed a robber on the poop deck and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped without stealing anything. (IMB)

10. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 April, three South Korean sailors kidnapped in the waters off Ghana in March were 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)

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

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

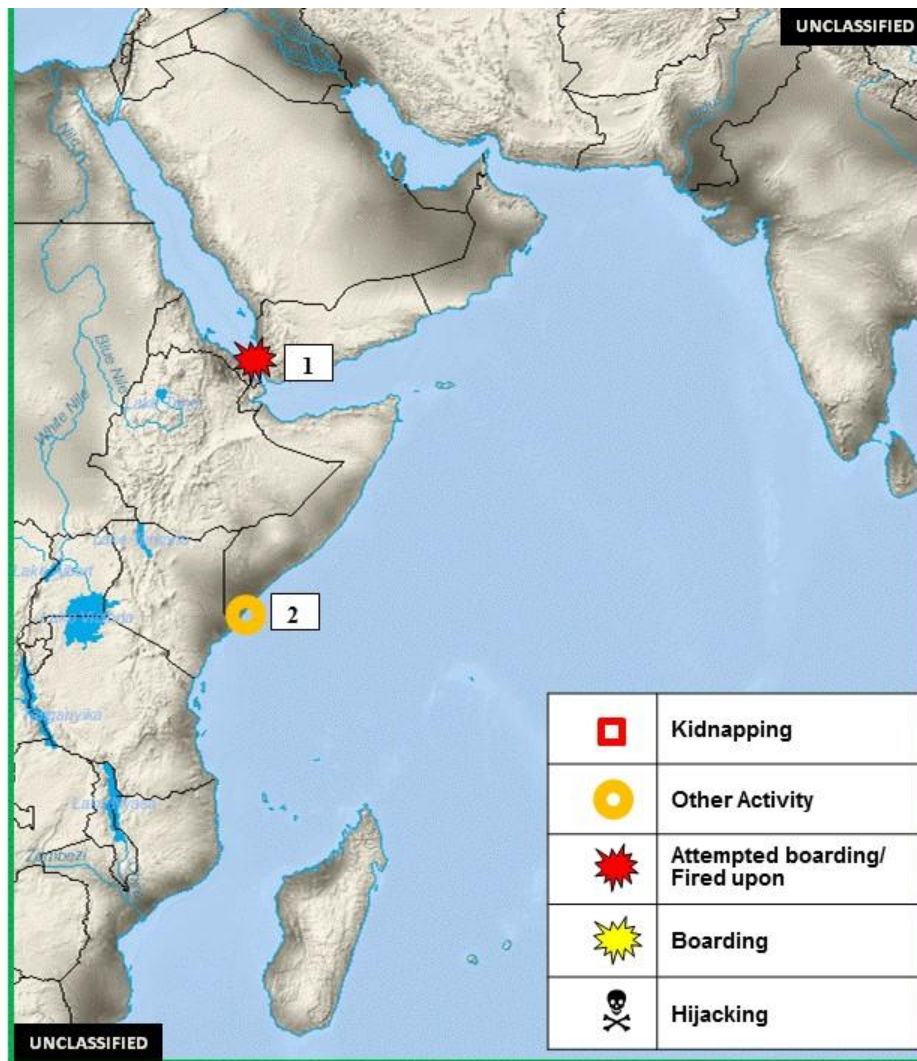


Figure 5. Indian Ocean – East Africa – Red
Sea Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) RED SEA: On 23 May, United Arab Emirates (UAE) state news agency WAM reported that UAE coalition forces had destroyed two boats “which were threatening a commercial oil tanker” in the Red Sea. Two other Houthi boats escaped. Later Saudi state news channel al-Ekhbariya said that remote-controlled speedboats rigged with explosives had tried to attack three commercial vessels being escorted by two coalition warships, but that coalition forces had foiled the attack and destroyed three speedboats. (www.reuters.com)

2. (U) SOMALIA: On 17 May, local media announced that Al-Shabab extremists had resumed exports of charcoal from the port of Burgabo, a small coastal town situated south of Kismayo city in the Lower Jubba region. Reportedly, a boat named AL SAFA 381980 carrying 1,500 bags of charcoal had recently sailed from that port to Iran and the United Arab Emirates. In February 2012, the UN Security Council banned charcoal exports from war-torn Somalia to stop funds for Al-Shabab which is fighting to topple the Western-backed Somali government. (www.radioshabelle.com)

3. (U) RED SEA: On 10 May, an explosion was reported inside the hold of the Turkish bulk carrier INCE INEBOLU, which was carrying about 50,000 metric tons of wheat to Yemen and was anchored near position 14:40N - 041:45E, 70 nm off the coast of Yemen. The captain reported no casualties and the wheat wasn’t damaged. It is unknown who fired the missile. (UKMTO; www.gcaptain.com)

4. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 10 May, the Royal Australian Navy Frigate HMAS WARRAMUNGA interdicted a dhow carrying 295

kilograms of heroin as part of Combined Task Force (CTF) 150 Maritime Security Operations. This is HMAS WARRAMUNGA's eleventh successful interdiction in five months and brings the Royal Australian Navy Frigate's total of narcotics interdicted to approximately 19.3 tons of hashish and 2.1 tons of heroin. (www.combinedmaritimeforces.com)

5. (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)

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

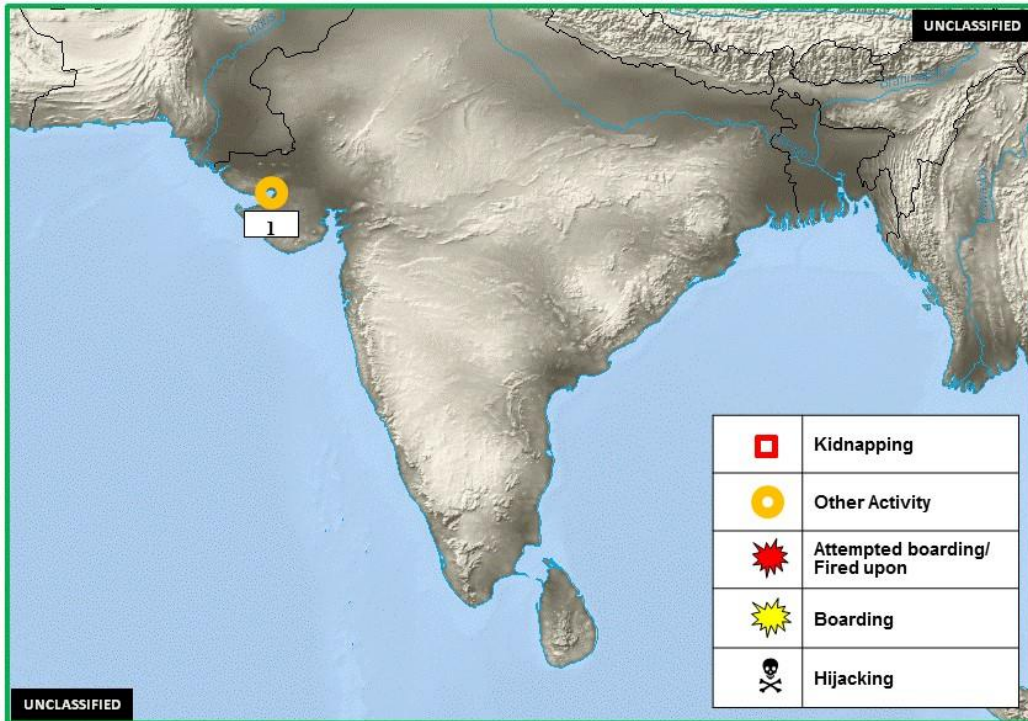


Figure 6. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

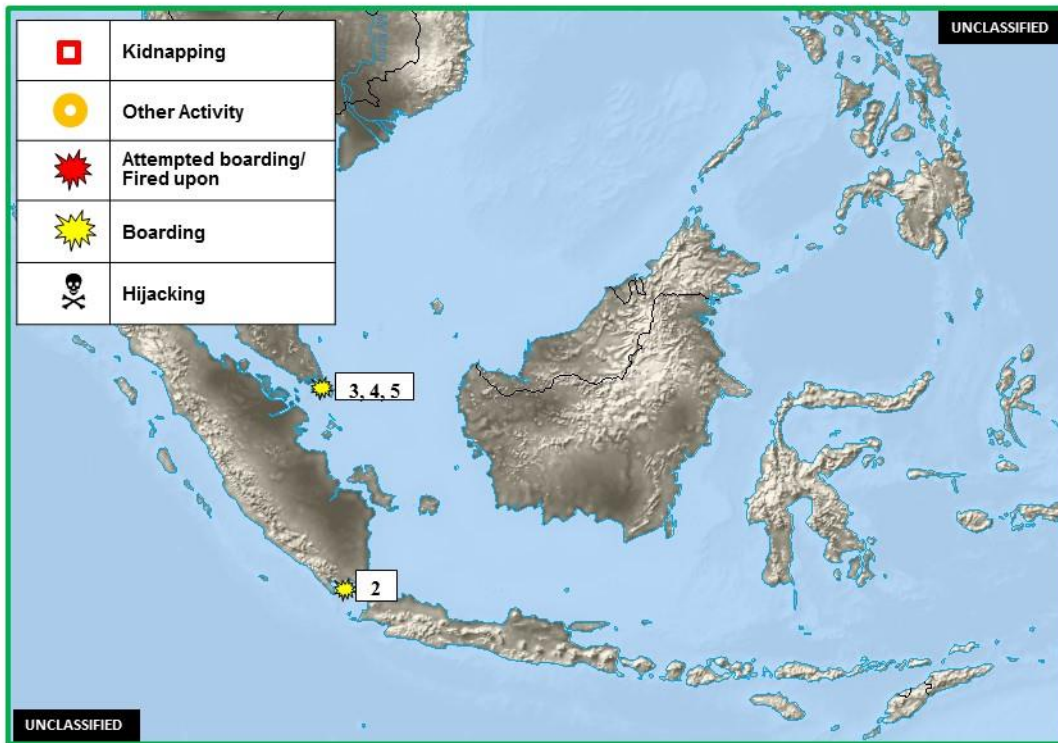


Figure 7. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) INDIA: On 19 May, officials announced they had broken a fuel smuggling ring in the port of Kandla. The officials boarded M/T AL HEERA upon its arrival from the UAE and took test samples of the fuel, manifested as 5,521 metric tons of Base Oil SN 50. Tests from a government lab revealed that the fuel was actually high-speed diesel; a restricted item which is permitted to be imported only by state trading enterprises. (www.dnaindia.com)

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 May, three robbers armed with knives, boarded a bulk carrier anchored near position 05:52S - 106:04E, Merak Anchorage, and threatened the Duty AB on routine rounds. The robbers entered the engine room stole ship's spares and escaped. (IMB)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 May, six robbers boarded a tanker underway near position 01:10N - 103:27E, 2.5 nm east-northeast of Pulau Karimun Kecil. Duty engineer noticed the robbers, informed the master who raised the alarm. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped empty-handed. (IMB)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 15 May, robbers boarded a product tanker anchored near position 01:06N - 104:11E, Tanjung Uban Anchorage. The robbers stole ship's properties and escaped unnoticed. The theft was noticed during routine rounds. (IMB)

5. (U) INDONESIA: On 5 May, robbers boarded a tanker anchored near position 01:27N - 104:36E, 12 nm north-northeast of Tanjung Berakit, Bintan Island. The robbers stole ship's properties and escaped unnoticed. The theft was noticed during a routine emergency drill. (IMB)

6. (U) MALAYSIA: On 8 May, authorities intercepted a small boat piloted by an unidentified teen. The boat was searched and 89 containers carrying 10,000 explosives detonators were found. The boat was leaving Lahad Datu and headed for a small island in the southern Philippines. The teen was detained. (www.pressreader.com)

7. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 7 May, four members of a suspected Filipino kidnap-for-ransom group were shot and killed in the waters off Lahad Datu. The authorities are investigating whether they belonged to a pro-Islamic State militant group in the southern Philippines. Sabah Police Commissioner Ramli Din said a team, consisting of members of the Eastern Sabah Security Command (Esscom), VAT 69 special forces units as well as marine police, detected a boat carrying five to six men behaving suspiciously. "The speedboat was heading towards a group of fishing boats. Our boat intercepted them and flashed our blue strobe lights," said Ramli during a press conference in Lahad Datu. "The suspects fired on the team, forcing them to return fire in self-defense." Ramli said the team was unharmed but a bullet had hit the left side of their boat's bow. (www.freemalaysiatoday.com)

8. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 7 May, Bureau of Customs (BOC) operatives seized smuggled goods at the Port of Manila (POM) and Manila International Container Port (MICP). Several forty-foot shipping containers contained rice, houseware products, electronic cigarettes, cosmetics, counterfeit shoes, office chairs, and wheel rims. A Customs spokesman said the shipments from China arrived on separate dates and were consigned to different companies. (www.gmanetwork.com)

9. (U) INDONESIA: On 6 May, a duty crewman on routine rounds onboard a bulk carrier anchored near position 00:13S - 117:33E, Muara Berau Anchorage, heard noise coming from the hawse pipe and saw somebody trying to remove the hawse pipe protection cover. Duty officer immediately informed, alarm raised and ship's whistle sounded. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers aborted their attempted boarding and escaped. Crew mustered and a search was carried out. Nothing reported stolen. Duty officer tried to call the port control on VHF but received no response. (IMB)

10. (U) BANGLADESH: On 6 May, seven robbers in a wooden boat with an outboard engine approached and attempted to board an anchored bulk carrier near position 22:15.0N - 091:44.9E, Chittagong Alpha Anchorage, using a hook attached to a rope. The crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers aborted the boarding attempt. Local Authorities informed. (IMB)

11. (U) VIETNAM: On 3 May, the customs office at Port of Ho Chi Minh City seized 3.3 tons of pangolin scales illegally imported from Africa. The container was declared to contain dried cashew nuts and was in transit to Cambodia from Nigeria. (www.maritime-executive.com)

12. (U) MALAYSIA: On 1 May, Malaysian police intercepted a tanker with 131 Sri Lankans onboard believed bound for Australia and New Zealand, smashing a large human smuggling ring that has been operating for a year. Authorities halted the modified tanker off the coast of southern Johor state, a national police spokesman said in a statement. (www.sacbee.com)

13. (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)

14. (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)

15. (U) INDONESIA: On 28 April, while at anchor near position 05:30.13S - 105:18.13E, Panjang Anchorage, a duty officer aboard a cargo vessel saw a fishing boat approaching the vessel. Duty crewman sent to check the fishing boat's activity. The duty crewman saw three robbers onboard the vessel and notified the duty officer who raised the alarm and alerted all crew via the PA system. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped in their boat. (IMB)

16. (U) VIETNAM: On 27 April, 3.8 tons of pangolin scales were seized in Cat Lai Port. They were hidden in bags in the

middle of two containers surrounded by timber blocks. (www.maritime-executive.com)

17. (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)

18. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 24 April, two high speed craft approached an ore carrier underway near position 04:58N - 119:37E, 6 nm west-southwest of Bongao Island. As the boats closed to the ship, the crew could see a blue colored boat with two persons wearing face masks and a white colored boat with one person wearing a face mask. Two Philippine naval patrol vessels contacted the ore carrier via VHF channel 16. The high-speed boats closed to three cables from the ship, noticed the hardening, crossed the ship's stern and moved away. The ship had received cautionary information from the Philippine Navy and Coast Guard Coast Watch as they were transiting the Sibutu passage. (IMB)

J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA:

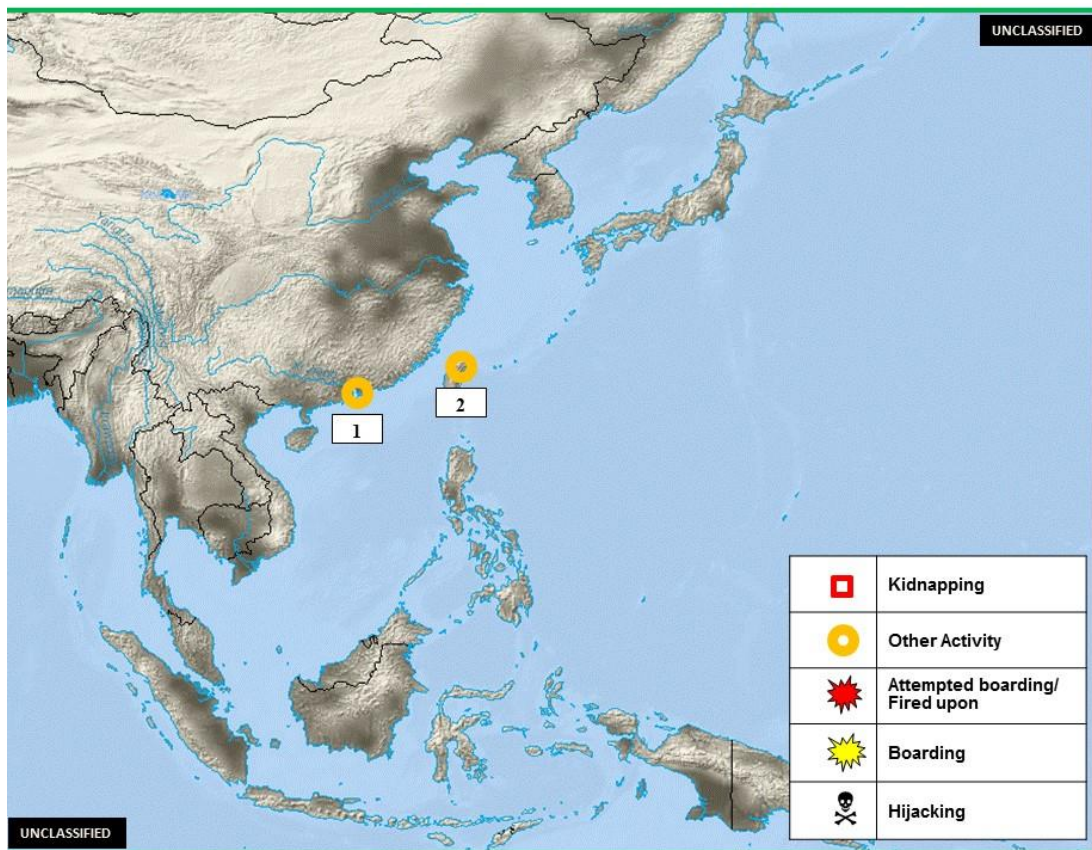


Figure 8. Northeast Asia Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) HONG KONG: On 15 May, Customs officials at the Tsing Yi Customs Cargo Examination Compound impounded a shipping container found to be carrying 630 kilograms of smuggled pangolin scales and 2,660 kilograms of smuggled mercury. (www.7thspace.com)

2. (U) TAIWAN: On 4 May, police and Customs officials in Keelung cracked a firearms smuggling ring and confiscated guns and ammunition, the Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) said. The 109 guns and 12,378 rounds of ammunition had been transported from Hong Kong to Taiwan by sea in a shipping container, CIB officials said in a news conference. Police also announced that six suspects were arrested. (www.focustaiwan.tw)

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
- DNK Intelligence & Operations Centre (DNK IOC)

- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- 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
- Norwegian Shipowners' Mutual War Risks Insurance Association
- 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: 23 May 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>