



UNCLASSIFIED

(U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report 20 March - 24 April 2019



25 April 2019

(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) No current incidents to report.

3. (U) Summary:

A. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: On 21 April, fishing vessels F/V ADRIA and F/V TXORI ARG1 were involved in an incident by suspected pirates in the Indian Ocean 280 nm southeast of Mogadishu, Somalia.

B. (U) COLOMBIA: On 19 April, a boat with 8 to 10 persons approached a container ship under pilotage in the Buenaventura Channel and attempted to board via the rigged pilot ladder.

C. (U) MONTENEGRO: On 19 April, police officials boarded the Montenegrin Navy training ship JADRAN in the Port of Tivat and searched the ship, finding 50 kilograms of drugs hidden onboard.

D. (U) NIGERIA: On 19 April, armed men boarded the tanker APECUS in the Bonny Outer Anchorage. Six crewmen were kidnapped and the pirates escaped.

E. (U) NIGERIA: On 18 April, authorities announced they had arrested nine people for the illegal possession of firearms in Nigerian waters.

F. (U) INDIA: On 13 April, five boats with eleven persons boarded a tanker during anchoring operations in Visakhapatnam SPM Anchorage.

G. (U) NICARAGUA: On 11 April, a Canada-flagged yacht was boarded by 25 men 23 miles east-southeast of Cabo Gracias a Dios.

H. (U) SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES: On 3 April, a charter catamaran was boarded off the Tamarind Beach Hotel dock.

I. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 26 March, robbers boarded a vessel anchored in Batangas Anchorage

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

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for April and May 2019. 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: hqt-info-piracy@mlit.go.jp (MSCHOA)

B. (U) GULF OF ADEN: China Navy convoy schedule for April and May 2019. For further information, please email: planavy@navy.mil.cn, or call Tel: 441 221 061 or 00870 773120140. (MSCHOA)

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: South Korea Navy convoy schedule for April 2019. 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)-870-776-444-280 or (001)-870-773-110-438. Email: choiyoung981@navy.mil.kr or kes0539@hanmail.net (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 6 April, authorities in the Port of Savannah, Georgia, announced that they had taken a stowaway into custody. The man, from El Salvador, reportedly stowed away in a cargo ship in Panama. He was discovered by the crew and detained aboard until authorities arrived. (www.11alive.com)

2. (U) CANADA: On 2 April, authorities seized 100 kg of cocaine hidden inside a furniture container at Montreal Port. Authorities found the narcotics as a result of an ongoing investigation into drug gangs, officials said. The cocaine reportedly originated from Mexico. Two people were arrested in connection with the case. (www.pvilt.com)

3. (U) MEXICO: On 28 March, at least one fisherman and as many as three were injured by gunfire during a 26 March law enforcement operation to protect the vaquita, a small porpoise which is nearing extinction. Mexican authorities, operating in cooperation with an environmental NGO, were removing illegal gillnets intended for catching totoaba in the Gulf of California. According to the Mexican Navy, one fisherman was injured when a small boat attempted to get its nets back by

attacking the NGO vessel. A Mexican marine's gun reportedly discharged by accident during the altercation, injuring the fisherman. (www.maritime-executive.com)

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

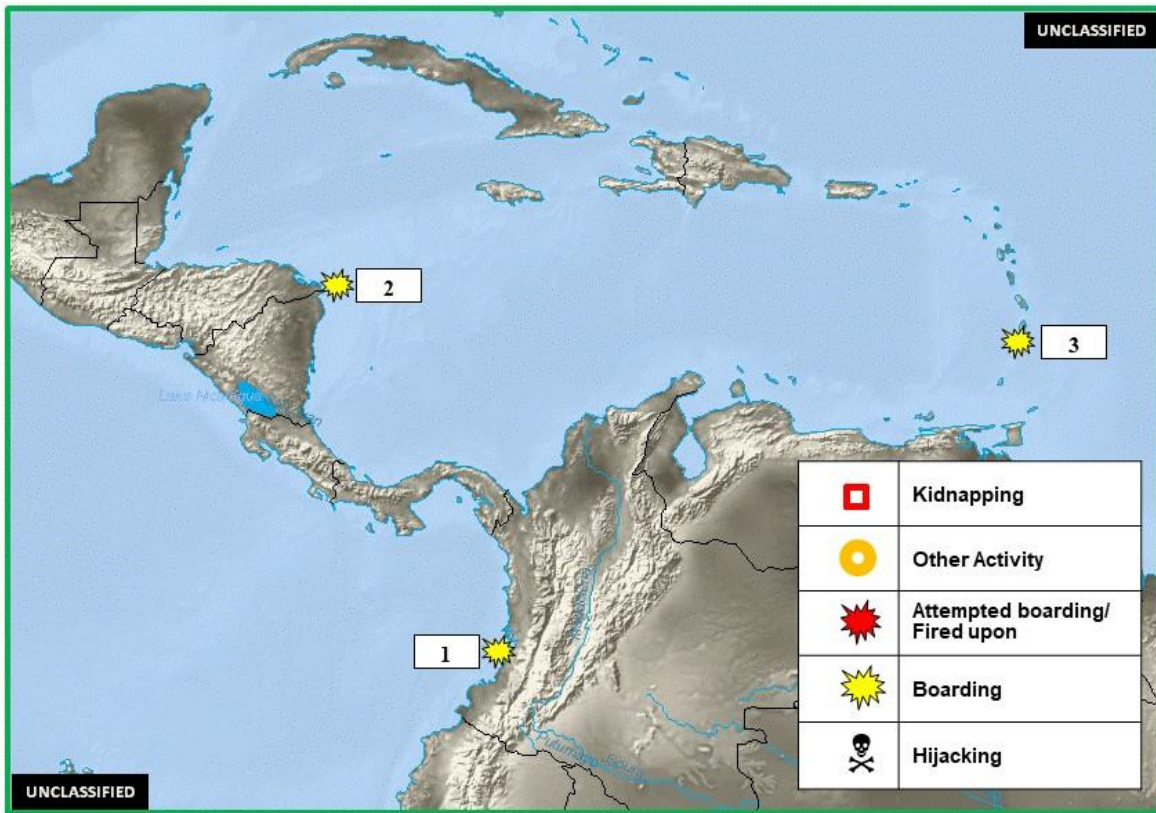


Figure 1. Central America - Caribbean - South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) COLOMBIA: On 19 April, a boat with 8 to 10 persons approached a container ship under pilotage near position 03:47N - 077:14W, Buenaventura Channel, and attempted to board via the rigged pilot ladder. Duty lookout noticed the boat and raised the alarm. Crew mustered near the pilot ladder resulting in the boat aborting and moving away. The pilot notified the coast guard and a patrol boat was dispatched to investigate. (IMB)

2. (U) NICARAGUA: On 11 April, A Canada-flagged yacht with 4 persons onboard departed Roatan, Honduras, for Isla Providencia, Colombia. Near position 14:50N - 082:47W, 23 miles east-southeast of Cabo Gracias a Dios, they were approached by four local fishing boats, with between 20 and 25 men total. They surrounded and began ramming the yacht, damaging the stern ladder and swim platform, damaging the hull on both sides, and then began boarding the yacht. The crew had begun MAYDAY calls on VHF and retreated and secured themselves safely below, protected by interior security bars that covered all hatches and companionways. Mayhem ensued topsides, as the pirates ransacked and destroyed sails, halyards, cushions, etc. The pirates used fishing knives and the yacht's heavy winch handles to smash all port lights, the pilothouse windows, and the Plexiglas hatch. The pirates proceeded to steal all electronic and navigation equipment, scuba tanks, scuba gear, the yacht's dinghy, life raft and various other items. After about 40 minutes the pirates had seemingly exhausted themselves, and stolen, discarded overboard or destroyed almost everything within reach of the topsides. The four pangas departed back toward the Nicaraguan coast. The yacht proceeded under power and set course directly away from the coast, to Providencia, Colombia, and arrived there the next afternoon having had no contact

from the Nicaraguan Navy. Reports were made to the Colombian Port Captain and Coast Guard. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

3. (U) SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES: On 3 April, a charter catamaran was moored off the Tamarind Beach Hotel dock. While sleeping, they were boarded and cash was stolen from two purses in the salon, which was not locked. Loose bills found on the floor the next morning alerted everyone to the theft. The thief had taken care to replace the wallets in the purses and put them carefully back in place on the chart table. A police report was made. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

4. (U) TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: On 14 April, a 53-ft U.S.-flagged mono-hull transiting from Trinidad to Grenada with two persons onboard was approached by 8 pirates in an open pirogue near position 11:24N - 061:36W, 16 nm north-northeast of the Hibiscus gas platform, and 37 miles south of Grenada. The pirate 40-ft boat had 2 large outboards, was white/blue with an orange bow and approached from the east. The pirates fired warning shots into the air and indicated they wished the yacht to stop. It did not. The eight pirates carried 6 weapons - 3 handguns and 3 automatic rifles - and apparently were speaking Spanish as they came within 20-30 feet of the yacht, firing weapons. High seas prevented the pirogue from successfully approaching and boarding as the yacht maintained full speed and began zigzag maneuvers. Additional shots were then fired at the boat and helmsman, damaging the hull and coach roof, but no injuries were sustained. The pirates gave up and fled the area at high speed to the west. Reports were made by the victims on arrival in Grenada to both Grenada and Trinidad/Tobago Coast Guard. Vessel and crew are safe. (www.noonsite.com)

5. (U) PERU: On 14 April, five robbers boarded a bulk carrier near position 12:01S - 077:11W, Callao Anchorage. A duty crewman on routine rounds was beaten. Alarm was raised and crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped with the duty crewman's personal belongings. Incident reported to local authorities who boarded the vessel for further investigation. (IMB)

6. (U) NICARAGUA: On 11 April, a sailing yacht was boarded by 20 men near position 14:49N - 082:46W, 29 nm east of Cabo Viejo. The yacht was surrounded by 4 fishing pangas, the men boarded and the yacht's crew locked themselves in the cabin. The men smashed windows and stole dive gear and electronics, slashed sails and cut lines and threw other gear overboard before leaving. The yacht was able to continue to Providencia, Colombia, arriving the next day. Report was made to local authorities. (www.noonsite.com)

7. (U) PANAMA: On 8 April, a dinghy locked to the floating dock at the Bocas del Toro boatyard was stolen. The dinghy, minus the outboard was recovered later from nearby mangroves. A police report was made. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

8. (U) MARTINIQUE: On 6 April, a 3.5-meter dinghy with a 30HP Mercury outboard locked to the Indigo Factory dinghy dock at Le Marin Marina was stolen between 10-11:30 p.m. The dinghy minus the outboard was later recovered and returned to the owner. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

9. (U) PUERTO RICO: On 4 April, a dinghy's outboard motor was stolen from a sailing yacht anchored in Vieques Esperanza. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

10. (U) HONDURAS: On 3 April, snorkel gear was stolen from a catamaran's topside lounge while the vessel was anchored in Guanaja El Bight. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

11. (U) BRAZIL: On 4 April, authorities seized one ton of cocaine hidden inside a plywood cargo container at Paranagua Port. Authorities confiscated the narcotics after port workers identified the drugs while handling the container. Authorities have seized more than 5 tons of cocaine at Paranagua Port in 2019, exceeding the total volume of narcotics seized at the port in 2018. The narcotics were bound for Antwerp Port in Belgium. (www.pvilt.com)

12. (U) ECUADOR: On 1 April, bridge crew aboard a containership underway near position 02:31S - 080:05W, 3.6 nm west-northwest of Isla Escalante Island, saw 2 fast boats approaching from the stern. One boat, with 10 persons and a grappling hook followed the ship, the other, approached the ship from the starboard side and attempted to hook on a telescopic ladder to the ship's rails. The pilot notified port control and the coast guard. The persons fired a few shots towards the search lights resulting in all crew retreating into the bridge and accommodation. Later, the boats aborted their approach and moved away. All crew are safe. (IMB)

13. (U) GUADELOUPE: On 31 March, a motor yacht anchored in St Francois, was boarded by one robber when the owners were snorkeling nearby. The owners saw a local open motor boat with one man aboard idling slowly around the anchorage, and saw him tie up to a nearby mooring, jump in, swim to their boat, climb the ladder and enter their salon. Owners returned to their yacht and used their dinghy to pursue the individual, who had moored off the beach. Vessels in the anchorage were notified by VHF, and the marina dock master was provided a picture of the intruder's boat. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

14. (U) VENEZUELA: On 28 March, five robbers armed with knives and a pipe wrench boarded a tanker anchored near position 10:11N - 064:52W, Jose Terminal Anchorage. They tied up the aft watchkeeper and broke into the paint store room. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Hearing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. (IMB; www.pviltld.com)

15. (U) MARTINIQUE: Between 16 and 22 March, robbers stole an outboard motor from a sailing yacht anchored in Anse a l' Ane. A police report was made. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)

16. (U) DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: On 21 March, robbers boarded a tanker anchored near position 18:24N - 069:19W, San Pedro de Macoris Anchorage, stole ship's properties and escaped unseen. Incident was noticed during routine rounds. (IMB)

17. (U) VENEZUELA: On 21 March, three robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored crude oil tanker near position 10:11N - 064:47W, Jose Terminal Anchorage. Deck watch on routine rounds spotted the robbers and notified the duty officer just before the robbers threatened him with a knife and stole his radio. Alarm raised, and crew mustered resulting in the robbers escaping with their accomplices in a waiting boat. Incident reported to port authorities. (IMB)

C. (U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA:

1. (U) MOROCCO: On 1 April, a duty officer onboard a bulk carrier berthed near position 33:36N - 007:37W, Berth T36, Casablanca Port, heard noises from the boat deck. As he approached the area, he noticed the life raft cover was opened and two robbers stealing the equipment. Seeing the duty officer, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Incident reported to the port authority. Subsequently, the harbor master and port police and PSC inspector boarded the vessel to investigate. (IMB)

2. (U) PORTUGAL: On 28 March, authorities on the Island of Madeira arrested 12 people and seized 18 kilograms of cocaine from a cruise ship that had docked in the city of Funchal after arriving from the Caribbean. (www.foxnews.com)

3. (U) IRELAND: On 26 March, authorities in the Port of Waterford seized 58,000 cigarettes and 1.45 kilograms of pipe tobacco that had been smuggled in on a Panama-flagged cargo ship arriving from Cueta, Spain. (www.irishtimes.com)

D. (U) NORTHERN EUROPE - BALTIC: No current incidents to report.

E. (U) MEDITERRANEAN - BLACK SEA:

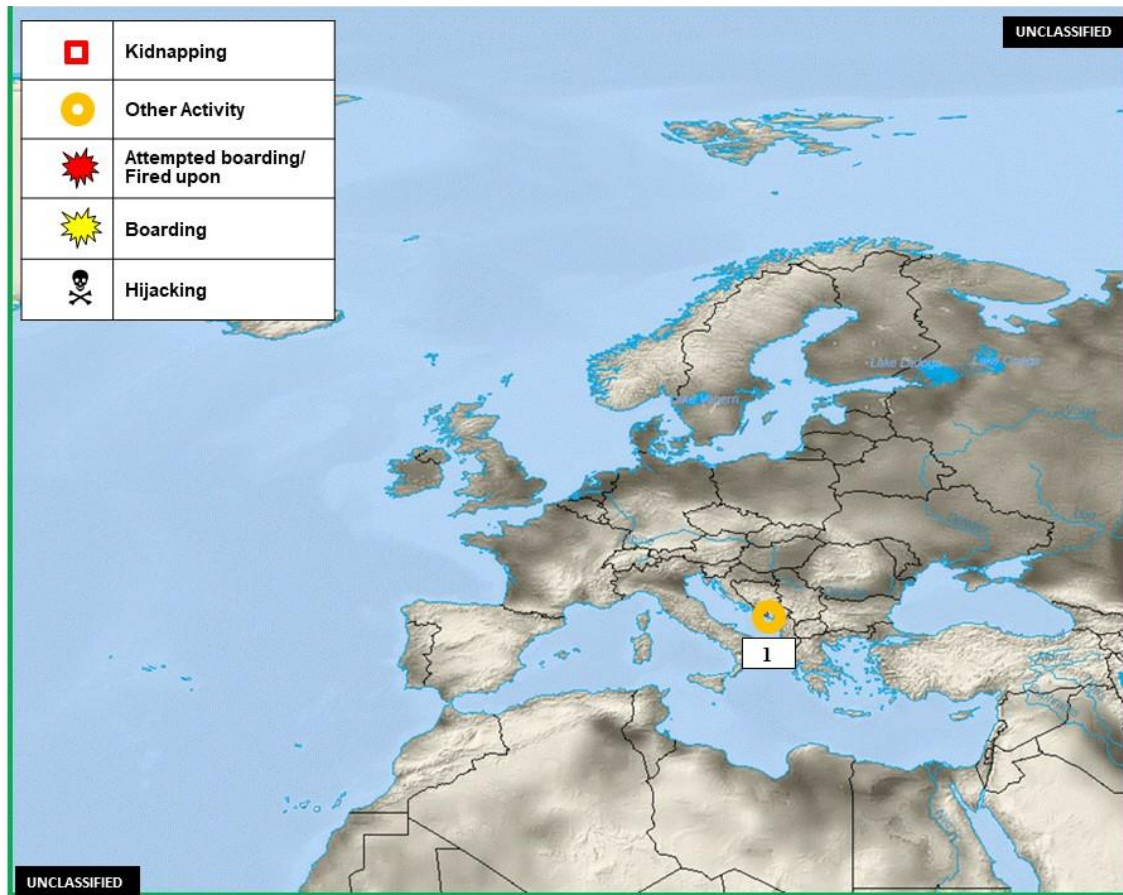


Figure 2. Mediterranean - Black Sea Piracy
and Maritime Crime

1. (U) MONTENEGRO: On 19 April, police officials boarded the Montenegrin Navy training ship JADRAN in the Port of Tivat and searched the ship, finding 50 kilograms of drugs hidden onboard, hours before it was scheduled to take students on a training cruise. (www.gcaptain.com)

2. (U) ITALY: On 13 April, customs officers confiscated six tons of hashish from a boat off Sicily. The interception was prompted by a tip-off from Spanish police. (www.pviltld.com)

3. (U) LIBYA: On 26 March, a group of 108 migrants hijacked the Palau-flagged tanker ELHIBLU 1 near Tripoli. The ship arrived in Malta's territorial waters on 28 March, where it was boarded by Malta armed forces personnel who took control of the ship. (www.timesofmalta.com; www.fleetmon.com)

4. (U) UKRAINE: On 21 March, Ukrainian authorities seized 257 kilograms of cocaine from a vessel at Yuzhny seaport in Odessa. Officials stated that the shipment was bound for Europe, and was packed within a container of bananas. (www.pviltld.com)

F. (U) WEST AFRICA:

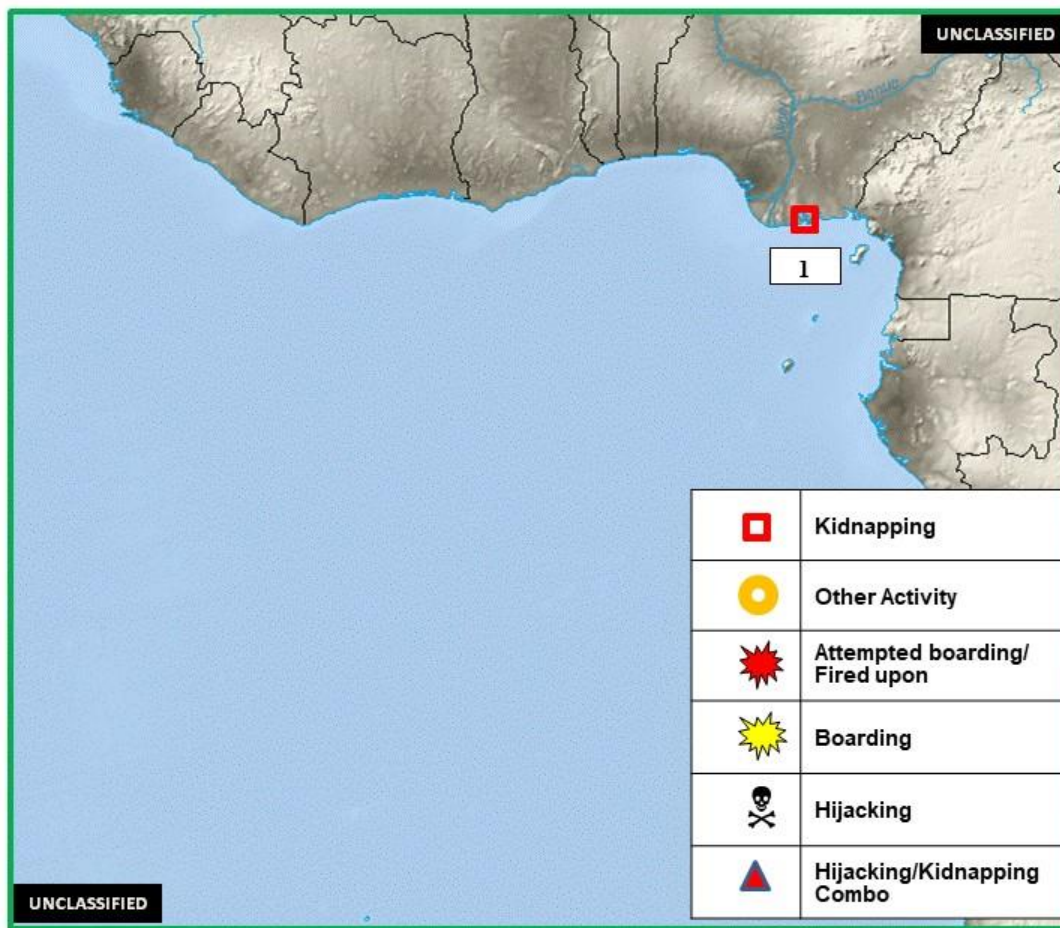


Figure 3. West Africa Piracy and Maritime
Crime

1. (U) NIGERIA: On 19 April, armed men boarded the tanker APECUS in the Bonny Outer Anchorage. Six crewmen were kidnapped and the pirates escaped. Nigerian Navy has been notified and are investigating. Further details are awaited. (IMB; www.gcaptain.com)

2. (U) NIGERIA: On 18 April, authorities announced they had arrested nine people for the illegal possession of firearms in Nigerian waters. The nine suspects, thought to be part of a maritime security detail, were arrested during a joint operation called Junction Rain, a combined maritime law enforcement operation involving the U.S. Coast Guard and Navy in support of African Maritime Law Enforcement Partnership. The Nigerian Navy claims the vessel was in Nigerian waters, however, the maritime security company maintains the vessel was in international waters at the time and that all weapons were licensed. West African media reports that the suspects are comprised of three Greek nationals, an American and five Nigerians. A Nigerian Navy official told local media that the suspect's boat was boarded after the captain apparently lied about how many people were onboard. Upon boarding the vessel, the boarding team discovered that there were more people onboard and a subsequent search of the vessel turned up weapons, including four semi-automatic rifles, as well as ammunition and other military-style gear. (www.gcaptain.com; www.defencweb.co.za)

3. (U) NIGERIA: On 15 April, four persons in a speed boat armed with automatic weapons approached the anchored product tanker SAN PADRE PIO near position 04:28N - 007:10E, Bonny River Inner Anchorage. Two persons managed to board the tanker and open fire towards the accommodation. The onboard Nigerian naval guards returned fire

resulting in the persons retreating into their boat and escaping. Alarm raised, PA announcement made, and crew mustered in the citadel. Bonny Signal Station and Nigerian Navy notified. One guard was injured during the shooting and was given first aid by the crew. Two security boats responded and approached the tanker. The injured guard was transferred to a security boat and taken ashore for medical assistance. Remaining crew reported safe. (IMB; www.fleetmon.com)

4. (U) NIGERIA: On 9 April, the Spanish Navy patrol ship SERVIOLA and was carrying out security operations in the Gulf of Guinea when its crew located a tanker MARIA SOLTIN, reportedly navigating 'erratically' and without transmitting via the Automatic Identification System (AIS). Spanish Naval officials radioed the ship's crew, who confirmed they had been hijacked four days prior. The pirates had moved away when they saw the Spanish Navy craft approach, although it was likely they would return once the coast was clear. According to the Nigerian captain, none of the 12 Nigerian crewmen onboard the merchant ship had been harmed during the four days they had been held. Nine pirates, armed with AK-47 rifles and grenade launchers, stole money, valuables and much of the food found on the ship over the days the vessel was held. The Spanish sailors gave provisions to the crew of the ship and continued with their patrol, while the hijacked ship headed for Lagos. (www.oceanuslive.org; www.arxmaritime.com)

5. (U) NIGERIA: On 8 April, a merchant vessel reported a suspicious approach in position 04:15N - 008:19E, 17 nm south of Calabar. (MDAT-GoG)

6. (U) CAMEROON: On 30 March, pirates boarded the Liberia-flagged container ship CONSHIP OAK anchored near position 03:53N - 009:30E, 15 nm southwest of Douala. The armed men kidnapped 4 crewmen and escaped. (IMB; www.fleetmon.com)

7. (U) NIGERIA: On 30 March, a duty watch stander onboard a product tanker anchored near position 06:18N - 003:17E, Lagos STS Anchorage, noticed robbers near a cargo tank and others near the ship's rails. Alarm was raised. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped without stealing anything. Nigerian Navy patrol boat notified and did a search of the waters around the tanker. (IMB)

8. (U) GHANA: On 29 March, the duty officer onboard a product tanker anchored near position 04:52N - 001:41W, Takoradi Anchorage, noticed the paint room door was open and spotted robbers on the forecastle. He directed the search light towards the robbers and sounded the ship's horn. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. Takoradi port control informed and the Takoradi Marine Police boarded the ship for investigation. (IMB)

9. (U) NIGERIA: On 24 March, two robbers boarded a product tanker anchored near position 06:15N - 003:12E, Lagos Secure Anchorage Area, and started stealing the oil cargo using a hose. Duty watch stander noticed the hose and immediately informed the master. Incident reported to a Navy patrol boat in the vicinity. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped. All crew and vessel are safe. It was reported that the Navy patrol boat managed to intercept the boat and apprehend the robbers. (IMB)

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

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

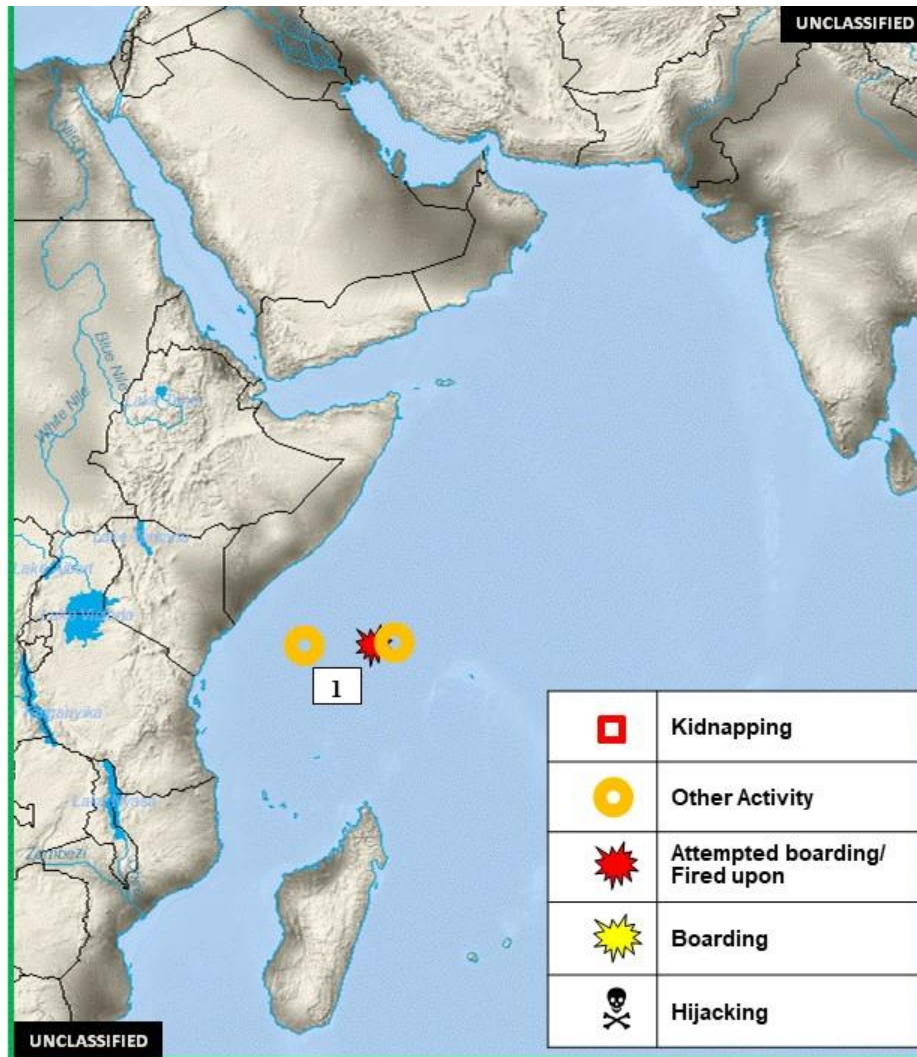


Figure 4. Indian Ocean - East Africa - Red Sea
Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: On 21 April, fishing vessels ADRIA (South Korea-flagged) and TXORI ARG1 (Spain-flagged) were involved in a suspected piracy incident near position 00:29S – 048:36E, 240 nm southeast of Mogadishu, Somalia. Pirates approached one of the vessels and fired upon the second vessel as it came to assist the first. The pirates were likely thwarted due to the use of Best Management Practices and the presence of armed embarked security teams (AESTs) on both fishing vessels. That same day, a Taiwan-flagged fishing vessel, SHIN SHUEN FAR 889, also reported being approached by two skiffs, which departed the area when the AEST showed their weapons. The pirates involved in these incidents might have used a mothership which was seized by armed men on 19 April off the central Somali coast. On 21 April, EU NAVFOR dispatched its Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft to search the area and identified a suspected mothership. On 23 April, ESPS NAVARRA successfully intercepted and boarded the dhow F/V AL AZHAM which was being used as a pirate mothership. (IMB; EU NAVFOR; UKMTO)

2. (U) ARABIAN SEA: On 15 April, Canadian Navy ship HMCS REGINA, seized just over 3,000 kilograms of hashish from a fishing vessel near the coast of Yemen. (www.cheknews.com)

3. (U) EGYPT: On 6 April, authorities announced that their naval forces had intercepted a small ship and arrested seven men involved in attempting to smuggle two tons of heroin into the country from the Red Sea. (www.menafm.com)

4. (U) SRI LANKA: On 25 March, authorities detained nine Iranians after they were caught with 107 kilograms of heroin onboard a trawler bound for the country. The vessel was tracked by a joint operations team comprised of a police special task force and the Sri Lankan Navy ship SURANIMALA off the southern coast of Galle. (www.arabnews.com)

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

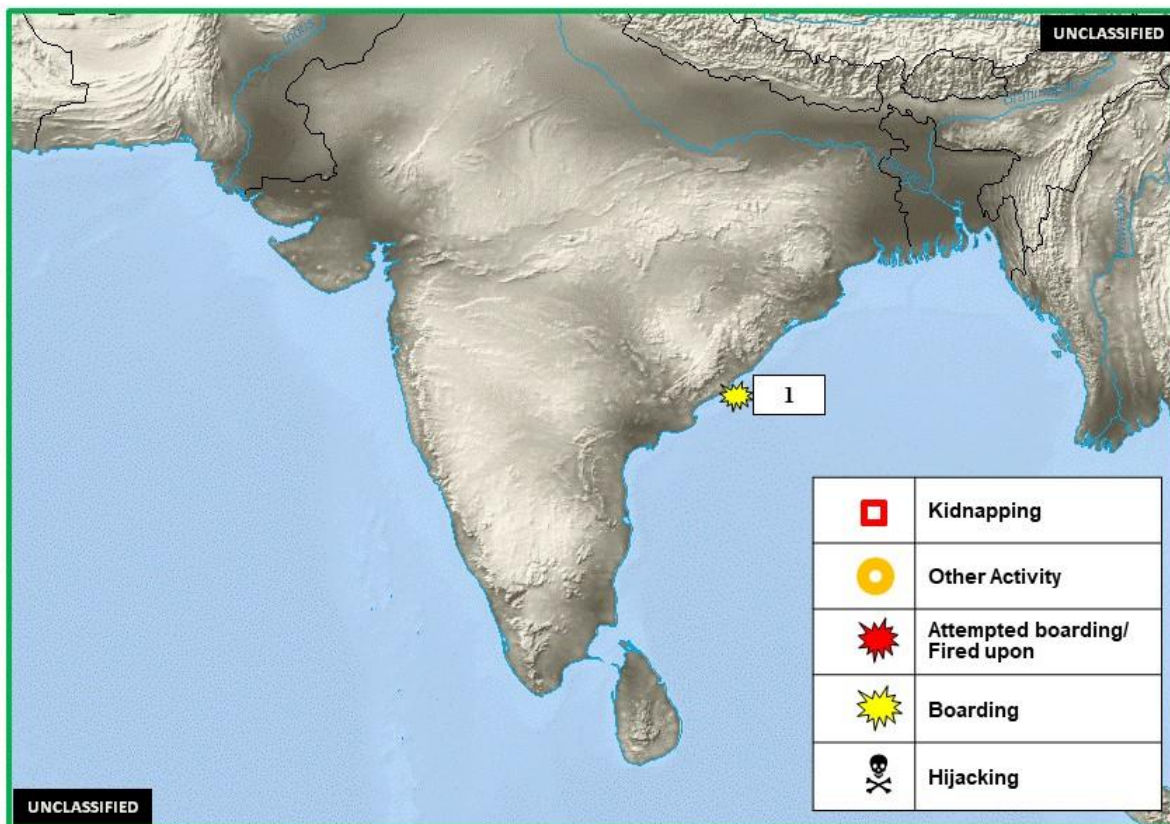


Figure 5. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

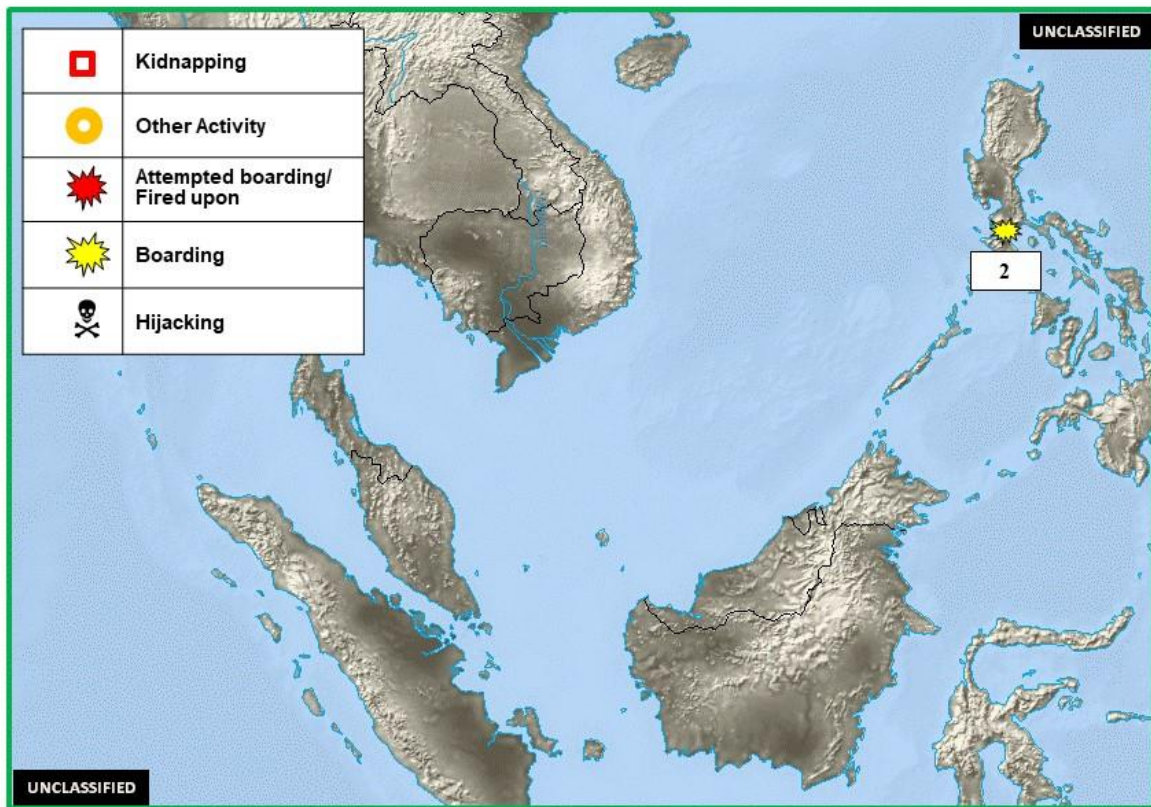


Figure 6. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) INDIA: On 13 April, five boats with eleven persons approached a tanker during anchoring operations near position 17:37N - 083:19E, Visakhapatnam SPM Anchorage. Upon anchoring, the boats came alongside, hooked on ropes to the ship's rails and commenced boarding the tanker. Alarm was raised, ship's horn sounded, and the crew mustered on deck. Port authorities were notified. The unauthorized persons remained on deck as the crew prevented them from entering the accommodation. They did not confront the crew but refused to leave the tanker. Finally, on seeing the approaching pilot boat, the unauthorized persons disembarked. (IMB)

2. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 26 March, a duty crewman on routine rounds onboard a vessel anchored near position 13:44N - 121:02E, Batangas Anchorage, saw a robber near the forecastle and raised the alarm. Crew mustered and approached the forecastle. Seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped with stolen ship's stores. On investigating, it was reported that the robber gained access via the anchor chain. Incident reported to coast guard. (IMB)

3. (U) VIETNAM: On 14 April, Vietnam law enforcement agencies, assisted by Coast Guard forces seized South Korea-flagged tanker PIONEER SPIRIT and Vietnamese tanker QNg 0350 in waters of Quang Ngai province in the South Central Coast region of Vietnam, when the ships were engaged in illegal cargo transfer of 8,000 tons of gasoline. (www.fleetmon.com)

4. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 5 April, three fishermen kidnapped by Abu Sayyaf militants last December were rescued by Philippine military units after a brief gun fight on Simisa Island in Sulu Province. Unfortunately, one of the men drowned during the rescue and another died a short time later from gunshot wounds. The three were kidnapped on 5 December 2018 from their fishing trawler in Sabah waters close to Tawi-Tawi Island in the Philippines. (www.manilatimes.net)

5. (U) SINGAPORE: On 3 April, Customs authorities seized a shipment of 12.9 tons of smuggled pangolin scales and 177 kilograms of elephant ivory from a container packed with frozen beef at the Pasir Panjang Export Inspection Station. Officials said that the shipment was en route Vietnam from Nigeria. (www.pvilttd.com)

6. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 26 March, robbers boarded a Liberia-flagged container ship anchored near position 14:33N - 120:54E, Quarantine Anchorage area, South Harbour Manila, and escaped with ship's property. The theft was noticed by the duty watchman during routine rounds. The razor wire installed at the hawse pipe was reportedly removed, footprints were found on the deck and the bosun store room was broken into. The incident was reported to local authorities. The Philippines Coast Guard boarded the ship for investigation. (www.pvilttd.com)

7. (U) BANGLADESH: On 27 March, two people, believed to be local pirates, were killed in a gunfight with Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) in Pekua Upazila. RAB-7 said its team raided the area after being tipped off that a pirate gang was preparing for operations. "The pirates opened fire as soon as the RAB team reached the spot, triggering a gunfight," said a spokesman. Bodies of two pirates were recovered after the skirmish. RAB also seized eight firearms and 26 bullets from the spot. (www.unb.com.bd)

8. (U) VIETNAM: On 26 March, authorities in the Tien Sa Port in Da Nang seized 9.1 tons of elephant tusks concealed in timber containers. (www.asiatimes.com)

J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA: No current incidents to report.

K. (U) AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND - PACIFIC OCEAN AREA: 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 embarkation of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.

(U) Fired Upon – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.

(U) Hijacking – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.

(U) Kidnapping – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.

(U) 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)
- Maritime Asset Security and Training (MAST) Ltd
- 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: 24 April 2019

(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>