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(U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report 11 September–16 October 2019

17 October 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

(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) **IMB/PRC/Alert - 155-2019**. 160600 UTC October 2019. To all ships transiting in and off eastern Sabah, Malaysia/Celebes Sea/Sulu Sea. This warning is a follow up warning broadcast transmitted since 280430 UTC September 2019 on alternate days. After re-evaluation by the Philippine and Malaysian intel on 14 October 2019, this warning is still valid for another week and will be broadcast on alternate days until next reevaluation on 21 October 2019. Currently threat is still present as some Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) members are still unaccounted in Tawi Tawi. ASG plan kidnapping. The IMB PRC has received information from Philippines and Malaysian intel that on 260300 LT September 2019, about 9 ASG/Kidnapping For Ransom Group (KFRG) members moved from Tawi Tawi Islands and headed to Semporna waters area intending to carry out abduction. The target is foreign tourists at Matakang Island and Pom-Pom Island, Semporna. Seafarers/vessels are also at risk. The group is said to use two speed boats and armed with M-16, M-4 and M-40 weapons. The seriousness of this group is one of the factors of the abduction incident of fishermen at Tambisan Island recently. This warning will be re-evaluated again on 21 October 2019. Vessels are advised to remain vigilant and maintain strict anti-piracy watch and measures. Early assessment/detection will allow ships to take evasive actions and other anti-piracy measures to prevent boarding and request for assistance. A citadel/safe room is

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important. All attacks and suspicious sightings should be reported to local authorities and to the IMB PRC as per IMO Cir 1334.

2. (U) **IMB/PRC/Alert - 150-2019.** 100700 UTC October 2019. To all ships transiting in/off Singapore Straits/eastern coast of Johore/South China Sea. MMEA security advisory for eastern coast of Johore, Malaysia. Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA)/Malaysia Coast Guard (MCG) has verified 4 incidents at eastern coast of Johore within Malaysian territorial waters. Ships were boarded by robbers while at anchor. In most incidents crews were unaware of the boarding but incidents may become serious if crews confront these robbers. Waters affected are at all non gazetted anchorage area at eastern coast of Johore especially at waters surrounding Permatang Timur (eastern bank), Beting Ramunia (Ramunia Shoal) and Tompok Utara (north patch) up to after Alur Tengah (middle channel) which is approximate 14 to 20 NM east of Tanjung Penawar. These waters are inside Malaysian territorial waters. MMEA/MCG maintains a security presence. Vessels navigating with low speed are advised to maintain strict security and anti-piracy watch and measures. Monitor all small boats and do not engage or conduct trading with them. Avoid anchoring without permission. Permission can be obtain from the Marine Department of Malaysia via local agents. Vessels that do not follow regulations are subject to detention and fine. Vessels require emergency assistance can contact MRCC Johore and Tanjung Sedili maritime zone at +6072219231/ +6072219400/ +6078918003. MMEA/MCG patrol vessels are also standing by on VHF ch. 16. at the same time, vessels are also advised to report all piracy and armed robbery incidents including maritime security matters to local authorities and to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre at: +60320310014 / email: imbkl@icc-ccs.org. 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.

3. (U) **MARAD Advisory 2019-013-Eastern/Central Mediterranean Sea and Suez Canal-GPS Interference.** 24 September 2019. This revised Advisory cancels U.S. Maritime Advisory 2019-005. Reference: U.S. Maritime Alerts 2018-004A, 2018-004B, 2018-008A. Issue: Multiple instances of significant GPS interference have been reported by vessels operating in the Eastern and Central Mediterranean Sea. In the central Mediterranean Sea, these reports have been concentrated between Libya and Malta, specifically in areas offshore of Libya and to the east and the northwest of Malta. In the eastern Mediterranean Sea, these reports have been concentrated near Port Said, Egypt, the Suez Canal, and in the vicinity of the Republic of Cyprus. Instances of similar interference were also reported between Hadera, Israel, and Beirut, Lebanon. This interference is resulting in lost GPS signals affecting bridge navigation, GPS-based timing and communications equipment. Satellite communications equipment may also be impacted. Guidance: Exercise caution when transiting these areas. The U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center (NAVCEN) and NATO Shipping Center websites contain information regarding effective navigation practices for vessels experiencing GPS interference. The information reaffirms safe navigation practices when experiencing GPS disruptions, provides useful details on reporting disruptions, and is intended to generate further discussion within the maritime community about other disruption mitigation practices and procedures. This guidance also recommends reporting such incidents in real time; noting critical information such as the location (latitude/longitude), date, time, and duration of the outage/disruption; and providing photographs or screen shots of equipment failures experienced to facilitate analysis. The NAVCEN information is available at: <https://go.usa.gov/xQBau>. Contact Information: GPS disruptions or anomalies should be reported immediately to the NAVCEN at <https://go.usa.gov/xQBaw> or via phone at 703-313-5900, 24-hours a day. NAVCEN will further disseminate reported instances of GPS interference in this region to the NATO Shipping Center. Cancellation: This message will automatically expire on March 22, 2020. For more information about U.S. Maritime Alerts and Advisories, including subscription details, please visit <http://www.marad.dot.gov/MSCI>.

4. (U) **MARAD Advisory 2019-012-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Red Sea-Threats to Commercial Vessels by Iran.** Description: This revised advisory cancels U.S. Maritime Advisories 2019-004 and 2019-008. References: U.S. Maritime Alerts 2019-004A, 2019-003A, 2019-002A, and 2019-001A. Issue: Heightened military activity and increased political tensions in this region continue to pose serious threats to commercial vessels. Associated with these threats is a potential for miscalculation or misidentification that could lead to aggressive actions. Vessels operating in the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman may also encounter GPS interference, bridge-to-bridge communications spoofing, and/or other communications jamming with little to no warning.

Since May 2019, the following maritime incidents have occurred in this region:

Six attacks against commercial vessels (see U.S. Maritime Alerts 2019-002A and 2019-003A);

Shoot-down of U.S. Navy remotely piloted aircraft over international waters;

Attempted at-sea interdiction of Isle of Man-flagged M/V BRITISH HERITAGE;

Seizure of ex-Panama-flagged M/V RIAH;

Seizure of U.K.-flagged M/V STENA IMPERO (see U.S. Maritime Alert 2019-004A), and then its release; and

Detention and subsequent release of Liberia-flagged M/V MESDAR (see U.S. Maritime Alert 2019-004A).

In at least two of these incidents, vessels reported GPS interference. One vessel reportedly shut off its Automatic Identification System (AIS) before it was seized, complicating response efforts. Vessels have also reported spoofed bridge-to-bridge communications from unknown entities falsely claiming to be U.S. or coalition warships. The United States is committed to safeguarding freedom of navigation, the free flow of commerce, and the protection of U.S. vessels and personnel in this region. Guidance: The international community, including the United States, continues maritime security operations within this region. Vessels operating in this area are advised to review security measures, ensure AIS is transmitting at all times, and monitor VHF Channel 16.

a) To afford best protection in the region, U.S.-flagged commercial vessels are encouraged to: - Simultaneously register with both the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) and U.S. Fifth Fleet Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping (NCAGS) Watch when entering the Indian Ocean Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) by e-mailing them the Initial Report from Annex D of Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Safety in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea (BMP5). - Provide transit plans for the Strait of Hormuz (SoH) and Persian Gulf (PG) to UKMTO and U.S. Fifth Fleet NCAGS via a single e-mail, including the time of entering/exiting the SoH Traffic Separation Scheme, an outline of the navigation plan for operating in the SoH and PG, and speed restrictions or other constraints. - In the event of any incident or suspicious activity, call UKMTO or the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch and activate the Ship Security Alert System immediately. - Answer all VHF calls from coalition navies. - Utilize other reports included in Annex D of BMP5 (Best Management Practices, version 5) as necessary, including both UKMTO and Fifth Fleet NCAGS on each of these reports. b) All vessels should be aware that U.S. and other coalition naval forces may conduct maritime awareness calls, queries, and approaches to ensure the safety of vessels transiting the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, and Arabian Sea. If a U.S.-flagged commercial vessel suspects it is being hailed from a source falsely claiming to be a U.S. or coalition naval vessel, the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch should be immediately informed. c) If hailed by Iranian forces, U.S. flag commercial vessels should provide vessel name, flag state, and affirm that they are proceeding in accordance with international law as reflected in the Law of the Sea Convention. The master should immediately inform the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch. d) If Iranian forces seek to board a U.S.-flagged commercial vessel navigating these waters, the ship's Master should, if the safety of the ship and crew would not be compromised, decline permission to board, noting that the vessel is proceeding in accordance with international law, and immediately inform the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch. e) If Iranian forces board a U.S.-flagged commercial vessel, the vessel should immediately contact the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch. The crew should not forcibly resist the boarding party. Refraining from forcible resistance does not imply consent or agreement to that boarding. f) The Maritime Global Security website at <https://www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org/> offers industry issued best practices, including BMP5, and guidance to mariners by geographic region and provides contact and subscription information for regional maritime security reporting centers. g) Vessels operating in this area are advised to establish contact with both UKMTO and the U.S. Fifth Fleet NCAGS Watch, and to include both on all update or incident report emails, as detailed above. By including both as addressees on each email, awareness will be enhanced without creating an additional reporting burden. Contact Information: a) Fifth Fleet Battle Watch: + 973-1785-3879, and email details to: CUSNC.BWC@ME.NAVY.MIL. b) Fifth Fleet NCAGS: CUSNC.NCAGS_BW@ME.NAVY.MIL or +973-3904-9583 or +973-17850084. c) UKMTO: watchkeepers@ukmto.org or +44 (0) 2392 222060. UKMTO advisories and warnings are available at <http://www.ukmto.org/>. d) U.S. Coast Guard: Per 33 CFR 101.305, all suspicious activities, breaches of security, and transportation security incident events must also be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center at +1-800-424-8802. e) For maritime industry questions about this advisory, contact

GMCC@uscg.mil. Supplemental information may also be found on the MARAD Office of Maritime Security website at: <https://go.usa.gov/xUKsb>. Cancellation of Prior Advisories: This message supersedes and cancels and U.S. Maritime Advisories 2019-004 and 2019-008. This advisory will automatically expire on 3 February 2020. For more information about U.S. Maritime Alerts and Advisories, including subscription details, please visit <http://www.marad.dot.gov/MSCI>.

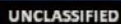
3. (U) Summary

1. (U) BRAZIL: On 13 October, authorities seized 1.3 tons of cocaine concealed among a cargo of sugar in a container at Paranagua port.
2. (U) HAITI: On 12 October, robbers armed with guns and long knives boarded an anchored vessel in Port Au Prince Anchorage.
3. (U) CONGO: On 8 October, one robber boarded a research vessel anchored in Pointe Noire Anchorage.
4. (U) MALAYSIA: On 6 October, robbers boarded a tanker anchored in Johor Anchorage.
5. (U) NIGERIA: On 5 October, three robbers boarded a tanker anchored in Lagos Secure Anchorage Area.
6. (U) CANADA: On 1 October, authorities announced the seizure of 148 kilograms of cocaine from the Malta-flagged bulk carrier NAVIOS LUZ in the Port of Quebec.
7. (U) PERU: On 30 September, robbers boarded a bulk carrier anchored in Callao Port.
8. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 September, four robbers boarded the Panama-flagged chemical tanker BRIGHT DAWN while the ship was berthed in Lubuk Guang SDS Terminal ST 01.
9. (U) ST CROIX: On 25 September, robbers stole a dinghy and outboard motor from a sailing yacht.

4. (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 past 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:

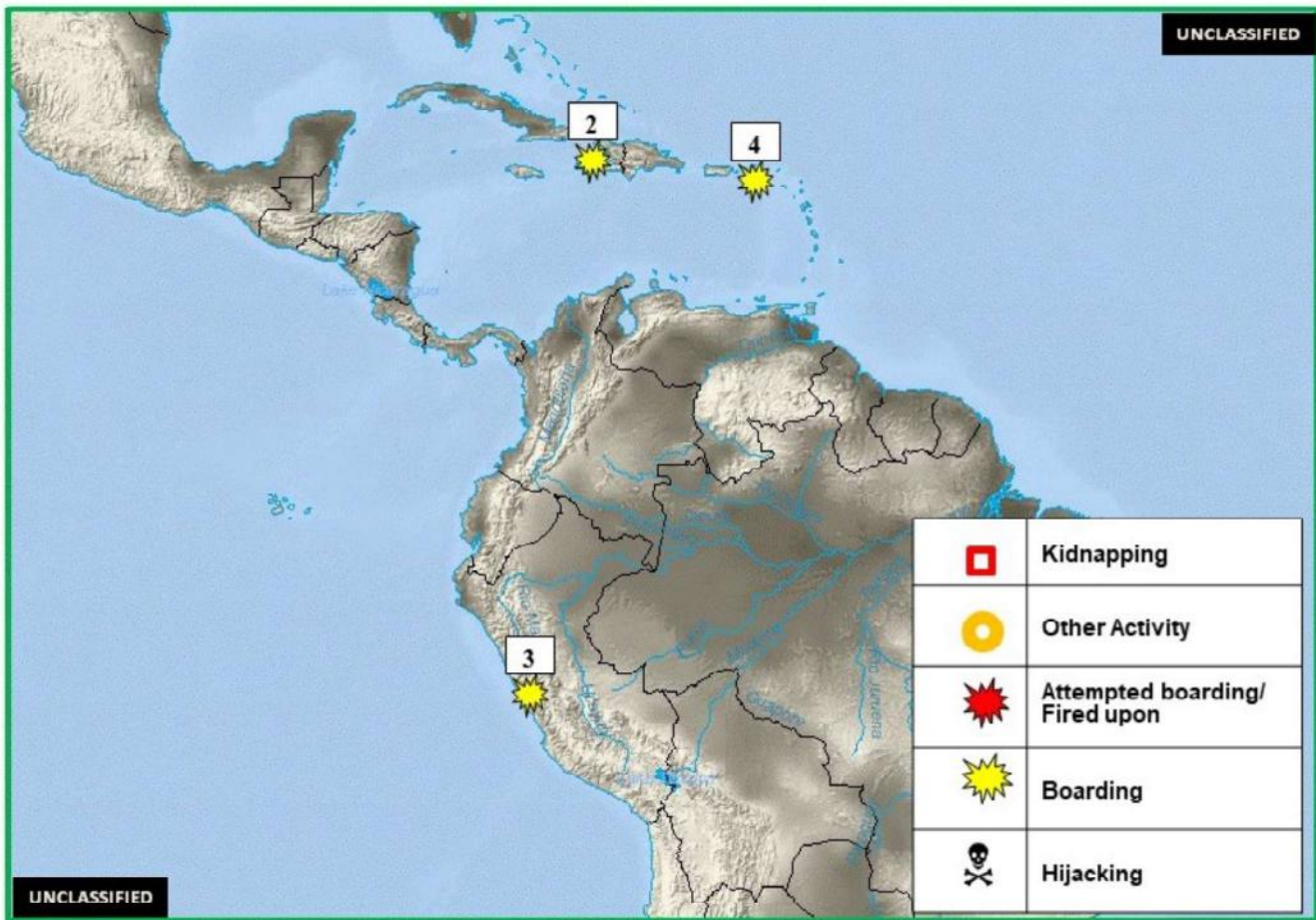


1. (U) CANADA: On 1 October, authorities announced the seizure of 148 kilograms of cocaine from the Malta-flagged bulk carrier NAVIOS LUZ in the Port of Quebec. (www.cbc.ca)

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



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



(U) Figure 3. Central America - Caribbean - South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) BRAZIL: On 13 October, authorities seized 1.3 tons of cocaine concealed among a cargo of sugar in a container at Paranagua Port. Authorities found the narcotics during a routine cargo inspection. The narcotics were bound for Rotterdam Port in the Netherlands. (www.pvilttd.com)
2. (U) HAITI: On 12 October, robbers armed with guns and long knives boarded an anchored vessel near position 18:33N - 072:23W, Port Au Prince Anchorage. The robbers tied up a duty crewman. During their robbery, the ship's alarm was raised. The robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties. Incident reported to pilot station. (IMB)
3. (U) PERU: On 30 September, robbers boarded a bulk carrier anchored in Callao Port. They took a duty crewman hostage and tied his hands. When the duty officer did not receive a response from that duty crewman, he ordered others to investigate. Upon arriving at the forecandle, they found the duty crewman and raised the alarm. Hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped. The duty crewman was unharmed. Two mooring ropes were reported missing. Incident reported to the port authority and local agent. (IMB)
4. (U) ST CROIX: On 25 September, robbers stole a dinghy and outboard motor from a sailing yacht. A second search of an area known to be used by thieves located the undamaged dinghy, hidden behind some fishing boats. (www.safetyandsecuritynet.org)
5. (U) PERU: On 4 October, Peruvian officials detained a ship carrying 12.3 million dried seahorses worth approximately \$6 million, about 200 miles off the Pacific Coast. The seahorses were illegally purchased for use in Chinese medicine. (Associated Press)

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6. (U) COLOMBIA: On 30 September, Colombian authorities received a report of a sinking boat off Tumaco, Narino department. Authorities arrived on scene locating three drug smugglers clinging to packages of cocaine to remain afloat. Authorities arrested the three men and seized 1.5 tonnes of cocaine. The cocaine was destined for Central America. (PVILTD)
7. (U) GRENADA: Between 23 and 26 September, robbers stole a 15HP Yamaha outboard engine from a dinghy at Prickly Bay Marina Dock in position 12:00N - 061:45W. (www.caribbeansafetyandsecuritynet.org)
8. (U) ST CROIX: On 22 September, a boat owner returned to their dingy moored to Fredriksted pier near position 17:42N - 065:52W and observed that attempts had been made to break the security chain and start the engine. An oar was broken and the stern anchor was pulled in the unsuccessful theft. There were no witnesses. (www.caribbeansafetyandsecuritynet.org)
9. (U) PACIFIC OCEAN: On 24 September, a U.S. Coast Guard ship on a routine patrol in the eastern Pacific Ocean interdicted a self-propelled semi-submersible in international waters carrying approximately 12,000 pounds of cocaine. Four suspected drug smugglers were taken into custody. (www.southcom.mil)
10. (U) ECUADOR: On 22 September, a duty crewman onboard a container ship under pilotage failed to respond to routine radio checks from the duty officer. A subsequent investigation revealed the crewman had been assaulted and tied up. The duty crewman reported seven persons armed with a shotgun had boarded the ship near position 02:32S - 080:05W, 4.5 NM west-northwest of Isla Escalante. The robbers took him hostage and stole personal effects and radios before escaping. The ship proceeded to Posorja Roads where the coast guard and anti-narcotics police teams boarded and searched the vessel. Once clearance was given, the ship resumed its passage. (IMB)
11. (U) GRENADA: On 11 September, eight robbers boarded and robbed a fishing boat 42 miles west of the northern end of Grenada near position 12:18N - 062:29W. The robbers boarded and robbed the fishing vessel of mobile phones, food, batteries, fish and supplies. The event was reported to the Royal Grenada Police Force, no further investigation is planned. (www.noonsite.com)

C. (U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA:

(U) No current incidents to report.

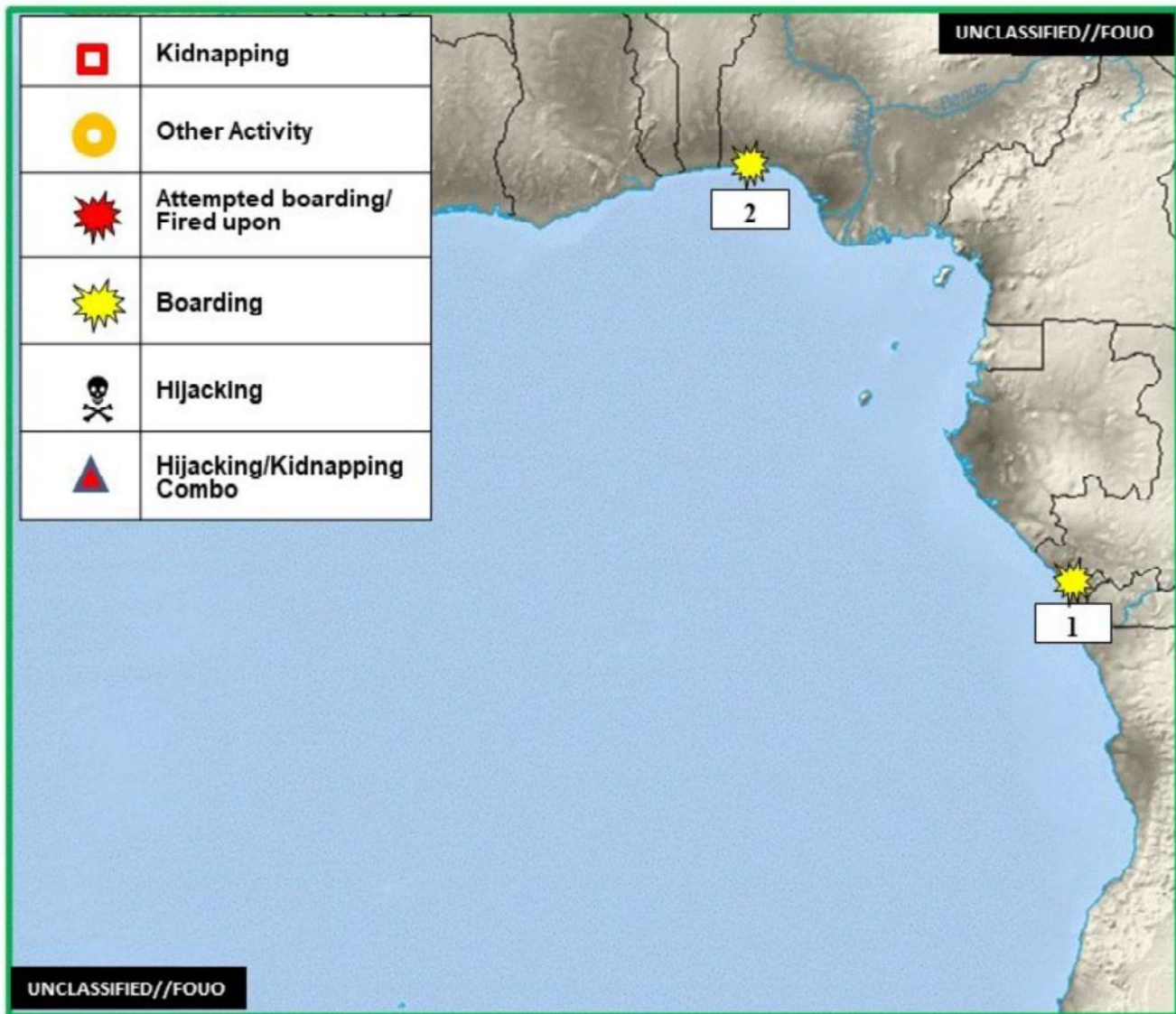
D. (U) NORTHERN EUROPE - BALTIC:

1. (U) FRANCE: On 28 September, eight Albanian migrants were found in the engine room onboard the Dutch freighter EEMS DART while in transit from Rouen, France, to Doheda, Ireland. The ship returned the migrants to Cherbourg, France, the same day. (www.fleetmon.com)

(U) MEDITERRANEAN - BLACK SEA:

(U) No current incidents to report.

F. (U) WEST AFRICA:



(U) Figure 4. West Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) CONGO: On 8 October, one robber boarded a research vessel anchored near position 04:45S - 011:49E, Pointe Noire Anchorage. The master heard noises coming from the bow area and saw the robber. The alarm was raised and the crew was mustered. The robber escaped in a waiting boat. (IMB)
2. (U) NIGERIA: On 5 October, three robbers boarded a tanker anchored near position 06:17N - 003:13E, Lagos Secure Anchorage Area. They were spotted by a duty crewman who informed the duty officer. Alarm was raised. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped without stealing anything. Incident reported to Nigerian Navy after which a patrol boat arrived for investigation. (IMB)
3. (U) GAMBIA: On 30 September, the Gambian Navy in conjunction with an environmental NGO intercepted and suspended the operations of a Chinese fishing vessel operating near Mandinari. This is part of an illegal fishing enforcement action in West Africa. (www.allafrica.com)
4. (U) NIGERIA: On 26 September, two boats with 24 passengers were hijacked on the Port Harcourt-Bonny waterway. (www.thenewsnigeria.com)

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5. (U) NIGERIA: On 23 September, a duty watchmen onboard a tanker anchored near position 06:17N - 003:14E, 16 NM southeast of Lagos noticed two robbers near the forward cargo tanks and raised the alarm. One robber shouted at the duty crewman and made a threatening gesture. The crewman raised the alarm and a Nigerian Navy patrol boat responded and searched the waters around the tanker. A subsequent investigation determined a section of the razor wire was broken and the vapor locks of the forward cargo tanks were opened. (IMB)
6. (U) CAMEROON: On 22 September, Russia's embassy in Cameroon confirmed that the Russian sailors captured by pirates off Douala Port have been released. According to the Russian Foreign Ministry, pirates kidnapped the Russian sailors from the Antigua and Barbuda-flagged cargo ship MARMALAITA on 15 August. The ship is owned by the Danish company Ultrabulk. (Interfax)
7. (U) GUINEA: On 16 September, four robbers armed with a gun and knives boarded an anchored tanker near position 09:25N - 013:44W, 5 NM south-southwest of Conakry. They took hostage a duty crewman, tied his hands and forced him to lead them to the bridge. Once inside the bridge, the robbers took hostage the duty officer and forced him to lead them to the captain, chief engineer, third officer, and bosun's cabins. After looting the cabins, the robbers locked the crew in a cabin and escaped. Crew personal belongings, cash, and ship's properties stolen. (IMB)
8. (U) CAMEROON: On 13 September, eight persons in a speed boat boarded a fishing vessel conducting fishing operations near position 04:10N - 008:55E, 4.5 NM southwest of Idenao. The perpetrators kidnapped two crew members and escaped. Cameroon Navy notified and investigations are ongoing. (IMB)
9. (U) CAMEROON: On 12 September, robbers boarded a berthed bulk carrier during cargo operations near position 04:03N - 009:41E, Port of Douala. During routine rounds in the morning, it was noticed that a storeroom padlock was broken and the door's hinge damaged and bent. After checking, ship's properties were reported stolen. Port authorities informed. (IMB)

G. (U) ARABIAN GULF:

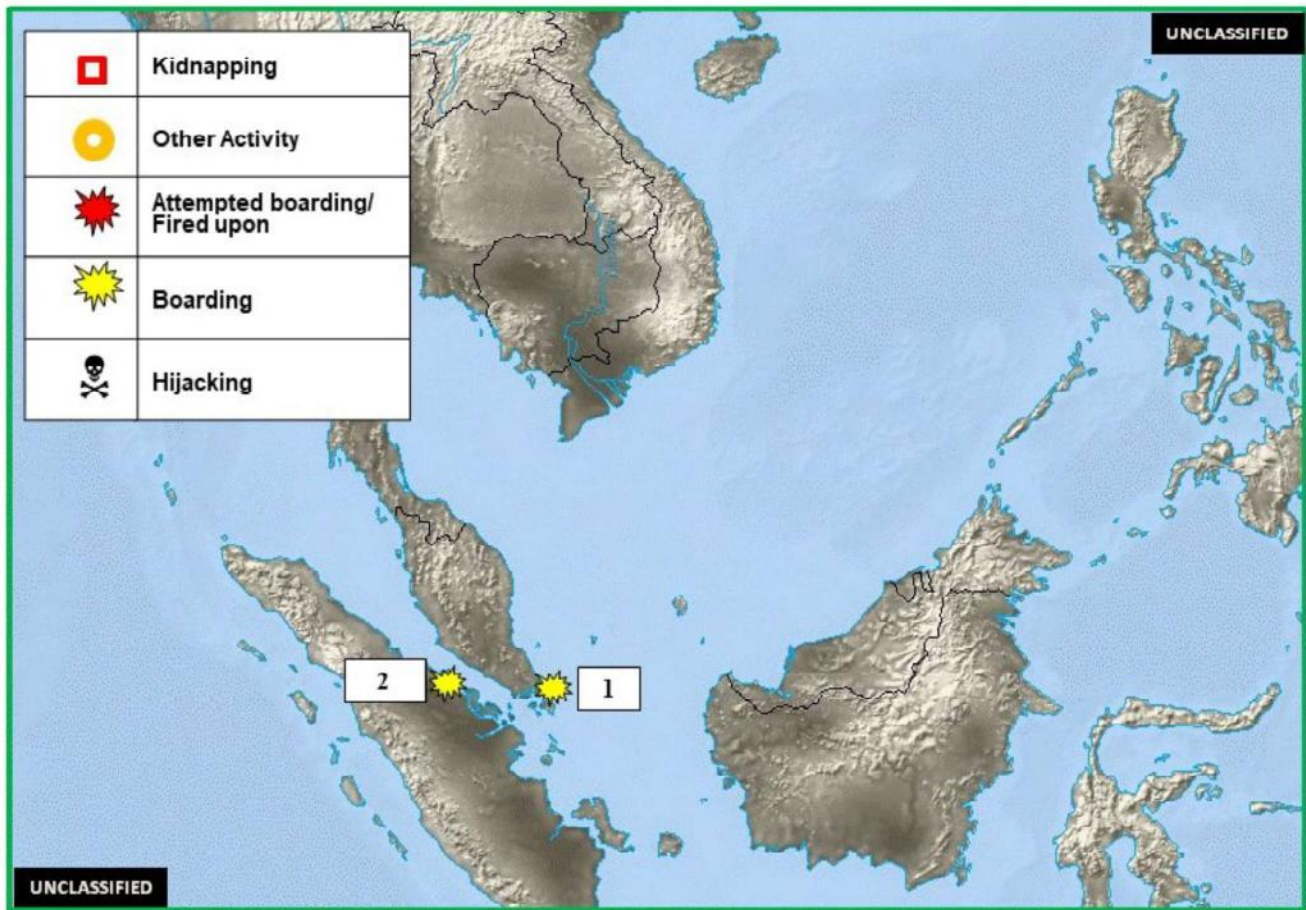
(U) No current incidents to report.

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

1. (U) SOMALIA: On 21 September, an Iranian sailor held hostage by Somali pirates for more than four years was released with the help of the United Nations and a humanitarian group, according to the Iranian Foreign Ministry. The ministry spokesman thanked the Hostage Support Partnership group, U.N. officials in Somalia, authorities in Somalia's semi-autonomous Puntland, and Ethiopian officials for their help in winning the release of Mohammad Sharif Panahandeh. Three Iranians sailors are still being held according to the spokesman. (www.marinelink.com)

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

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

1. (U) MALAYSIA: On 6 October, robbers boarded a tanker anchored near position 01:18N - 104:07E, Johor Anchorage. The robbers stole ship's properties and escaped unnoticed. Duty crewman on routine rounds noticed the theft and notified the duty officer. (IMB)
2. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 September, four robbers boarded the Panama-flagged chemical tanker BRIGHT DAWN while the ship was berthed near position 01:45N - 101:22E, Lubuk Guang SDS Terminal ST 01. They proceeded to enter the engine room, near the workshop and stole engine spares. The duty oiler saw the robbers and informed the duty officer, who raised the alarm. The crew was mustered and searched the ship. The robbers managed to escape the vessel along with the engine spares. The master of the vessel then proceeded to report the incident to the local port authority and flag state. (www.arxmaritime.com)
3. (U) PHILLIPINES: On 6 October, a British man and his Filipino wife were abducted from a resort they owned in Tukuran town in Zamboanga del Sur Province. The gunmen fled with the couple in two motorized boats that departed in opposite directions. It is unknown if the couple is together or separated. The Philippine military has created a taskforce to attempt to rescue the couple. (www.stratstimes.com)
4. (U) SINGAPORE: On 30 September, deck crew spotted five armed robbers on the aft deck of a bulk carrier underway in the Singapore Strait near position 01:02N - 103:39E. The crew raised an alarm, activated SSAS and made a PA announcement. The robbers escaped without stealing anything. The incident was reported to VTIS. Singapore Coast Guard escorted the ship to Singapore where they boarded and searched the ship to ensure all robbers had departed. (IMB)

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5. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 September, deck crewman on routine rounds onboard a bulk carrier underway near position 01:02N - 103:39E, 3.7 NM west of Pulau Cula, Indonesia, saw five armed robbers on the aft deck. Alarm was raised, SSAS was activated, and a PA announcement was made resulting in the robbers escaping without stealing anything. The crew reported the incident to local authorities. A coast guard boat came and escorted the ship to Singapore, where they boarded and searched the ship to ensure that no robbers were still onboard. (IMB)
6. (U) BANGLADESH: On 28 September, members of Bangladesh Coast Guard rescued three fisherman who were abducted by a pirate gang near Syamnagar upazila. The coast guard also detained two pirates and recovered two foreign firearms, a rifle, and 21 bullets during the rescue. Additional pirates managed to escape prior to being detained. (Dhaka The Daily Observer Online)
7. (U) MALAYSIA: On 25 September, at 0606 LT, a bosun on a vessel anchored near position 01:34N - 104:31E, 16 NM east of Bandar Penawar, Johor, noticed three robbers on the forecastle. The bosun immediately informed the duty officer, who raised the alarm. The robbers who boarded via anchor chain and stole ship's equipment from the forward store managed to escape. Incident reported to regional authorities. (IMB)
8. (U) MALAYSIA: On 25 September at 0415 LT, robbers boarded an anchored tanker via anchor chain and stole ship's equipment from the forward store and escaped unseen. The ship was anchored near position 01:34N - 104:31E, 16 NM east of Bandar Penawar, Johor. Incident reported to regional authorities. (IMB)
9. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 23 September, a duty crewman saw a robber attempting to board a product tanker through a hawse pipe cover anchored near position 13:46N - 120:59E, Mabini Anchorage. Alarm was raised and crew was mustered. Incident reported to local agent. (IMB)
10. (U) INDIA: On 23 September, four robbers boarded an LPG tanker anchored near position 17:03N - 082:26E, Kakinada Anchorage using a hook and rope. When the crew noticed the robbers, they raised the alarm. The robbers managed to escape in a boat with ship's stores. Incident reported to port authorities. (IMB)
11. (U) INDIA: On 19 September, India Coast Guard intercepted a Myanmar vessel with 1,160 kg of ketamine onboard in the vicinity of the Nicobar Island. The vessel's crew indicated they intended to transship the cargo to another vessel near Thailand. The 1,160 kg of ketamine is worth an estimated \$42 million. (The Maritime Executive)
12. (U) INDONESIA: On 18 September, two robbers boarded a chemical tanker berthed near position 01:15S - 116:49E, Dermaga Kencana Terminal, Balikpapan. Alert crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping without stealing anything. Incident reported to local authorities. (IMB)
13. (U) MALAYSIA: On 23 September, the Indonesian consulate in Tawau announced that a group of armed men boarded two small fishing boats and kidnapped three Indonesian fishermen from one of the vessels near position 05:34N - 119:07E, 6.3 NM north of Pulau Tambisan, in the Tambisan waters of Lahad Datu, Sabah. The armed individuals headed toward Tawi-Tawi Island, Philippines, with the hostages. (IMB; www.antara.co.id/en)
14. (U) MALAYSIA: On 20 September, the Malaysian police seized during a raid in Penang State more than 12 tons of cocaine mixed with a shipment of charcoal. The seizure was the country's largest to date, according to the Inspector-General of Police. The Malaysian officers found the cocaine and charcoal stored in three shipping containers as part of a consignment brought into Malaysia through Penang's Butterworth port facility on 10 September. (www.benarnews.org)

J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA:

1. (U) JAPAN: On 7 October, a North Korean fishing vessel fishing in Japan's EEZ collided with a Japanese Fisheries Agency patrol vessel that had warned it to leave the area. At least 60 crewmembers were rescued after they went overboard as the vessel sank. The incident took place about 350 kilometers northwest of the Noto Peninsula in Ishikawa Prefecture. (The Asahi Shimbun, AFP, Kyodo News)
2. (U) RUSSIA: Between 28 and 30 September, Russia's Maritime Territory Border Department of the Federal Security Service stopped the illegal activities of 11 North Korean fishing vessels operating in Russia's exclusive economic zone in the Sea of Japan. Eighty-seven North Korean fishermen were arrested and their fishing gear confiscated, along with

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more than four thousand squid that were caught illegally. The alleged poachers are being taken to the Russian port of Posyet for further investigation. (BBC)

3. (U) RUSSIA: On 17 September, authorities announced that Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) had seized two North Korean fishing ships and approximately 80 North Korean persons after the two ships were caught fishing illegally in Russian waters. A Russian border patrol vessel discovered the two North Korean ships and detained the first vessel, prompting the second one to open fire on the Russian ship, the FSB was quoted as saying. Three Russian border guards were wounded in the incident. The detained vessels were taken to Russia's Far East port of Nakhodka, a press report quoted the FSB as saying. (Reuters)

K. (U) AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND - PACIFIC OCEAN AREA:

(U) No current incidents to report.

5. (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 (WTS) 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 Weekly Piracy Update and WTS reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm.

6. (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) The following terms have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis:

- (U) **Attempted Boarding** - Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.
- (U) **Blocking** - Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.

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- (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 by an unknown vessel.

(U) **Sourcing**

- 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
- Norwegian Shipowners' Mutual War Risks Insurance Association
- 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) The Weekly Piracy Update (WPU) and WTS reports are posted each week on the ONI Intel Portal and can be found at: <http://www.oni.navy.mil/News/Weekly-Piracy-Reports/>

(U) ICOD: 16 October 2019

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