



Worldwide

(U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 18 December 2024–15 January 2025

17 JANUARY 2025

ICOD: 15 January 2025

(U) Executive Summary

(U) Scope

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) report 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.¹

(U) Warnings, Advisories and Alerts: See Appendix C for active advisories.

(U) Summary:

1. (U) COTE D'IVOIRE: On 13 January, one robber armed with a knife boarded a Vanuatu-flagged supply vessel.
2. (U) BANGLADESH: On 13 January, eight robbers armed with knives and steel bars boarded a bulk carrier anchored at Payra Outer Anchorage.
3. (U) INDONESIA: On 9 January, six robbers armed with knives boarded a Hong Kong-flagged bulk carrier while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS).
4. (U) INDONESIA: (Late Reporting) On 7 January, four robbers armed with a gun boarded a bulk carrier while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS.
5. (U) ANGOLA: On 7 January, persons onboard a wooden boat claiming to be selling cigarettes and drinks approached a supply vessel and diverted the crew's attention while robbers boarded the vessel on the opposite side.

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(U) 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 that 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.

(U) NORTH AMERICA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) CENTRAL AMERICA – CARIBBEAN – SOUTH AMERICA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) NORTHERN EUROPE – BALTIC

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) MEDITERRANEAN – BLACK SEA

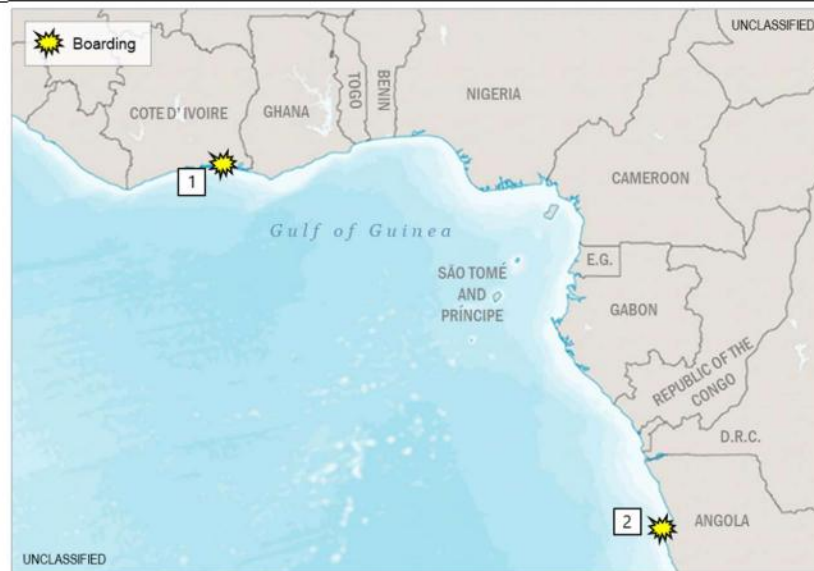
(U) No current incidents to report.

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(U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA

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(U) Figure 1. Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea in West Africa – Gulf of Guinea



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1. **(U) COTE D'IVOIRE:** On 13 January at 1910 local time, one robber armed with a knife boarded a Vanuatu-flagged supply vessel anchored at Abidjan, near position 05:16N – 004:00E. The robber stole a phone then escaped. (Clearwater Dynamics)
2. **(U) ANGOLA:** On 7 January at 0250 local time, persons onboard a wooden boat claiming to be selling cigarettes and drinks approached a supply vessel anchored at Luanda, near position 08:45S – 0013:20E. They diverted the crew's attention while robbers boarded the vessel on the opposite side. The robbers escaped unnoticed with the lifeboat's outboard engine. The robbery was discovered and consequently reported some time later. (Clearwater Dynamics)
3. **(U) NIGERIA:** On 2 January at 2142 local time, four unauthorized persons boarded a tanker while berthed at Lagos port, near position 06:26N – 003:18E. After the duty crew spotted the perpetrators onboard the vessel, the perpetrators, seeing the alerted crew, escaped. The incident was reported to port authorities. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)
4. **(U) EQUATORIAL GUINEA:** On 21 December at 2230 local time, six pirates boarded a Cyprus-flagged offshore supply vessel while underway 83 NM west-northwest of Bata, near position 01:59N – 008:12E. The pirates boarded the vessel from a speedboat. All crew members took refuge in the vessel's citadel. After several failed attempts to access the citadel, the perpetrators damaged some of the vessel's navigation equipment and disembarked at

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approximately 0300 local time on 22 December. Following the incident, all crew members were reported safe. (MDAT-GoG; IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

5. (U) EQUATORIAL GUINEA: On 21 December at approximately 0120 local time, perpetrators in a small boat approached and fired upon a Liberia-flagged container ship while underway approximately 50 NM west-southwest of Bata, near position 01:38N – 008:55E. After the alarm was raised, all non-essential crew members mustered in the citadel. The small boat approached to within 0.75 NM of the container ship. After the vessel increased to maximum speed, the small boat broke off its pursuit. Following the incident, the vessel and all crew members were reported safe and proceeded to the next port of call. (MDAT-GoG; IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) ARABIAN GULF

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA

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(U) Figure 2. Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea in Southeast Asia

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1. **(U) INDONESIA:** On 9 January at 0540 local time, six robbers armed with knives boarded the Hong Kong-flagged bulk carrier *Trinity Island* while underway in the eastbound lane of the

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Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:08N – 103:45E. The duty crew reported seeing the perpetrators armed with knives at the port quarter of the upper deck. After the crew mustered and searched the ship, the master reported that a crewman had been found tied up in the engine room but all crew were safe, and that engine parts had been stolen. The vessel did not require assistance and continued its voyage to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

2. (U) **INDONESIA:** (Late Reporting) On 7 January at 0400 local time, four robbers armed with a gun boarded a bulk carrier while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:05N – 103:35E. After the robbers entered the engine room, the alarm was raised and the crew mustered to conduct a search. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped with ship's stores. The local authorities were informed and the Singapore Coast Guard arrived at the bulk carrier's location to board and inspect the vessel. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)
3. (U) **INDONESIA:** On 8 January at 0400 local time, four perpetrators boarded the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier *Anabela* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:36E. The duty crew had observed the perpetrators armed with knives in the steering gear room. After the incident, the master reported that the crew was safe and that nothing was reported stolen. The vessel continued its transit to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
4. (U) **INDONESIA:** On 29 December at 1035 local time, three perpetrators attempted to board a tanker from a small boat using the anchor chain. The tanker was anchored at Belawan Anchorage in the Malacca Strait, near position 03:55N – 098:44E. The duty crew spotted the boarding attempt and raised the alarm, which resulted in the perpetrators escaping empty-handed. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)
5. (U) **INDONESIA:** On 28 December at 0114 local time, up to five robbers armed with gun-like objects boarded the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier *Rostrum Hedonist* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:02N – 103:39E. Duty crew discovered the perpetrators in the steering gear room, which caused the perpetrators to escape. The Singapore Police Coast Guard boarded the bulk carrier to investigate the incident and they confirmed that spare parts and a fuel pump had been stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
6. (U) **INDONESIA:** On 22 December at 0605 local time, three perpetrators boarded a Liberia-flagged tanker while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:39E. After duty crew spotted the perpetrators near the engine room, the master raised the alarm and the crew mustered to conduct a search. No perpetrators were found during the search, and nothing was reported stolen. The vessel required no

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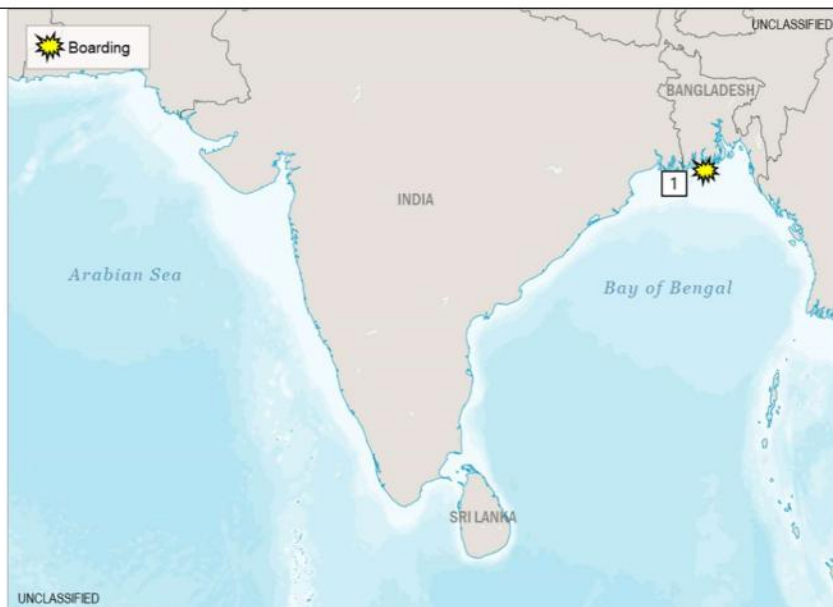
assistance following the incident and proceeded to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

7. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 21 December at 2310 local time, four perpetrators boarded the Hong Kong-flagged container ship *Seaspan Lumaco* while anchored at the South Harbor Anchorage Area in Manila Bay, near position 14:32N – 120:52E. After the roving duty crew spotted the perpetrators at the forward deck, the crew reported to the duty watch officer who raised the alarm and contacted Manila authorities. The crew mustered and searched for the perpetrators, but they had escaped. A Philippine Coast Guard Maritime Patrol team was dispatched to the ship's location, searched the ship's perimeter, and confirmed that the perpetrators had already escaped. Further investigation revealed that nothing was stolen and that the crew was not injured. (ReCAAP)
8. (U) VIETNAM: On 19 December at approximately 0400 local time, an unknown number of robbers boarded a container ship anchored at Vung Tau Anchorage, near position 09:59N – 107:04E. The perpetrators stole items of ship's property and escaped unnoticed. Duty crew discovered the theft while on routine rounds. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)

(U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

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(U) Figure 3. Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea in the Indian Subcontinent



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1. **(U) BANGLADESH:** On 13 January at 0050 local time, eight robbers, in a wooden boat armed with knives and steel bars, boarded a bulk carrier using hooks attached to ropes. The ship

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was anchored at Payra Outer Anchorage, near position 21:19N – 090:04E. The robbers overpowered the duty crewman on rounds, tied him up, and broke into the forecastle and paint lockers. Another duty crew noticed the robbers and informed the bridge. The bridge raised the alarm and mustered the crew to conduct a search. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped with ship's properties and stores. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) BANGLADESH: On 29 December at 0130 local time, three perpetrators armed with knives and iron bars boarded a bulk carrier while anchored at Chattogram Anchorage, near position 21:49N – 091:46E. The duty crew spotted the perpetrators attempting to break into the forecastle store. The perpetrators threatened the duty crew member, who managed to escape and raise the alarm. The perpetrators also threatened a watchman who responded to the alarm, before they escaped empty-handed into a waiting boat with four other persons. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)
3. (U) BANGLADESH: On 19 December at 2130 local time, up to seven robbers armed with machetes boarded a heavy load carrier while anchored at Chattogram Anchorage, near position 21:35N – 091:47E. Before escaping in a wooden boat, the perpetrators threatened a duty crew member, and stole the crew member's mobile phone, UHF radio, and items of ship's property. Following the incident, all crew members were reported safe and the incident was reported to Port Control. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

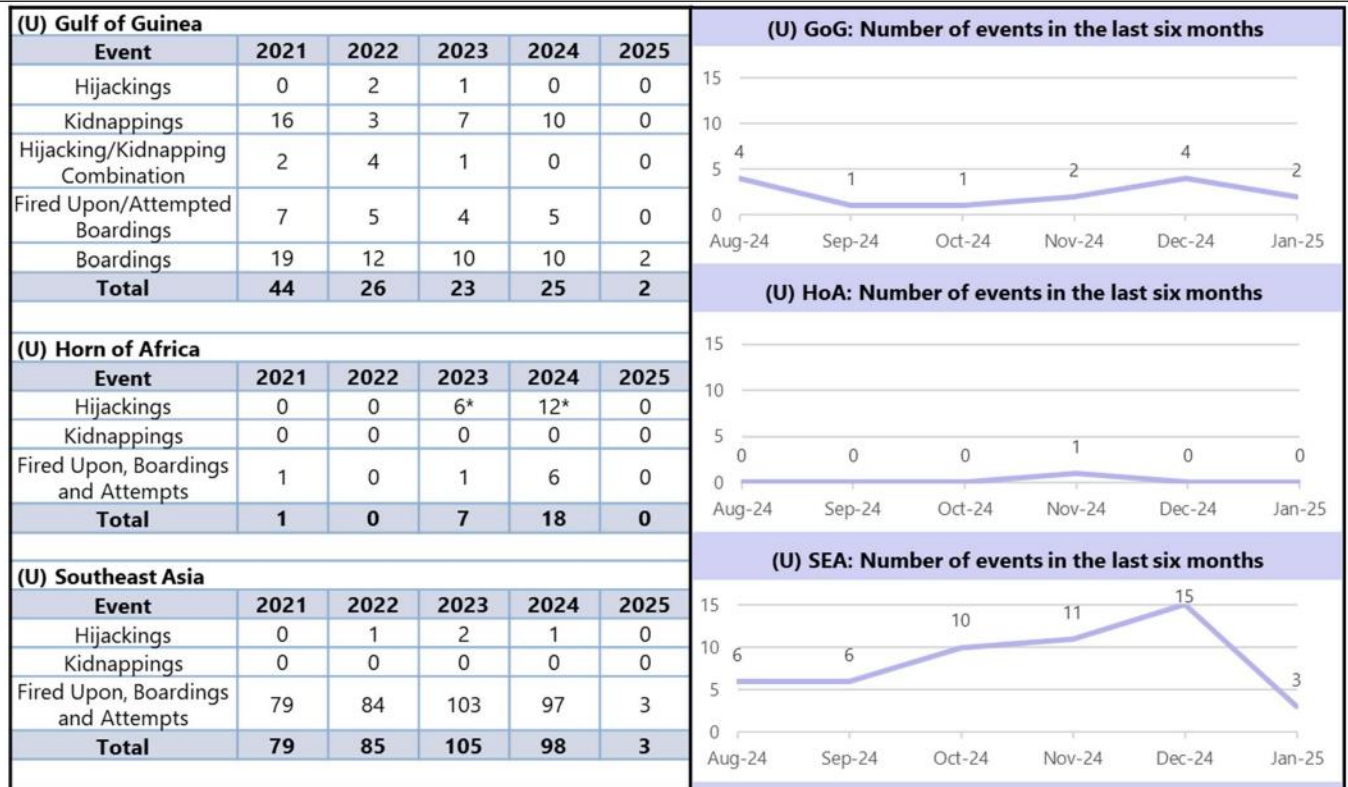
(U) No current incidents to report.

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(U) Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends

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(U) Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends



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(U) * HORN OF AFRICA HIJACKING NUMBERS INCLUDE DHOWS AND FISHING VESSELS

(U) Appendix B: Definitions

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, we use the following definitions to describe a range of criminal antishipping 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.
- > (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) **Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement who forcefully remove crew members from vessel when disembarking.
- > (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.

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(U) Appendix C: Active U.S. Maritime Advisories²

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(U) Active U.S. Maritime Advisories

Title	Effective Date	Expiration Date
2024-014: Gulf of Guinea – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	20 Dec 2024	17 Jun 2025
2024-013: Global – U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts	11 Oct 2024	11 Apr 2025
2024-011: Worldwide – Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence	9 Oct 2024	7 Apr 2025
2024-012: Black Sea and Sea of Azov – Military Combat Operations	6 Sep 2024	21 Feb 2025
2024-010: Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	16 Aug 2024	12 Feb 2025
2024-009: Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman – Iranian Illegal Boarding/Detention/Seizure	16 Aug 2024	12 Feb 2025
2024-008: Southern Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, and Gulf of Aden – Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	16 Aug 2024	12 Feb 2025

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