



Worldwide

(U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 23 April–21 May 2025

23 MAY 2025

ICOD: 21 May 2025

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(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.

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

(U) Summary:

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 20 May, five perpetrators armed with knives boarded a Marshall Islands-flagged tanker while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS).
2. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 May, the crew of a Philippines-flagged cargo ship spotted four armed perpetrators as they approached the vessel while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS.
3. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ: On 18 May, vessels reported experiencing electronic interference, with disruptions lasting several hours, affecting navigation systems and requiring vessels to rely on backup methods.
4. (U) INDONESIA: On 17 May, five perpetrators armed with knives boarded a Malta-flagged bulk carrier while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS.
5. (U) PERSIAN GULF: On 15 May, two small military craft approached a container ship while underway in the northern portion of the Gulf.

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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

1. (U) MEXICO: On 3 May at 0000 local time, an unspecified number of robbers on one speedboat approached a Mexico-flagged offshore supply vessel in the Bay of Campeche, near position 18:20N – 093:53W. The perpetrators were unsuccessful in their attempt to board and all crew members have been reported safe. (Clearwater Dynamics)
2. (U) MEXICO: On 26 April at 1600 local time, an unspecified number of robbers approached a Panama-flagged offshore oil platform located in the Bay of Campeche off Dos Bacos, Ciudad Del Carmen, near position 18:51N – 091:44W. The crew on the platform used water cannons to deter the perpetrators and alerted the Mexican Navy. The Mexican Navy communicated its presence to the robbers via speakers after which the robbers departed the area. All crew members were reported safe. (Clearwater Dynamics)

(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

1. (U) NIGERIA: On 6 May at an unspecified time, armed men boarded two passenger boats while transiting near Bonny Island, Rivers State, causing the passengers and pilot to flee; they then targeted a third passenger boat that was transiting between Degema and Bille, Isaka River, Rivers State, near position 04:33N – 006:55E. The armed men kidnapped 12 passengers and the pilot. (Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) PERSIAN GULF

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(U) Figure 1. Suspicious Activity in Persian Gulf



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1. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ: On 18 May at 1355 UTC, vessels reported experiencing electronic interference, with disruptions lasting several hours, affecting navigation systems and requiring vessels to rely on backup methods. (UKMTO; Joint Maritime Information Center; Clearwater Dynamics)

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2. **(U) PERSIAN GULF:** On 15 May at 1310 UTC, two small military craft approached a container ship while underway in the northern portion of the Gulf (exact position not specified). The craft hailed the vessel, requesting details on personnel and next port of call but the master did not respond to these queries. The military craft persisted and maintained position off the vessel's starboard quarter and hailing via VHF Channel 16. The master identified the vessel's flag state and stated the vessel was operating in accordance with international law. The two craft continued to hail and at 1323 UTC, they crossed the vessel's bow closely, repositioning to the port beam and quarter, before aborting their pursuit at 1324 UTC. (Joint Maritime Information Center; Clearwater Dynamics)
3. (U) PERSIAN GULF: On 10 May at 2325 UTC, a small craft collided with a merchant vessel approximately 80 NM northwest of Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates. The small craft went on to attempt to collide with other vessels in the area but was unsuccessful. The crew of the small craft transferred safely to another small craft. The master of the vessel later reported receiving VHF messages asking them to stop and allow authorities to board the vessel although it is unconfirmed who sent the messages. All crew members were reported safe. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Maritime Executive)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA

1. (U) MOZAMBIQUE: On 10 May at 1520 local time, two small boats attacked a Russia-flagged research vessel while operating approximately 3 NM east of Tambuzi Island off Mocimboa da Praia (exact position not specified). The perpetrators fired upon the research vessel, before the vessel fled further offshore. All crew members were reported safe. Unconfirmed reports state that suspected Islamic terror groups were responsible. (Clearwater Dynamics; moztimes.com)
2. (U) RED SEA: On 9 May at 1400 UTC, merchant vessels experienced GPS interference with disruptions lasting several hours, affecting navigation systems and requiring vessels to rely on backup methods (exact location not specified). (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

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(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 20 May at 0345 local time, five perpetrators armed with knives boarded a Marshall Islands-flagged tanker while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:38E. The crew spotted the perpetrators in the engine room. The master later reported that all crew members were safe and that spare parts and three containers of 20 liters of lube oil were reported missing. The vessel was reported safe and was proceeding to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)
2. **(U) INDONESIA:** On 19 May at 0100 local time, the crew of a Philippines-flagged cargo ship spotted four armed perpetrators as they approached the vessel while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:41E. The master later reported that all crew members were safe and that nothing was reported stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics)
3. **(U) INDONEISA:** On 17 May at 0143 local time, five perpetrators armed with knives boarded the Malta-flagged bulk carrier *Thalassini Avra* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:07N – 103:44E. The crew spotted the perpetrators on

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the poop deck and notified the bridge. The master raised the alarm and the crew mustered. A search was conducted with no perpetrators found onboard. The crew was not injured and nothing was reported stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 14 May at 0227 local time, three perpetrators boarded the Portugal-flagged bulk carrier *Dioni* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:07N – 103:45E. The crew sighted the perpetrators on the poop deck. The master later reported all crew members were safe and that spare parts were missing. The vessel did not require assistance and continued its voyage to its next port of call. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
5. (U) INDONESIA: On 8 May at 0730 local time, three robbers boarded a barge under tow in the Singapore Strait, near position 01:07N – 103:30E. The robbers stole the barge's properties and stores, and escaped. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)
6. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 May at 0403 local time, five perpetrators, two of whom carried gun-like objects, boarded the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier *Virgo* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:08N – 103:29E. The crew spotted the perpetrators in the engine room. The master reported all crew members safe and the bulk carrier proceeded to its next port of call. Upon arrival at anchorage, local authorities boarded and conducted a security search and reported engine spare parts missing. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
7. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 May at 0320 local time, an unarmed perpetrator boarded the Panama-flagged product tanker *Elm Galaxy* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:05N – 103:35E. The perpetrator was sighted on the vessel's aft deck. The master reported all crew safe and that nothing was reported stolen. The tanker continued to its next port of call. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
8. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 May at 0245 local time, two perpetrators armed with knives boarded the Hong Kong-flagged bulk carrier *Hui Shun No. 1* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:40E. The crew spotted the perpetrators on the vessel's aft deck. The master reported all crew members were safe and that nothing had been reported stolen. The bulk carrier continued its voyage to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
9. (U) INDONESIA: On 5 May at 0330 local time, two unarmed perpetrators boarded the Panama-flagged bulk carrier *SW Legend* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:07N – 103:45E. Duty crew sighted the perpetrators at the port quarter of the stern deck. The master then raised the alarm, switched on the deck lights, and mustered the crew. Seeing the crew's alertness, the perpetrators escaped. A

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search was conducted with no perpetrators found onboard. The crew was not injured and nothing was stolen. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

10. (U) INDONESIA: On 2 May at 0630 local time, five perpetrators boarded the Marshall Islands-flagged tanker *Culture* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:36E. After the perpetrators were spotted on deck, the master raised the alarm and the crew mustered. Upon realizing the crew was alerted, the perpetrators escaped. The crew was not injured and nothing was stolen. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)
11. (U) INDONESIA: On 2 May at 0255 local time, four robbers boarded the Cook Islands-flagged tanker *S M A* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:37E. The duty crew spotted the robbers on deck and in the engine room. The alarm was raised and the crew conducted a search with no perpetrators found onboard. The master confirmed there was no confrontation with the perpetrators. Engine spare parts were reported stolen. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)
12. (U) INDONESIA: On 25 April at 0300 local time, an unknown number of robbers boarded the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier *ASL Trinity* unnoticed while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:02N – 103:39E. After the crew discovered footprints on the deck, a security search discovered that the steering gear room lock had been broken and the door left unsecured. Generator spare parts were reported stolen and the crew was not injured. Following the vessel anchoring, the coast guard conducted a further search. (IMB; ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)
13. (U) INDONESIA: On 24 April at 0400 local time, one perpetrator attempted to board a berthed container ship in the port of Jakarta, near position 06:05S – 106:53E. The duty crew spotted the perpetrator attempting to board the vessel by rope. Upon seeing the crew member, the perpetrator escaped by boat. The ship reported that a padlock on the steering gear room door was broken. No stores were reported stolen. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

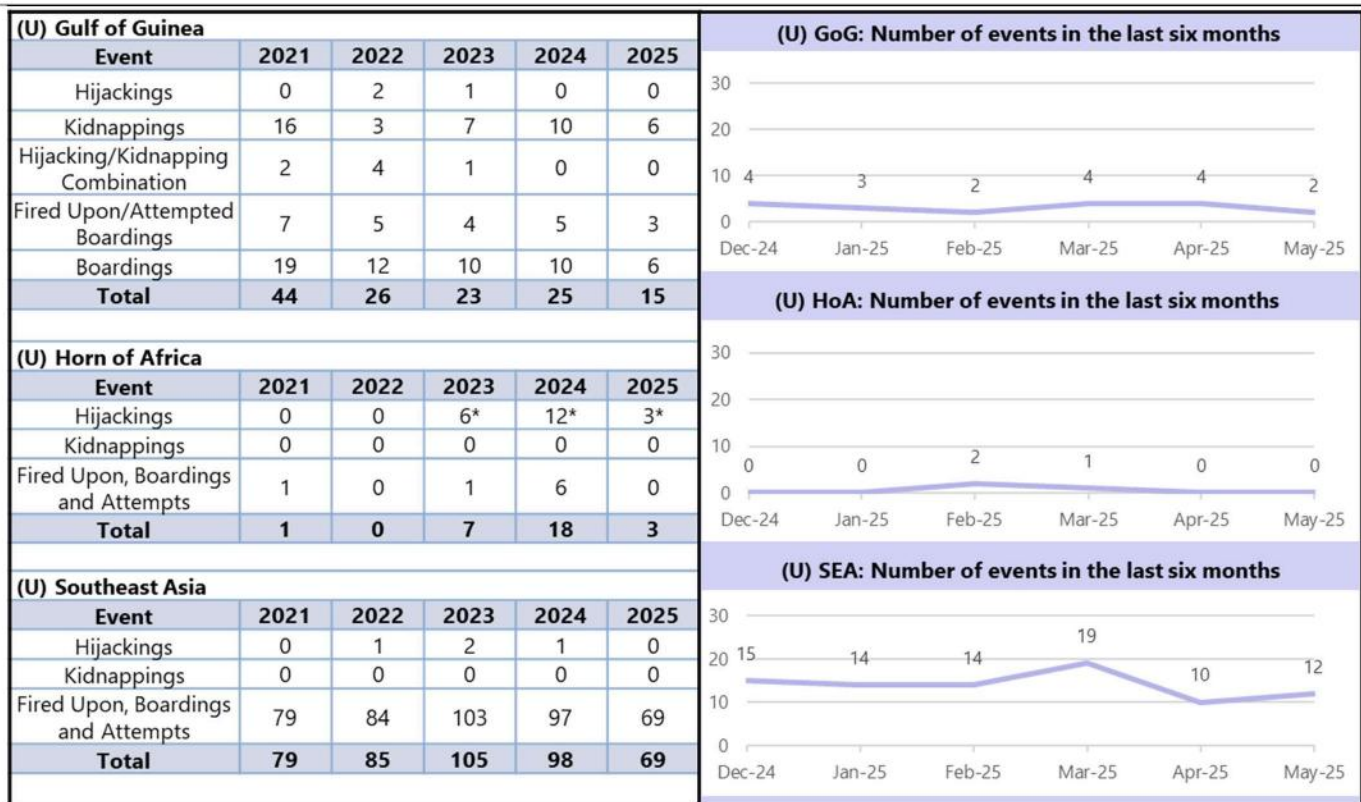
(U) No current incidents to report.

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

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(U) * 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 Advisories

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(U) Active U.S. Maritime Advisories

Title	Effective Date	Expiration Date
2025-007: Global – U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts	9 Apr 2025	6 Oct 2025
2025-006: Worldwide – Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence	9 Apr 2025	6 Oct 2025
2025-005: Red Sea, Bab el-Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Persian Gulf, and Somali Basin – Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	28 Mar 2025	24 Sep 2025
2025-004: Black Sea and Sea of Azov – Military Combat Operations	5 Mar 2025	1 Sep 2025
2025-003: Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	14 Feb 2025	11 Aug 2025
2025-002: Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman – Iranian Illegal Boarding/Detention/Seizure	14 Feb 2025	11 Aug 2025
2024-014: Gulf of Guinea – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	20 Dec 2024	18 Jun 2025

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