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(U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 9 February – 9 March 2022**



9 March 2022

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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:**

A. (U) **MARAD ADVISORY 2022-004: Black Sea and Sea of Azov-Military Combat Operations.**

Effective Dates: 08 March – 04 September 2022. This advisory is an update and cancels MARAD Advisory 2022-002. Issue: Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in late February, there have been reports of multiple commercial vessels being struck by projectiles and/or experiencing explosions in Ukrainian ports, and in the northwestern Black Sea off the coast of Ukraine. There have also been reports of naval mines in the water near Odessa. There is a high risk of damage to U.S.-flagged commercial vessels in this region. Guidance: U.S.-flagged commercial vessels should avoid entering or approaching the Sea of Azov, Ukrainian ports, or Ukrainian territorial waters in the northwestern Black Sea. Vessels operating near these areas are advised to exercise caution, conduct a risk assessment; review security measures; review current NATO Shipping Center, NAVAREA III, and other local broadcast warnings; and incorporate appropriate protective measures into their vessel security plans. Vessels should ensure AIS is transmitting at all times (except when the master believes that continuing to operate AIS might compromise the safety or security of the ship or when a security incident is imminent), consistent with provisions of the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), and monitor VHF Channel 16. In the event of any incident or suspicious activity, U.S.-flagged commercial vessels should notify the NATO Shipping Center and activate the Ship Security Alert System immediately. Vessels operating in these areas may encounter GPS interference, AIS spoofing, and/or other communications jamming. Maritime GPS disruptions or anomalies

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should be reported immediately to the USCG NAVCEN at <https://go.usa.gov/xQBaw> or via phone at 703-313-5900, 24-hours a day. Additional guidance for vessels experiencing GPS interference can be found in Maritime Advisory 2021-010 at <https://go.usa.gov/xtHn2>. 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>.

3. (U) Summary:

A. (U) UKRAINE: On 8 March, crew members were evacuated from four bulk carriers berthed at the port of Yuzhnyi.

B. (U) INDONESIA: On 4 March, five unauthorized personnel boarded a bulk carrier underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS),

C. (U) UKRAINE: (Update) On 3 March, the crew of a bulk carrier abandoned ship at Olvia Anchorage, Mykolaiv port area.

D. (U) UKRAINE: (Update) On 3 March, a cargo ship sunk 23 NM southeast of Odessa.

E. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 January, one perpetrator armed with two handguns boarded a fishing vessel underway in the waters off Sungai Pinang District, South Sumatra.

4. (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 last 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.

A. (U) NORTH AMERICA: No current incidents to report.

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

1. (U) HAITI: On 17 February, at 1840 local time, three robbers armed with guns and machetes boarded the Singapore-flagged container ship TAMPA TRADER anchored at Port Lafito pilot boarding station, near position 18:40N – 072:23W. The roving duty crew discovered that two crew members had been restrained by the robbers. The duty officer was immediately contacted and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the perpetrators released the crew members and escaped. The crew mustered and searched the vessel. The robbers stole mooring lines, mobile phones, and a handheld radio. The incident was reported to the local authorities. All crew were reported safe. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

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

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

E. (U) **MEDITERRANEAN – BLACK SEA:**

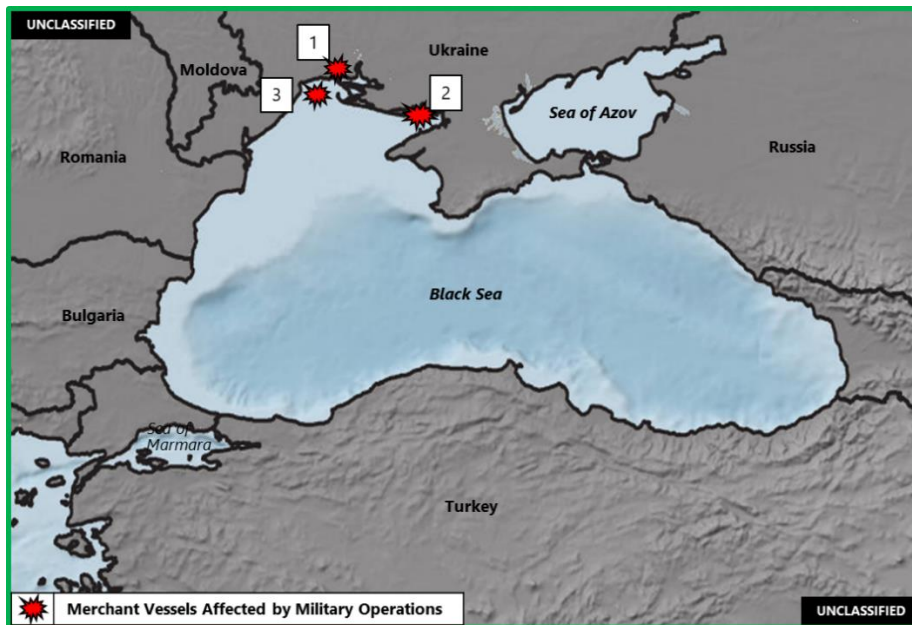


Figure 1. Mediterranean – Black Sea Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) UKRAINE: On 8 March, a total of 40 crew members of four bulk carriers berthed at the port of Yuzhnyi, near position 46:37N – 031:01E were evacuated. The four bulk carriers involved were: the Greece-flagged MARAN ASTRONOMER, the Malta-flagged MARAN EXCELLENCE, the Panama-flagged NORD VIRGO, and the Marshall Islands-flagged OCEAN COURTESY. According to press reports, Ukrainian border guards facilitated the evacuation of the crew members from the four vessels and were transported to their respective consular offices for repatriation. (vesseltracker.com; vesselfinder.com; Maritime Executive)

2. (U) UKRAINE: (Update) On 3 March, the Bangladesh-flagged bulk carrier BANGLAR SAMRIDDHI was abandoned at Olvia Anchorage, Mykolaiv port area. Missiles struck the ship on 2 March, which caused a fire onboard and inflicted serious damage to the vessel's bridge and accommodations. One of the 29 crew members died during the attack. The remaining 28 crew members abandoned ship and were ferried from the anchorage area to a safer location. According to the latest press reports on 6 March, the 28 crew members made it to Romania and their repatriation to Bangladesh was being arranged by the Bangladesh embassy in Bucharest. (risingbd.com; The Business Standard; vesseltracker.com)

3. (U) UKRAINE: (Update) On 3 March, the Panama-flagged general cargo ship HELT sunk 23 NM southeast of Odessa, near position near 46:22N – 031:04E. According to press reports, the ship struck a mine that caused a hole below the hull waterline and sunk bow first. It was first reported that two crew members were seen onboard the lifeboat and four were missing. Later press reports state that all of the six crew members were rescued and safe. Previous reports indicate that the ship was intercepted and reportedly used as a shield by the Russian Navy while

underway to the port of Chornomorsk. (Fleetmon; vesseltracker.com; vesselfinder.com; gcaptain.com; Maritime Executive)

4. (U) UKRAINE: On 2 March, at 1725 local time, the Bangladesh-flagged bulk carrier BANGLAR SAMRIDDHI was struck by a missile while anchored at Olvia Anchorage, Mykolaiv port area. The ship's superstructure caught fire as a result of the missile strike. Two rescue tugs responded and assisted the vessel. One of the 29 crew members reportedly died during the attack. The local authorities were helping to move the vessel to a safer location. (Maritime Executive; marinetraffic.com; vesseltracker.com; Fleetmon; Clearwater Dynamics)

5. (U) UKRAINE: On 2 March, the Panama-flagged general cargo ship HELT according to press reports, was intercepted and used as a shield by the Russian Navy while underway to the port of Chornomorsk, Ukraine. The vessel is reported to have sank off Odessa on 3 March. (Fleetmon; vesseltracker.com; vesselfinder.com; gcaptain.com; Maritime Executive)

6. (U) UKRAINE: On 27 February, at 0200 local time, the Ukraine-flagged seagoing tug SAPFIR was intercepted and detained by the Russian Navy in the vicinity of Snake Island. The condition of the vessel and crew after the detention were unknown. (Fleetmon; vesseltracker.com)

7. (U) UKRAINE: On 26 February, the Russian Navy intercepted and stopped the Ukraine-flagged bulk carrier AFINA while underway from port of Nikolayev, Ukraine to the port of Constanta, Romania 22 NM off Snake Island. The vessel was later escorted to Crimean waters and was detained 56 NM northwest of Sevastopol. (Dryad Global; Fleetmon; vesseltracker.com; Splash 24/7)

8. (U) UKRAINE: On 26 February, the Russian Navy intercepted and stopped the Ukraine-flagged bulk carrier PRINCESS NICOLE while underway from Ukraine to the port of Constanta, Romania southwest of Snake Island. The vessel was later escorted to Crimean waters and was detained 56 NM northwest of Sevastopol. (Dryad Global; Fleetmon; vesseltracker.com; Splash 24/7)

9. (U) UKRAINE: On 25 February, the Moldova-flagged tanker MILLENNIAL SPIRIT was hit by a rocket while underway approximately 12 NM south of Yuzhniy port, near position 46:22N – 031:07E. According to press reports, the Ukrainian authorities carried out rescue operations and were able to retrieve all crew members. Two of the rescued crew were reported to be in critical condition. The vessel was reported disabled, adrift and sinking. (Maritime Executive; Reuters; vesseltracker.com; Fleetmon)

10. (U) UKRAINE: On 25 February, the Panama-flagged bulk carrier NAMURA QUEEN was hit by a rocket while in the anchorage area of Yuzhniy port. According to press reports, the vessel was on its way to the port when its superstructure was hit inflicting serious damages and causing a fire onboard. The crew members immediately extinguished the fire. At least two crew members suffered minor injuries but all were reported safe. (Maritime Executive; vesseltracker.com; Fleetmon)

11. (U) UKRAINE: On 24 February, the Marshall-Islands-flagged bulk carrier YASA JUPITER was struck by a rocket while underway approximately 50 NM off the coast of Odessa, near position 45:39N – 030:55E. The blast damaged one of the ship's hatch covers and broke the bridge portholes. All of the crew were reported safe and the ship's

hull sustained no significant damage. The vessel did not require assistance and continued her voyage to Constanta, Romania. (Maritime Executive; Reuters; vesseltracker.com; Fleetmon: Clearwater Dynamics)

F. (U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA:

1. (U) ANGOLA: On 23 February, at 0300 local time, robbers boarded an offshore supply vessel at Luanda Anchorage, near position 08:46S – 013:15E. The robbers escaped with stolen mooring ropes and fire hoses. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (MDAT-GoG; Clearwater Dynamics)
2. (U) GHANA: On 18 February, at 0050 local time, four robbers armed with knives were sighted by the duty crew member onboard the anchored Liberia-flagged bulk carrier AG NEKTARIOS at Takoradi Anchorage, near position 04:54N – 001:41W. The alarm was raised, the crew were mustered, and the vessel was searched. The robbers managed to escape with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (IMB; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)
3. (U) GHANA: On 9 February, at 0040 local time, two robbers were sighted on the main deck onboard the Bahamas-flagged general cargo BALTIC SPRINGS anchored at Takoradi Anchorage, near position 04:54N – 001:42W. The alarm was raised, the crew were mustered, and the vessel was searched. It was later confirmed that the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (MDAT-GoG; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

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

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

I. (U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA:

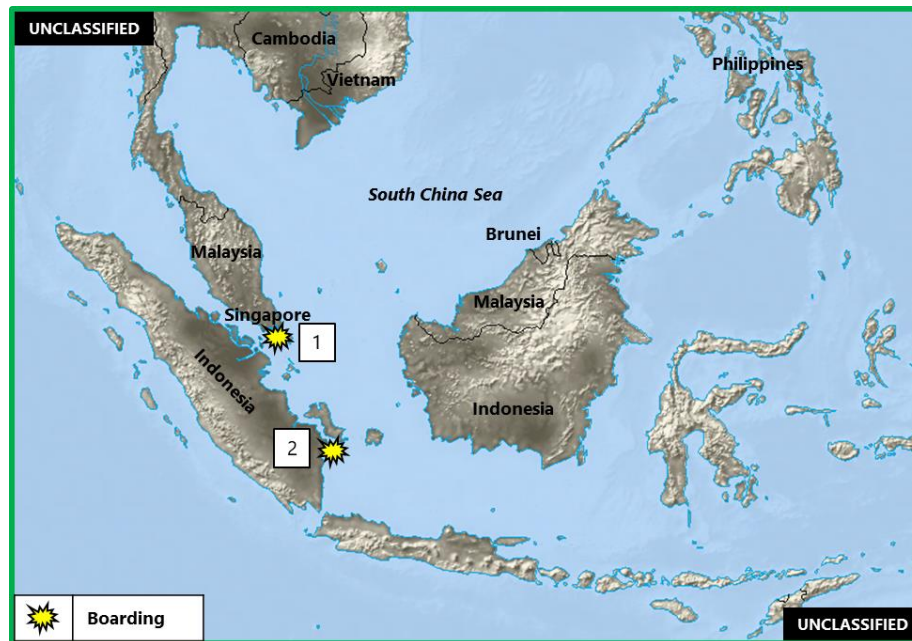


Figure 2. East Asia – Southeast Asia Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 4 March, at 0025 local time, five unauthorized personnel were sighted in the accommodation deck of the India-flagged bulk carrier MAHA JACQUELINE underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), near position 01:15N – 104:04E. After being detected, the five perpetrators escaped empty-handed. The incident was reported to the local authorities. The ship and all crew were reported safe, and the vessel continued her voyage. (ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 January, at 1433 local time, one perpetrator armed with two handguns boarded the underway Indonesia-flagged fishing vessel KM MULYA JAYA RC in the waters of Sungai Pinang District, South Sumatra, near position 04:00S – 105:58E. After threatening the crew at gunpoint, the robber accidentally slipped and fell overboard. The captain contacted the local police who responded and arrested the perpetrator. (sumseltribunenews.com; daerah.sindonews.com)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 2 March, at 0530 local time, six unauthorized personnel boarded the Panama-flagged tanker DAISY 2 while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:14N – 104:00E. The six perpetrators were spotted in the engine room. Subsequently, the alarm was raised, the crew mustered and they searched the vessel. It was reported that the ship and all crew were safe and nothing was stolen. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 2 March, at 0230 local time, four robbers armed with an axe and an iron bar boarded the underway Panama-flagged bulk carrier PENTA in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:14N – 104:03E. The four perpetrators were spotted in the engine room. After the alarm was raised, the crew mustered and searched the vessel. Following the incident, the ship returned to Singapore for further search and

investigation. The Singaporean authorities later reported that the perpetrators were no longer onboard and nothing was stolen. The ship and all crew were reported safe, and the vessel continued her voyage. (ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

5. (U) INDONESIA: On 2 March, at 0210 local time, three unauthorized personnel armed with an axe and an iron bar boarded the Malta-flagged bulk carrier FLECHA underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:15N – 104:04E. The three robbers were sighted in the emergency generator room and immediately escaped. Reports indicate that the ship and all crew were safe and nothing was stolen. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

6. (U) INDONESIA: On 28 February, at 0435 local time, three robbers armed with knives boarded the Bahamas-flagged bulk carrier AFRICAN MERLIN underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:02N – 103:38E. The three perpetrators were sighted on the main deck. After the alarm was raised, the crew mustered and searched the vessel. The robbers escaped with stolen engine spare parts. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

7. (U) INDONESIA: On 26 February, at 0240 local time, five unauthorized personnel were discovered on the stern deck of the Panama-flagged bulk carrier ROYAL JADE underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:03N – 103:41E. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. After hearing the alarm, the five robbers escaped into a small boat. A set of welding equipment was reported stolen. The incident was reported to the local authorities. The ship and all the crew were reported safe and did not require any assistance. (ReCAAP; IMB; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

8. (U) INDONESIA: On 25 February, at 0240 local time, two unauthorized personnel were sighted in the engine room of the Liberia-flagged tanker BW CHEETAH underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:15N – 104:08E. The two perpetrators made their escape through the engine room skylight. The crew mustered and searched the vessel. It was reported that a set of compressors for charging compressed air bottles was stolen. The ship and all the crew were reported safe. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

9. (U) INDONESIA: On 18 February, at 2050 local time, two unauthorized personnel were sighted in the engine room of the Liberia-flagged tanker DELTA EURYDICE underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:15N – 104:02E. After hearing the alarm, the two perpetrators escaped into a small boat. The crew mustered and searched the vessel. Nothing was reported stolen. The incident was reported to the local authorities. The ship and all the crew were reported safe and did not require any assistance. (ReCAAP; IMB; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

10. (U) INDONESIA: On 17 February, at 0208 local time, two unauthorized personnel boarded the Panama-flagged bulk carrier GOLDEN LEAF underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:12N – 104:01E. When spotted by the on-duty crewmembers, the two perpetrators made their escape in a waiting sampan. Nothing was reported stolen and all crew were reported safe. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

11. (U) INDONESIA: On 16 February, at 2158 local time, two unauthorized personnel boarded the Panama-flagged bulk carrier NAVIOS BONHEUR underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:14N

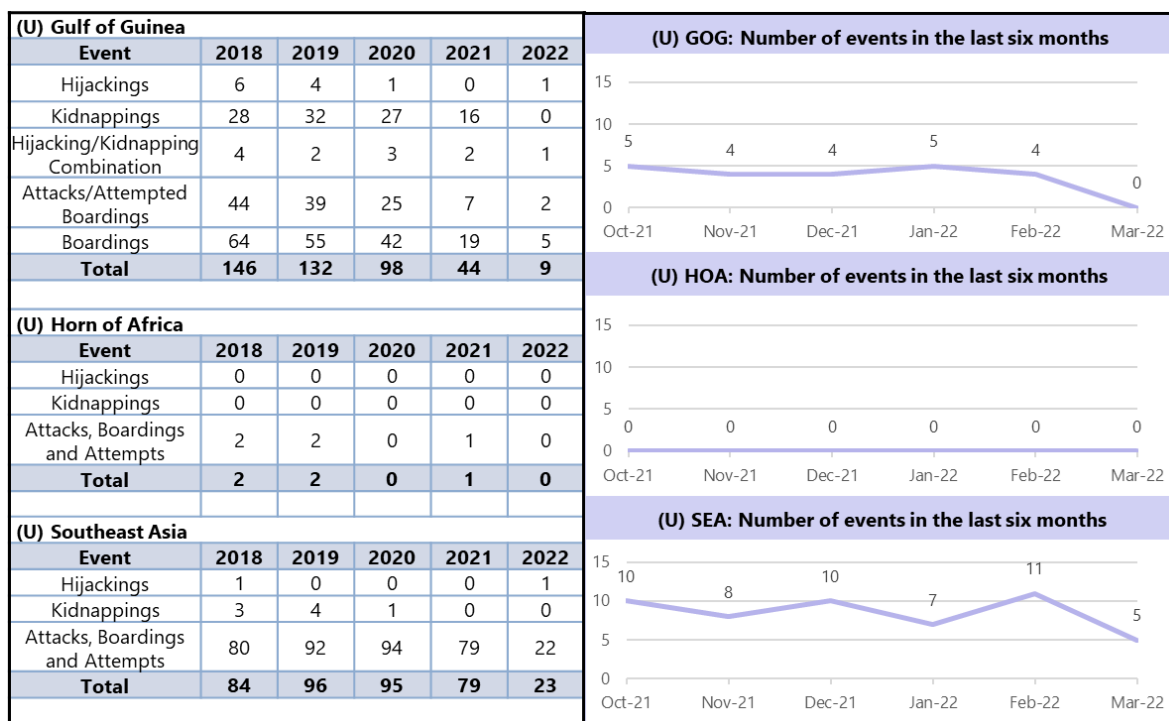
– 104:03E. The two robbers jumped overboard after being seen by on-duty crewmembers. It was reported that the ship and all the crew were safe and nothing was stolen. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

12. (U) INDONESIA: On 12 February, at 0330 local time, two robbers boarded the underway Portugal-flagged bulk carrier THEODOR OLDENDORFF in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:17N – 104:18E. The two perpetrators were spotted in the engine room. After the alarm was raised, the crew mustered and searched the vessel. It was later reported that the robbers escaped with stolen engine spare parts. The incident was reported to the local authorities. The ship and all the crew were reported safe and did not require any assistance. (IMB; ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

J. (U) **INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:** No current incidents to report.

K. (U) **AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA:** No current incidents to report.

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



6. (U) **Appendix B: Definitions and Sourcing**

A. (U) **Definitions:** 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.

B. (U) Sourcing: ONI derives information in this report primarily from government agencies, piracy reporting centers, maritime security companies, and open press.

(U) **ICOD:** 9 March 2022

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intelligence Portal:
<https://www.oni.navy.mil/News/Shipping-Threat-Reports/>