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## (U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 16 February – 16 March 2022**



16 March 2022

### (U) **Table of Contents:**

1. (U) **Scope Note**
2. (U) **Warnings and Advisories**
3. (U) **Summary**
4. (U) **Details: Monthly Incidents by Region**
5. (U) **Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends**
6. (U) **Appendix B: Definitions and Sourcing**

### 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 2022-005-Various-GPS Interference & AIS Spoofing.**

Effective Dates: 14 March – 10 September 2022. This advisory cancels MARAD Advisory 2021-010. Issue: Instances of significant GPS interference have been reported worldwide in the maritime domain. This interference can result in lost or inaccurate GPS signals affecting bridge navigation, GPS-based timing, and communications equipment (including satellite communications equipment). Over the last six months, areas from which multiple instances have been reported include the eastern and central Mediterranean Sea, specifically in the vicinity of the Suez Canal, Cyprus, Malta, and Istanbul, in the Persian Gulf near Dammam, KSA, and off the coast of Brazil. Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) are open, unencrypted, and unprotected radio systems intended to operate on non-secure VHF-FM channels. As such, AIS signals can be spoofed, resulting in incorrect or missing AIS data. AIS devices do not inherently have virus or malware protection, so cyber security best practices against hacking should be adhered to if you connect your AIS to a network or update it using removable electronic devices (e.g. USB drives). AIS, while an invaluable situational tool, should never be solely relied upon for collision avoidance or navigational decision-making. For more information about U.S. Maritime Alerts and Advisories, including subscription details, please visit <https://go.usa.gov/xMZTS>.

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**3. (U) Summary:**

- A. (U) BANGLADESH:** On 15 March, six unauthorized personnel boarded a chemical tanker berthed at Chittagong, CUFL jetty.
- B. (U) PERU:** On 13 March, seven robbers armed with knives boarded a container ship anchored at Callao Anchorage.
- C. (U) PERU:** On 12 March, robbers boarded a vehicle carrier anchored at Callao Anchorage.
- D. (U) PERU:** On 10 March, seven robbers armed with knives boarded a bulk carrier anchored at Callao Anchorage.
- E. (U) UKRAINE: (Update)** On 9 March, the Russian Navy moved the seagoing tug seized on 26 or 27 February to Sevastopol.
- F. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting)** Prior to 9 March, crew members were evacuated from a container vessel berthed at the port of Odessa.
- G. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting)** Prior to 9 March, crew members were evacuated from a bulk carrier berthed at the port of Yuzhnyi.
- H. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting)** Prior to 9 March, crew members were evacuated from a bulk carrier berthed at the port of Nikolayev.
- I. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting)** Between 27 February and 6 March, crew members were evacuated from three bulk carriers berthed at the port of Illichivsk.
- J. (U) US Virgin Islands: (Late Reporting)** On 5 March, a sailing vessel was stolen while berthed at St. John, Great Cruz Bay.

**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:**

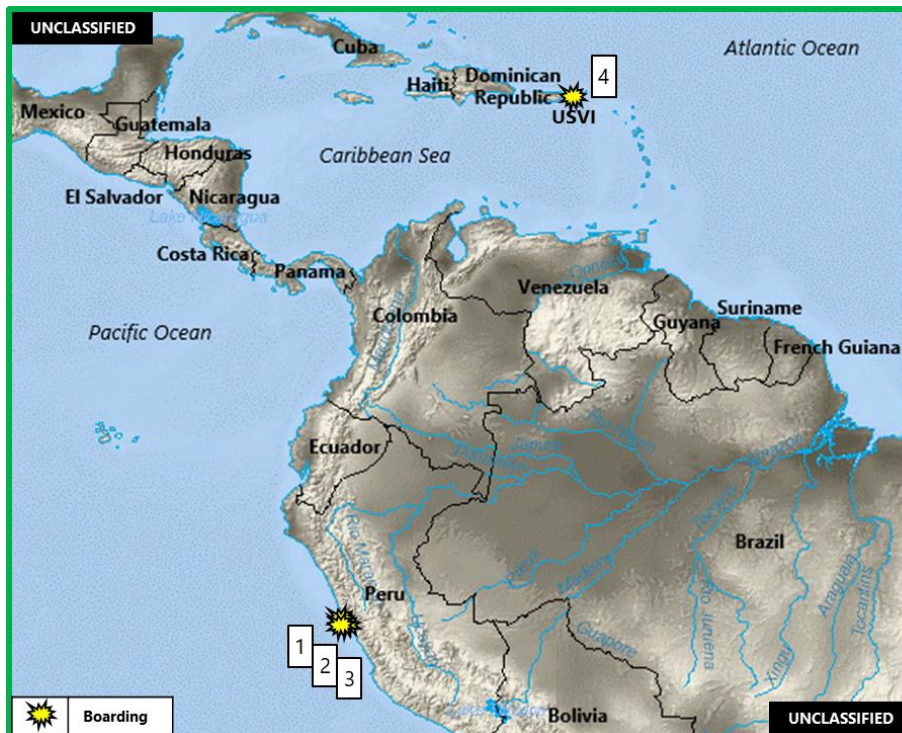


Figure 1. Central America – Caribbean – South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) PERU: On 13 March, at 2000 local time, seven robbers armed with knives boarded a container vessel anchored at Callao Anchorage, near position 12:02S – 077:12W. The alarm was raised, the crew were mustered, and, upon hearing the alarm, the perpetrators escaped with stolen ship's stores and properties. The incident was reported to the local authorities who boarded the vessel and conducted an investigation. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) PERU: On 12 March, at 2000 local time, robbers boarded the Panama-flagged vehicle carrier ARIES LEADER anchored at Callao Anchorage, near position 12:01S – 077:12W. The robbers escaped unnoticed with stolen ship's property. (IMB; ReCAAP; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics)

3. (U) PERU: On 10 March, at 0300 local time, seven robbers armed with knives boarded the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier DAIDO AMBITION anchored at Callao Anchorage, near position 12:00S – 077:13W. The robbers took advantage of foggy weather conditions to board the vessel and restrain the on-duty crew member. When the duty officer received no response after trying to contact the on-duty crew member, the alarm was raised, and the crew were mustered. After hearing the alarm, the perpetrators released the restrained crew member and escaped into a small boat with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (IMB; vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

4. (U) US VIRGIN ISLANDS: On 5 March, at 0000 local time, the United States-flagged sailing vessel BLUE ROSE was stolen while berthed at St. John, Great Cruz Bay. The sailing vessel was unmanned and unlocked when it was stolen from the port. The incident was reported to the local authorities and a coordinated search is being conducted. The owner of the vessel has offered a reward of \$25,000 (USD) for information leading to recovery. (Caribbean Safety and Security Net)

5. (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:

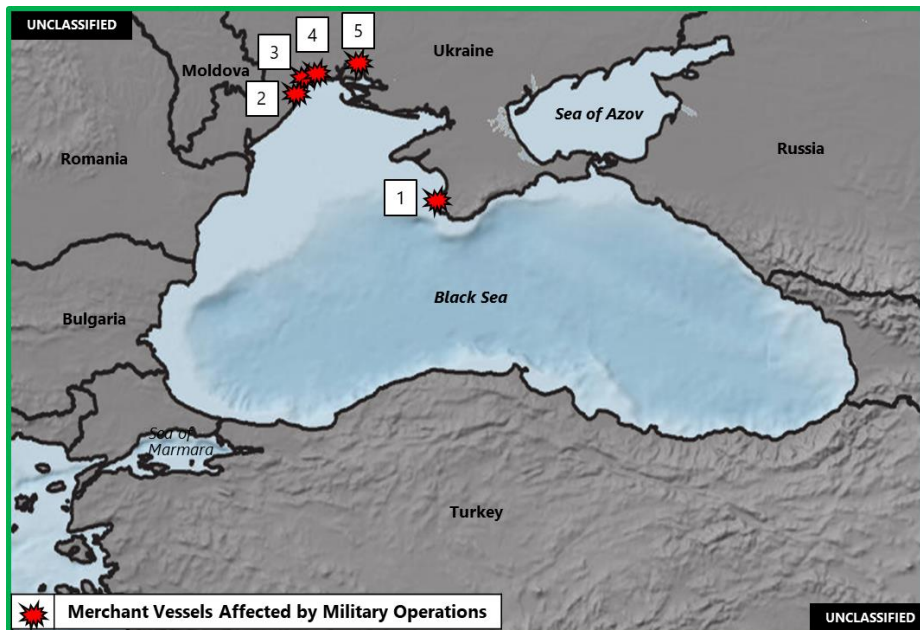


Figure 2. Mediterranean – Black Sea Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) UKRAINE: (Update) On 9 March, the Russian Navy reportedly moved the Ukraine-flagged seagoing tug SAPPFIR to Sevastopol. This follows its seizure by the Russians on 26 February in the vicinity of Snake Island, near position 45:15N – 030:12E. (Fleetmon; vesseltracker.com)

2. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting) Prior to 9 March, crew members were evacuated from the Hong Kong-flagged container ship JOSEPH SCHULTE berthed at the Brooklyn-Kyiv container terminal. According to press reports, the evacuation was facilitated by multiple embassies in coordination with Ukrainian port authorities. The seafarers were transported to their respective consular offices for repatriation. (vesseltracker.com; Maritime Executive)

3. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting) Prior to 9 March, crew members were evacuated from the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier GLOBAL AGLAIA berthed in the port of Yuzhnyi. According to press reports, the evacuation was facilitated by multiple embassies in coordination with Ukrainian port authorities. The seafarers were transported to their respective consular offices for repatriation. (vesseltracker.com; Maritime Executive)

4. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting) Prior to 9 March, crew members were evacuated from the Liberia-flagged bulk carrier STAR PAVLINA berthed at the port of Nikolayev. According to press reports, the evacuation was facilitated by multiple embassies in coordination with Ukrainian port authorities. The seafarers were transported to their respective consular offices for repatriation. (vesseltracker.com; Maritime Executive)

5. (U) UKRAINE: (Late Reporting) Between 27 February and 6 March, crew members were evacuated from three bulk carriers berthed at the port of Illichivsk. The three bulk carriers were: Liberia-flagged S BREEZE and KEY KNIGHT, and the Marshall Islands-flagged STAR HELENA. According to press reports, multiple embassies, ship owners and ship operators coordinated with Ukrainian port authorities to facilitate the evacuations. The seafarers were transported to their respective consular offices for repatriation. (vesseltracker.com; Maritime Executive)

6. (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; Maritime Executive)

7. (U) UKRAINE: 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)

8. (U) UKRAINE: 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; gcaptain.com; Maritime Executive)

9. (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)
10. (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)
11. (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)
12. (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)
13. (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)

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

**H. (U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA:** No current incidents to report.

**I. (U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA:**

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 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)
3. (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)
4. (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)
5. (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)
6. (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)
7. (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)

8. (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)

9. (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)

10. (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)

#### J. (U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:



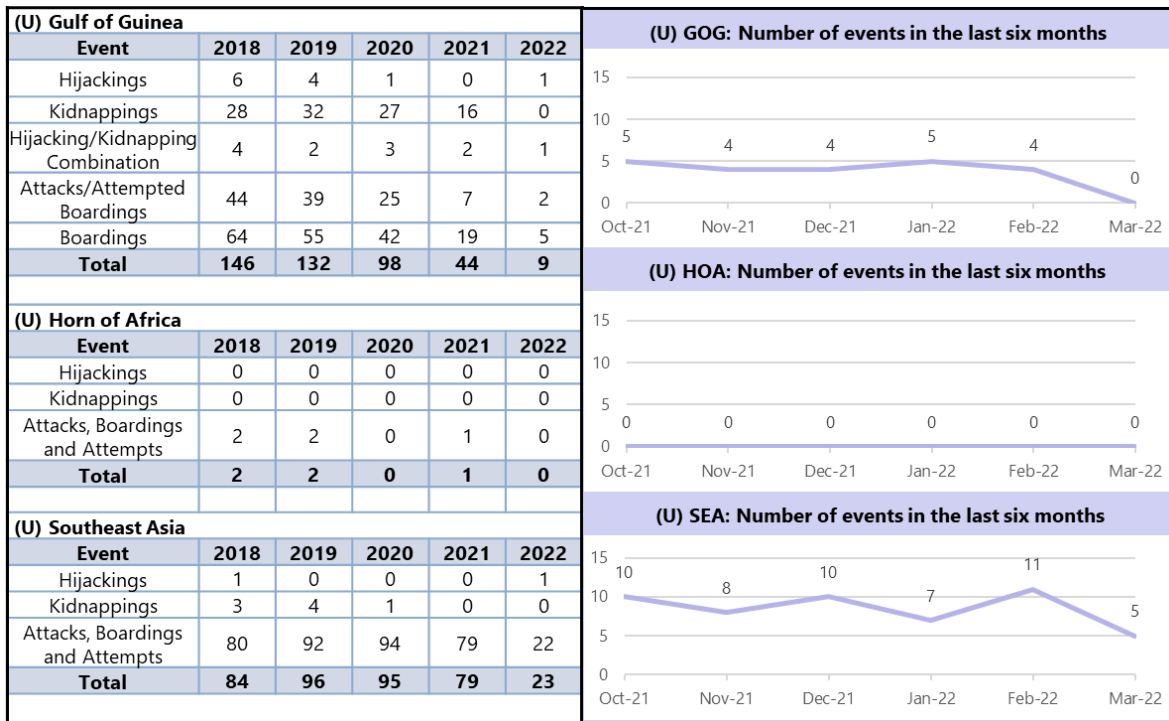
Figure 3. Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime



1. (U) BANGLADESH: On 15 March, at 2255 local time, six unauthorized personnel boarded a chemical tanker berthed at Chittagong, CUFL jetty, near position 22:14N – 091:50E. The duty crew member sighted the six robbers near the forecastle store and raised the alarm. After hearing the alarm, the perpetrators escaped with stolen ship’s stores. The local authorities and the coast guard were contacted and conducted an investigation. The stolen items were later recovered and returned to the ship by the authorities. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

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:** 16 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/>