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## (U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 27 July – 24 August 2022**

24 August 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:** No current active warnings and advisories.

#### 3. (U) **Summary:**

**A.** (U) **ANGOLA:** On 24 August, a robbery occurred on a container ship anchored approximately 7.7 NM west of Soyo.

**B.** (U) **INDONESIA:** On 18 August, two robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier at Belawan Anchorage.

**C.** (U) **GUYANA:** On 9 August, a robbery occurred during cargo operations on a general cargo ship berthed in the port of Georgetown.

#### 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 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

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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) MEXICO: On 10 August, at 2040 local time, the crew of an underway offshore supply vessel (OSV), while approximately 7 NM north of Puerto Dos Boscas, observed perpetrators approaching on a speedboat from behind an oil platform. The ship raised the alarm and made a distress call on VHF Ch 16. Three other vessels operating nearby intervened by approaching and using their searchlights, which caused the speedboat to depart without a successful boarding having occurred. (Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) MEXICO: On 7 August, at 2300 local time, an unknown number of armed robbers onboard two speedboats boarded and robbed the Bermuda-flagged semi-submersible drilling rig BLACKFORD DOLPHIN in the Bay of Campeche, approximately 28 NM north of Paraiso, near position 18:54N – 093:21W. According to press reports, ten of the platform crewmembers were restrained by the robbers while the rest of the crewmembers sheltered in place. The robbers escaped with as many as 30 self-contained breathing apparatus sets, handheld radios, tools, and cables. (vesseltracker.com; Porestto; Fleetmon; Clearwater Dynamics)

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

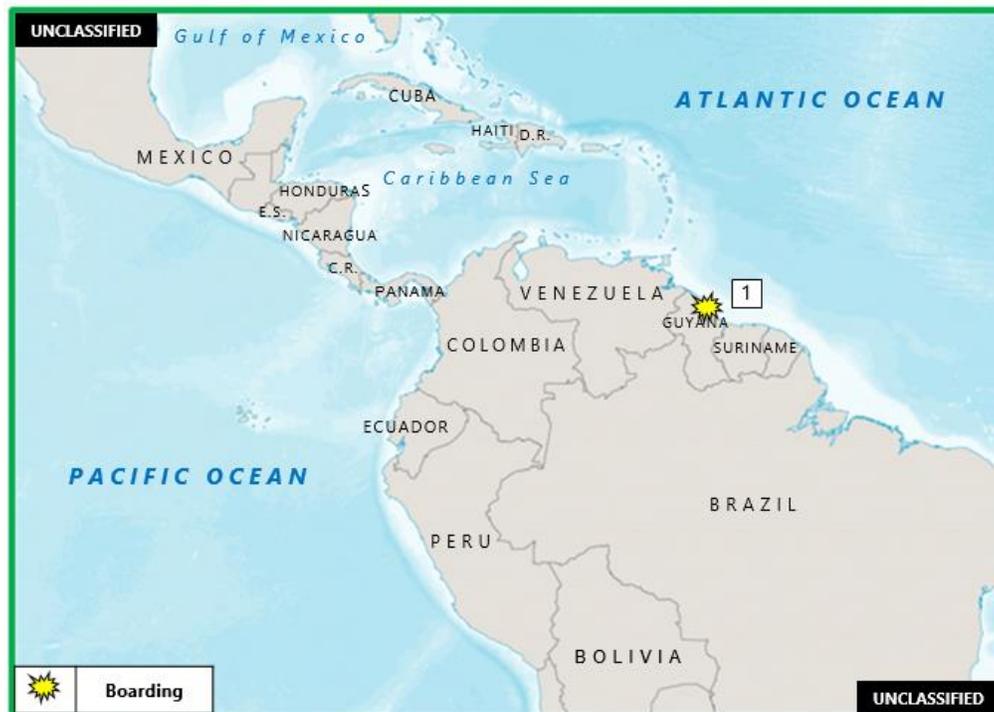


Figure 1. Central America – Caribbean – South America Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea

1. (U) GUYANA: On 9 August, at 0000 local time, robbers boarded the Antigua and Barbuda-flagged general cargo ship INDUSTRIAL EMMA during cargo operations while berthed in the port of Georgetown, near position 06:48N –

058:10W. An unknown number of robbers escaped unnoticed with stolen ship's properties. The robbery was discovered by a duty crewmember after the ship shifted to another terminal. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; vesseltracker.com)

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:** No current incidents to report.

F. (U) **WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA:**



Figure 2. West Africa – Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea

1. (U) **ANGOLA:** On 24 August, at 0420 local time, a robbery occurred on a container ship anchored approximately 7.7 NM west of Soyo, near position 06:07S – 012:12E. Two robbers boarded the ship and escaped with stolen boxes of refrigerated chickens. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (Clearwater Dynamics; MDAT-GoG)

2. (U) **SIERRA LEONE:** On 11 August, at 0300 local time, one robber boarded the anchored Indonesia-flagged transshipment barge BULK BORNEO in the Freetown Anchorage area, near position 08:30N – 013:12W. The ship's guard spotted one robber on the barge and illuminated him with his flashlight, which resulted in the perpetrator escaping. The incident was reported to port authorities. (Clearwater Dynamics; MDAT-GoG; vesseltracker.com)

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:**



Figure 3. East Asia – Southeast Asia Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea

1. (U) INDONESIA: On 18 August, at 0445 local time, two robbers armed with knives boarded the Panama-flagged bulk carrier NORD AQUARIUS anchored at Belawan Anchorage, near position 03:56N – 098.47E. The duty crew noticed the perpetrators near the forecandle store and immediately notified the duty officer. The alarm was raised, a PA announcement was made, and the crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties. The incident was reported to the local authorities. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; vesseltracker.com)

2. (U) MALAYSIA: On 12 August, at 0420 local time, four robbers on a speedboat approached and boarded the anchored Panama-flagged tanker SOUTHERN HAWK at Sandakan Anchorage, near position 05:49N – 118.08E. The duty officer noticed movement near the bosun store and raised the alarm, sounded the ship's whistle, and made a PA announcement. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to the local agent. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; vesseltracker.com)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 9 August, at 0938 local time, two robbers boarded the Liberia-flagged offshore supply vessel (OSV) MO PELICAN under tow by the China-flagged tugboat NING HAI TUO 4001 in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:10N – 103:35E. The robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores from the

OSV. The master reported that the vessel and crew were safe, and the vessel continued its voyage. (vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

4. (U) MALAYSIA: On 3 August, at 2336 local time, 13 unauthorized individuals boarded a barge under tow by the Malaysia-flagged tug MODALWAN 11 in the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:13N – 103:32E. The master reported the incident to the local authorities and confirmed that all crew were safe. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

5. (U) INDONESIA: On 31 July, at 1300 local time, six robbers boarded a barge under tow by the Malaysia-flagged tugboat TARGET 10 underway in the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:16N – 104:08E. After the perpetrators were spotted stealing scrap metal from the barge, the alarm was raised and crew mustered. The master reported that all perpetrators left the barge in three boats, headed towards Pulau Batam, Indonesia. All crew were reported safe, and the vessel continued its voyage to Malaysia. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

6. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 July, at 0330 local time, three robbers armed with knives boarded the Cayman Islands-flagged bulk carrier EQUINOX AGNANDOUSSA underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:16N – 104:18E. Crewmembers discovered one perpetrator in the engine room and the remaining two on deck. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. The master reported the incident to VTIS East and returned to Singapore where the Singapore Police Coast Guard searched the vessel. No unauthorized individuals were found onboard, and some engine spare parts were found to be missing. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; IMB)

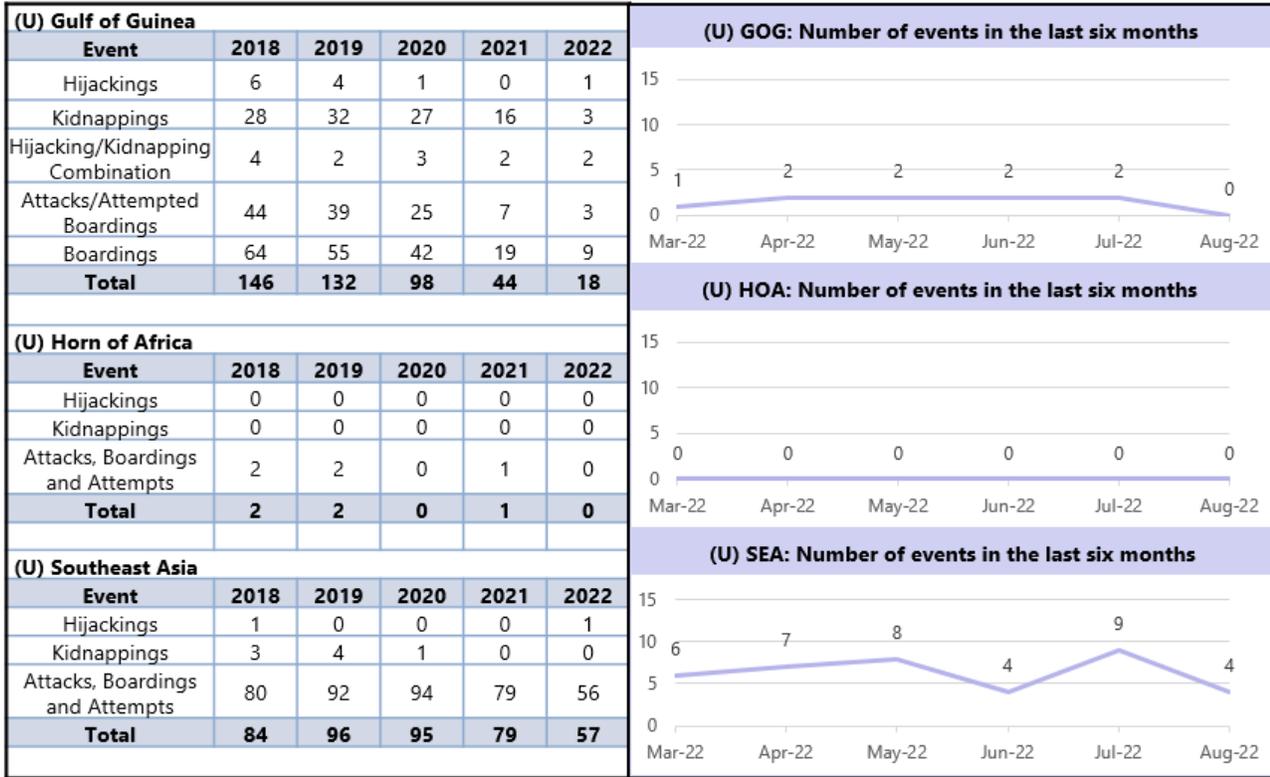
7. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 July, at 0240 local time, the crew of the Panama-flagged general cargo ship IWAMI sighted two unauthorized persons in the engine room while the ship transited the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), near position 01:09N – 103:27E. The ship's company reported the incident to the Maritime Bureau of Japan. Information of the incident was shared with Singaporean, Malaysian and Indonesian authorities. (ReCAAP; vesselfinder)

8. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 July, at 0135 local time, four robbers armed with knives boarded the Panama-flagged bulk carrier CAPE VALENCIA underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:16N – 104:17E. Crewmembers spotted two of the perpetrators in the engine room and two in the mess room. After the alarm was raised, the crew mustered and searched the ship. Engine spare parts were reported missing. The master reported the incident to VTIS East. All crew were reported safe and the vessel continued its voyage. (vesseltracker.com; Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; IMB)

**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 crewmembers 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.

**7. (U) Appendix C: Active U.S. Maritime Advisories**

Title	Effective Date	Expiration Date
<a href="#">2022-007-Gulf of Guinea-Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom</a>	6 JUL 22	2 JAN 23
<a href="#">2022-006-Global-Overview of the U.S. Maritime Advisory System</a>	15 JUN 22	12 DEC 22
<a href="#">2022-005-Various-GPS Interference &amp; AIS Spoofing</a>	14 MAR 22	10 SEP 22
<a href="#">2022-004-Black Sea and Sea of Azov-Military Combat Operations</a>	8 MAR 22	4 SEP 22
<a href="#">2022-003-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Aden, Bab al Mandeb Strait, Red Sea, and Western Indian Ocean-Threats to Commercial Vessels</a>	28 FEB 22	27 AUG 22

(U) **ICOD:** 24 August 2022

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