



Worldwide

(U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 21 January – 18 February 2026

20 FEBRUARY 2026

(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) RED SEA:** On 17 February, a vessel was approached and small arms fire was exchanged.

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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.

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(U) NORTH AMERICA



1. **** LATE REPORT** (U) MEXICO:** There has been a report of a robbery on board an oil platform operating in the Bay of Campeche. Prior to boarding, there were a number (not specified) of heavily armed perpetrators that began firing shots into the air to intimidate workers and prevent resistance. The workers were subdued by the attackers and retreated into the engine room. Reports suggests that thirty Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus units were stolen. (Clearwater/CLOSED)

(U) CENTRAL AMERICA – CARIBBEAN – SOUTH AMERICA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA

(U) No current incidents to report.

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(U) NORTHERN EUROPE – BALTIC

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) MEDITERRANEAN – BLACK SEA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA

1. **(U) ANGOLA:** On 05 February at 0800 local time, an attempted robbery occurred onboard a Floating, Production, Storage, and offloading unit approximately 50 NM off the coast of Angola. The intruder was spotted climbing on one of the mooring chains, as soon as the intruder was spotted, he fled. The crew is reported safe and nothing was stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics/CLOSED)
2. **(U) GHANA:** On 27 January at 2140 local time, a robbery occurred onboard a bulk carrier whilst anchored at Takoradi anchorage. Two robbers boarded the vessel before being detected, which caused the vessel to sound her foghorn making the preparators flee the vessel. The crew is reported safe and nothing was stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics/CLOSED)

(U) PERSIAN GULF

(U) No current incidents to report.

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(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA



1. **(U) RED SEA:** On 17 February, 70 NM southwest of Aden, Yemen, a vessel was approached by three white skiffs, one of which had five assailants onboard. There was an exchange of small arms fire. There were zero casualties and minimal damage to the vessel. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
2. **(U) ** LATE REPORT** STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 03 February, a group of Iranian gun boats approached a U.S. flagged tanker The Stena Imperative. The vessel was not in Iranian territorial water when, the Iranian boats ordered the tanker to slow down and prepare to be boarded. The tanker sped up and the USS McFaul (DDG-74) escorted the ship. (Reuters)

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(U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA

1. **(U) PHILIPPINES:** On 26 of January at 2100 local time, a robbery occurred onboard a container ship whilst in Manila Bay. Multiple perpetrators broke into the bosun store by breaking the doors security arrangement, and also attempted to gain access to the engine room. The crew is safe and two hydrant cups and one walkie talkie was reported stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics/IFC)
2. **(U) PHILIPPINES:** On 25 of January a robbery occurred onboard a container ship whilst anchored in Manila Bay. The duty crew observed two perpetrators on the forecastle. The alarm was sounded and then the crew mustered. The perpetrators escaped using a small craft. The crew is safe and five 20L paint drums and three coils of electrical cord was stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics/IFC)
3. **(U) PHILIPPINES:** On 15 of January a robbery occurred on a Panama-flagged bulk carrier while anchored in Bauan Anchorage, Batangas Bay. The duty crew discovered the robbery during routine rounds. The crew is safe and the ship's property was reported stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics/IFC)

(U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

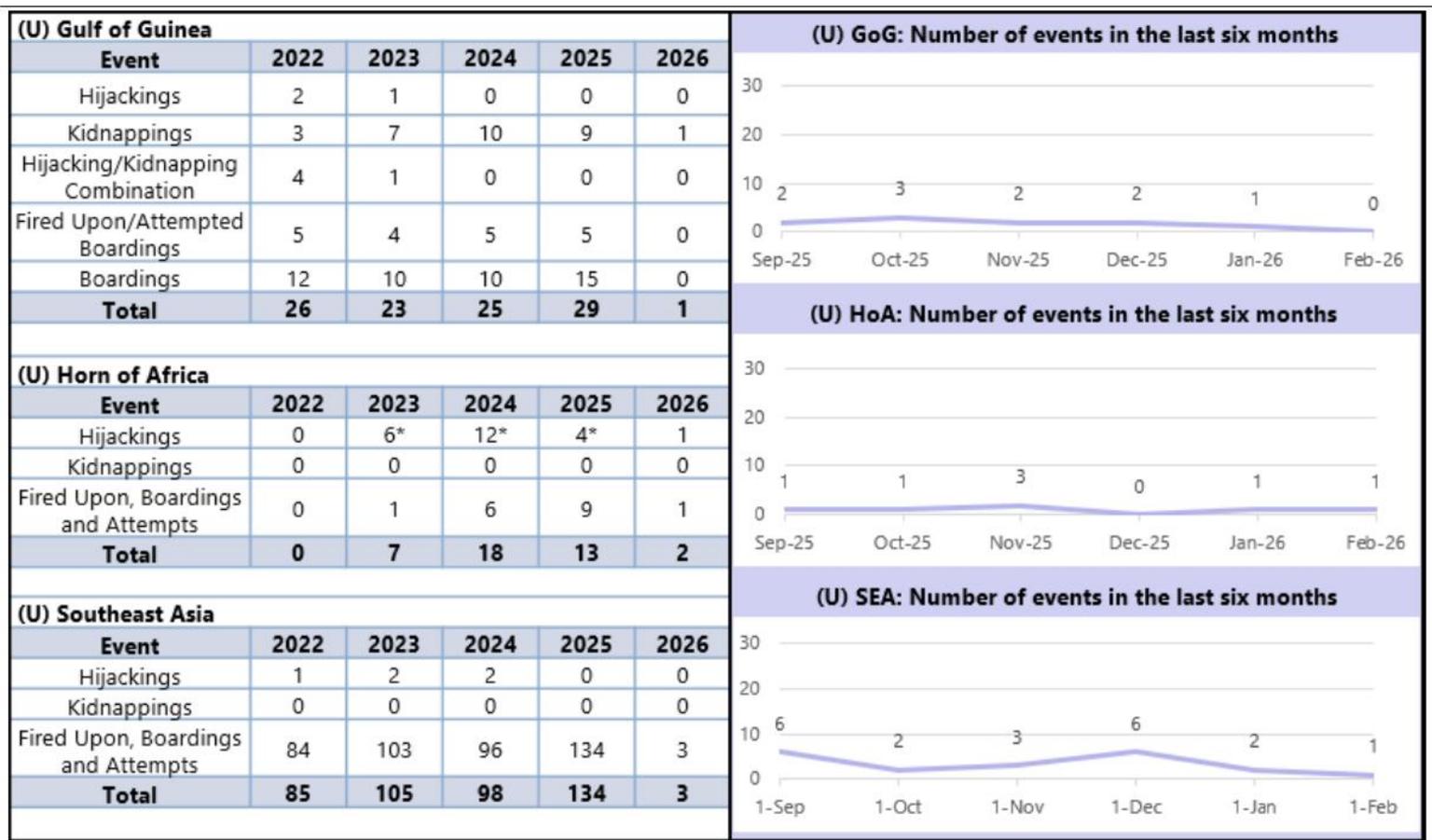
(U) No current incidents to report.

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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

2026-001-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman-Iranian illegal Boarding / Detention / seizure	09 Feb 2026	08 Aug 2026
2026-002-Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean-piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	09 Feb 2026	08 Aug 2026
2025-015-Gulf of Guinea-Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	15 Dec 2025	13 Jun 2026
2025-014-Global U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts	06 Oct 2025	04 Apr 2026
2025-013-Worldwide-Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence	06 Oct 2025	04 Apr 2026
2025-012-Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Persian Gulf, and Somali Basin-Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	24 Sep 2025	26 Mar 2026
2025-11: Black Sea and Sea of Azov-Military Combat Operations	29 Aug 2025	28 Feb 2026
2025-010: Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean –Piracy / Armed Robbery / Kidnapping for Ransom	13 Aug 2025	09 Feb 2026
2025-009: Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman – Iranian Illegal Boarding / Detention / Seizure	13 Aug 2025	09 Feb 2026

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