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## **(U) HORN OF AFRICA/GULF OF GUINEA/ SOUTHEAST ASIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly (PAWW) Report for 30 August - 5 September 2018**

6 September 2018

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### **1. (U) Horn of Africa - Piracy Events Over the Past Week**

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in East Africa waters is at a low level. One attack was reported this past week.

#### **A. (U) Details:**

**(U) Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

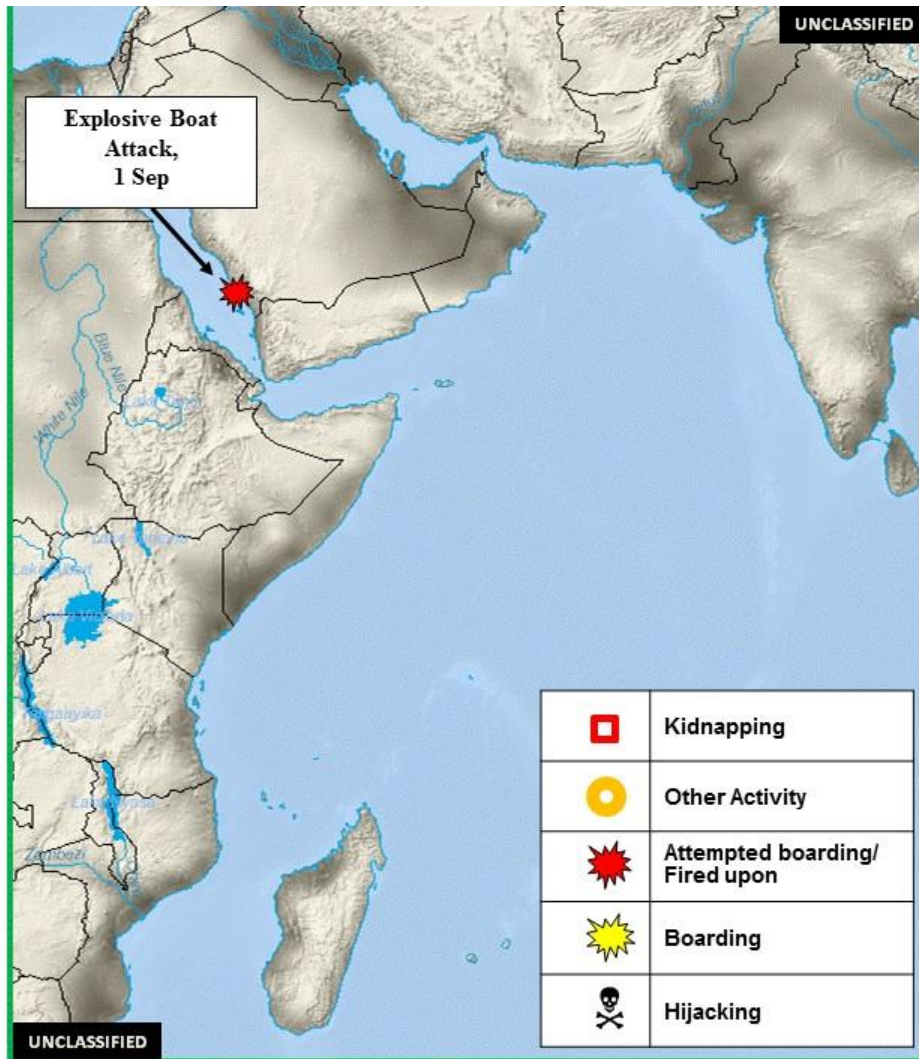
**(U) Vessels Boarded:** No incidents to report.

#### **(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:**

1. (U) SAUDI ARABIA: On 1 September, the Iran-aligned armed Houthi movement targeted a Saudi Arabian warship off the coast of Saudi Arabia's province of Jizan, according to the group's media outlet. Jizan lies in the southwest corner of Saudi Arabia and directly north of the border with Yemen. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties. ([www.uk.reuters.com](http://www.uk.reuters.com); [www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))

**(U) Other Activity:** No incidents to report.

**B. (U) Incident Disposition:**



(U) Figure 1. Horn of Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 30 August - 5 September 2018

**C. (U) Tabulated Data for Horn of Africa Activity**

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**(U) Table 1.**

**(U) Summary of Horn of Africa Piracy Events**

Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Hijacked</b>	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Boarding</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

<b>Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding</b>	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	1	6	1	0	2
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(U) Table 1 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. Note: The above statistics do not include regional dhows/fishing vessels that were hijacked. Hijacked dhows are frequently used as motherships by pirates and released without a ransom being paid.

## **2. (U) Weather Forecast for 6 - 12 September 2018 and Graphic Aids to 10-Day Weather Conditions and Small Boat Operations Capabilities**

### **(U) Horn of Africa Weather Forecast for 6 - 12 September 2018**

**A. (U) NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, with seas of 8 - 10 feet.

**EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, with seas of 5 - 7 feet.

**B. (U) GULF OF OMAN:** Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** South-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with south-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

**C. (U) GULF OF ADEN:** Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

**D. (U) SOMALI COAST:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the southern section of the coastline. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 6 - 8 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the southern section of the coastline.

**E. (U) CENTRAL AFRICAN COAST/INDIAN OCEAN:** Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 6 - 8 feet.

**F. (U) MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL:** Northeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; with northerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the southern Channel. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the southern Channel.

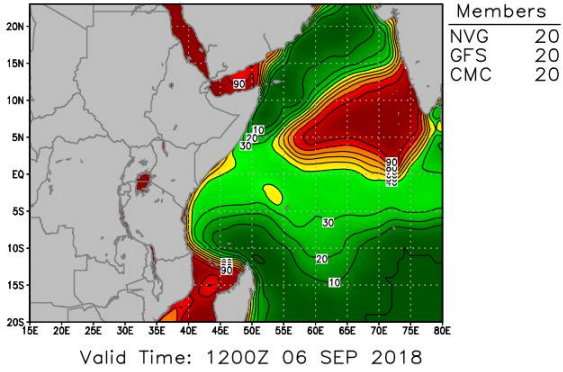
**G. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS:** The northern Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden currents are variable with most areas having an average speed of 1 knot. The Mozambique Channel currents are variable having an average speed of 2 knots. Currents' speed along the Somali Basin are northeasterly averaging between 2 - 3 knots.

**H. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION:** High pressure continues to dominate the weather pattern over much of the region producing mostly clear skies with isolated areas of thunderstorm activity. Expect increased localized wind flow through the Strait of Hormuz due to funneling effects and occasional shamal winds across the Arabian Gulf.

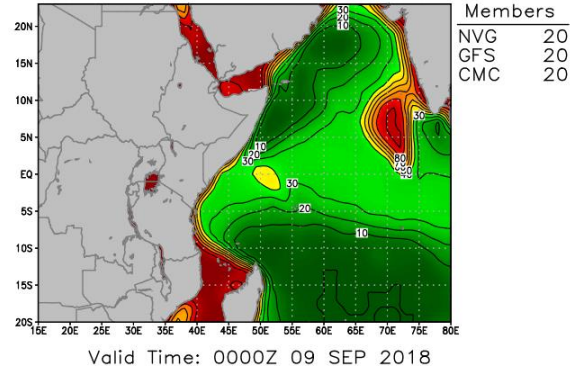
Approved for Public Release

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2018090400

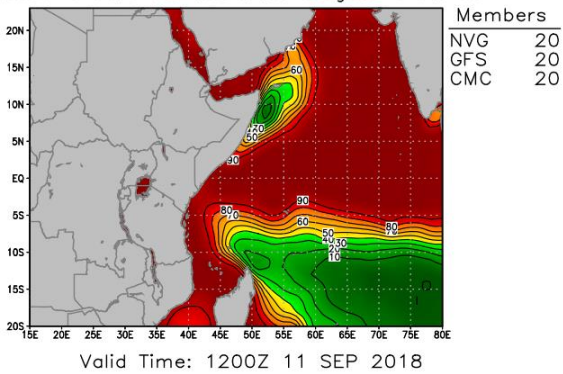
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



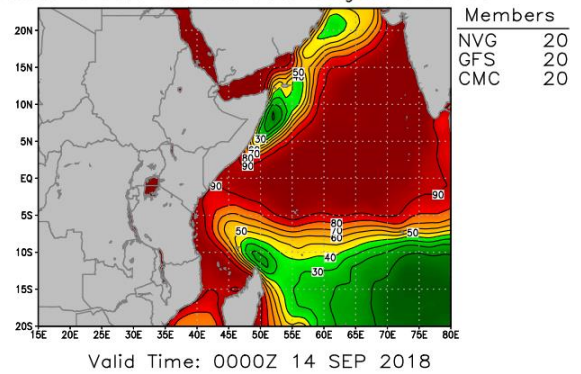
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



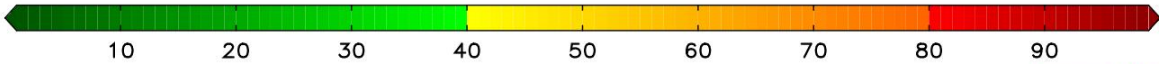
Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



probability (%)



Approved for Public Release

(U) Figure 2. Ten-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast (Graphic courtesy of the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center, FNMOC)

(U) In the graphic above, green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while red represents an increased likelihood of pirate activity.

**3. (U) Gulf of Guinea - Piracy Events Over the Past Week**

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in West Africa waters is at a low level. One boarding was reported this past week, with no further information available.

**A. (U) Details**

**(U) Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

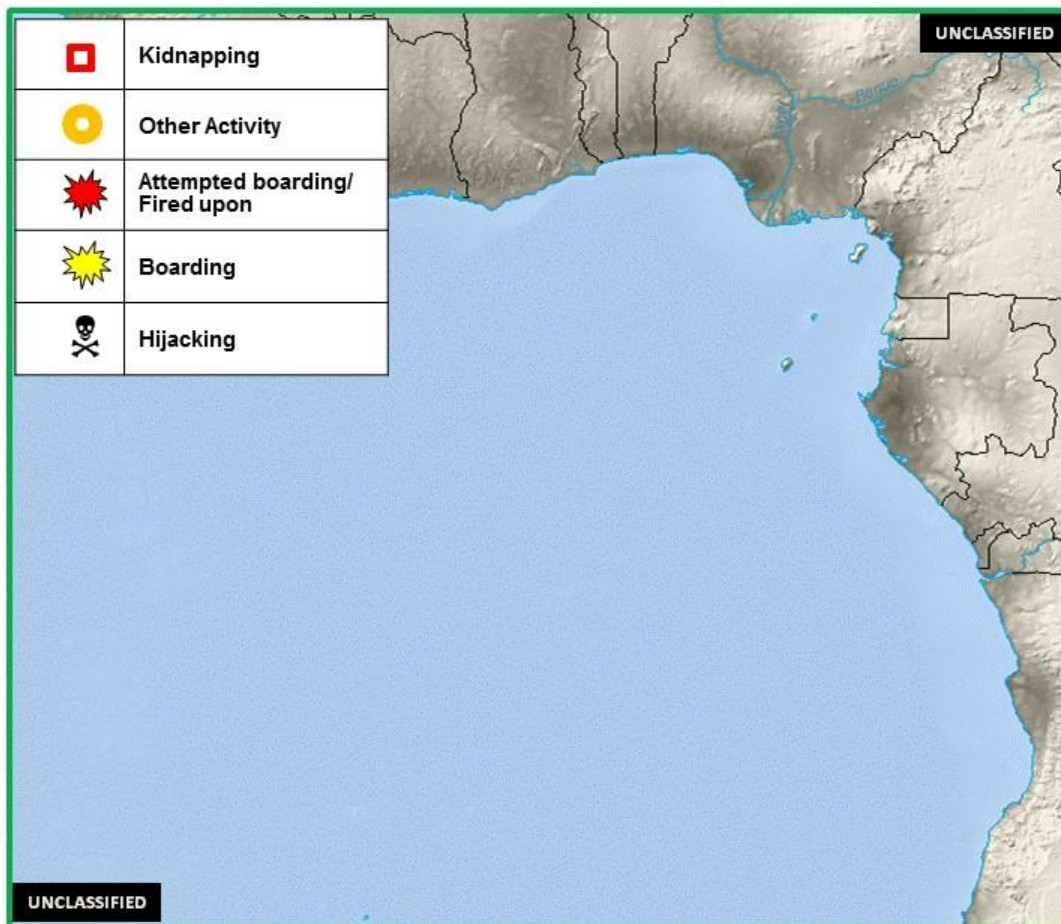
**(U) Kidnapping:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Vessels Boarded:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Other Activity:** No incidents to report.

**B. (U) Incident Disposition**



(U) Figure 3. Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 30 August - 5 September 2018

## C. (U) Tabulated Data for Gulf of Guinea Activity

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(U) Table 2.									
(U) Summary of Gulf of Guinea Piracy Events*									
Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Hijacked	0	0	0	1	6	2	0	2	9
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	12	30	26	22	26
Hijacking/Kidnapping Combo	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0
Boarding	1	0	0	2	45	53	39	29	33
Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding	0	1	0	2	33	35	54	41	32
<b>Total</b>	1	1	0	5	98	120	122	94	100
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(U) Table 2 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. \* Militant activity is no longer listed in this table.

## 4. (U) Gulf of Guinea Weather Forecast for 6 - 12 September 2018

**A. (U) GULF OF GUINEA:** Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 4 - 6 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet.

**B. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION:** High pressure continues to dominate the weather in the region. Isolated thunderstorms and rain showers can be routinely expected along the West Africa coast.

## 5. (U) Southeast Asia - Piracy Events Over the Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in Southeast Asia waters is at a low level. One attack was reported this past week, with late reporting on another attack and a boarding event.

## A. (U) Details

(U) **Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Kidnapping:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Vessels Boarded:**

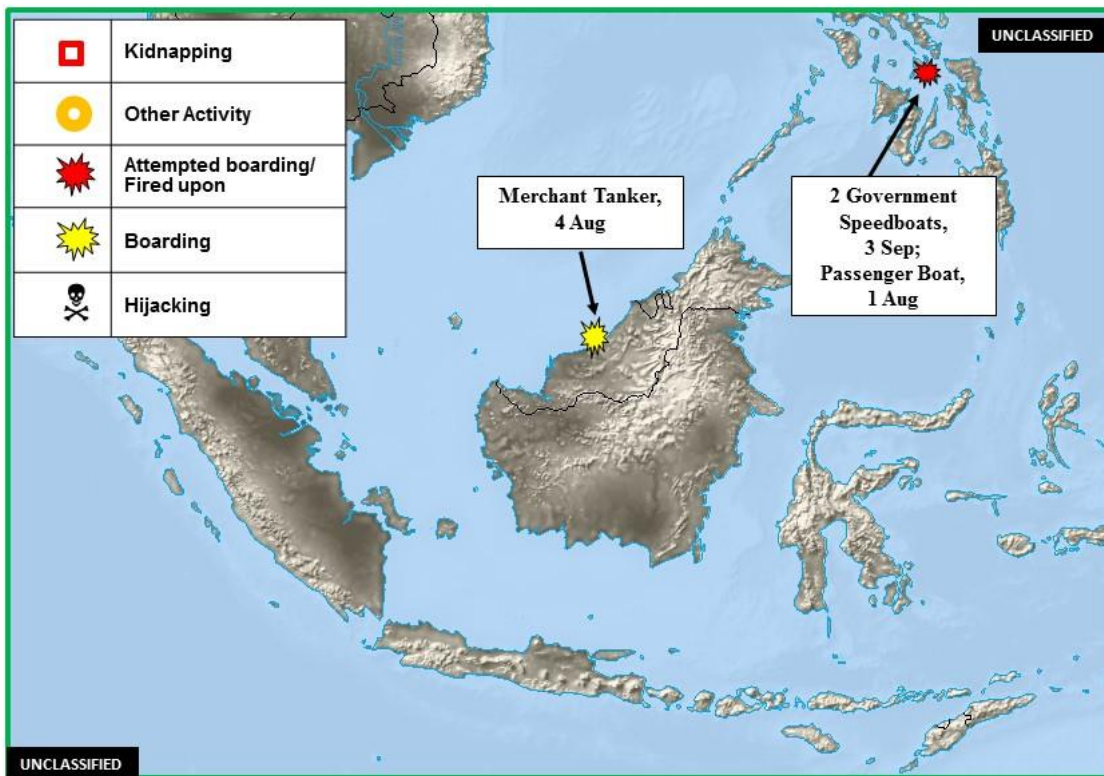
1. (U) MALAYSIA: On 4 August, a small fast boat approached a Malaysia-flagged oil tanker underway near position 03:240N - 112:54E, vicinity of Tanjung Kidurong, Bintulu. Five armed men boarded the ship. No crew were injured but robbers stole cash and personal belongings. Incident lasted about 20 minutes before all perpetrators left the vessel. Master diverted the ship to Bintulu Port and lodged a report to the local police. Perpetrators' boat spotted at nearby village. On 17 August, the perpetrators were detained by local police. (www.pvilttd.com)

**(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack:**

1. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 3 September, two rescue speedboats of the Philippine Army and Philippine Coast Guard were damaged when an improvised explosive device, set up by still unidentified suspects near the Coast Guard office, exploded at the Masbate City Port. Police discovered that the Army's 25-foot rescue speedboat made of fiber glass and Coast Guard's 25-foot rescue aluminum speedboat and their engines were damaged by the explosion. (www.pna.gov.ph)

2. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 1 August, a motorized banca sank shortly after an explosion at the Masbate City port in Barangay Bapor. The boat, docked at the pier, was destroyed by the impact of the explosion at about 11:15 p.m. according to a senior police spokesman of the Police Regional Office 5. (www.pna.gov.ph)

**(U) Other Activity:** No incidents to report.

**B. (U) Incident Disposition**

(U) Figure 4. Southeast Asia Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 30 August - 5 September 2018

**C. (U) Tabulated Data for Southeast Asia Activity**

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(U) Table 3.									
(U) Summary of Southeast Asia Piracy Events									
Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Attacks, Boardings, Attempted Boardings</b>	1	0	0	6	59	90	96	238	177
<b>Hijackings</b>	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	16	16
<b>Kidnappings</b>	0	0	0	1	1	4	19	0	4
<b>Total</b>	1	0	0	7	61	97	117	254	197
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(U) Table 3 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. This table includes incidents not described in this product line.

**6. (U) Southeast Asia Weather Forecast for 6 - 12 September 2018**

**A. (U) SOUTHERN SOUTH CHINA SEA:** Southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet.

**B. (U) MALACCA STRAIT:** Northwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the northern Strait; with southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the southern Strait. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Westerly winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the northern Strait; with northwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the southern Strait.

**C. (U) ANDAMAN SEA:** West-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 6 - 8 feet in the northern section; with west-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the southern section. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Westerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the northern section; with westerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the southern section.

**D. (U) SOUTHERN SULU SEA - NORTHERN CELEBES SEA:** Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet.

**E. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS:** Currents in the southern South China Sea, Malacca Strait, and Andaman Sea are generally less than 1 knot with a few areas in the southern South China Sea averaging 1 knot.

**F. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION:** Low pressure over Sea of Japan and associated front has increased winds and seas from Sea of Japan through the northern portion of the South China Sea; expect strong gusts in and around scattered thunderstorms, throughout the Malacca Strait and the Andaman Sea due to funneling effects and daytime heating.



Forecaster's Note: The west Pacific Ocean's Tropical Cyclone Season runs from April to October. Expect numerous tropical cyclones to impact the region during this timeframe that could change the forecast.

## (U) Appendix

### (U) Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting, and it also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity, are independent of target vessel status, and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities.

#### (U) Terms of Reference

(U) The following terms have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping 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) Robbery** – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.

**(U) Suspicious Approach** – All other unexplained activity in close proximity by an unknown vessel.

#### (U) Piracy Levels

(U) High: 5 or more piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Moderate: 2 - 4 piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Low: 0 - 1 piracy incidents in this one-week period.

#### (U) Sourcing

(U) Information contained in this report is derived through direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources:

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- BBC News

- DNK Intelligence & Operations Centre (DNK IOC)
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Lloyd's
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S.
- Maritime Security Centre - Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)
- Marine Domain Awareness for Trade - Gulf of Guinea (MDAT- GoG)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- Noonsite.com (Noonsite), website
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- The Maritime Executive (website)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

(U) **ICOD**: 5 September 2018

(U) The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted each week on the ONI Intel Portal and can be found at:  
<http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence-Community/Piracy>