



UNCLASSIFIED

## (U) **WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report** **27 August - 26 September 2018**



27 September 2018

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

1. (U) **Scope Note**
2. (U) **Warnings and Advisories**
3. (U) **Summary**
4. (U) **Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories**
5. (U) **Details: Monthly Incidents by Region**
6. (U) **Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources**
7. (U) **Appendix B: Terminology and References**

#### 1. (U) **Scope Note**

1. (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) **MDAT-GOG Advisory 005/SEP/2018**: Category: Attack. Description: On Tuesday, 25 September 2018. at 1151 UTC, in position 02:45N - 006:39E, a merchant vessel was approached by one speed boat with seven people onboard. Shots were fired in the vessel's direction. Attack was thwarted by the arrival of a local security vessel. Crew & vessel are safe. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution. Source: Reported to MDAT-GoG via email. Any queries regarding this Warning Notice ring 0033 298 22 88 88 for further information. This advisory is not classified as a Maritime Security Event and has not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting. MDAT-GoG watchkeeper email: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org, emergency tel: +33(0) 298 22 88 88.

B. (U) **MDAT-GOG Advisory 004/SEP/2018**: Category: Robbery. Description: On Tuesday, 25 September 2018 at 0100 UTC, a merchant vessel was boarded by two people with knives at Pointe Noire Anchorage (04:41S - 011:45E). The alarm was raised and the robbers escaped with ship's property. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution. Source: Reported to MDAT-GoG via email. Any queries regarding this advisory notice ring 0033 298 22 88 88 for further information. This advisory is not classified as a Maritime Security Event and has not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting. MDAT-GoG watchkeeper email: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org, emergency tel: +33(0) 298 22 88 88.

C. (U) **MDAT-GOG Warning 001/SEP/2018**: Category: Ongoing attack. Description: On 22 September 2018 at 05:05Z, a vessel is under attack in position 03:45N - 006:43E (215°/30 nm off Bonny, Nigeria). Mariners are advised to exercise extreme caution in this area. Source: Phone call. Any queries regarding this Warning Notice ring 0033 298 22 88 88 for further information. MDAT-GoG watchkeeper email: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org, emergency tel: +33(0) 298 22 88 88.

D. (U) **MDAT-GOG Advisory 002/SEP/2018**: Category: Boarding. Description: On Thursday, 20 September 2018 at 2345 UTC, a vessel was approached by two boats at Lagos Anchorage at 06:16N - 003:13E. At 2358 UTC, two unauthorized personnel were spotted on the main deck. Once challenged, they escaped with a rope tied onboard. Nothing was reported as stolen. Source: Reported to MDAT-GoG via email. Any queries regarding this Warning Notice ring 0033 298 22 88 88 for further information. This advisory is not classified as a Maritime Security Event and has not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting. MDAT-GoG watchkeeper email: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org, emergency tel: +33(0) 298 22 88 88.

### 3. (U) Summary:

A. (U) VENEZUELA: On 25 September, two robbers boarded a product tanker anchored in Puerto la Cruz Anchorage.

B. (U) MOROCCO: On 25 September, a vessel of the Moroccan Royal Navy, patrolling the country's Mediterranean coast, was forced to open fire on a high-speed boat carrying illegal migrants after it refused to respond to its warnings.

C. (U) REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: On 25 September, two robbers armed with knives boarded a vessel in Pointe Noire Anchorage.

D. (U) NIGERIA: On 25 September, six armed pirates in a speed boat approached a tanker underway 100 nm south-southwest of Bonny Island.

E. (U) UNITED STATES: On 23 September, a member of a fishing boat crew attacked his fellow crew members at sea with a knife and a hammer, killing one of them.

F. (U) NIGERIA: On 22 September, Switzerland-flagged bulk carrier GLARUS was attacked 48 nm south of Bonny; 12 out of 19 crew were kidnapped.

G. (U) NIGERIA: On 21 September, two robbers boarded a vessel anchored in Lagos Anchorage.

H. (U) MALAYSIA: On 21 September, authorities intercepted a cargo ship carrying a large consignment of smuggled exotic animals.

I. (U) MALAYSIA: On 20 September, police in Sabah State killed two men believed to be involved in the abduction of two Indonesian fishermen after a high-speed chase at sea near Bohayan Island.

J. (U) NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA: On 19 September, Pakistan Navy and Maritime Security Agency forces seized a boat carrying 3 tons of hashish.

K. (U) SINGAPORE STRAIT: On 19 September, Panama-flagged LPG tanker was boarded by three robbers in the westbound lane of the traffic separation scheme of the Singapore Strait.

L. (U) INDONESIA: On 18 September, robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier twice in three hours in Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda.

M. (U) TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: On 16 September, a dinghy and outboard motor were stolen from a yacht anchored in Chaguaramas.

N. (U) TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: On 15 September, seven sailing yachts were boarded while moored in Chaguaramas.

O. (U) CURACAO: On 15 September, coast guard forces intercepted a boat carrying 340 kilograms of cocaine.

P. (U) MALAYSIA: On 12 September, a robber boarded a Malta-flagged bulk carrier from a craft via the portside anchor chain at Berth 1 AB, Sandakan, Malaysia.

#### **4. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements**

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for September and October 2018. To apply for JMSDF escort, visit [http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime\\_fr2\\_000000.html](http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html), please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932; Fax: +81-3-5253-1643. Email: INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp. (MSCHOA)

B. (U) GULF OF ADEN: China Navy convoy schedule for September and October 2018. For further information, please email: [planavy@navy.mil.cn](mailto:planavy@navy.mil.cn), or call Tel: 441 221 061 or 00870 773 120 215. (MSCHOA)

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: India Navy convoy escort schedule for September and October 2018. To register, email [gcommcentre-dgs@nic.in](mailto:gcommcentre-dgs@nic.in); or visit [ww.dgshipping.com](http://ww.dgshipping.com). Telephone numbers for contact are: 91-22-22614646 or fax at 91-22-22613636. (MSCHOA)

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

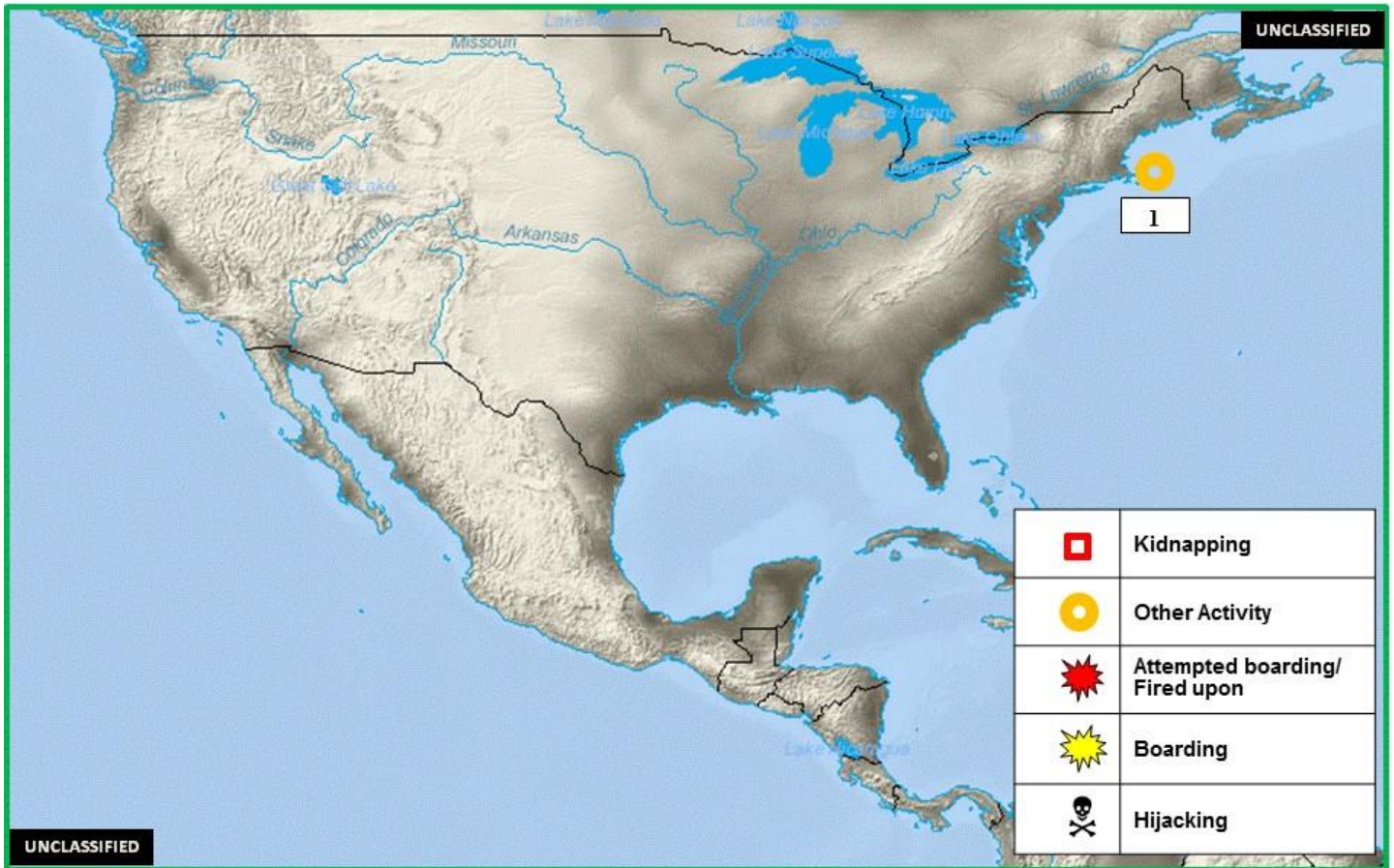


Figure 1. North America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) UNITED STATES: On 23 September, a member of a fishing boat crew attacked his fellow crew members at sea with a knife and a hammer, killing one of them, authorities said. They did not say what sparked the attacks. The incident took place on the fishing vessel CAPTAIN BILLY HAVER while it was underway 55 miles off Nantucket, Massachusetts. The captain of the seven-member crew made a distress call and the German cruise ship, MEIN SCHIFF 6, responded, taking two of the injured fishermen onboard, prosecutors said. The ship's doctor pronounced one of them dead. ([www.bostonglobe.com](http://www.bostonglobe.com); [www.wjla.com](http://www.wjla.com); [www.marinelink.com](http://www.marinelink.com))

2. (U) UNITED STATES: On 16 September, authorities intercepted a boat with 19 people aboard, all suspected of trying to enter the United States illegally. The boat was intercepted about 8 miles west of Windansea Beach in La Jolla, California. ([www.timesofsandiego.com](http://www.timesofsandiego.com))

3. (U) MEXICO: On 30 August, authorities seized a boat off the coast of Oaxaca carrying approximately 2.2 tons of cocaine and arrested 8 men. ([www.torontosun.com](http://www.torontosun.com))

4. (U) UNITED STATES: On 27 August, authorities intercepted a small fishing boat approximately 15 miles west of Point Loma, California. A total of 19 persons were onboard, two were suspected smugglers. There were also 2 migrants from India and 15 from Mexico onboard. ([www.timesofsandiego.com](http://www.timesofsandiego.com))

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

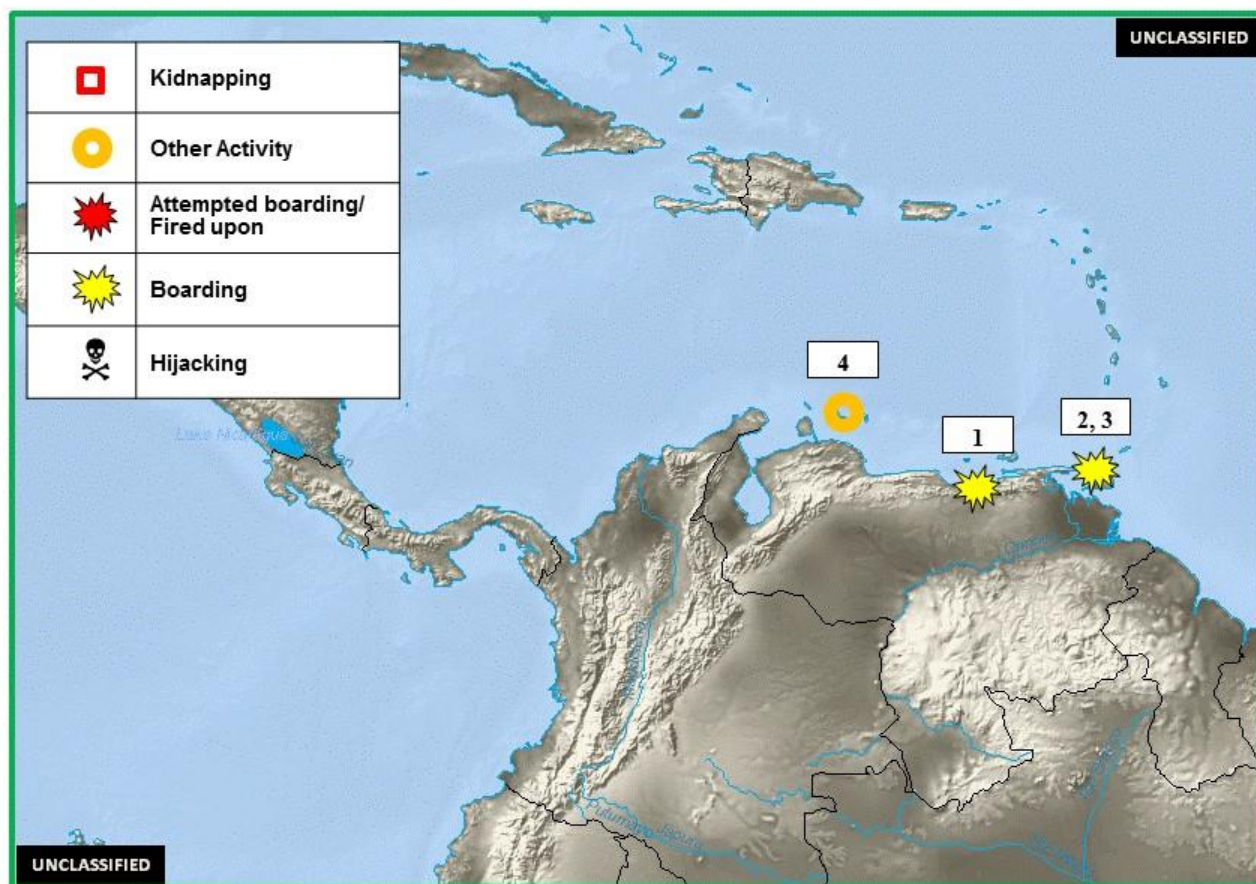


Figure 2. Central America - Caribbean - South America Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) VENEZUELA: On 25 September, two robbers boarded a product tanker anchored near position 10:16N - 064:42W, Puerto la Cruz Anchorage. The alert watchkeeper noticed the robbers, raised the alarm and crew was mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped without stealing anything. Master contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre which immediately relayed the incident information to the authorities. A coast guard patrol boat was dispatched and the officers boarded the tanker for investigations. (IMB)

2. (U) TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: On 16 September, a dinghy and outboard motor were stolen from a yacht anchored in Chaguaramas. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))

3. (U) TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: On 15 September, seven sailing yachts were boarded moored in Chaguaramas. Dinghies and outboard motors, flare kits, tools and a propane tank were reportedly stolen. Reports made to local authorities. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))

4. (U) CURACAO: On 15 September, coast guard forces intercepted a boat carrying 340 kilograms of cocaine. Two men aboard the craft were arrested. ([www.curacaochronicle.com](http://www.curacaochronicle.com))

5. (U) VENEZUELA: On 7 September, six robbers boarded a Singapore-flagged oil tanker near position 10:21N - 064:50W, Jose Anchorage. One of the robbers captured the duty watch officer who was conducting security rounds. He dragged the

duty watch officer, tied him to the sprinkler system drain pipe at the deck, searched his pocket, and took his wrist watch and keys to the deck store rooms and lockers. The robbers took 30 minutes to lower down paint drums, tools, ropes and other goods to aft part of the poop deck. They eventually released the duty officer before escaping from the ship by the rope from the steering gear derrick. ([www.pviltd.com](http://www.pviltd.com))

6. (U) TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: On 4 September, two robbers boarded a sailing yacht anchored at Chaguaramas. The robbers attempted to steal the dinghy and outboard motor. Quick action by the yacht owner convinced the thieves to stop the attempt and move away. Incident reported to local authorities. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))

7. (U) COSTA RICA: On 29 August, an operation developed by members of the National Coast Guard Service and the Drug Control Police in Guanacaste seized 407 kilograms of cocaine and arrested three suspects. Authorities onboard Patrol 3818 intercepted the suspects 90 nautical miles from Flamingo, in waters of the North Pacific. ([www.laprensalibre.cr](http://www.laprensalibre.cr))

8. (U) ECUADOR: On 28 August, three persons in a small skiff came alongside a container vessel underway near position 02:30S - 080:05W, Guayaquil. The skiff was detected on ship's radar on the starboard side. One person attempted to board while another two persons showed a handgun. The crew spotted the attempted boarding and sounded the ship's horn continuously. Upon hearing the alarm, the persons aborted the attempted boarding and moved away. Incident reported to Guayaquil Port Control and Ecuador Coast Guard. (IMB)

9. (U) HAITI: On 22 August, two robbers boarded a chemical tanker anchored near position 18:34N - 072:32W, Port Au Prince Anchorage. A cadet on routine rounds found the robbers on the forecastle. One of the robbers attacked the cadet who suffered cuts on his left palm. The robbers then jumped overboard and escaped. ([www.pviltd.com](http://www.pviltd.com))

#### **C. (U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA:**

1. (U) UNITED KINGDOM: On 4 September, authorities announced the arrest of 5 persons by the UK Border Force. Three of the persons were aboard a 38-meter boat, NOMAD, intercepted in the western approaches of the southern Irish coast as part of a National Crime Agency-led operation. Two other persons ashore were also arrested. A search of the vessel revealed approximately a ton of cocaine. ([www.baltictimes.com](http://www.baltictimes.com); [www.pviltd.com](http://www.pviltd.com))

#### **D. (U) NORTHERN EUROPE - BALTIC:**

1. (U) NETHERLANDS: On 28 August, authorities seized a shipment of 260 kilograms of cocaine during an inspection in the Port of Rotterdam. The narcotics were hidden in a container with cardboard boxes and a batch of plastic waste. The container originated in Curacao. ([www.curacaochronicle.com](http://www.curacaochronicle.com))

## E. (U) MEDITERRANEAN - BLACK SEA:

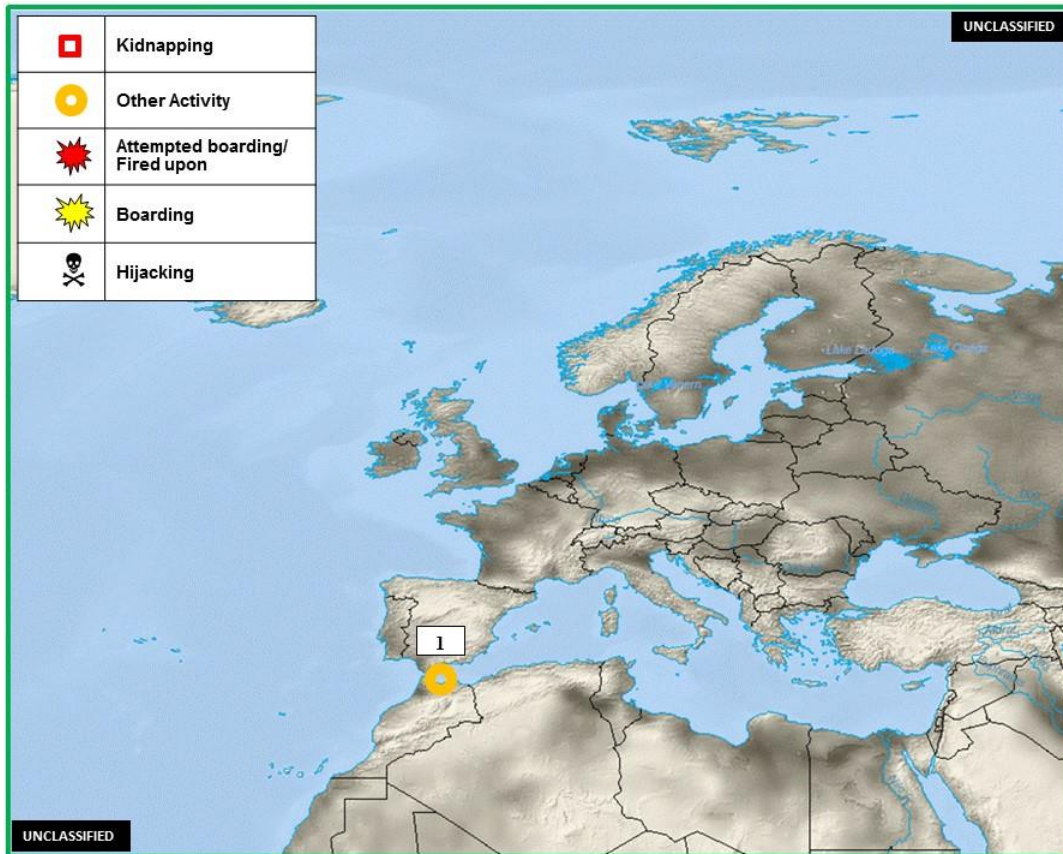


Figure 3. Mediterranean - Black Sea Piracy  
and Maritime Crime

1. (U) MOROCCO: On 25 September, a vessel of the Moroccan Royal Navy, patrolling the country's Mediterranean coast, was forced to open fire on a high-speed boat carrying illegal migrants after it refused to respond to its warnings. The smuggling speedboat was driven by a Spaniard in the northern Moroccan waters. He refused to stop the boat's engine and chose to ignore the warning shots leaving the Moroccan Navy no choice but to act, say the local authorities. ([www.northafricapost.com](http://www.northafricapost.com))

2. (U) TUNISIA: On 17 September, the coast guard intercepted a Libyan fishing vessel and detained three Egyptian crew members over illegal fishing of the southeastern coast. The vessel, which had illegally entered Tunisian territorial waters, was intercepted near the maritime border of Tunisia and Libya, and taken to Lektel Port. ([www.pvilt.com](http://www.pvilt.com))

3. (U) LIBYA: On 4 September, officials from the customs office at the Port of Khums, 120 km east of Tripoli, seized a shipment of 17 tons of hashish coming from Syria, which was registered in the customs declaration as construction materials. ([www.libyaobserver.ly](http://www.libyaobserver.ly))

## F. (U) WEST AFRICA:

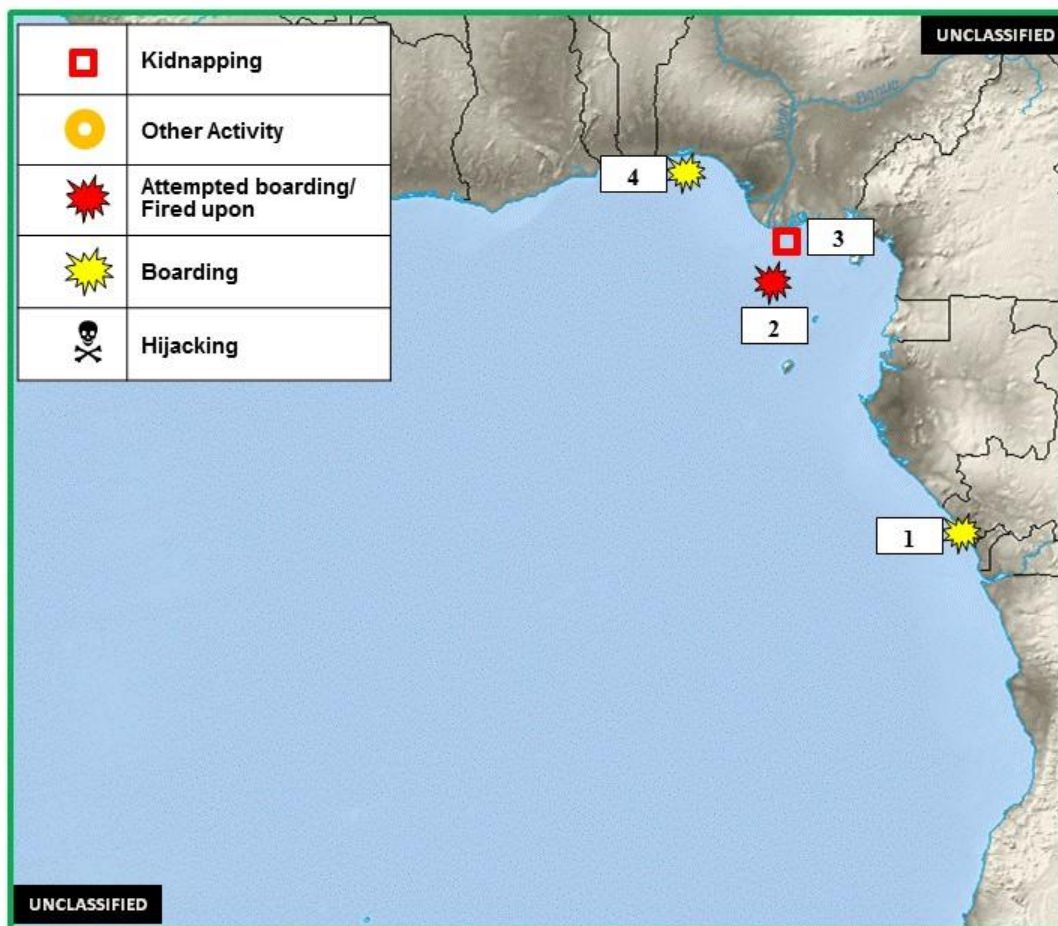


Figure 4. West Africa Sea Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: On 25 September, two robbers armed with knives boarded a vessel near position 04:41S - 011:45E, Pointe Noire Anchorage. Alarm was raised, robbers stole ship's property and escaped. ([www.pvilt.com](http://www.pvilt.com))

2. (U) NIGERIA: On 25 September, six armed pirates in a speed boat approached a tanker underway near position 02:45N - 006:39E, 100 nm south-southwest of Bonny Island. Master increased speed, took evasive maneuvers, raised the alarm, contacted the escort vessel, and the non-essential crew mustered in the citadel. The pirates fired two gun shots and moved away. All crew safe and no damage reported. (MDAT-GoG)

3. (U) NIGERIA: On 22 September, Switzerland-flagged bulk carrier GLARUS was attacked near position 03:40N - 006:40E, 48 nm south of Bonny. According to Massoel, the Geneva, Switzerland-based owner of the ship, 12 out of 19 crew were kidnapped. The ship was transiting from Lagos to Harcourt, Nigeria. The ship reached Bonny anchorage after the attack and was brought to anchor. The kidnapped crew are from the Philippines, Slovenia, Ukraine, Romania, Croatia and Bosnia. (IMB; [www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com); [www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com); [www.pvilt.com](http://www.pvilt.com))

4. (U) NIGERIA: On 21 September, two robbers boarded a vessel anchored near position 06:16N - 003:13E, Lagos Anchorage. Once challenged, they escaped with a rope. Nothing was reported as stolen. (MDAT-GoG; [www.sguardian.com](http://www.sguardian.com))

5. (U) GUINEA: On 17 September, four armed robbers boarded a tanker STI HAMMERSMITH anchored near position



09:20.8N - 013:43.3W, Conakry Anchorage. Master raised the alarm, locked the accommodation area, and all crew mustered in the citadel. The armed robbers fired at the bridge windows and gained access into the accommodations. They ransacked all crew cabins and escaped with crew personal belongings. A navy boat arrived at the location to provide assistance. All crew reported safe. (IMB; [www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com))

6. (U) NIGERIA: On 12 September, the Nigerian Navy arrested a vessel, MV SKYE, with 524 metric tons of illegal crude in the vicinity of Escravos in Delta State. ([www.vanguardngr.com](http://www.vanguardngr.com))

7. (U) CAMEROON: On 7 September, the navy seized three Nigerian vessels with weapons and mercenaries onboard intended to support separatists in the Anglophone regions, according to regional press reporting. The navy seized an unspecified number of Kalashnikov-style rifles, 12-gauge shotguns and ammunition. A navy spokesperson said the mercenaries planned a "large-scale" attack. This incident marks the first reported at-sea seizure of weapons intended for the Anglophone conflict. ([www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))

8. (U) NIGERIA: On 4 September, authorities announced the seizure of numerous wooden transport boats and 50,000 jerry cans of fuel that were being prepared to be smuggled into Benin. The seizure took place in Ijofin Creek in the Ipokia Local Government Area of Ogun State. ([www.guardian.ng](http://www.guardian.ng))

9. (U) SOUTH AFRICA: On 3 September, two stowaways were discovered aboard the freighter UAL LOBITO as the ship was leaving Table Bay. One of the stowaways was injured when he fell into a hard-to-access void space. The vessel returned to anchor in Table Bay and called for assistance. A rescue team deployed to the scene and found the victim among the freighter's cargo of containers. The team used high-angle rescue equipment and a Stokes litter to pull him to safety. Both men were taken onboard the rescue boat and brought into port, where the injured man was taken to a hospital by ambulance and the second man was transferred to the custody of South Africa's Sea Borderline Police. ([www.maritime-executive.com](http://www.maritime-executive.com))

10. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 August, gunmen attacked a market boat at the Igbematoru-Koluama creek, and opened fire on the villagers in the course of the attack, leaving three critically injured with gunshots and others also receiving treatment. ([www.naijiloaded.com.ng](http://www.naijiloaded.com.ng))

11. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 August, the Nigerian Navy in Bonny, Rivers State, seized 1.22 million liters of smuggled diesel from six crewmen. The suspects, who were arrested along the state waterways, were alleged to have smuggled the petroleum products from Lagos. Cdr. Ibrahim Gwaska, the acting Commanding Officer, Forward Operating Base, Bonny, presented the eight suspected smugglers, vessel and diesel to journalists. "The arrest followed routine patrols of one of our capital ships, NNS OKPABANA, deployed on the sea to stem crude oil, illegal bunkering and other illicit activities within the maritime environment. "In the course of such patrols, NNS OKPABANA intercepted, MV PRINCEHOOD, over the vessel's suspicious movements." ([www.todayng.com](http://www.todayng.com))

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

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

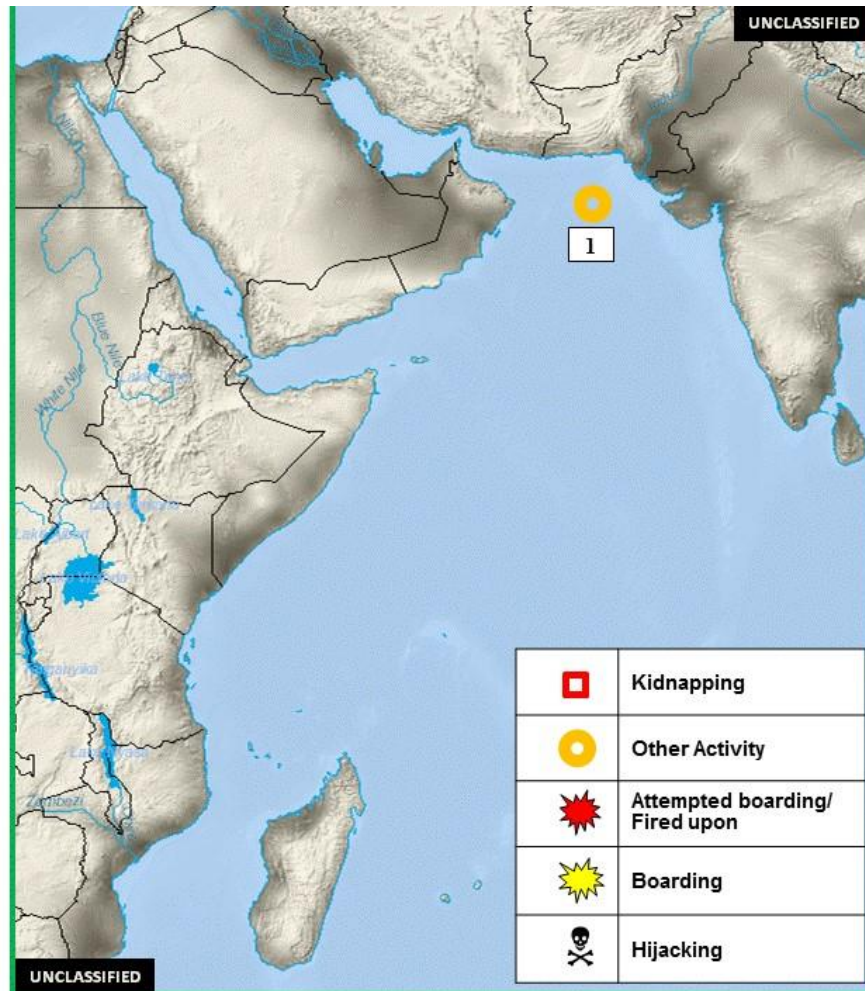


Figure 5. Indian Ocean - East Africa - Red Sea  
Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA: On 19 September, Pakistan Navy and Maritime Security Agency forces seized a boat carrying 3 tons of hashish. ([www.arynews.tv](http://www.arynews.tv))
2. (U) RED SEA: On 18 September, a frigate reportedly attacked a fishing boat off Yemen's Red Sea Port of al-Khoukha, killing 18 fishermen. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com))
3. (U) INDIA: On 6 September, authorities seized 9,040 kilograms of smuggled Red Sandalwood logs in the Port of Nhava Sheva. ([www.business-standard.com](http://www.business-standard.com))
4. (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.pvilt.com](http://www.pvilt.com))
5. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 28 August, a US Navy destroyer, USS JASON DUNAM, seized hundreds of small arms, including Kalashnikovs and AK-47s, from onboard a small boat in the Gulf of Aden, a Pentagon official said. The official added that the boat was seized in an area where weapons were previously smuggled by the Houthi militias. He stated that the seized weapons were now being held onboard the ship. (Reuters; [www.english.alarabiya.net](http://www.english.alarabiya.net))

## I. (U) EAST ASIA - SOUTHEAST ASIA - INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:

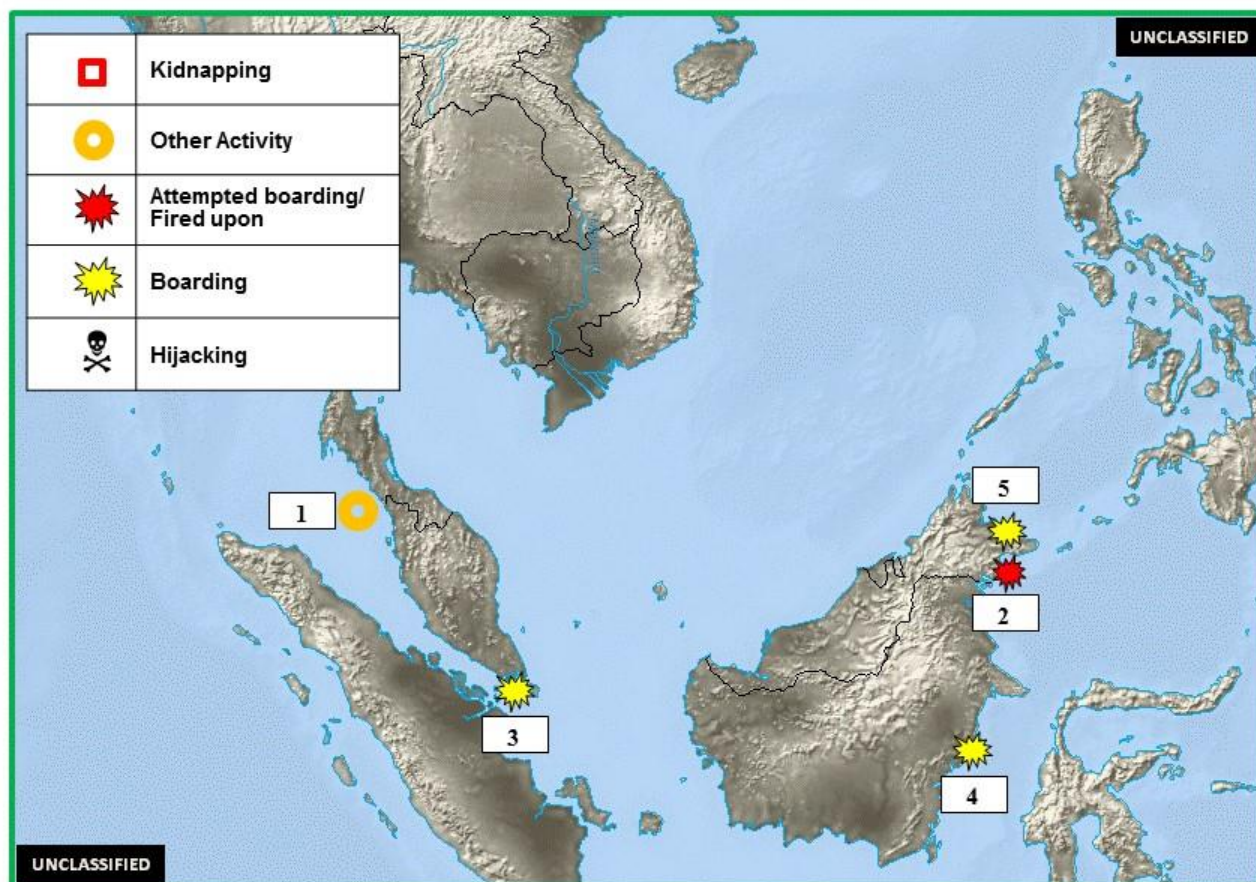


Figure 6. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) MALAYSIA: On 21 September, authorities intercepted a cargo ship carrying a large consignment of smuggled exotic animals. Three suspected Indonesian traffickers were arrested after customs officials thwarted the bid to transport the animals to Thailand in an operation off the Malaysian island of Langkawi. The unusual cargo included two "frightened-looking" orangutans and dozens of baby saltwater crocodiles. There were also about 350 sugar gliders, a type of small marsupial, along with cockatoos, parrots and parakeets found in boxes onboard. The smugglers intended to sell the animals as pets. ([www.malaymail.com](http://www.malaymail.com); [www.phys.org](http://www.phys.org))

2. (U) MALAYSIA: On 20 September, police in Sabah State killed two men believed to be involved in the abduction of two Indonesian fishermen after a high-speed chase at sea near Bohayan Island. In the 11 September kidnapping incident, two Indonesian fishermen were abducted near Gaya Island in Semporna while two other crew members managed to hide inside the fishing vessel. ([www.freemalaysiatoday.com](http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com))

3. (U) SINGAPORE STRAIT: On 19 September, Panama-flagged LPG tanker was boarded by three robbers near position 01:14N - 103:57E, the westbound lane of the traffic separation scheme of the Singapore Strait. Three perpetrators were sighted at the stern of the ship. The chief engineer sustained injuries to his face and hands after the perpetrators confronted him and forcibly took his gold chain. A wooden pole was used by the robbers who made their escape when the alarm was raised. Remaining crew safe with no injuries reported. The master reported the incident to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS). ([www.pviltd.com](http://www.pviltd.com))

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 18 September, robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier twice in three hours near position 00:14S - 117:34E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda. On both occasions, the duty watchman noticed the robbers on the forecastle deck and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen ship's stores. (IMB)

5. (U) MALAYSIA: On 12 September, a robber boarded a Malta-flagged bulk carrier from a craft via the portside anchor chain in position 05:45N - 118:04E, Berth 1 AB, Sandakan, Malaysia. Another two robbers were waiting in a craft near the ship. Nothing stolen. Incident reported to local agent. ([www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))

6. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 16 September, six persons, in two skiffs approached an asphalt tanker underway near position 07:45N - 117:03E, four nm southwest of Balabac Island. Alarm was raised, PA announcement made, and crew was mustered. As the skiffs closed to the tanker the master noticed the persons' faces covered with masks. Evasive maneuvers commenced. After five minutes, the skiffs aborted the approach and moved to another vessel in the vicinity. Master informed the other vessel about the approaching skiffs by VHF. (IMB)

7. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 16 September, three Indonesian fishermen held by members of a notorious Islamist kidnap-for-ransom group walked free 18 months after they were abducted off the southern Philippines. The men were kidnapped in January 2017 while onboard a speedboat off the southernmost island group of Tawi-Tawi, which together with the nearby Sulu archipelago are preyed on by Abu Sayyaf militants. The Indonesians were freed in the town of Indanan in Sulu and turned over to authorities following "intensified military operations" against the Abu Sayyaf, a regional army spokesman said without giving details. (Jakarta Post; AFP World Service)

8. (U) THAILAND: On 11 September, authorities boarded the tanker CHOR TARASAMUT 2 and arrested the crew of six on suspicion of fuel smuggling. The ship was carrying 240,000 liters of diesel fuel without the proper documentation. ([www.pattayamail.com](http://www.pattayamail.com))

9. (U) MALAYSIA: On 11 September, robbers boarded a berthed bulk carrier via the anchor chain near position 05:48N - 118:04E, Sandakan Port, Sabah State. Alert duty crewman stationed on the forecastle deck spotted the robbers and immediately notified the master and duty officer. The crew made their way to the forward deck to investigate. Hearing the alerted crew's approach, the robbers aborted, and escaped in their speed boat. Incident reported to local authority. (IMB, [www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))

10. (U) INDONESIA: On 10 September, two robbers boarded a Saudi Arabia-flagged tanker berthed near position 05:31S - 105:18E, Tarahan Jetty. Duty crewman on routine rounds saw the robbers on deck and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped empty-handed. (IMB; [www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))

11. (U) BANGLADESH: On 10 September, two robbers armed with knives boarded a container vessel anchored near position 22:06N - 091:46E, Chittagong Anchorage. Duty crewman saw the robbers and immediately informed the master who raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the robber escaped. A search was made throughout the vessel. It was reported that ship's properties were stolen. (IMB)

12. (U) MALAYSIA: On 11 September, two masked men clad in dark clothing armed with M16 rifles boarded the fishing trawler DWIJAYA and kidnapped two Indonesian fishermen near position 04:40N - 118:43E, vicinity of Sabah State. Two other fishermen managed to escape the abduction by hiding. Once the perpetrators left, the two crewmen made their way to Semporna to lodge a police report. The perpetrators fled with the victims in a boat towards Tawi Tawi province, the Philippines. (ReCAAP; Xinhua)

13. (U) MALAYSIA: On 10 September, Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) detained a tanker that was being used to smuggle diesel in Miri waters. A senior MMEA spokesman said the tanker was stopped about three nautical miles from Tanjung Lobang and had 250,000 liters of smuggled diesel onboard. ([www.malaymail.com](http://www.malaymail.com))

14. (U) MYANMAR: On 3 September, police shot and killed two armed robbers who tried to attack a ship docked in Twantay canal, according to Yangon region police force. ([www.elevenmyanmar.com](http://www.elevenmyanmar.com))
15. (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 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](http://www.pna.gov.ph))
16. (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 in nearby village. On 17 August, the perpetrators were detained by local police. ([www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))
17. (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 explosion at about 11:15 p.m. according to a senior police spokesman of the Police Regional Office 5. ([www.pna.gov.ph](http://www.pna.gov.ph))
18. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 August, two robbers attempted to board an anchored bulk carrier during cargo operations near position 00:15S - 117:41E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda. Alert duty crewman stationed on the forecandle deck spotted the robbers and immediately notified the master and duty officer. Alarm was sounded and crew made their way to the forward deck. Hearing the alerted crew approach, the robbers aborted the attempt and escaped in their boat. Incident reported to the agent. (IMB)
19. (U) PHILIPPINES: On 27 August, four robbers in a boat attempted to board a berthed product tanker near position 07:06N - 125:39E, Insular Oil Terminal, Davao. Duty crewman noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers aborted the boarding attempt and escaped. Coast Guard informed. (IMB)

**J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA:** No current incidents to report.

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

## **6. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources**

(U) This appendix provides contact information for the author of the WTS as well as other entities that can be contacted with maritime crime reports. It also lists other resources where the WTS is posted and where piracy and maritime crime incident information can be found.

### **(U) Contact**

(U) Originator of this WTS report requests consumer feedback. Originator will incorporate all anti-shipping events and violence against the maritime industry into this weekly message where appropriate. To aid in our reporting, please add the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to your normal corporate and organizational reporting requirements. The 24-hour watch can be reached at +1 (301) 669-4053.

### **(U) Other Resources**

(U) This Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report is posted at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Maritime Safety site: <http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MSI.portal>. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) also publishes a live piracy report based on reporting from the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, listing all piracy and armed robbery incidents in the last ten days: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/>. The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted

weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: [http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence\\_Community/piracy.htm](http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm).

## 7. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. ONI welcomes comment and suggestions for addition or amendment.

### (U) Terminology

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, the following have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities:

**(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 of an unknown vessel.

### (U) Sourcing

(U) ONI derives information in this report from 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:** 26 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>