

# Report on Somalia

*Detailed Weekly Piracy Report and On-the-Ground Analysis*



*Piracy - At Sea - On Land - Domestic News - International Developments*

## Report on Somalia ~ SUMMARY

July 8 – 14, 2013 – (Week 28)



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### At Sea:

#### Hijackings

- None reported during this period.

#### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **8 July 2013** - An armed security team on board a bulk carrier spotted two skiffs near the stern of the vessel, at a distance of 5 - 10 metres at 0330 LT in position 13:10N - 043:06E, Bab El Mandeb Strait, Red Sea.

#### Key Statistics

- Hijacks: 0
- Attacks: 0
- Sightings: 1
- Releases: 0

### Piracy Related News:

- **8 July 2013** - At least eleven are dead as a vessel held by pirates sinks off the coast of Somalia.

### Weather Analysis:

- The weather throughout the following week will continue to be affected by the Southwest Monsoon. Throughout the week, small skiffs and boats will experience decreased mobility throughout the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman and into the waters off the coast of Somalia. Further out to sea, water conditions will worsen. The Red Sea will continue to have calmer seas. Consequently, this region will likely see a number of pirate skiffs over the coming week.

### On Land:

- **12 July 2013** - At least five people have been killed after insurgents carried out multiple attacks on Friday in the capital city of Mogadishu.
- **9 July 2013** - A car has exploded inside the main market in Somalia's capital city after a hand grenade was thrown into a vehicle carrying four police officers.
- **8 July 2013** - A plane carrying the Somali president was forced to make an emergency landing in Mogadishu after one of its engines reportedly caught fire.
  - Meanwhile on Sunday evening, two unidentified gunmen have killed TV reporter Liban Abdullahi in Galkayo, a central town in the semi-autonomous region of Puntland.

### International Developments:

- **8 July 2013** - A federal court in the United States has found three Somali men guilty of hijacking a boat and killing four Americans on board in 2011 off the coast of Somalia.

### About MS Risk

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### At Sea:

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### Piracy Related News:

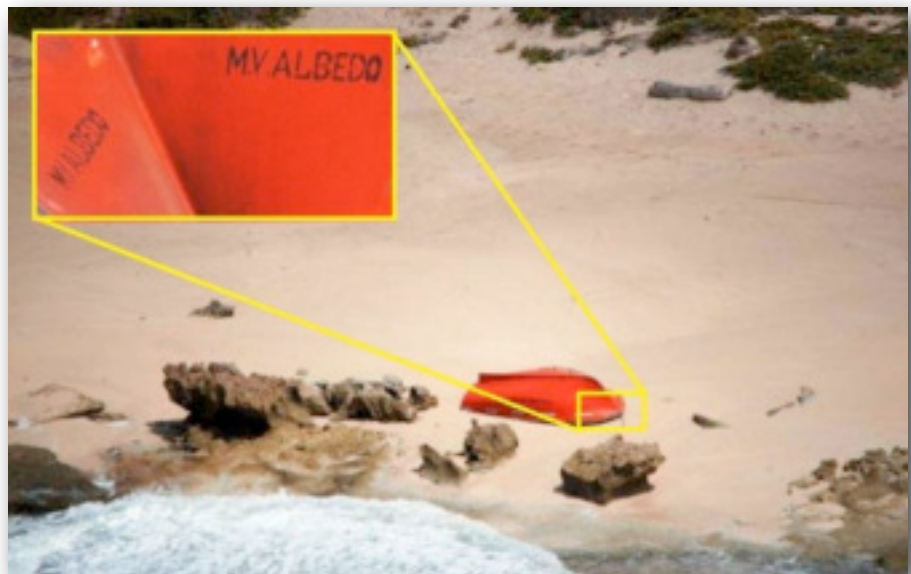
- **8 July 2013** - At least eleven people died after a vessel, which was being held by pirates for ransom for nearly three years, sank off the coast of Somalia. According to reports, at least four foreign crew members and seven Somali pirates died when a cargo ship that Somali pirates were



holding for ransom sank off the coast of Somalia earlier this week. Fifteen other crew members are reported to be missing. The Malaysian-owned MV Albedo cargo vessel, along with its crew members, was hijacked 900 miles off the coast of Somalia on 26 November 2010. At the time, the vessel was en route from the United Arab Emirates to Kenya. According to one of the pirates holding the vessel, “the ship had been gradually sinking for almost a week, but it

sank totally last night...we have confirmed that four foreign crew and seven pirates are dead. We are missing 13 in total...we had no boats to save them.” The MV Albedo originally had twenty-three crew members comprising Bangladeshi (7), Pakistani (7), Sri Lankan (6), Indian (2) and Iranian (1) nationals, when the vessel was seized nearly three years ago. The seven Pakistani hostages, Captain Jawaid Saleem, Chief Officer Mujaba, Third Officer Raheel Anwar, Fourth Engineer Zulfiqar Ali along with some sailors Kashif Naveed, Faqeer Mohammad Soomro and Ahsan Islam, were released in August 2012 following payment of a reported ransom of US \$1.1 million. One Indian

crew member, Raju Prasad, died on board the vessel in July 2011. However, the cause of his death remains unclear as varying reports have suggested that he either died from cholera or was shot in the chest by the pirates after a heated telephone conversation with the ship's owners. After the Pakistani crew members were freed in 2012, they confirmed that they had been tortured by their captors, by either being locked in solitary confinement or all made to stand on deck for several days without food, water or any facilities. The EU Naval Force has also confirmed that the whereabouts of the fifteen crew members remains unknown. A statement released by the EU Naval Force indicated that it "can confirm that the Malaysian flagged motor vessel MV Albedo, held by armed pirates at an anchorage close to the Somali coast, has sunk in rough seas." Further noting "an EU Naval Force warship and Maritime Police Aircraft have closed the sea area and are carrying out a search and rescue operation for survivors of the 15,566 dwt cargo ship. The whereabouts of the 15 crew members from the MV Albedo is still to be confirmed." It has been reported that some of the hostages had been held on land while the pirates demanded ransoms from the ship's owners for their release, while some the crew members had been held on board the ship. **Update** - During an aerial search the EU Naval Force Maritime Patrol Aircraft sighted two life boats on a Somali beach, approximately fourteen miles north of the Albedo's position. No crew members or pirates were seen.



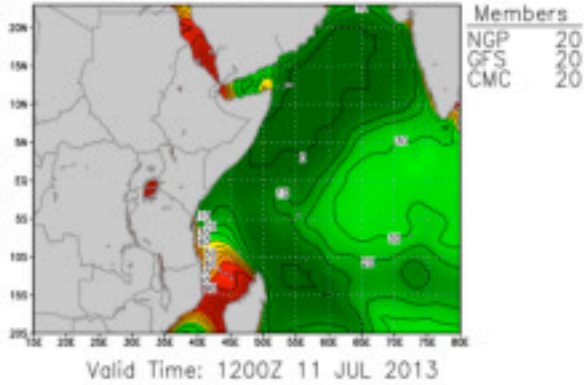
## Weather Analysis:

- **Gulf of Aden** - Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 4 - 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 4 - 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Oman** - Variable winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** - West-northwest winds of 10 - 15 knots in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 4 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** - Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet; with southwest winds of 25 - 30 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet near the Horn of Africa.
  - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet; with southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet near the Horn of Africa.
- **Arabian Sea** - Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** - Southeast winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 5 - 6 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** - South-southeast winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 5 - 6 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** - Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and 4 - 6 feet in the southern Channel.
  - **Extended Forecast** - Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the southern Channel.
- **Surface Currents** - The north Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden currents are variable with most areas having an average speed of 1 knot. The Mozambique Channel currents are variable having average speeds of 2 knots. Current speeds along the Somali coast average between 1 - 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - The northern and western Indian Ocean areas are under the influence of the southwest monsoon season. The Mozambique Channel will be under the influence of strong high pressure system. Expect clear to partly cloudy conditions throughout the central African coastal areas.

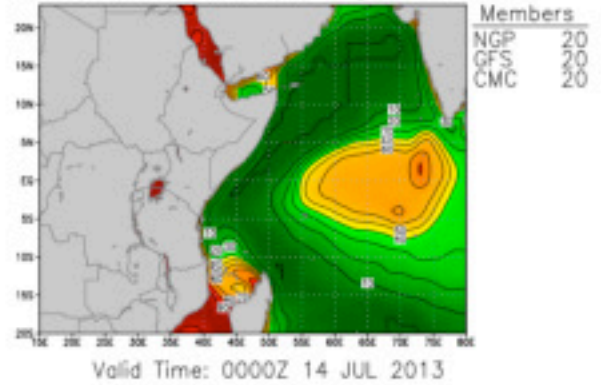
## Sea Conditions For This Week:

### 10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2013070900

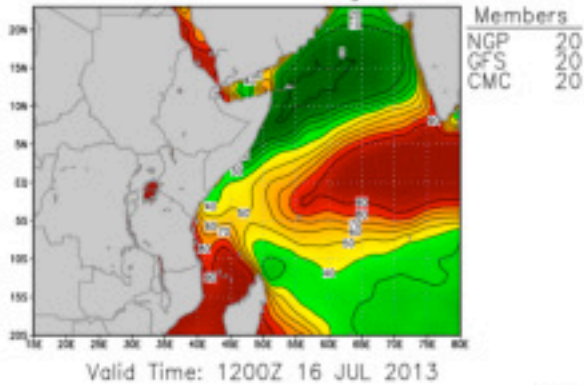
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



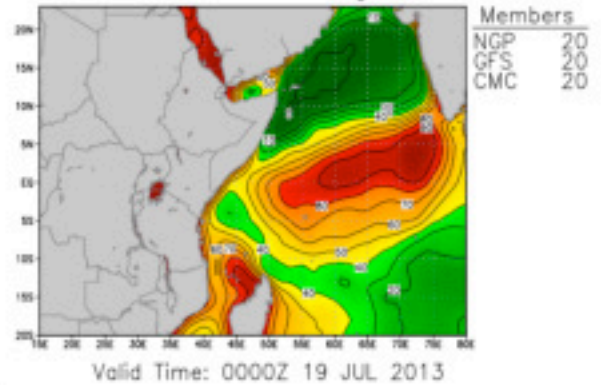
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



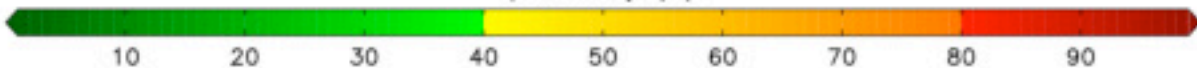
Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



probability (%)



\*\*\* In this graphic, the green shading represents a reduced likelihood of small boats and skiffs operating in the area due to harsh sea conditions, while the red indicates a higher likelihood of favorable sea conditions for skiffs and smaller boats \*\*\*

## On Land:

- **12 July 2013** - At least five people have been killed after insurgents carried out multiple attacks on Friday in the capital city of Mogadishu. Police official Ahmed Muktar has confirmed that three people were killed when a car laden with explosives smashed into an armored African Union (AU) convoy, which was on its way to the airport. Al-Qaeda-linked al-Shabaab fighters have claimed that members of the militant group carried out the attack, calling it “a martyrdom operation targeting a convoy of crusaders.” The AU Mission has also confirmed that a car packed with explosives “attempted to hit” one of their armored troop transport vehicles along one of Mogadishu’s main central highways, however none of its troops were killed in the blast. Al-Shabaab further boasted that the attack would be “one of many that will make the kuffar (unbeliever) relinquish all hope in Mogadishu. Pro-al-Shabaab websites have also indicated that the militants had targeted the convoy as a number of US officials were travelling in it. These reports however have not been confirmed. Later on Friday, unknown insurgents threw a grenade into the Barwaqo hotel in central Mogadishu. At least two people were killed and at least ten were injured. In previous years, the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which began earlier this week, has seen a surge in al-Shabaab attacks as gunmen have been urged to carry out attacks by extremist preachers.
- **9 July 2013** - A car exploded inside the main market in Somalia’s capital city after a hand grenade was thrown into a vehicle carrying four police officers. At least one person was killed in the attack, proving that despite recent infighting within al-Shabaab, including the recent killing of top leaders, the extremist group is far from defeated and continues to be a severe threat to security within Mogadishu and the rest of Somalia.



According to police, the four-wheel drive vehicle caught fire after a homemade bomb detonated at about 10:30 local time (07:30 GMT) in the capital’s main market. Sources on the ground have indicated that officers from a nearby police station rushed to the scene, shooting into the air to disperse the crowd. A police source in Mogadishu confirmed that the four officers inside the vehicle were wounded. The market was partially closed for several hours

and an investigation into the attack is currently underway. Al-Shabaab spokesman Abdulaziz Abu Musab has indicated that the militant group’s fighters had set off an improvised explosive device, which targeted security officials in Mogadishu’s Bakara market. The militant group has claimed to have killed three officials and wounded three others. Business has been booming in Bakara market over the last two years. Although security remains an issue throughout the capital city, there have not been many recent attacks in Bakara market. The attack occurred on the eve of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which is one of the year’s busiest shopping days and comes just one day after Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud’s plane reportedly caught fire, forcing the president to return to Mogadishu. The Somali Federal Government has also warned the public that Islamist militants may increase their activities over the following month. In previous years, the month of Ramadan has witnessed a surge in al-Shabaab attacks as gunmen have been incited to violence by their extremist preachers. In a bid to topple the internationally backed Somali government, al-Shabaab militants have launched a string of attacks, including a daylight attack last month on a fortified United Nations compound.

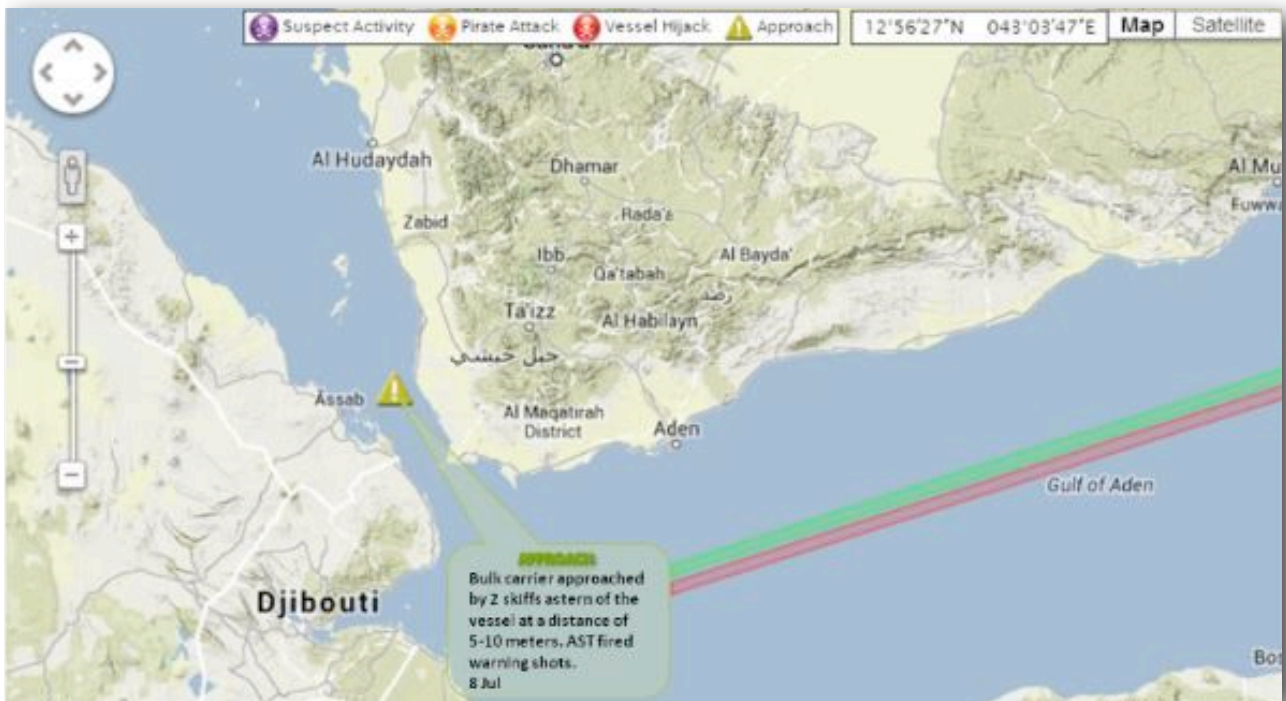
- **8 July 2013** - A plane carrying the Somali president was forced to make an emergency landing in Mogadishu after one of its engines reportedly caught fire. A spokesman for President Hassan Sheikh Mohamed confirmed the incident, stating that its cause was not immediately clear. According to local reports, the President was not injured and fire fighters quickly arrived at the scene. The President was on his way to the South Sudan capital of Juba when he was forced to return. The incident was first reported on a Twitter feed run by al-Shabaab, however the report did not claim that the militant group had attacked the plane. *Update* - Somalia's President arrived in Juba, the capital of the Republic of South Sudan, on Monday, ahead of South Sudan's second-year anniversary as Africa's newest republic. South Sudanese President Silva Kiir welcomed President Hassan's delegation at Juba airport with a guard of honour. The two presidents are scheduled to attend meetings to discuss bilateral relations and economic cooperation. President Hassan is also set to meet the Somali business community in South Sudan. July 9 marks South Sudan's second independence anniversary from the former Republic of the Sudan and is President Hassan's first official visit to South Sudan.
  - Meanwhile on Sunday evening, two unidentified gunmen killed TV reporter Liban Abdullahi in Galkayo, a central town in the semi-autonomous region of Puntland. According to eye witness reports, the attack came as Mr. Liban left his office and was heading home to Wadajir village, which is located in northern Galkayo, when unidentified gunmen approached and shot him a number of times. The assailants fled the scene before security officers arrived. Mr. Liban died from his injuries at a local hospital. At the time of his murder, Mr. Liban was covering the lead-up to the July 15 council elections as a correspondent for the newly launched UK-based Kalsan satellite television station. Over the past ten years Mr. Liban had previously worked for a number of broadcasters, including Radio SBC (Somali Broadcasting Corporation), Radio Daljir, Codka Nabadda ("Voice of Peace") and Royal Television. He is survived by a wife and five children. So far this year, at least two journalists have been killed in attacks directly related to their work in Somalia.

## International Developments:

- **8 July 2013** - A federal court in the United States has found three Somali men guilty of hijacking a yacht and killing four Americans on board in 2011 off the coast of Somalia. Following a five-week jury trial in Norfolk, Virginia, Ahmed Muse Salad, Abukar Osman Beyle and Shani Nurani Shiekh Abrar were found guilty on Monday of all twenty-six counts against them, including piracy and murder. They face a possible death penalty. Sentencing will take place on 22 July. Eleven other defendants had earlier pleaded guilty to piracy and were sentenced to life in prison for their involvement in the hijacking of the yacht *Quest* in February 2011. The yacht's owners, Jean and Scott Adam, along with their friends Bob Riggle and Phyllis Macay, all Americans, were shot dead after being taken hostage at sea.



Map:





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- Project Management
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  - Training
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  - Crisis management
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- Virtual Security Director service for clients lacking a full time security executive.

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