

GLOBAL PIRACY REPORT

Detailed Weekly Piracy Report and On - The - Ground Analysis Focusing on Somalia, the Gulf of Guinea, Southeast Asia and South America



About MS Risk

MS Risk is a privately owned company domiciled in the Isle of Man. It is underwritten by a syndicate of Lloyd's of London for special risks case management in all jurisdictions. It also acts as retained advisors to syndicates in the Lloyd's of London specialty risk insurance markets: kidnap for ransom, extortion, hijack, illegal detention, illegal war tax, malicious product tamper, terrorism, political and war risk.

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- Security Consulting
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 - Special assignments
- Crisis Response
 - Crisis management
 - Business continuity management
 - Hostile operations support to commercial interests
- Virtual Security Director service for clients lacking a full time security executive.

References are always available.

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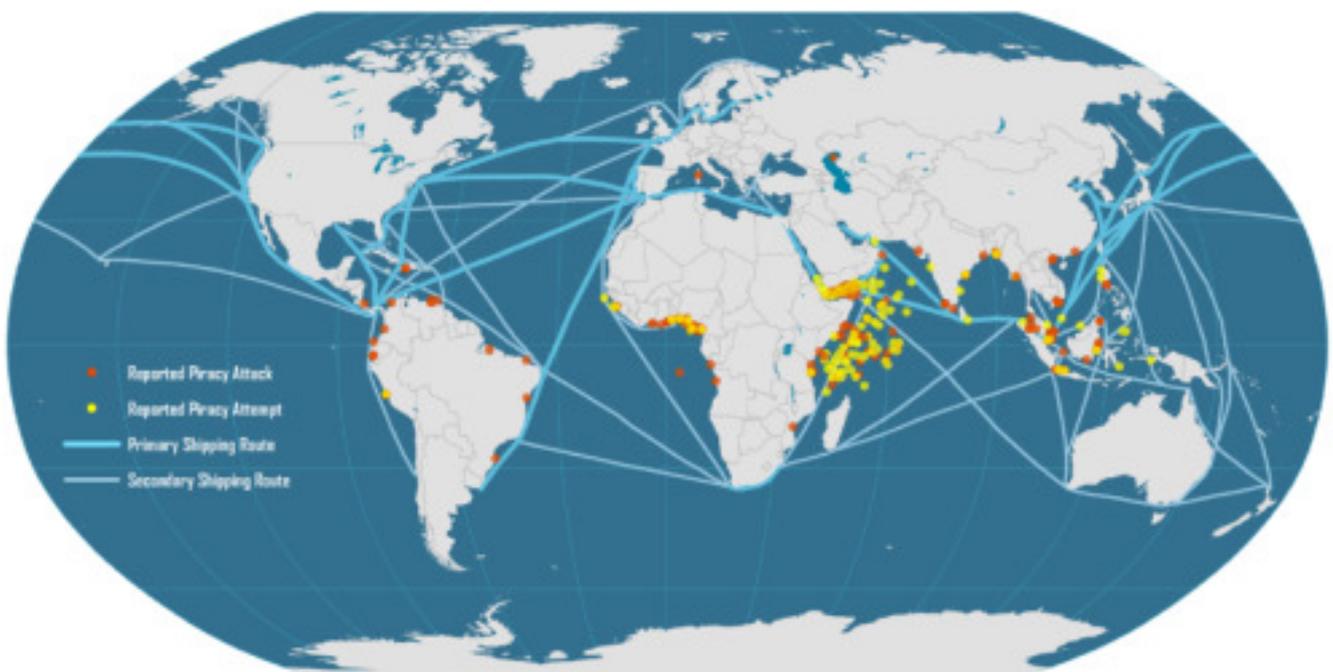
SUMMARY

(October 14 – 20, 2013 – Week 42; Edition 7)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

- **Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** No current incidents to report
- **Somalia-Indian Ocean:** Three reports of unsuccessful attacks
- **Southeast Asia:** One hijacking and one report of an unsuccessful attack
- **South America:** No current incidents to report

- ***North America:*** No current incidents to report
- ***Central America-Caribbean:*** No current incidents to report
- ***South America:*** No current incidents to report
- ***Atlantic Ocean Area:*** No current incidents to report
- ***Northern Europe-Baltic:*** No current incidents to report
- ***Mediterranean-Black Sea:*** No current incidents to report



SOMALIA

At Sea

Two attacks off the coast of Somalia over the past week have indicated that maritime piracy in the waters off the Horn of Africa may be on the rise in the coming months as the monsoon season comes to an end and pirate gangs seek to successfully hijack a vessel. On 11 October 2013, a Hong-Kong flagged crude carrier, the MV Island Splendor, was attacked 230 nautical miles off the coast of Somalia after pirates in two skiffs opened fire on the armed security team on board. The attack on the MV Island Splendor, which was the first on a large merchant vessel since April of this year, was followed by another attack four days later. That attack occurred 270 nautical miles east of the first attack. Sources have indicated that the same pirate group carried out both attacks and they demonstrate that despite pressure by coalition forces, the hijacking and ransom of one large merchant vessel will very likely result in the revival of Somali piracy.

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **15 October 2013** - Three robbers armed with knives in a small wooden boat approached a berthed container ship at 2050 LT in position 19:49S - 034:50E, Berth No.5 Beira Port, Mozambique. One of the robbers boarded the vessel and was noticed by crew members. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered to safety. After hearing the alarm, the robber jumped overboard with some of the ship's stores and escaped in the boat. Port authority has been informed. The vessel is safe.
- **14 October 2013** - Spanish fishing vessel reported being pursued by two skiffs at 0655 UTC in position 04:09N - 056:49E, approximately 483 nautical miles north of Denis Island. At 0705 UTC, FV fired warning shots, resulting in the skiffs moving away. Vessel has been reported safe. MPRA has been despatched and South Korean and Australian Navies are currently in pursuit of the skiffs.
- **11 October 2013 (Late Report)** - Hong Kong-flagged crude tanker, Island Splendour, was attacked by two blue skiffs at 0926 UTC while in position 04:39N - 052:19E, approximately 210 nautical miles east of Hoby, Somalia. One of the skiffs had three pirates on board while the other had five. At 4 nautical miles one skiff slowed down, leaving the other to continue its approach. At 3 nautical miles, armed security guards on board the tanker fired a warning shot, firing again when the skiff was 300 meters away. At 250 meters, the skiff opened fire with a rifle, prompting the armed security team to return fire in the vicinity of the skiff. This prompted the skiff to rendez-vous with the other skiff. No RPGs or obvious boarding equipment was sighted on board the skiff, and no loitering dhow or fishing vessel was sighted in the vicinity. The tanker and its crew have been reported safe.

Piracy Related News

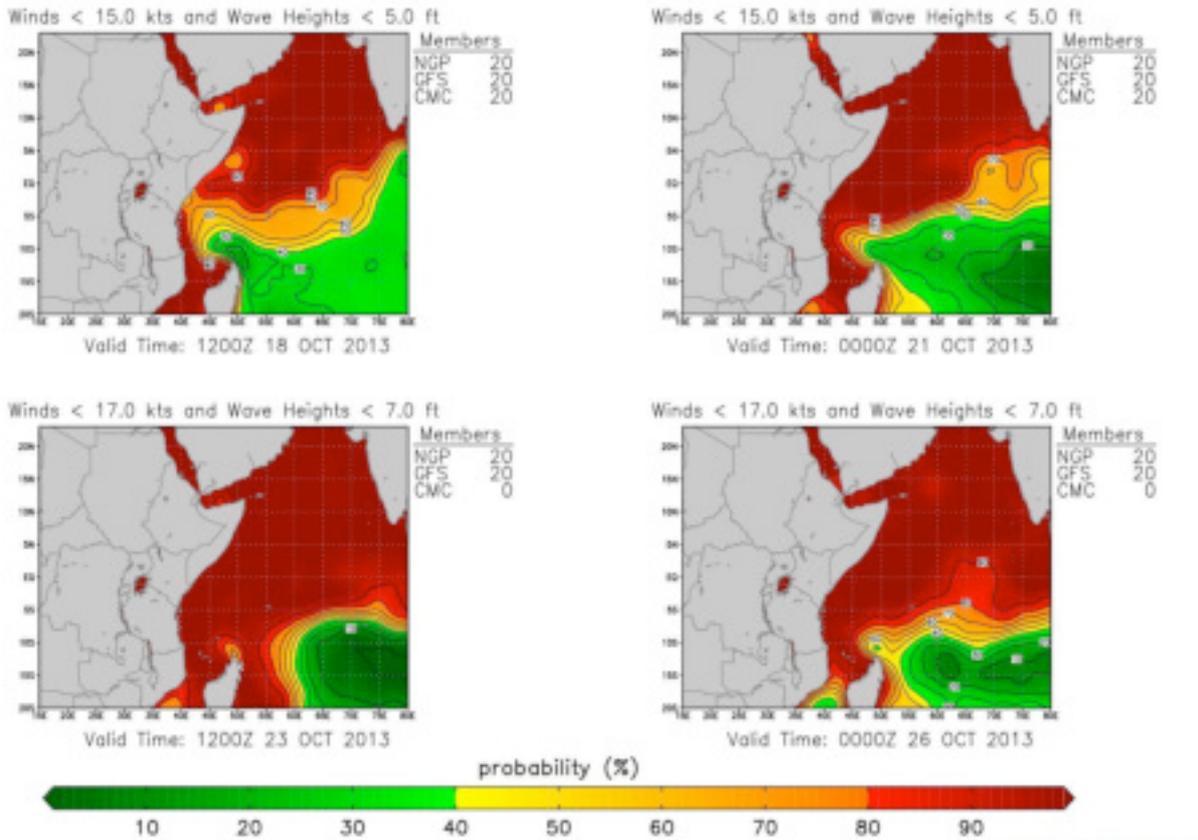
- **20 October 2013** - A counter-piracy task force, commanded by a Royal Navy officer, has captured a group of pirates believed to be responsible for two recent attacks that occurred in the Indian Ocean. The Combined Maritime Force (CMP) traced the skiffs from Britain's Royal Fleet Auxiliary Fort Victory, resulting in nine men being captured. The two skiffs and equipment on board were later destroyed by the forces. The Combined Task Force (CTF) 15, as the group is known, embarked on board the RFA Fort Victory with support from an Australian guided-missile frigate, the HMAS Melbourne, and South Korean destroyer, the ROKS Wang Geon. The European Union flagship Dutch HNLMS Johan de Witt and a maritime patrol aircraft from Luxembourg also took part in the mission.
- **17 October 2013** - On Monday, three Somali pirates went on trial for the hijacking of a yacht in 2009, the Tanit, which prompted a rescue operation by French special forces and which resulted in the death of the yacht's captain. On the first day of the trial, which is being held in the northwestern city of Rennes, the defendants, Mohamed Mahamud, Abdelkader Osman Ali and Mahamud Abdi Mohamed, aged between 26 and 31, described their life of poverty as being the main factor that eventually led them to piracy. According to one of the defendants, he lost his livelihood when the devastating 2004 tsunami destroyed fishing boats and depleted fishing stocks in his coastal community. Another defendant stated he had started struggling in 2005, when a severe famine killed most of his livestock. By 2009, the three defendants reported that pirates had helped them out by giving them clothes, drugs, and US \$100 in return for getting a "job" done. According to one of the defendants, the men went to sea with two others and attempted to hijack a cargo ship. After failing to hijack the vessel, the pirates resorted to storming the Tanit, a 42-foot sailboat. In court, Mahamud Abdi Mohamed, one of the defendants, stated "there was no other job than fishing, my only concern was to feed my family. I risked my life because I didn't know how to swim," adding that he did not know the job offered to him in 2009 had involved piracy. The two other defendants, aged 31 and 29, have also maintained that they were struggling fishermen and were not aware they would be involved in piracy. During the proceedings on Monday a lawyer for Mr. Lemacon's widow, Chlow, reported the family was "traumatized and shocked but at the same time wanted justice." While the family has not criticized the soldiers involved in the operation, they have accused the French government of authorizing a "dangerous operation" without enough regard for the hostages. The Lemacon family sailed from the northwestern French port of Vannes in 2008 on a voyage to Zanzibar. They were taken hostage on 6 April 2009 off the coast of Somalia. On 10 April 2009, French troops stormed the Tanit in a bid to rescue Florent Lemacon, his wife, their three-year-old son and two others. Although the French commandos killed two pirates, Florent Lemacon was accidentally shot during the operation. The three Somali pirates on trial will likely receive harsh punishments as France has taken a tough line on pirates caught by its forces off the coast of Somalia. **Update (18 October)** - On Friday, prosecutors called for jail terms of ten to twelve years for the men. However the pirates asked for leniency, pleading they were forced into piracy due to poverty. Late on Friday, a French court sentenced the three pirates to nine years in prison each. Prosecutor Brigitte Emoult-Cabot rejected the pirates' claim that they had been coerced into their criminal activities, stating that they had rather been motivated by "easy money."

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Aden** - Winds in the Western portion of the Gulf will be northeasterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 2 - 4 feet; in the Eastern portion, winds will be northeasterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas at 2 - 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Winds in the Western portion of the Gulf will be northeasterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 2 - 4 feet; in the Eastern portion, winds will be northeasterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas at 2 - 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** - Winds in the Western portion of the Gulf will be west-northwesterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 2 - 4 feet; in the Eastern portion, winds will be west-northwesterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas at 2 - 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Winds in the Western portion of the Gulf will be northwesterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 2 - 4 feet; in the Eastern portion, winds will be northwesterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas at 2 - 4 feet.
- **Somali Coast** - Winds will be southwesterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 3 - 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Winds will be southwesterly with seas at 2 - 4 feet.
- **Arabian Sea** - Winds will be northwesterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 3 - 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Winds will be northwesterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 3 - 4 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** - Winds will be south-southeasterly at 10 - 15 knots with seas of 4 - 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Winds will be east-southeasterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 3 - 5 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** - Winds in the Northern channel will be south-southeasterly at 10 - 15 knots with seas of 5 - 7 feet, while in the Southern channel winds will be south-southeasterly at 10 - 15 knots with seas of 7 - 9 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - In the Northern channel, winds will be southerly at 10 - 15 knots with seas of 3 - 5 feet, while in the Southern channel winds will be southerly at 10 - 15 knots with seas of 3 - 5 feet.
- **Surface Currents** - The Northern Arabian Sea and GOA currents are variable with most areas having average speeds of 1 knot. The Mozambique Channel currents are variable having an average speed of 2 knots. Currents speeds along the Somali basin are northeasterly averaging between 1 - 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - A weakening Southwestern Monsoonal pattern influences the majority of the Centcom AOR, with high pressure dominating the area producing clear to partly cloudy skies with haze, and weak northwesterly flow over the Arabian Gulf.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2013101600



*** 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-The-Ground Analysis

- **19 October 2013** - At least sixteen people have been killed and more than thirty injured after a suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowded restaurant in the central town of Beledweyne. The bombing occurred at a tea shop popular with troops in the town, which is located 300 km (185 miles) north of the capital city of Mogadishu, and close to the border with Ethiopia. Al-Shabaab has since confirmed that it carried out the attack, stating that its targets were Ethiopian and Djiboutian soldiers stationed there. However local residents have reported that most of those killed in the bombing were civilians.
- **14 October 2013** - At least ten people have reportedly died, and ten others have been wounded, after two separate clashes occurred on the outskirts of Mogadishu during Sunday afternoon and evening. Local reports have indicated that Somali Federal Government troops fought each other near a hospital outside Mogadishu after they disagreed over the collection of tax. The clashes left three soldiers dead and eight others wounded. According to a Somali government forces commander, the fighting erupted between armed militiamen disguised as soldiers, and the government forces.
 - Meanwhile, al-Shabaab militants have attacked the town of Arbacow, which is located 20 kilometers (12 miles) southwest of Mogadishu, and is home to a Somalia Federal Government forces military base. According to residents, both sides exchanged heavy gunfire, for over an hour. Witnesses also reported seeing at least seven dead insurgents, with some reporting that “it was the heaviest fighting” since Somali and AMISOM troops forced al-Shabaab militants from areas near Mogadishu.

Regional Reporting

- **18 October 2013** - Reports have indicated that a Norwegian citizen of Somali origin is suspected of being one of the attackers involved in last month’s massacre at a shopping centre in Kenya. Sources in Kenya have named Hassan Abdi Dhuhulow, 23, as being suspected of helping plan and carry out the attack on the Westgate mall in Nairobi. Dhuhulow was born in Somalia and in 1999, he and his family moved to Norway as refugees. The announcement of the suspect’s identity by Kenyan authorities comes a week after Norway’s PST intelligence agency reported it had launched a probe after obtaining information about the possible involvement of a Norwegian of Somali origin in both planning and carrying out the attack. Officials at PST have also confirmed that Norwegian investigators have since been sent to Nairobi to work with their Kenyan counterparts. Kenya’s investigation into the 21 September attack in Nairobi is ongoing.
 - Meanwhile Uganda has issued a red alert after officials in the United States warned of a possible terror threat similar to last month’s attack in neighboring Kenya. This is the first time Uganda has issued its highest alert since the 2010 twin suicide bombings in the country’s capital city, Kampala. More than seventy people were killed when bombers targeted two restaurants as patrons were watching the football World Cup. The attack was later claimed by al-Shabaab. This latest security alert in Kampala has resulted in security being visibly increased throughout the town, particularly in the city’s Nakumatt Oasis shopping centre, where cars and bags are regularly being searched. The US embassy in Kampala has indicated that it continues to “assess reports that a Westgate-style attack may soon occur in Kampala,” however officials have noted that they have no information about when or where the attack may occur. Officials in Uganda have also confirmed that all police officers have been recalled from leave in order to increase security throughout the country. Reports of a possible attack in Uganda come just weeks after al-Shabaab militants stormed a mall in Nairobi, killing at least sixty-seven people during a four-day siege. The attack was in response to Kenya’s ongoing mission in neighboring Somalia, where the country’s troops are fighting to remove al-Shabaab from its remaining

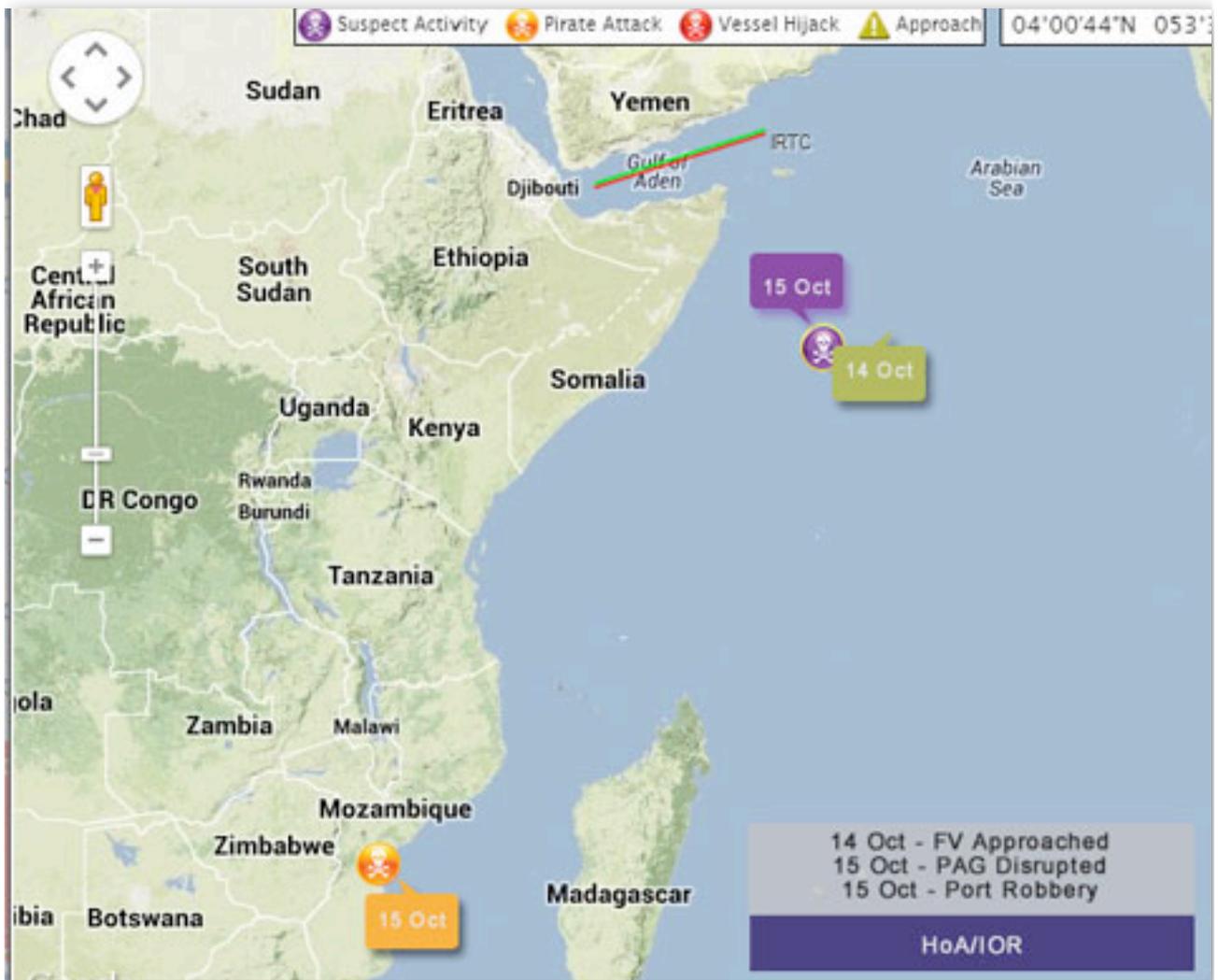
strongholds. Uganda has also sent troops to Somalia to help the UN-backed government fight the militants.

- Four weeks after al-Shabaab militants stormed the Westgate mall in Nairobi, many questions still remain as the investigation into the attack continues. Currently, according to security sources, a number of bodies have been pulled from the wreckage, however the official death toll remains at sixty-seven. Kenya's Red Cross has also reported that twenty-three people are still missing, presumed dead. Sources have also indicated that no evidence has been found of where the hostages were held during the four-day siege. Security camera images of the attackers released over the past few weeks also show that only four to six attackers were involved, not the dozen initially reported by Kenyan officials. Security sources have named one alleged attacker, 23-year-old Hassan Abdi Dhuhulow, a Norwegian citizen of Somali origin. Kenyan police have also named five of the attackers as Abu Baraal, Al Sudani, Khatab Ali Khane, and one man known as Umayr, all believed to be Somalis, and a Kenyan of Somali origin, Omar Nabhan. Furthermore, despite witness accounts, there appears to be no sign of a female attacker on the security camera footage. Previously, there had been widespread speculation that a British woman, dubbed the "White Widow," 29-year-old Samantha Lewthwaite, had been involved. However, not all the bodies of the gunmen have been located yet. Furthermore, reports that some gunmen may have escaped through a tunnel are unlikely to be true, as no evidence of one has been found. Currently investigations, involving forces from multiple nations, continue.

International Developments

- **14 October 2013** - One of Somalia's most notorious pirate leaders, known as "Big Mouth," was arrested in Brussels on Monday and placed in custody pending charges. Mohamed Abdi Hassan, known as "Afweyne" has been held in Bruges after being detained at Brussels airport on Saturday after disembarking from a flight from Nairobi, Kenya. During a press conference on Monday, prosecutors indicated that the notorious Somali pirate had been arrested after being lured to Brussels on the pretext of shooting a documentary about his life. In a statement read out to the press by a prosecutor, Afweney and his accomplice, Mohamed Aden "Ticeey," the former governor of Somalia's self-proclaimed Himan and Heeb state, are facing charges of kidnapping, piracy and organized crime. The charges stem from the 2009 capture of a Belgian vessel, the Pompei, which was seized and held by pirates off the coast of Somalia for more than 70 days. The Pompei was captured by dozens of pirates 700 miles off Somalia in the Indian Ocean and its nine-crew members, including two Belgian officers and Dutch captain, were held in grueling conditions until a ransom was dropped by parachute. Despite announcing in January of this year that, after a highly profitable eight-year career, he was quitting piracy to focus on persuading other pirates to do the same, authorities have continued to state that he remains a threat and a dangerous criminal. Described last year by the UN as "one of the most notorious and influential leaders" in Somalia's pirate hub, he notably was involved in the 2008 capture of the Saudi-owned Sirius Star oil supertanker, released for a ransom of several million dollars. He also reportedly took part in the 2008 capture of the MV Faina, a Ukrainian transport ship carrying 33 refurbished Soviet-era battle tanks, which was released after a 134-day hijack for a reported three million dollars. .

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

At Sea

Hijacks/Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- None reported during this period.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** - Winds will be southerly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 4 - 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Winds will be southerly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 3 - 4 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - The Gulf of Guinea is under the influence of low pressure, bringing strong southerly winds and moisture into the area. Expect mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers and thunderstorms.

Piracy Related News

- **17 October 2013** - Pirate attacks off the coast of Nigeria have increased by a third this year as vessels transiting the Gulf of Guinea are increasingly under threat from gangs who hijack vessels to hold crew members hostage and steal the ship's cargo. Countries located within the Gulf of Guinea, which include Ghana, the Ivory Coast and Nigeria, are major sources of oil and cocoa. According to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB), "pirates, often heavily armed and violent, are targeting vessels and their crew along the Nigerian coast, rivers, anchorages, ports and surrounding waters. In many cases, they ransack the vessel and steal the cargo, usually gas oil." Furthermore, unlike the waters off the coast of Somalia, where vessels now hire armed security guards, the majority of vessels transiting the Gulf of Guinea must anchor to do business with West African countries. This makes them a soft target for criminals as the ships at anchor usually have minimal security. In addition, increasing numbers of attacks off West Africa have caused insurance costs to rise. Data from the IMB shows that Nigeria remains the main source of piracy in the region, with twenty-nine attacks on vessels recorded in the first nine months of 2013, up from twenty-one in the same period last year. There were also four attacks around the Ivory Coast this year, with only three occurring in 2012. While pirates off the coast of Somalia have mainly focused on capturing vessels in order to extract ransoms, pirate gangs in the Gulf of Guinea have stolen an estimated 117,000 tonnes of oil products, worth around US \$100 million since 2010. Criminality in West Africa therefore involves more complex operations such as the storage, transfer and sale of stolen product. Furthermore, while attacks off the coast of Somalia have significantly subsided over the past year, the risk in the waters off West Africa continues to be high. According to the IMB, in the first nine months of 2013, the Gulf of Guinea accounted for all crew kidnappings world wide. Thirty-two of them occurred in waters off Nigeria and two off Togo. Despite West Africa rising as a pirate hotspot, the IMB has reported that overall, global pirate attacks decreased over the past nine months to the lowest levels seen since 2006. This has largely resulted from the slowdown in attacks by Somali groups. According to the IMB, there were 188 piracy incidents in the period from January to September, down from 233 last year. Hostage-taking has also decreased, with 266 people taken this year, compared with 458 during the same period in 2012.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks

- **10 October 2013** - Thailand-flagged product tanker, Danai 4, was reported missing by its owner on 10 October at 2000 LT in position 01:35.48N - 104:34.08E, approximately 18 nautical miles north-east of Tanjung Penawar, Malaysia. Vessel had departed Singapore on 9 October, scheduled to anchor off Vietnam on 12 October for a transfer fuel. Tanker had fifteen crew members on board and a cargo of marine gas oil. Days later, the vessel was confirmed hijacked, with sources indicating that nine pirates, wearing masks and armed with guns, boarded the vessel. Reports also indicated that the product tanker may have been renamed, repainted and had its IMO number changed. All vessels in the surrounding area were requested to keep a look out for the Danai 4. **Update (15 October)** - Vessel has been released, without its cargo and is currently returning to Singapore. All crew members on board the vessel are safe. Pirates took the entire crew hostage and destroyed all the communication equipment on board. Before disembarking, the pirates stole the ship's cash, crew's personal belongings and money, as well as portable communication equipment.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **12 October 2013 (Late Report)** - Three robbers in a small boat approached and boarded an anchored Denmark-flagged chemical tanker, Nord Nightingale, at 2000 LT in position 06:00.9S - 106:53.5E, Jakarta Tanker Anchorage, Indonesia. Alert duty crew on board noticed the robbers and shouted at them, resulting in the robbers escaping empty handed in their boat.

SOUTH AMERICA

At Sea

Hijacks

- No hijackings reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- No reports of attacks or robberies during this period.



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