

GLOBAL PIRACY REPORT

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



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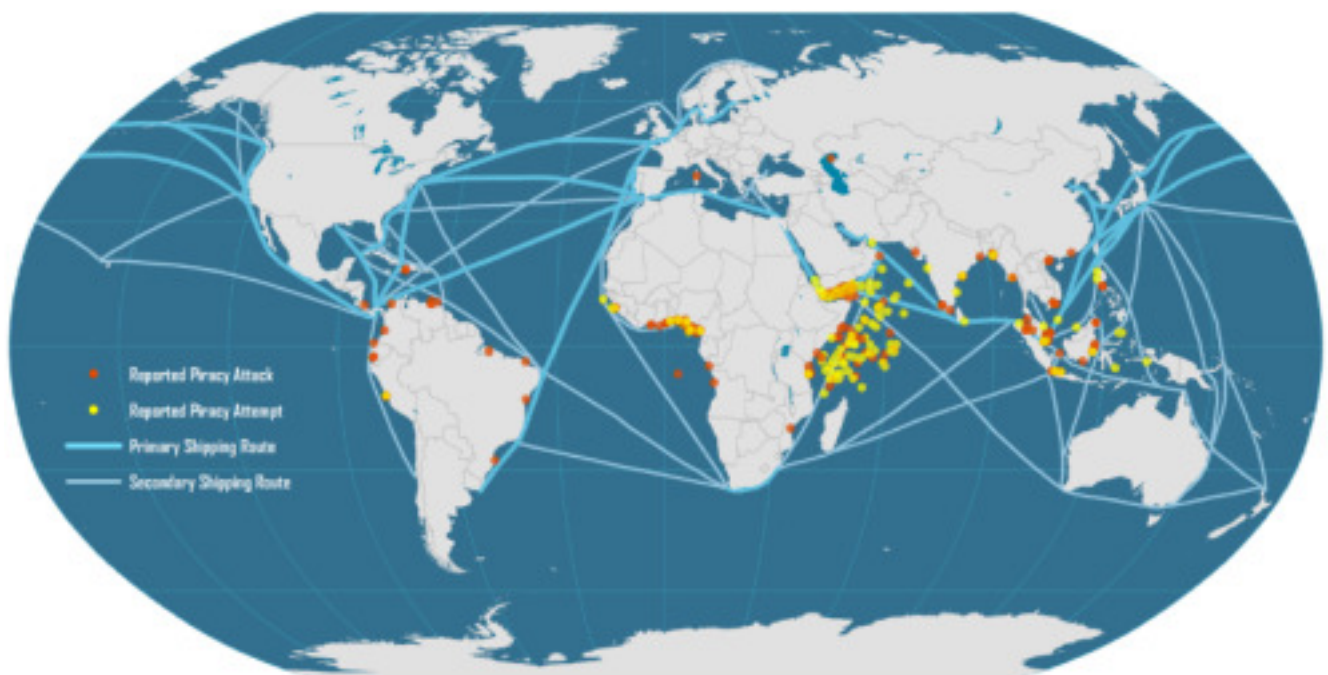
SUMMARY

(October 21 – 27, 2013 – Week 43; Edition 8)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

- **Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** Three reports of attacks; two US crew members kidnapped
- **Somalia-Indian Ocean:** Two reports of suspicious activity
- **Southeast Asia:** Five reports of robbery
- **South America:** Two robbery reports

- ***North America:*** No current incidents to report
- ***Central America-Caribbean:*** 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

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- None reported during this period.

Suspicious Activity

- **24 October 2013** - Liberia-flagged tanker reported three suspicious skiffs in the vicinity when it was transiting the high risk area from Ruwais to Suez at 0830 UTC in position 13:14N - 043:3E, Bab El Mandeb, Red Sea. One skiff detached and approached the vessel at increasing an increasing speed. Embarked armed security team on board the tanker responded immediately by making their presence known and demonstrating their weapons. Upon seeing the security team, the suspicious craft changed course and turned away. No piracy equipment was seen on board the skiffs. The tanker and crew members have been reported safe.
- **23 October 2013** - Distress call from MV Charlotte at 1717 UTC in position 15:49.0N - 052:220E, approximately 90 nautical miles north of the IRTC Pt B, 10 nautical miles off Yemen in the Gulf of Aden. Vessel on course 085 degrees reported being attacked by two skiffs. Assistance of CP Warship was requested. Various sources have reported that gunshots were heard however regional reporting authority states that the incident was an approach. Vessel and crew members have been reported safe.

Piracy Related News

- **23 October 2013** - Four Somali pirates have been sentenced to seven years in prison each by a Kenyan court which found the men guilty of hijacking a dhow in the Indian Ocean in 2010. Magistrate Stephen Gacheru indicated that the jail sentence should act as a “warning to others,” adding that the four will be sent to Somalia once they have completed their terms. The men’s lawyer, Jared Magolo, indicated in the Mombasa court that the sentence is unfair as they had been detained for three years before the trial at a maximum security Kenyan prison. He further indicated that he would seek his client’s consent to appeal the verdict. According to prosecutors, the four men were armed with rocket-propelled grenades, an AK-47, a pistol and other weapons when they took control of the dhow by firing at the crew. The men, Abdirahman Isse Mohamed, Mohamed Osman Farah, Feisal Abdi Muse, and Noor Ali Mohamed, were arrested by Spanish naval forces and handed over to Kenyan authorities as Somali was not considered able to try them properly. Although Kenya is one of a few countries, along with they Seychelles and Mauritius, that are prosecuting pirates, the cases are notoriously difficult to prosecute and typically take a long time to complete. In July of this year, nine Somalis were sentenced by a court in Kenya to five years in prison each for attempting to hijack a German merchant vessel, the MV Courier, in the Gulf of Aden

in March 2009. Another nine Somalis were handed a similar sentence in June, after they were also found guilty of hijacking a ship in the Gulf of Aden in 2010. Although the number of attacks has fallen markedly since 2011, mainly due to tougher security aboard vessels transiting through the region coupled with increased Western naval patrols, according to the World Bank, piracy in the Horn of Africa region may still cost the world economy about US \$18 billion a year.

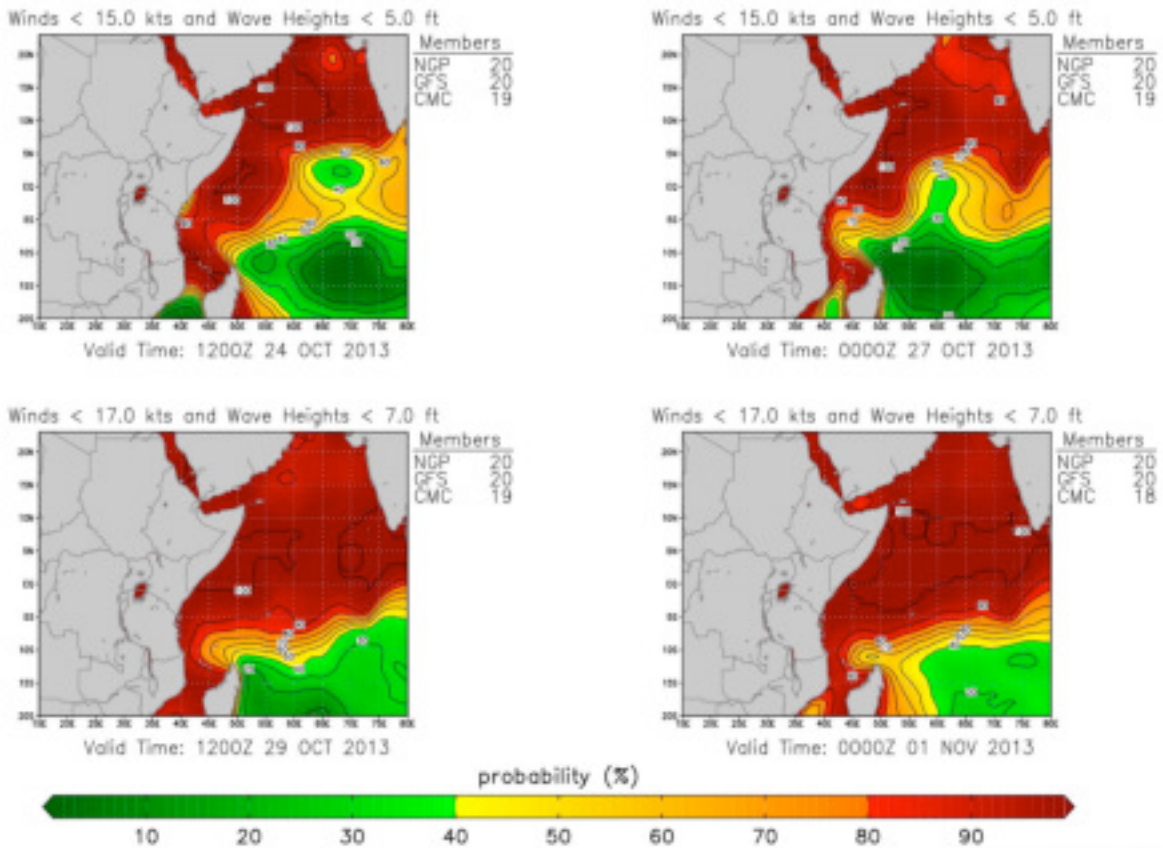
- Meanwhile according to the United Nations, although pirate attacks off the coast of Somalia are at the lowest level since 2006, mainly due to tougher ship security and an increase in Western naval patrols, onshore, al-Shabaab militants have shifted their tactics and are now increasingly using guerrilla warfare. In a report to the UN Security Council, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon indicated that in the first nine months of 2013, there were seventeen pirate attacks off the coast of Somalia, compared to 99 in the same period last year. Mr. Ban also noted that “as of 17 October 2013, two small vessels and 60 seafarers are still held by Somali pirates, most of them ashore, and some of which the whereabouts are unknown,” adding that “the hostages held by Somali pirates endure dire conditions in captivity and are sometimes tortured and threatened by pirates in an effort to extract the maximum ransom.” According to estimates compiled by the UN Office for Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, between April 2005 and December 2012, pirates received up to US \$413 million in ransoms, with up to US \$40 million being collected by pirates in 2012. Meanwhile in a separate letter to the Security Council, which was released on Wednesday, Mr. Ban noted that he was extremely concerned about Somalia’s security situation and appealed for more international support in order to avoid gains being derailed by al-Qaeda-linked al-Shabaab. In a joint UN and African Union review of the UN-backed African peacekeeping mission in Somalia, AMISOM, officials found that al-Shabaab militants had deliberately shifted tactics since May, opting to use guerrilla warfare instead of conventional warfare, with a particular focus on targeting the government, state bodies and the United Nations. The latest attack to hit Somalia occurred on Saturday, when a suicide bomber killed at least sixteen people in an attack on a cafe in a Somali town located close to the Ethiopian border. The cafe targeted in the attack was frequented by local and foreign soldiers fighting al-Shabaab militants in the region. In his report, Mr. Ban also warned that the al-Shabaab attack on Nairobi’s Westgate shopping centre last month in neighboring Kenya, was “worrisome evidence that al-Shabaab is able to plan, rehearse and implement complex attacks threatening peace and stability in Somalia and beyond.” As such, according to Mr. Ban, there is now an urgent need to resume and strengthen the military campaign against al-Shabaab. This was backed by the joint review’s recommendation that the African force be increased by 2,550 troops to more than 20,000 for a period of up to two years.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Aden** - Northeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with northeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Northeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be northeasterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 2 - 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** - West-southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 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.
 - **Extended Forecast** - North-southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with north-southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** - South-southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - South-southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet.
- **Arabian Sea** - Northerly winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - North-northeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** - South-southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - East-southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** - South-southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be southeast at 10 - 15 knots with seas of 3 - 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the southern Channel.
- **Surface Currents** - The Northern Arabian Sea and GOA 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 speeds along the Somali basin are northeasterly averaging between 1 - 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - A weakening Southwestern Monsoon pattern influences the majority of the western Indian Ocean, 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: 2013102200



*** 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

- **22 October 2013** - Gunmen seriously wounded a Somali television journalist in the capital Mogadishu on Tuesday. In the latest in a string attacks on reporters, Mohamed Mohamud Timacade, a reporter with London-based Somali-language Universal TV, was shot several times in the neck, chest and shoulder when his attackers sprayed the reporter's car with bullets. According to Mohamed Ilkayare, a police officer who was at the scene of the attack, "the journalist was shot and seriously wounded...he has been rushed to hospital." Reports have indicated that Mr. Timacade was taken to Mogadishu's Medina hospital, which specializes in trauma surgery. Somalia's journalist union has condemned the "heinous assassination attempt." In 2012, eighteen media professionals were killed in Somalia, with more than fifty killed in the last six years. Over the past year, another six media workers have been killed. Attacks on journalists have often been blamed on al-Shabaab militants however some are also believed to be linked to a settling of scores within the multiple factions of power. **Update (27 October)** - A Somali television journalist who was seriously wounded by gunmen in Mogadishu earlier this week died Saturday night.
- **21 October 2013** - One month after Somalia's al-Shabaab militants stormed Kenya's Westgate shopping centre, killing sixty-seven people during a four-day siege, the threat from the militant group, and local sympathizers, remains high as officials in Somalia and in the African Union (AU) look towards increasing troop numbers in a bid to completely destroy a group which has transformed itself into a regional threat. Posters reading "if you haven't learnt the lesson Westgate, more is coming," which were posted up last week during rallies held in the southern Somali port of Barawe, an al-Shabaab stronghold, confirm what is already going on throughout the country. Over the past number of months, al-Shabaab has significantly increased its attacks, both within Somalia and near the border regions with Kenya and Ethiopia, both countries which have deployed troops to Somalia in order to combat the militant group. While these attacks will not stop any time soon, recent remarks made by commanders within the group have indicated that al-Shabaab may increasingly place pressure on those states that have deployed troops in Somalia in a bid to force their withdrawal. While over the past two years, AMISOM forces throughout Somalia have dislodged al-Shabaab from a number of its strongholds, including from the capital city of Mogadishu and the surrounding regions, as well as from the southern port city of Kismayo, the militant group has continued to carry out assassinations of politicians and journalists along with a number of suicide bombings that have targeted troops and security officials. While most of the groups' previous attacks have typically been small in scale, al-Shabaab has carried out large scale attacks in Somalia and in the region, such as the June 2013 attack on a UN compound in Mogadishu or the 2010 bombings in Kampala which killed seventy-six people. However this more recent attack on the Nairobi mall has demonstrated a significant and worrying step up in al-Shabaab's operations, with the group now seemingly increasingly concentrating on attacks that require longer periods of planning and surveillance. Uganda's announcement last week that it had increased its security level in the capital city of Kampala, after officials from the US Embassy indicated that they had credible information of a possible terror attack linked to al-Shabaab, also signified that the terrorist group may now increasingly focus on targeting regional interests, especially in those countries which have deployed troops to battle the militant group in Somalia. This recent move may also signify that al-Shabaab is turning its focus from Somalia's internal politics to a more global agenda, similar to al-Qaeda, which the group is aligned with. The battle to defeat al-Shabaab will now likely have to concentrate not only within Somalia, but also throughout the wider region, including in the countries that have deployed their armies in Somalia, such as Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. While the AU force in Somalia has requested that its size be increased by a quarter, which will amount to 23,000 troops, preventing al-Shabaab from attaining territorial gains within Somalia will not eliminate the group entirely. A UN report recently indicated that "al-Shabaab continues to pose a regional and international threat through its affiliates," noting that as AU troops have seized more territory throughout Somalia, there has been an "increasing exodus" of foreign fighters, some of whom left

“with the intention of supporting jihad in the region.” Last week’s announcement that a Norwegian citizen of Somali origin, 23-year-old Hassan Abdi Dhuhulow, was suspected of being one of the attackers in the Westgate incident confirmed what United Nations experts have already noted. That dozens, if not hundreds, of young men from countries across the Horn of Africa travel to Somalia in order to train with al-Shabaab militants. In turn, it remains unknown whether the Westgate attackers were sent specifically from Somalia, or whether they were a “homegrown” team recruited within Kenya. Consequently increasingly focusing on fighters coming from Western or Arab nations, along with local sympathizers and groups aligned with al-Shabaab across eastern Africa, will be a necessary step in fighting the militant group.

Domestic News

- **21 October 2013** - Following talks in the southern port city of Kismayo, the President of Somalia’s Jubbaland Administration has accepted to attend a reconciliation conference that will occur in Mogadishu. Speaking to the media during a joint press conference on Monday, Jubbaland leader Sheikh Ahmed Madobe, along with Somali Federal Government Interior Minister Abdikarin Hussein Guled, indicated that in accordance with the Jubba agreement, the first phase of reconciliation conference will be held in Mogadishu whereas the second phase will take place in the strategic port of Kismayo. According to Mr. Madobe, “we want to assign a technical committee for the implementation of agreement points including to integrate Barre Hirale militias into the national army,” adding that the committee will be composed of officials from the Somali Federal Government, AMISOM and Jubbaland. In response, Interior Minister Guled thanked officials in Jubbaland for their effort of supporting the consolidation of Somalia’s peace and progress and urged the aid agencies to bring humanitarian assistance to Jubbaland regions which suffered from years of sporadic armed conflicts over the control of the port of Kismayo.

Regional Reporting

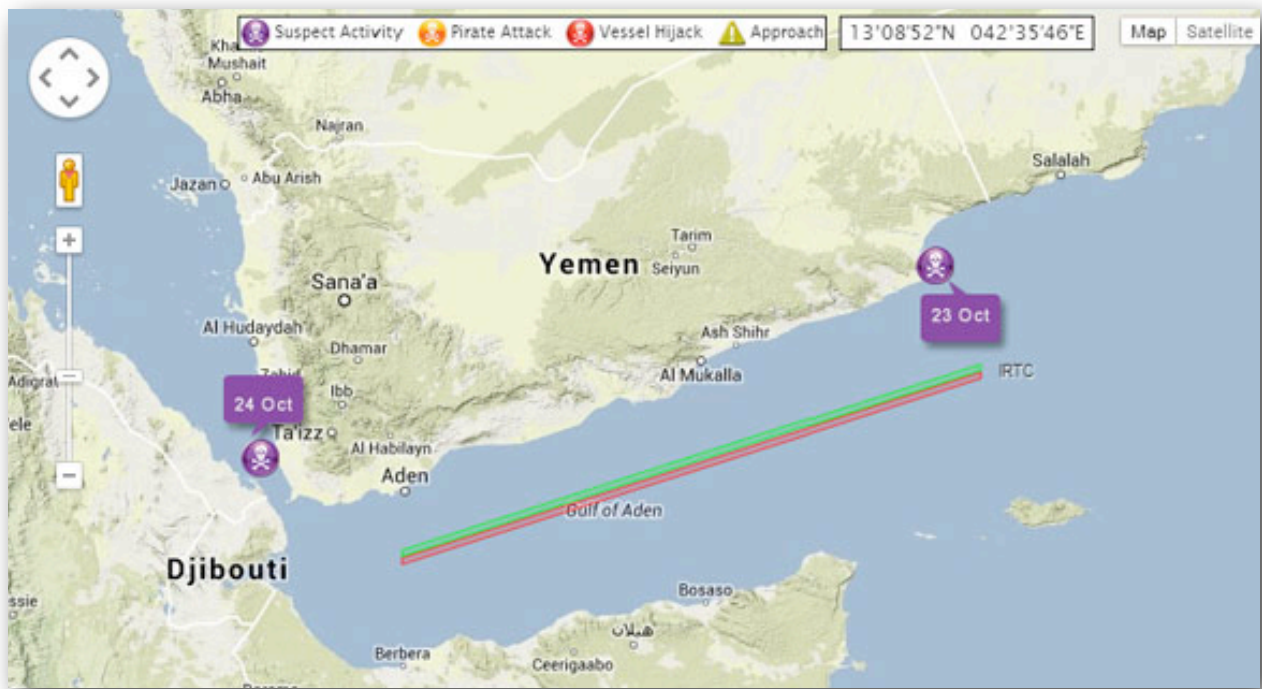
- **25 October 2013** - On Friday, officials in Kenya indicating that Somali refugee camps were being used as a safe haven for Islamist militants, adding that the time had come for hundreds of thousands of refugees to go home. According to the country’s Interior Minister, Joseph Ole Lenku, “for many years, Kenya has been host to the largest refugee community in the world, we are host to almost 600,000 refugees. We have welcomed, with open arms, refugees fleeing from insecurity in neighboring countries,” adding that “some of these refugees have abused our hospitality and kindness to plan and launch terror attacks from the safety of the refugee camps. This cannot and should not be allowed to continue.” In the wake of last month’s attack on the Westgate shopping centre, a number of Kenyan officials have pointed the finger at Dadaab, a Somali refugee camp located in the northeastern region of the country which is home to over 4000,000 people who have fled instability in neighboring Somalia. According to these officials, the refugee camp has turned into a “training ground” for Somali extremists. While the Interior Minister did not indicate that the camp should be immediately lose, he did state that Somalia was “now experiencing relative peace” and that Kenya was now “working closely with the government of Somalia and UNCHR to ensure that the repatriation process is as smooth and humane as possible.” Meanwhile the Interior Minister has also confirmed that fifteen immigration officers had been fired in connection with an ongoing tightening of national security after last month’s attack in Nairobi. According to the minister, fifteen officers were fired for issuing “Kenyan identity documents to illegal immigrants thereby endangering national security.” The minister also vowed a complete audit of all identity cards and passports issues in the last years in order to “flush out those who have been issued with illegal passports and other identification documents.”
- **24 October 2013** - On Thursday, authorities in Kenya pledged to boost security for the Nairobi marathon, which is due to take place this Sunday. According to Nairobi deputy police chief Moses

Ombati, “we have taken this function very seriously, putting into consideration all the threats we have in the country right now,” adding that “we don’t want a repeat of what happened at Westgate, which took all of us by surprise.” According to the police chief, “we have enhanced security right along the 42 kilometer (26 mile) route, both from the air and on the ground, with restrictions at all the key points. There will also be screening of all the participants.” Over 20,000 local and international athletes are expected to take part in the annual marathon race through the streets of the capital. With security forces on high alert, Nairobi is still reeling from the four-day siege on the upmarket Westgate shopping mall.

International Developments

- **25 October 2013** - According to reports, an al-Shabaab commander, who was the target of a recent raid carried out by US special forces, has spent time in the United Kingdom. According to his friends, Abdukadir Mohamed Abdukadir, widely known as Ikrima, came to the UK in 2007 and spent time in London prior to moving to Somalia the following year. Ikrima is believed to be a recruiter of foreign fighters, and a key link between al-Shabaab in Somalia and al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, which is based in Yemen. Prior to moving to Britain in early 2007, Ikrima had travelled to Norway in 2004 where he unsuccessfully sought asylum. Kenyan intelligence documents have linked him to Samantha Lewthwaite, the British widow of one of the 7 July 2005 suicide attackers that targeted the London transport system. Currently, Kenyan authorities believe that apprehending Ms. Lewthwaite and Ikrima could help in preventing future attacks similar to the one that was carried out at Westgate. On 5 October 2013, US Navy Seals failed to capture Ikrima during a raid that was carried out in the southern town of Barawe following the attack on the Westgate shopping centre in Nairobi, Kenya. Al-Shabaab has claimed responsibility for that attack and although Ikrima has been linked to alleged terror plots in Kenya, it remains unclear what role, if any, he played in that particular attack.

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

At Sea

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **23 October 2013** - US-owned and flagged oil platform supply vessel, C-Retriever, attacked and boarded by pirates 15 nautical miles off Brass, Nigeria. Precise position not yet known. Two US crew members, Captain and Chief Engineer, have been confirmed kidnapped. US State Department and FBI are leading the US response in the incident. According to sources, the Nigerian Navy Central Naval Command are to conduct a rescue mission.
- **17 October 2013 (Late Report)** - Fishing trawler, Shrimper 36, reported being attacked by an unknown number of individuals at 0855 LT in position 04:24N - 008:07.1E, approximately 11 nautical miles southeast of Kwa Ibo, Nigeria. Vessel was boarded and unconfirmed reports have stated that the Captain and one crew member were kidnapped. No further details have been released. Nigerian Naval HQ tasked Eastern Naval command to investigate and render necessary assistance.
- **3 October 2013 (Late Report)** - While at anchor, duty A/B on board a tanker informed the bridge that one skiff with six persons on board was approaching the vessel at 0745 LT while in position 04:12N - 006:56E, Bonny outer anchorage, Nigeria. As skiff approached the tanker, the alarm was raised and all the crew members on board were mustered into the citadel. The robbers boarded the vessel as their accomplices fired upon the vessel. After a while, when no noise was heard, the crew members exited the citadel and inspected the vessel, finding that the robbers had left. The vessel sustained damage due to the gunfire from the robbers. Nothing was stolen and no injuries were sustained by the crew members.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** - South-southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - The Mozambique Channel will be under the influence of low pressure. Expect few to partly cloudy conditions throughout the Central African coast. 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

- **26 October 2013** - On Saturday, West and Central African leaders stated that they were determined to cooperate in combatting piracy in the Gulf of Guinea. The remarks come at a time

when regional leaders are meeting in Senegal to discuss maritime security in what has become one of the world's most dangerous seas. According to Kadre Desire Ouedraogo, the head of the West African bloc ECOWAS, "the scourges of piracy, terrorism, extremism and banditry at sea as well as other organized crimes affecting our common maritime domain are, in combination with other factors, threatening our collective security," adding that "our presence here today is a clear illustration of our commitment to address these challenges in pursuit of the collective interest of our respective regions." The Gulf, which includes waters off Nigeria, has emerged into the new danger zone, with pirates targeting fuel cargo and loading it onto other ships in order to sell it on the lucrative black market. According to a report released by the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) in June, West Africa has overtaken Somalia as the world's piracy hotspot, with 966 sailors attacked last year, compared with 851 who were attacked in waters off Somalia. Officials at the IMB estimate that the costs of the stolen goods in the Gulf of Guinea in 2012 were between 25 and 75 million euros (US \$33 million and \$100 million).

- **24 October 2013** - Pirates off the coast of Nigeria have seized two US sailors from an oil supply ship. According to officials, the captain and chief engineer of the US-flagged C-Retriever were taken on Wednesday by armed men who stormed the boat. The vessel, which owned by American oil servicing company Edison Chouest Offshore, was attacked off the city of Brass. While the seizure of the two US sailors has been reported by security sources and unnamed US defence officials, the kidnapping has not yet been officially confirmed. According to two US defence officials, the US Navy and the Marine Corps have not yet received orders to intervene, however reports have indicated that the navy had launched a search and rescue mission. Over the past year, there has been a surge in pirate attacks off the coast of West Africa. Crew members taken hostage in the region have normally been freed unharmed after any oil on board the vessel has been stolen. The situation in West Africa is far different from that in East Africa, where sailors are held for ransom. However there have also been a number of kidnappings of foreign oil workers and wealthy Nigerians, especially in the oil-producing Niger Delta region.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **23 October 2013** - Two robbers boarded an anchored tanker unnoticed at 0025 LT in position 07:05.76S - 112:39.56E, Gresik Anchorage, Indonesia. Alert crew on watch noticed the robbers near the forecastle, and raised the alarm. This resulted in the robbers jumping overboard and escaping without stealing anything.
- **22 October 2013** - An anchored chemical tanker was boarded by robbers unnoticed at 0450 LT in position 03:47.77N - 098:46.05E, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia. Duty crew on routine rounds noticed the mid-ship store lock broken and the ship stores stolen. Port authorities were informed.
- **19 October 2013 (Late Report)** - Three robbers boarded an anchored Liberia-flagged crude tanker at 0640 LT in position 17:41.54N - 083:19E, Visakhapatnam Anchorage, India. Robbers stole ship's stores and escaped when spotted by the duty crew.
 - Six robbers with long knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier via the anchor chain at 0415 LT in position 00:14S - 117:33E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Indonesia. The robbers threatened the duty watch keepers with long knives, tied them up and stole their personal belongings. After 45 minutes, the 2/O, on routine deck rounds, noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped having stolen the ship's stores.
 - Three robbers in a boat approached and boarded an anchored tanker at 0330 LT in position 01:25.0N - 104:34.5E, around 11 nautical miles north of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan, Indonesia. Duty crew on board the tanker noticed the robbers in the engine room. The alarm was raised and the crew members were mustered into the citadel. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped empty handed in their boat.

SOUTH AMERICA

At Sea

Hijacks

- No hijackings reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **20 October 2013** - Two robbers boarded a LPG Carrier moored to buoys at 0400 LT in position 18:24.1N - 070:01.4W, Rio Haina Refidomsa, Dominican Republic. Alert duty crew noticed the robbers lowering the rescue boat engine. Alarm was sounded and the robbers immediately left the engine and escaped. The crew got hold of the line used to lower the engine, therefore being able to retrieve it. Further inspection revealed that a few items from the rescue boat were missing. Local agent and mooring master were informed of the incident.
- **19 October 2013** - Four robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier at 0300 LT in position 06:48.8N - 058.10.2W, Georgetown, Guyana. They threatened the duty crew on the forecastle deck, slapped him and forced him to open the forecastle store. As per routine procedure the duty officer called the deck watch keeper and when no response was received, the alarm was raised. Seeing the alerted crew members, the robbers escaped with stolen items in a boat that was waiting for them. The port authority was called however no response was received.



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