

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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References are always available.

More information is found at www.msrisk.com

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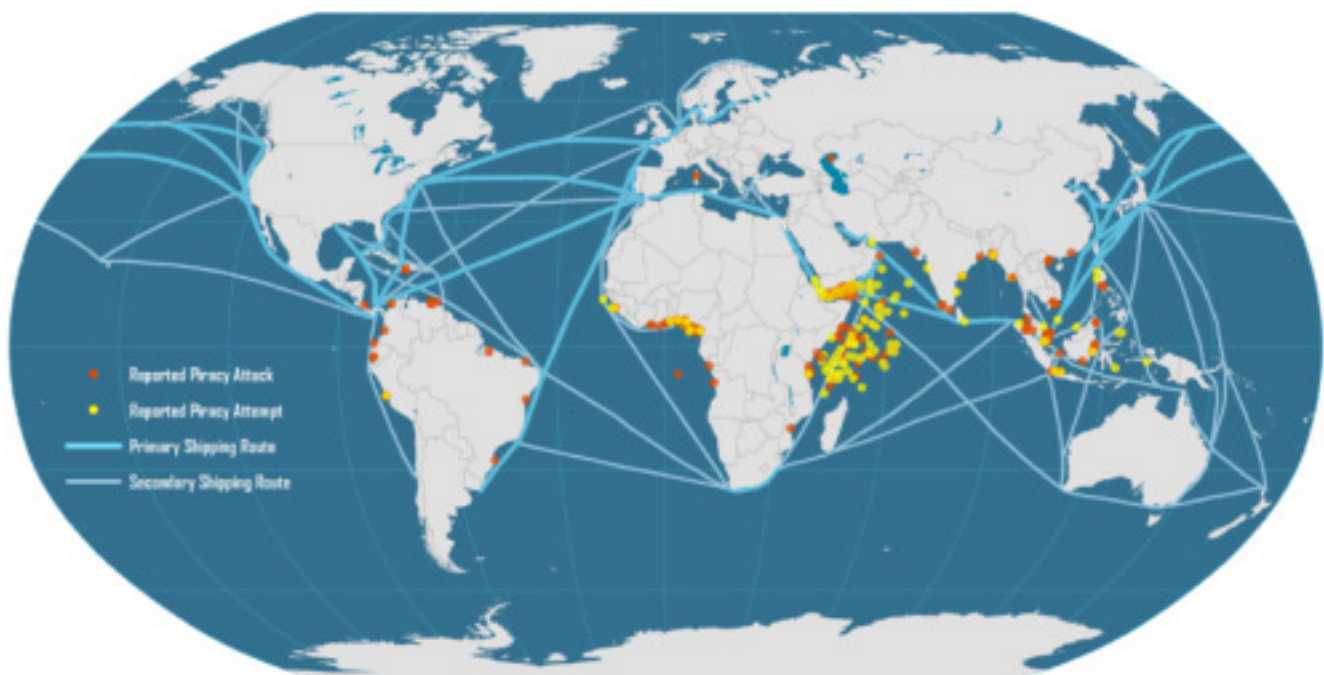
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SUMMARY

(November 4 – 10, 2013 – Week 45; Edition 10)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

- **Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** No incidents reported during this period
- **Somalia-Indian Ocean:** Two unsuccessful attacks and one incident of suspicious activity; two late reported incidents
- **Southeast Asia:** One hijacking report and one report of an unsuccessful attack; six late reported robberies
- **South America:** No incidents reported during this period
- **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

Just weeks after Operation Commander of the EU Naval Force, Rear Admiral Bob Tarrant, issued a warning about the ongoing threat from piracy, there have been two more piracy-related incidents that have occurred off the coast of Somalia. The first incident occurred on 5 November, when EU Naval Force German frigate, FGS Niedersachsen prevented ten suspected pirates from getting far out to sea. During a piracy patrol, the FGS Niedersachsen located two small vessels, a whaler towing a skiff, close to the Somali coast. The warship's crew members were able to observe that the whaler was carrying ten pirates along with over ten fuel barrels and two long ladders. When the German frigate approached the whaler in order to carry out a further investigation, crew members observed the men dropping ladders into the sea before heading back towards the shoreline. While the whaler made its approach towards the beach, approximately eighty people were seen on land, with some wading out in order to assist the pirates in bring the boats back onto the beach. The German frigate continues to monitor the beach, which quickly became deserted after the incident. The second incident occurred on 6 November when a merchant ship, located 460 miles south-east of Mogadishu, had to repel an attack from five armed pirates. A Hong Kong-flagged chemical tanker, enroute from Saudi Arabia to Mozambique, was fired upon by five pirates in a fast-moving skiff. The private armed security team on board the vessel was able to repel the attack. Naval forces immediately closed the sea area in an attempt to locate the suspects. In light of these two incidents, Rear Admiral Bob Tarrant has stated that "it is clear that Somali pirates still have the intent and capability to get out to sea to attack ships and take crews for ransom. These attacks not only cause misery to ships' crews and their families, they also generate instability in world trade and humanitarian aid routes. Naval counter piracy forces and the maritime shipping industry must remain vigilant so that these pirates do not succeed."

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **9 November 2013** - A merchant vessel was attacked in position 07:20S - 048:37E, approximately 278 nautical miles north of Madagascar at 1400 UTC. Merchant vessels are advised to proceed with caution when traversing the area.
- **6 November 2013** - Hong Kong-flagged product tanker, Zhongji No. 1, reported being attacked at 0330 UTC in position 05:31S - 047:07E, approximately 400 nautical miles north of Madagascar. One skiff had five pirates on board, with ladders signed. Suspected pirates were also heavily armed. The alarm on board the tanker was raised, crew members alerted, fire pumps started, speed increased, evasive maneuvers made, SSAS alert activated and authorities informed. The pirates fired at the tanker and the armed security team on board returned fire. The skiff later aborted the attack and moved away. The vessel and crew members are reported safe.
- **2 November 2013 (Late Report)** - India-flagged oil tanker, Desh Mahima, reported being approached by three suspicious skiffs travelling at a high speed at 1614 UTC in position 14:34N - 042:10E, heading 330 deg 12 knots. Six pirates on board each skiff were sighted along with

ladders. The Master of the vessel order increase of speed, activated the SSAS, mustered the crew members into the citadel, used evasive maneuvers and anti-piracy measures, including the firing of flares. The resulted in the skiffs moving away from the vessel.

- **27 October 2013 (Late Report)** - Bulk carrier was approached by two skiffs at 1120 UTC in position 13:15N - 043:01E, Gulf of Aden. Skiffs were colored white and blue, with five to six pirates on board each skiff. The skiffs closed to 100m. Ladders, described as 10m long with hooks on one end, were sighted on board the skiffs. Armed security team on board the vessel displayed their weapons, resulting in the skiffs moving away. Vessel and crew members have been reported safe.

Suspicious Activity

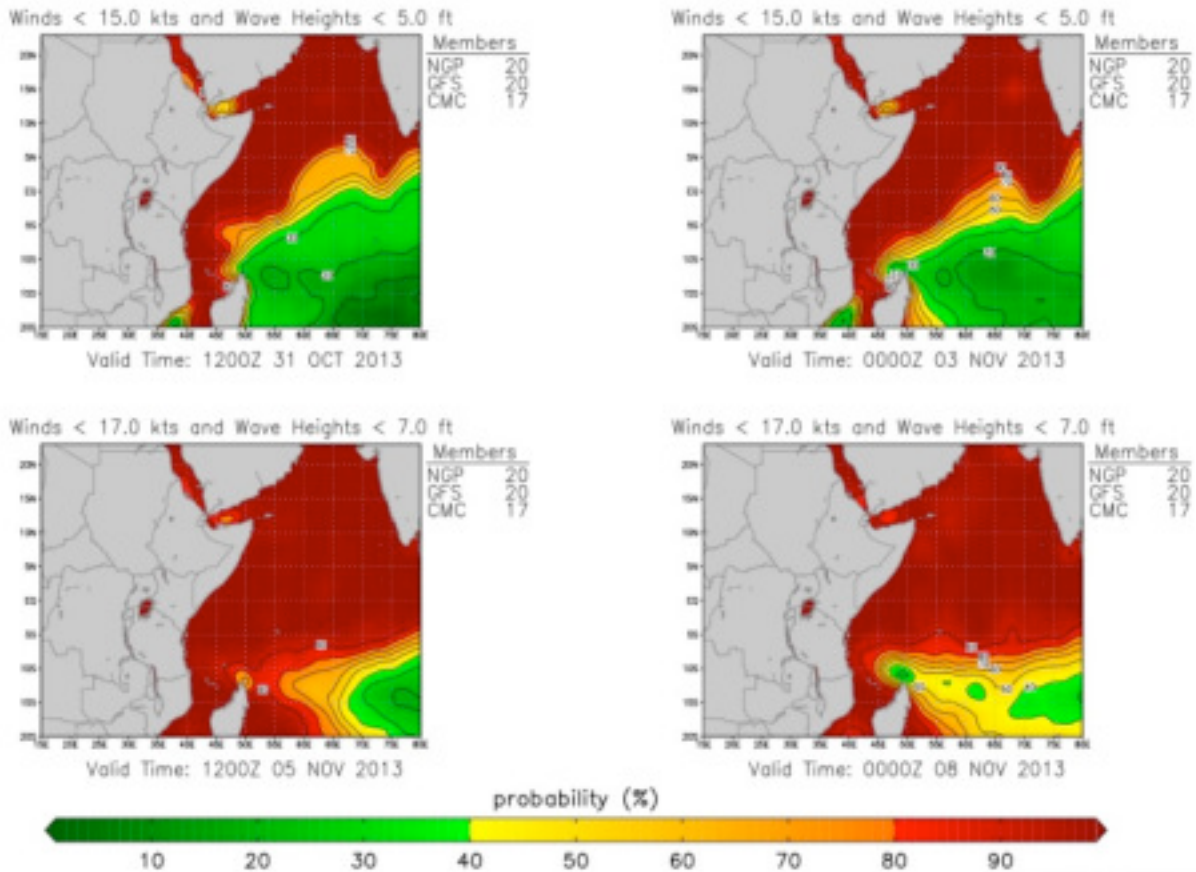
- **8 November 2013** - Bahamas-flagged oil tanker reported two suspicious skiffs approached port side at fast speeds at 1115 UTC while in position 17:52.37N - 056:56.45E, approximately 30 nautical miles off the coast of Oman. Armed security team on board the vessel stood to, showing their presence in front of the bridge as the vessel implemented security measures. Skiffs continued to approach the tanker to around 200 meters. A total of seven pirates were seen on board the skiffs, which closed to 100 meters. However no weapons were observed onboard the skiffs. Armed security team displayed their weapons, resulting in the skiffs moving towards the starboard side. The skiffs later moved towards the stern and were monitored until out of range at 1145 UTC.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Aden** - Easterly winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Easterly winds of 5 - 10 knots in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be easterly at 5 - 10 knots with seas of 3 - 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** - Northwest winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with northwest winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** - North-northeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with north-northeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** - Southerly winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southerly winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet.
- **Arabian Sea** - Northwest winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Northwest winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** - Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - East-southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** - North-northeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; with north-northeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the southern Channel.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; 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 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** - The weakening Southwestern Monsoonal pattern still influences the majority of the western Indian Ocean, with high pressure interacting with monsoonal troughing, producing increased moisture across the Arabian Peninsula and a northeasterly flow over the Arabian Gulf.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2013102900



*** 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

- **8 November 2013** - A suspected car bomb attack outside a popular hotel in the Somali capital on Friday evening has killed at least six people. According to Farah Aden, a senior police officer, “we understand a car laden with explosives was parked in front of the hotel,” adding that “this car bomb exploded and burnt the other cars which were also parked there.” At least six people, including four police men, were killed in the blast while another fifteen were injured. The vehicle exploded next to the Hotel Maka, which is located on the main road that runs through Mogadishu. Four cars and two motorbikes were burnt out at the scene. Although there was no immediate claim of responsibility for Friday’s blast, Mogadishu has often been the target of attacks that have been carried out by al-Shabaab militants. In September, al-Shabaab militants deployed a car bomb and suicide bomber, killing at least fifteen people and wounding twenty-three. In turn, Friday’s attack, and others that have occurred in recent months, have highlighted the continuing challenges that are faced by the Somali government as it attempts to rebuild the nation after two decades of conflict.
- **5 November 2013** - Unidentified gunmen shot dead three policemen in Mogadishu’s Bakara market. According to local reports, one of the victims was killed in the morning while the other two were shot in the afternoon at a tea shop. Currently no suspects have been apprehended in connection with the killings and it remains unclear whether the two attacks are related. While government security forces have begun investigations into the two incidents, local sources have reported that al-Shabaab militants are suspected to be behind the latest attack to occur in the capital city.
- **4 November 2013** - A civilian has died after his vehicle drove over a land mine in the northeastern town of Burao, in the region of Somaliland. According to an eyewitness, the explosion destroyed the victim’s car and damaged another vehicle that was passing by.

Regional Reporting

- **8 November 2013** - The Kenyan army has warned residents living in the southern regions of Somalia to stay clear of rebel militant camps and road blocks, hinting that new attacks against al-Shabaab militants were imminent. A statement released by army spokesperson Major Emmanuel Chirchir indicated that Kenyan officials “...ask the good people of Somalia in areas of Gedo, Mid Jubba and Lower Jubba to stay far from al-Shabaab bases/camps/roadblocks.”
- **4 November 2013** - Police and security forces in Ethiopia have been placed on a heightened alert after officials received strong evidence that al-Shabaab is planning attacks in the country. A joint statement released by the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) and federal police stated that “there is strong evidence that indicates al-Shabaab and terrorist groups backed by Eritrea are preparing to carry out attacks in Addis Ababa and other areas of the country soon.” The statement, which was read on state television, also indicated that security forces were already on heightened alert, with officials calling on the public to inform the police if they encountered “suspicious” activity.” The move comes just three weeks after officials indicated that two Somali suicide bombers accidentally blew themselves up while preparing to target football fans during Ethiopia World Cup qualifying match against Nigeria. It also comes after an announcement by the militant group vowing to exact revenge on Ethiopia for deploying troops to Somalia to fight the al-Qaeda-linked terrorist group. Ethiopian forces are fighting al-Shabaab alongside other African Union forces from Burundi, Kenya and Uganda.
 - Meanwhile as security forces remain on high alert following attack warnings, four Ethiopians were killed in a bomb blast on a bus near the Sudanese border. According to Information

Minister Redwan Hussein, “one minibus was blown up on the road and four people were killed,” adding that it was not known who the attackers were. The blast occurred in Ethiopia’s remote Benishangul region, which is located 400 kilometers (248 miles) northwest of Addis Ababa, bordering Sudan. It also took place far from the Somali border. The attack comes as government officials issued an alert warning this week of an increased threat of attacks from Somalia’s al-Shabaab.

- In Kenya, four people have been charged over the siege at the Westgate shopping center in Kenya’s capital, Nairobi. These are the first charges to be brought in relation to the four-day siege which was carried out in September. According to police officials, the four foreigners, named Mohammed Ahmed Abdi, Liban Abdullah, Adnan Ibrahim and Hussein Hassan, have been charged with aiding terrorist groups and begin in Kenya illegally. While their nationalities have not been disclosed, on the ground sources have reported that they are said to be ethnic Somalis. Kenyan police officials have indicated that the four accused had sheltered the attackers in their homes in Eastleigh, a Somali neighborhood in Nairobi, and that they were in contact with the gunmen four days before the siege occurred. All four have pleaded not guilty to the charges, which also included obtaining false identification documents. None of the men however is accused of being the gunmen in the centre. The court has ordered them to be remanded at a local police station after the prosecution requested more time for further investigations.

International Developments

- **4 November 2013** - The US trial of a Somali man, accused of carrying out acts of piracy off the Horn of Africa, began on Monday with prosecutors portraying him as a negotiator while his lawyers defended him as an intelligence source for the United States who served as a translator. Ali Mohamed Ali, a former Washington, D.C., resident, has been charged with helping Somali pirates, who hijacked a Danish cargo vessel in November 2008, negotiate a US \$1.7 million ransom to free the thirteen crew members and ship. He has pleaded not guilty to all the charges against him. While Assistant US Attorney Julieanne Himelstein told the jury in US District Court in Washington that Mr. Ali was not a mere translator for the pirates but that he was a negotiator who arranged for a US \$75,000 side payment for himself once the vessel was released, defence attorneys have indicated that Mr. Ali had been a source in Somali for the US Department of Homeland Security, later advising the Danish shipping company, Clipper Group, about Somali pirates. According to reports, Mr. Ali, who returned to Somalia in 2007, helped the pirates in gathering and identifying the crew’s documents. He has been charged with piracy, conspiracy, attacking a vessel and hostage-taking. If convicted, he faces life in prison. He has already been held in jail for the past two and a half years. Armed pirates seized the cargo ship, CEC Future, in the Gulf of Aden on 7 November 2008. At the time of the hijacking, the vessel was on its way from Belgium to INdonesia. The Future was later taken to the Somali port of Eyl, where it remained until after Clipper Group agreed to pay the ransom.

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

At Sea

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- None reported during this period.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** - South-southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots with seas of 3 - 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 3 - 4 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - The Gulf of Guinea is under the influence of low pressure, with predominately southerly winds in the area. Expect mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers and thunderstorms.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks

- **7 November 2013** - Ten pirates armed with guns and knives boarded and hijacked a Panama-flagged oil tanker, GPT 21, underway at 0330 LT in position 01:20.6N - 103:18.2E, around 7.3 nautical miles west of Pulau Kukup, Malaysia. The pirates tied up all the crew members and held them hostage in one cabin. They later ordered the Master to steer the ship to a pre-designated position. Another unknown orange-hulled tanker came alongside and the pirates forced the C/O to use the cargo pumps, valves and mooring winches to transfer the oil into the unknown tanker. At around 1600 LT, the pirates disembarked after transferring and stealing all the gas oil on board the GPT 21. Prior to leaving, the pirates also stole the crew members personal belongings.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **4 November 2013** - Duty crew on board an anchored chemical tanker spotted two boats nearby at 1230 LT in position 03:54N - 098:46E, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia. Robbers attempted to board the tanker via anchor chain but alerted crew thwarted the boarding. A second boat, which was hidden near the propeller, could not be chased away by crew members who were using the fire hoses. The propeller was turned on, resulting in the robbers moving away. The robbers were spotted with some stolen hull anodes in their boat. Port Control was informed of the incident.
- **2 November 2013 (Late Report)** - Fifteen armed robbers boarded an anchored Indian-flagged container ship, Jindal Tara, at 0330 LT in position 21:40N - 088:01E, Sagar Anchorage, India. D/O noticed the robbers stealing the ship's stores and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped.
- **23 October 2013 (Late Report)** - While at anchor, robbers boarded a Denmark-flagged chemical tanker, Torm Fox, at 0025 LT in position 07:06S - 112:40 E, Gresik Inner anchorage, Surabaya, Indonesia. The roving patrol shouted at the robbers upon seeing them. The forward horn was sounded and the crew members were informed about the robbers. The robbers immediately escaped in a small boat. An inspection was conducted in order to check for stowaways and damages.
- **22 October 2013 (Late Report)** - While at anchor, robbers boarded a Thailand-flagged LPG tanker, Senna 3, at 1545 LT in position 22:49.80N - 070:06.30E, Kandla Port anchorage, India. Robbers boarded the vessel from the starboard bow. Upon discovering the robbers, the emergency alarm was raised and the crew members attempted to expel the robbers. The robbers threatened the crew with a knife before escaping. Cash and the ship's spare parts were stolen.

- **21 October 2013 (Late Report)** - While at anchor, robbers boarded a Singapore-flagged tug, Svitzer Kallang, at 0300 LT in position 01:22.73N - 104:42.24E, approximately 11.7 nautical miles northeast of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan, Indonesia. Robbers were discovered by the Master in the mess room. The robbers threatened him with an iron lance, later escaping with a laptop, portable welding machine, fire axe, generator spare parts and filters. Following the incident, the Master raised the general alarm and the crew members conducted security patrols. SPOCC initiated a broadcast to alert mariners. The Police Coast Guard and Singapore Navy were informed of the incident.
- **17 October 2013 (Late Report)** - While underway, robbers from two small crafts boarded a Panama-flagged tug, Miclyn Opal, at 1320 UTC in position 01:13.79N - 104:04.62E, approximately 1.45 nautical miles North of Pulau Nongsa (Batam), Indonesia. Robbers boarded astern of the barge that was being towed and stole the emergency towing wire. The Singapore Navy was informed of the incident.
- **12 October 2013 (Late Report)** - While underway, robbers boarded a Saint Barthelemy (France)-flagged barge carrier, Westsea 95, at 0235 LT in position 01:14N - 103:59E, Eastbound lane of Singapore Strait (TSS) while being towed by a tugboat on route to Lampung, Indonesia. All crew members were mustered to the accommodation deck. Master instructed the crew to lock the watertight door and entrance of the tug boat from inside. The roving patrol shouted at the robbers. After being noticed by the crew in the tugboat, the robbers escaped onboard a small boat and took with them a stern railing, emergency tow line and a Norwegian buoy.

SOUTH AMERICA

At Sea

Hijacks

- No hijackings reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- No incidents reported during this period



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