

# 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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- Project Management
  - Interim security
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  - Crisis management
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  - Hostile operations support to commercial interests
  
- Virtual Security Director service for clients lacking a full time security executive.

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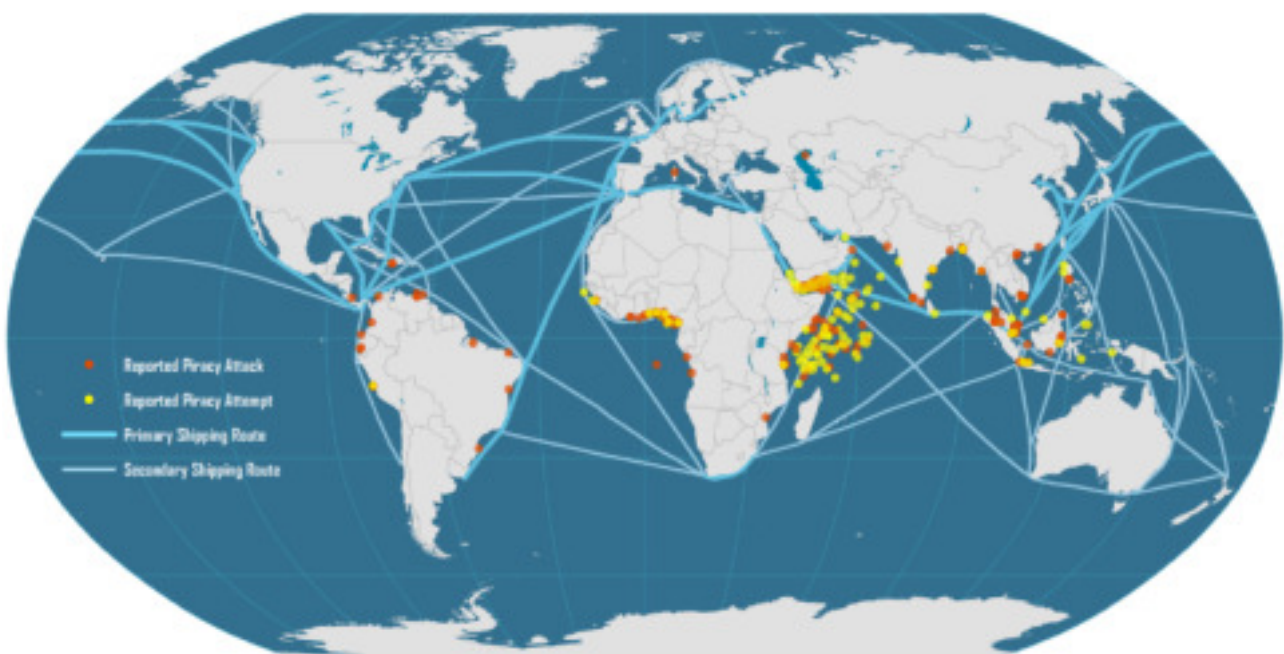
# SUMMARY

(27 January – 2 February, 2014 – Week 5; Edition 22)

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## List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

- **Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** Two incidents reported during this period
- **Somalia-Indian Ocean:** No incidents reported during this period.
- **Southeast Asia:** One late reported incident.
- **South America:** N 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

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## Executive Summary

*The Northeast Monsoon period is currently in full force and will have an influence on the region until the end of February. Although some increased winds and sea levels are expected, they will not be as strong as during the Southwest Monsoon season. Single skiffs and whalers will likely find it more difficult to operate under these conditions however pirate action groups (PAG's) using mothership dhows will likely retain their capabilities of conducting operations throughout this monsoonal period. There will likely be an increase of skiffs around the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden regions as these will be areas that will see minimal monsoon conditions. Masters are advised to remain vigilant at all times, including in the High Risk Area (HRA).*

## At Sea

### Hijacks

- No incidents reported during this period.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- No incidents reported during this period.

### Suspicious Activity

- No incidents reported during this period.

## Piracy Related News

- **29 January 2014** – International collaboration in the fight against piracy has resulted in the transfer of five suspected pirates by the EU Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) Somalia Operation Atalanta flagship, FS Siroco, to the Republic of Seychelles, with the aim of prosecuting them for acts of piracy. On 18 January, the FS Siroco, in cooperation with Japanese assets in support of the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF/CTF 151) freed the crew of an Indian Dhow which was believed to have been used by the five suspected pirates as a mothership in the attack on an oil tanker in the Gulf of Aden a day earlier. Officials from the EU Naval Force indicated that its crew was able to gather a significant amount of evidence and on that basis, the Republic of the Seychelles accepted the transfer of the suspected pirates with the intention to prosecute them. Over the past few years, the EU, including through EU NAVFOR, has developed a successful partnership with the Republic of Seychelles in the fight against piracy. The transfer agreement, which was signed in December 2009, has up to now allowed forty-seven, including the recent five, suspected pirates to be transferred. With thirty-three pirates now prosecuted, the Seychelles has played a leading role in achieving a legal finish against piracy in the region.

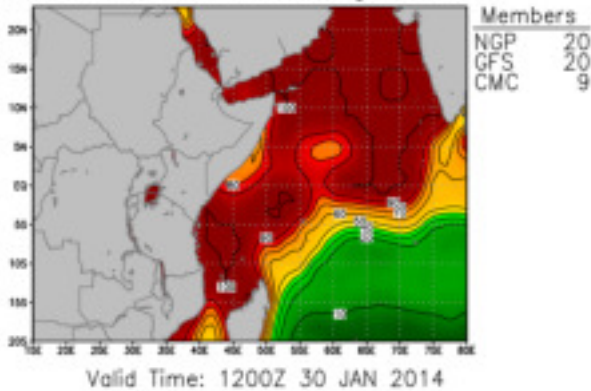
## Weather Analysis

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Westerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with westerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Variable 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 variable at 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Aden** – Easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section; with winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2- 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – North-northwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – A large low pressure center dominates the Mozambique Channel, producing rain showers and scattered thunderstorms. Expect northerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the northern Channel; with north-northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the southern Channel.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; with variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern Channel winds
- **Surface Currents** – The Northern Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden 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 Northeastern Monsoonal pattern continues to influence the entire region. High pressure over the Arabian Peninsula is producing fair winds and seas.

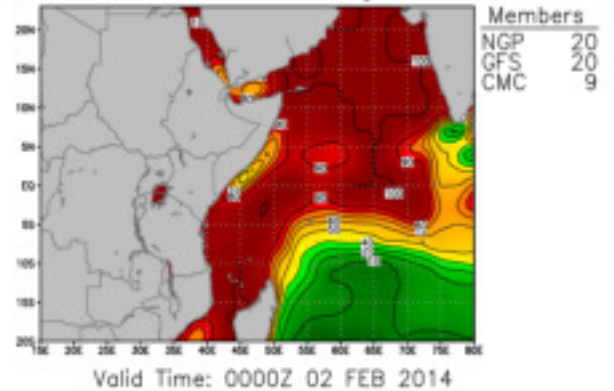


## Sea Conditions for the Following Week

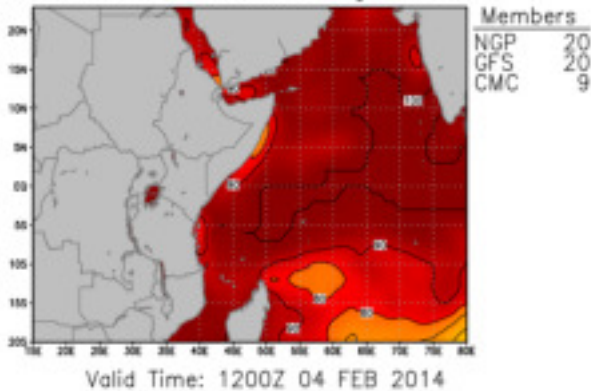
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



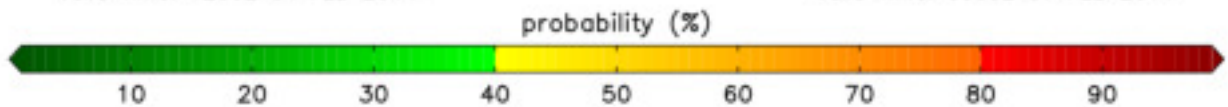
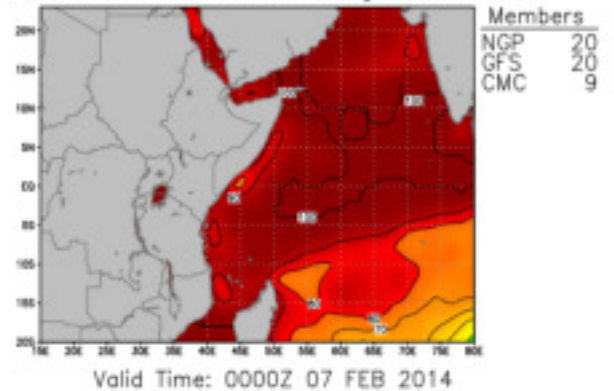
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



\*\*\* 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 ~ Somalia

- **31 January 2014** – A Kenyan military spokesman has indicated that most Kenyan troops will soon be leaving the port city of Kismayo, which they took over after ousting al-Shabaab militants more than a year ago. Col. Willy Wesonga has confirmed that the Kenyan army command will soon leave Kismayo and will be replaced by Sierra Leonean troops. While only a small Kenyan unit will remain in Kismayo, the rest will be deployed to the region of Gedo. The announcement comes after months of accusations, that Kenyan forces have been accused of misconduct including the backing of one Somali militia against others in Kismayo. This led the Somali Federal Government in Mogadishu to request that a more neutral force be deployed in Kismayo.
- **30 January 2014** – A wanted al-Shabaab official, Sheikh Hassan Dahir Aweys, who has been in custody over the past six months, was put under house arrest in Mogadishu on Wednesday evening. According to sources, Somali Federal Government soldiers escorted Mr Aweys shortly after he was released from an intelligence base. He has been relocated to a heavily fortified building in one of Mogadishu's neighborhoods under the protection of government forces. Reports have indicated that he was released as a result of length discussions that took place between the Mogadishu-based government and Hawiye clan elders. Following a bitter feud and violent dispute within al-Shabaab ranks, Sheikh Aweys escaped from the coastal town of Barawe, in the Lower Shabelle region, after al-Shabaab chief Ahmed Godane dispatched al-Shabaab militants to apprehend him. Sheikh Aweys was later transported by plane from Adado district, in the region of Galgadud, where he reported "surrendered" to the Himan and Heeb local administration, which transferred him to the Federal Government in Mogadishu in June 2013.
- **29 January 2014** – At least seven people, including two civilians, were killed during renewed clashes that occurred in southern Lower Shabelle region. Local residents have reported that the fighting erupted on Wednesday in the Wanlaweyn district after some government troops "attempted to disarm" another group of government troops. According to on the ground sources, heavy gunfire could be heard across the town, with government sources indicating that military officers were en route to Wanlaweyn in order to calm the tensions amongst the government troops. Since 2012, Somali government troops deployed in the Lower Shabelle region have fought each other along clan lines. To further destabilize the security situation in the southern region of Somalia, the coastal town of Barawe remains al-Shabaab's largest stronghold in southern Somalia.
- **26 January 2014** - Reports from the Mudug and Galgadud regions of Somalia have indicated that al-Shabaab has shut down Internet services in many parts of the two regions. Officials from Hormud Telecom in Galgadud region indicated that the militant group has turned off Internet access in El-Bur, El-Dher, El-Garas and Gal-Hareri, along with many other parts of the region. Officials have also indicated that many parts in Mudug region, including Haradhere, have also experienced similar shutdowns. Last week, al-Shabaab shut down Internet services in parts of Hiraan region. The move comes after the militant group issued an order effectively banning telecom companies from providing mobile Internet and fibre optic services.

## Domestic News ~ Somalia

- **27 January 2014** – Somalia's Federal Government has unveiled its plan to purchase arms for the first time since the United Nations Security Council lifted an arms embargo on the Horn of Africa nation last year. Somalia's President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud has indicated that while his government is willing to wipe out al-Shabaab from the country there is a need to equip the national forces. While the president has not mentioned where Somalia will purchase the arms from, reports have suggested that Yemen and Ethiopia are possible nations. In 1992, the UN Security Council imposed an arms embargo on Somalia, a reaction to the local conflict and deteriorating

humanitarian situation in the country. This arms embargo however was lifted in early 2013 in a bid to aid the country's first central government in its fight against terrorism and piracy.

## Domestic News ~ Puntland

- **29 January 2014** – Puntland's new Cabinet minister held their first meeting Wednesday at Puntland State House in the capital Garowe. The meeting was chaired by Puntland's newly elected President Abdiweli Mohamed Ali Gaas. State officials have indicated that the first meeting gave opportunity for introductions amongst Cabinet ministers, some of whom are returning members, some are Diaspora members while some are local members. Puntland's parliament is expected to approve a confidence vote on the new Cabinet next week.
- **28 January 2014** – The newly elected President of Somali's northeastern state of Puntland, Dr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali Gas, unveiled his new government on Tuesday afternoon. During a press conference at Puntland State House, in the capital of Garowe, the chief of Cabinet of the President's office, Deeq Suleiman Yusuf, announced the cabinet line up, with forty-six officials getting portfolios in the President's new cabinet. Five women have attained ministerial posts, with Anisa Abdulkadir Haji Mumin and Sahra Saed Nour being assigned to the ministries of women and constitution respectively. Three other women received Deputy Position. The former Presidents of the self-declared Khaatumo administration, Ahmed Elmi Osman and Abdinur Elmi Qaaje have also been named as Interior and Fisheries Ministers respectively. Hassan Osman Mohamud Aloor, former Petroleum Minister under President Gen. Mohamud Musse Hirsi's incumbency will replace the outgoing security minister Col. Khalif Isse Mudan. Former chairman of Midnimo Political Association, Dr. Saadiq Enow, who also relinquished his candidacy for Puntland president during the state's latest presidential election became Minister of Health. Amongst those who lost the presidential race, but who appeared on the cabinet list are Ali Haji Warsame and Shire Haji Farah. Mr Warsame was appointed to the ministry of education while Mr Shire Farah will be sworn into the finance ministry.

## Regional Reporting

- **30 January 2014** – Security agents are on high alert after intelligence reports indicated that al-Shabaab militants were planning to carry out attacks in Kenya and other African countries who have deployed soldiers to Somalia. Information from Kenyan Intelligence agencies indicates that government buildings and other installations throughout the country could be targeted. David Kimaiyo, the Inspector-General of Police in Kenya indicated Thursday that security has been increased throughout the areas that have been identified as potential targets. Also targeted are Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Uganda as these countries' troops contribute to the African Union peace-keeping force in Somalia. The AMISOM military component has 5,432 troops from Burundi; 1,000 from Djibouti; 3,664 from Kenya; 850 from Sierra Leone and 6,223 from Uganda. Last week, Ethiopia officially deployed 4,395 soldiers who joined the force.

## International Developments

- **30 January 2014** – The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) has reiterated its earlier call for countries hosting Somali refugees not to repatriate them as the country's security situation has not yet stabilized. A statement released by the UN agency indicated that the southern and central regions of Somalia continue to be too dangerous for refugees to be repatriated, adding that the UN is "...appealing to all states to uphold their international obligations with regard to no forced returns, or non-refoulement." UNHCR spokesman Dan Maclsaac also

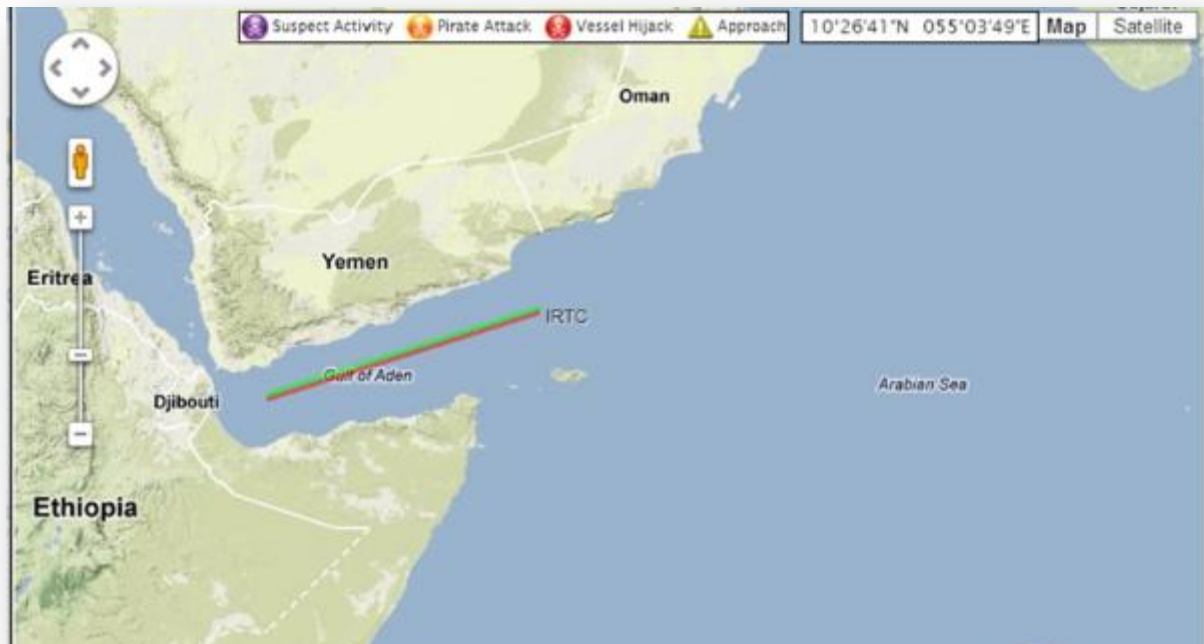


noted that “Somali nationals should not be forcibly returned to Somalia unless the returning state is convinced that the persons involved will not be at risk of persecution.” He added that Somalis are at risk of being killed or wounded in crossfire between government forces and al-Shabaab militants as well as by targeted attacks. Kenya currently hosts the highest number of Somali refugees in the region.

## Domestic News ~ Puntland

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## Map



# GULF OF GUINEA

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## Executive Summary

*Although over the past week pirate and maritime crime activity in West African waters has remained at a low level, the threat of piracy and maritime crime remains high. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and in all regions of the Gulf of Guinea.*

## At Sea

### Hijacks

- No incidents reported during this period.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **30 January 2014** – Cyprus-flagged tug, Lamnalco Hawk, reported attacked and boarded by three pirates at 0430 LT in position 04:11.51N – 005:44.40E, Pennington Terminal area, Bayelsa State, Nigeria. Crew managed to lock themselves in the citadel, evading the pirates who later left the vessel, possibly after ransacking the vessel.
- **29 January 2014** – Nigeria-flagged OSV, Cee Jay, attacked and boarded by pirates at approximately 2215 LT in position 04:20.6N – 005:17.5E, around 28 nautical miles off Bayelsa State, Nigeria. Pirates reported to have kidnapped Master and Chief Engineer, and also robbed the crew. Robbers left the vessel around midnight.

## Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** – South-southeast winds at 5 – 10 knots with seas of 3 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – South-southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 3 – 4 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – Low pressure over the Gulf of Guinea will produce partly to mostly cloudy skies.

## Piracy Related News

- **31 January 2014** – An official has indicated that Nigeria's military has helped rescue three Indian nationals who were kidnapped from a cargo ship off Equatorial Guinea and held hostage in Nigeria. Marily Ogar, a spokeswoman for Nigeria's government, indicated that no ransom payment was made and that five kidnappers were arrested during Thursday's operation which freed the captives who were being held in Nigeria's Rivers state. The leader of the kidnappers however remains at large. She provided no further details about the operation. The Indian crew members were kidnapped on 3 January 2014 from the MV San Migue, a ship belonging to Equatorial Guinea

company Martinez Hermanos Limitada. After being freed, they were handed over to the Indian High Commission and the Equatorial Guinea Embassy in Nigeria.

- **27 January 2014** – A press release issued by Dynacom Tankers Management, the management of the ‘missing,’ then confirmed hijacked tanker, MT Kerala, has stated that the vessel and crew members are safe, however one crew member sustained minimal injuries. The statement further indicated that a large amount of the vessel’s oil cargo was stolen. The vessel’s owners confirmed that “pirates hijacked the vessel offshore Angola and stole a large quantity of cargo by ship-to-ship transfer. The pirates have now disembarked.” The statement did not provide any further details on the attack, nor did it provide the vessel’s current location. Dynacom’s version of events contradicts an account put forth by the Angolan Navy, which alleges that the crew members had turned off the ship’s communications in a bid to fake a pirate attack. On Sunday, Captain Augusto Alfredo, spokesman for the Angolan Navy, indicated that the ship had been located in Nigeria and that reports of a hijacking were false. Captain Alfredo declined to comment on how the navy had established the behavior of the MT Kerala’s crew, stating only that other authorities may provide further details. At the time, the report of a possible vessel hijacking raised concerns that piracy off West Africa was spreading south from the Gulf of Guinea, near Nigeria, where most hijacking gangs are believed to originate. Any attack off Angola, which is the continent’s second crude producer, would be the most southerly to date.
- **28 January 2014** – The Ivory Coast’s defence minister has announced that his country will be adding around forty new vessels to its depleted Navy as it confronts a growing threat from pirates in the Gulf of Guinea. A statement released by Defence Minister Paul Koffi Koffi indicated that “these vessels will provide security on our rivers, the lagoon and at sea,” adding that ‘they will fight piracy, infiltration and illicitly trafficking and will be managed by the navy.’ Ten years of political upheaval, which culminated in a brief civil war in 2011 has resulted in the Ivory Coast’s navy being seriously damaged. Efforts to rebuild it have been hampered by a United Nations-imposed embargo on weapons imports. However recently, the UN approved the purchase of the new vessels, with some of them already in the Ivory Coast. The order was placed with France’s Raidco Marine and includes around thirty inflatable speed launches. The rest are 9- to 12-metre craft and 33-metre patrol boats. The new vessels will be managed by the navy however they will also be used by the police and gendarmerie. Attacks on commercial vessels off the coast of West Africa increased by a third last year. The first known hijacking of a vessel in Ivory Coast territorial waters occurred late in 2012, with similar attacks occurring since.

# SOUTHEAST ASIA

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## Executive Summary

*The threat of violent attacks, crime and hijackings remain high in waters in Southeast Asia. Masters are therefore reminded to remain vigilant at all times in all regions, including in ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at any time.*

## At Sea

### Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **18 January 2014 (Late Report)** – Five robbers fired upon and boarded a Panama-flagged bulk carrier, Oriental Sapphire, at 0200 LT in position 01:06.15N – 104:10.28E, Eastern Batam anchorage, Indonesia. Robbers went to the engine room. OOW reported to the Singapore POCC, later locking himself and other crew members in the bridge while the robbers were still inside the engine room. Prior to escaping, the robbers stole personal belongings and the ship's property. RSC Tanjung Pinang arrived in the area. There was no injury to the crew members.



# SOUTH AMERICA

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## Executive Summary

*The threat of violent attacks and robberies remain high in water throughout South America. Masters are therefore reminded to remain vigilant at all times in all regions, including in ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at any time.*

## At Sea

### Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- None reported during this period.



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