

MS | RISK

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

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 - Due diligence and investigations.
- Project Management
 - Interim security
 - Training
 - 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.
More information is found at www.msrisk.com

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Summary (June 30 – July 6, 2014 - Week 27; Edition 44)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Gulf of Guinea/West Africa: One incident reported during this period.

Somalia-Indian Ocean: Two suspicious incidents and four late suspicious incidents reported.

Southeast Asia: Four incidents reported and one late incident reported during this period.

South America: No incidents reported during this period.

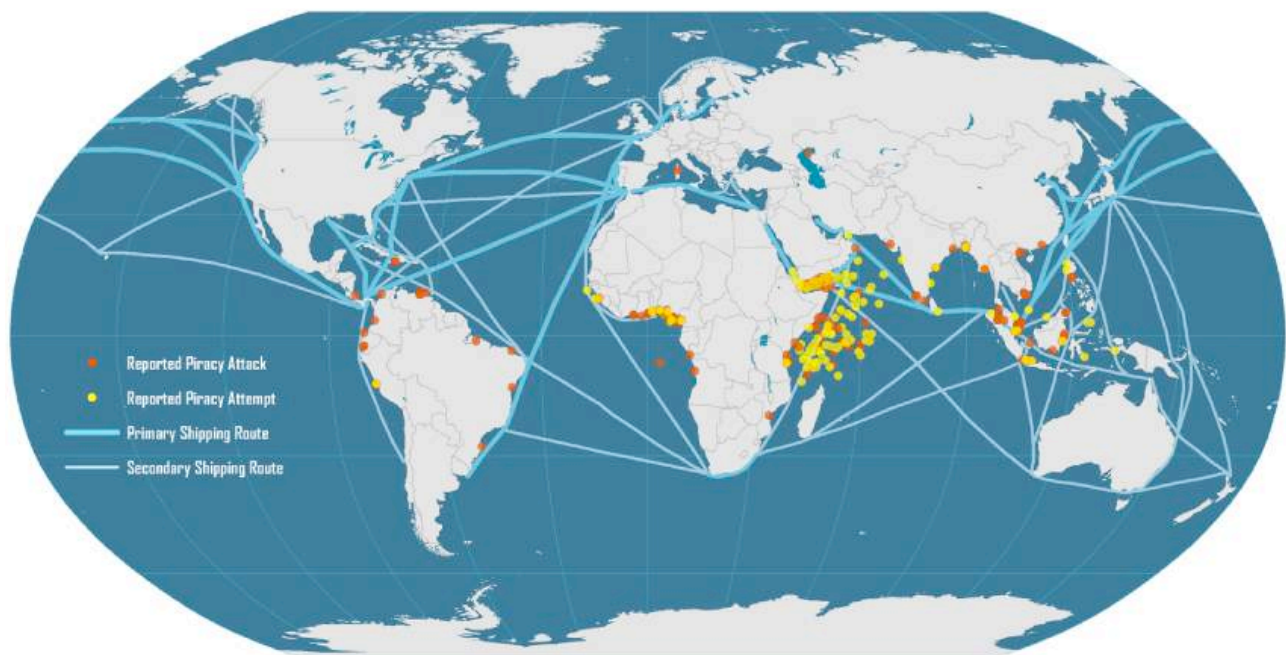
North America: No current incidents to report

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

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

Suspicious Activity:

- **4 July 2014** – At 1100 UTC, a merchant vessel reported one skiff, accompanied by a dhow, on a parallel course at three nautical miles in position 13:47N – 042.25E, in the Red Sea. The skiff, which was carrying five pirates on board, closed to 900m then headed back to the dhow where five additional personnel transferred onto the skiff. As the skiff closed to 1200m, the armed security team on board the vessel displayed its weapons, resulting in the skiff following the merchant vessel for a short time before stopping. The vessel and all crewmembers on board have been reported safe.
- **30 June 2014** – At 1845 LT, a Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier reported being approached by skiffs while in position 13:13N – 042:39E, Red Sea. Five skiffs followed astern of MV with a further five skiffs approaching at high speeds to within 300 meters of the bulk carrier. Weapons, AK-47 type, were observed on board one of the skiffs. The Master of the bulk carrier ordered the fire houses activated, conducted evasive maneuvers, increased speed and informed CP forces. Embarked armed security team on board fired flares resulting in the skiffs abandoning their approach.
- **28 June 2014 (Late Report)** – At 1425UTC a merchant vessel, in position 13:08.14N – 049:11.50E, IRTC, Gulf of Aden, reported a suspicious blue hulled skiff with four pirates on board following at 10 knots astern. The skiff closed to 1.5 nautical miles. Armed security team on board the vessel fired a warning flare and the vessel increased its speed. Vessel and crewmembers on board are reported safe.
 - Singapore-flagged product tanker, Torm Sofia, reported suspicious approach by a fishing vessel with four suspected pirates on board at 1210 UTC while in position 13:15.4N – 049:11.3E, Gulf of Aden. No weapons or ladder were sighted on board the boat, which was covered by a tarpaulin. Vessel crossed starboard bow at three nautical miles, then crossed closer. Embarked security team on board the product tanker stood too and fired warning shots, resulting in the skiff aborting its approach. Authorities were informed of the incident. Vessel and crewmembers are reported safe.
 - Merchant vessel reported being approached by two blue and white hulled skiffs at 1044 UTC in position 22:16.65N – 060:13.6E, approximately 123 nautical miles southeast of Muscat, Oman, Gulf of Oman. The two skiffs approached the vessel to 1400 m. One skiff had three pirates on board while the other had two pirates on board. The armed security team on board the vessel

gave a verbal warning through the loudspeaker and displayed their weapons. Despite this, the skiffs continued to approach the vessel, resulting in the armed security team firing a flare and warning shots. The skiffs withdrew only to approach again. The armed security team fired another flare and more warning shots, resulting in the skiffs abandoning their approach. Vessel and crew are safe.

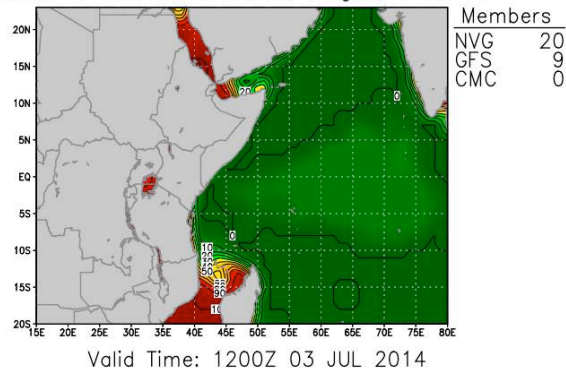
- **27 June 2014 (Late Report)** – Merchant vessel reported detecting at least two skiffs on radar approaching astern at 20 knots at 2230 UTC in position 13:15N – 049:08E, IRTC, Gulf of Aden. The vessel activated its fire hoses as the skiffs closed to within 1 nautical mile. A nearby warship launched a helicopter in order to investigate. Vessel and crew are reported safe.

Weather Analysis

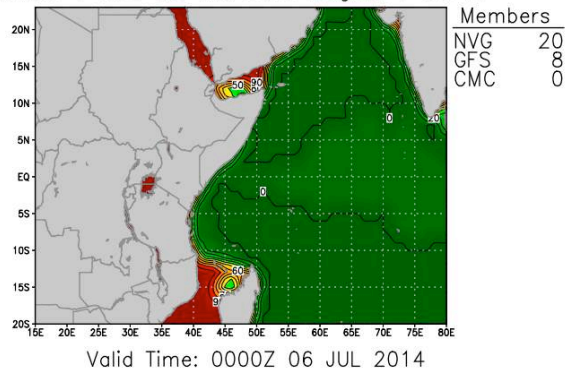
- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 9 – 12 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 9 – 12 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – East-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with northwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – East-southeast 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.
- **Gulf of Aden** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be southeasterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 4 – 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet in the southern Channel.
- **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 Southwest Monsoon is continuing to influence the weather throughout the region. Expect northwesterly winds, clear to partly cloudy skies and reduced visibility during periods of blowing dust.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week

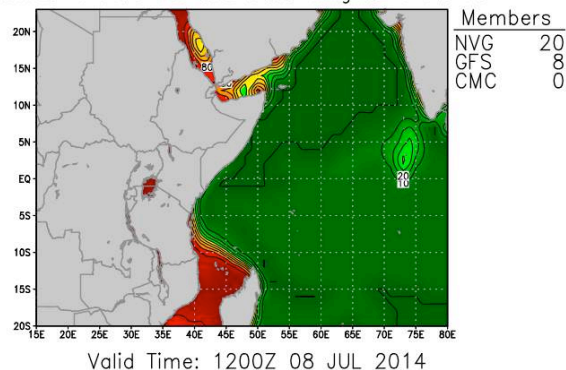
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



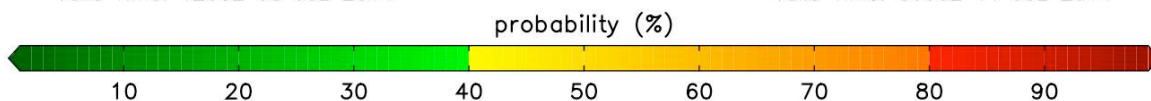
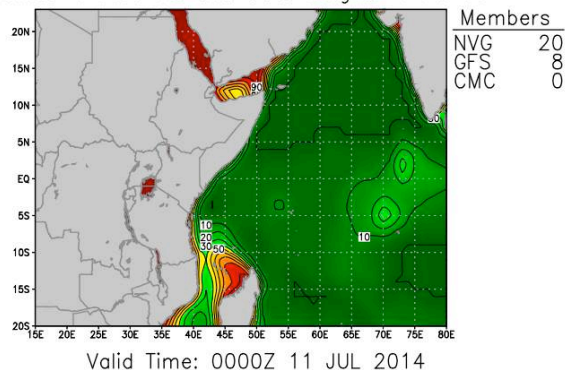
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



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 operation 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

- **5 July 2014** – Several people were killed Saturday when a powerful suicide car bomb exploded near Somalia's parliament in the capital city. Hours after the attack, al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the latest bombing. Police official Mohamed Idle confirmed that attack, stating, "a car loaded with explosives was intercepted near the parliament and it went off. There are casualties but we don't have details so far." He also confirmed that a suicide bomber was in the car. While police and eyewitnesses at the scene have reported that three police officers and the suicide bomber were killed in the blast, officials have not released an exact death toll. Hours after the attack, al-Shabaab, who have carried out frequent attacks against the parliament and other centers linked to Somalia's government, claimed responsibility and vowed that such attacks would continue. Al-Shabaab spokesman Abdulaziz Abu Musab indicated that the group's militants "...killed more than a dozen so-called police members after a sacrificial attack at the main entrance of the parliament buildings," adding "we want to tell them that the MP's are not safe anywhere in Mogadishu. By the grace of Allah more attacks will come and continue." The attack comes just two days after an MP and his bodyguard were killed while leaving a hotel in Mogadishu. Al-Shabaab has also claimed responsibility for that attack. Last month, al-Shabaab militants also set off a car bomb at the gates of parliament, later storming into the building while MP's were meeting. That attack left several dead. At the time, an al-Shabaab spokesman described the parliament as a "military zone," adding that it was a legitimate target. It is believed that over the holy month of Ramadan, al-Shabaab will continue to carry out deadly attacks throughout Mogadishu, and will likely specifically target the parliament and MP's as it attempts to destabilize the fragile government.
- **3 July 2014** – On Thursday, gunmen killed a Somali lawmaker and his bodyguard in a drive-by shooting in the capital city. Mohamed Mohamud Heyd, his bodyguard, a parliamentary aide and another lawmaker were on their way to attend a parliamentary meeting in Mogadishu when their car was sprayed with bullets. According to Capt. Mohamed Hussein of the Somali police, the attack occurred near the fortified presidential police. Heyd and his bodyguard were killed instantly while the other two were injured. Heyd is the third lawmaker to be killed this year. While no group has claimed responsibility for the latest attack, al-Shabaab militants have often carried out deadly assaults in Mogadishu, with many of them targeting government officials. The militant group also vowed earlier this week to increase its violence during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. **Update (4 July 2014)** – Late Thursday, al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the shooting death of a lawmaker. Al-Shabaab's spokesman, Abdulaziz Abu Musab confirmed "this was a targeted assassination. We also wounded another MP and two bodyguards. He also warned that the militant group "...will continue to hunt other MP's if they do not leave the apostate organization." Witnesses at the scene reported that MP Ahmed Mohamud Heyd, a former minister and senior army commander, was killed in the capital's port district, which is one of the most heavily policed areas in the capital city.
- **1 July 2014** – Days after vowing to increase attacks in Mogadishu over the holy month of Ramadan, al-Shabaab has claimed responsibility for a number of attacks that have been carried out in the capital city. On Tuesday, al-Shabaab spokesman Abdulaziz Abu Musab confirmed "mujahedeen fighters have carried out operations inside Mogadishu killing several of the apostate government soldiers," warning soldiers that the group will "target them on the streets and inside their bases." These latest threats echo warnings made last week by al-Shabaab commander in Mogadishu Sheikh Ali Mohamed Hussein who stated that the capital city would become the "frontline" for assaults. This appeared to be the case on Monday as five

blasts were reported throughout the capital city, including a roadside bomb that killed at least two people when it ripped through a market busy with shoppers purchasing food to celebrate the breaking of the Ramadan fast with their families at sunset. Government security officer Osman Ali confirmed that in a separate incident, a transport ministry worker was killed when a bomb hidden beneath his car “exploded as he drove off.” While in another attack, eyewitnesses reported that one soldier was killed when grenades were thrown at a checkpoint just hours after another soldier was shot dead in the capital city’s key commercial center Bakara Market.

- **30 June 2014** – At least two people were killed Monday when a bomb exploded in a busy market in Mogadishu’s capital city. Police officer Abdi Bare confirmed the incident stating, “the explosive device was planted under a pile of rubbish near a police post,” adding “two people are confirmed killed and seven others, mainly civilians, were wounded.” The roadside bomb targeted Mogadishu’s Karan market, which is located in the northern area of the city, where people were busy purchasing food to celebrate the breaking of fast with their families at sunset. According to one eyewitness, “the market was very busy when a heavy explosion rocked the area where fruits and vegetables are sold, I saw several injured people, it was a large blast.” While there was no immediate claim of responsibility, al-Shabaab is suspected of being behind the latest attack as the militant group has in the past carried out a string of similar bombings. The militant group’s commander in Mogadishu, Sheikh Ali Mohamed Hussein, also vowed Sunday to increase attacks during the fasting month of Ramadan.
 - Officials confirmed Monday that an official with the Somali transport ministry was killed by a bomb blast in the capital city just hours after at least two people were killed and seven wounded after another bomb blast ripped through a busy market. Ahmed Issack, a police officer in the city, confirmed that the government worker had succumbed to his injuries, which were sustained when a bomb went off as he drove his car, in hospital. It remains unclear whether the bomb was planted in the car or whether it was planted along the road and detonated remotely.

Regional Reporting

- **6 July 2014** – Kenya’s Interior Ministry confirmed Sunday that at least twenty-nine people have been killed in two deadly shooting attacks, which occurred in Kenya’s coastal district. Witnesses have reported that heavily armed men raided a trading center in the village of Hindi, in Lamu County, and a police station in Gamba, Tana River County, overnight on Saturday. According to one eyewitness, about a dozen armed men had appeared in



Hindi late on Saturday evening. County Commissioner Miiri Njenga has confirmed that some government offices and properties have been destroyed. Gunmen also broke into Gamba's police station, reportedly freeing at least one suspect who had been detained over a deadly al-Shabaab attack two weeks ago. Al-Shabaab has confirmed that its militants are behind the latest killings. Over the past several weeks, the militant group has carried out a number of attacks in the region. Attacks in the Lamu area early last month killed at least sixty people as gunmen attacked hotels and a police station near Mpeketoni and targeted locals watching a World Cup match.

- **30 June 2014** – Court officials in Kenya confirmed Monday that a Kenyan governor, who is facing charges of terrorism and murder in relation to a number of massacres that were carried out earlier this month in the coastal regions of the country, has been released on bail. Governor Issa Timamy of Lamu county was arrested last week in connection with the killings that occurred earlier this month in the town of Mpeketoni and in nearby villages. On Monday, High Court Judge Martin Muya ruled that there were “no grounds to continue detaining him in custody,” adding that Timamy was released on bail of five million Kenyan shillings (US \$57,000). Prosecution lawyer Alexander Muteti has confirmed that the governor is “being investigated for the offence of murder, forcible transfer of populations and terrorism related offenses.” Last week, police also arrested alleged separatists from the Mombasa Republican Council (MRC), a group that campaigns for independence of the coastal region.

International Developments

- **3 July 2014** – On Thursday, US defense officials confirmed that the US military has secretly maintained forces in Somalia since 2007, despite making earlier public statements claiming that it had no presence in the country until last October. The decision appears to have come from the head of Africa Command, General David Rodrigues, who took over the post last April and who favors a less secretive stance, particularly as Washington's defense relationship with Somalia progresses. According to one official, General Rodriguez “...wanted to be more open,” adding that this latest decision “...reflects that approach.” Last October, the Pentagon had announced the arrival of a handful of military advisers in Somalia, stating that this was the first deployment of American forces to the country since 1993. At the time, Pentagon officials had chosen not to publicly reveal the military's footprint in Somalia out of concern for the safety of troops deployed there and out of respect for the “sensitivities” of the Somali government. Officials have also acknowledged that deploying troops to Somalia has long been a sensitive question ever since the disastrous 1993 intervention when two US helicopters were shot down and eighteen soldiers were killed. According to a defense official, the US has deployed up to 120 troops in the African nation, with sources indicating that it hopes to bolster its security ties with Somalia's government. The US troops currently operating in Somalia are mainly Green Beret Special Forces, who specialize in training and advising local armies. The revelation of the years-long US troops presence also comes as President Barack Obama prepares to name the first American ambassador to Somalia since the civil war erupted more than twenty years ago.
- **30 June 2014** – Officials in China announced Monday that they will re-open its embassy in Somalia, twenty-three years after the country evacuated its diplomats as the Horn of Africa nation plunged into civil war. According to Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei, the decision came after Somalia established its first government and parliament in twenty-one years, adding that Beijing would send a delegation to Somalia on

Tuesday. Speaking to reporters at a regular briefing, Mr Hong also stated “Somalia has entered a new stage of its peace process,” noting “that brings a new opportunity for the development of China-Somalia relations.” In January 1991, Chinese diplomats left Somalia after a longtime dictator was overthrown and warlords turned on each other, effectively plunging the impoverished country into chaos. China however is not the first state to re-establish diplomatic ties with Somalia. In June of this year, the United States announced that it would appoint an ambassador to Somalia, however it did note at the time that there was no immediate plans to re-open its embassy in the capital, Mogadishu, which has been beset with violence and deadly bombings that have been carried out by al-Shabaab militants. China currently has a fairly large presence on the African continent, with Chinese companies building roads, airports and other infrastructure in a number of African countries. This has resulted in Beijing, in recent years, opening more embassies and commercial offices. According to official figures, last year, China-Africa trade reached US \$210 billion.

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **30 June 2014** – Two robbers in a speed boat armed with long knives approached and boarded an anchored Antigua & Barbuda-flagged general cargo ship, Jandavid S, at 0045 LT in position 05:12N – 004:03.8W, Abidjan Anchorage, Ivory Coast. The duty A/B on routine rounds spotted the robbers and informed the D/O who raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores in their boat. All crew was mustered and a search of the vessel was carried out. Port Control and ships in the vicinity were informed.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** – Southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – The Gulf of Guinea will be impacted by partly to mostly cloudy skies, with isolated thunderstorms.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **2 July 2014** – Two armed robbers in a wooden fishing boat approached and boarded an anchored tanker from the stern at 0330 LT in position 01:28N – 104:40E, off Pulau Bintan, Indonesia. Alert crew on board the tanker spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the alerted crew members, the robbers escaped empty handed.
- **30 June 2014** – Five robbers armed with guns boarded an anchored Panama-flagged vehicle carrier, Barcelona, at 2345 LT in position 05:59.47S – 106:54.24E, Tanjung Priok Anchorage, Indonesia. They entered the engine room, took the duty oiler hostage, tied and blindfolded him. They then stole engine spares and escaped. The duty oiler freed himself and informed the D/O who raised the alarm and mustered the crew. The vessel's Master reported the incident to the Pilot Station, with the Indonesian Marine Police later boarding the ship to carry out an investigation.
 - Six armed robbers boarded a Korea-flagged LPG vessel, G Commander, underway at 0500 LT in position 01:07N – 103:30E, five nautical miles east of Karimun Kechil Island, Indonesia. They entered into the engine room and took hostage an engine room crewmember. They later tied his hands and stole a number of engine parts. While escaping, the robbers released the crew member who then raised the alarm.
 - Alert crew on board an anchored Panama-flagged container vessel, Hanjin Qingdao, spotted unauthorized persons on board their vessel at 0315 LT in position 01:25.3N – 104:44.3E, around fifteen nautical miles northeast of Bintan Island, Indonesia. Alarm was raised, resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen ship stores.
- **27 June 2014 (Update)** – Duty AB onboard an anchored Indonesia-flagged bulk carrier, Piera, noticed the padlock to the forecastle store broken and sighted three robbers armed with knives at 0335 LT in position 01:17.6S – 116:47.6E, Balikpapan Inner Anchorage, Indonesia. He immediately informed the 2/O who raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crewmembers alertness, the robbers escaped with stolen ship stores.

Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

SOUTH AMERICA

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.



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