

MS | RISK

Global Piracy Report

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

About MS Risk

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

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MS Risk supports clients in a variety of business sectors with the following services:

- Security Consulting
 - Risk assessments and intelligence reporting
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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 (July 14 - 20, 2014 - Week 29; Edition 46)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Gulf of Guinea/West Africa: No incidents reported during this period.

Somalia-Indian Ocean: No incidents reported during this period.

Southeast Asia: One reported hijacking; one incident and one late reported incident.

South America: No incidents reported during this period.

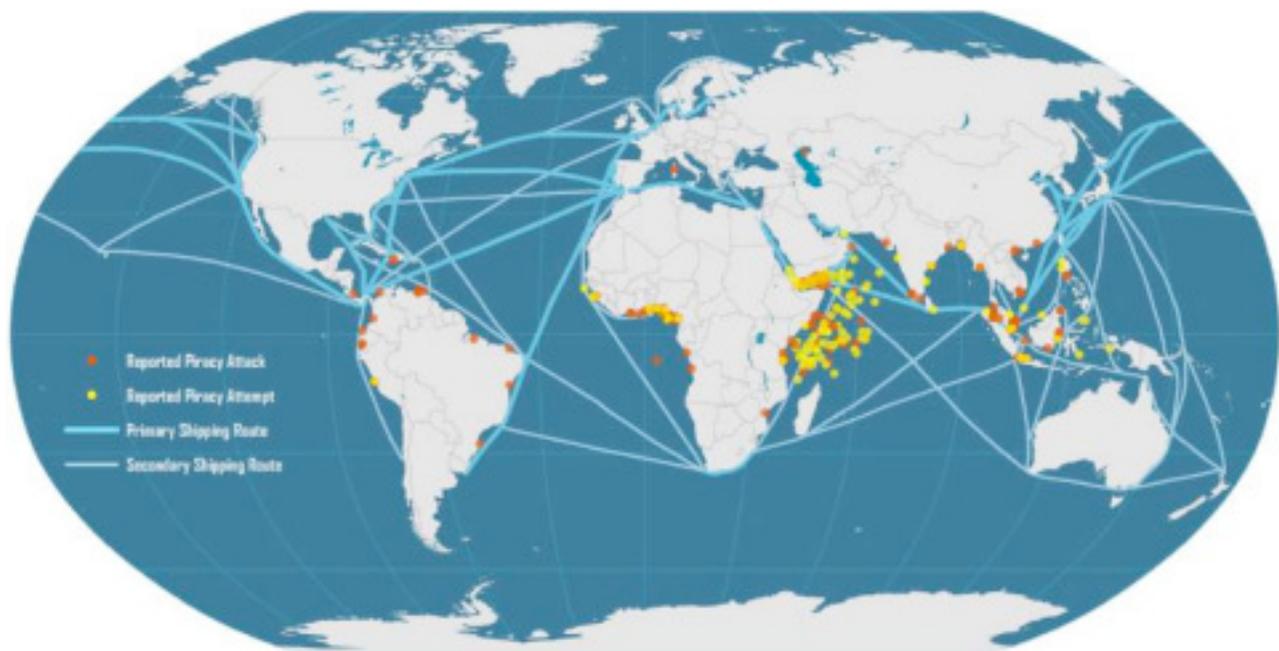
North America: No current incidents to report

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.

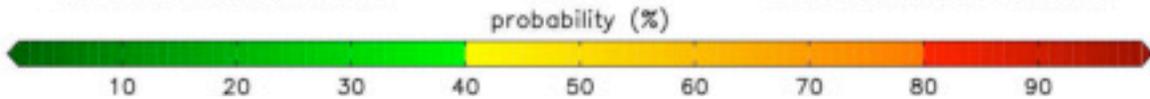
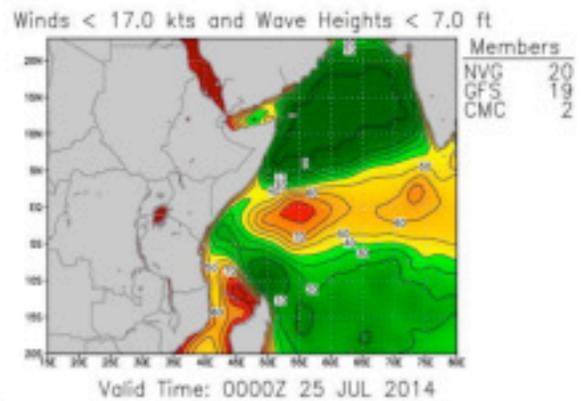
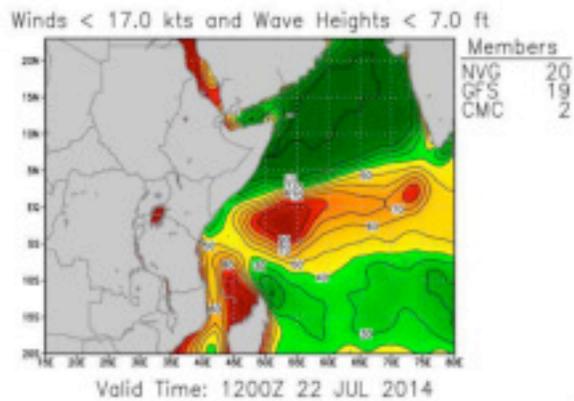
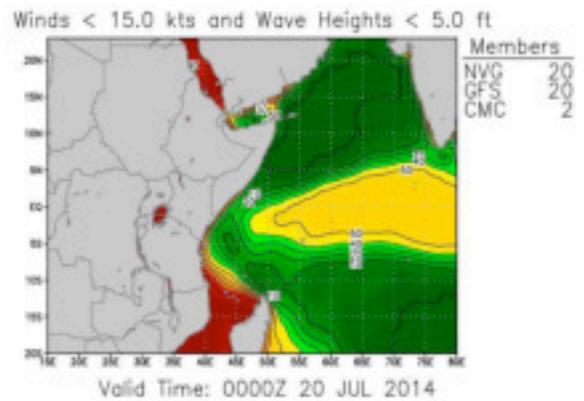
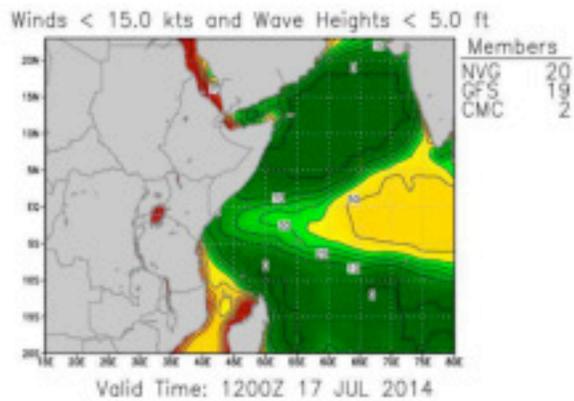
Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Weather Analysis

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 8 – 12 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 12 – 16 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – East-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be east southeasterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 4 – 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with westerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots of seas of 4 – 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots and seas of 11 – 14 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots and seas of 11 – 14 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Southeast winds of 12 – 17 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 12 – 17 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be southerly at 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 6 – 8 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 influences the weather in the region. Increased pressure gradient between the high pressure over Saudi Arabia and a thermal low pressure over the region will produce moderate northwesterly winds and calm seas in the Arabian Gulf.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week



*** 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

- **19 July 2014** – A prominent militia leader in southern Somalia has confirmed that a suicide bomber killed six people in an attack on his home on Saturday, adding that al-Shabaab militants are behind the incident. Iftin Hassan Basto, a tribal leader who has fought with the Islamist group in the past, confirmed that six people, including a child, were killed and seven were injured. The attack occurred in the port city of Kismayo, which is a former al-Shabaab stronghold. According to a police statement, Basto indicated that the “...explosion occurred soon after I entered the house. My security guards saw a man who tried to infiltrate them and when they confronted him, he blew himself up.” Al-Shabaab however has denied any involvement in the explosion and have instead blamed Basto’s guards. Abdulaziz Abu Musab, al-Shabaab’s military spokesman, disclosed late Saturday “there was no attack on his home, but his amateur guards fired a rocket launcher inside the house,” adding “the Shabaab fighters have conducted no assault (...) the damage was self-inflicted by his soldiers.” Security officials have cordoned off the area and an investigation in to the attack is currently on going.
- **17 July 2014** – At least one person was killed Thursday in a car bombing attack in Mogadishu. According to police officials, one person died while another sustained serious injuries when an explosive device attached to their car was remotely detonated in the southern area of the capital city. Witnesses at the scene have reported that the dead man was a soldier however officials have not confirmed these accounts. The latest terrorist attack in Mogadishu comes one day after officials halted a suicide bomber on the outskirts of the city. Sources have indicated that police officials in Qoryoley, located west of Mogadishu, intercepted the car with the bomber inside. The car bomb exploded, killing one person, while police officials questioning the bomber in a separate location. Both incidents have been blamed on al-Shabaab, which has sharply increased its attacks, with nearly daily incidents being reported, since the start of Ramadan.
 - Jubbaland forces, backed by AMISOM peacekeepers, clashed with al-Shabaab militants in Lower Jubba region late Wednesday night. According to local residents, fighting erupted around Afmadow town, with sources adding that forces also fought al-Shabaab militants in Turkhato. Officials have not confirmed any casualties. Since March, AMISOM peacekeepers and Somali government forces have been moving further southward in a bid to remove al-Shabaab forces from their remaining strongholds in the southern region of the country. Al-Shabaab lost control of the strategic Kismayo port during a 2012 military campaign carried out by Kenyan Defense Forces (KDF) and Jubbaland soldiers. The military group has since been dispersed throughout the region and have increased their attacks in Mogadishu in recent weeks.
- **16 July 2014** – Late Wednesday, on the ground sources reported that one soldier was killed and two others injured in a car bomb explosion that occurred near the town of Qoryoley, located west of the capital city. The regional governor, Abdukadir Nur Sidi, has confirmed the incident, stating that the bomb went off after security forces arrested the driver. Sources have indicated that the driver was stopped after being suspected of being a suicide bomber who was driving towards the capital city. According to Sidi, “the security forces managed to intercept a suicide bomber who wanted to carry out an attack in Mogadishu. The car he was driving was loaded with explosives and went off as he was questioned in a separate location.” While there was no immediate claim of responsibility, local officials are blaming al-Shabaab.
- **15 July 2014** – Officials in Somalia have reported that that two alleged al-Shabaab militants convicted of murdering a female student were executed by firing squad in the capital city on Tuesday. Supreme military

court chief judge Liban Ali Yarow confirmed “these two defendants were found guilty of murdering student Nafiso Ahmed in April,” adding “they took an appeal from the ruling late last month, which the court rejected. The court ordered their execution today.” The two convicted killers, Hassan Salman and Shafici Abdi, were executed at the Somali police academy in Mogadishu. Officials have stated that the two had confessed to killing the student in April because she was working for an NGO. As alleged al-Shabaab members, the two were tried by a military court. According to Amnesty International (AI), in 2013, Somalia’s government carried out fifteen executions while the self-declared autonomous region of Puntland carried out nineteen.

- Meanwhile senior police officials have disclosed that more than two hundred suspects were arrested Tuesday in a security sweep aimed at stemming the recent wave of militant attacks that have been carried out throughout the capital city. Sources have reported that soldiers manned checkpoints at Mogadishu’s northern outskirts, with most of the streets empty as the operations were ongoing. According to Col. Ahmed Ali, a senior police official in Mogadishu, security forces raided the homes and shops of suspects and arrested a number of people, most of whom are young men. He further indicated that government forces jointly carried out the operations with African Union (AU) troops, adding, “the operation will continue until we stop terrorist attacks.” Despite being ousted from its bases in Mogadishu in 2011, al-Shabaab militants continue to stage lethal attacks across the city, and have recently vowed to step up attacks over the Ramadan period. Last week, the militants attacked and entered Villa Somalia, the heavily guarded compound that houses the presidential palace. Following a gunfight, in which at least three militants were killed, government troops and presidential guards were able to regain full control of the compound, which is considered to be one of the safest places in Mogadishu because of the tight security presence. The latest attack on the presidential palace, coupled with a number of incidents that have occurred since the start of Ramadan at the end of June have further highlighted Mogadishu’s fragile security situation and the fact that despite losing control of Mogadishu, al-Shabaab militants are easily able to enter the capital city and carry out deadly attacks anywhere
- **14 July 2014** – The commander of the 6th Somali National Army unit operating in the Lower Shabelle region of southern Somalia was killed in an al-Shabaab ambush on Monday. Local reports have disclosed that Omar Sheikh Elmi was killed after suspected al-Shabaab militants ambushed his convoy between Leego and Yaaqbari Weyne. His convoy was en route to the Bay regional district of Buur Hakaba at the time of the attack. Sources have indicated that there was an exchange of fire between the Somali army and al-Shabaab militants however casualty figures have not yet been verified.
 - Meanwhile in Mogadishu, officials reported Monday that gunmen shot and killed the Deputy Chief of Somali counter-terrorism taskforce in a drive-by shooting. A security forces commander confirmed that Ibrahim Ahmed Farah, the Deputy Chief of the country’s anti-terrorism unit, along with one bodyguard, were killed in the attack. Several others were also wounded. According to officials, the assailants blocked the road with vehicles and sprayed bullets, targeting the car of the Deputy Chief. The incident occurred in Mogadishu’s Hamar Jajab district. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack however al-Shabaab has in the past targeted a number of politicians and security personnel.

Regional Reporting

- **18 July 2014** – At least seven people were killed when gunmen attacked a bus near Kenya’s coast, where previous attacks left eight-seven dead. Gunmen opened fire on the bus and then targeted a police vehicle that had arrived at the scene. Al-Shabaab has confirmed that they are responsible for the attack, which occurred Friday night in an area known as Corner Mbaya, which is 5 kilometers (3 miles) from the coastal town of Witu in Lamu county. Authorities believe that many of the passengers who were on the 52-seat bus travelling from Mombasa to Lamu town fled into a nearby forest shortly after the attack. Police chief David Kimaiyo has issued a dusk to dawn curfew for Lamu County and has declared the Boni forests and adjoining forests prohibited, as the areas are believed to be the gunmen’s hideout. He further indicated that anyone found in those forests will be arrested and has ordered buses to travel with armed escorts. The latest attack to target the Kenyan coast comes just one day after Kenya’s military confirmed that its aircraft had bombed jungle bases used by militants in the area. It is likely that this latest attack was in retaliation for those bombings.
- **17 July 2014** – A Kenyan court on Thursday gave prosecutors an additional month in order to conclude their investigation into a regional governor who has been accused of having links to recent massacres in Kenya’s eastern coast. While the state had initially requested an additional two months in order to complete the probe before pressing charges, the judge rejected the request, stating, “two months is unnecessary. One month is reasonable and fair for the prosecution to complete its investigation. Governor Issa Timamy of the coastal Lamu county was arrested in connection with last month’s killings in the town of Mpeketoni and nearby villages. Despite the incidents being claimed by al-Shabaab, the Kenyan government has blamed the attacks on local political networks. Survivors of the attack in Mpeketoni however reported at the time that gunmen, speaking Somali and carrying al-Shabaab flags, had executed non-Muslims, saying that their actions were in revenge for Kenya’s military presence in Somalia as part of the African Union (AU) force intervention against the Islamists. The attackers appeared to target Mpeketoni as the town is a mainly Christian settlement in the Muslim-majority coastal region, having been settled decades ago by the Kikuyu people, the same tribe as Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta. The accusations have also further heightened the already tense political rivalry between the ruling and opposition parties, as Timamy is a member of the opposition United Democratic Forum (UDF) party. Speaking in court on Thursday, the governor indicated that the case against him was political and that the Kenyan governor had used the incidents in Mpeketoni as opportunity to attempt to remove him from power. Police have also arrested alleged separatists from the Mombasa Republican Council (MRC), a group that campaigns for independence for the coastal region.

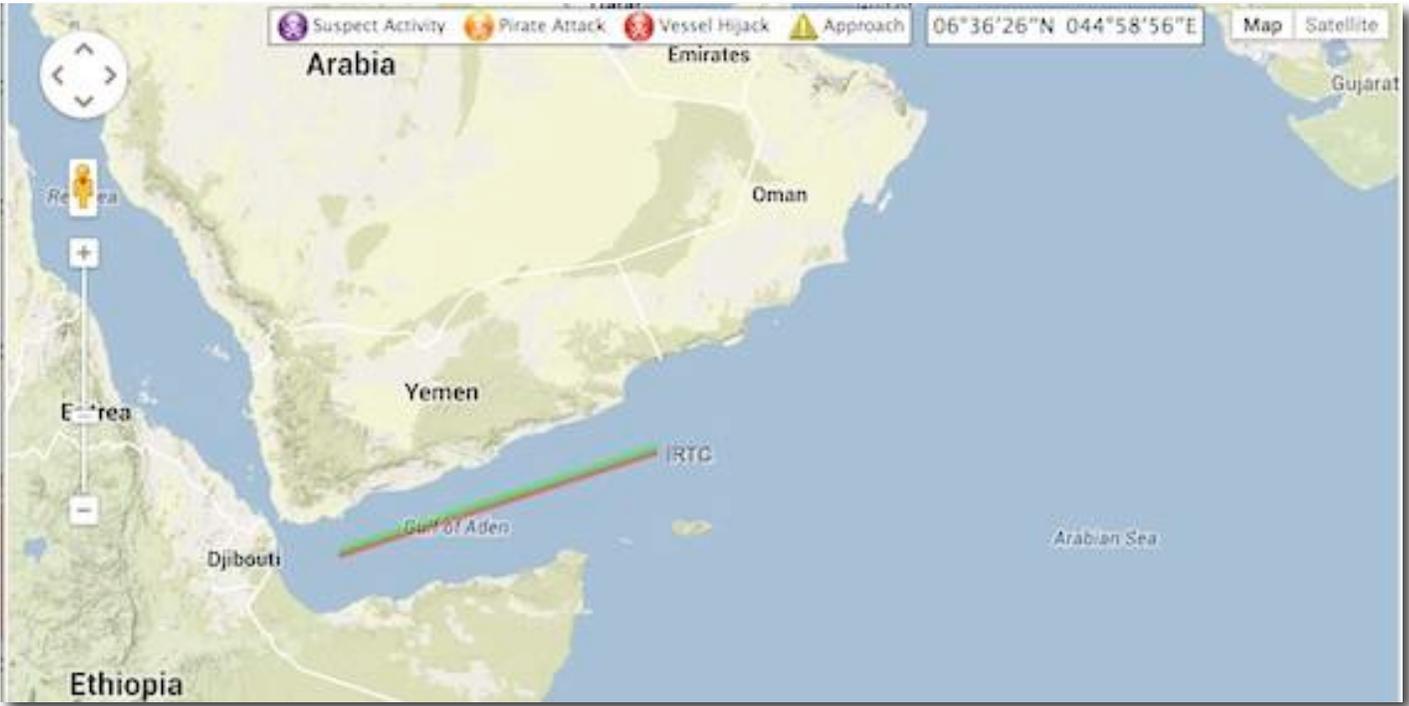
International Developments

- **16 July 2014** – According to a new report released by the United Nations panel, which monitors compliance with UN sanctions on Somalia, the country’s president, along with a former minister and a US law firm, have been accused of conspiring to divert Somali assets recovered abroad. The Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group, which is composed of 8 officials, has disclosed its findings in a 37-page document to the UN Security Council’s Somalia/Eritrea sanctions committee, stating that the information it has gathered “reflects exploitation of public authorities for private interests and indicates at the minimum a conspiracy to divert the

recovery of overseas assets in an irregular manner.” The monitoring committee has further indicated that US-based law firm Shulman Rogers along with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohmaud and his office, former foreign minister Fawzia Yusuf H. Adam, as well as two other individuals acting as liaisons between Shulman Rogers and Somalia, are involved in the conspiracy. All of those accused of being involved in the plan to divert assets have denied any wrongdoing while several have accused the chairman of the Monitoring Group, Jarat Chopra, of dubious investigative methods and making baseless assertions. If these findings are confirmed to be accurate, the new report will cast a negative shadow over the newly elected president and his government, a move that will likely result in scaring off foreign donors who have pledged billions in order to rebuild the Horn of Africa nation.

- Meanwhile a former top UN envoy disclosed Wednesday that al-Shabaab militants will be defeated if foreign governments continue on their course of backing the fragile Somali government. Speaking at Land Forces East Africa, a two-day regional defense conference and military technology exhibition, the former envoy to Somalia, Augustine Mahiga, played down the recent upsurge in al-Shabaab attacks, which have targeted both areas in Somalia and in neighboring Kenya, adding “its just a matter of time before the Shabaab are defeated in Somalia.” Mahiga, a Tanzanian diplomat and the United Nations’ special representative in Mogadishu from 2010 to 2013, further noted, “...pressure needs to be sustained and it must be relentless. The moment you relax, the Shabaab will recover. So the international community must be ready to continue supporting the mission.” Speaking in regards to the current fragile economic situation in Somalia, Mahiga disclosed that there is also “...a huge need for political reconciliation....Even if you exclude the Shabaab, there’s still a lot of political work that has to be done.” Despite the formation of the first internationally recognized government in twenty years, the Somali government in Mogadishu continues to have limited control on the entire country. The political situation has been further exacerbated by on going al-Shabaab attacks, which have drastically increased over the past month. Recent al-Shabaab attacks have targeted key areas of Somalia’s government and security forces in what appears to be a clear motive that the militant group is now attempting to discredit claims made by officials that they are winning the war against the Islamist group.
- **14 July 2014** – Somalia has posted an ambassador to the United States for the first time in more than twenty years. On Monday, the US State Department confirmed that Somali envoy Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke has arrived in Washington. The US is also planning to name an American ambassador for Somalia however it is not expected to re-open its embassy in Mogadishu any time soon as security continues to remain fragile in the capital city. The move however does signify that relations between the two countries are growing after twenty-years of no diplomatic relations. In 1991, the US Embassy closed in Mogadishu as Somalia’s government collapsed amidst a civil war. American troops withdrew from Somalia in 1994, several months after Somali militiamen shot down two US helicopters, killing eighteen American troops.

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-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – South-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – The Gulf of Guinea will be impacted by partly to mostly cloudy skies, with isolated thunderstorms.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks:

- **15 July 2014** - A Malaysia-flagged product tanker, Oriental Glory, en route from Singapore to Sandakan in Malaysia, was boarded and hijacked at 2151 LT in position 01:44N – 105:07E, around 44 nautical miles northeast of Pulau Bintan, Indonesia. Pirates transferred and stole part of the fuel cargo, stole crew property and damaged the vessel's communication equipment and main engines before leaving. Three crew members were injured during the incident. Royal Malaysian Navy patrol boat was sent in order to investigate the incident.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **15 July 2014** – Robbers boarded an anchored Singapore-flagged LPG tanker, Stella Kosan, unnoticed and escaped with ship's properties at 0630 LT in position 01:29N – 104:43E, around 17 nautical miles north-northeast of Pulau Bintan, Indonesia. Duty motorman noticed footprints near the engine room workshop and raised the alarm. Upon investigation, it was found that the robbers had broken the lock on the steering gear room's watertight door and entered the engine room workshop. The ship's properties were stolen from the workshop and safety lockers. Incident was reported to the Singapore Navy IFC.
- **13 July 2014 (Late Report)** – Pirates boarded a product tanker underway unnoticed at 2300 LT in position 02:01N – 104:29E, around 24 nautical miles South of Pulau Aur, Malaysia. OOW noticed a small boat near the vessel and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crew members alertness, the pirates escaped empty handed.

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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