

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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- Security Consulting
 - Risk assessments and intelligence reporting
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- Project Management
 - Interim security
 - Training
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- 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 (August 11 - 17, 2014 - Week 33; Edition 50)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

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

Somalia-Indian Ocean: One incident reported during this period.

Southeast Asia: One incident and two late reported incidents during this period.

South America: No incidents reported during this period.

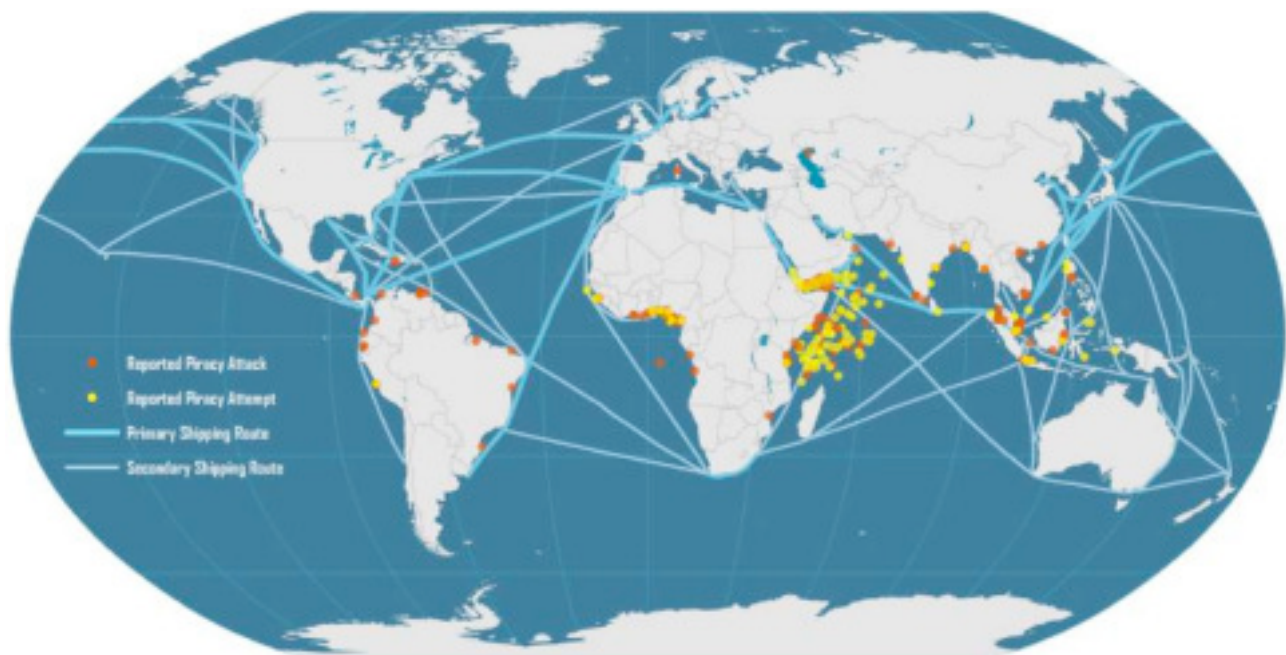
North America: No current incidents to report

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:

- **12 August 2014** – At 0930 UTC, in position 25:11N – 056:57E, an MV observed three white colored skiffs closing at speed. In response, the MV carried out evasive maneuvers, activated the fire pumps and increased speed to a maximum. One skiff, with five pirates on board, all with masked faces and alleged to be carrying weapons, approached the MV to within 50 meters. The MV continued to carry out evasive maneuvers, making it difficult for the skiffs to follow. During the incident, no ladders were sighted on board the skiff and no shots were fired. By 1100 UTC, the skiffs had given up the chase, falling to 2 nautical miles astern. Vessel and crewmembers have been reported safe.

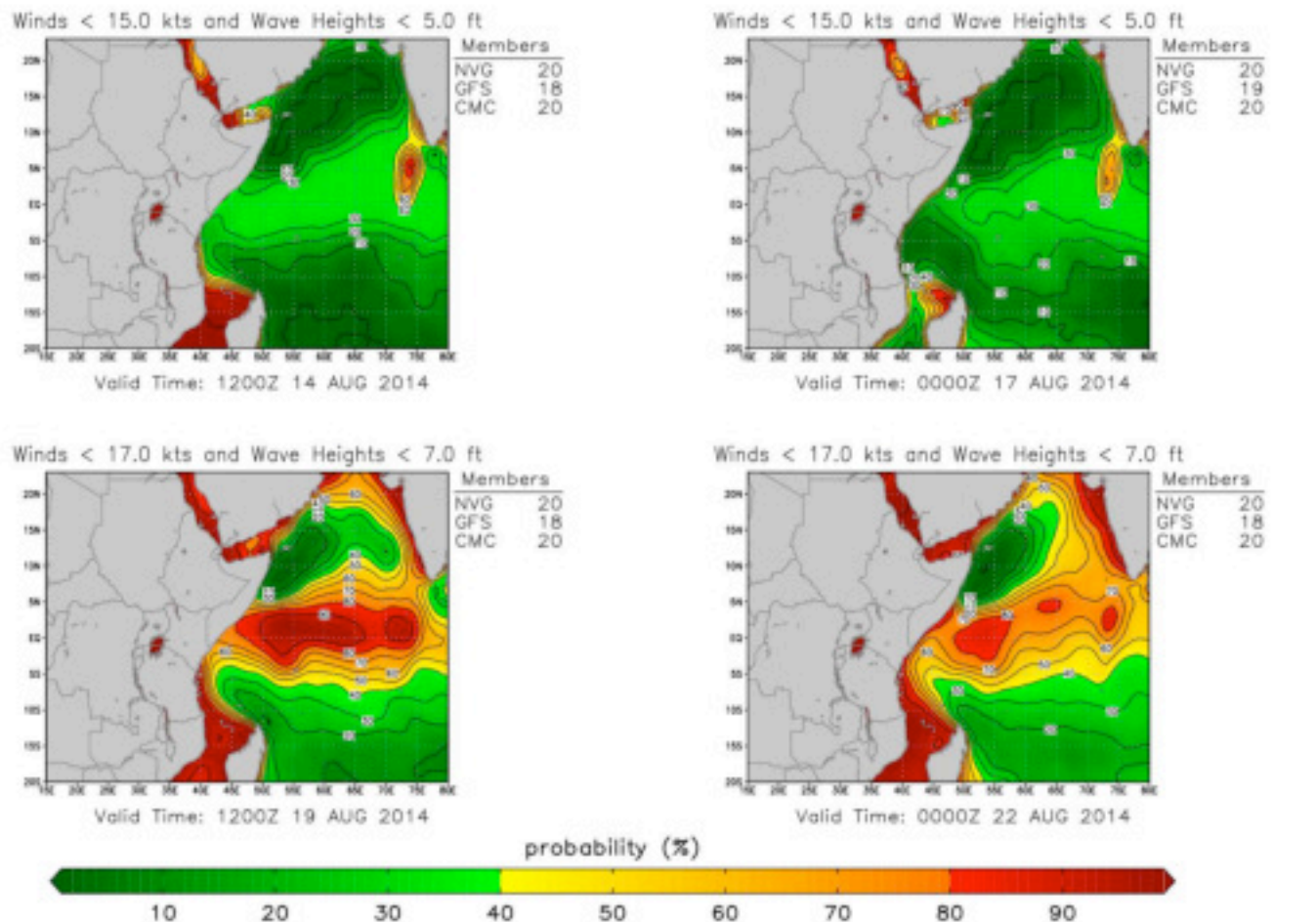
Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Weather Analysis

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 11 – 16 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 4 – 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf with easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden** – West-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be southwesterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Somali Coast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet; with southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots and seas of 13 – 15 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet; with southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots and seas of 10 – 12 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – East-southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be variable at 3 – 5 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the northern Channel; with north-northeastern winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 4 – 6 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 season continues to influence weather in the region. High pressure ridging into the area will become the dominant feature and will produce light winds and calm seas in the Arabian Gulf. Expect areas of blowing dust in the northern Arabian Gulf, as well as isolated rain showers in the northern Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman and Somali Basin.

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

- **15 August 2014** – Heavy fighting broke out in Mogadishu on Friday as Somali government troops and African Union (AU) forces launched a pre dawn raid on a house belonging to a former warlord as part of a disarmament campaign launched by the government earlier this month. According to police officer Capt. Mohammed Hussein, seven people were killed in the violence, including four civilians, two militia members and one soldier. Eight people were also wounded. During the early morning hours on Friday, government troops, backed by the AU mission in Somalia (AMISOM) attempted to seize weapons from militia leader Ahmed Dai before the fighting erupted. A statement released by AMISOM indicated that the mission's troops took part in a pre-dawn raid on Mr. Dai's home in a "search operation...following a tip-off that there was an arms cache," adding that the "militia was overpowered and 20 were arrested." Mr. Dai, who was not arrested, confirmed that AMISOM forces had carried out a raid on his house noting however that if AMISOM is "...claiming the operation is aimed for disarmament, then I have got not weapons, except a few for self-defense purposes." Mr. Dai's home is based in the capital's Madina district, a neighborhood located close to the heavily defended airport zone, which is also the headquarters of the 22,000-strong AU force. Government security official Mohamed Yusuf confirmed the fighting, disclosing that militiamen confronted government forces and African troops as they were carrying out security operations in the capital city this morning. Eyewitnesses reported bursts of gunfire and heavy explosions before dawn, with some reports indicating that both sides fired rocket-propelled grenades. The fighting calmed by mid-morning. Last week, the Somali government launched a disarmament campaign aimed at attempting to reduce the number of weapons and bringing greater security to the capital city, which has seen a number of deadly attacks in recent months. After more than two decades of conflict, Somalia has become awash with guns, resulting in several politicians and local leaders commanding what are effectively private armies. While such forces are not connected to al-Shabaab, who is fighting to topple the internationally backed government, they nevertheless pose a significant threat to Somalia's fragile security situation. While government officials fear that these weapons may fall into the hands of al-Qaeda-linked fighters, some Somalis believe that the latest campaign is aimed at disarming rivals of the country's leadership as the country prepares itself for the proposed 2016 national elections. A proposed disarmament law has been approved by the government's cabinet however it has not yet been voted on by parliament. Earlier in the week, government officials disclosed that during the first four days of security operations, some 500 guns were recovered.
- **13 August 2014** – On Wednesday, under heavy security in the capital city, United Nations Security Council ambassadors met with Somalia's president ahead of a new military push aimed at further pushing Islamist fighters out of the war-torn country. The visit also comes amidst increasing warnings of a humanitarian crisis in Somalia, three years after more than 250,000 people died in a devastating famine. The UN-mandated African Union (AU) force provided armed guards for the diplomats as they visited the fortified base at Mogadishu airport, where they met President Hassan Sheikh Mohamed along with other top government officials. While the UN diplomats did not travel outside of the heavily fortified base, they have disclosed that they remain committed to supporting the Somali government in revising the national constitution, and hold a referendum on it by 2015, before elections are held in 2016, which will be the first popular vote to take place in decades. A statement released by Britain's ambassador to the UN, Mark Lyall Grant, confirmed "the members of the Security Council stand ready to support the people and government of Somalia to deliver this vision," and called on the Somali government to "urgently establish a national

independent electoral commission.” Since President Mohamed’s election, the Somali government has gained the backing and support from a number of countries and organizations, however the government’s record has been largely overshadowed by the return of extreme hunger, accusations of corruption and continued attacks carried out by al-Shabaab. The militant group continues to threaten the country’s progress and security by launching attacks throughout the country, including in the capital city, where the militant group has recently carried out a number of brazen commando raids on the presidential palace and parliament. In the wake of these recent deadly attacks in Mogadishu, the AU force, which is fighting alongside government troops, is currently preparing “to launch the next phase of military operations against al-Shabaab.” While the AU force has not disclosed what areas of the country its troops will focus on, sources have disclosed that the port of Barawe, which is one of the last few major settlements still under the control of al-Shabaab, is likely to be a key target. The United Nations has also recently issued a warning that Somalia is sliding back into an acute hunger crisis, with more than 350,000 people in Mogadishu in need of food aid, adding that parts of the capital city were already facing emergency levels just short of famine.

Regional Reporting

- **16 August 2014** – In response to the deadly Ebola outbreak in West Africa, Kenyan officials announced Saturday that they are closing the country’s borders to travellers from Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The decision comes just days after officials at the World Health Organization (WHO) classified Kenya as a “high risk” country for the spread of the deadly Ebola virus. A statement released by Kenya’s health secretary revealed Kenyans and medical workers flying in from the affected states will be allowed entry, adding that Kenyan airways will stop flights to Liberia and Sierra Leone when the ban comes into effect on Wednesday. The epidemic, which began in Guinea at the start of this year, has since spread to Liberia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria. On Friday, officials at the WHO indicated that the death toll has now risen to 1,145, with 2,127 cases reported.
- **14 August 2014** – Kenyan detectives revealed in court on Thursday that they have lost the trail of terror suspect Samantha Lewthwaite, known as the “White Widow,” with officials now suggesting that the fugitive may have taken on another identity. After failing to adhere to previous summons to provide updates on their search, detectives searching for Lewthwaite were ordered to appear in court Thursday in the port city of Mombasa. In a statement read to the court, police chief inspector Abednego Kilonzo disclosed that Kenyan police officials “...have tried to arrest her but she keeps changing her identity and location,” noting that Lewthwaite “...must have a new name from the previous ones.” Lewthwaite is wanted on an Interpol “red notice” warrant, which was issued at Kenya’s request. She is wanted in Kenya on charges of being in possession of explosives and conspiracy to commit a felony, charges which date back to December 2011. Lewthwaite is known to use a number of aliases and has previously used a false South African passport in order to hide her identity. Lewthwaite, a 30-year-old Muslim convert, has been linked to al-Shabaab, which has carried out a string of attacks in Kenya, including last September’s assault on Nairobi’s Westgate shopping center, which claimed sixty-seven lives. She is the widow of Germaine Lindsay, one of the four suicide bombers who carried out the 7 July 2005 attack on the London transport network, which killed fifty-two people. While her whereabouts remain unknown, Kenyan media have on a number of occasions reported witnesses seeing a mystery white woman during a string of grenade attacks or killings on the

coast, with the woman apparently later vanishing without a trace. In June, media reported that a white woman had been allegedly offered a police escort in April in order to visit a Kenyan army base in Somalia before disappearing. Police officials however later dismissed the reports, stating that the woman had been a Spanish tourist. While Lewthwaite has been reported to have been seen in Somalia and in Nigeria, there have been no confirmed sightings since she managed to escape from Kenyan police in Mombasa in 2011, reportedly using her false South African passport.

- **13 August 2014** – Officials at the World Health Organization (WHO) have classified Kenya as a “high-risk” country for the spread of the deadly Ebola virus. To date, this is the most serious warning issued by the WHO that the deadly Ebola virus could spread to East Africa. A statement released by the WHO’s country director for Kenya, Custodia Mandihate, indicated that the East African country was “classified in group two; at a high risk of transmission,” adding that Kenya was vulnerable as it was a major transport hub, with many flights coming from West Africa. In recent weeks, a number of measures have been set up in Kenya in a bid to prevent the deadly virus from spreading to the country. These include health checks at the main airport in the capital Nairobi. Despite receiving more than seventy flights per week from West Africa, the Kenyan government however has disclosed that they will not ban flights from the four countries that have been affected by the latest outbreak. In the latest data released by the WHO, the number of people killed by Ebola in West Africa has risen to 1,069 with over 2,000 suspected cases reported. As of 11 August, there were fifty-six new deaths and 128 new cases reported in the region.

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** – Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – Expect partly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **11 August 2014** – Four robbers in a wooden boat boarded an anchored chemical tanker near position 03:54N – 098:46E, Belawan Outer Anchorage. One of the robbers boarded the vessel and attempted to steal the ship's stores from the forecastle store. Duty crewmember however noticed the robber and informed the duty officer who raised the alarm and mustered the crew members. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the robber escaped with his accomplices empty handed. Incident was reported to Port Control and the Coast Guard. Local Marine Police officials boarded the vessel in order to investigate. Vessel and all crewmembers on board are reported safe.
- **8 August 2014 (Late Report)** – Two robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier near position 00:17S – 117:41E, Muara Berau Anchorage. Duty crewman spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the robber escaped. Upon searching the vessel, crewmembers found that the padlocks to a storeroom were broken however nothing was reported stolen.
- **4 August 2014 (Late Report)** – Three robbers boarded an anchored LPG tanker near position 05:34S – 104:38E, Teluk Semangka Anchorage. Deck patrol noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped empty handed in their boat. Local authorities were informed of the incident.

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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