

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
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 - 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 4 - 10, 2014 - Week 32; Edition 49)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Gulf of Guinea/West Africa: Two incidents reported during this period.

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

Southeast Asia: One incident reported during this period.

South America: No incidents reported during this period.

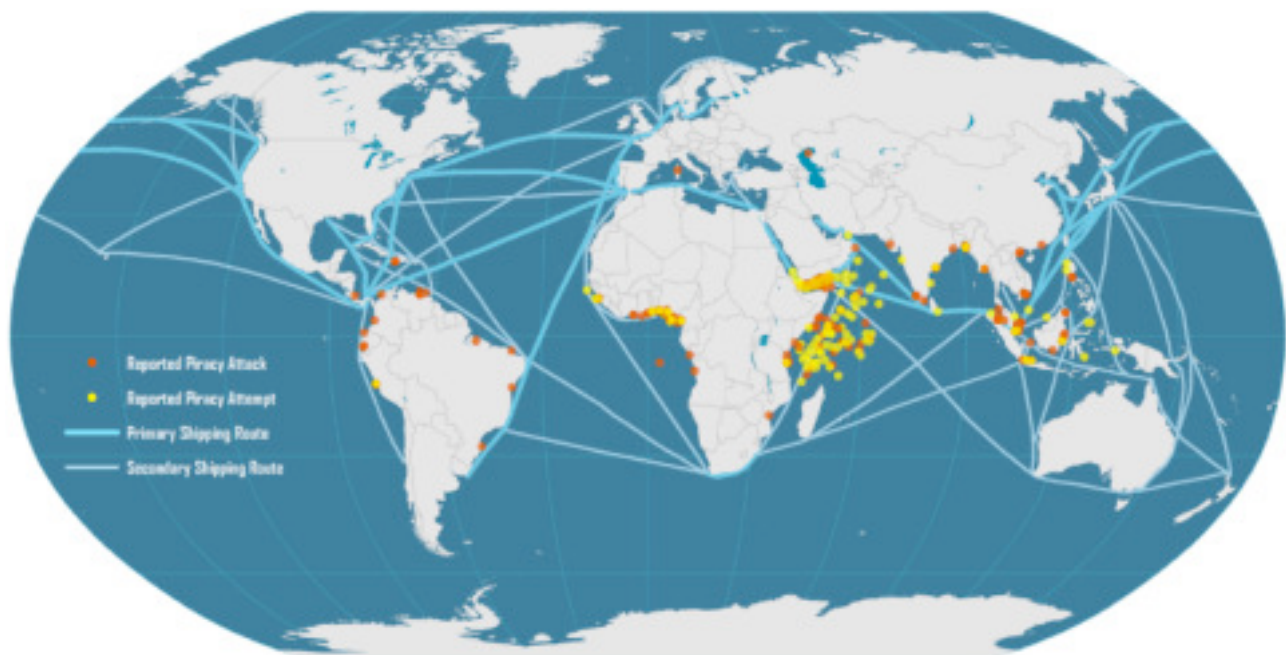
North America: No current incidents to report

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.

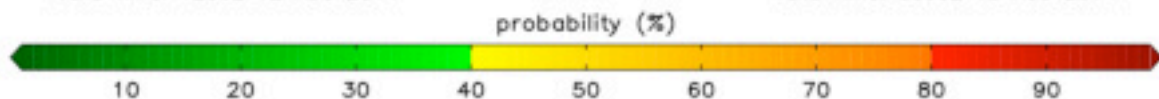
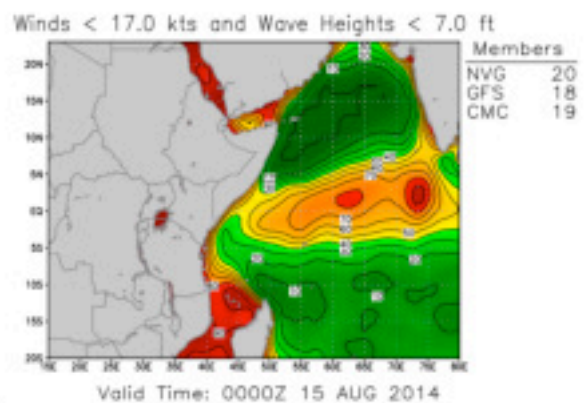
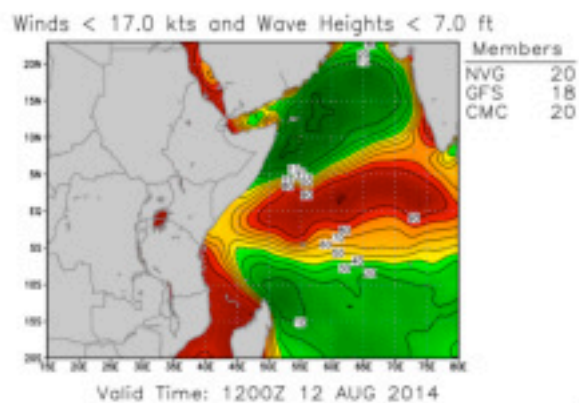
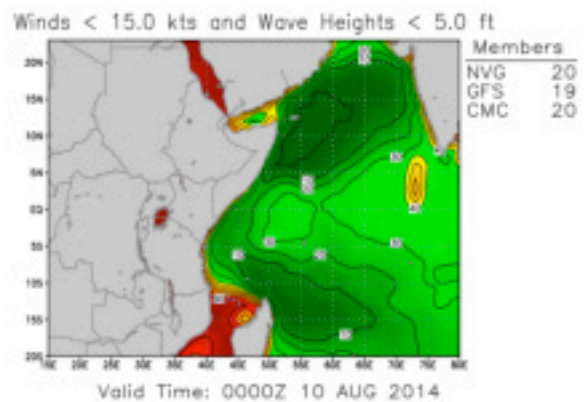
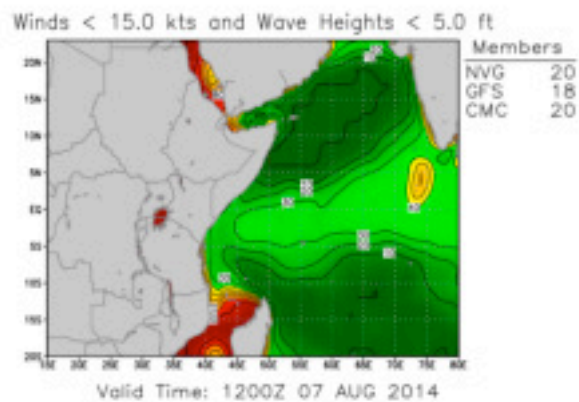
Suspicious Activity:

- **6 August 2014** – Merchant vessel reported sighting one white and blue skiff with five pirates, and allegedly a ladder, on board. The skiff closed to within 3 cables at 0735 UTC in position 12:53.9N – 043:14.6E, BAM, Red Sea. The vessel activated protection measures, while the armed security team on board fired two flares, resulting in the skiff stopping any further action. No weapons were seen on board the skiff. Vessel and crewmembers have been reported safe.

Weather Analysis

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 18 – 22 knots and seas of 11 – 13 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 9 – 11 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Easterly 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 southeasterly at 15 – 20 knots with seas of 4 – 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Easterly 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.
- **Gulf of Aden** – West-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – West-southwest 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 west-southwesterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Somali Coast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet; with southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots and seas of 12 – 14 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet; with southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots and seas of 12 – 14 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – South-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** – Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be southeasterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 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 continues to influence the weather in the region. High pressure throughout the region will continue to produce clear to partly cloudy conditions over the Arabian Gulf with light northwesterly winds and abated seas.

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

- **9 August 2014** – Al-Shabaab has stated that its militants fought intense battles Saturday with Somali government and African Union (AU) troops in the central Hiran region, leaving at least eighteen people dead on both sides. Al-Shabaab's spokesman Abdulaziz Abu Musab has indicated that the deaths occurred after the group's fighters attacked an AU base force in the town of Buloburde, which is located 200 kilometers (125 miles) north of the capital Mogadishu. While the casualties have not been independently verified, Musab further disclosed that the dead included five of their own men, adding, "nine soldiers with the African Union, four of their Somali counterparts...were killed in the fight." The Somali government issued a statement late Saturday, indicating that six al-Shabaab militants were killed, however no figures of any casualties on their side have been released. On the ground sources have reported that fighting began around midnight Friday and lasted about four hours into Saturday morning. While troops from the 22,000-strong AU force captured Buloburde from al-Shabaab's control last year, the militant group remains in control of a number of large parts of the rural area that surrounds the town, making it effective for them to launch hit and run attacks.
- **4 August 2014** – On Monday, al-Shabaab militants disclosed that they have carried out a car bombing that killed a senior police chief in the northern region of the country. Government officials in Mogadishu have confirmed the death of Adirahman Abbas, police chief in the Bari region of Somalia's semi-autonomous Puntland region. Abbas headed the police in Puntland's key port of Bossaso, which is Bari region's main city. According to sources, a suicide bomber is reported to have driven a car loaded with explosives at Abbas' car. A statement released by al-Shabaab's spokesman Abdulaziz Abu Musab indicated, "...the mujahedeen have carried out a successful operation targeting senior apostate officials," adding that three other policemen were also killed in the blast. Musab claimed that the police chief was "targeted due to his crimes against Muslims...having imprisoned, tortured and killed many, thereby fulfilling the orders of the Crusaders." Officials in Mogadishu also confirmed the deaths of the other police officers.

Domestic News

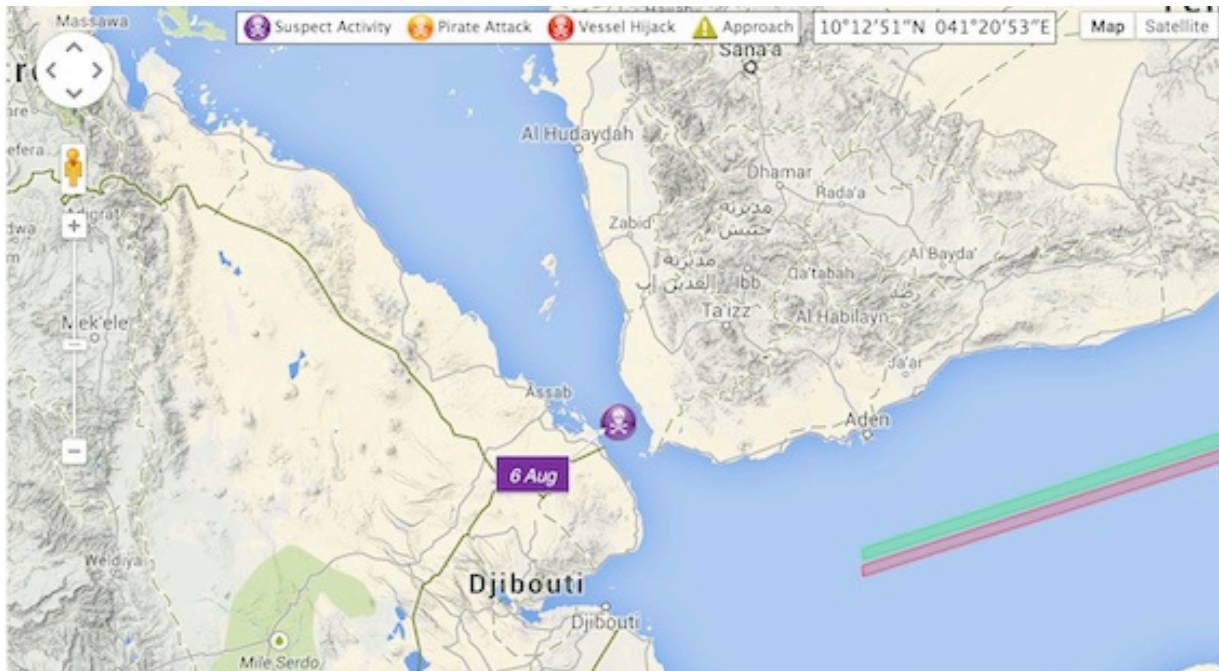
- **5 August 2014** – Somalia's government has appealed for aid, warning that the war-torn country once again was facing a hunger and drought catastrophe, three years after a famine killed more than a quarter of a million people. A statement released by the government disclosed, "drought has already reached several regions in Somalia," warning that officials are now anticipating "...that the situation will continue to deteriorate," adding "the aid in form of food, water and medication must urgently reach the affected population." The government and "all members of parliament are calling on the international community and the United Nations to assist...to prevent the return of the deadly humanitarian crisis of the 2011 famine." The Somali government's appeal for aid comes after the United Nations warned last month that the Horn of African nation was sliding back into an acute hunger crisis, with parts of the capital city, Mogadishu, facing near famine-level shortages as aid organizations are unable to meet the needs of some of the 350,000 displaced people. UN assessments have also shown "above emergency levels of malnutrition" in seven towns, including the major centers of Garowe, Gal Koyo, and Kismayo, however the "highest deterioration" is currently being reported in Mogadishu. Reports of a hunger crisis inside the capital have further cast a negative shadow on the government's record, which follows accusations of

corruption and continued attacks by al-Shabaab militants, in even the most well protected areas of the capital city. Thousands displaced by the war continue to live in makeshift shelters in Mogadishu, where al-Shabaab fighters continue to launch regular deadly attacks, including brazen raids on the presidential palace and parliament.

Regional Reporting

- **6 August 2014** – Security sources in Kenya disclosed Wednesday that they have arrested an official from Somalia’s al-Shabaab militant group. While police officials believe that the suspect is former journalist Hassan Hanafi, who is accused of killing journalists in Somalia, sources have indicated that the man, who remains in custody has denied that he is Mr Hanafi, stating that he is the victim of mistaken identity and should be released immediately. Sources have disclosed that the man was arrested a few days ago in Nairobi following co-operation between the intelligence services of the neighboring states. Mr Hanafi is believed to have been in Kenya for medical treatment when he was captured in what is a rare cross-border arrest of an al-Shabaab suspect. Mr Hanafi joined al-Shabaab’s armed wing a few years ago after briefly working with Radio Andalus, which is a known supporter of al-Shabaab in Somalia. Local journalists have long suspected that he is behind the killing of their colleagues. Over the past three years, about twenty journalists have been killed in Somalia. **Update (7 August 2014)** – Officials in Kenya have accepted Somalia’s request to extradite a Somali citizen, believed to be senior al-Shabaab member Hassan Hanafi. Somalia’s Ambassador to Kenya Mohammed Ali Nur has confirmed that the suspect was arrested earlier this week in Nairobi’s Eastleigh neighborhood for his alleged role in the killing of a number of Somali journalists. The ambassador further disclosed “the likelihood of him being Hassan Hanafi is very high despite his protestation that he is not the one,” adding “since the crimes he is arrested for happened in Somalia we requested the Kenyan government have him transferred to Somalia for further investigations and to identify him.” The suspect is likely to be extradited to Somalia once Kenyan authorities have completed their own investigation.

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **9 August 2014** – A product tanker transiting 200 nautical miles south of the Nigerian shoreline encountered a radar contact of a drifting vessel along its track. After taking normal navigational measures, the tanker's crewmembers heard gunfire first from their starboard quarter, where 6 – 7 shots were fire, and later from the ship's forward structure. Although visibility at the time was poor, one of the tanker's crewmembers reported seeing the outboard engine wakes of up to three small craft that engaged in a chase of the tanker during the period of gunfire. The alarm was raised and the crewmembers were mustered. The pirates made an unsuccessful attempt at boarding the vessel from the stern, however they eventually fell behind as the ship's master opened range.
- **4 August 2014** – Two robbers in a small boat attempted to board an anchored Liberia-flagged bulk carrier, Castlegate, using grappling hooks and ropes at 0330 LT in position 05:492S – 013:28E, Matadi Inner Anchorage, Democratic Republic of Congo. Duty crewmembers noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crewmembers response, the robbers aborted the attempted boarding and escaped in their boat. The vessel and all crewmembers on board have been reported safe.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** – South-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – 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:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **4 August 2014** – Three robbers boarded an anchored Singapore-flagged LPG tanker, BW Tokyo, at 0115 LT in position 05:34S – 104:38E, Teluk Semangka, Indonesia. Deck patrol noticed the robbers, raised the alarm and mustered the crewmembers. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crewmember's alertness, the robbers escaped in their boat, empty handed. Local authorities were informed. Vessel and crewmembers have been reported safe.

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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