

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
 - Planning and management
 - 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 (September 15 - 21, 2014 - Week 38; Edition 55)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

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

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

Southeast Asia: One hijacking reported; two incidents and two late reported incidents

South America: No incidents reported during this period

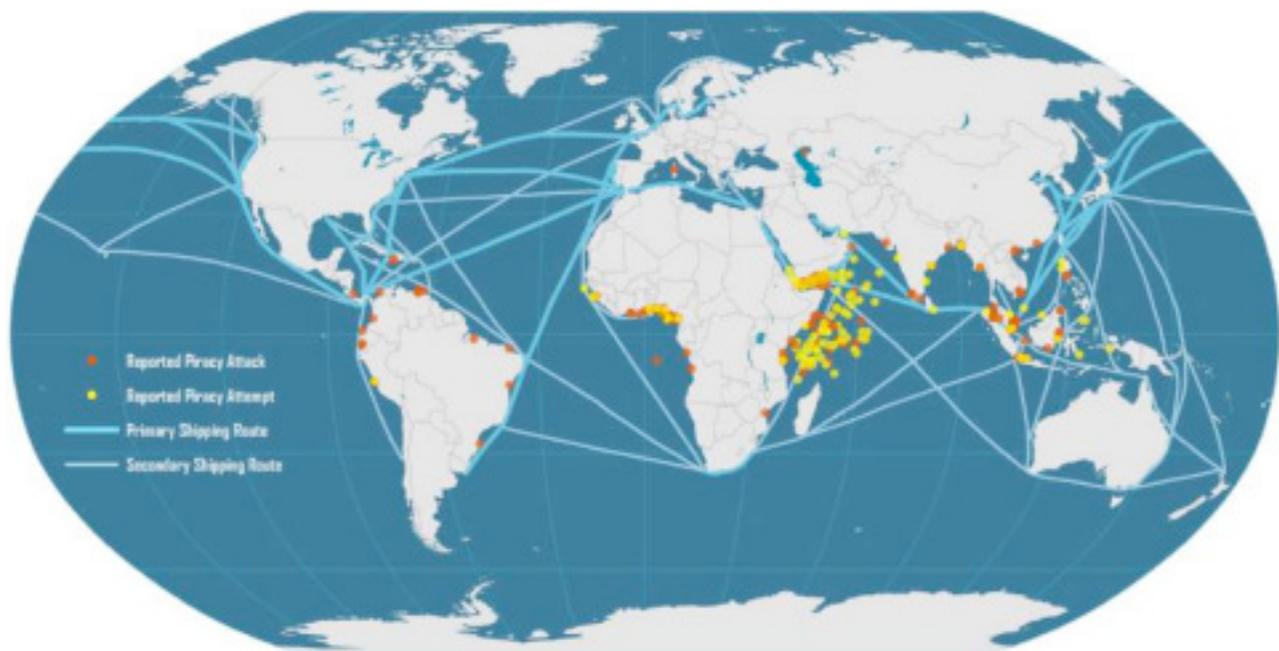
North America: No current incidents to report

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.

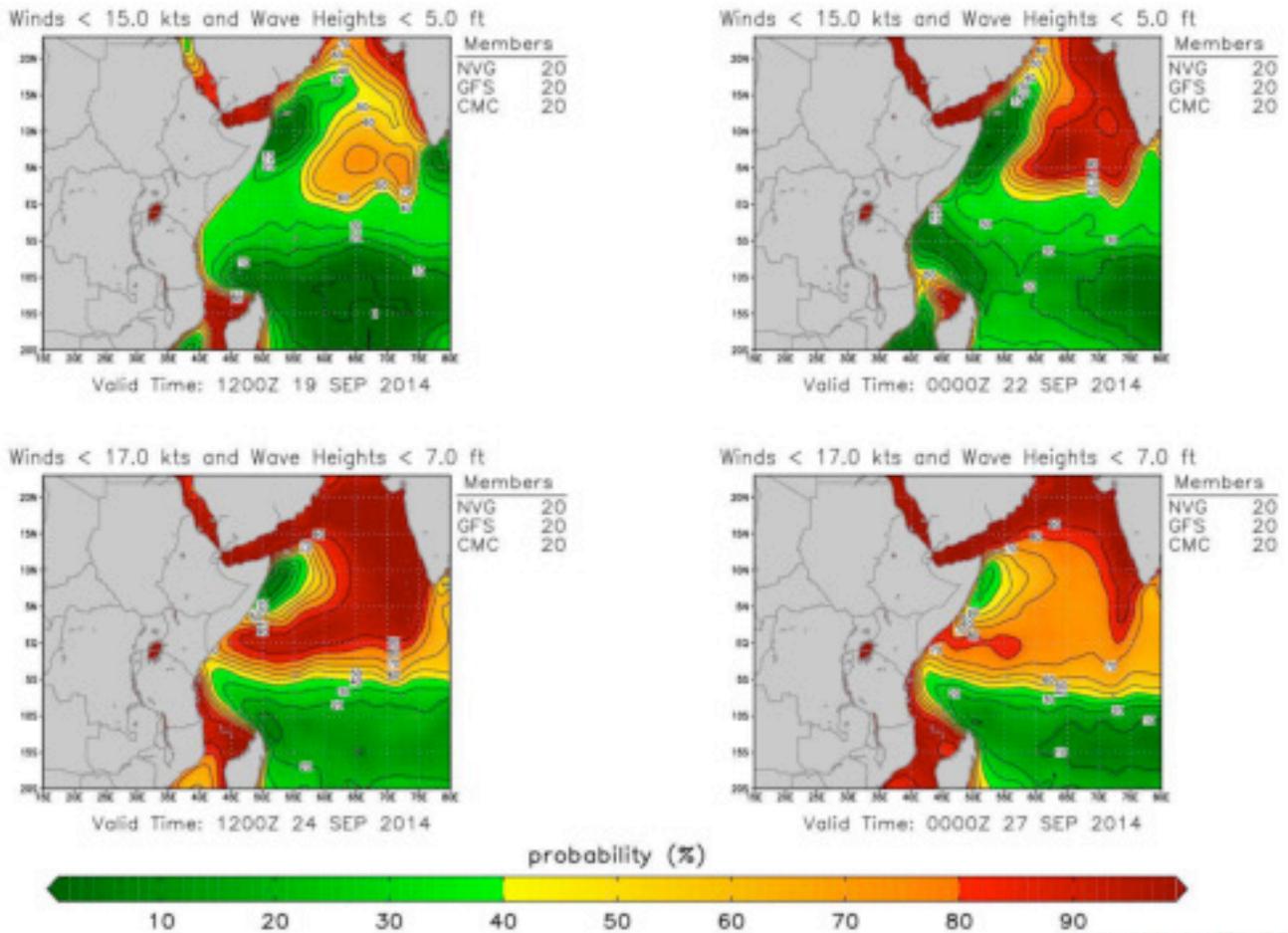
Suspicious Activity:

- **17 September 2014** – MV reported being approached twice by three skiffs, with one being described as a mothership, at 1305 UTC in position 13:42.5N – 050:28.3E, IRTC, Gulf of Aden. On the first occasion, the CPA was 1 nautical mile from the vessel while on the second attempt, at position 13:36.1N – 050:13.6E, 1 skiff closed to within 3 cables. The vessel's Master implemented protection measures, and during the second approach, the embarked armed security team fired one parachute flare, which was followed by two more. After no response from the skiffs, 3 warning shots were fired, resulting in the skiffs moving away. A coalition warship in the vicinity was kept informed of the incident. The vessel and all crewmembers on board have been reported safe.

Weather Analysis

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be southeasterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – East-southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden** – 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** – 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.
- **Somali Coast** – South-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet; with southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 10 – 12 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
 - **Extended Forecast** – South-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet; with southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 13 – 17 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – Variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be southerly at 5 – 10 knots with seas of 4 – 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 8 – 12 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. A weakening pressure gradient over the Arabian Gulf will lead to a decrease in wind flow and will remain mostly light with minimal seas throughout the Arabian Gulf. Restricted visibility is expected. This is due to mist in the southern Arabian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.

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

- **16 September 2014** – Police on Tuesday morning arrested several people after carrying out security operations in Mogadishu's Wadajir neighborhood. According to on the ground sources, the daytime operation targeted mainly houses and businesses in the district, with security forces entering a number of suspected homes and detaining mostly young men. Wadajir District Commissioner confirmed the security operation, noting that the operation was aimed at insuring security in the district and detaining several suspected individuals. No further details have been disclosed. Tuesday's security operation comes just weeks after the Somali government warned of reprisal attacks in the wake of the death of al-Shabaab's leader Ahmed Abdi Godane.
- **15 September 2014** – On Monday, al-Shabaab denied reports that Ugandan authorities had foiled an attack by the group after police in Uganda's capital arrested nineteen people and seized explosives and suicide vests. Ugandan Information Minister Rose Namayanja disclosed Monday that Saturday's raid seized an extraordinary amount of explosives from a suspected al-Shabaab cell, which was planning to carry out an attack. The Ugandan Minister further indicated that the government believes that the Kampala cell had links to al-Shabaab however officials have not elaborated on this issue. This statement followed a report by the US Embassy in Uganda that local authorities had uncovered a "terrorist cell" run by al-Shabaab, which the United States believed was preparing for an attack. However on Monday, the arrest of members of an al-Shabaab cell in Uganda was downplayed by the militant group's spokesman, Sheikh Ali Mohamed Rage, who in a statement indicated that al-Shabaab "...strongly deny the purported claim by the...United States and their subordinate Ugandan officials that they've foiled an attack that was supposedly being planned in Uganda by the Mujahedeen." The arrest of a possible al-Shabaab cell in Kampala has however sparked tensions throughout the country and has forced Ugandan authorities to increase security at hotels and other key sites, including Entebbe International Airport. The United States Embassy in Uganda also issued a warning to its citizens in the country, advising them to remain aware of their surroundings at all times. While the Somali-based militant group has mainly operated in Somalia, over the past year, it has increased its operations and attacks in neighboring Kenya and has in the past successfully carried out an attack in Uganda. Nearly a year ago, the al-Qaeda-allied militants carried out a dramatic attack on the upscale Westgate shopping center in Nairobi, which killed 67 people. In 2010, it carried out attacks in sports bars, where people were watching the World Cup soccer tournament, in Kampala, leaving 74 dead and dozens injured.

Domestic News

- **15 September 2014** – Somalia's President will meet with his Kenyan counterpart in New York this week in order to discuss the long-running maritime border dispute between the two countries. After Somalia appealed to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to settle the dispute, following a breakdown in diplomatic negotiations, the Kenyan government has re-opened negotiations with its neighboring country. Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs Amina Mohamed has disclosed that Kenyan officials prefer to settle the dispute out of court, confirming that Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud will meet in New York during the UN General Assembly in a bid to sort out the issue. Ms Mohamed did disclose that while the Kenyan government is in discussions with the government of Somalia,

she noted that "...it is unfortunate they logged their complaints even as we dialogued over this mater." Ministry of Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary Karanja Kibicho also revealed that Kenya has formed a technical team in order to negotiate with Somalia, noting, "Somalia is considered a friendly state – it is our neighbor, and it will remain so." In August, Somalia went to the IJC after Kenya failed to attend a meeting pertaining to the maritime dispute that was scheduled for August 25 – 26. In its application to the IJC, which is the United Nations' highest judicial body, Somalia disclosed "the Kenyan delegation, without providing either advance notification or subsequent explanation, failed to arrive and, as a consequence, the additional round of meetings that Kenya has requested were not held."

Regional Reporting

- **19 September 2014** – Authorities in Kenya disclosed Friday that they have arrested two men believed to be Iranian nationals transiting through the east African nation on fake passports. A counter-terrorism officer confirmed that the two men were detained Thursday at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA), noting that authorities have not yet established if the pair should be treated as terrorism suspects or illegal migrants. In the past, Kenya has regularly been used as a transit point for illegal migrants from the Middle East region, particularly Iran, Iraq and Syria, in the hope of travelling Europe. Illegal migrants are often caught with fake passports from Mediterranean countries such as Greece, Cyprus and Israel. Last month, three Iranian nations were arrested at Nairobi's JKIA airport while transiting to London on fake Greek passports. They were jailed for one year. Last year, a Kenyan court sentenced to Iranians to life in prison for terror-related charges, including possessing explosives allegedly to be used in bomb attacks. The latest arrests come as security forces in Kenya are on high alert as the country commemorates the anniversary of last year's attack by al-Shabaab militants on Nairobi's Westgate shopping mall, which left 67 dead.
- **16 September 2014** – On Tuesday, Kenya began commemorations to mark the first anniversary of Nairobi's Westgate mall massacre, remembering the 67 people killed by Somali Islamist gunmen and those who risked their lives to stop the four-day siege. A week of memorial events opened with an emotional film titled "Our Nairobi," which included testimonies from those who survived the attack. During a separate memorial event, at a site opened at the capital's National Museum, First Lady Margaret Kenyatta stated disclosed that the east African nation had been "seriously scarred," but was not broken by al-Shabaab's attacks. Mrs Kenyatta's nephew and his fiancée were amongst those killed last September. On a busy Saturday afternoon on 21 September 2013, four al-Shabaab gunmen stormed the upmarket mall, throwing grenades and shooting dozens. At the time of the attack, the shopping center was crowded with hundreds of shoppers. During the four-day siege, shoppers were hunted down in supermarket aisles and killed, in what al-Shabaab indicated was revenge for Kenya's deployment of troops in Somalia as part of the African Union (AU) force tasked with combating the insurgents. All four gunmen were reported to have died in the mall, their bodies however were never recovered as they were crushed by tons of rubble after a major fire, sparked by the fighting, caused a large section of the building to collapse. While the Westgate incident was the largest al-Shabaab attack to occur on Kenyan soil in recent history, the militant group remains a major threat and continues to launch attacks despite advances by African Union troops inside Somalia and a US air strike that killed its leader earlier this month. The extremists have launched a number of attacks in Kenya, including a wave of massacres in the coastal region. On Sunday, exactly one year after the attack, prayers will be held, with a memorial concern and candle-lit vigil for the following three nights.

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 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – Expect partly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks:

- **17 September 2014** – Eight armed pirates boarded and hijacked a product tanker enroute to Timor Leste at 2200 LT in position 01:26N – 104:50E, 20 nautical miles northeast of Tanjung Berakit, Bintan Island, Indonesia. The vessel rendezvoused with two smaller tankers and the cargo of gas-oil was transferred. The tanker was later released and the pirates escaped. The vessel and all crewmembers on board are reported safe.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **18 September 2014** – Twenty-five robbers with knives approached an anchored vessel at 0049 LT in position Chittagong Outer Anchorage, Bangladesh. Ten robbers armed with knives boarded the vessel via the stern ramp coaming brackets. The alarm was raised and the crewmembers were mustered. The robbers stole mooring ropes and escaped. No injuries to the crewmembers were reported. Port control and the coast guard were informed of the incident, later dispatching a patrol boat in order to investigate the incident. At 0645 LT, the coast guard contacted the vessel indicating that the suspect vessel was apprehended and mooring ropes were recovered.
- **17 September 2014** – Three robbers boarded an anchored tanker at 0230 LT in position 10:14.9N – 107:03.1E, Vung Tau Inner Anchorage, Vietnam. Duty AB on routine rounds spotted the robbers and informed the D/O who raised the alarm. All crewmembers were mustered. Upon hearing the alarm the robbers escaped in their small wooden boat with stolen ship's stores.
- **14 September 2014 (Late Report)** – Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier reported being boarded by robbers at 0245 LT in position 22:44.8N – 070:01.15E, Port of Navlakhi anchorage area, India. The general alarm was raised as the robbers were seen stealing from the forecastle store before escaping. Indian Coast Guard was informed of the incident.
 - Seven robbers in a boat approached an anchored chemical tanker at 0630 LT in position 17:40N – 083:23E, Visakhapatnam Anchorage, India. Four of the robbers boarded the tanker via the stern and stole fire hose nozzles and coupling. Master notice the robbers, raised the alarm and mustered the crewmembers. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with the stolen items. Port control was 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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