

MS | RISK

Global Piracy Report

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

About MS Risk

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MS Risk has a dedicated team of researchers, a 24/7 hotline service and a pool of trained and experienced consultants to support client needs.

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

- Security Consulting
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 - Due diligence and investigations.
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 - 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 (November 10 - 16, 2014 - Week 46; Edition 63)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

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

Somalia-Indian Ocean: Four incidents and two late reported incidents during this period

Southeast Asia: Two incidents reported during this period

South America: No incidents during this period

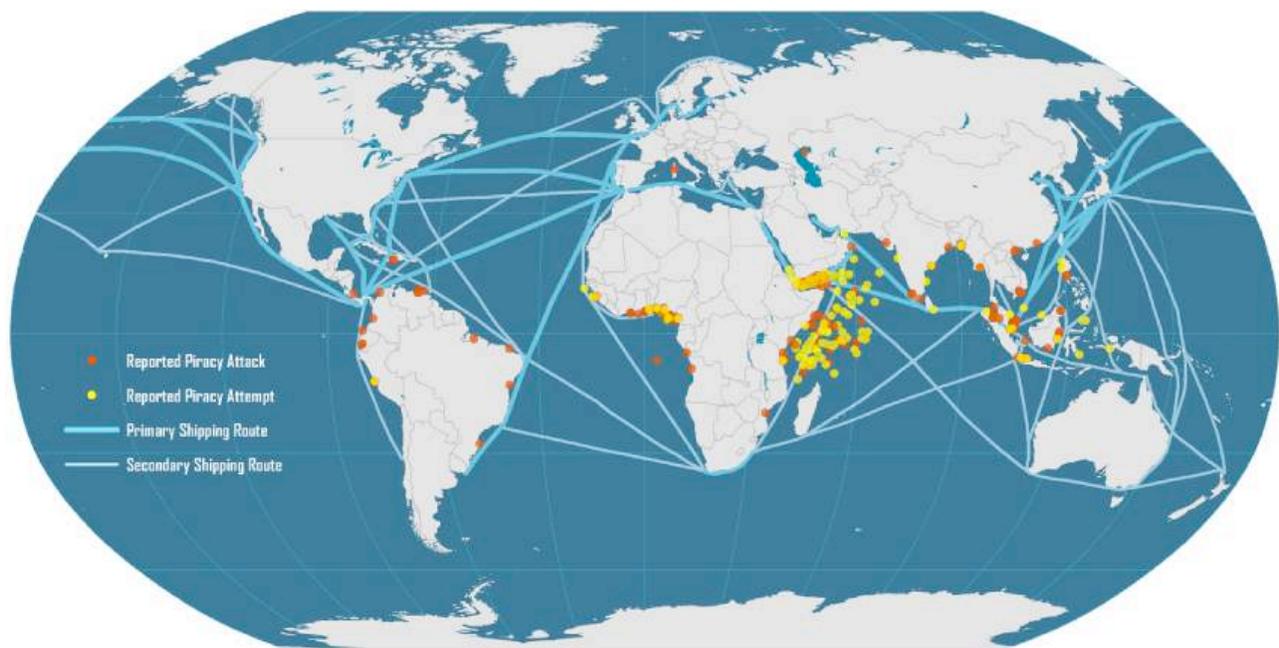
North America: No current incidents to report

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

Executive Summary

While there has been no successful hijacking of a vessel transiting the region in over two years, the threat of piracy remains high as Pirate Attack Groups (PAG's) continue to approach vessels in a bid to attack and hijack them. The Southwest Monsoon season is now in a transition period. Waves off the eastern coast of Somalia are up to 1.5 meters with winds up to 20 knots – conditions that are becoming increasingly favorable for single skiffs and whalers to operate in. Vessels transiting the Gulf of Aden and waters off the coast of Somalia are reminded that skiffs and whalers will increasingly move their operations out of the Gulf of Aden and further out to sea in an attempt to hijack a vessel.

Masters are advised to remain vigilant at all times inside the High Risk Area (HRA) and are advised to adhere to strict guidance and protective measures as set down in BMP4. Sailing yachts should avoid transiting the HRA. Past activity has demonstrated that pirates will attack both large and small yachts transiting this region. While successful attacks and hijackings of merchant vessels have significantly decreased over the past two years, the possibility of attacks and the successful hijacking of sailing vessels continue to remain high. This is due to the reduction of revenue sources from pirated merchant vessels and the fact that sailing yachts are vulnerable and easier targets. PAG's continue to conduct "soft approaches" on merchant ships transiting the area. Skiffs have approached vessels in order to probe the reaction of the crewmembers and any possible Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) onboard. If the pirate approach does not elicit a response, the pirates will likely proceed with an attack, in which additional skiffs may participate.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

Suspicious Activity:

- **14 November 2014** – At 1345 UTC in position 01:31N – 050:55E, an MV reported a blue and white skiff coming within 2 nautical miles before it turned away. One person was seen on board the skiff holding binoculars.
 - MV reported four small contacts appearing on radar at 0605 UTC in position 13:45N – 063:55E, Arabian Sea at a distance of 4 – 6 nautical miles from the vessel's position. Visibility at the time was 2.5 – 3 nautical miles. One dhow and 1 skiff were later positively visually identified.

- **12 November 2014** – At 0800 UTC in position 1331N – 05006E, a vessel observed a dhow transiting between two vessels. The dhow, which had a brown hull and white tip, was towing three skiffs and was sighted at a distance of 3.5 nautical miles and travelling at 4.4 knots. The reporting vessel is safe.
 - An Israeli-flagged cargo ship was reportedly attacked by pirates in the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb. Security guards stationed aboard the transport ship repelled the attack. The incident occurred as the vessel was making its way from East Asia to Israel. The ship sailed into an ambush when two pirate ships snuck up alongside the ZIM vessel. The pirates attempted to board and take control of the vessel, however they later abandoned their efforts.
- **9 November 2014 (Late Report)** – At 0810 UTC in position 13;26N – 050:07E, MV reported 5 skiffs approaching from ahead at 1 nautical miles and 1 skiff with five pirates on board astern at 1 nautical mile. No weapons were sighted on board the skiffs. Embarked armed security team on board vessel displayed weapons resulting in the skiffs turning away.
- **8 November 2014 (Late Report)** – A vessel reported being approached by two skiffs to within 100 m in position 12;36N – 043:25E. Each skiff had two pirates on board. Vessels' armed security team displayed their weapons, resulting in the skiffs turning away. Vessel and crewmembers on board have been reported safe.

Piracy Related News

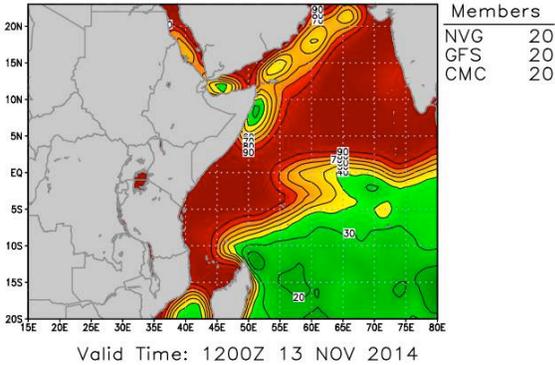
- **13 November 2014** – Gunmen have left five servicemen injured, and eight missing at sea, after they attacked an Egyptian navy ship in the Mediterranean Sea. According to the military, four fishing boats were used in the assault, which was carried out by “terrorists,” four of whom were killed in the assault. Another thirty-two have been arrested. On the ground sources have disclosed that the vessel reportedly caught fire in the assault, which occurred 70 km (45 miles) off the northern port of Damietta. The Egyptian air force has been deployed to secure the area and to make additional arrests.
- **12 November 2014** – Late Tuesday, pirates operating in the Red Sea made two attempts to get close to a cargo ship travelling to Israel before they were forced to retreat. According to sources, an attempt by Somali pirates to hijack a cargo ship en-route to Israel was thwarted by armed Israeli security guards who were on board the vessel. The ZIM shipping company vessel, which set sail from southwestern Asia a few days earlier, was carrying trade items destined for Israel when a pirate action group sailed close to the vessel near the entrance to the Red Sea. During their first attempt to board the vessel, the PAG sailed close to the walls of the vessel, but was forced to retreat after they noted the armed security team on board. The PAG attempted a second approach however they abandoned their efforts after the Israeli security team threatened to use their weapons.

Weather Analysis

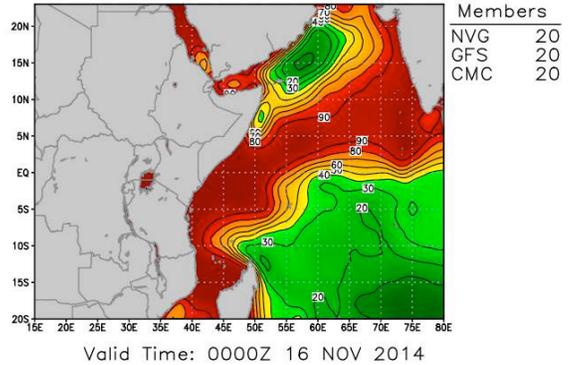
- **North Arabian Sea** – North-northeast winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – North-northeast winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden** – 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 easterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 2- 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Easterly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Easterly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – Southerly winds of 5 – 10 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 6 – 8 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southeast winds of 7 – 12 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** – As the Northeast Monsoon becomes the dominant feature in the region, expect calm seas and light winds in the Arabian Sea with isolated rain showers and thunderstorms off the coast of the Somali Basin. Weak pressure gradient will produce moderate winds and minimal seas in the Arabian Gulf. Expect isolated rain showers and coastal thunderstorms in the Gulf of Guinea.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week

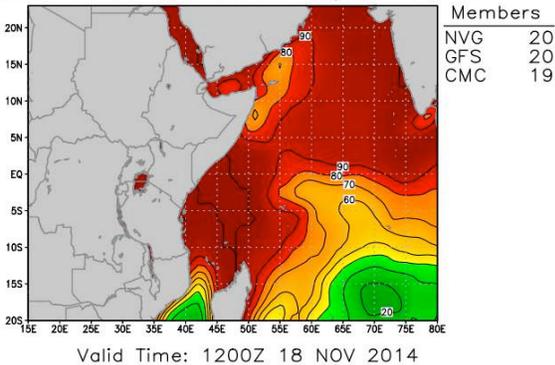
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



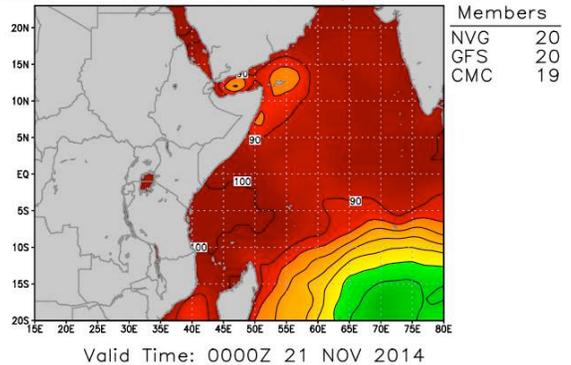
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



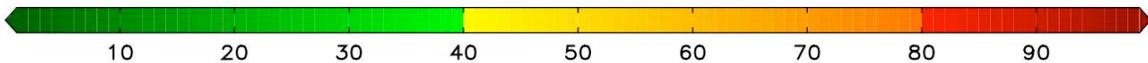
Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



probability (%)



*** 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 Reporting

- **16 November 2014** – At least two people were seriously injured Sunday when a bomb exploded in their car in central Mogadishu. The blast, which occurred on a major road that leads towards the government district, set the car on fire, with police officials believing that the bomb was attached to the vehicle. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, however al-Shabaab has increased its guerrilla attacks in the capital city and elsewhere across the city after being forced out of a number of key cities and towns by African Union-led troops.
 - Reports have surfaced that al-Shabaab militants fired mortar bombs at the presidential palace in Mogadishu on Sunday, however government and police spokesmen have indicated that none of the mortars landed inside the compound. Abu Musab, the spokesman for al-Shabaab's military operations, disclosed that militants had targeted the presidential palace however officials have confirmed that no damage was caused. It remains unclear whether Somalia's president was inside the heavily guarded compound at the time of the attack.
- **12 November 2014** – The deputy district commissioner of the Hawlawadag district in Mogadishu was killed Wednesday morning in a drive-by shooting that occurred in Wadajir district's main square. According to security officials, Yusuf Hilal's vehicle came under attack when another vehicle came parallel to it, spraying the car with bullets. Mr Hilal, and one of his bodyguards, died at the scene, with the unidentified gunmen fleeing shortly after the attack. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack shortly afterwards, effectively making it the second official to be assassinated by the militant group in less than 24 hours. On Tuesday, deputy chief of Somali immigration Mahmud Dhabarey was killed in a similar attack that occurred in Mogadishu's KM-4 junction. On Wednesday, al-Shabaab's military spokesman, Abu Mus'ab Abdulaziz, stated that the militant groups is currently carrying out "...special operations in Mogadishu targeting Somali government officials" whom he accused of being "mobilized, funded and protected by the enemies of Islam."
 - On Wednesday, security forces conducted massive security operations in Mogadishu, with forces searching all private and public transport at Daljirka Dahsoon and theatres in Mogadishu. According to on the ground sources, the forces were also seen patrolling a number of government institutions along the Maka al-Mukarama road. The security operations, which come as over five people including senior government officials were killed in the capital city in recent days, have interfered with public transport, with vehicles being forced to access the area through other roads.
- **11 November 2014** – According to security official, unidentified gunmen targeted long-serving Federal Member of Parliament Mohamed Omar Dalha in a drive-by shooting that occurred in Mogadishu's Hamar Jajab district. According to security sources, Mr Dalha escaped the attack unharmed however his driver and a bodyguard died later in hospital of serious gunshot wounds. The assailants, who blocked Mr Dalha's car while his driver was attempting to enter the parliamentary building, sped-off in a Toyota Noha shortly after the attack. While no group has claimed responsibility for the attempted assassination, in the last few months, al-Shabaab militants have killed a number of lawmakers in volatile shootings that have occurred across Mogadishu.
- **10 November 2014** – Somali security forces in Jubbaland have arrested six suspected al-Shabaab militants. According to security official Abdullahi Abdirahman Nasri, the men were detained while attempting to plant landmines near roads across the city. The security official further disclosed that security forces succeeded in defusing two explosives during the security operation. The suspects, who are currently

being held at a Somali national security and intelligence agency prison in Kismay, are expected to be arraigned in court in the coming days. Over the past several days, al-Shabaab militants have killed at least 15 people in the region, stating that they were working with Jubbaland security forces.

Domestic News

- **11 November 2014** – On Tuesday, Somali lawmakers indicated that they will begin a debate in Parliament on a motion to remove Prime Minister Abdiweli Sheikh Ahmed from power, a move which Washington has warned could deepen political turmoil in Somalia. Lawmakers loyal to Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud have backed the no-confidence motion, which comes in the wake of the two men falling out over a cabinet reshuffle last month. The public political dispute began nearly two weeks ago after the prime minister, who has been in charge since December 2013, sidelined one of the President's key allies in a cabinet reshuffle. Ahmed's predecessor was also removed from office by parliament in a similar row with the President, which paralyzed the Somali government for months last year. Witnesses reported Tuesday that security around the Somali capital was tightened, with increased police presence around the parliament building, which has been targeted in the past by al-Shabaab militants. Western donors, who have promised to help rebuild Somali's fragile institutions, now worry that the removal of a second prime minister within less than a year will only further weaken the government. The public disputes also come at an awkward time for Somalia's donors, who have organized a major conference, set to take place in Copenhagen later this month, where they will lobby for additional funds and support for the east African nation's reconstruction. On Monday, Washington also warned Somalia about the dangers of holding the vote. A statement released by US State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki disclosed, "actions to put forward a parliamentary motion for a vote of no confidence in the prime minister do not serve the interests of the Somali people," adding that Washington no longer sees the use of sending a delegation to the Denmark meeting, "because Somalia's leadership is distracted with political division." **Update (12 November 2014)** - Somalia's Federal members of Parliament engaged in a scuffle after a no confidence vote against the country's Prime Minister was presented for debate during a Parliamentary session Tuesday. According to sources, several MP's were seen raising papers that read "No: Vote for Cash," during the session, in reference to lawmakers being allegedly wooed with cash bribes by President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud. The parliamentary speaker was later forced to adjourn the session for the day, indicating that the debate would be restarted on Wednesday.

Regional Reporting

- **11 November 2014** – Kenyan police revealed Wednesday that they have arrested ten suspected attackers, including two female bombers, who had crossed into the country from neighboring Somalia. Speaking to reporters in the Kenyan capital, police spokeswoman Gatiria Mboroki indicated "these 10 suspects were involved in recent terror attacks in Nairobi before they fled to Somalia, and now they have sneaked back." The police spokeswoman did not reveal the nationalities of the ten suspects and did not provide any further details about their arrests.

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

Executive Summary

While over the past week pirate and maritime crime activity in the Gulf of Guinea has remained at a low level, the threat of piracy and maritime crime remains high. Officials have reported two suspect pirate vessels, one operating in waters off Congo and the other operating in Gabonese waters. All vessels transiting this region are reminded to remain vigilant. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and in all regions of the Gulf of Guinea.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **12 November 2014** – At 0030 UTC, two suspicious motor boats approached a vessel near position 04:32N – 005:15E, near Tulia Terminal, Nigeria. When the vessel altered course in order to avoid close contact with the motorboats, pirates fired at the accommodation area of the vessel. The ship's crew followed the company's security procedures and mustered into the ship's citadel. The pirates did not attempt to board the ship. Vessel and crew members have been reported safe.

Suspicious Activity:

- **12 November 2014** – A suspected pirate vessel is believed to be operating in waters off Congo. Efforts are currently being made to confirm these report however all vessels transiting this region are advised to operate with extreme caution.
 - A suspected pirate vessel is believed to be operating in Gabonese waters. The vessel was last located near position 0020N – 00836E, approximately 57 nautical miles from Libreville. All vessels within this vicinity are advised to remain alert and to operate under a heightened level of security.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** – Southwest winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions with associated showers.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Executive Summary

The threat of violent attacks, crime and hijackings remains high in waters off Southeast Asia. Pirate Action Groups (PAG's) are likely to target vessels to siphon fuel or oil onto another ship. Masters are therefore reminded to remain vigilant at all times in all regions, including at ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at anytime. Incidents involving the siphoning of oil/fuel have been on the rise in recent months. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and to report any incidents, suspicious activity, attacks or hijackings to the local authorities.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **13 November 2014** – At 0510 LT, in position 01:14N – 103:28E, around 2 nautical miles southwest of Tanjun Piai, Malaysia. Engine room crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed two unauthorized persons in the steering gear room. OOW on bridge was informed. Alarm was raised and the crew was mustered. A search of the vessel was initiated however no unauthorized persons were found on board. CSO and Port facility security officer were notified of the incident.
- **11 November 2014** – At 2215 LT, in position 01:04N – 104:12E, Tanjung Uban Jetty No. 1 Indonesia. Second engineer onboard a berthed LPG tanker noticed a robber in the engine room. He shouted at the robber and approached him. The robber moved towards the steering gear room where two more robbers armed with metal rods were noticed. Upon seeing the crew's alertness the robbers escaped. 2/E alerted the remaining crew and a search of the vessel was carried out. Terminal security and agents were notified of the incident. All crewmembers and vessel have been reported safe.

Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Weather Analysis

- **South China Sea** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Malacca Strait** – Variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; in the southern Strait winds will be variable at 3 – 5 knots with seas at 1 – 3 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait with variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea** – North-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – The fall transition continues to influence the region. Expect mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers and thunderstorms.

SOUTH AMERICA

Executive Summary

While there have been no recent reported incidents in this region, the threat of violent attacks and robberies remains high in waters throughout South America. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and in all regions, including ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at any time.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.



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