

**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

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  - Crisis management
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References are always available.  
More information is found at [www.msrisk.com](http://www.msrisk.com)

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## Summary (April 6 - 12, 2015 - Week 15; Edition 84)

### 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 late reported hijacking; one late reported incident

**South America:** No incidents reported during this period

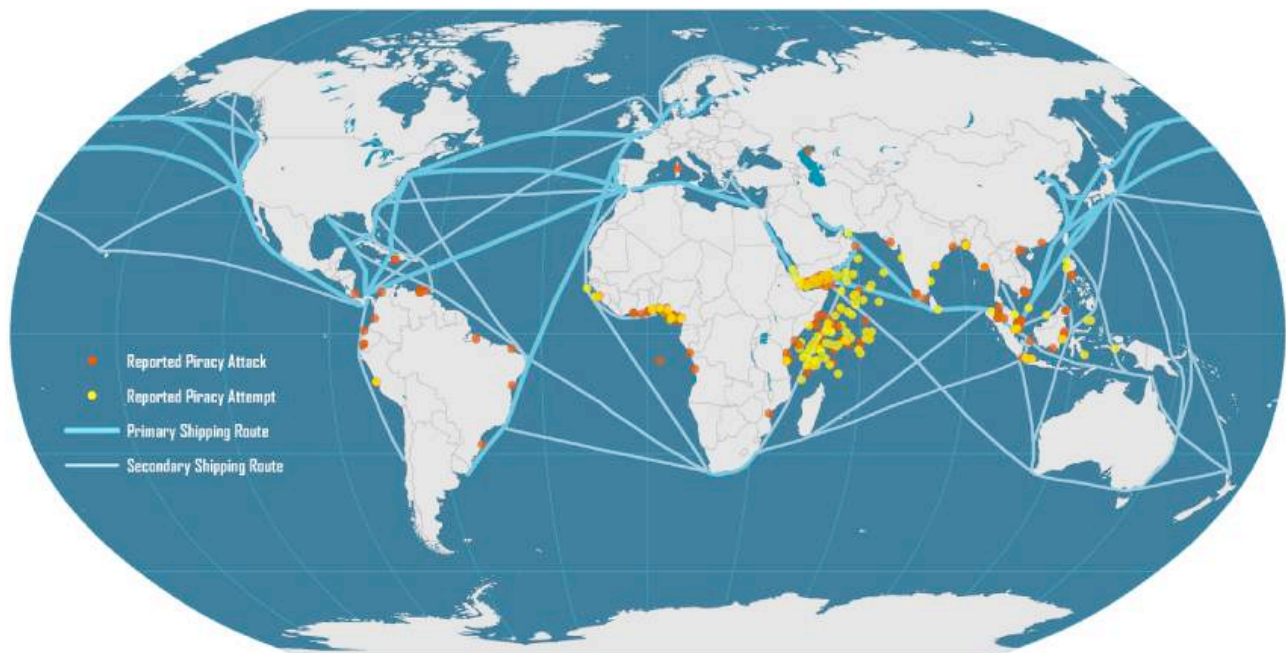
**North America:** No current incidents to report

**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

## Executive Summary

Masters are advised to remain vigilant at all times inside the 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:

- None reported during this period.

### Map

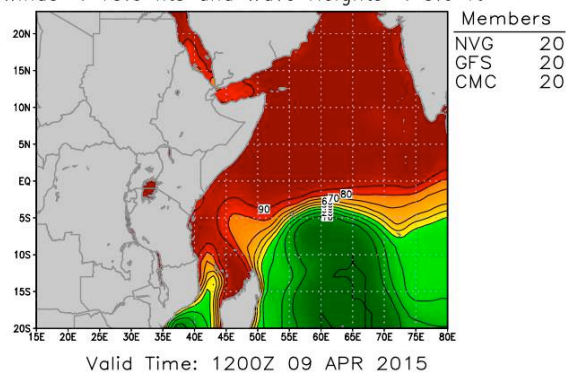


## Weather Forecast

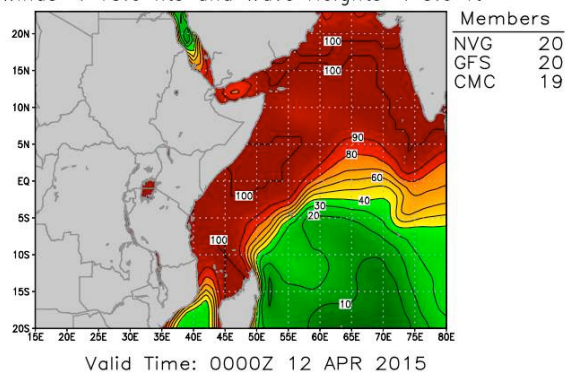
- **Northern Arabian Sea:** Variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman:** Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast:** East-southeast winds of 5 – 10 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 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Aden:** Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be southeasterly at 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean:** Southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel:** Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the southern Channel.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; with southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 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 Northeast Monsoon continues to influence the region, though the transition season appears to be starting. High pressure ridging over western Iran will provide favorable conditions throughout most of the region. Tropical Cyclone 22S/Joalane is approximately 700 miles east of northern Madagascar. Joalane's maximum sustained winds are 80 knots and the storm is moving to the south-southeast at 6 knots.

## Sea Conditions for the Following Week

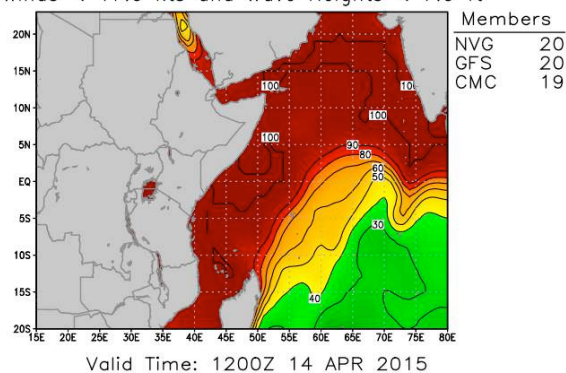
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



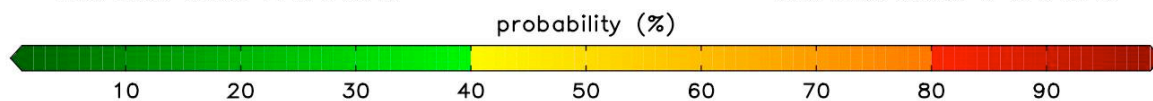
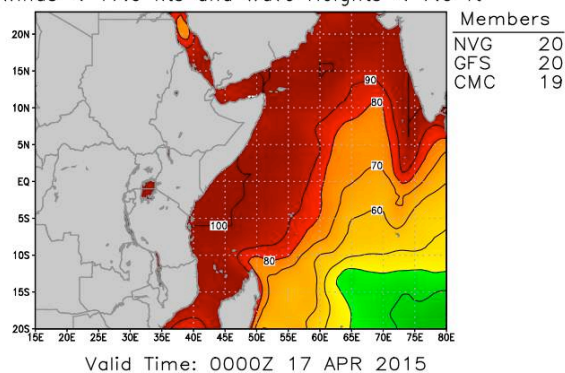
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Source: ONI

\*\*\* In this graphic, the green shading represents a reduced likelihood of small boats and skiffs operating in the area due to harsh seas conditions, while the red indicates a higher likelihood of favorable sea conditions for skiffs and smaller boats \*\*

## On the Ground Reporting

- **10 April 2015** – The Somali government has issued bounties for eleven top al-Shabaab leaders, with US \$250,000 offered for the extremist group's chief, Ahmad Umar. Umar, also known as Abu Ubaidah, has led al-Shabaab since Ahmed Abdi Godane was killed by a US air strike in September 2014. Other rewards include US \$150,000 for the capture of Mahad Karate, who runs the Amniyat, a special internal security wing that deals with intelligence and carrying out assassinations. Rewards of US \$100,000 are being offered for the capture of nine other commanders, including al-Shabaab spokesman Sheikh Ali Mohamud Rage. Several other nations have also issued rewards for information on the whereabouts of al-Shabaab's commanders. Washington is offering cash rewards of up to US \$5 million for three al-Shabaab commanders while Kenya this week offered US \$215,000 for alleged al-Shabaab commander Mohamed Mohamud, a former Kenyan teacher believed to now be in Somalia and said to be the mastermind behind last week's attack in Garissa, which left 148 dead.
- **6 April 2015** – Kenyan fighter jets targeted camps belonging to al-Shabaab in southern Somali on Monday as anger grows in neighboring Kenya over allegations that critical intelligence warnings were missed. The Kenyan army disclosed that Monday's airstrikes destroyed two Islamist bases in the Gedo. The strikes follow a promise by Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta that he would retaliate "in the severest way possible" against al-Shabaab militants. There is growing criticism in the media about the manner in which the attack was handled by authorities. Reports have surfaced that Special Forces units took seven hours to reach the university in Garissa last Thursday, some 365 kilometres (225 miles) from the capital city, as al-Shabaab gunmen stormed the dormitory buildings.

## Regional Reporting

- **12 April 2015** – One student was killed and 150 others injured in a stampede on Sunday at a Kenyan university campus after a pre-dawn electrical blast sparked fears of a new Islamist attack. According to on the ground sources, some panicked students threw themselves out of the building from as high as the fifth floor at the University of Nairobi campus. Kenya's Education Minister Jacob Kaimenyi indicated that Sunday's explosion occurred at around 4 am while students were sleeping at the university's Kikuyu campus, which is located about 20 kilometres (12 miles) west of the capital city. According to the university's vice-chancellor Peter Mbithi, "a power cable blew up outside the student hostel. The hostel itself was not affected, but the students thought it was an attack."
- **8 April 2015** – On Wednesday, Kenya's police chief issued a list of eighty-five people and companies, including at least thirteen key money transfer companies, of having suspected links to Somali-based al-Shabaab. On the top of the list is alleged al-Shabaab commander Mohamed Mohamud, said to be the mastermind behind last week's university massacre that killed almost 150 people, however the list also includes several money transfer companies that provide a crucial way for relatives to send lifeline remittances to war-torn Somalia. Amongst the money transfer companies included on the list is Dahabshill, which is one of the most important transfer companies across the wider Horn of Africa region. The suspension of such companies in Kenya would have a major impact on money transfers. In the past, aid agencies have warned that their suspension would hit some of the poorest people. The notice, which was issued under Kenya's prevention of terrorism act and which was signed by Kenya's police chief Joseph

Boinett, gives the names listed 24-hours to demonstrate why they “should not be declared a specified entity.” The move comes just days after Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta warned al-Shabaab fighters that his government will respond to the attack in the “severest way” possible. While on Monday, Kenyan warplanes targeted Islamist bases in southern Somalia, President Kenyatta has warned that the masterminds behind last Thursday’s attack were inside Kenya, not Somalia, stating, “the planners and financiers of this brutality are deeply embedded in our communities... We will not allow them to continue their lives as normal, the full force of the law will be brought to bear with even greater intensity that has been the case in previous years.”

- **7 April 2015** – A court in Nairobi Kenya has ordered that five Kenyans and a Tanzanian be detained for a period of thirty days while police investigate possible connections to last week’s massacre at a university in Garissa. The court agreed to state lawyers’ request for the extended detention period, which usually would last 24 hours before the detainee has to be presented in court. The Tanzanian suspect is still being held in the northeastern town of Garissa, where 148 people were killed in a day-long siege that was claimed by Somali-based al-Shabaab. Lawyers for the police have disclosed that the five Kenyans are currently being investigated for supplying weapons to the attackers who carried out the raid last Thursday. Amongst those arrested is a security guard who was detained on the university’s campus. The others were arrested while trying to cross the border into Somalia. The Tanzanian man was found “hiding in the ceiling” of the university campus holding grenades. Police officials are also examining phone records of the men as officials believe that they show that the men were in contact with the four gunmen who carried out the attack. Authorities late on Sunday named one of the four gunmen killed by Kenyan troops as a fellow Kenyan citizen, which has highlighted al-Shabaab’s abilities of recruiting militants within the country. According to interior ministry spokesman Mwenda Njoka, Abdirahim Abdullahi, an ethnic Somali, was a university law graduate and “a brilliant upcoming lawyer.” He is the son of a Kenyan government official from Mandera county, which borders the Gedo region in Somalia. He was previously reported missing by his father after he crossed into Somalia to join al-Shabaab. Kenyan officials have also offered a US \$215,000 bounty for alleged al-Shabaab commander Mohamed Mohamud, a former Kenyan teacher believed to now be in Somalia. Officials believe that he is the mastermind behind the attack. On Saturday, President Uhuru Kenyatta disclosed that the planners and financiers of Islamist attacks were “deeply embedded” within Kenyan society. He urged the Muslim community to do more in order to root out radicalization. Meanwhile on Monday, a government source disclosed that governors, members of parliament and security officials from regions that border Somalia will compile a list of people suspected to have either joined al-Shabaab or been radicalized by the militants.
  - On the final day of mourning for the 148 people killed last week, Kenyans marched on Tuesday, demanding greater national security. Hundreds of demonstrators marched on the streets of the capital Nairobi and the northeastern town of Garissa, where the attack was carried out. In Garissa, several hundred people gathered at a rally where both Muslim and Christian leaders called for unity while in Nairobi, some 200 students attended the march. A vigil is planned for the early evening on what is the third and final day of national mourning. The massacre, Kenya’s deadliest attack since the 1998 bombing of the US embassy in Nairobi, claimed the lives of 142 students, three police officers and three soldiers.

# GULF OF GUINEA

## Executive Summary

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa is currently at a low level, with no incidents reported during this period. All vessels transiting this region however are reminded to remain vigilant.

## At Sea

### Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

### Vessels Boarded:

- None reported during this period.

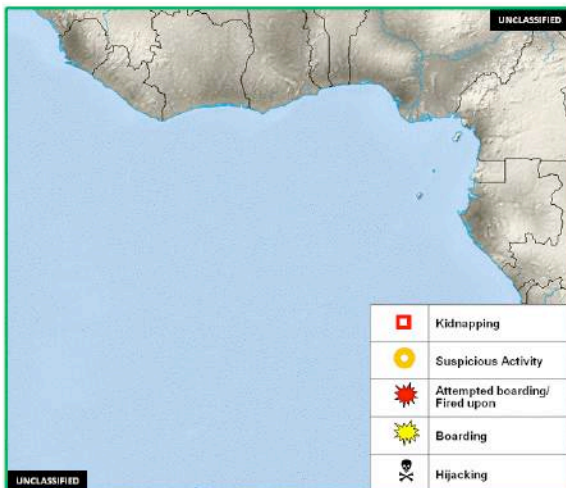
### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

## Map



Source: ONI

## Weather Forecast

- **Gulf of Guinea:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion:** Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea with associated rain 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:

- **1 April 2015 (Late Report):** Up to 25 armed pirates hijacked the underway petroleum product tanker MT DONGFANG GLORY near position 02:09N – 107:32E, 62 nautical miles north of Pulau Uwi. They took hostage the crewmembers, damaged all the bridge equipment, and stole the crew's personal belongings. The pirates also transferred the vessel's fuel cargo into another vessel before disembarking from the tanker. All crewmembers on board the vessel have been reported safe.

#### Vessels Boarded:

- **3 April 2015 (Late Report):** Two robbers boarded a berthed general cargo ship near position 05:48N – 118:05E, Sandakan Port Berth No. 4. The alarm was raised and the crew was mustered. Upon seeing the crew's response, the robbers fled with stolen ship properties. Local police boarded the vessel in order to carry out an investigation.

#### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

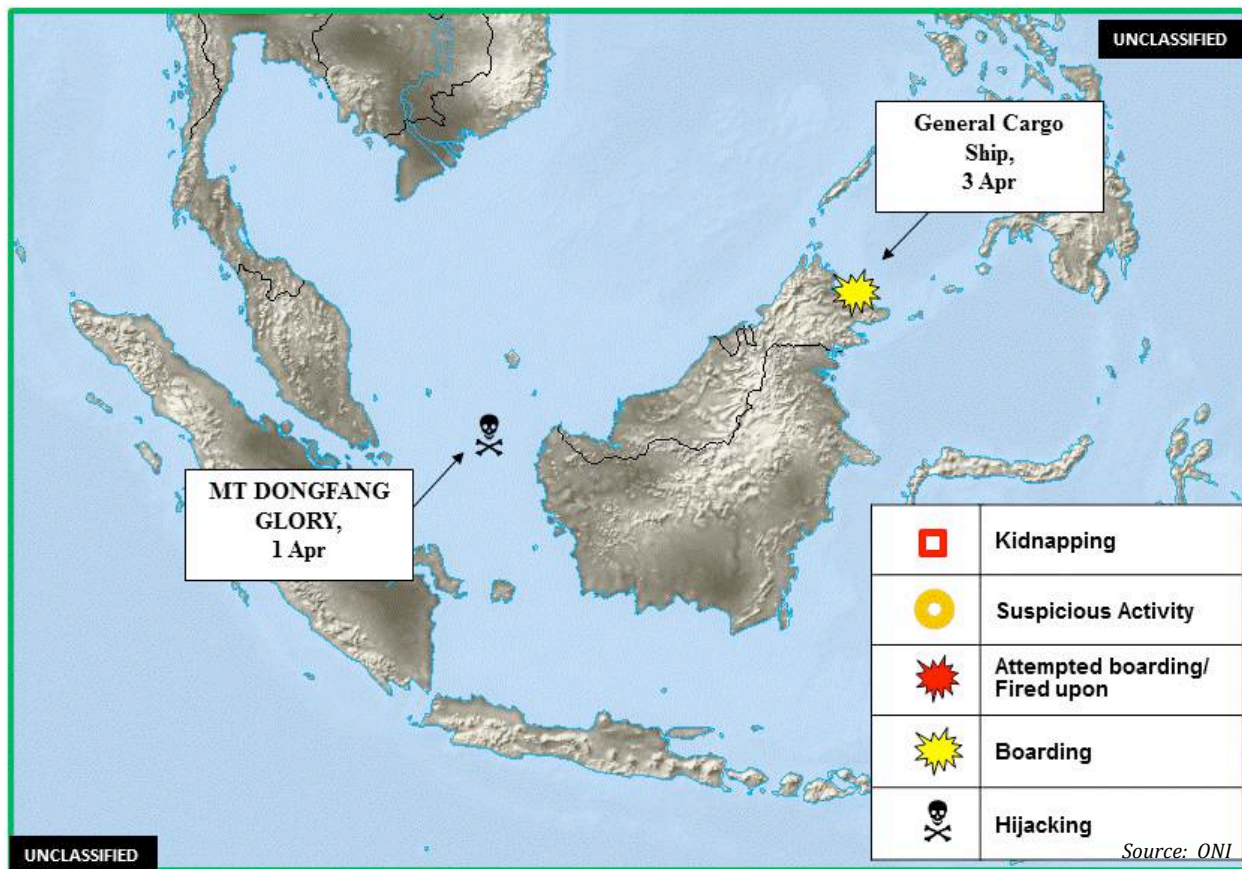
#### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

#### Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

## Map



## Weather Forecast

- **South China Sea:** Northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** East-easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Malacca Strait:** 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.
  - **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:** Variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** North-northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.

- **Surface Currents:** Currents in the South China Sea and the Malacca Strait will average speeds of 1 knot, while currents in the Andaman Sea will average between 1 – 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion:** The Northeast Monsoon season influences the region. Expect increasing cloud conditions with rain showers and thunderstorms. Tropical Cyclone 21S/Ikola is approximately 866 nautical miles west of Learmonth, Australia, and had tracked eastward at 12 knots. Maximum sustained surface winds were estimated at 35 knots, gusting to 45 knots.

## 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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