

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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- Security Consulting
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 - Planning and management
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- 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 (May 25 - 31, 2015 - Week 22; Edition 91)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Gulf of Guinea/West Africa: One incident; one late reported incident; one late reported kidnapping

Somalia-Indian Ocean: No incidents reported during this reporting period

Southeast Asia: Four late reported incidents during this reporting period

South America: No incidents reported during this reporting period

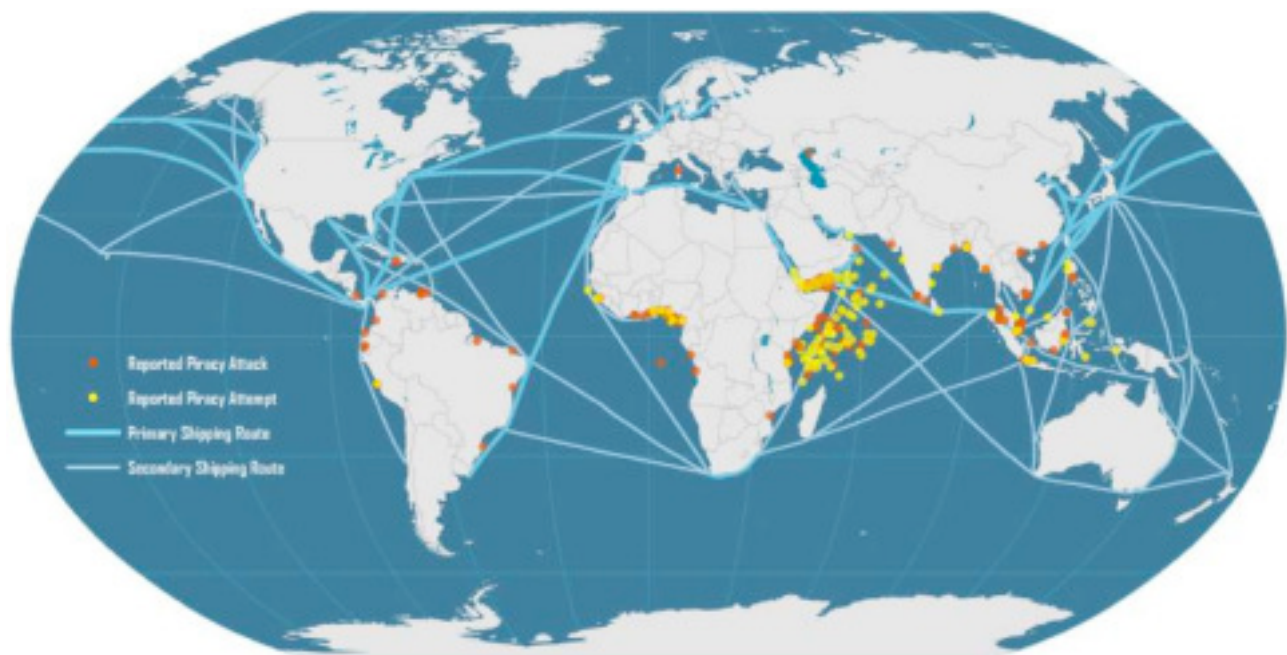
North America: No current incidents to report

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.

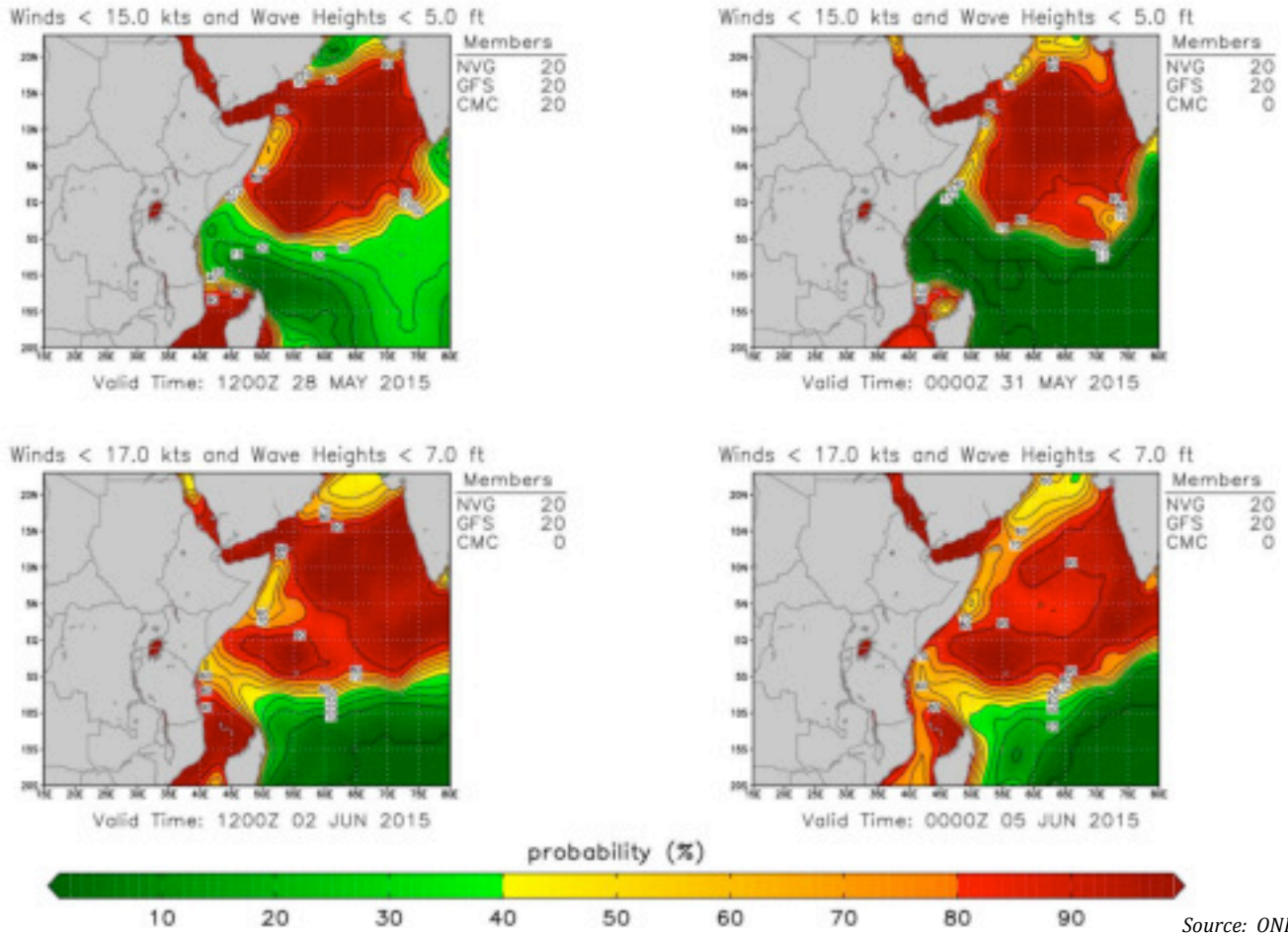
Map



Weather Forecast

- **Northern Arabian Sea:** Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman:** Westerly winds of 15 – 20 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be westerly at 15 – 20 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** West-southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden:** Easterly 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 easterly 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:** Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean:** Southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** South-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the southern Channel.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 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 onset of the transition season continues to influence the region. Monsoonal winds throughout the Somali basin and the Arabian Sea will decrease slightly, allowing seas to abate. Expect cloud ceilings as well as isolated rain showers and thunderstorms in the Somali basin and the southern portion of the Arabian Sea.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week



*** 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

- **28 May 2015** – According to al-Shabaab, a leading figure in the militant group has died in Somalia. In a death announcement and obituary carried by jihadist media, al-Shabaab indicated that Sheikh Hassan Abdulahi Turki, known as Hassan Turki, died on Wednesday evening in the Middle Juba region, south of the capital city. Turki was in his 70's and was suffering from poor health. In an audio message, al-Shabaab spokesman Ali Mohamud Rage stated that Turki “was one of Somalia’s greatest scholars” who had met “al-Qaeda leaders, led by Osama bin Laden, twice in Afghanistan and another in Sudan,” adding that he had fought against US soldiers in Mogadishu in 1993. Sources have indicated that the Ethiopian-born former soldier played a series of leading roles in Somalia’s civil war. In the early 1990’s, Turki, along with Hassan Dahir Aweys, was a founding member of Al-Itihaad Al-Islami. Together they also formed a successor group, known as Hisbul Islam. Turki played a key role in the Islamic Court Union, which briefly controlled Somalia in 2006, and helped to establish al-Shabaab. He was placed on a US list of global al-Qaeda leaders in 2004, after US officials accused him of being involved in the US embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania six years earlier. In 2008, he survived a US air strike that targeted him and other militant leaders in southern Somalia. In recent years, Turki’s influence and importance waned as old age and ill-health began to take their toll.
- **26 May 2015** – The United Nations Security Council has adopted a resolution effectively extending the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) as the Horn of African nation continues to recover. According to a statement released by the UN, the resolution, which was adopted unanimously by the 15-member Council, reaffirms the UN body’s “respect” for Somalia’s “sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and unity.” The Security Council extension will now see UNSOM’s mandate expire on 7 August 2015.

Regional Reporting

- **26 May 2015** – Kenyan police officials reported Tuesday that al-Shabaab gunmen attacked Kenyan police vehicles near the border with Somalia, injuring at least five officers and burning five cars. In a statement, national Police Chief J.K. Boinnet indicated that two officers were critically injured and three others sustained injuries in the attack, which occurred in Garissa County. Garissa police commander Shadrack Maithya also confirmed the attack, stating that at least 13 police officers, who went missing during the attack, have since been accounted for and that two of the attackers were killed. The interior ministry reported that no police officials were killed, effectively dismissing earlier accounts by two officials that several missing police officers were believed to have been killed. Initially, as many as 20 officers were feared to have been killed. The injured officers were part of a team of more than twenty officers who were travelling in three pick-up trucks to recover a firearm that was lost by one officer whose car had hit a landmine. According to Boinnet, there was a heavy exchange of gunfire with the militants. Al-Shabaab has since claimed responsibility for the attack.
 - In a separate incident on Tuesday morning, suspected al-Shabaab militants ambushed a vehicle carrying four passengers in Lafey in the northern county of Mandera, wounding at least one person

before seizing the vehicle and driving it towards Somalia. Meanwhile late on Monday, the Kenyan military disclosed that it had killed seven al-Shabaab members inside Somalia.

GULF OF GUINEA

Executive Summary

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa is currently at a low level, with two late reported kidnap incidents. All vessels transiting this region however are reminded to remain vigilant.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:

- **26 May 2015** – Three robes in a small boat attempted to board an anchored tanker near position 06:26N – 003:20E, Tincan Berth No. 1 Lagos. The duty crewman on deck watch saw the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crew's response, the robbers departed the area. Lagos Port Control was informed of the incident.
- **22 May 2015 (Late Report)** – An anchored vessel near position 05:20N – 004:01W, Abidjan Anchorage, reported that two armed robbers in a wooden boat used by local fishermen approached the vessel. One of the robbers attempted to board the ship but was frightened away by the alarm and whistle when they were activated by the duty crewman who sighted the robbers. The robbers escaped and nothing was stolen.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

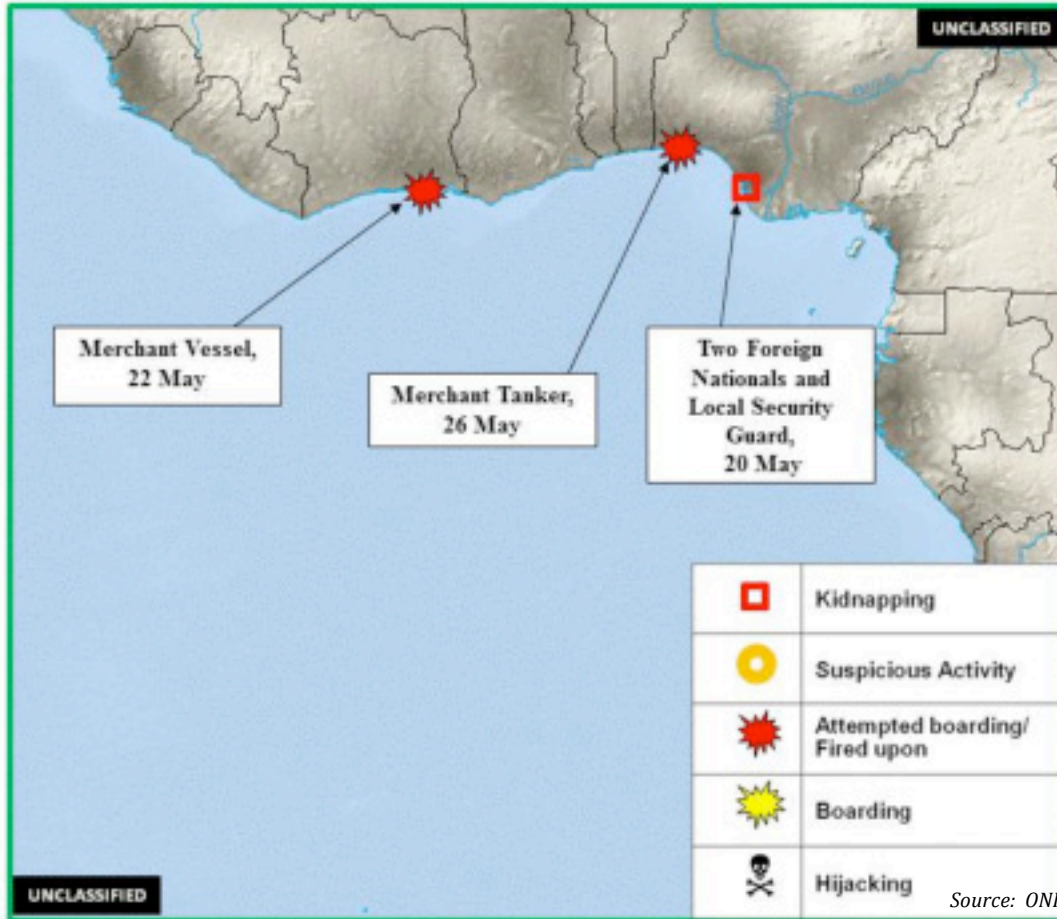
Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping:

- **20 May 2015 (Late Report)** – A Lebanese national, a Syrian national and a local Nigerian were kidnapped from a construction site belonging to the Niger Delta Development Commission at Patani, Delta State. According to a local spokesman, the gunmen came in speedboats through the Sagbama creek to Agoloma-Toru-Apalabiri community and escaped via the same route.

Map



Weather Forecast

- **Gulf of Guinea:** Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion:** Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea associated with 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:

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Boarded:

- **23 May 2015 (Late Report)** – Four robbers boarded an underway container ship near position 01:02N – 103:39E, 5 nautical miles of Pulau Nipah. Crewman spotted the robbers near the aft deck and alerted the other crewmembers. Upon seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped in their speedboat. The crew searched the vessel and found that nothing had been stolen.
- **22 May 2015 (Late Report)** – An unknown number of robbers boarded an anchored container ship near position 10:11N – 107:03E, Vung Tau Roads Duty Bosun on routine rounds noticed that the forward paint lock had been broken into. Upon checking, he found footprints visible on the deck and the ship's stores stolen from the paint lock. Incident was reported to the local agents and the shipping company.
- **20 May 2015 (Late Report)** – An unknown number of robbers boarded an anchored product tanker near position 01:42N – 101:28E, Dumai Anchorage. The robbers boarded unnoticed and broke the padlock of the aft engine room casing door. However, nothing was stolen. The master informed the CSO of the security breach.
- **4 May 2015 (Late Report)** – Four robbers boarded an underway bulk carrier near position 01:05N – 103:46E, 1 nautical miles south-southwest of Pulau Takong Besar. Duty crew spotted the robbers and informed the Bridge. The alarm was raised and the crew was mustered. Upon seeing the crew's response, the robbers fled empty handed.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding's:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

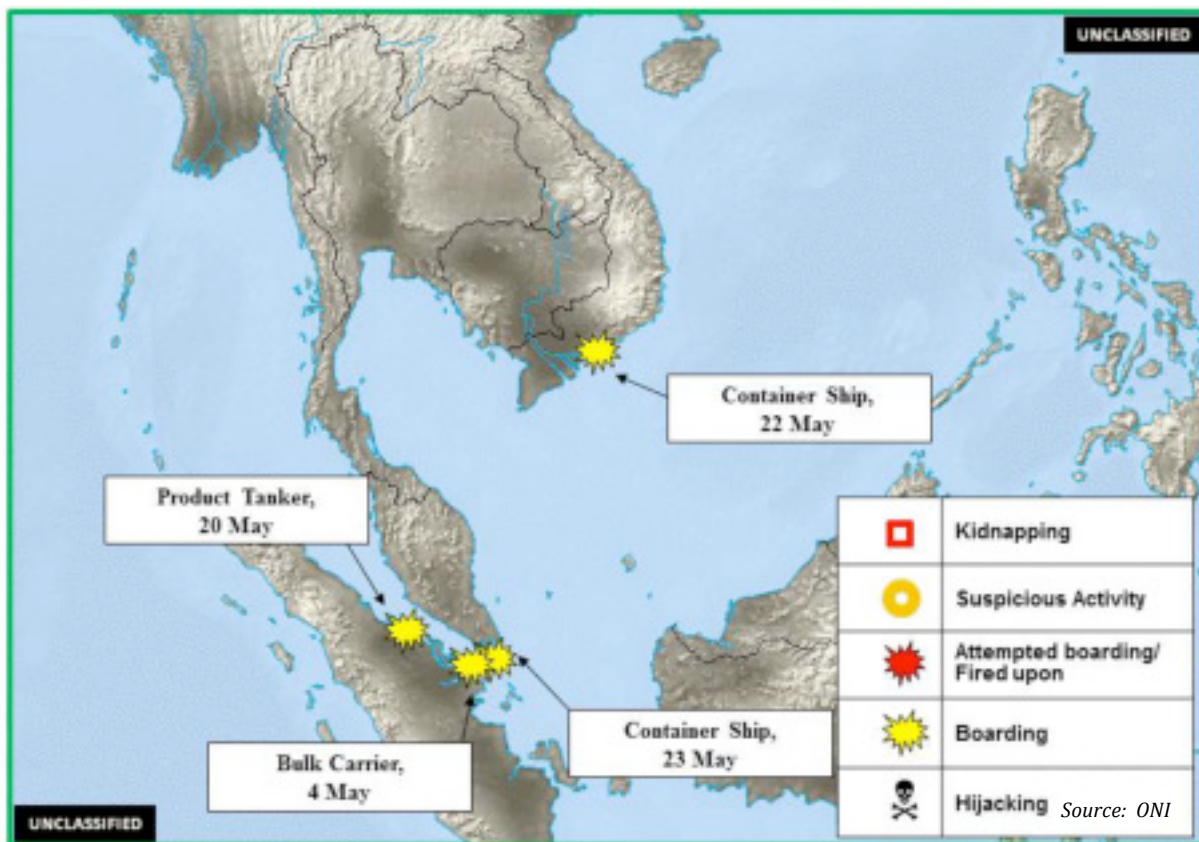
Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Map



Weather Forecast

- **South China Sea:** Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Malacca Strait:** Northwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; in the southern Strait, winds will be southeasterly at 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Southeast winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with southeast winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea:** Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** West-southwest winds of 5 – 10 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:** Expect increasing cloud 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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