

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

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 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
 - Risk assessments and intelligence reporting
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 - 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 (July 13 - 19, 2015 - Week 29; Edition 98)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Gulf of Guinea/West Africa: One incident and one late reported incident during this period.

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

Southeast Asia: One incident and one late reported incident during this period.

South America: No incidents reported during this reporting period

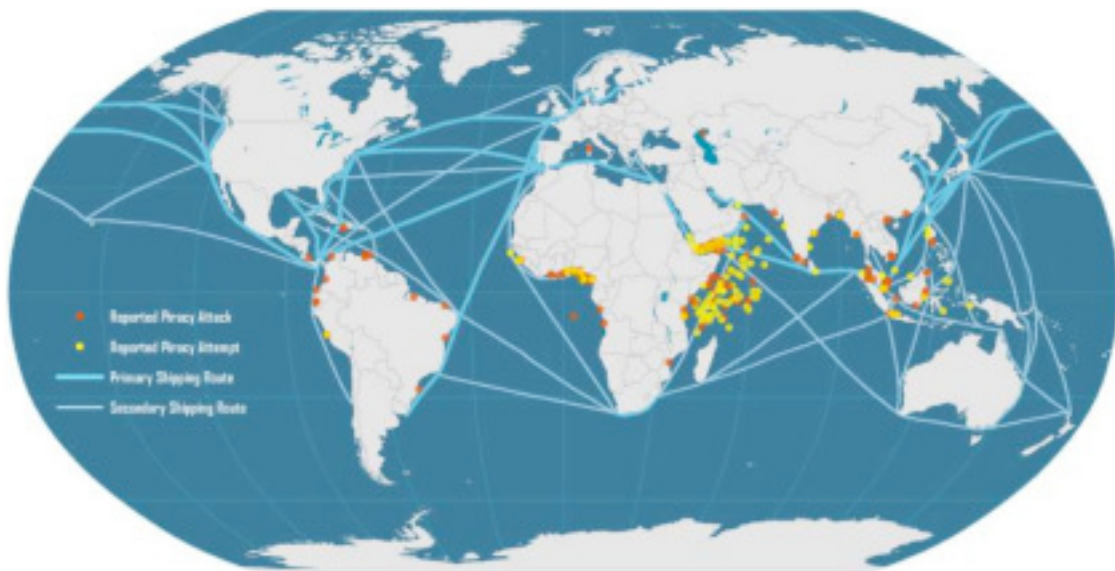
North America: No current incidents to report

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.

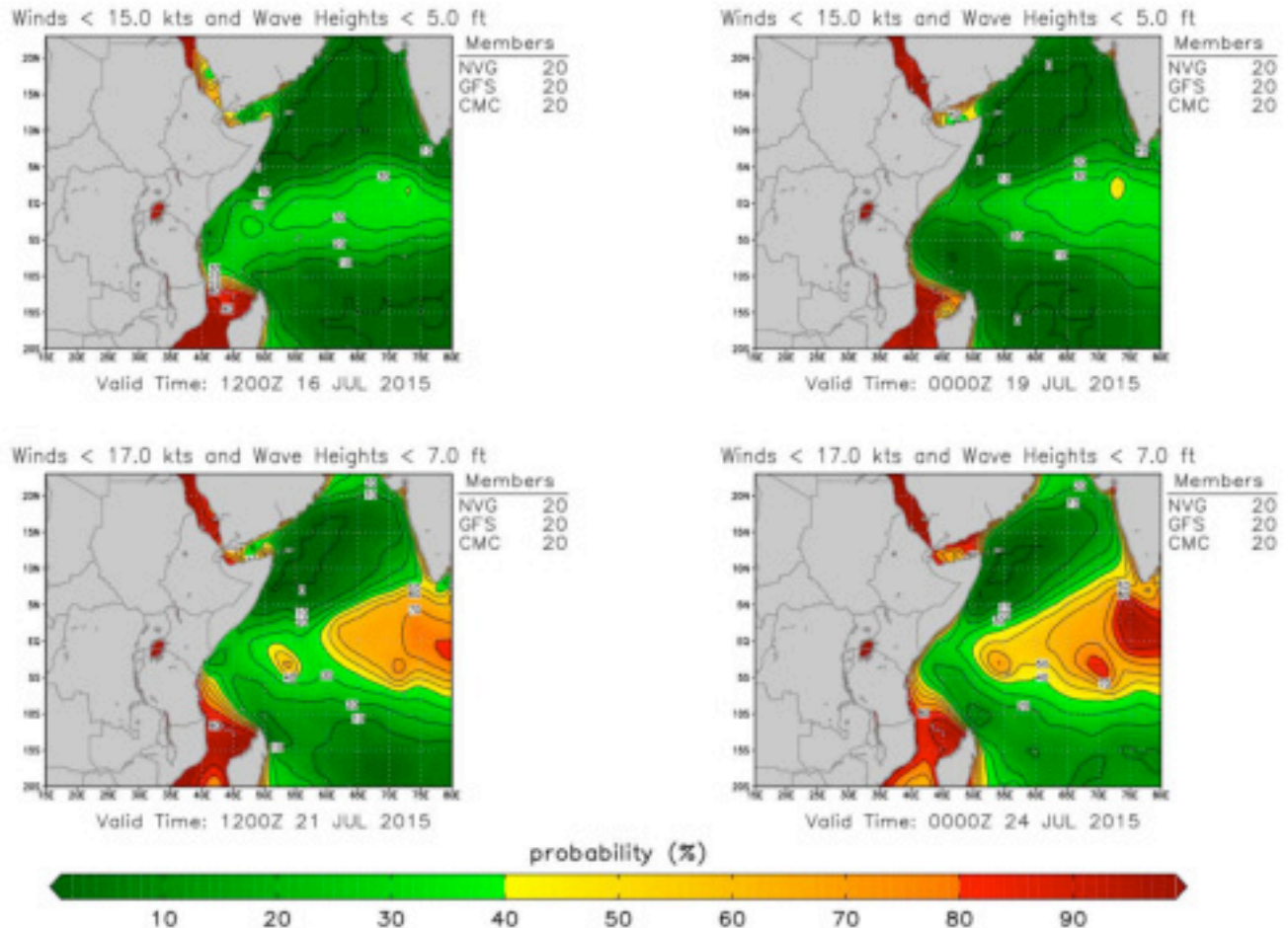
Incident Map



Weather Forecast

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – West-southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Westerly winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with south-southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden** – Westerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be westerly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 6 – 8 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots, gusting to 40 knots, and seas of 10 – 12 feet in the northern section of the coastline; in the southern section of the coastline, winds will be southwesterly at 15 – 20 knots with seas of 6 – 8 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots, gusting to 40 knots, and seas of 10 – 12 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – South-southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – South-southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – Southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the southern Channel.
 - **Extended Forecast** – East-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; with east-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 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** – An area of instability over the Zagros Mountains will provide increased cloud conditions over the Arabian Gulf. Monsoonal winds will continue to elevate the seas in the Arabian Sea area.

Weather Map



Source ONI

*** The green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while the red shading represents an increased likelihood of pirate activity ***

On the Ground Reporting

- **16 July 2015** – The Kenyan government reported Thursday that at least thirty al-Shabaab militants were killed in a US drone strike Wednesday night. According to Kenyan interior ministry spokesman Mwenda Njoka, “over 30 were killed, among them most wanted terrorists.” While Njoka indicated that “several masterminds” behind a string of recent attacks that have occurred in Kenya were killed, he retracted his earlier statement that the mastermind of the April attack on Garissa University in Kenya, Mohamed Mohamud, was amongst those killed. The spokesman also confirmed that “it was a US drone. Kenyan forces usually provide ground support, information and intelligence on such strikes.” A statement released by the Kenyan defense ministry meanwhile indicated that 51 al-Shabaab militants were killed in the area, although it said that this was due to an “artillery bombardment” by African Union forces. The statement disclosed, “fifty-one al-Shabaab militants were killed including several middle-level commanders who have been responsible for attacks in the Mandera region” of northeastern Kenya, describing it as “major setbacks to the militants.” The statement however did not mention any drones. In April, four al-Shabaab militants killed 148 people at the Garissa University in Kenya’s northeastern region, in what was the group’s deadliest single attack to date. Most of the victims were students.
- **13 July 2015** – According to officials, al-Shabaab gunmen on Monday attacked a military base in central Somalia, killing at least four officials. Captain Nur Olow, a military officer from Rage Ceele, in the Middle Shabelle region of central Somalia, confirmed that attack, stating that two al-Shabaab fighters were killed during the raid, which occurred during the early morning hours. Al-Shabaab’s military operation spokesman, Sheikh Abdiasis Abu Musab, confirmed the attack, stating that al-Shabaab fighters “...briefly sized the base and killed 12 soldiers and took their guns. We also took all the weapons and ammunition in the base.”

Regional Reporting

- **14 July 2015** – According to Kenyan officials, the Westgate shopping centre in Nairobi will re-open on Saturday, nearly two years after al-Shabaab militants launched an attack, killing 67 people. Nairobi Governor Evans Kidero toured the shopping centre, which has been largely refurbished since the devastating attack that led to a four-day siege by security forces, on Tuesday. The violence erupted on 21 September 2013 when four militants entered the mall and began firing on civilians. The attack left the mall with shattered windows and flooded floors as well as bullet-scarred walls. The four gunmen are believed to have died from smoke inhalation from a fire that collapsed part of the building.
- **13 July 2015** – According to a Kenyan official, suspected al-Shabaab militants carried out a bomb attack against Kenyan police on Monday. The official reported that the attack took place in the coastal county of Lamu, which borders Somalia and which has been hit by a wave of attacks by the militant group. Northeastern regional commissioner Mohamud Saleh has disclosed that a police four-wheel drive vehicle hit an IED (improvised explosive device) while officers were travelling to Lamu from a neighboring county to purchase supplies, adding that the vehicle was badly damaged and that the officers had been evacuated to the nearby town of Hindi. **Update (14 July)** – According to police officials, at least two police officers and a civilian died on Monday when a bomb blew up their vehicle in the Kenyan coastal county of Lamu. At least

four others were also wounded in the midday blast, which officials have disclosed was caused by an improvised explosive device that was planted in the middle of the road. Al-Shabaab militants have claimed responsibility for the attack.

GULF OF GUINEA

Executive Summary

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

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:

- None reported during this period.

Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

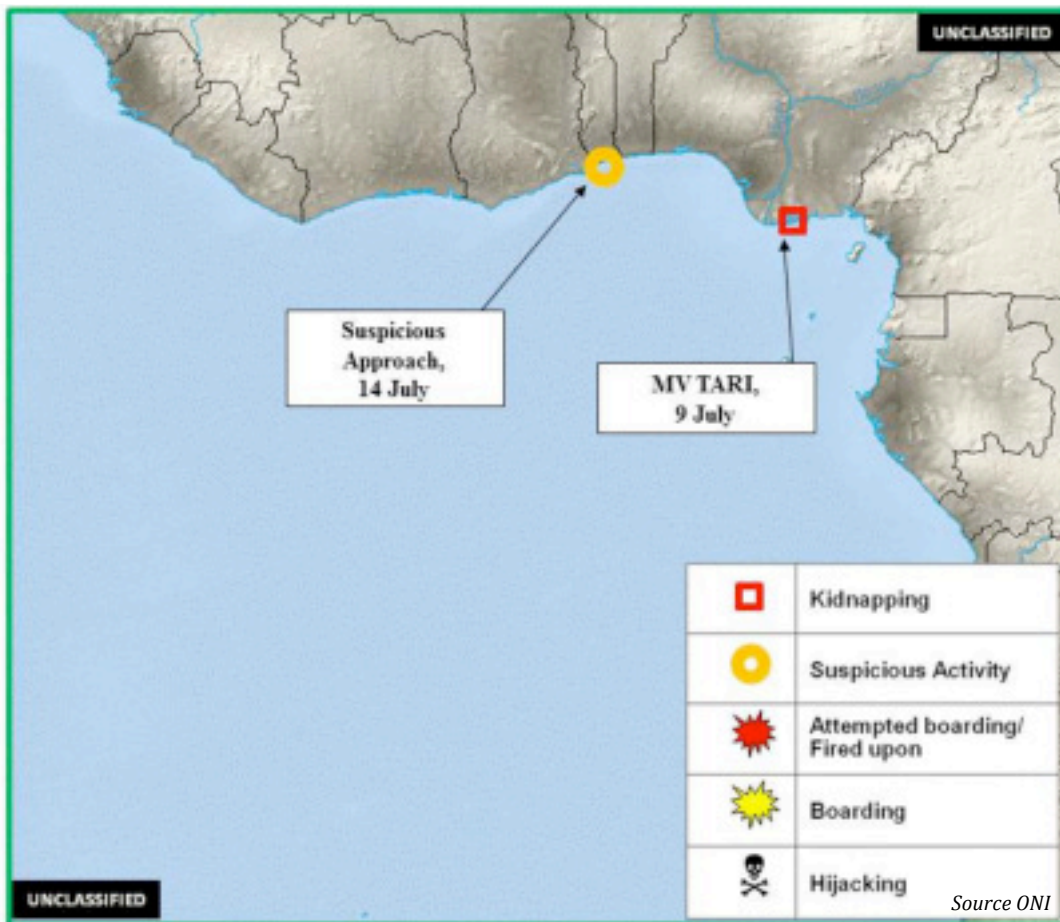
Kidnapping:

- **9 July 2015 (Late Report)** – Seven gunmen in two speedboats attacked the passenger MV TARI while conveying passengers from Port Harcourt in Rivers State to Okpoama community in Bayelsa State when the pirates opened fire on them. One person was killed in the attack and two other persons, including the vessel's Master, were kidnapped.

Other Activity:

- **14 July 2015** – Near position 06:07N – 011:16E, Lome Anchorage, the deck watch of an anchored container ship noticed a wooden boat with five individuals and no lights circling the vessel at very close distance with the intention of climbing on board. Alarm was raised, crew was mustered and all exterior lights turned on. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the occupants of the boat aborted their approach and moved away. No weapons were sighted. The Togolese Navy was informed of the incident.

Incident Map



Weather Forecast

- **Gulf of Guinea** – Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 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:

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Boarded:

- **15 July 2015** – Eight robbers in two wooden boats boarded a berthed bulk carrier near position 10:45 N – 106:42E, Fertilizer Terminal, Ho Chi Minh City Port. Duty crewman on routine rounds noticed the robbers and informed the duty officer, who raised the alarm. Several duty crewmen proceeded towards the robbers however they stopped when they saw that the robbers were armed with long knives. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped with the stolen ship's properties in their boats.
- **11 July 2015 (Late Report)** – Robbers boarded an anchored product tanker near position 10:10N – 107:05E, Vung Tau Anchorage. They stole the vessel's stores and escaped. The incident was noticed later in the day and reported to the authorities.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding's:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

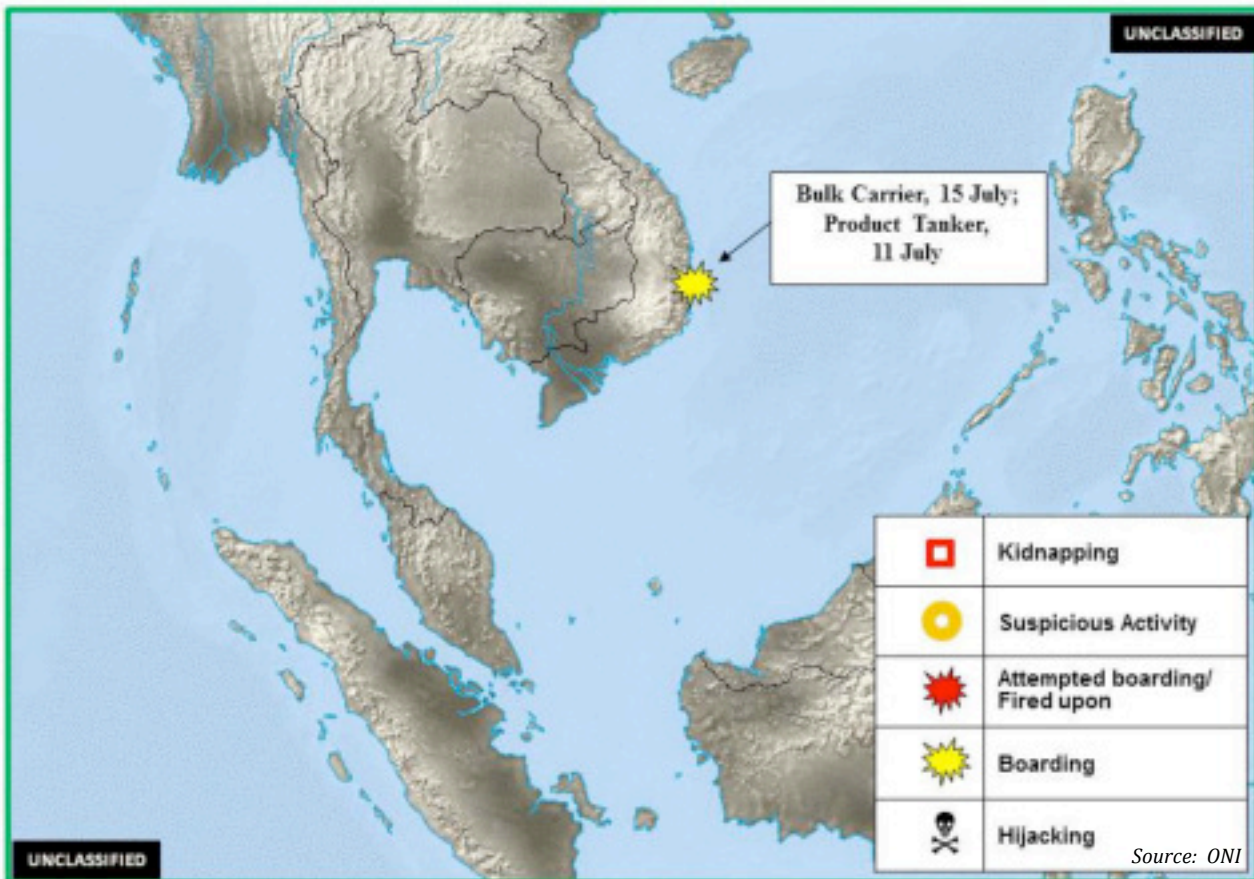
Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Incident Map



Weather Forecast

- **South China Sea** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.

- **Malacca Strait** – Southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the northern Strait; with southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
- **Surface Currents** – Currents in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait will average speeds of 1 knots, 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.

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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