

# 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.

MS Risk is always mindful and compliant to legislation and guidelines on the use of private security services including, but not limited to the US FCPA (1977), UK Bribery Act (2010), Canadian Bill C-48 (2007), ASX 8 Corporate Governance Principles, and the World Bank/IFC Voluntary Principles on the Use of Government and Private Security Forces. MS Risk is a signatory of the Swiss government's International Code of Conduct. It is transparent and compliant to market expectations on legal and ethical conduct in the performance of services.

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
  - 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](http://www.msrisk.com)

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## Summary (July 27 – August 2, 2015 - Week 31; Edition 100)

### List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

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

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

**Southeast Asia:** Three late reported incidents during this period

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

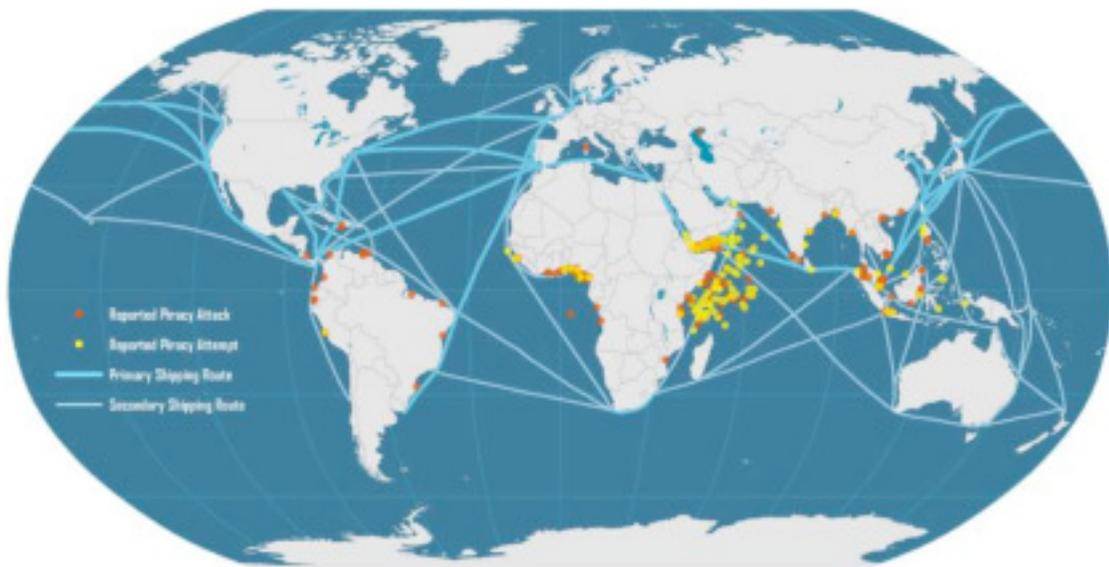
**North America:** No current incidents to report

**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.

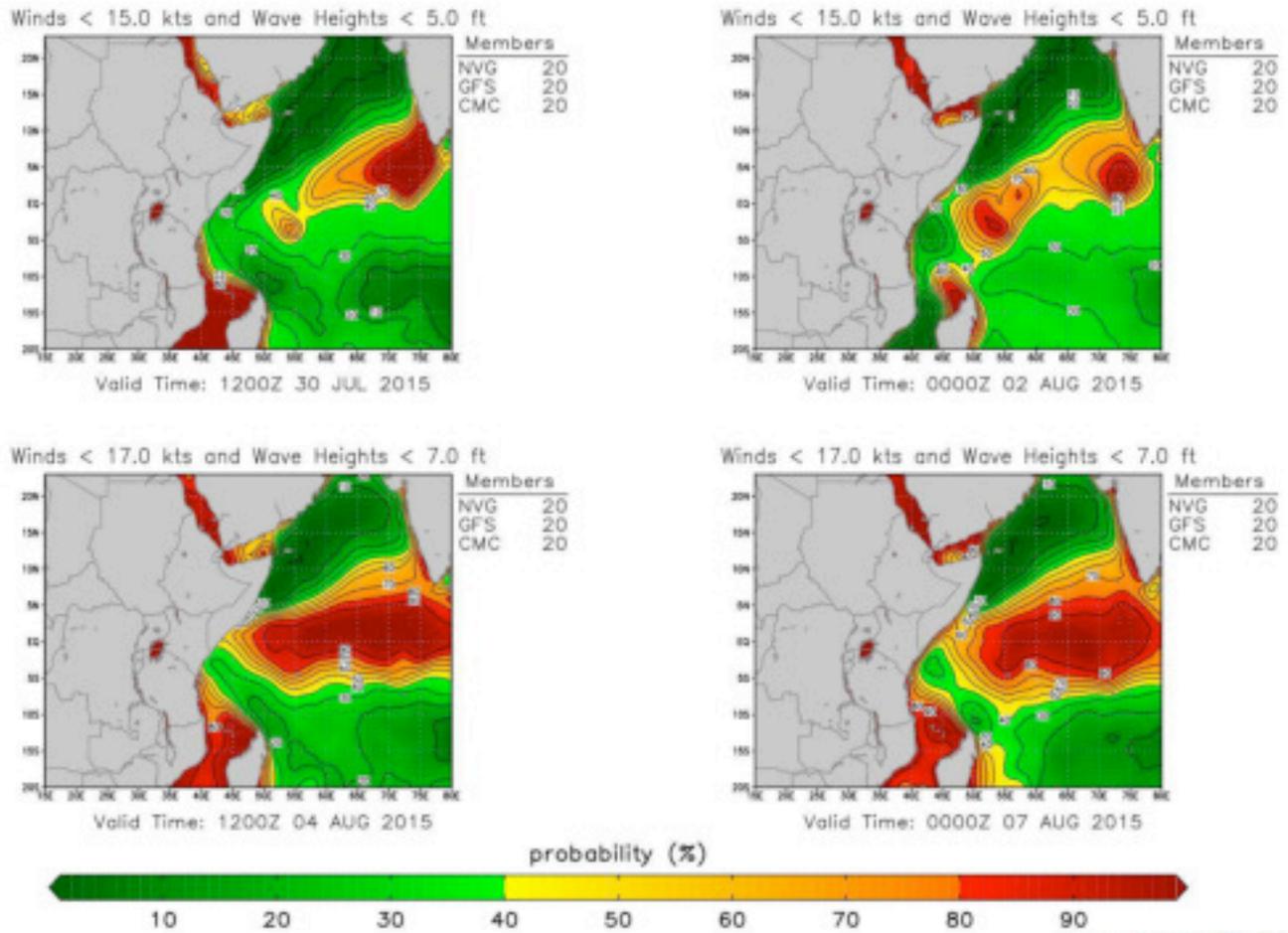
Incident Map



## Weather Forecast

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 10 – 12 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots with seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** – West-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be west-southwesterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Gulf of Aden** – Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southerly winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots and seas of 7 – 9 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** – Southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – South-southeast winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the southern Channel.
  - **Extended Forecast** – East-southeast winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; with east-southeast winds of 10 – 15 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 2 knots. Currents speeds along the Somali Basin are northeasterly averaging between 1 – 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – A monsoonal trough drapes across the southern Red Sea into the Arabian Gulf, Afghanistan and India, increasing moisture and instability over the southern portion of the region as monsoonal winds continue to elevate the seas in the Arabian Sea.

## 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 \*\*\*

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## On the Ground Reporting

- **29 July 2015** – On Wednesday, Somalia’s intelligence agency identified a suicide truck bomber, who attacked a hotel in Mogadishu last week, as a 30-year-old Somali who had lived in Germany but who had returned to the East African country in order to join al-Shabaab. A statement released by the National Security and Intelligence Agency (NISA) indicated that “the attacker was 30-year-old Abdirasak Muse Buh. He was born in Tripoli in Libya, and lived in Bonn, Germany. Abdirasak returned to the country in 2012 through Egypt,” adding that he had joined al-Shabaab in 2013 after being convinced to join by other members of the Somali diaspora. The agency did not confirm whether Abdirasak also held German nationality. Sunday’s attack targeted the Jazeera Palace Hotel, which is popular with government officials and foreign visitors. The hotel also houses three diplomatic missions, including China’s. In its statement, the NISA disclosed that the death toll from the massive explosion, which occurred Sunday, had risen to 17, with more than 10 others wounded. Dual nationality Somalis have carried out a number of suicide attacks in the past. In February, a Dutch-Somali man and woman blew themselves up at Mogadishu’s Central Hotel, killing at least 25 people.
  - On Wednesday, the UN envoy for Somalia insisted that the country was making progress, remarks that come just a day after the government stated that elections cannot be held as promised next year. Nicholas Kay, the top UN diplomat in Somalia, stated that “the road to democracy is there, but 2016 will be a stepping stone short of full democracy.” Kay further indicated that the announcement, which was greeted with dismay in Somalia, was “no surprise,” adding, “it’s a reality we’ve been staring at for quite a while.” Kay spoke on the sidelines of the so-called High-Level Partnership Forum, a meeting of Somali and foreign delegates which was held in the capital on Wednesday and Thursday. Kay described this week’s meeting as “the largest international meeting in Mogadishu in modern times” with discussions of what will happen in 2016, when the current government’s four-year mandate expires, at the top of the agenda. Kay also indicated that the process of state-building, after decades of civil war and anarchy, and the creation of a federal rather than a centralized administration “is going well but has taken longer than expected.” The last forum was hosted in Copenhagen. On Tuesday, the Somali government admitted that insecurity and a lack of political progress meant that there cannot be “one man, one vote” elections in 2016 as were envisaged by the UN, foreign diplomats and the government itself. Despite the opposition stating that the government was buying time, Kay dismissed these suggestions, stating “there is an overwhelming consensus that there should be an electoral process in 2016.” What the electoral process may look like will be decided by the end of the year, with the Somali government due to hold public consultations before presenting proposals to the international community in early 2016.
  - Late on Wednesday, the UN Security Council passed a resolution, which effectively authorizes until May 2016 the deployment of the 22,000-strong African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), which is fighting al-Shabaab and protecting the government. The same resolution also extended the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), which is headed by UN envoy for Somalia Nicholas Kay, until March 2016.

## Domestic News

- **28 July 2015** – Somalia's president is ruling out the possibility of holding elections, which are due next year, citing security challenges stemming from an Islamic insurgency however opposition parties charge that his government is taking advantage of the poor security in a bid to extend its mandate through the postponement of elections. In a statement, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud disclosed that national elections are impossible amidst rampant violence that has been planned and carried out by al-Shabaab. The president denied the opposition's allegations, stating that his government intends to focus on a review of the Constitution as well as building a strong national army. Mohamud's term is due to expire in August. Elected in 2012, Mohamud's government has struggled to assert its control across the country. While al-Shabaab militants have been driven out of the major strongholds over the years, they still control some parts of rural Somalia, particularly in the southern region of the country, and continue to carry out hit-and-run attacks in Mogadishu.

# 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 Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:

- None reported during this period.

### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

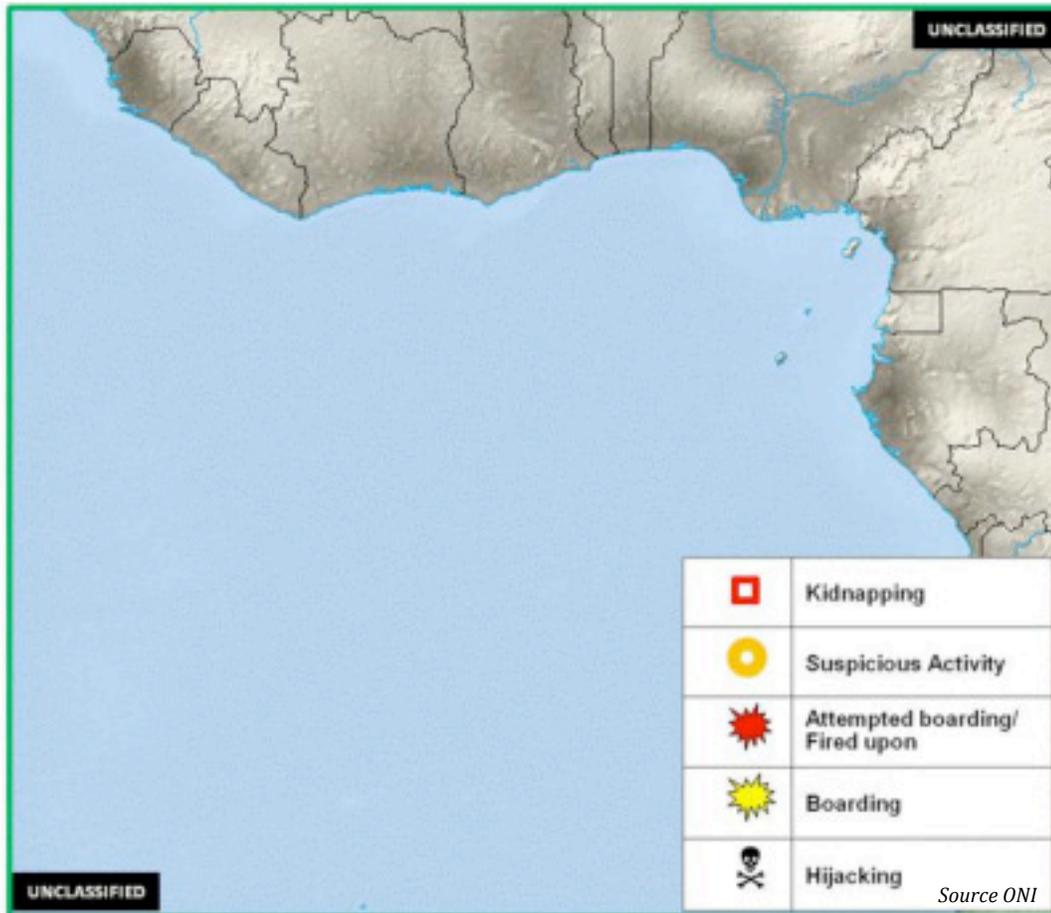
### Kidnapping:

- None reported during this period.

### Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

## Incident Map



## Weather Forecast

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

- **26 July 2015 (Late Report)** – Two pirates boarded the Indonesia-flagged fishing boat MAJU JAYA near position 04:53N – 098:37E, approximately 60 nautical miles north of Balewan. The pirates ransacked the fishing boat, stole the vessel's documents, electronics, personal mobile phones and fuel and then departed. Crewmembers on board the vessel were unharmed.

#### 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.

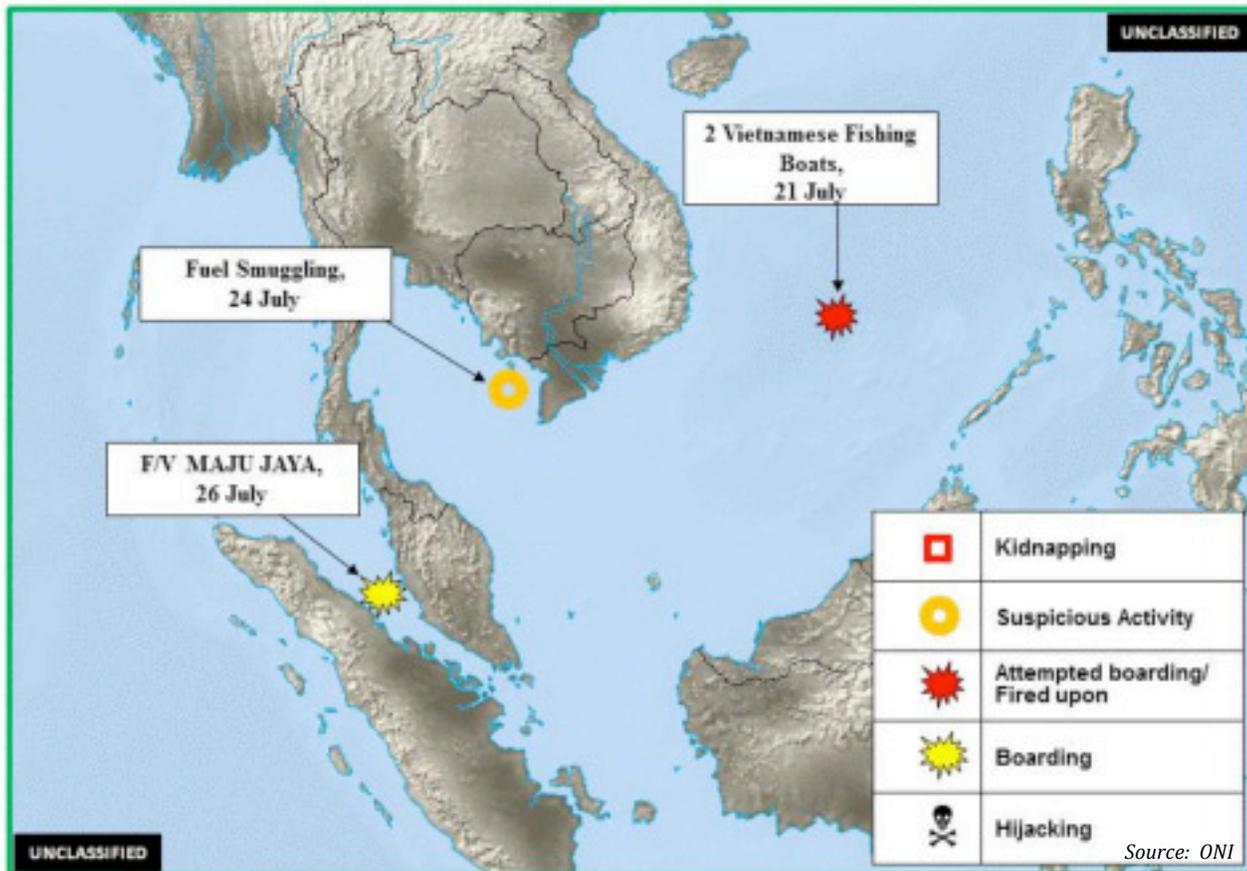
#### Other Activity:

- **24 July 2015 (Late Report)** – The Vietnamese Coast Guard caught two Thailand-flagged boats smuggling fuel to two Vietnamese fishing boats in the southwestern waters off Phu Quoc Island. One of the Thai boats

was carrying 100,000 liters of diesel with three Thai people and four Cambodians on board. The other boat, which was carrying 300,000 liters of the oil, had six Cambodians, together with four Thais and a Lao person. The Vietnamese boats had around 30,000 liters. They could not produce legal documents for the oil. According to the coast guard, crewmembers on the Thai boats said that they had been transferring oil to Vietnamese fishing boats illegally and that they had done this many times before.

- **21 July 2015 (Late Report)** – Two Vietnam-flagged fishing boats reported being chased and rammed by a Chinese ship in an area approximately 15 nautical miles off the western section of the Spratly Islands. Both fishing boat captains reported that navigation lights and other parts of their boats were damaged as a result of the repeated ramming. Reportedly, the Chinese ship had the number 994 on the hull.

Incident Map



## Weather Forecast

- **South China Sea** – Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – West-northwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Malacca Strait** – Southerly winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Strait; with southerly winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern Strait.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Variable winds of 5 – 13 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Strait; with southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Westerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
- **Surface Currents** – Currents in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait will average speeds of 1 knot, while currents in the Andaman Sea will average between 1 – 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – Monsoon conditions persist in the region. Tropical Cyclone 02B will impact the Andaman Sea, and portions of the southern South China Sea, bringing increased cloud cover 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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