

# 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 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
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  - 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 (June 22 - 28, 2015 - Week 26; Edition 95)

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

**Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** Two incidents during this reporting period

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

**Southeast Asia:** One late reported incident during this period.

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

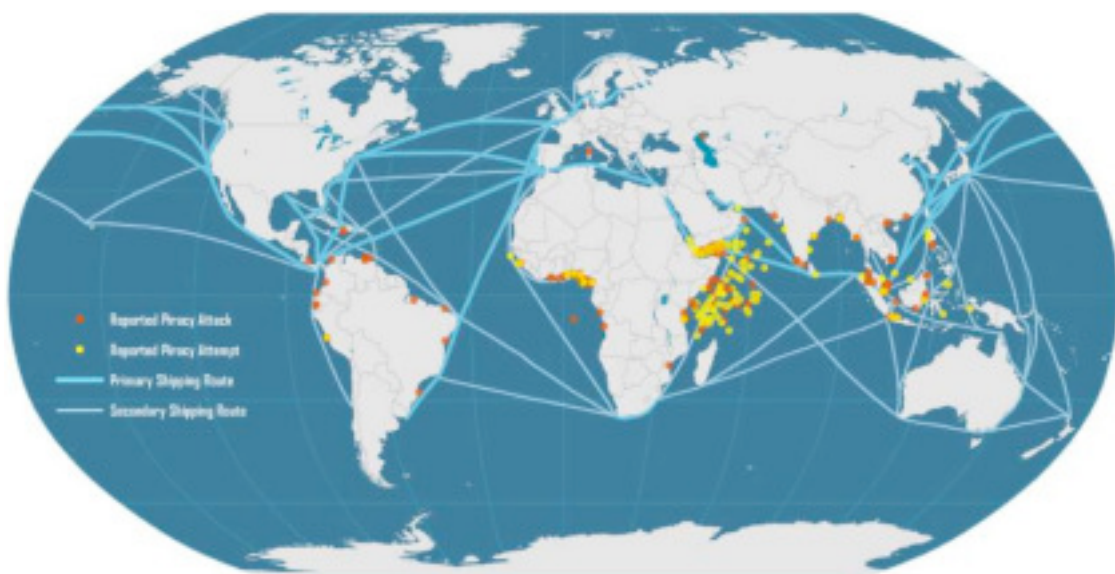
**North America:** No current incidents to report

**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.

Map



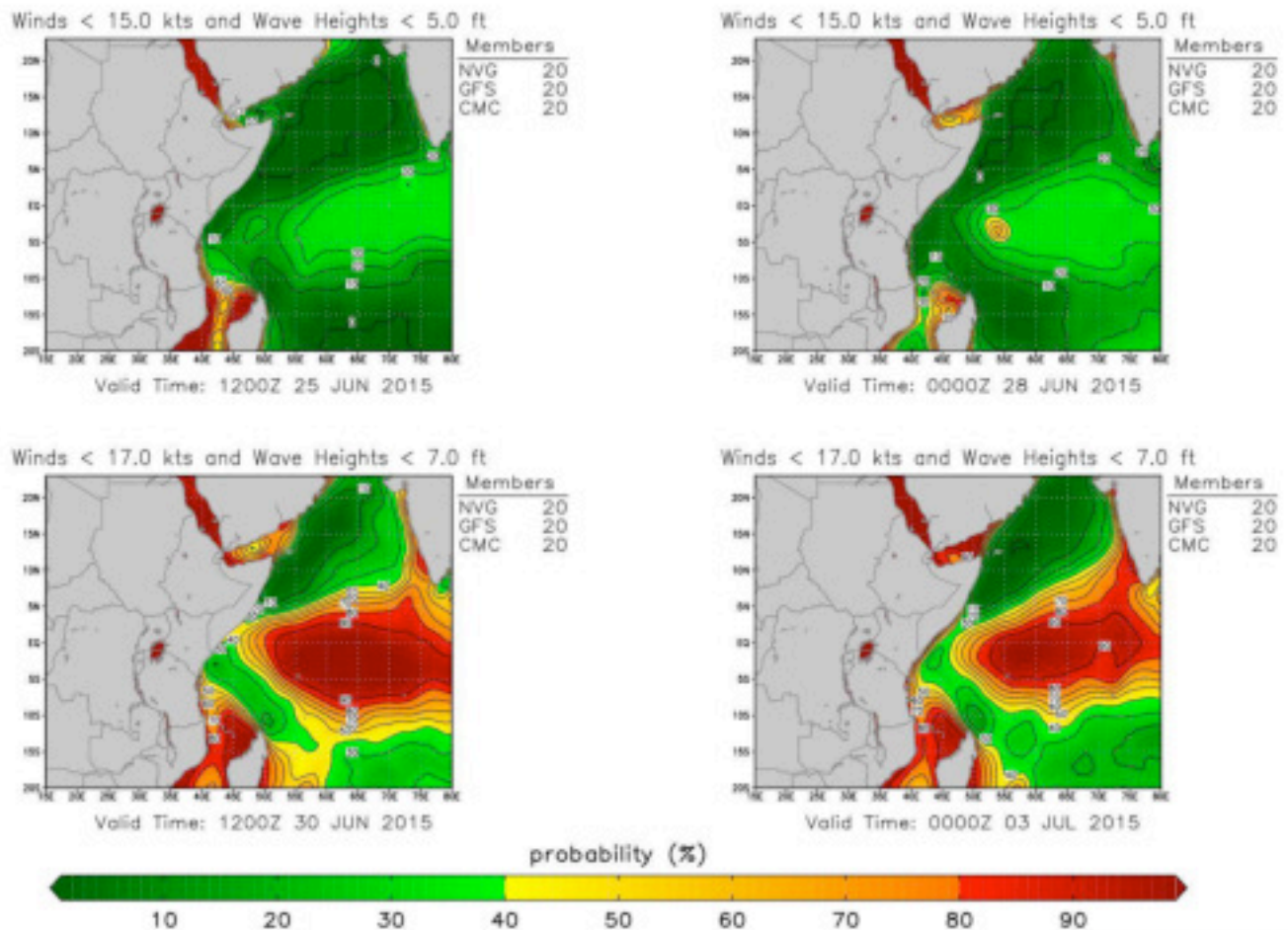
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## Weather Forecast

- **Northern Arabian Sea:** Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 12 – 14 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 12 – 14 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman:** Westerly winds of 5 – 10 knots, gusting to 20 knots, with seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with westerly winds of 15 – 20 knots, gusting to 40 knots, and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Westerly winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 40 knots, with seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with westerly winds of 10 – 15 knots with seas of 7 – 9 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden:** West-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots, gusting to 40 knots, and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast:** West-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 35 knots, and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the western section of the Gulf, with west-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 7 – 9 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; with southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
  - **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 southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean:** South-southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 16 – 18 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** South-southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 16 – 18 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel:** Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the southern Channel.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 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 transiting season continues to influence the weather in the region. High pressure over the Arabian Peninsula will allow for mostly favorable sky conditions to persist over the

majority of the region, with strong monsoonal winds continue to keep seas elevated in the northern Arabian Se and the Somali Basin.

## 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 \*\*\*

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## On the Ground Reporting

- **26 June 2015** – On Friday, al-Shabaab militants claimed to have overrun an African Union (AU) army base in a village in Southern Somalia, in what is the latest attack since the insurgents warned that they would increase their fighting during the holy month of Ramadan. The military outpost that was targeted is located in Lego village, some 100 kilometres (62 miles) northwest of the capital Mogadishu. It is manned by Burundian soldiers who are part of the 22,000-strong AU mission in Somalia, known as AMISOM. According to residents, the dawn raid began with a suicide bomber driving a car loaded with explosives into the entrance of the base, before dozens of militants armed with machine guns and rocket propelled grenades launched their assault. One resident, Hassan Mohamed, reported “we could see smoke and hear explosions, there was heavy fighting in the AMISOM base with heavily armed Shebaab fighters.” Several other witnesses also confirmed heavy fighting at the base. While there was no immediate confirmation of casualties, an al-Shabaab spokesman claimed that the militants had taken control of the base, killing dozens, seizing weapons and raising their flag. In a statement released by AMISOM, the AU confirmed “an ongoing attack” at its Lego base.
- **24 June 2015** – On Wednesday, al-Shabaab militants killed at least six people in a suicide attack that targeted a diplomatic convoy from the United Arab Emirates in the capital, Mogadishu. According to police officer Abdukadir Hassan, “we have confirmed the death of six people, four of them civilians, while six others were also wounded, some seriously,” adding no UAE diplomats were hurt in the attack. Sources have disclosed that the UAE ambassador survived the suicide attack as he was riding in a bullet-proof land cruiser vehicle. Witnesses have reported that a military convoy from the African Union (AU) forces in Somalia (AMISOM) was also passing nearby at the time of the attack. Al-Shabaab has claimed responsibility for Wednesday’s attack, indicating in a statement posted on an extremist website, “the mujahedeen fighters...carried out a successful attack on a delegation from the apostate government of the United Arab Emirates...A suicide bomber rammed his car into the pick-up truck and there were casualties.” Wednesday’s attack is believed to be the first time that the militant group has targeted the UAE in Somalia. The UAE is involved in a number of security, infrastructure, humanitarian and development projects in the East African country. This latest attack comes as the Holy Muslim month of Ramadan has just begun. In past years, militants operating in the region have intensified their attacks during this period, with al-Shabaab again vowing to carry out more attacks during Ramadan, which began Wednesday. **Update (25 June)** – Officials disclosed Thursday that the death toll from Wednesday’s attack, which targeted a UAE convoy in Mogadishu, has risen to twelve.
- **22 June 2015** – Somalia’s security agency reported Monday that it carried out a night raid on al-Shabaab targets inside a militant-controlled town in southern Somalia, adding that “senior” commanders were targeted in the raid. According to internal security spokesman Mohamed Yusuf Osman, members of the US-trained National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) carried out the attack inside Bardhere town, an al-Shabaab stronghold in Gedo region. Osman disclosed, “the specially trained security forces have carried out a well orchestrated attack at key targets inside Bardhere district and they have returned safely after the operation.” He further indicated that a police station and the district headquarters used by al-Shabaab fighters and leaders were targeted in the raid. A statement released by NISA disclosed, “our forces interrupted a very senior level meeting of (al-Shabaab) leaders. The intelligence we had indicated the meeting was to plan for more attacks in Somalia and Kenya.” NISA described the raid as “retaliation” for



Sunday's al-Shabaab attack in Mogadishu. NISA sources have indicated that an al-Shabaab leader, known as Yusuf Haji, was killed in the operation, adding that they are working to confirm whether senior al-Shabaab commanders, including intelligence chief Mahad Karate and Kenyan university massacre mastermind Mohamed Mohamud were in the building at the time of the raid.

## Regional Reporting

- **25 June 2015** – On Thursday, Kenya's deputy president warned that foreign fighters with Somali-based al-Shabaab insurgents pose a risk to Europe if troops fail to stop them. The warning from Kenya comes just days after the first British jihadi was killed in the East African country. Speaking at a conference in Nairobi on countering violent extremism, Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto stated, "foreign fighters from far afield, some from Europe, are in the field here in the Horn of Africa. If they escape our security forces, they will return to their countries of origin to pursue what they have brutally sought here." Some 300 security experts and civil society organizations from over thirty countries are meeting in the Kenyan capital to attend the three-day conference, which opened Thursday. Briton Thomas Evans was amongst a group of al-Shabaab militants that were killed last week in Kenya after a failed raid on an army base. On Thursday, British broadcaster ITV released video footage reportedly shot by Evans during the battle in which he was killed. The footage showed the militants in a fierce fight and also depicted them embracing each other before the attack, including apparent footage of wanted German national Andreas Muller. While foreign fighters once travelled in large numbers to join al-Shabaab, in recent years, the militant group's capacity to recruit has been eclipsed by the rise of Islamist State (IS) militants in Syria and Iraq.

# 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:

- **23 June 2015** – Approximately 24 gunmen in four boats killed four policemen who were on patrol duty at the Abonema Wharf in Port Harcourt. The only survivor of the attack, who was in the patrol boat with the four other officers, was said to have fallen into the river and swam to safety.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

### Kidnapping:

- **24 June 2015** – Gunmen in two speedboats killed two policemen and kidnapped two Lebanese nationals. The attack occurred in the community of Onuebum in the Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

### Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

## Map



## Weather Forecast

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

- **17 June 2015 (Late Report)** – Five robbers armed with knives boarded a tanker approaching an anchorage near position 01:04N – 103:34E, 4.5 nautical miles southwest of Nipah Island. They took hostage one of the crewmembers, stole the vessel's properties and escaped. The alarm was sounded, the crew was mustered and a search of the accommodation area and engine room was carried out. Local authorities boarded the vessel after it anchored.

#### Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding's:

- None reported during this period.

#### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

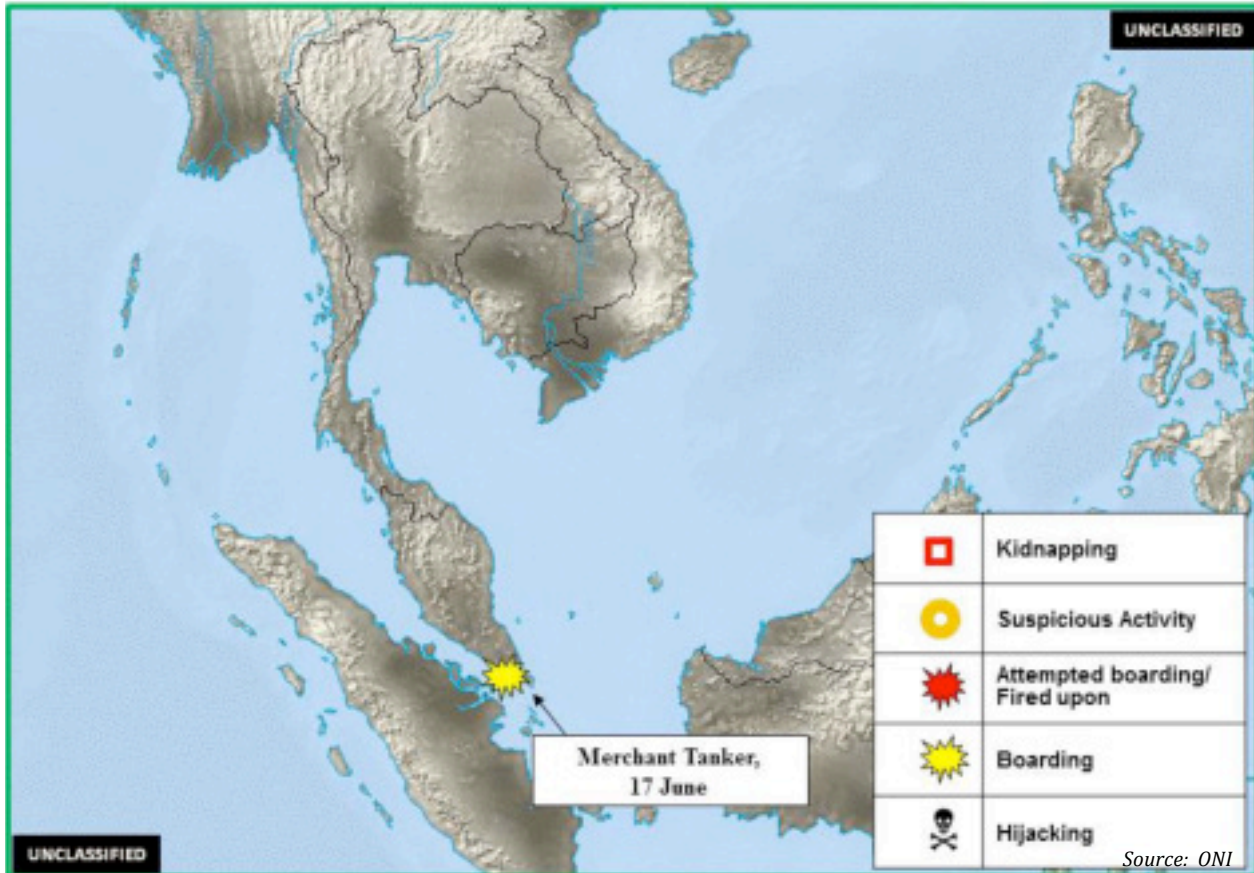
#### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

#### Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

## Map



## Weather Forecast

- **South China Sea:** Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Northerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Malacca Strait:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea:** Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast:** Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet.

- **Surface Currents:** Currents in the South China Sea and the Malacca Strait average speeds of 1 knots, while currents in the Andaman Sea average between 1 – 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion:** The Northeast Monsoon season continues to influence the region, however the transition season appears to be starting. 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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