

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 has a dedicated team of researchers, a 24/7 hotline service and a pool of trained and experienced consultants to support client needs.

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- Security Consulting
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 - 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 (October 19 - 25, 2015 - Week 43; Edition 112)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Gulf of Guinea/West Africa: Two incidents, including a kidnapping, and one late reported incident during this reporting period

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

Southeast Asia: Three late-reported incidents during this reporting period

South America: No incidents reported during this reporting period

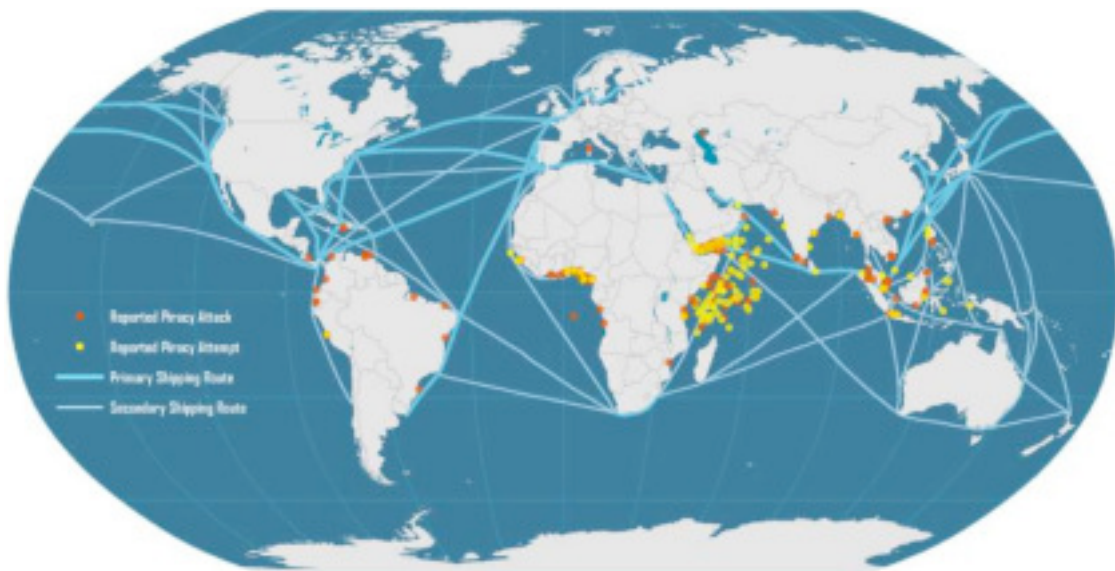
North America: No current incidents to report

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.

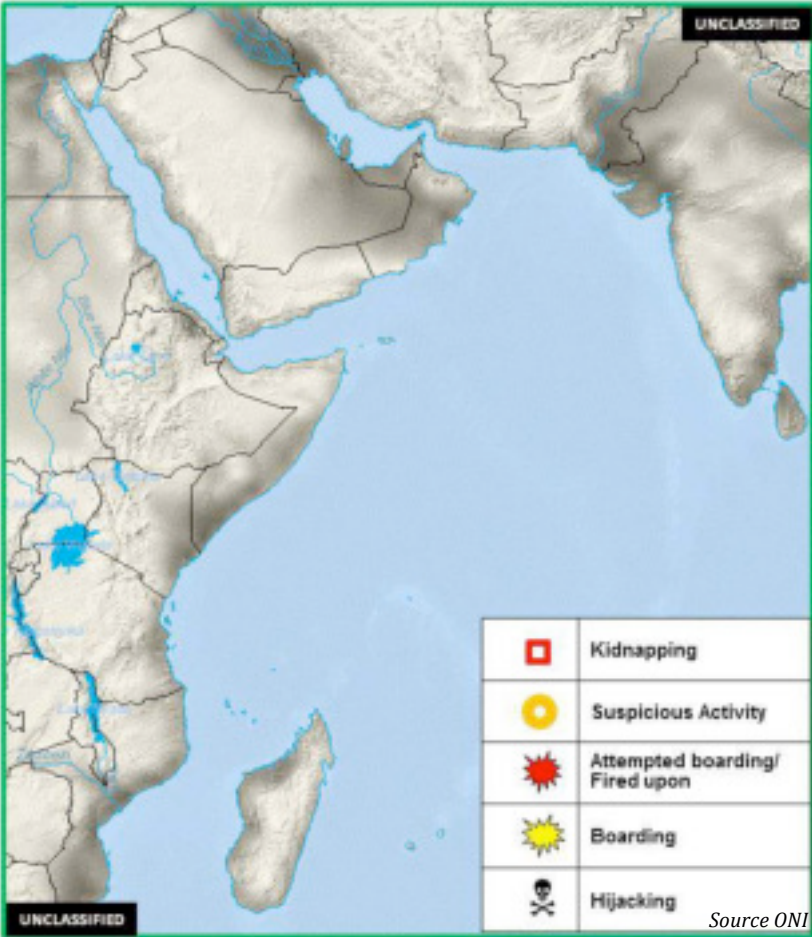
Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

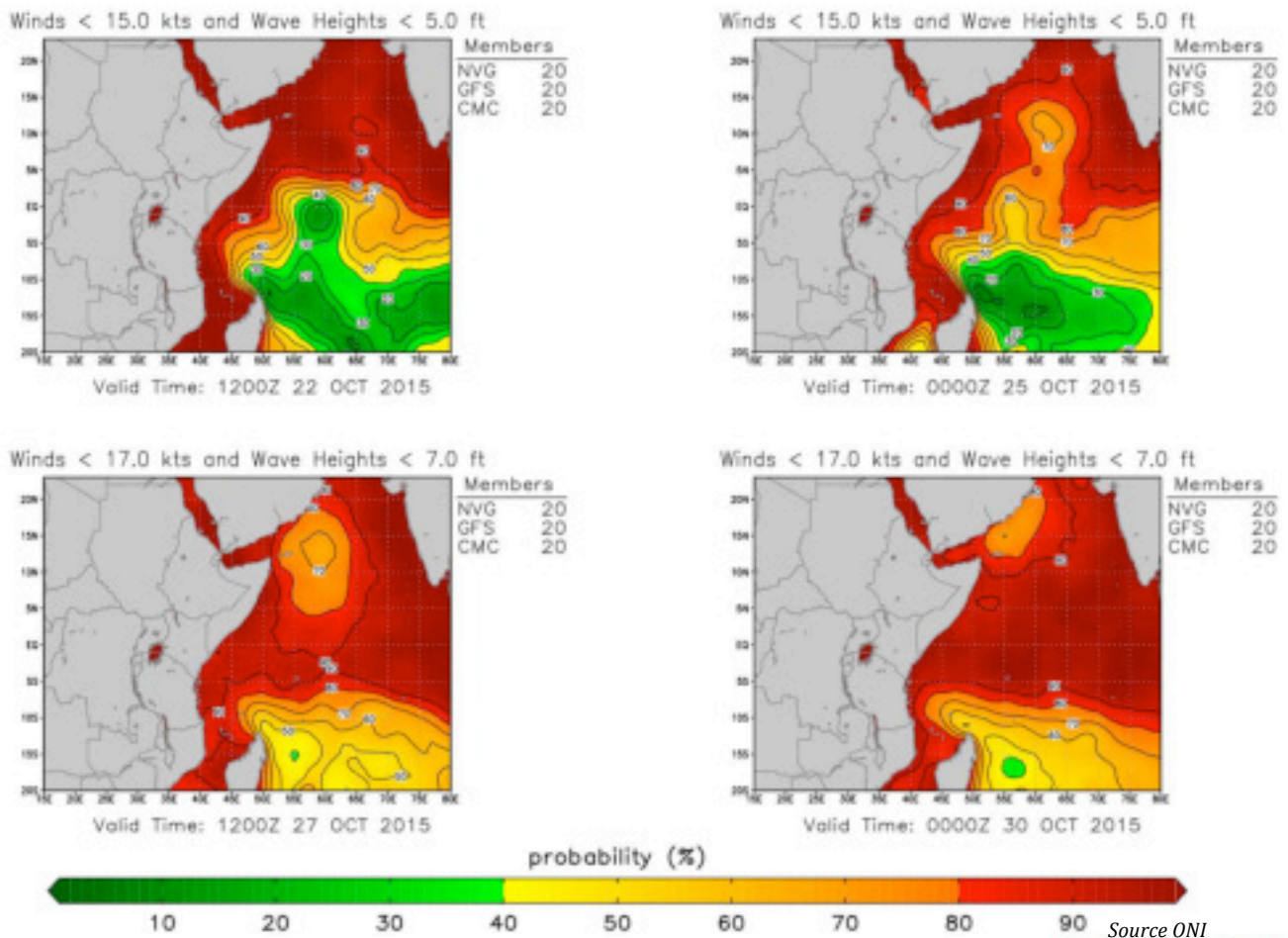
Incident Map



Weather Forecast for Horn of Africa

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Easterly winds of 7 – 12 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Easterly winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be variable between 5 – 10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 7 – 12 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 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – East-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1- 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with easterly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern section of the coastline, with variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Southeast winds of 12 – 17 knots, gusting to 22 knots, and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – South-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – East-southeast winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be southeasterly at 13 – 18 knots, with seas of 1 – 3 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 17 – 22 knots, gusting to 30 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 knots. 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** – High pressure is influencing the region producing favorable conditions for the majority of the region. A tropical low pressure system is forecast to move into the southern Arabian Sea late in the forecast period and could produce moderate to significant impacts south of the region. The transition season is currently underway in the Somali Basin. As the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone

(ITCZ) continues to transition south, rain showers and thunderstorms will potentially increase along the Somali and Western African coasts. Isolated thunderstorms and rain can be routinely expected in these regions as the ITCZ moved equatorward.



*** In the graphic above, green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while red represents a higher likelihood of pirate activity ***

Regional Reporting

- **21 October 2015** – The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has reported that nearly 700 recruits have returned to Kenya after quitting al-Shabaab. A newly released report however warns that a failure to reintegrate returnees may lead to further radicalization. While the report does not disclose where the returnees came from, Deputy Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (Supkem) Hassan Ole Nadu has confirmed that they were fighting for al-Shabaab. The 36-page report was compiled by the IOM, Supkem and Kenya’s interior ministry. The report disclosed that researches found that while most adults joined the group voluntarily, nearly a third of the children who were interviewed disclosed that they were forced to enlist. The report states that the return of the youth provides both “opportunities and threat for and to Kenyans...On the one hand, they present an opportunity to counter the radicalizing ideologies and recruitment strategies of armed groups,” adding that “on the other, the response of the security forces is widely perceived to be promoting further radicalization as they returnees themselves believe that they are unsafe and have limited integration options.” Participants who were interviewed for the report disclosed that security in the country was the main obstacle to their successful reintegration in the country. A total of 185 respondents were interviewed, representing nearly 30% of the estimated total of 684 returnees in the country. The majority were between the ages of 18 and 34. Sources have indicated that Somali-based al-Shabaab militants are believed to be heavily recruiting in neighboring northeastern Kenya.

International Developments

- **21 October 2015** – On Wednesday, UN refugee agency head Antonio Guterres launched a plan that aims to return home 135,000 Somalis who have fled their conflict-torn country and called on donors to put up US \$500 million to fund the operation. Speaking at a pledging conference in Brussels, Guterres stated that “it is the responsibility of the international community to fully support Somalia at this moment, to make sure the Somali story will be a story of success, to make sure Somalis go back.” He also reminded the conference, which was attended by EU foreign affairs head Federica Mogherini and top Kenyan and Somali officials, that Somalis were also amongst the hundreds of thousands of people who have crossed the Mediterranean in a bid to seek safety in Europe. According to UNHCR figures, war and upheaval in Somalia have displaced more than two million people, with some 420,000 fleeing to neighboring Kenya while another 250,000 are in Ethiopia and about the same number are in Yemen. The UNHCR has indicated that in cooperation with Kenya and Somalia, it has helped 5,300 Somalis return home since end-2014, with Guterres stating that the numbers could now be increased after “tangible signs of stabilization” in at least some parts of Somalia. He further told the conference that “we are now getting ready to move into the enhanced phase of this operation which will aim to assist 135,000 refugees to return to Somalia...(in) a voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity,” adding, “it is in the interest of everybody that Somalia succeeds. Somalia will then be a positive member of the international community...(making) an important contribution to the security region and the whole world.” Pledges for the UNHCR so far come to more than US \$105 million. The EU has pledged 60 million euros (US \$68 million) for the UNHCR, part of its own efforts to

control the migrant crisis by getting countries of origin across Africa and the Middle East to take back their people.

GULF OF GUINEA

Executive Summary

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa is currently at a medium level, with two incidents, including a kidnapping, and one late reported incident recorded 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.

Vessels Boarded:

- None reported during this period.

Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping:

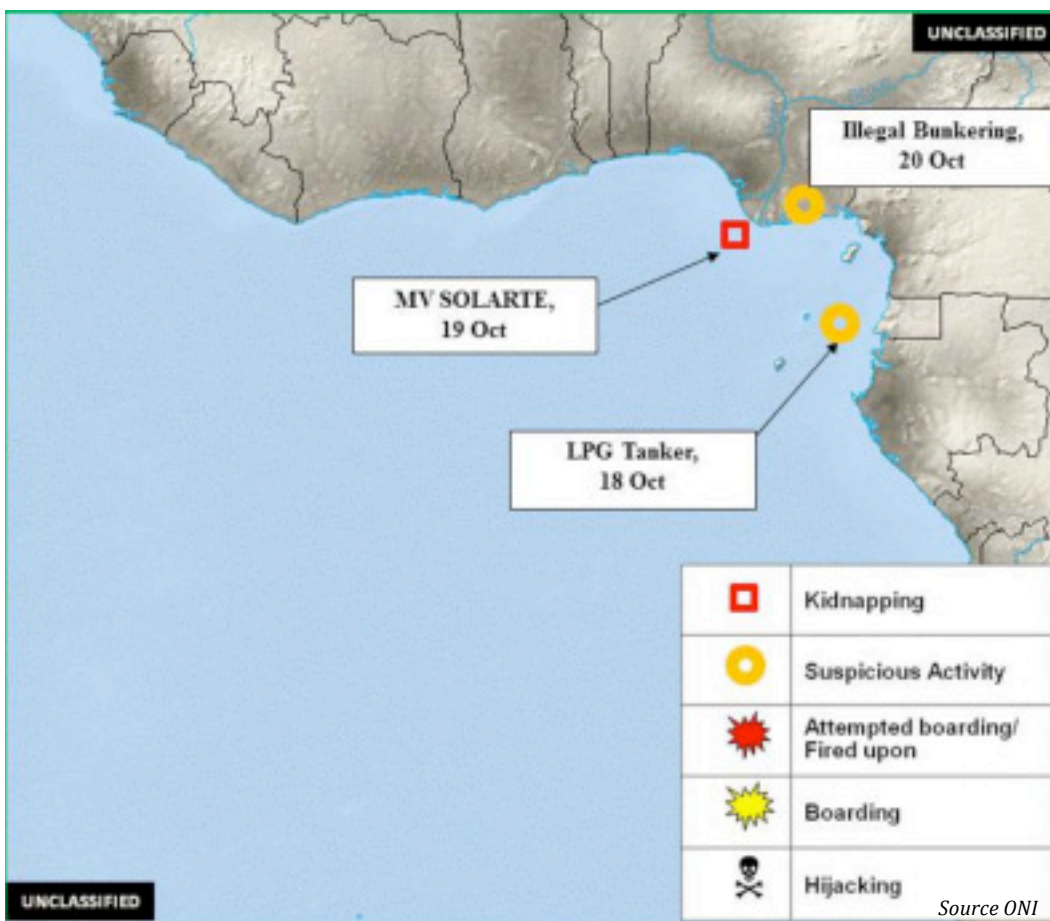
- **19 October 2015** – Gunmen boarded a Comoros Islands-flagged refrigerated cargo vessel, SOLARTE, near position 03:58 N – 005:25 E, 36 nautical miles southwest of Bayelsa Coast. The gunmen kidnapped four crewmen: two Lithuanians and two Ukrainians. During the boarding, the pirates damaged some of the vessel's equipment.

Other Activity:

- **20 October 2015** – Nigerian Navy units impounded five ships and arrested nineteen persons involved in illegally transferring 108,000 liters of stolen fuel into five barges in a private jetty near a busy market area of Port Harcourt.
- **18 October 2015 (Late Report)** – Two suspicious high-speed skiffs approached an LPG tanker underway near position 02:42 N - 009:11 E, 45 nautical miles west-southwest of Kribi. Second officer immediately

informed the Master who in turn raised the alarm. As the skiffs approached the vessel, the Master increased speed and took evasive maneuvers, resulting in the skiffs moving away.

Incident Map



Weather Forecast for Gulf of Guinea

- **Gulf of Guinea** – Southwest winds of 12 – 18 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:

- **18 October 2015 (Late Report)** – Duty crewman on routine rounds onboard an anchored tanker noticed two robbers on the deck near position 10:06 N – 107:06 E, Mui Vung Tau Anchorage. He shouted at the robbers and retreated to a safe location and raised the alarm. The crew was mustered and approached the robbers. Upon seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped. A search was carried out and nothing was found stolen. Vung Tau port control was informed of the incident.
- **15 October 2015 (Late Report)** – Six robbers in a small boat boarded a tanker underway near position 01:10 N – 103:26 E, 2.85 nautical miles northeast of Pulau Karimun Kecil. Two of the robbers entered the engine room and were spotted by the second engineer. One of the robbers threatened the second engineer with a long knife and signaled him to be quiet or he would cut his throat. The second engineer managed to escape and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped. Nothing was reported stolen. VTIS Singapore was informed of the incident. Authorities later boarded the tanker in order to carry out an investigation.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding's:

- **15 October 2015 (Late Report)** – A duty crewman onboard an underway bulk carrier noticed a speed boat approaching the ship near position 01:07 N – 103:30 E, 6 nautical miles east of Pulau Karimun Kecil. Alarm was raised, the crew was mustered and the search light was directed towards the speedboat. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers aborted and moved away.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

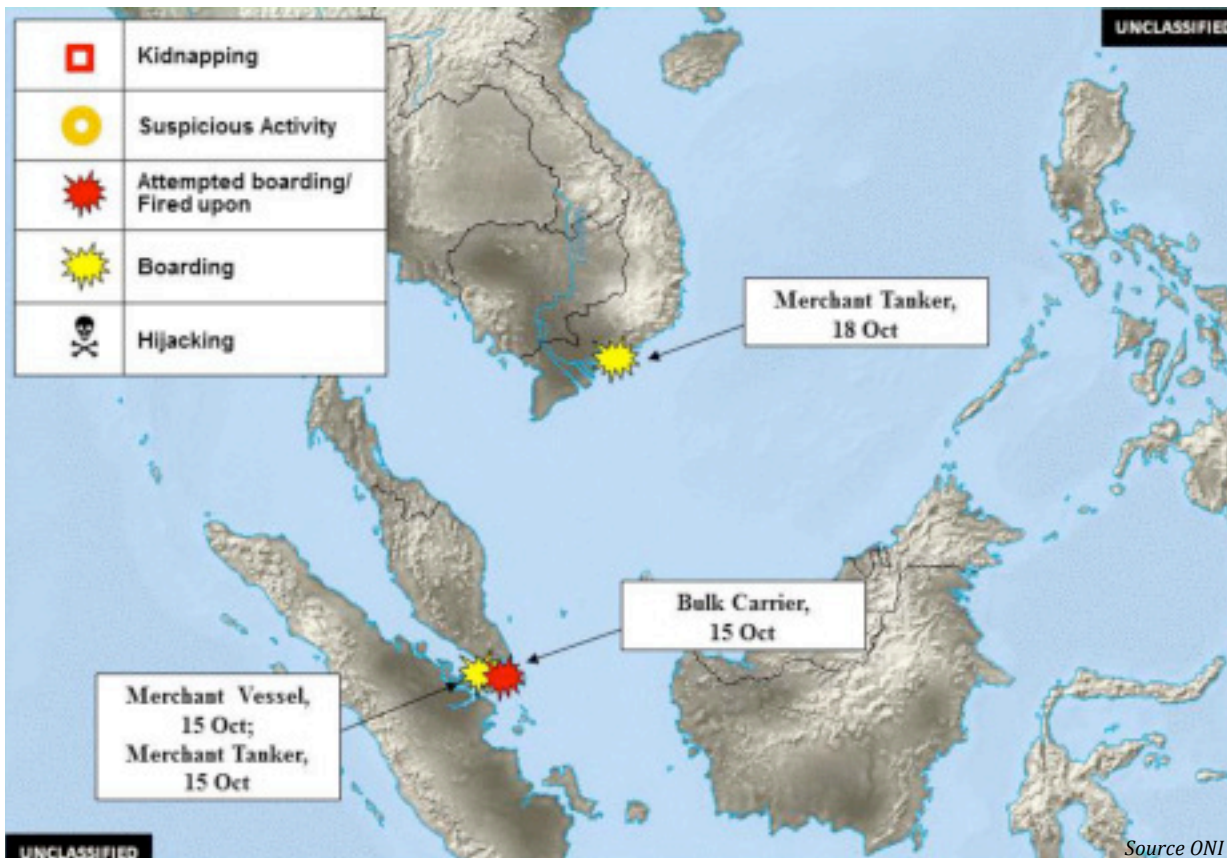
Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Incident Map



Weather Forecast for Southeast Asia

- **South China Sea** – Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – East-northeast winds of 7 – 12 knots, gusting to 17 knots, and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Malacca Strait** – Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea** – Northerly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Northerly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
- **Surface Currents** – Currents in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait average speeds of 1 knots, while currents in the Andaman Sea average between 1 – 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – High pressure is influencing the northern portions of the region while the ITCZ is impacting the southern portions. Conditions are favorable in the North Andaman Sea and northern portions of the South China Sea. The South Andaman Sea, Malacca Strait and southern South China Sea will experience isolated 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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