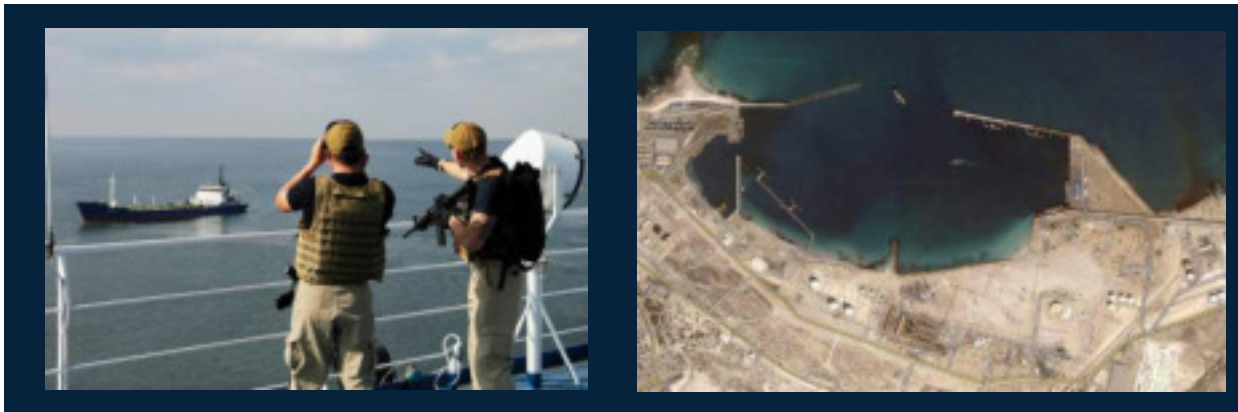




Maritime Security Review

21 March 2016

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Summary

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Main Regions

Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea: No current incidents to report

Gulf of Guinea: Two late reported incidents during this period

Southeast Asia: No current incidents to report

Worldwide

North America: No current incidents to report

Central America/Caribbean/South America: One late reported incident

Atlantic Ocean Area: No current incidents to report

Northern Europe/Baltic: No current incidents to report

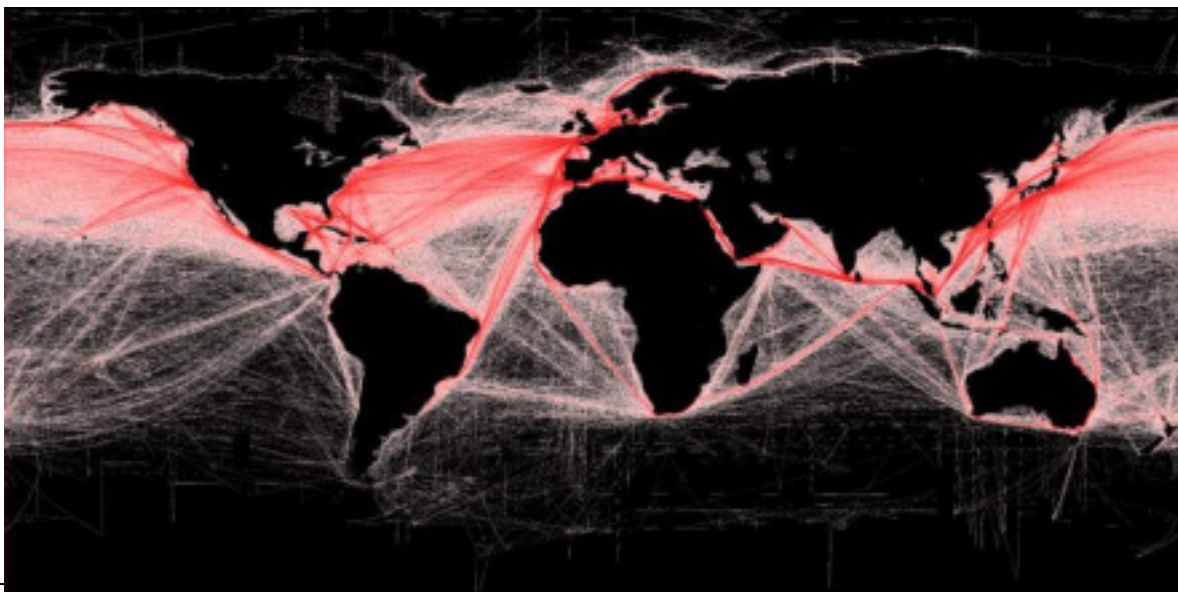
Mediterranean/Black Sea: More than 2,400 migrants recovered from boats off Libya.

Arabian Gulf: No current incidents to report

East Asia/Indian Subcontinent: One late reported incident

Northeast Asia: No current incidents to report

Pacific Ocean/Southern Ocean: No current incidents to report



Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea

Somalia

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off East Africa remains at a low level. There were no incidents reported during this period.

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.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Boarded

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping

- None reported during this period.

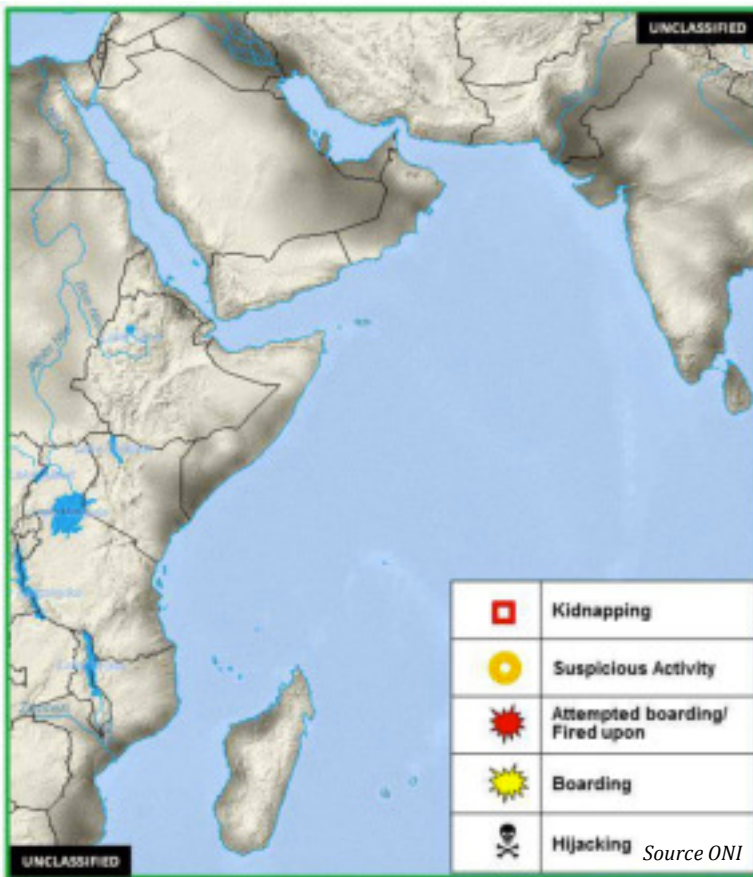
Suspicious Activity

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity

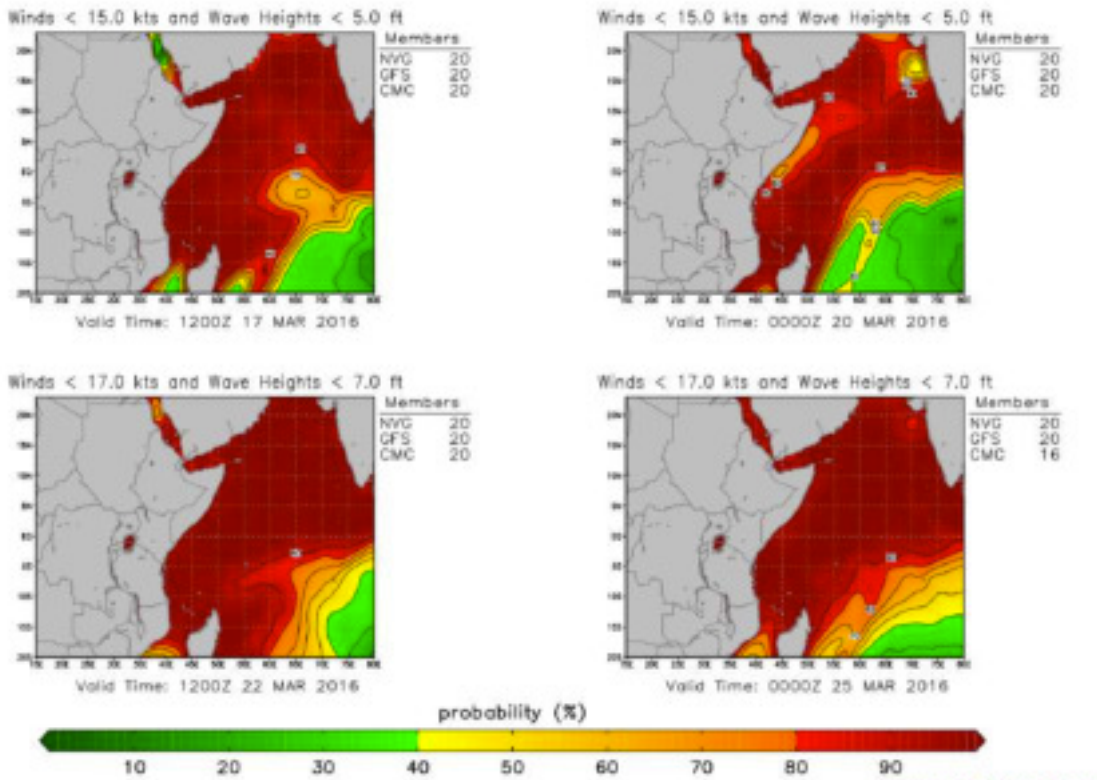
- None reported during this period.

Incident Map



Weather Forecast for Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea

- **Northern Arabian Sea:** Westerly winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Westerly winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman:** West-northwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 2 – 4 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 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** West-northwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with westerly winds of 15 – 20 knots, and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden:** East-northeast winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-northeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast:** East-northeast winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast:** Easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with east-southeast winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean:** Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Easterly winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel:** Northerly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the southern Channel.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Northerly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southeast winds of 25 – 30 knots, gusting to 35 knots, and seas of 9 – 13 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 Northeast Monsoon is underway in the Somali Basin. Weak disturbances will move through the synoptic pattern through the forecast period. This will lead to periods of isolated to scattered rain showers and isolated thunderstorms over the next week in the Gulf of Oman and along the northern portion of the Arabian Sea.



Source ONI

Spotlight Report: Yemen

As of 20 March, the following ports in Yemen are open:

- Aden
- Hodeidah
- Mokha
- Mukalla
- Salif

The remaining ports are closed due to the ongoing conflict between the pro-government coalition and Houthi rebels. **NOTE:** In a message dated 5 February, the Saudi Embassy in London has advised international organisations and aid agencies to move offices and staff from regions where Houthi Militia and supporters are active. The UN has reiterated that aid efforts will continue to facilitate access per the Saudi de-confliction mechanism. MS Risk advises that shipmasters and owners stay up-to-date on the situation, and be aware of changes to maritime guidelines for entry into Yemeni territorial waters.

Activity Report

No major incidents to report.

Procedure

MS Risk advises extreme caution for vessels traveling through the region. There is an increase of violence and criminal activity ashore. Shipping vessels should remain aware of the situation at all times, including changes to protocol when entering Yemeni maritime waters.

Gulf of Guinea

Over the past week, pirate and maritime crime activity in the Gulf of Guinea remained at a medium level with two-late reported incidents.

In recent weeks, pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa, particularly off the coast of Nigeria, increased, with a number of incidents reported. With the hijacking of a tanker off the coast of Ivory Coast earlier this month, pirates may be actively seeking to hijack another vessel. While the entire Gulf of Guinea region remains at a high risk to piracy, MS Risk advises all vessels transiting within 100 nautical miles of Tema, Ghana; Lome, Togo and Cotonou, Benin to remain particularly vigilant.

At Sea

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings

- **11 March 2016 (Nigeria – Late Report)** – A vessel reported being fired upon near position 03:30 N – 005:02 E.

Vessels Boarded

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping

- None reported during this period.

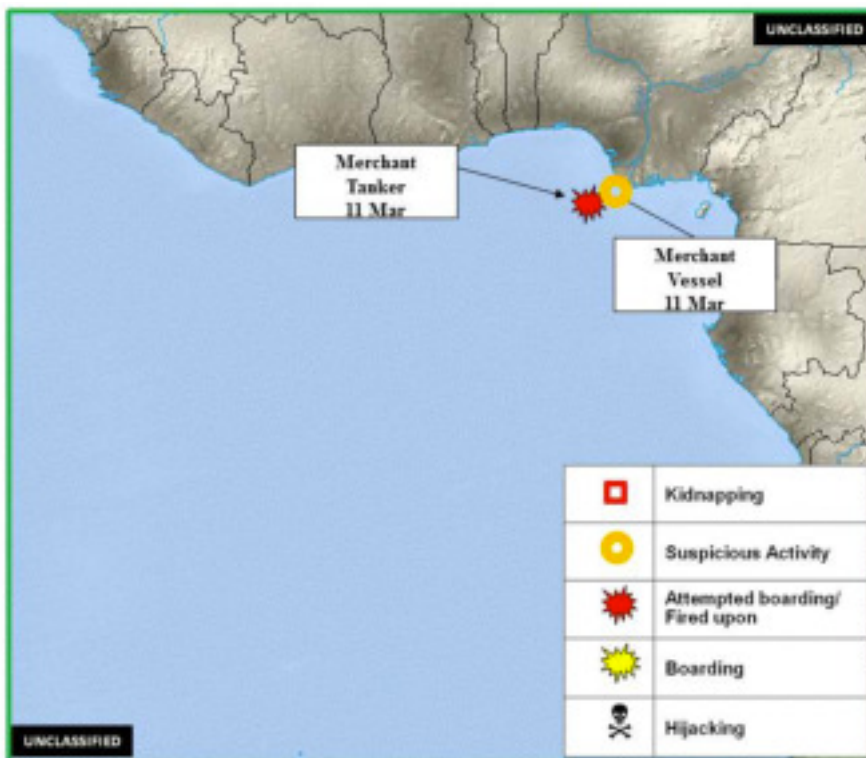
Suspicious Activity

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity

- **11 March 2016 (Nigeria – Late Report)** – Eight pirates in a boat approached an underway tanker near position 02:52 N – 004:52 E, 108 nautical miles southwest of the Bayelsa coast. The Ship's Master raised the alarm, increased speed, commenced evasive manoeuvres, activated SSAS, sent distress messages and informed the shipping company. All non-essential crew members were mustered in the citadel. The pirates closed the tanker and told the Master to slow down claiming to be the Navy. At a distance of 50 metres, the lookout identified guns and ladders on board the boat. The Master continued with the evasive manoeuvres, fired two parachute rockets and continued with the Mayday calls via VHF. Due to the hardening measures of the tanker, the pirates aborted the attempted attack and moved away. The Nigerian Navy responded on VHF to the distress call.

Incident Map



Source ONI

Maritime Reporting

- **16 March 2016** - A spokesman for Nigeria's president reported on Wednesday that Nigeria and Equatorial Guinea have signed an agreement to establish combined patrols in a bid to bolster security in the Gulf of Guinea, which has been plagued by piracy in the last few years. According to the Garba Shehu, the agreement, which comes amidst the backdrop of a rise in pipeline attacks in the oil-producing Niger Delta region of Africa's biggest crude producer, was signed late on Tuesday by Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari. Shehu disclosed that "the conclusion and signing of the agreement is expected to enhance security in the Gulf of Guinea and help in curbing maritime crimes such as piracy, crude oil theft, sabotage of oil rigs and arms smuggling." In a statement, Shehu also indicated that the agreement, which was signed at the end of President Buhari's two-day visit to Equatorial Guinea's capital Malabo, effectively established "a combined Maritime Policing and security patrol Committee." Pirate attacks in the Gulf of Guinea, which is a significant source of oil, Cocoa and metals for world markets, pose a threat to shipping companies, with pirates targeting oil tankers, usually wanting hostages for ransom and to sell stolen fuel. The creeks and waterways of the Niger Delta are connected to the Gulf of Guinea, with experts reporting that pirates have emerged from militant groups in Nigeria's oil-producing Niger Delta, such as the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) and are increasingly attacks the country's oil pipelines. Earlier this week, Nigeria's Information Minister vowed that the government would prosecute those who attack the country's oil pipelines.

Weather Forecast for Gulf of Guinea

- **Northern Arabian Sea:** South-southwest winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** South-southwest winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion:** Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea with associated rain showers.

Southeast Asia

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off Southeastern Asia remains at a low level however the threat of violent attacks, crime and hijackings remains high across this region. During this reporting period, there were no incidents recorded.

Pirate Action Groups (PAG's) operating in this region 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.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Boarded

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping

- None reported during this period.

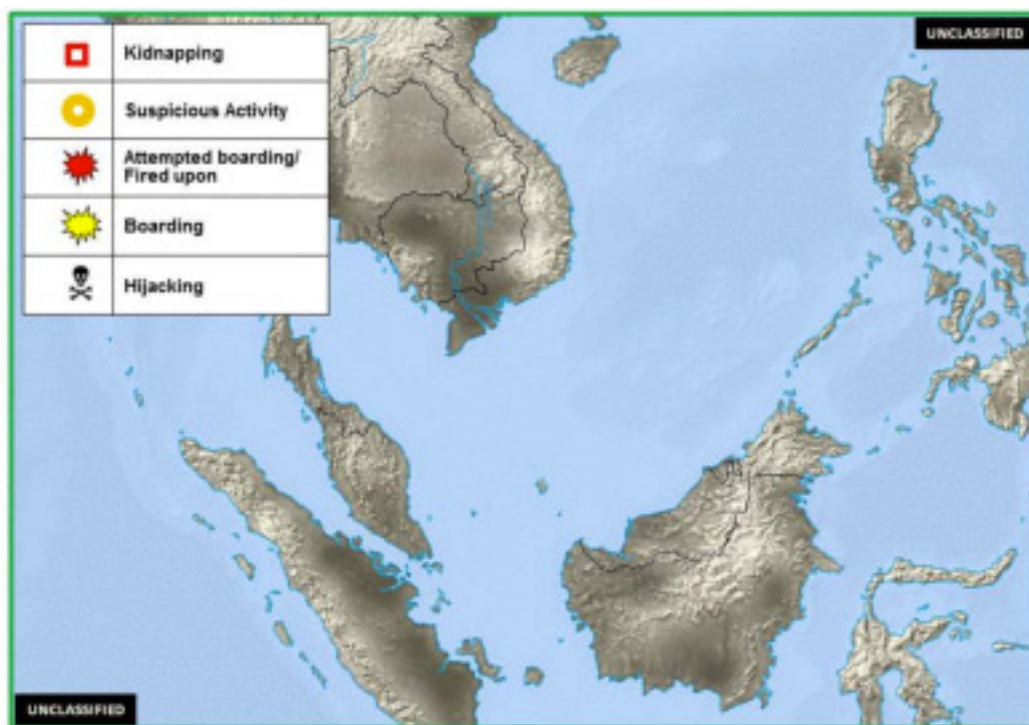
Suspicious Activity

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity

- None reported during this period.

Incident Map



Source ONI

Weather Forecast for Southeast Asia

- **South China Sea:** East-northeast winds of 12 – 18 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** East-northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
- **Malacca Strait:** East-northeast winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 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:** Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
- **Surface Currents:** Currents in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait average speeds of 1 knot, while currents in the Andaman Sea average 1 – 2 knots.
- **Andaman Sea:** Strong high pressure over China interacting with transiting lower pressure systems near Indonesia is influencing the weather pattern. Weak tropical disturbances continue to move across the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) producing isolated showers and thunderstorms over the Malacca Strait and Andaman Sea.

Worldwide

North America

No current incidents to report

Central America/Caribbean/South America

1. **2 March 2016 (St Lucia – Late Report)** – Three robbers, armed with a pistol, a machete, and a club, boarded an anchored sailing yacht in the harbour at Soufriere, confronting eight passengers. The robbers demanded money at gunpoint. They were given wallets and a camera. One woman’s purse was cut off her shoulder with the machete. Her husband was struck on the head with the blunt side of the machete. Local police are investigating the incident.



Source ONI

Atlantic Ocean Area

No current incidents to report

Northern Europe/Baltic

No current incidents to report

Mediterranean/Black Sea

- 16 March 2016 (Mediterranean)** – On Wednesday, Italy’s coastguard reported that more than 2,400 migrants and three corpses have been recovered from people smugglers’ boats off Libya since Tuesday. After several quiet weeks, the figures represent a pick-up in the flow of migrants attempting to reach Italy via Libya, a route through which around 330,000 people have made it to Europe since the beginning of 2014. Prior to the latest rescues, the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) had reported 9,500 people landing at Italian ports since the start of the year. This compares with more than 143,000 who have reached Greek islands by crossing the Aegean Sea since 1 January. With efforts underway to close the entry route through Greece, Italian authorities are wary of a surge in the number of migrants attempting to come through Libya. So far there has been no indicating of that happening. Numbers arriving from Libya have always fluctuated in line with weather conditions in the Mediterranean and other factors. Arrivals were slightly down in 2015 compared with 2014, a trend that may be related to the political chaos in Libya, which might have deterred some migrants and has made it harder for those that do make the journey to find work there while awaiting boats to Italy.

Spotlight Report: Libya

Libya’s security situation remains critical; extreme caution is advised for commercial vessels operating in Libyan waters. Libya faces a significant rise in terrorism by Islamic State in Libya, which has now incorporated attacks via maritime trajectory. There is a significant threat to commercial vessels attempting to approach Libyan ports.

Port Status as of 20 March 2016

Port Name	Port Status	Risk Level	Risk Change
Port of Abu Kammash	Open	Low	
Port of al-Khums (Homs)	Open	Low	
Port of As-Sidra (Sirte, Es Sider)	Closed	High	
Port of Benghazi	Closed	High	
Port of Bouri (offshore port)	Open	No Known Risk	
Port of Derna	Closed	High	
Port El Brega (Marsa El Brega)	Open	High	Upgraded from Low. 1/16

Port of Hariga	Open	Medium	
Port of Mellitah	Open	Medium	
Port of Misrata (Qasr Ahmed)	Open	High	
Port of Ras Lanuf	Closed	High	
Port of Tobruk	Open	Medium	
Port of Tripoli	Open	High	
Port of Zawiya (Zawia)	Open	Medium	
Port of Zueitina	Closed	High	Upgraded from Medium. 1/16

Incidents

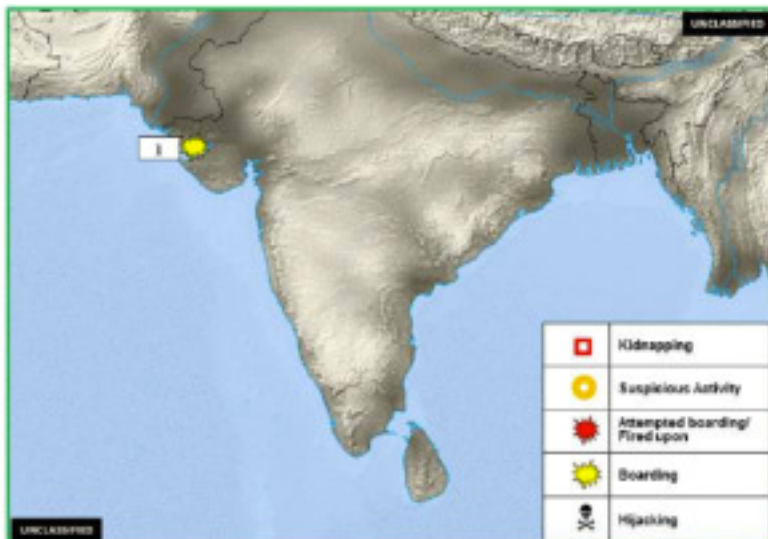
No current incidents to report

Arabian Gulf

No current incidents to report

East Asia/Indian Subcontinent

1. **28 January 2016 (India – Late Report)** – Six robbers in a small boat boarded an anchored product tanker near position 22:49 N – 070:07 E, Kandla Outer Anchorage. Alert duty crewman noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew’s alertness, the robbers escaped in their boat without stealing anything. The incident was reported to port control.



Source ONI

Northeast Asia

No current incidents to report

Pacific Ocean/Southern Ocean

No current incidents to report

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

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