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## **(U) HORN OF AFRICA/GULF OF GUINEA/ SOUTHEAST ASIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly (PAWW) Report for 16 - 22 May 2019**

23 May 2019

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### **1. (U) Horn of Africa - Piracy Events Over the Past Week**

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in East Africa waters is at a low level. No piracy events were reported this past week.

#### **A. (U) Details:**

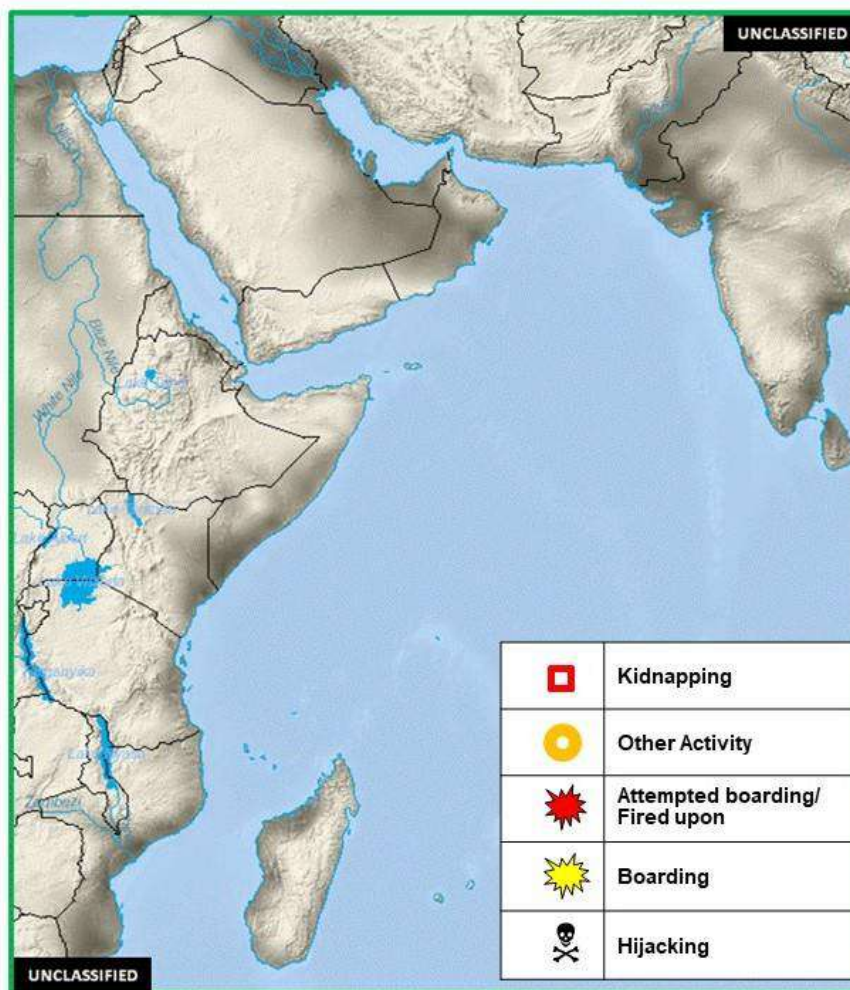
**(U) Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Vessels Boarded:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Other Activity:** No incidents to report.

(U) Incident Disposition:



(U) Figure 1. Horn of Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity 16 - 22 May 2019

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Horn of Africa Activity

| UNCLASSIFIED                                |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| (U) Table 1.                                |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| (U) Summary of Horn of Africa Piracy Events |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Vessels                                     | This Week | Last Week | May 2019 | Apr 2019 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Hijacked                                    | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0    | 2    | 0    | 0    |
| Boarding                                    | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding               | 0         | 0         | 0        | 2        | 2    | 2    | 3    | 1    | 0    |
| Total                                       | 0         | 0         | 0        | 2        | 2    | 2    | 6    | 1    | 0    |

(U) Table 1 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. Note: The above statistics do not include regional dhows/fishing vessels that were hijacked. Hijacked dhows are frequently used as motherships by pirates and released without a ransom being paid.

## **2. (U) Weather Forecast for 23 - 29 May 2019 and Graphic Aids to 10-Day Weather Conditions and Small Boat Operations Capabilities**

### **(U) Horn of Africa Weather Forecast for 23 - 29 May 2019**

**A. (U) NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA:** Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, with seas of 5 - 7 feet.

**EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, with seas of 6 - 8 feet.

**B. (U) GULF OF OMAN:** Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** South-southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with south-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

**C. (U) GULF OF ADEN:** Westerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

**D. (U) SOMALI COAST:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 6 - 8 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the southern section of the coastline. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with south-southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the southern section of the coastline.

**E. (U) CENTRAL AFRICAN COAST/INDIAN OCEAN:** Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 5 - 7 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 7 - 9 feet.

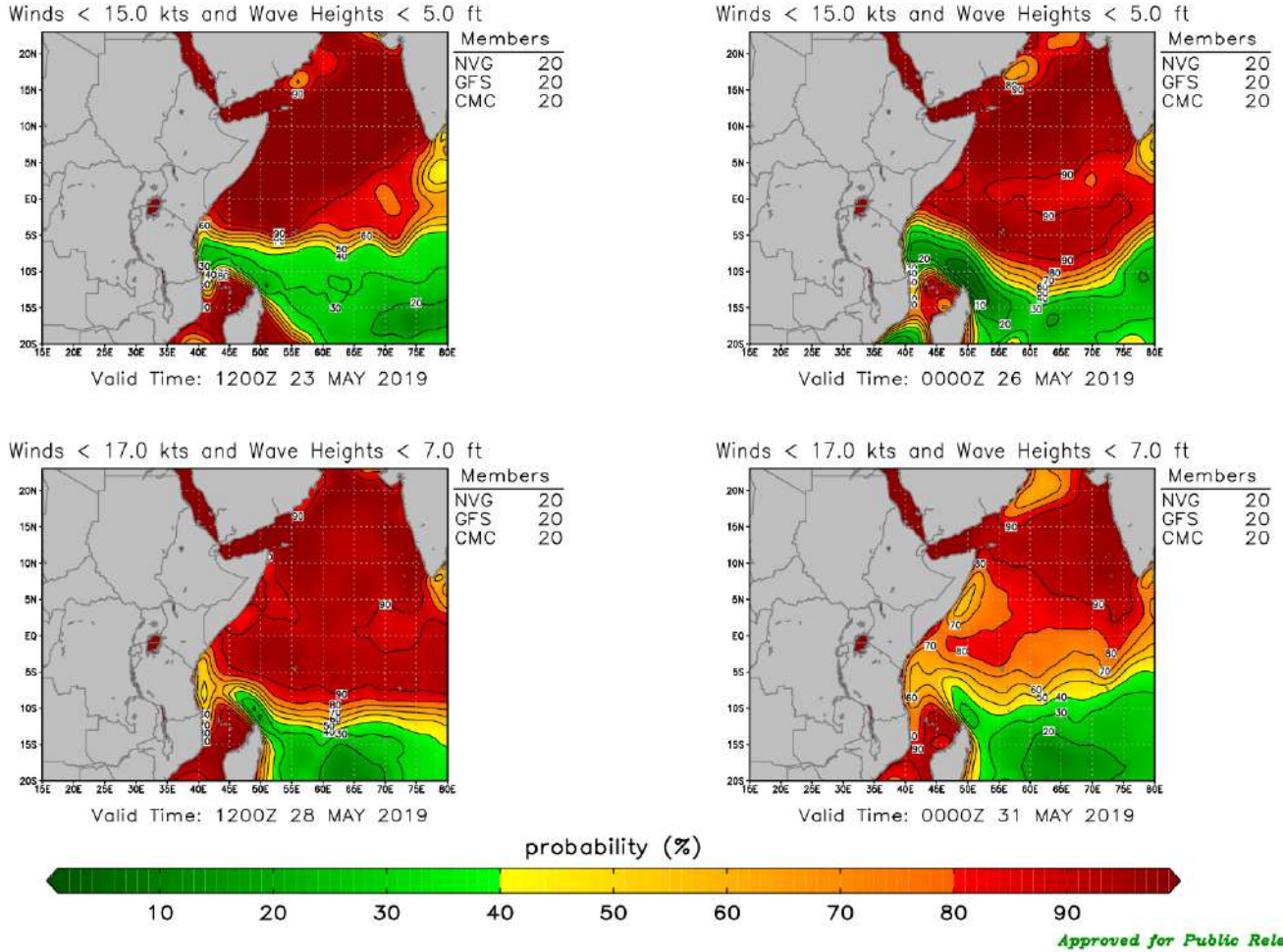
**F. (U) MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL:** Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southeast winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the southern Channel. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the southern Channel.

**G. (U) 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' speed along the Somali Basin are northeasterly averaging between 2 - 3 knots.

**H. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION:** High pressure dominates the weather pattern over the region producing mostly clear skies. Area of dissipating low pressure is affecting the southern Arabian Gulf and western Gulf of Oman with increasing winds and seas late in the week; then it will briefly abate and increase again soon after. Expect increased localized wind flow through the Strait of Hormuz due to funneling effects.

Approved for Public Release

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2019052100



(U) Figure 2. Ten-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast (Graphic courtesy of the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center, FNMOC)

(U) In the graphic above, green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while red represents an increased likelihood of pirate activity.

**3. (U) Gulf of Guinea - Piracy Events Over the Past Week**

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in West Africa waters is at a low level. One boarding event was reported this past week; with no further information available.

**A. (U) Details**

**(U) Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Kidnapping:** No incidents to report.

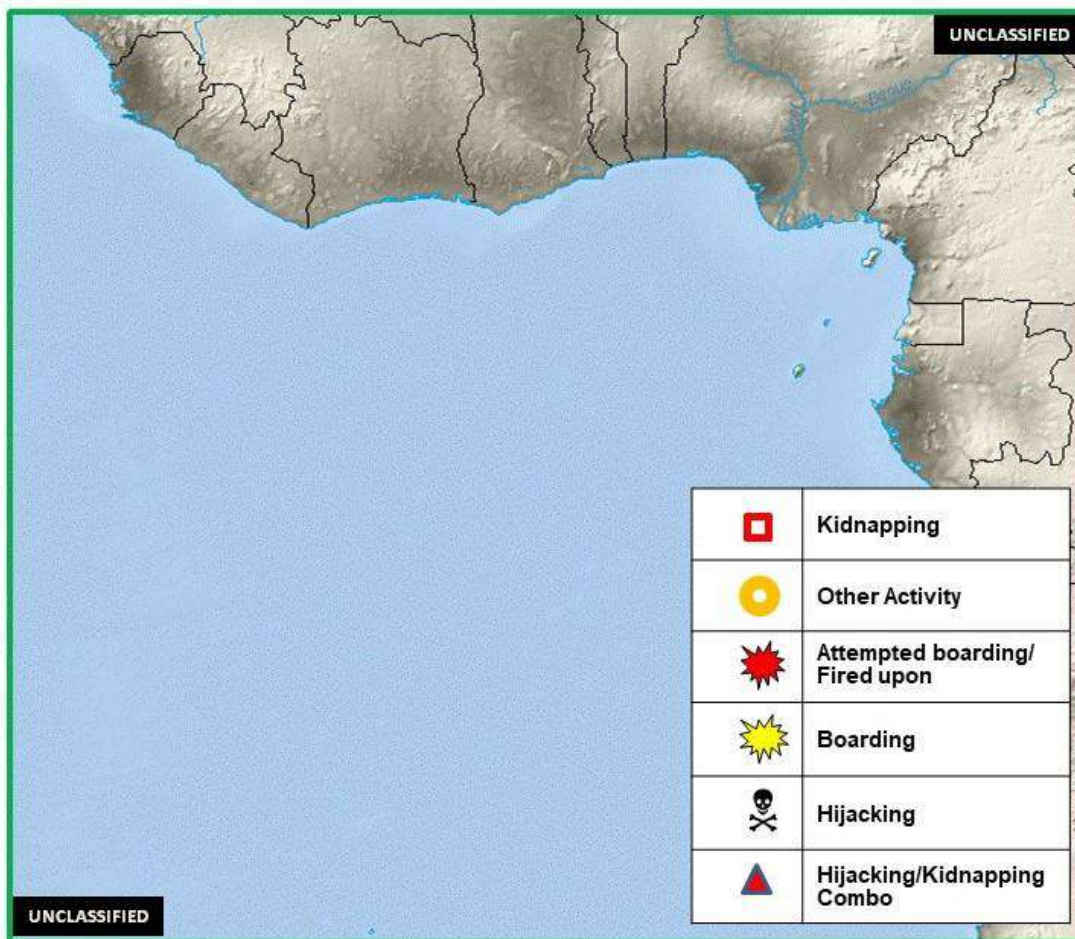
**(U) Vessels Boarded:** No incidents to report.



**(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Other Activity:** No incidents to report.

**B. (U) Incident Disposition**



(U) Figure 3. Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 16 - 22 May 2019

## C. (U) Tabulated Data for Gulf of Guinea Activity

| UNCLASSIFIED                                 |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| (U) Table 2.                                 |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| (U) Summary of Gulf of Guinea Piracy Events* |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Vessels                                      | This Week | Last Week | May 2019 | Apr 2019 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Hijacked                                     | 0         | 1         | 2        | 1        | 3    | 6    | 2    | 0    | 2    |
| Kidnapping                                   | 0         | 1         | 1        | 1        | 13   | 28   | 30   | 26   | 23   |
| Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination             | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 4    | 0    | 3    | 0    |
| Boarding                                     | 1         | 0         | 9        | 3        | 27   | 64   | 53   | 39   | 29   |
| Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding                | 0         | 0         | 1        | 1        | 11   | 44   | 35   | 54   | 40   |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | 1         | 2         | 13       | 6        | 54   | 146  | 120  | 122  | 94   |
| <b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>                          |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |

(U) Table 2 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. \* Militant activity is no longer listed in this table.

## 4. (U) Gulf of Guinea Weather Forecast for 23 - 29 May 2019

**A. (U) GULF OF GUINEA:** Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 6 - 8 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet.

**B. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION:** High pressure continues to dominate the weather in the region. Isolated thunderstorms and rain showers can be routinely expected along the Gulf of Guinea coast.

## 5. (U) Southeast Asia - Piracy Events Over the Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in Southeast Asia waters is at a low level. One boarding event was reported this past week. Late reporting was received on a boarding from the previous week.

## A. (U) Details

(U) **Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Kidnapping:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Vessels Boarded:**

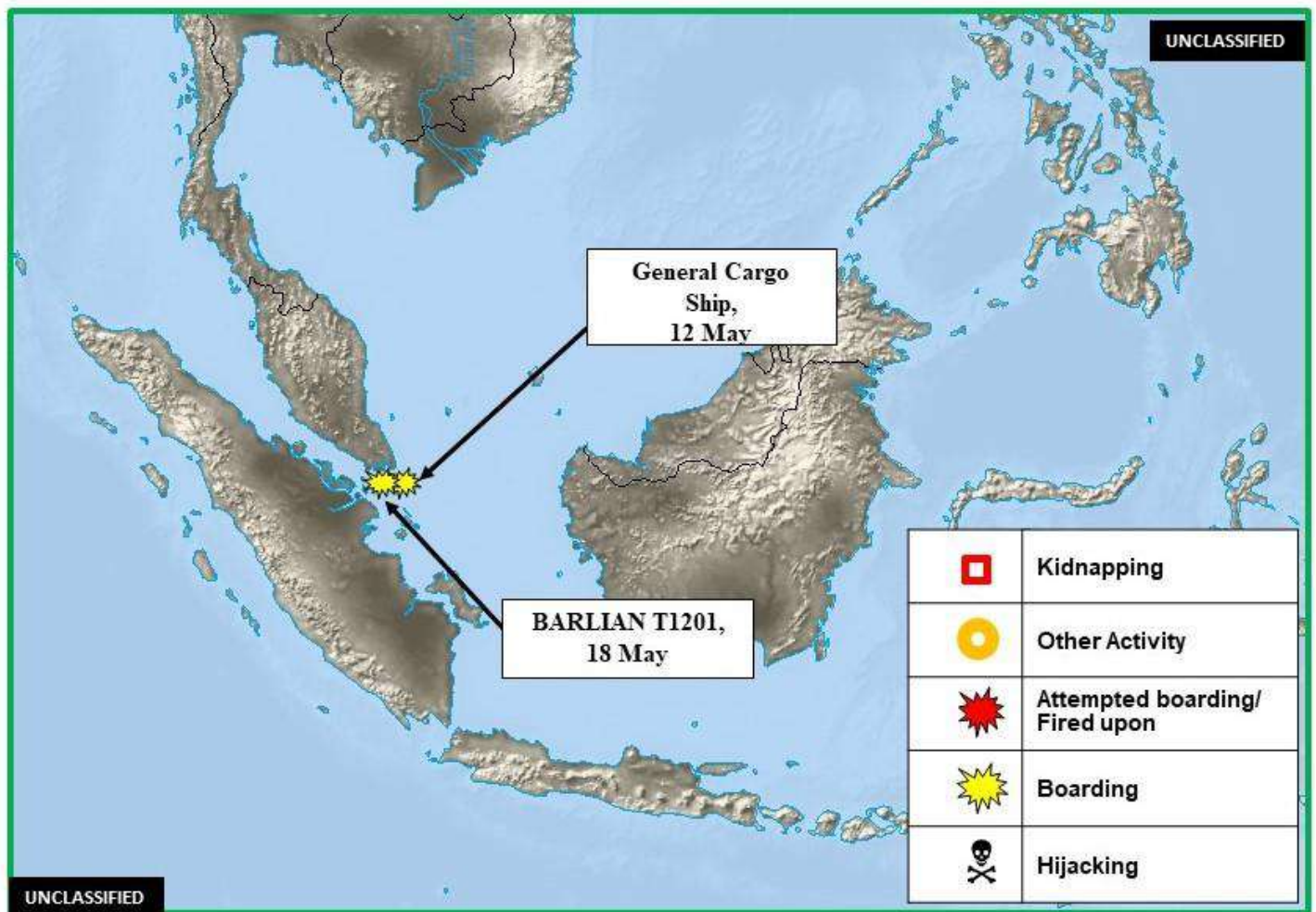
1. (U) MALAYSIA: On 18 May, the master of the Niue-flagged tug boat BARLIAN T1201 reported to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS) via VHF that six perpetrators had boarded his barge from a small boat near position 01:13N - 103:32E, 3.3 nm southeast off Tanjung Piai, Malaysia. The master later reported that the perpetrators had left the barge with tools stolen from the barge. The tug boat and barge continued their voyage to Port Klang, Malaysia. (ReCAAP)

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 12 May, four robbers armed with long knives boarded a general cargo ship underway near position 01:00N - 104:54E, 4 nm east of Pulau Mapur. They took hostage a duty crewman and entered into the master’s cabin. They tied up the crewman and the master, and escaped with their personal cash and effects. (IMB)

**(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack:** No incidents to report.

**(U) Other Activity:** No incidents to report.

**B. (U) Incident Disposition**



(U) Figure 4. Southeast Asia Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 16 - 22 May 2019

**C. (U) Tabulated Data for Southeast Asia Activity**

| UNCLASSIFIED                                |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| (U) Table 3.                                |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| (U) Summary of Southeast Asia Piracy Events |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Vessels                                     | This Week | Last Week | May 2019 | Apr 2019 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Attacks, Boardings, Attempted Boardings     | 1         | 2         | 3        | 3        | 17   | 81   | 90   | 96   | 238  |
| Hijackings                                  | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 1    | 3    | 2    | 16   |
| Kidnappings                                 | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 3    | 4    | 19   | 0    |
| <b>Total</b>                                | 1         | 2         | 3        | 3        | 17   | 85   | 97   | 117  | 254  |
| <b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>                         |           |           |          |          |      |      |      |      |      |

(U) Table 3 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. This table includes incidents not described in this product line.

**6. (U) Southeast Asia Weather Forecast for 23 - 29 May 2019**

**A. (U) SOUTHERN SOUTH CHINA SEA:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Easterly winds of 10 - 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 4 - 6 feet.

**B. (U) MALACCA STRAIT:** Westerly winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the northern Strait; southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the southern Strait. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Westerly winds of 5 - 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the northern Strait; with south-southwest winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 2 feet in the southern Strait.

**C. (U) ANDAMAN SEA:** Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Westerly winds of 15 - 20 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet.

**D. (U) SOUTHERN SULU SEA - NORTHERN CELEBES SEA:** Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet.

**E. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS:** Currents in the southern South China Sea, Malacca Strait, and Andaman Sea are generally less than 1 knot with a few areas in the southern South China Sea averaging 1 knot.

**F. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION:** Expect strong gusts in and around scattered thunderstorms, throughout the Malacca Strait and the Andaman Sea due to funneling effects and daytime heating. **Forecaster's Note:** The west Pacific Ocean's Tropical Cyclone Season runs from April to October. Expect numerous Tropical Cyclones to impact the region during this timeframe that could change the forecast.



**(U) Appendix****(U) Terminology and References**

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting, and it also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity, are independent of target vessel status, and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authority.

**(U) Terms of Reference**

(U) The following terms have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis:

**(U) Attempted Boarding** - Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.

**(U) Blocking** - Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.

**(U) Boarding** - Unauthorized embarkation of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.

**(U) Fired Upon** - Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.

**(U) Hijacking** - Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.

**(U) Kidnapping** - Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.

**(U) Robbery** - Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.

**(U) Suspicious Approach** - All other unexplained activity in close proximity by an unknown vessel.

**(U) Piracy Levels**

(U) High: 5 or more piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Moderate: 2 - 4 piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Low: 0 - 1 piracy incidents in this one-week period.

**(U) Sourcing**

(U) Information contained in this report is derived through direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources:

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- BBC News
- DNK Intelligence & Operations Centre (DNK IOC)
- EU Naval Forces (EU)

- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Lloyd's
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S.
- Maritime Security Centre - Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)
- Marine Domain Awareness for Trade - Gulf of Guinea (MDAT- GoG)
- Maritime Asset Security and Training (MAST) Ltd
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- Noonsite.com (Noonsite), website
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- The Maritime Executive (website)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

(U) **ICOD**: 22 May 2019

(U) The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted each week on the ONI Intel Portal and can be found at:

<https://www.oni.navy.mil/News/Weekly-Piracy-Reports/>