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## (U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report 10 July–14 August 2019

19 August 2019

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#### 1. (U) Scope Note

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) message provides information on threats to merchant vessels, the shipping industry, and other maritime stakeholders worldwide in the last 30 days. This report is produced primarily to inform merchant mariners and naval forces.

#### 2. (U) Warnings and Advisories:

1. (U) **MARAD Advisory 2019-012-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Red Sea-Threats to Commercial Vessels by Iran.** Description: This revised advisory cancels U.S. Maritime Advisories 2019-004 and 2019-008. References: U.S. Maritime Alerts 2019-004A, 2019-003A, 2019-002A, and 2019-001A. Issue: Heightened military activity and increased political tensions in this region continue to pose serious threats to commercial vessels. Associated with these threats is a potential for miscalculation or misidentification that could lead to aggressive actions. Vessels operating in the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman may also encounter GPS interference, bridge-to-bridge communications spoofing, and/or other communications jamming with little to no warning.

Since May 2019, the following maritime incidents have occurred in this region:

Six attacks against commercial vessels (see U.S. Maritime Alerts 2019-002A and 2019-003A);

Shoot-down of U.S. Navy remotely piloted aircraft over international waters;

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Attempted at-sea interdiction of Isle of Man-flagged M/V BRITISH HERITAGE;

Seizure of ex-Panama-flagged M/V RIAH;

Seizure of U.K.-flagged M/V STENA IMPERO (see U.S. Maritime Alert 2019-004A); and

Detention and subsequent release of Liberia-flagged M/V MESDAR (see U.S. Maritime Alert 2019-004A).

In at least two of these incidents, vessels reported GPS interference. One vessel reportedly shut off its Automatic Identification System (AIS) before it was seized, complicating response efforts. Vessels have also reported spoofed bridge-to-bridge communications from unknown entities falsely claiming to be U.S. or coalition warships. The United States is committed to safeguarding freedom of navigation, the free flow of commerce, and the protection of U.S. vessels and personnel in this region. Guidance: The international community, including the United States, continues maritime security operations within this region. Vessels operating in this area are advised to review security measures, ensure AIS is transmitting at all times, and monitor VHF Channel 16.

a) To afford best protection in the region, U.S. flagged commercial vessels are encouraged to: - Simultaneously register with both the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Office (UKMTO) and U.S. Fifth Fleet Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping (NCAGS) Watch when entering the Indian Ocean Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) by e-mailing them the Initial Report from Annex D of Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Safety in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea (BMP5).

- Provide transit plans for the Strait of Hormuz (SoH) and Persian Gulf (PG) to UKMTO and U.S. Fifth Fleet NCAGS via a single e-mail, including the time of entering/exiting the SoH Traffic Separation Scheme, an outline of the navigation plan for operating in the SoH and PG, and speed restrictions or other constraints. - In the event of any incident or suspicious activity, call UKMTO or the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch and activate the Ship Security Alert System immediately. - Answer all VHF calls from coalition navies. - Utilize other reports included in Annex D of BMP5 as necessary, including both UKMTO and Fifth Fleet NCAGS on each of these reports. b) All vessels should be aware that U.S. and other coalition naval forces may conduct maritime awareness calls, queries, and approaches to ensure the safety of vessels transiting the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, and Arabian Sea. If a U.S. flag commercial vessel suspects it is being hailed from a source falsely claiming to be a U.S. or coalition naval vessel, the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch should be immediately informed. c) If hailed by Iranian forces, U.S. flag commercial vessels should provide vessel name, flag state, and affirm that they are proceeding in accordance with international law as reflected in the Law of the Sea Convention. The master should immediately inform the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch. d) If Iranian forces seek to board a U.S. flagged commercial vessel navigating these waters, the ship's Master should, if the safety of the ship and crew would not be compromised, decline permission to board, noting that the vessel is proceeding in accordance with international law, and immediately inform the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch. e) If Iranian forces board a U.S. flagged commercial vessel, the vessel should immediately contact the U.S. Fifth Fleet Battle Watch. The crew should not forcibly resist the boarding party. Refraining from forcible resistance does not imply consent or agreement to that boarding. f) The Maritime Global Security website at <https://www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org/> offers industry issued best practices, including BMP5, and guidance to mariners by geographic region and provides contact and subscription information for regional maritime security reporting centers. g) Vessels operating in this area are advised to establish contact with both UKMTO and the U.S. Fifth Fleet NCAGS Watch, and to include both on all update or incident report emails, as detailed above. By including both as addressees on each email, awareness will be enhanced without creating an additional reporting burden. Contact Information: a) Fifth Fleet Battle Watch: + 973-1785-3879, and email details to: CUSNC.BWC@ME.NAVY.MIL. b) Fifth Fleet NCAGS: CUSNC.NCAGS\_BW@ME.NAVY.MIL or +973-3904-9583 or +973-17850084. c) UKMTO: watchkeepers@ukmto.org or +44 (0) 2392 222060. UKMTO advisories and warnings are available at <http://www.ukmto.org/>. d) U.S. Coast Guard: Per 33 CFR 101.305, all suspicious activities, breaches of security, and transportation security incident events must also be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center at +1-800-424-8802. e) For maritime industry questions about this advisory, contact GMCC@uscg.mil. Supplemental information may also be found on the MARAD Office of Maritime Security website at: <https://go.usa.gov/xUKsb>. Cancellation of Prior Advisories: This message supersedes and cancels and U.S. Maritime Advisories 2019-004 and

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2019-008. This advisory will automatically expire on February 3, 2020. For more information about U.S. Maritime Alerts and Advisories, including subscription details, please visit <http://www.marad.dot.gov/MSCI>.

### 3. (U) Summary

1. (U) CAMEROON: On 14 August, merchant vessel reported being attacked 23 NM southwest of Atabong East.
2. (U) TOGO: On 12 August, a vessel was hijacked in the vicinity of Lome, close to Ghanaian border.
3. (U) MALAYSIA: On 12 August, robbers boarded a barge under tow by a Malaysia-flagged tug boat 4.3 NM south of Tanjung Piai, Johor, Malaysia.
4. (U) NIGERIA: On 9 August, ten Turkish sailors who were kidnapped by pirates off the coast of Nigeria last month were freed.
5. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 August, three robbers in a wooden boat attempted to board an anchored Panama-flagged chemical tanker in Tanjung Uban anchorage.
6. (U) CAPE VERDE: On 3 August, authorities seized a sailboat carrying 2.2 tons of cocaine and arrested five men from Brazil.
7. (U) ENGLAND: On 1 August, authorities in Felixstowe boarded, searched a cargo vessel, and removed a container for inspection. Inside, authorities found 398 kilograms of heroin.

### 4. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements

1. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for August 2019. To apply for JMSDF escort, visit [http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime\\_fr2\\_000000.html](http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html), please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MILT), Japan: Email: [hqt-info-piracy@mlit.go.jp](mailto:hqt-info-piracy@mlit.go.jp) (MSCHOA)
2. (U) GULF OF ADEN: China Navy convoy schedule for August 2019. For further information, please email: [planavy@navy.mil.cn](mailto:planavy@navy.mil.cn) (MSCHOA)
3. (U) GULF OF ADEN: South Korea Navy convoy schedule for August 2019. All merchant vessels wishing to join the convoy group must submit their application forms directly to the ROK naval warship carrying out the mission. The ROK MTG can be reached at the Escort Task Group CCC: Email: [cheonghae29@navy.mil.kr](mailto:cheonghae29@navy.mil.kr) or [cheonghae29@gmail.com](mailto:cheonghae29@gmail.com) (MSCHOA)

### 5. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region

(U) This section lists reports of active violence against shipping, credible threats to shipping, or the potential for a situation to develop into a direct threat to shipping over the past 30 days. Every effort is made to ensure that incidents are not double-counted. In the event double-counting is detected, or an incident is later found to be different than initially reported, an explanation of the cancellation of the inaccurate report will be made in at least one message prior to dropping the erroneous report.

#### A. (U) NORTH AMERICA:

1. (U) MEXICO: On 4 August, crew onboard a maintenance pontoon boat reported ship's stores and properties stolen near position 18:48N - 091:47W, Ciudad del Carmen Anchorage. A machete was found near the store room. Master later received information from another vessel in the vicinity that robbers had attempted to board their vessel as well. Incident reported to the Mexico Navy. Three patrol boats were dispatched to investigate. (IMB)
2. (U) MEXICO: During the overnight hours on 27 and 28 July, two small fishing boats reportedly were boarded while operating approximately 5 NM north of Progreso, Yucatan. Both boat crews reported that the robbers stole their outboard motors and other important equipment. ([www.maritimeherald.com](http://www.maritimeherald.com))

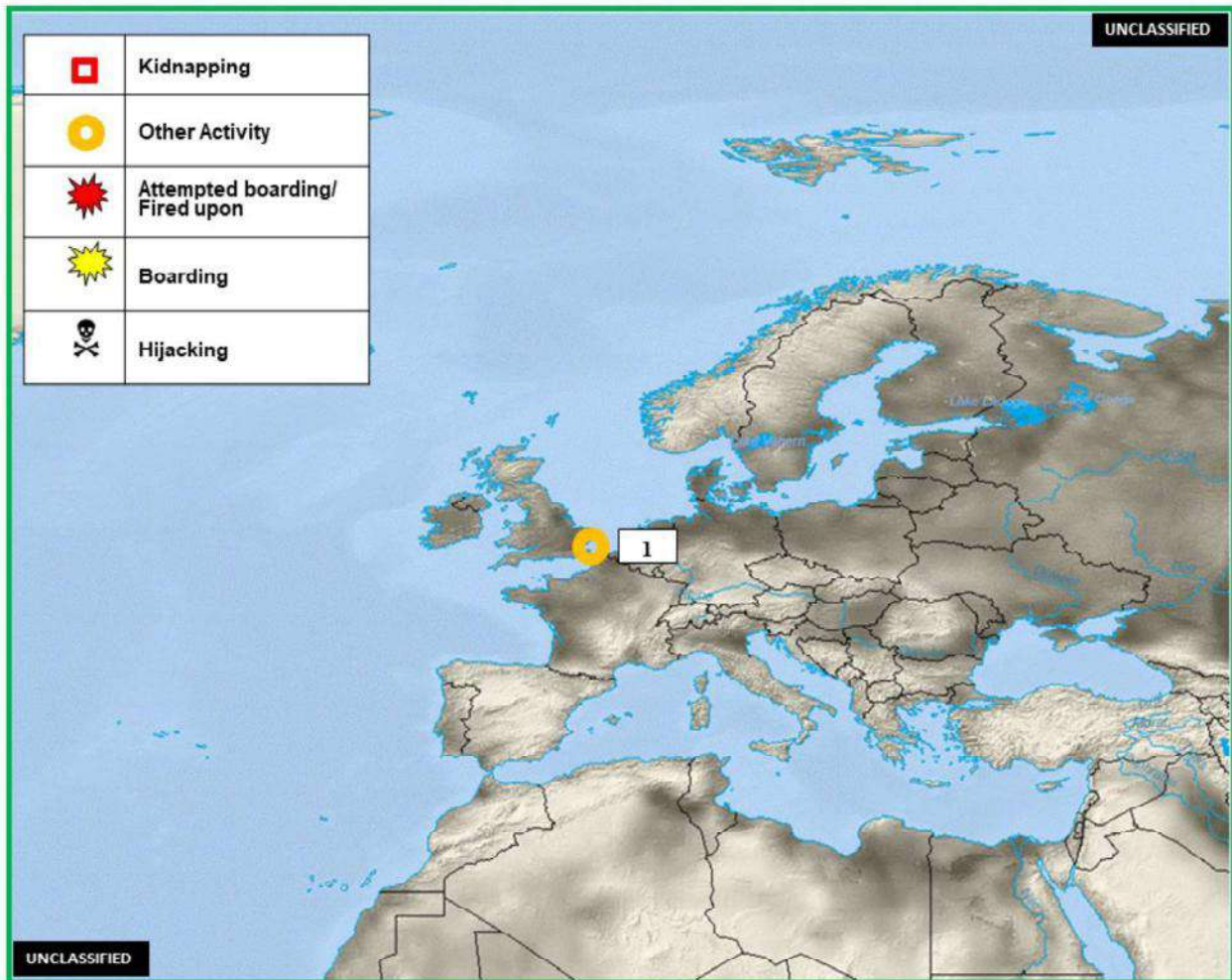
**B. (U) CENTRAL AMERICA - CARIBBEAN - SOUTH AMERICA:**

1. (U) PANAMA: On 28 July, robbers boarded a sailing yacht anchored in Linton Bay and stole the dinghy and outboard motor. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))
2. (U) PANAMA: On 27 July, authorities seized nearly 4 tons of cocaine after intercepting a speedboat via air and sea along the northern perimeter of Isla Grande in the province of Colon. The seizure occurred during a regular patrol. ([www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))
3. (U) PANAMA: On 26 July, authorities seized approximately 4,000 cocaine bricks from a boat off the coast of Panama. Police did not disclose a precise location for the drug seizure. Four Colombian nationals were arrested at the scene. ([www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))
4. (U) BONAIRE: On 26 July, robbers boarded a sailing yacht anchored in Kralendijk and stole a dinghy and outboard motor. A subsequent search located it, minus the fuel tank. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))
5. (U) PUERTO RICO: On 24 July, robbers boarded a sailing yacht berthed in Puerto Real. They thoroughly ransacked the yacht, stealing almost everything of any value. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))
6. (U) SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES: On 20 July, a sailing yacht anchored off Princess Margaret Beach was boarded while the owners were ashore. Cash and an LED flashlight were stolen. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))
7. (U) PANAMA: On 13 July, a monohull with two persons onboard traveled from Linton Bay to the San Blas Islands in Panama. Engine issues caused the yacht to make an unplanned stop in Bahia Nombre de Dios, where no other boats were anchored. The necessary repairs were completed but the hour was late and entering the San Blas in the dark was not an option. The crew planned to lock themselves in securely for the night. They were down below and surprised just after sunset by noise on deck. The captain went up to the cockpit and was ambushed and then restrained by two swimmers who had boarded and concealed themselves behind opposite sides of the spray hood. Immediately a boat with four other men arrived and the captain was held at gunpoint. For 45 minutes the men ransacked and inspected every space in the yacht, stealing cash, credit cards, phones, cameras and video equipment, laptops, a drone, and other items. Some of the men appeared to be high on drugs and were only marginally under the control of the armed leader. Two of the men forced the crew member back into a cabin and indicated they intended to rape her, but the leader prevented this. Once they had collected all things of value, all six men departed in their boat. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))
8. (U) PANAMA: On 13 July, a robber attempted to board a sailing yacht anchored in Linton Bay. The yacht owner was awakened by the noise and confronted the robber, who fled. ([www.safetyandsecuritynet.org](http://www.safetyandsecuritynet.org))

**C. (U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA:**

1. (U) AZORES: On 12 July, Portugal's criminal investigation police seized half a ton of cocaine on a sailboat in the Azores archipelago and detained two men of foreign nationality. They were detained under the ongoing Operation TIPHON to combat narcotic drugs trafficking by sea. ([www.macaubusiness.com](http://www.macaubusiness.com))

**D. (U) NORTHERN EUROPE - BALTIC:**



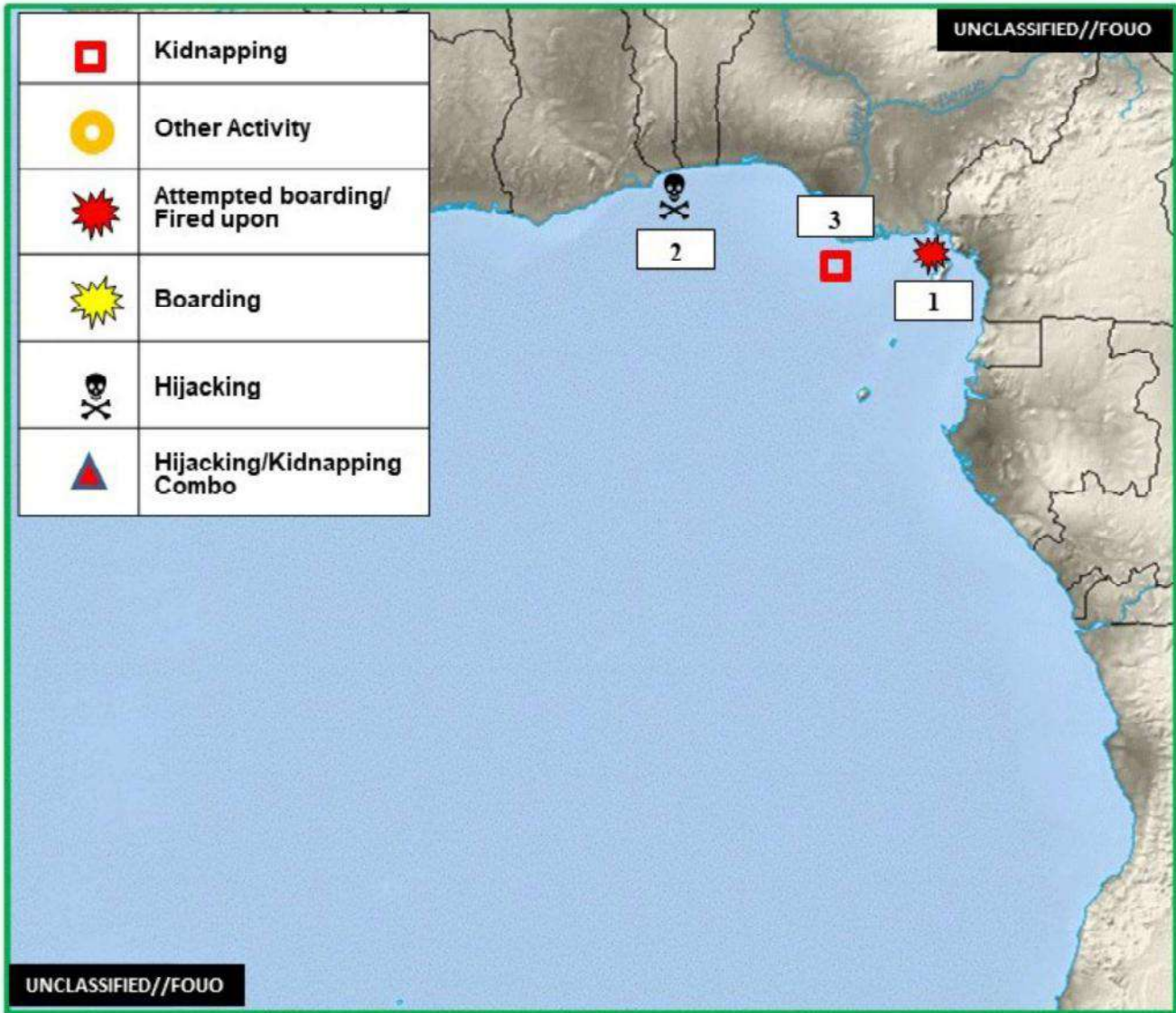
(U) Figure 1. Northern Europe - Baltic Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) ENGLAND: On 1 August, authorities in Felixstowe boarded and searched a cargo vessel, and removed a container for inspection. Inside, authorities found approximately 398 kilograms of heroin hidden among towels and bathrobes. ([www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com))
2. (U) GERMANY: On 2 August, German authorities said they had seized 4.5 tons of cocaine worth 1 billion euros (\$1.11 billion) in the northern port city of Hamburg - the nation's biggest drug haul to date. The Hamburg customs office said it had examined a suspicious shipping container two weeks ago that came from the Uruguayan capital Montevideo and was bound for the Belgian city of Antwerp. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com))

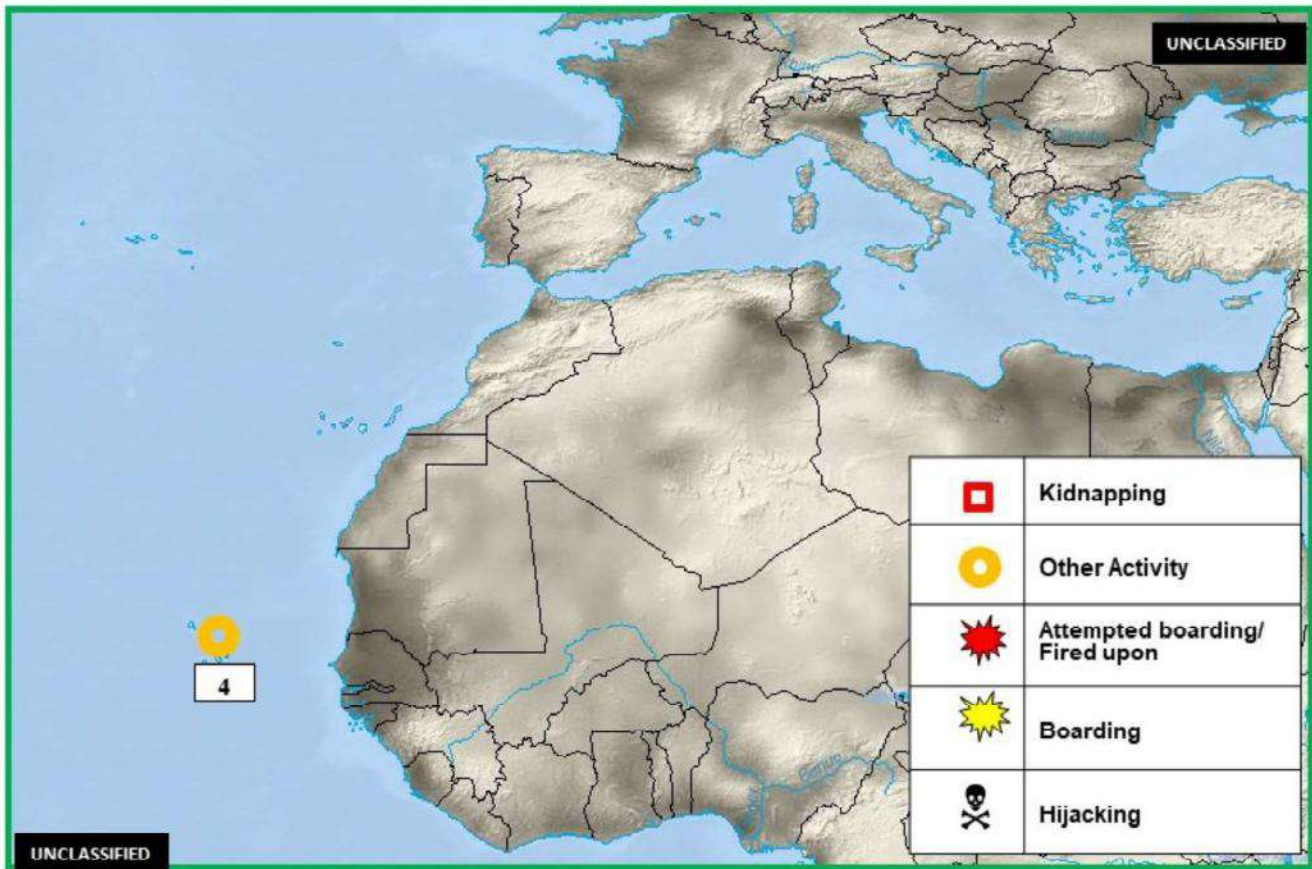
(U) **MEDITERRANEAN - BLACK SEA:**

1. (U) UKRAINE: On 25 July, authorities seized the Russia-flagged tanker NIKA SPIRIT moored in a port on the Danube River. ([www.splash247.com](http://www.splash247.com))
2. (U) GREECE: On 20 July, the cruise ship MARELLA DISCOVERY rescued 111 migrants, including 33 children, off Greece. Media reports that the migrant boat was found in distress about 40 NM off Greece's Peloponnese peninsula. The migrants were taken to the Greek port of Kalamata, and the Greek Coast Guard arrested two of the boat's operators. ([www.maritime-executive.com](http://www.maritime-executive.com))

F. (U) WEST AFRICA:



(U) Figure 2. West Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime



(U) Figure 3. West Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) CAMEROON: On 14 August, merchant vessel reported being attacked near position 04:09N - 008:22E, 23 NM southwest of Atabong East. (IMB)
2. (U) TOGO: On 12 August, a vessel was hijacked in the vicinity of Lome, close to Ghanaian border. ([www.sguardian.com](http://www.sguardian.com))
3. (U) NIGERIA: On 9 August, ten Turkish sailors were freed after being kidnapped by pirates off the coast of Nigeria last month, according to Turkey's state news agency Anadolu reported. The sailors, who Anadolu says are in good health, were seized by armed men who attacked the Turkish-flagged PAKSOY-1 cargo vessel. No details were immediately available on the release of the captives. (AFP)
4. (U) CAPE VERDE: On 3 August, authorities seized a sailboat carrying 2.2 tons of cocaine and arrested five men from Brazil. ([www.macaubusiness.com](http://www.macaubusiness.com))
5. (U) NIGERIA: On 29 July, a supply vessel berthed at Onne port was approached by two people in a canoe. Duty officer saw the canoe, raised the alarm, and at that point the canoe moved away. No items were stolen. ([www.csoalliance.com](http://www.csoalliance.com))
6. (U) NIGERIA: On 25 July, ten robbers boarded a berthed bulk carrier during cargo operations near position 06:25N - 003:20E, Berth No. TC09, Lagos. They assaulted and took hostage the duty crewman on routine rounds. The robbers stole ship's stores from the paint store room. They released the duty crewman and escaped in their boat. Alarm was raised, crew was mustered, and a search was carried out. The crewman received minor injuries during the incident. Local authorities informed. (IMB)
7. (U) LIBERIA: On 29 July, armed robbers boarded the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier BLISS anchored near position 06:19N - 010:51W, Monrovia Roads. The robbers stole ship's property and escaped. The master tried to call port control but received no response. (IMB; [www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))

8. (U) NIGERIA: On 29 July, three robbers armed with metal poles boarded a berthed container ship near Tin Can Island, Lagos Port. They attacked a duty crewman on routine rounds, stole his personal belongings, and escaped. Alarm was raised and a search was carried out. The duty crewman was slightly injured during the incident and further medical checkup was initiated. The incident was reported to local authorities. (IMB)
9. (U) NIGERIA: On 26 July, during routine rounds, a duty crewman onboard a tanker anchored near position 06:18N - 003:23E, Lagos Anchorage, smelled a strong odor of oil cargo. He approached the forward cargo tanks and noticed one unauthorized person jumping overboard with a hose. Alarm was raised and crew was mustered. Investigations indicated that the person was trying to steal cargo. Incident reported to the navy patrol boat in the vicinity. A search of the surrounding waters conducted. Nothing reported stolen. (IMB)
10. (U) SIERRA LEONE: On 21 July, five robbers armed with knives in a small wooden boat boarded an anchored container ship near position 08:28N - 013:28W, Freetown Anchorage, using a rope attached with a hook. The robbers took hostage the duty crew and stole personal belongings and ship's properties. Alert crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. All doors locked and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped. Port control informed. During the incident the duty crew sustained injuries. (IMB)
11. (U) NIGERIA: On 13 July, pirates boarded the Turkey-flagged general cargo ship PAKSOY 1 near position 02:58N - 004:40E, 120 NM southwest of Port Harcourt. The ship was en route from Douala, Cameroon, to Abijan, Ivory Coast. Ten Turkish crewmen were taken hostage. The remaining crew, according to Turkish sources citing a ship owner's statement, took the ship to Tema Anchorage in Ghana. ([www.maritimebulletin.net](http://www.maritimebulletin.net))

#### G. (U) ARABIAN GULF:

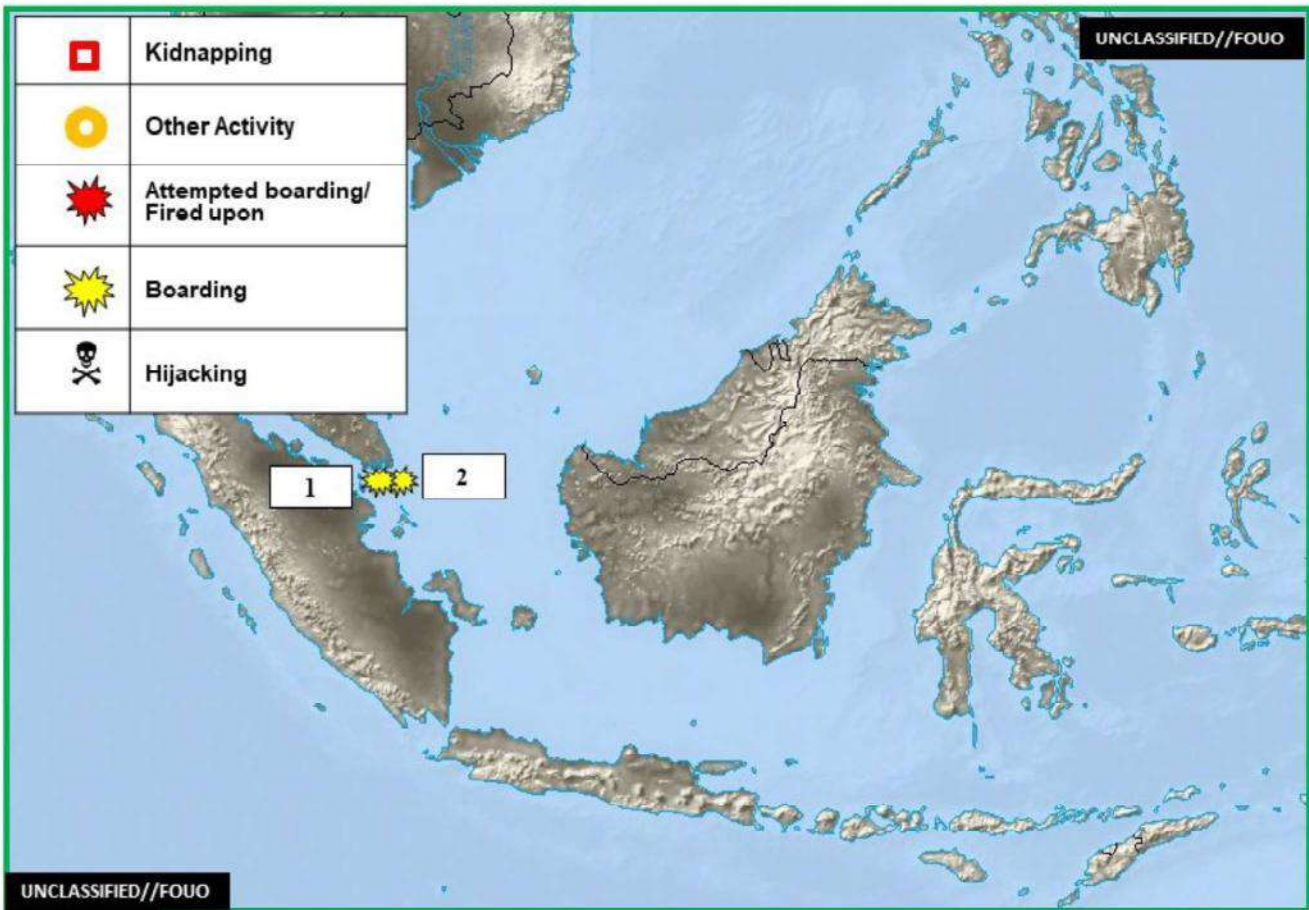
1. (U) ARABIAN GULF: On 4 August, Iranian Revolutionary Guards seized an Iraq-flagged oil tanker in the Arabian Gulf which they said was smuggling fuel. Seven crewmen. ([www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com))
2. (U) IRAN: On 21 July, Iran released nine Indian crew members from the Panama-flagged oil tanker RIAH after it was detained on 14 July. ([www.maritime-executive.com](http://www.maritime-executive.com))
3. (U) ARABIAN GULF: On 19 July, UK-flagged tanker STENA IMPERO diverted from her inbound transit of the Strait of Hormuz and entered Iranian waters. Subsequent reporting indicates that the ship was detained by Iranian forces. (BBC; [www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com); [www.marinetraffic.com](http://www.marinetraffic.com); [www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))
4. (U) ARABIAN GULF: On 19 July, Iranian forces briefly detained the Liberia-flagged VLCC tanker MESDAR in the Strait of Hormuz. (BBC; [www.gcaptain.com](http://www.gcaptain.com); [www.marinetraffic.com](http://www.marinetraffic.com); [www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))
5. (U) ARABIAN GULF: On 14 July, Iranian naval forces seized the Panama-flagged tanker RIAH in the Strait of Hormuz. The Iranian government subsequently released a statement accusing the ship and crew of smuggling oil. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com))

#### H. (U) INDIAN OCEAN - EAST AFRICA - RED SEA:

1. (U) SOMALIA: On 1 August, Somaliland's government prematurely released 19 convicted pirates who were serving time in a prison in the Seychelles for piracy. In 2011, the governments of Seychelles and Somaliland signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the transfer of sentenced pirates. In 2012, the 19 convicts were transferred into the custody of the Somaliland authorities where the pirates were to complete their sentences. The men were initially sentenced to serve between 30 and 42 years for their acts. ([www.seychellesnewsagency.com](http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com); [www.menafm.com](http://www.menafm.com))
2. (U) KENYA: On 26 July, a duty crewman on routine rounds onboard a tanker berthed near position 04:04S - 039:39E, Mombasa Port, reported to the duty officer that there was a suspicious person at the wharf. They monitored this person until he started to climb on the forward spring lines. Master immediately informed port control. A patrol boat came and checked the wharf surroundings. A search of the ship was conducted and found that ship's stores were stolen. (IMB)

#### I. (U) EAST ASIA - SOUTHEAST ASIA - INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:





(U) Figure 4. East Asia - Southeast Asia - Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime Crime

1. (U) MALAYSIA: On 12 August, while underway to Port Klang from Sarawak, Malaysia, an unknown number of perpetrators boarded a Malaysia-flagged barge, towed by a Malaysia-flagged tug boat from a small boat near position 01:13N - 103:30E, 4.3 NM south of Tanjung Piai, Johor, Malaysia. They stole some scrap metal and ropes from the barge before escaping. The master raised the alarm and reported the incident to Singapore's VTIS via the VHF. The crew was safe. (www.pvilt.com)
2. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 August, three robbers in a wooden boat came alongside an anchored Panama-flagged chemical tanker at 0400 hours local time in Tanjung Uban anchorage. They attempted to board the tanker using hooks attached with ropes. The duty officer on security rounds on the bridge noticed the robbers and raised the alarm, sounded the ship's whistle and shouted at the robbers. Hearing the alarm and seeing the alert crew, the robbers aborted the attempted boarding and escaped. (www.pvilt.com)
3. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 July, two robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier near position 03:56N - 098:48E, Belawan Anchorage. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped empty-handed. Incident reported to the port control. (IMB)
4. (U) INDONESIA: On 30 July, six robbers armed with knives boarded a chemical tanker waiting for a pilot near position 06:01S - 106:52E, 5 NM north of Tanjung Priok. They injured the chief engineer on routine rounds. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped empty-handed. Incident reported to local authorities. (IMB)

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5. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 July, four armed robbers boarded a berthed tanker during cargo operations near position 01:45N - 101:22E, SDS Terminal St 1, Lubuk Gaung. An alert crewman noticed the robbers near the engine room and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped through the steering gear room. A search was carried out. Incident reported to local authorities. (IMB)
6. (U) VIETNAM: On 26 July, the third officer on routine rounds onboard a general cargo ship berthed near position 10:44N - 106:44E, Lotus Port, noticed an unauthorized person on deck throwing items over the side. He further saw two boats collecting the items. Alarm was raised. Seeing the approaching officer, the unauthorized person escaped. Upon checking it was found the padlock of the forward store room was broken. Local authorities were notified. (IMB)
7. (U) INDONESIA: On 24 July, a suspicious boat came alongside the tug with two persons onboard near position 01:04N - 103:54E, PT Dharma Sentosa Marindo Yard, Batam. One of them was armed with a knife. An alert crewman raised the alarm resulting in the boat moving away. Incident reported to local authorities. (IMB)
8. (U) INDONESIA: On 23 July, four robbers in a boat boarded an offshore tug berthed near position 01:04N - 103:54E, PT Dharma Sentosa Marindo Yard, Batam. The second mate on routine rounds noticed footprints on the main deck. Further checks revealed a storeroom padlock broken. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Vessel's properties were reported stolen. (IMB)
9. (U) INDONESIA: On 21 July, seven pirates armed with a pistol and knives in a small speed boat boarded the South Korea-flagged bulk carrier CK BLUEBELL underway near position 02:55N - 105:10E, 16 NM northwest of Pulau Damar. They used a ladder attached with a hook to board the ship. The master and the second officer were taken hostage, tied up, and assaulted by the pirates. The pirates stole cash and crew personal belongings before escaping. Incident reported to Korean authorities. (IMB; [www.marinelink.com](http://www.marinelink.com))
10. (U) MYANMAR: On 19 July, Arakan Army insurgent elements attacked two navy vessels in the Taung Sein River in Myebon Township. An Army officer and two sailors were killed in the attack. ([www.irrawaddy.com](http://www.irrawaddy.com))
11. (U) INDONESIA: On 16 July, robbers boarded a barge under tow near position 01:10:23N - 103:39.09E, 0.6 NM west of North Nipa Beacon. The barge was carrying scrap metal bound for Penang, Malaysia. The master of tug boat SUNG FATT 31 reported to the Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS) that his crew spotted the perpetrators boarding the barge SUNG FATT 36 from an unknown number of sampans. The perpetrators stole scrap metal and escaped via the sampans. There was no confrontation between the perpetrators and the crew. Singapore Police Coast Guard and Republic of Singapore Navy notified. ([www.pvilttd.com](http://www.pvilttd.com))
12. (U) MALAYSIA: On 11 July, six small wooden boats approached a tug and barge underway near position 01:13N - 103:31E, 2.9 NM south of Tanjung Piai, Johor. The unauthorized persons boarded the barge, stole its cargo of scrap metal, and escaped. The master contacted the local authorities who dispatched a patrol vessel to investigate. (IMB)

**J. (U) NORTHEAST ASIA:**

1. (U) TAIWAN: On 31 July, Taiwan-flagged general cargo ship YU TAI NO.1 collided with a vessel south of Kinmen, shortly after leaving Kinmen bound for Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Master reported collision or contact with an unidentified Navy or patrol ship, possibly from the Chinese Navy. Navy ship didn't stop and sailed away. ([www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com))
2. (U) NORTH KOREA: On 27 July, North Korean authorities released the Russia-flagged fishing vessel XIANG HAI LIN 8 after seizing the vessel on 17 July approximately 55 NM east of Wonsan. The crew consists of 15 Russians and two South Koreans. ([www.fleetmon.com](http://www.fleetmon.com); AFP)

**K. (U) AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND - PACIFIC OCEAN AREA:**

(U) No current incidents to report.

**6. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources**

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(U) This appendix provides contact information for the author of the WTS as well as other entities that can be contacted with maritime crime reports. It also lists other resources where the WTS is posted and where piracy and maritime crime incident information can be found.

### (U) Contact

(U) Originator of this WTS report requests consumer feedback. Originator will incorporate all anti-shipping events and violence against the maritime industry into this weekly message where appropriate. To aid in our reporting, please add the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to your normal corporate and organizational reporting requirements. The 24-hour watch can be reached at +1 (301) 669-4053.

### (U) Other Resources

(U) This Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report is posted at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Maritime Safety site: <http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MSI.portal>. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) also publishes a live piracy report based on reporting from the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, listing all piracy and armed robbery incidents in the last ten days: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/>. The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: [http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence\\_Community/piracy.htm](http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm).

## 7. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. ONI welcomes comment and suggestions for addition or amendment.

### (U) Terminology

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, the following have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities:

(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) Sourcing

- 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
- Norwegian Shipowners' Mutual War Risks Insurance Association
- 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) The Weekly Piracy Update (WPU) and WTS Reports are posted each week on the ONI Intel Portal and can be found at: <http://www.oni.navy.mil/News/Weekly-Piracy-Reports/>

(U) ICOD: 14 August 2019