



Worldwide

(U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 28 August–25 September 2024

25 SEPTEMBER 2024

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(U) Executive Summary

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) report 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.

(U) Scope

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(U) Warnings, Advisories and Alerts: See Appendix C for active advisories.

(U) Summary:

1. (U) GUYANA: On 23 September, four robbers boarded an offshore supply vessel berthed at Georgetown Port.
2. (U) INDONESIA: On 22 September, five armed robbers hijacked an Indonesia-flagged tug and stole a portion of the biodiesel cargo onboard a barge under tow.
3. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 20 September, a USV approached to within 0.3 NM of a Greece-flagged crude oil tanker underway approximately 45 NM south of Mokha, Yemen.

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(U) 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 that 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.

(U) NORTH AMERICA

1. (U) MEXICO: On 11 September, six robbers boarded an oil platform in the Bay of Campeche (exact time and position not specified). The robbers stole several unspecified items and departed. (Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) CENTRAL AMERICA – CARIBBEAN – SOUTH AMERICA

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(U) Figure 1. Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea in South America



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1. (U) GUYANA: On 23 September at 0200 local time, four perpetrators in a canoe approached an offshore supply vessel berthed at Georgetown Port, near position 06:47N – 058:10W. The duty crew spotted two of the perpetrators onboard the vessel and raised the alarm. Seeing

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the alertness of the crew, the perpetrators escaped in the canoe. After the incident, the vessel reported that nothing was stolen, and all crew members were safe. (Clearwater Dynamics)

2. (U) HAITI: On 10 September, armed assailants in a speedboat boarded a container ship as it maneuvered into port at Port-au-Prince (exact time and location not specified). The perpetrators kidnapped two Filipino crew members from the container ship before escaping in their speedboat. (HaitiLibre.com; LaNouvelliste.com; PLEnglish.com; Clearwater Dynamics)
3. (U) COLOMBIA: On 28 August at 0130 local time, one perpetrator attempted to board an anchored Denmark-flagged LPG tanker at Cartagena Inner Anchorage, near position 10:19N – 075:32W. The duty crew observed four perpetrators in a boat near the anchor chain and another in the hawsepipe. The officer on watch was alerted to the presence of the perpetrators and the fire pumps were activated. Seeing the crew's alertness, the perpetrators escaped. The vessel notified port control and the coast guard investigated the area around the tanker. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)

(U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) NORTHERN EUROPE – BALTIC

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) MEDITERRANEAN – BLACK SEA

1. (U) EGYPT: On 8 September, Global Positioning System (GPS) interference was reported offshore of Port Said. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA

1. (U) NIGERIA: On 2 September at 1000 local time, perpetrators attacked a passenger boat underway in the Bonny River between Bonny Island and Port Harcourt, near Dutch Island (exact location not specified). The perpetrators escaped with 10 kidnapped passengers. (Clearwater Dynamics)
2. (U) NIGERIA: On 28 August, perpetrators attacked a passenger boat while underway in the Bonny River between Abonnema and Kula, Rivers State (exact time and location not specified). The attackers robbed the passengers and stole the boat. During the incident, one passenger was killed. (Clearwater Dynamics)

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(U) ARABIAN GULF

1. (U) IRAN: On 29 August, several reports indicated that Global Positioning System (GPS) interference occurred offshore of Assaluyeh. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA

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(U) Figure 2. Suspicious Approach in the Gulf of Aden

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1. **(U) GULF OF ADEN:** On 20 September at 1225 UTC, a USV with a blue and white hull approached to within 0.4 NM of the Greece-flagged crude oil tanker DILIGENT WARRIOR while underway approximately 48 NM southeast of Mokha, Yemen, near position 12:33N – 043:28E. The master also reported a small boat with two persons onboard in the vicinity of the USV. After the incident, the vessel and crew were reported safe and the vessel continued to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Joint Maritime Information Center)
2. (U) RED SEA: On 6 September at 0500 UTC, a blue and white skiff with three persons onboard approached a Saudi Arabia-flagged tanker underway approximately 60 NM southwest of Hodeida, Yemen (exact position not specified). The company security officer reported that one person onboard the skiff navigated, while the remaining two individuals looked through binoculars. The skiff came to within 400 meters of the tanker but changed direction after the vessel's embarked armed security team displayed their firearms. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

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3. (U) RED SEA: On 4 September at 1112 UTC, an entity declaring itself to be from the UKMTO requested vessels to switch on their AIS and provide a present position update. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)
4. (U) RED SEA: On 2 September at 0630 UTC, a UAV struck the Saudi Arabia-flagged crude oil tanker AMJAD while underway approximately 58 NM west of Hodeida, Yemen, near position 14:45N – 041:51E. The UAV hit the tanker in the forward center cargo tank area. The master reported that all crew members were safe, that the vessel sustained minimal damage but did not require assistance, and that the vessel was continuing to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Joint Maritime Information Center; U.S. Central Command)
5. (U) RED SEA: On 2 September at 0130 UTC, the first of three ballistic missiles targeted the Panama-flagged crude oil tanker BLUE LAGOON I while underway approximately 70 NM northwest of Saleef, Yemen (exact position not specified). The first missile hit the tanker on its port quarter. At 0152 UTC, a second missile hit the vessel on its port side. At 0242 UTC, a third missile impacted the water 50 meters astern of the tanker. The master reported that damage control was underway, all crew members were safe, there were no casualties onboard, and that the vessel was proceeding to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Joint Maritime Information Center; U.S. Central Command)
6. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 30 August between 1700 UTC and 1830 UTC, two ballistic missiles targeted the Liberia-flagged container ship GROTON while underway approximately 130 NM east of Aden, Yemen (exact position not specified). The first missile impacted the water 50 meters from the port bow. The second missile hit the water off the ship's stern. The master reported all crew members were safe and that the vessel was not hit and did not sustain any damage. The vessel continued its voyage to its next port of call. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics; Joint Maritime Information Center)

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(U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA

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(U) Figure 3. Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea in Southeast Asia

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1. **(U) INDONESIA:** On 22 September at 1830 local time, five armed individuals boarded the barge OB ROYAL 17 under tow by the Indonesia-flagged tug ROYAL TB 17 in the Java Sea south of Kalimantan, near position 04:12S – 113:49E. The pirates, armed with firearms and sharp weapons, secured crew members in a separate area and took control of the barge. The pirates next boarded the tugboat and restrained the captain and crew in the mess room, binding them with plastic ropes. During the hijacking, which lasted between 8 and 10 hours, a portion of the biodiesel cargo was transferred to a tanker. Before the pirates disembarked, they also stole the vessel's navigational equipment, cash, crew's valuables, and damaged the communications and other navigational equipment. (Indonesia Maritime Safety Information Office)
2. **(U) INDONESIA:** On 14 September at 0125 local time, seven robbers boarded the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier ATLANTIC TIGER while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), near position 01:03N – 103:38E. After crewmembers spotted the perpetrators near the port quarter of their vessel, all crew members mustered to conduct a search. Following the incident, the master reported all crew as safe, engine parts had been stolen, and that no assistance was required. The vessel continued its voyage to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

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3. (U) MALAYSIA: On 14 September at 0038 local time, eight robbers from a sampan boarded the barge ALAM 281 under tow by the Malaysia-flagged tug TARGET 10 in the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:19N – 104:17E. After the incident, the master reported robbers stole scrap metal and all crew members were safe, no assistance was required, and that the tug proceeded to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
4. (U) INDONESIA: On 14 September at 0020 local time, five perpetrators boarded the Panama-flagged bulk carrier SEA VOYAGER while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:04N – 103:37E. The duty crew spotted the perpetrators in the engine room. One perpetrator carried a suspected firearm and another was armed with a knife. The master raised the alarm and the crew mustered and conducted a search. No perpetrators were found onboard the ship. Following the incident, the master reported that all crew members were safe, no injuries were sustained, and nothing was stolen. The vessel continued its transit to the next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)

(U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

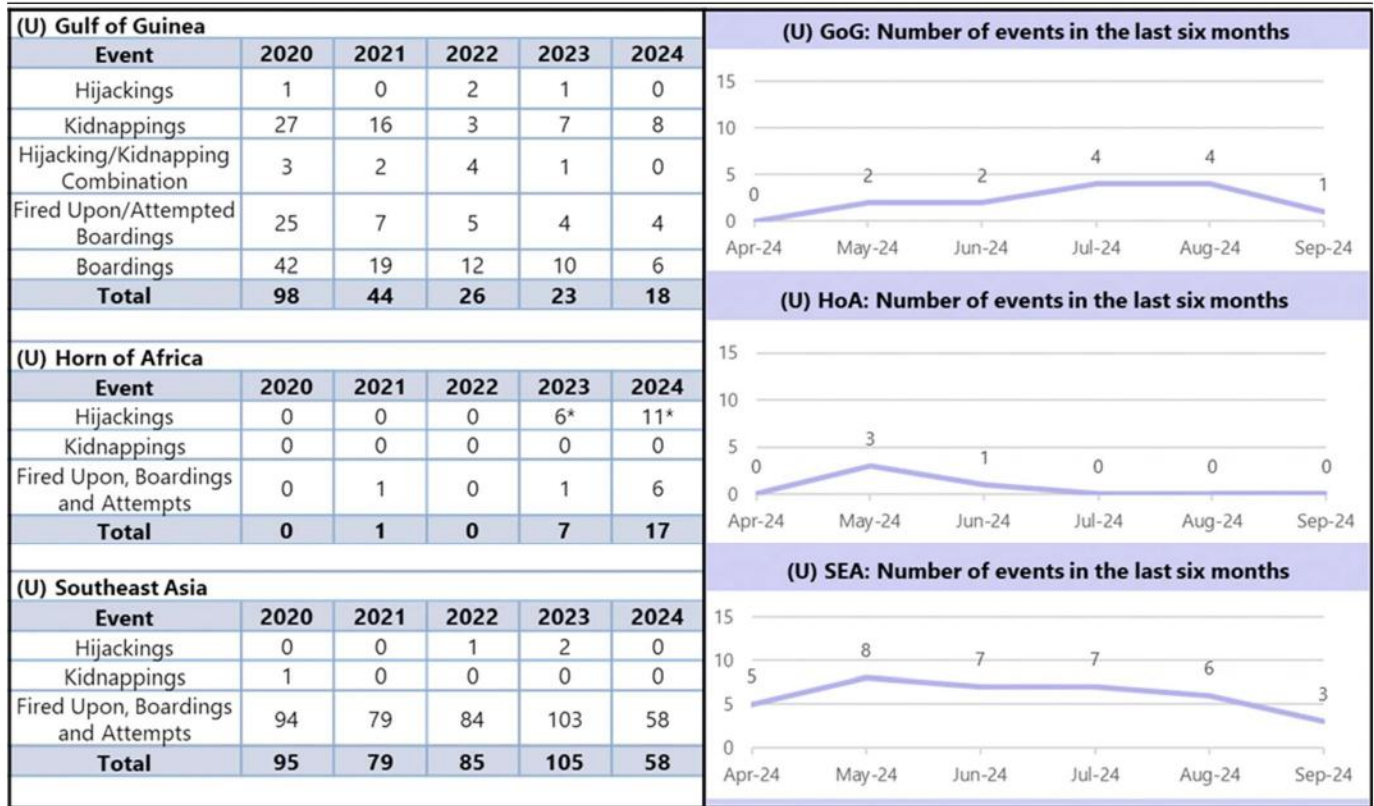
(U) No current incidents to report.

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(U) Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends

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(U) * HORN OF AFRICA HIJACKING NUMBERS INCLUDE DHOWS AND FISHING VESSELS

(U) Appendix B: Definitions and Sourcing

(U) Definitions

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, we use the following definitions to describe a range of criminal antishipping 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) **Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement who forcefully remove crew members from vessel when disembarking.
- > (U) **Robbery** – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.
- > (U) **Suspicious Approach** – All other unexplained activity in close proximity of an unknown vessel.

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Appendix C: Active U.S. Maritime Advisories

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(U) Active U.S. Maritime Advisories

Title	Effective Date	Expiration Date
2024-012: Black Sea and Sea of Azov – Military Combat Operations	6 Sep 2024	21 Feb 2025
2024-010: Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	16 Aug 2024	12 Feb 2025
2024-009: Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman – Iranian Illegal Boarding /Detention/Seizure	16 Aug 2024	12 Feb 2025
2024-008: Southern Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, and Gulf of Aden – Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	16 Aug 2024	12 Feb 2025
2024-007: Gulf of Guinea – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	24 Jun 2024	21 Dec 2024
2024-005: Global – U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts	16 Apr 2024	12 Oct 2024

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