

Piracy & Robbery At Sea

April 2013



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Security,
Safety;
Shared.**





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Summary

April Showings

The Horn of Africa/IOR saw relatively low activity across the HRA through April.

Few of the incidents were any more than suspicious sightings of dhows towing skiffs, but a single confirmed attack was reported. In the Gulf of Guinea/ Attacks have occurred off the coast of Nigeria, mainly south of Brass, in Bayelsa state.

Asia incidents remain largely petty theft in ports but a number of more violent attacks have occurred on vessels underway and a barge reported stolen. Robbery in South American ports remains at a steady count, although fears of unreported incidents abound. A total of 43 reported incidents occurred in April.

One hijack was reported this month off Nigeria. The offshore crew boat, Utai 8 with a crew of 3, went missing. The boat was reported to have been involved in a 2-boat attack on MT City of Xiamen where 5 crew were kidnapped.

In Asia, fifteen pirates armed with guns and long knives in three high speed boats boarded the tug Hub 21 underway in the South China Sea. They took nine crew members hostage, assaulted some of the crew and tied them up. They ransacked all cabins, stole ship's property, crew members' cash and personal belongings before escaping. Meanwhile, the crew from a neighbouring barge noticed an unknown tug boat pulling the cargo barge off Tanjung Ayajm, Malaysia. Eng Tou 266 was stolen and is still missing.

South America saw 3 incidents once more with robberies in Peru, Ecuador and Colombia respectively.

Early in the morning Mar 30, off the island of Masirah, Oman, the Liberian flagged cargo bulk carrier 'Atlantik Confidence', reported to have a fire in the engine room and requested assistance. Upon receiving the message, Admiral Antonio Natale, Commander of the NATO Task Force engaged in the fight against

piracy off the Horn of Africa, promptly ordered the nearest vessel under his command, the frigate USS Nicholas to proceed at maximum speed and to provide assistance.

Sometime later, the Captain of 'Atlantik Confidence' ordered his crew of 21 Turkish seamen to abandon ship; assessing that the fire was now out of control. Upon reaching the scene it was seen that the merchant vessel was already partially sunk but still floating.

After verifying that the survivors appeared to be safely in life-boats and did not need immediate medical assistance, the NATO ship coordinated the embarkation operations on board an oil tanker called 'Pluto' transiting in the area and also manned entirely by a Turkish crew. The



damaged ship sank around 140 nautical miles off the Wusta coast on Apr 3 according to a NavWarn issued by US MARAD.

The Numbers.

HoA/IOR – 1 Attack; 10 Incidents; 1 NavWarn

W Africa – 1 Hijack; 8 Attacks; 2 Incidents;

Asia – 17 Incidents; 1 Suspicious Incident;

S America – 3 Incidents.

Situational mapping in the following pages indicate the approximated positions of recorded incidents, wherever possible. (Note: NS = Not Shown).

The maps used in this report are for illustrative purposes only. They are not necessarily to scale, and do not imply the opinion on the part of OCEANUSLive concerning the status of any country or territory, or the delimitation of frontiers or boundaries.





Horn of Africa/IOR

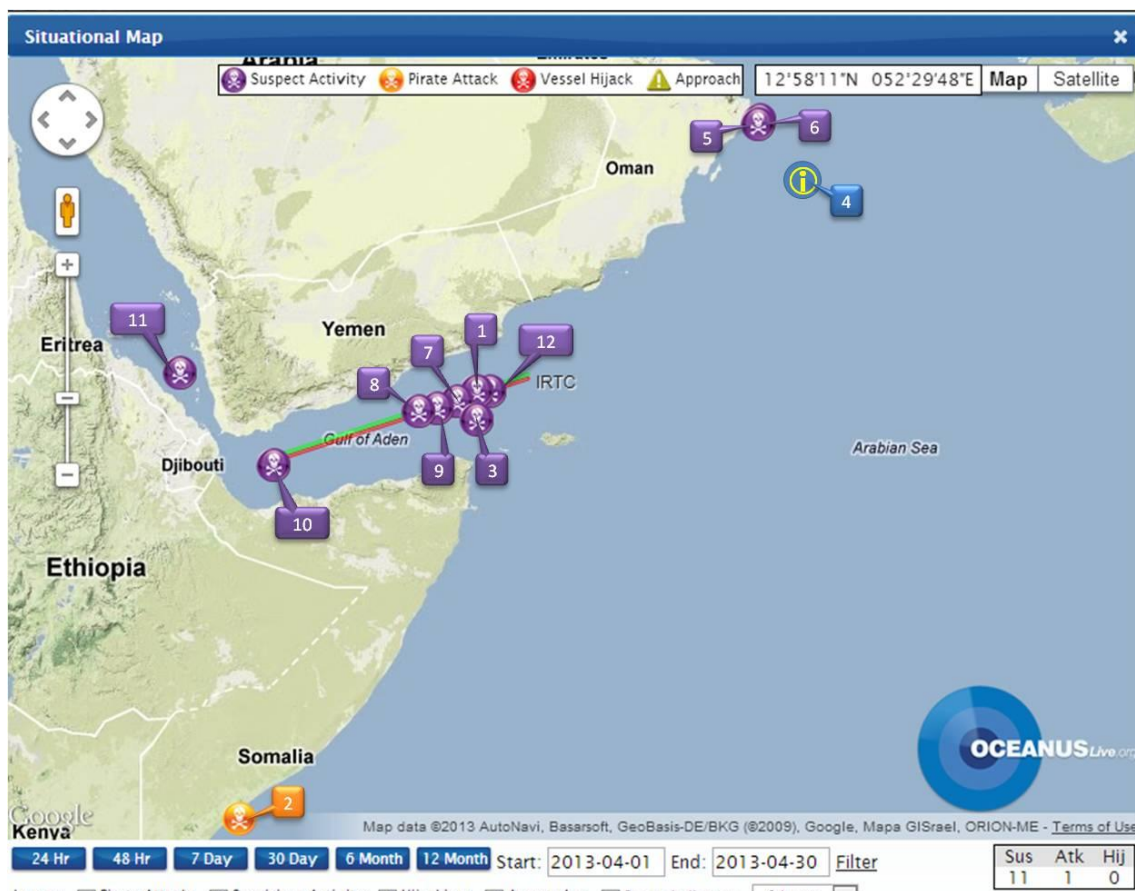


Fig 1: Horn of Africa/Indian Ocean Region

HoA/IOR Piracy and Robbery At Sea – April

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	1 Apr	Unknown		Suspicious Activity - IRTC, GoA (Dhow & 4 skiffs)
2	2 Apr	Alpha Kirawira	Sierra Leone General Cargo Ship	NE of Kismayo, Somalia (Attack ; Skiff fired, AST warning shots)
3	2 Apr	Unknown		Suspicious Activity - Gulf of Aden (2 dhow & 3, 4 skiffs)
4	3 Apr	Atlantik Confidence	Bulk Carrier	Navwarn – MV sank Apr 3 after fire & abandonment – poss empty lifeboat adrift.
5	3 Apr	Unnamed	Panama Bulk Carrier	Suspicious Activity - NE of Masirah Island, Oman (Lifeboat & 5 skiffs obs MV, AST stood to)
6	3 Apr	Unnamed	Liberia Tanker	Suspicious Activity – Lifeboat & 2 skiffs, Skiffs approached MV; MV moved away).
7	4 Apr	Unnamed	Cayman Islands Tanker	Suspicious Activity – IRTC, GoA (4 dhows & 11 skiffs)
8	8 Apr	Unnamed	Unknown	Suspicious Activity – IRTC, GoA (Dhow & 4 skiffs, AST report)
9	9 Apr	Unnamed	Panama Tanker	Suspicious Activity – IRTC, GoA (Mothership & 2 skiffs trailed MV for 20 mins; AST weapons displayed).





10	10 Apr	Unnamed	Suspicious Activity – Gulf of Aden (Dhow & 2 skiffs).
11	11 Apr	Unnamed	Suspicious Activity Red Sea (3 skiffs).
12	29 Apr	Unnamed	Suspicious Activity – IRTC, GoA (Dhow & 2 skiffs; Warship response, helo investigated)





West Africa

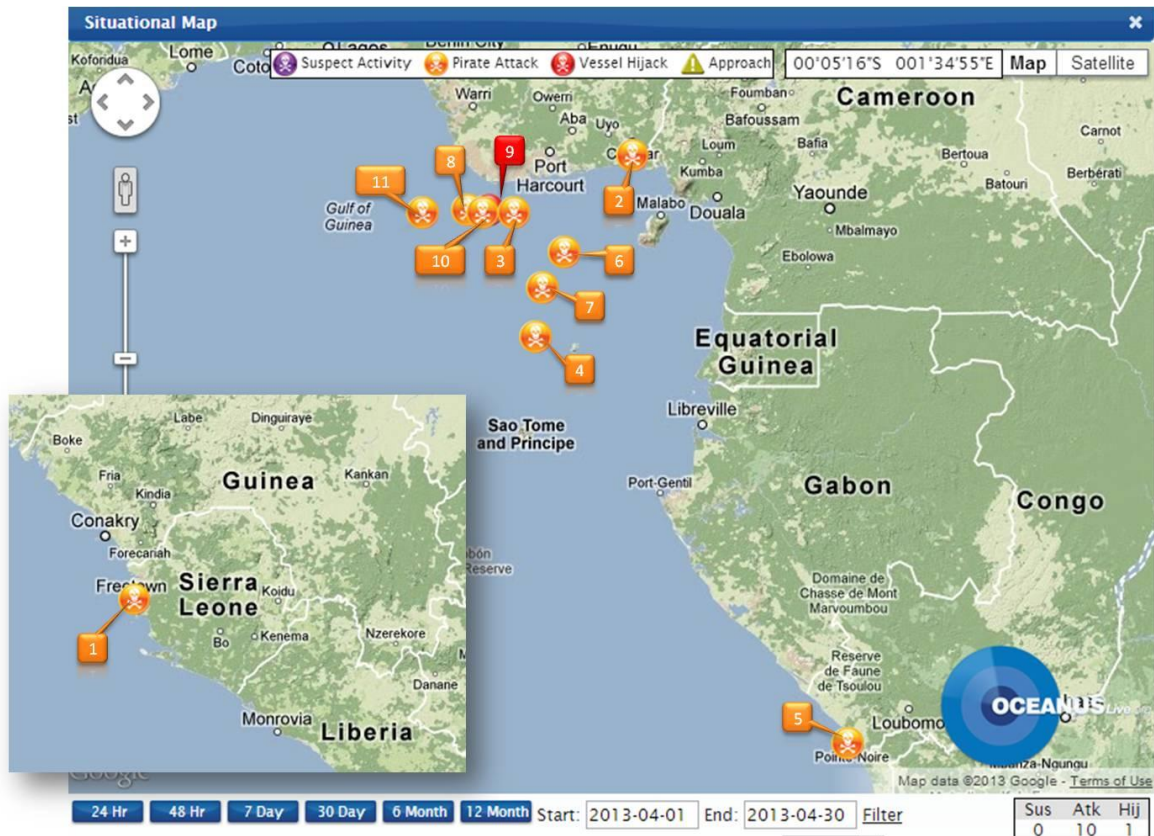


Fig 2: West Africa

West Africa Piracy and Robbery At Sea – April 2013

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	11 Apr	RMS Baerl	Antigua & Barbuda General Cargo Ship	Freetown Inner Roads, Sierra Leone (Robbery; AB held at Knifepoint)
2	13 Apr	Gyre	USA Offshore Support Vessel	Parrot Island, Calabar River, Nigeria (Attack ; Warning shots fired)
3	13 Apr	Leon Dias	Liberia Chemical Tanker	SE of Brass, Nigeria (Attack ; Board; Robbery; Released)
4	16 Apr	Cap Theodora	Greece Crude Tanker	WNW Principe Island, Gulf of Guinea (Attack ; Evaded hijack)
5	18 Apr	Corinth	Marshall Islands General Cargo Ship	Pointe Noire anchorage, The Congo (Attempted boarding)
6	22 Apr	Cap Theodora	Greece Crude Tanker	SSE of Brass, Nigeria (Attack ; Numerous boarding attempts)
7	23 Apr	Hansa Marburg	Liberia Container Ship	105nm off Nigeria (Attack , board & kidnap 4 crew)
8	24 Apr	Bosun	Antigua & Barbuda Container Ship	SSW of Nigeria coast (Attack ; fired upon; evaded)
9	25 Apr	Utai 8	Nigeria Crew Change Boat	S of Brass, Nigeria (Hijack w/ 3 crew; poss Mothership)
10	25 Apr	City of Xiamen	Antigua & Barbuda Container Ship	WSW of Brass, Nigeria (Attack 2 boats, - Utai 8 - Citadel breach, 5 kidnapped)
11	26 Apr	City of Guangzhou	Antigua & Barbuda Container Ship	WSW of Brass, Nigeria (Attack , attempt board, 1-hour chase)





Southeast Asia



Fig 3: South East Asia

South East Asia Piracy and Robbery At Sea – April 2013

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	1 Apr	Crane	Marshall Islands Bulk Carrier	Chittagong anchorage A, Bangladesh (Boarding/failed robbery, 6 robbers, whilst discharging ops)
NS	1 Apr	Condor	Marshall Island Bulk Carrier	Suspicious Activity - Indian Ocean (Group of boats, crew to citadel, evasive action, AST stood to)
NS	2 Apr	Wehr Blankenese	Marshall Islands Container Ship	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam (Robbery; Unnoticed)
2	3 Apr	Ivor Exact	Gibraltar (UK) Chemical Tanker	Dumai anchorage, Indonesia (Approach ; 4 Robbers)
3	3 Apr	Sher-e-Punjab	Liberia Bulk Carrier	Adang Bay anchorage, Indonesia (Robbery; AB tied up)
4	4 Apr	Garden River City	Singapore Crude Tanker	Dumai Inner anchorage, Indonesia (Robbery)
5	5 Apr	New Century	Marshall Islands Oil Tanker	Visakhapatnam anchorage, India (Attempted boarding; 7 robbers in 3 fishing boats)



6	6 Apr	Maersk Bering	Singapore Chemical Tanker	Belawan anchorage, Indonesia (Robbery unnoticed; Attempt to 'sell back' to ship)
7	9 Apr	Westgate	Liberia Bulk Carrier	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam (Robbery unnoticed)
8	12 Apr	Densa Jaguar	Malta Bulk Carrier	Surabaya Port, Indonesia (Attempted Robbery)
9	17 Apr	IVS Magpie	Singapore Bulk Carrier	Campha Outer anchorage, Vietnam (Board & Robbery)
10	19 Apr	Singapore River	Singapore Tanker	Dumai Inner anchorage, Indonesia (Robbery; AB tied up at knifepoint)
11	22 Apr	Eng Tou 266	Singapore Barge Carrier	Off Tanjung Ayajm, Malaysia (Barge stolen)
12	23 Apr	AD Phoenix	Singapore Tanker	NE of Bintan Island, Indonesia (Robbery; no response authorities)
13	24 Apr	Hub 21	Malaysia Tug	South China Sea (Robbery; 15 pirates in 3 speedboats, 9 crew taken hostage, some assaulted & tied up)
14	24 Apr	Nadiya Melisende	Kiribati Product Tanker	NE of Bintan Island, Indonesia (Robbery)
15	27 Apr	Fairchem Maverick	Panama Chemical Tanker	Berth Ocean Quay 106, Belawan Port, Indonesia (Robbery, 2 robbers board)
16	29 Apr	Crest Gold1/ Crest 2821	Singapore Tug & Barge	Singapore Straits (Robbery from barge being towed by tug)
17	30 Apr	Kohinoor	Panama General Cargo Ship	Belawan Port, Indonesia (Robbery during customs/discharge ops)





South America



Fig 4. – South America

South America Piracy and Robbery At Sea – April 2013

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	13 Apr	Unique Guardian	Hong Kong , China Chemical Tanker	Punta Talara anchorage, Peru (Robbery)
2	15 Apr	Maersk Nienburg	Hong Kong, China Container Ship	Guayaquil, Ecuador (Boarding; CG called; crew into accom citadel)
3	16 Apr	Shamrock	Barbados Ro-Ro Cargo Ship	Cartagena Inner anchorage, Colombia (Robbery)





Miscellaneous

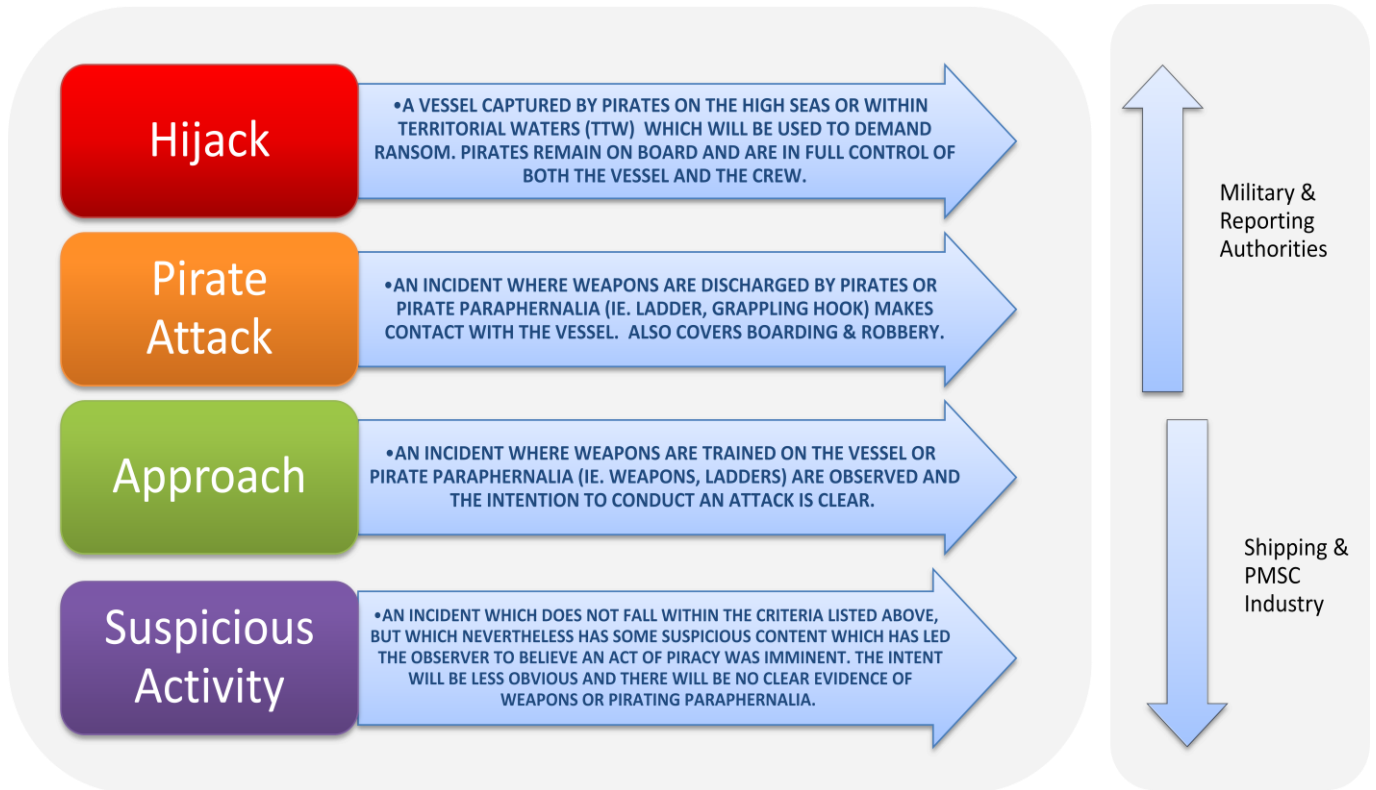
April News Headlines

- Small industry crops up - "Pretend to be a pirate", as the demand for pirate interviews increased;
- 21 fishermen killed off Bangladesh; hands and feet tied then thrown overboard;
- 74 witnesses for Somali pirates fast-track trial in India fail to turn up;
- Piracy does not constitute a business; analogy is misleading;
- Somali arms embargo lifted;
- Malta issues armed guards employment guidance;
- Italian ambassador in India has travel ban lifted in connection with Italian marines trial;
- MV Atlantik Confidence sinks after fire and abandonment by crew; adrift lifeboat sightings by ships follows;
- Economic cost of Somali Piracy \$6-18 billion (Oceans Beyond Piracy and World Bank figures);
- Anti-piracy Code of Conduct for West and Central Africa criticised; no enforcement mechanism in place;
- Oil discovery in Ghana changes maritime security dynamics;
- Japan sentence pirate to 11 years in prison;
- USN sailors 'acted with the rules of engagement' when fisherman killed;
- Nigeria Assembly votes on death penalty for kidnappers;
- Spanish patrol aircraft identifies 50 pirates bases on Somali coast;
- Indonesian pirates are extradited from Vietnam after hijack of Malaysia MV Zafirah;
- Italy issues regulations on employment of PCASP;
- Somalia announces anti-piracy outreach campaign to youths not pirate kingpins;
- West Africa under-reporting of piracy blurs the threat;
- Prohibition of Indian small cargo boats south of Oman sees Indian shipyard closures;
- Hijack in W African waters; 3 crew kidnapped;
- UK pledges support to Africa's maritime security as oil exploration grows;
- UK opens up an Embassy in Somalia as confidence returns;
- Nigerian Navy launches "no crude oil theft" website;
- Seychelles RAPPICC plays key role in drugs bust;
- European Space Agency to study space-related Situational Awareness services for anti-piracy;
- Film, "A Hijacking" is reviewed; More documentary films debut.





Definitions





Acknowledgements

International Maritime Bureau (IMB) Piracy Reporting Centre;
International Maritime Organisation (IMO);
UKMTO;
NATO Shipping Centre (NSC);
Op Ocean Shield (on Twitter/Facebook);
ReCAAP ISC;
EU Naval Force (EUNAVFOR);
C-Level Maritime Risk;
OCEANUSLive Crowdsourced Information.

OCEANUSLive endeavours to provide reporting of piracy and robbery against ships at sea (P&ARAS) incidents in an effort to increase situational awareness, and subsequently Maritime Domain Awareness.

OCEANUSLive does not replace reporting processes already in place by regional, maritime and military authorities. It is supplementary enabling other agencies, organisations, authorities and relevant commercial entities (such as ship owners, ship operators, ship agents, MARSEC firms, etc.) and other publicly available sources to input additional data where possible.

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