

Piracy & Robbery At Sea

January 2013



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Summary

January Sails

The Horn of African/IOR maintained a low register of activity across the HRA throughout January. West Africa has seen a spread of incidents beyond Nigeria and immediate neighbouring states waters, including one anomalous incident.

Asia HRA witnessed an increase in incidents from the low activity in December. Robbery activity returns to South America. A total of 28 incidents occurred in January.

One hijack occurred this month off the Ivory Coast. Panama-flagged tanker with a crew of 16, MT ITRI (pictured) was hijacked whilst preparing to deposit oil at the port of Abidjan. She was released following the theft of \$5M cargo. The continuing and alarming trend is the kidnap of crew from ships. A 5-skiff attack using RPG was also a feature in the Gulf of Guinea

In Asia, an increase in incidents was noted spread across the region from India's East coast to Manila, Philippines and South to the regular hotspot of Balikpapan, Indonesia. The

standout instances are the use of fishing vessel as a mothership, the assaults and threats to crew and the multiple attacks/approaches on tugs towing barges/barge carriers.

South America saw 3 more incidents than in December 2012 with robberies in Guyana, Colombia and Peru respectively.



One highly irregular report (not receiving too much notice in the media) is the spurious approach by two skiffs over 1200nm East of Guinea in the Atlantic Ocean.

The Numbers:

HoA/IOR – 2 Incidents; 1 Approach

W Africa – 1 Hijack; 6 Incidents; 1 Approach

Asia – 12 Incidents (+ 2 NS);

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 – January 2013

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	1 Jan	Unknown		Suspicious Activity – 4 skiffs 7nm off Somali coast.
2	2 Jan	Unknown		Suspicious Activity – Skiff at 25 knots. Evasive manoeuvres
3	3 Jan	Jade Sky	Marshall Island Bulk Carrier	Kandla Outer anchorage (Robbery)
4	5 Jan	MSC Jasmine	Panama Cargo Ship	ENE of Mogadishu (6 pirates in skiff attacked; AST fired warning shots. CP Forces disrupted PAG)
5	8 Jan	Unknown	LPG Tanker	Approach – 2 Skiffs BAM, Red Sea. AST fired flares/warning shots.
6	30 Jan	Unknown		Suspicious Activity – Dhow & 2 skiffs, 1 skiff towed IRTC GoA.





West Africa

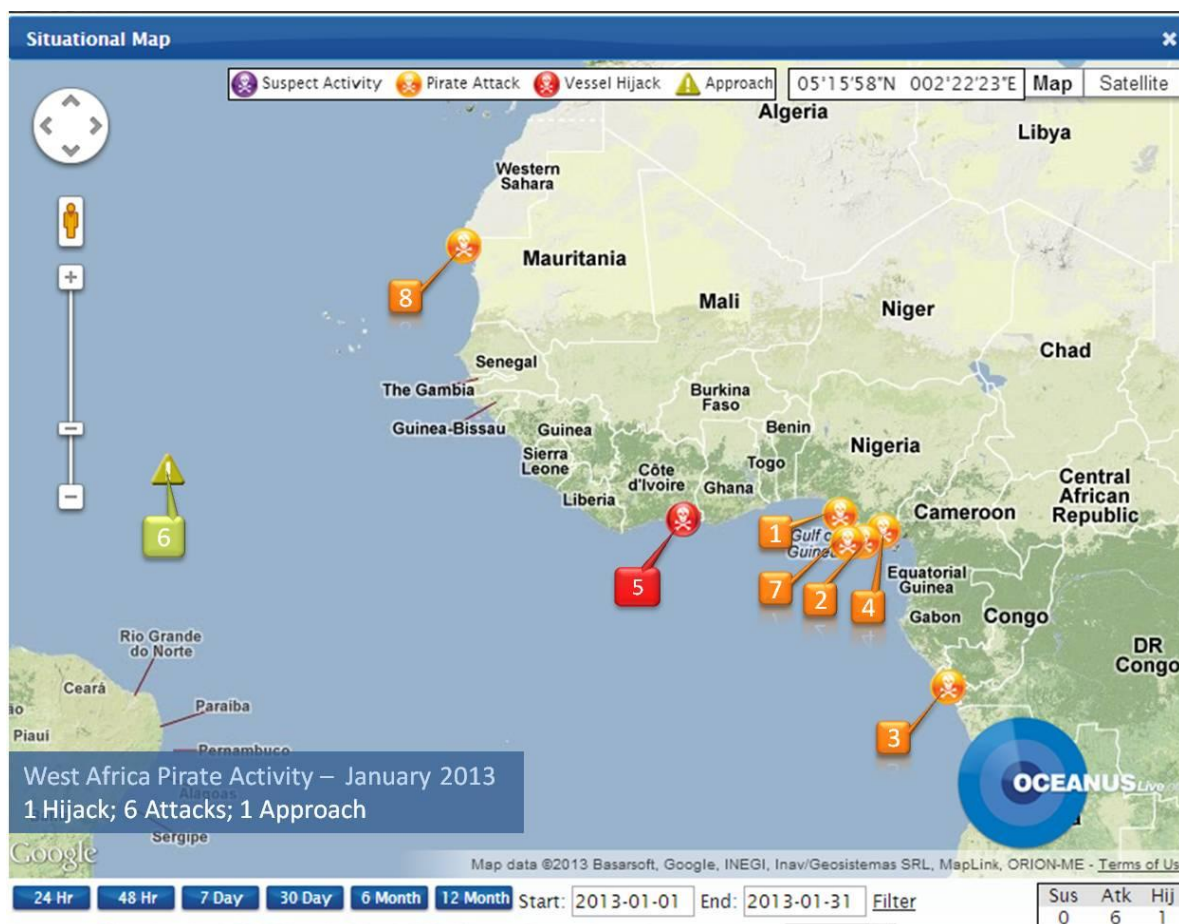


Fig 2: West Africa

West Africa Piracy and Robbery At Sea – January 2013

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	8 Jan	Helen	Malta Tanker	Channi Creek, Escravos, Nigeria (Attack)
2	12 Jan	Armada Tuah 107	Liberia Anchor Handling Vessel	Off Okwori oilfield, Nigeria (Attack; Robbery)
3	15 Jan	Grand	Malta Container Ship	Pointe Noire, Congo (Failed Robbery)
4	15 Jan	Star Shrimper	Fishing Vessel	Off QIT, Nigeria (Attack/2 Kidnapped)
5	16 Jan	ITRI	Panama Tanker	Off Abidjan, Ivory Coast (Hijack; Fuel cargo theft; Released 23 Jan)
6	17 Jan	Unknown	Marshall Islands Tanker	Approach – 1205nm West of Guinea, 2 skiffs (No further details)
7	31 Jan	Olivia II	Liberia Product Tanker	SSW Brass, Nigeria (Attack 5 skiffs, RPG fired; Safe)
8	31 Jan	Damaco Francia	Liberia Refrigerated Cargo Ship	Nouadhibon Port, Mauritania (Attempted robbery)





Southeast Asia



Fig 3: South East Asia

South East Asia Piracy and Robbery At Sea – January 2013

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	4 Jan	Histria Prince	Marshall Island Chemical Tanker	Balikpapan Outer anchorage, Indonesia (Robbery)
2	7 Jan	Canary	Marshall Islands Bulk Carrier	Port Chittagong, Bangladesh (Robbery (15-17 armed robbers/Crew assaulted, tied up)
3	7 Jan	Puteri	Mongolia Tanker	S of Tanjung Pelapas, Malaysia (Robbery)
4	8 Jan	De Hui	China Tug	Singapore Straits, Singapore (Failed Robbery/Crew held hostage)
NS	8 Jan	Haiyangshiyou	China Barge Carrier	As above (Earlier approach/board/robbery – under tow by De Hui Tug)
5	12 Jan	Hua Heng 167	China Bulk Carrier	Balikpapan anchorage, Indonesia (Failed Robbery)
6	16 Jan	Diana Bolten	Liberia Bulk Carrier	Chittagong anchorage, Bangladesh (Robbery/Crewman threatened)
7	17 Jan	Torm Ohio	Denmark Tanker	Balikpapan Outer anchorage, Indonesia (Robbery)
8	22 Jan	Siva Mumbai	Hong Kong China Chemical Tanker	Dumai Inner anchorage, Indonesia (Robbery)





9	24 Jan	Highline 22	Malaysia Barge Carrier	WNW Pulau Merunding, S China Sea (Robbery)
NS	24 Jan	Manyplus 12	Malaysia Tug	Towing barge Highline 22 above – (Robbers in fast fishing vessel boarded)
10	27 Jan	Champion Trust	Norway Chemical Tanker	Kalinada anchorage, India (Robbery)
11	29 Jan	BW Yangtze	Singapore Product Tanker	Halidia anchorage, India (Robbery)
12	31 Jan	AAL Nanjing	Singapore General Cargo Ship	Manila South Quarantine anchorage, Philippines (Robbery)





South America

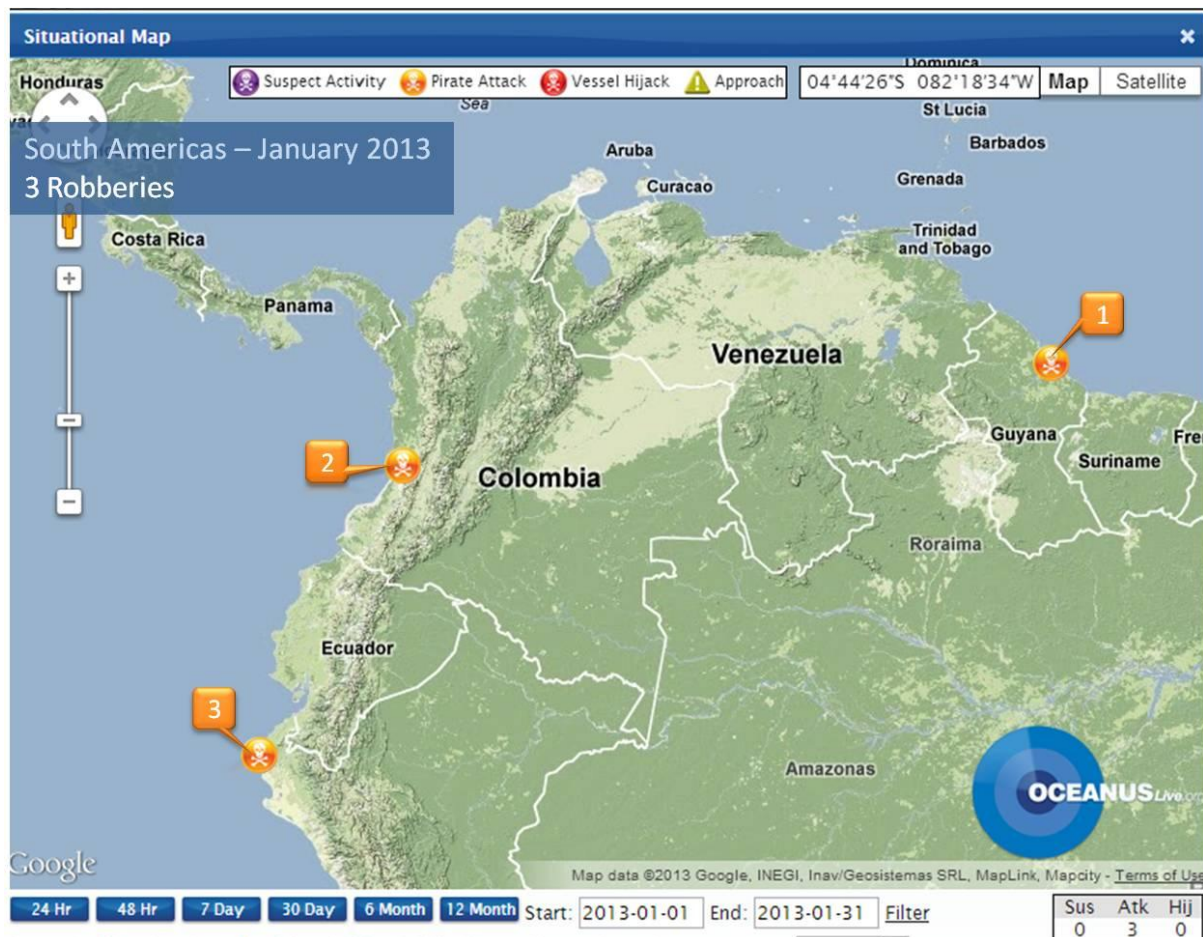


Fig 4. – South America

South America Piracy and Robbery At Sea – January 2013

Serial	Date	Vessel Name	Flag/Type	Location (Type of Incident)
1	9 Jan	Coniston	Bahamas LPG Tanker	Texaco LPG Berth, Guyana (Robbery)
2	13 Jan	Hellespont Crusader	Marshall Islands Oil Tanker	In-port, Buenaventura No.3 anchorage, Colombia (Robbery)
3	23 Jan	Overseas Pearlmar	Marshall Islands Tanker	MBM Terminal, Talara Port, Peru (Robbery)





Miscellaneous

January saw some unusual activity in relation to pirates, or rather, ex-pirates. A group of former pirates in central Somalia regions launched an anti-piracy campaign in their regions in order to persuade colleagues still in the field to renounce piracy and give up their activities.

The group were to start touring areas along the pirate-infested coastline in Galgadud and Mudug including Hobyo, Harardere and Gaan, according to a member of the group, Diwan Abdullahi. He said they will also visit remote areas of Harardere and Hobyo districts where pirates share their ransoms received from hijacked vessels and their crew.

Pirates released three Syrian hostages held in captivity since 2010 without payment of any ransom, government officials said - [OCEANUSLive](#).

The three were part of the 19-strong crew of a Panama-flagged, United Arab Emirates-owned bulk cargo vessel [MV Orna] captured in December 2010 some 400 miles northeast of the Seychelles. The ship was released in October 2012 after pirates said they received \$400,000, but detained six of the crew to get more money for them.

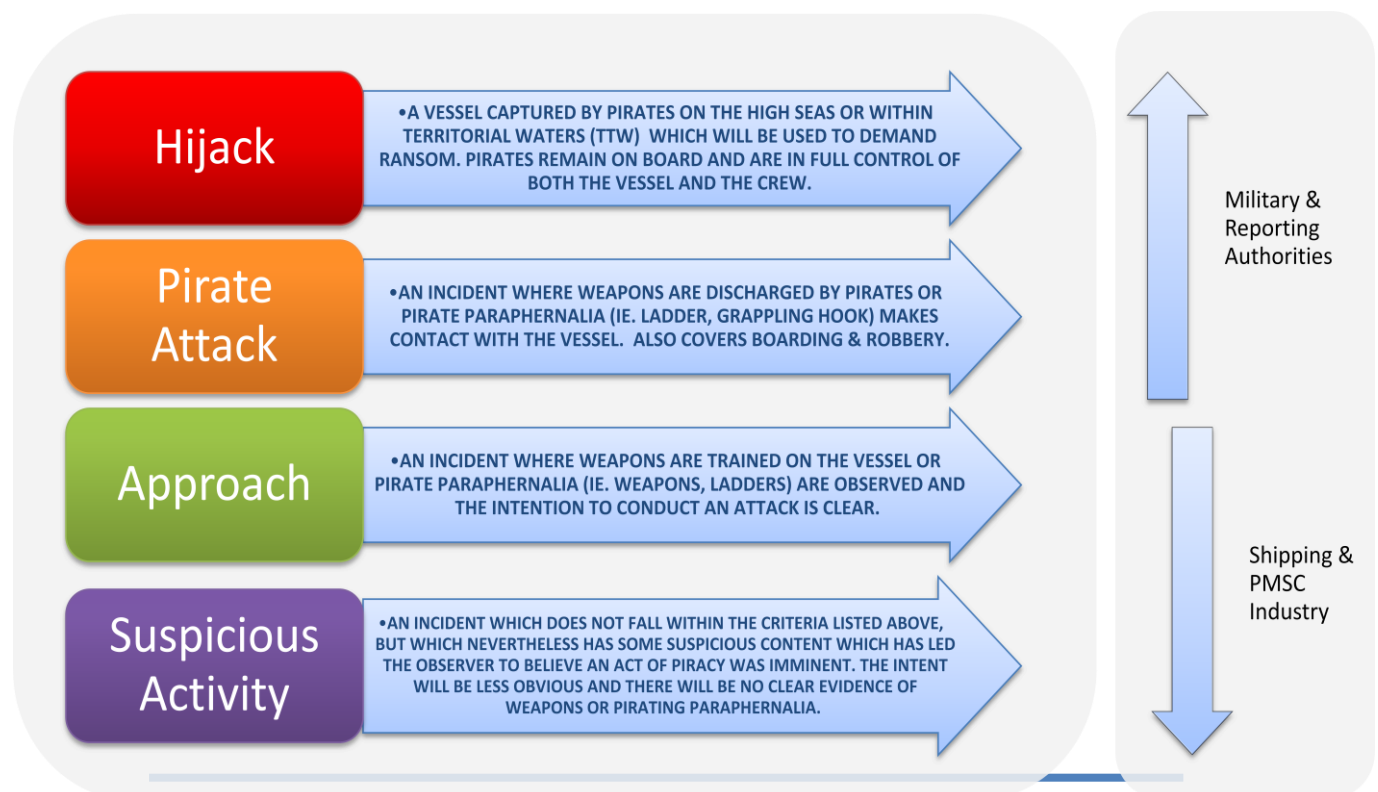
Judicial activity saw pirates begin trials in Seychelles, Japan and Mauritius with France acquitting two Somalis held as suspected pirates for four years. They were given compensation of 90,000 Euros each; however, their lawyers are seeking a further 455,000 Euros in reparation.

Five Indian crew members of an oil tanker who were kidnapped in December after heavily armed pirates stormed their vessel off Nigeria's coast were released, as were three Italian sailors in January.

Despite the great costs to industry and society, it's unlikely that modern maritime piracy will be repressed off Nigeria, Benin and the other coastal states, as too many people in positions of influence in Nigeria benefit from the traffic in oil (*courtesy of C-Level Maritime Risks*).

IMO and the seafarers union, Nautilus International, say anti-piracy efforts should not be shirked.

Definitions





Acknowledgements

International Maritime Bureau (IMB) Piracy Reporting Centre;
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NATO Shipping Centre (NSC);
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ReCAAP ISC;
EU Naval Force (EUNAVFOR);
C-Level Maritime Risk;
OCEANUSLive Crowdsourced Information.

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