



*Worldwide*

# (U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 26 February–26 March 2025

28 MARCH 2025

## NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

## (U) Executive Summary

**(U) Scope**

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

**(U) Summary:**

1. (U) MALAYSIA: On 23 March, three perpetrators boarded a barge under tow by a Malaysia-flagged tugboat while underway at the eastern approaches to the Singapore Strait in the South China Sea.
2. (U) INDONESIA: On 23 March, two perpetrators armed with gun-like objects boarded a Bangladesh-flagged bulk carrier while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS).
3. (U) INDIA: On 21 March, as many as seven robbers boarded a Panama-flagged container ship while anchored at Kandla Anchorage.

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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

(U) No current incidents to report.

### (U) CENTRAL AMERICA – CARIBBEAN – SOUTH AMERICA

1. (U) COLOMBIA: On 13 March at 2217 local time, eight perpetrators in two speedboats boarded a Portugal-flagged container ship while underway approximately 36 NM northwest of Santa Marta, near position 11:49N – 074:25W. The bridge raised the alarm and notified the authorities which resulted in a patrol boat being dispatched to investigate the incident. The crew mustered in the citadel until it was observed that the perpetrators had made their escape. The container ship diverted to Santa Marta under direction of the coast guard in order to be inspected. The master confirmed that the crew was safe and that nothing had been stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)
2. (U) ECUADOR: On 8 March at 0030 local time, robbers in two unlit speedboats approached a container ship while underway approximately 14 NM west of Isla Puna Island, near position 02:53S – 080:30W. As the speedboats approached the vessel, the master alerted local authorities, and when the perpetrators attempted to board the ship, the master increased speed and conducted evasive maneuvers, which resulted in the perpetrators aborting their attempt. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)

### (U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA

(U) No current incidents to report.

### (U) NORTHERN EUROPE – BALTIC

(U) No current incidents to report.

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**(U) MEDITERRANEAN – BLACK SEA**

(U) No current incidents to report.

**(U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA**

1. (U) GULF OF GUINEA: On 17 March at 2100 UTC, 10 pirates in one speedboat boarded the Panama-flagged asphalt tanker *Bitu River* while underway approximately 40 NM southeast of Santo Antonio on the island of Principe, Sao Tome and Principe, near position 01:16N – 007:59E. After the boarding, the crew retreated to the citadel. Reports stated that shots had been fired but that no crew injuries had been reported. On 18 March at 0719 UTC, the company security officer reported that the pirates had disembarked the tanker with 10 kidnapped crew, including the captain and the chief engineer. The ten abducted crew members were specifically chosen and comprise of seven Indian nationals and three Romanian nationals. The vessel had then headed to Libreville, Gabon, for a safe port. (MDAT-GoG; IMB; Clearwater Dynamics; vesseltracker.com)

**(U) PERSIAN GULF**

1. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ: On 10 March at 1830 UTC, vessels experienced GPS interference, with disruptions lasting several hours, affecting navigation systems and requiring vessels to rely on backup methods. (UKMTO; Clearwater Dynamics)

**(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA**

1. (U) SOMALIA: On 16 March at 1300 UTC, eight armed pirates boarded, took the crew hostage, and hijacked the Yemen-flagged fishing dhow *Al Hidayah* while operating off the coast of Durdura in the Indian Ocean (exact position not specified). The Yemen Coast Guard Headquarters in Aden confirmed the incident and stated that the dhow is crewed by eight Somali nationals. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics; Joint Maritime Information Center)

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## (U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA

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**(U) Figure 1. Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea in Southeast Asia**

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1. **(U) MALAYSIA:** On 23 March at 1210 local time, three perpetrators boarded the barge *Jin Hwa 44* under tow by the Malaysia-flagged tugboat *Jin Hwa 43* while underway at the eastern approaches to the Singapore Strait in the South China Sea, near position 01:24N – 104:31E. The perpetrators had boarded the barge from a small boat and departed after about 20 minutes. The crew was unable to determine any loss of property. All crew members were reported safe, the vessels did not require assistance and proceeded to their next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
2. **(U) INDONESIA:** On 23 March at 0138 local time, two perpetrators armed with gun-like objects boarded the Bangladesh-flagged bulk carrier *Fatema Jahan I* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:08N – 103:46E. After the duty crew sighted the perpetrators in the engine room, the master was notified and the alarm was raised. The crew conducted a search for the perpetrators, with no perpetrators found onboard. The master reported that all crew members were safe and nothing was stolen. The ship did not require assistance and has continued its transit to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
3. **(U) INDONESIA:** On 19 March at 0330 local time, two robbers armed with knives boarded the Singapore-flagged container ship *CNC Leopard* while underway in the eastbound lane of

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the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:05N – 103:43E. The duty crew observed the robbers on deck and notified the master. The alarm was raised and a PA announcement was made resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen ship's stores. After the incident, the captain reported that the crew was safe, that the vessel did not require assistance, and it was proceeding to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; ReCAAP)

4. (U) MALAYSIA: On 17 March at 0532 local time, robbers from three sampans boarded the barge *POE 2502* under tow by the Malaysia-flagged tugboat *Bonspeed 10* while underway in the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:12N – 103:34E. After the robbers were spotted boarding the barge, the master raised the alarm. Before departing the barge, the robbers stole scrap metal. Crew members were not injured. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
5. (U) MALAYSIA: On 16 March at 0856 local time, robbers from two sampans boarded the barge *POE 2502* under tow by the Malaysia-flagged tugboat *Bonspeed 10* while underway in the approaches to the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS. The master had the crew conduct a search but no perpetrators were found onboard the barge. The crew was not injured and scrap metal had been stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
6. (U) MALAYSIA: On 16 March at 001 local time, robbers boarded the container barge *Linau 135* under tow by the Malaysia-flagged tugboat *Danum 70* while underway in the westbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:17N – 104:10E. A search conducted after the vessels reached the Western Anchorage Area of Singapore revealed that containers had been pried open and seals cut. Items missing included a gangway ladder from the barge and items from containers on the barge. All crew were safe with no injuries reported. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP)
7. (U) INDONESIA: ON 13 March at 0330 local time, four robbers armed with knives and guns boarded a container ship while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:06N – 103:44E. After boarding, the robbers entered the engine room, restrained the duty oiler crew, and locked them in a side room. The second engineer discovered the duty oiler crew and released them. The alarm was raised and the ship's crew mustered to search the vessel which confirmed that the robbers had made their escape with stolen engine spare parts. (IMB; Clearwater Dynamics)
8. INDONESIA: On 11 March at 0240 local time, six robbers armed with guns boarded the Panama-flagged crude oil tanker *Prisma* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:05N – 103:43E. The robbers entered the engine room and took the chief and third engineers hostage and tied them up. The two crew managed to escape and notify the bridge of the unauthorized persons onboard. The bridge raised the alarm and activated the ship's horn, and the crew mustered. The perpetrators, seeing the

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ship's crew in an alerted state, escaped empty-handed. The master reported all crew members were safe, that the vessel did not require assistance and was continuing to its next port of call. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; IMB)

9. (U) INDONESIA: On 8 March at 0145 local time, six robbers boarded the Panama-flagged general cargo ship *Mito* while berthed at port in Jakarta, near position 06:05S – 106:53E. The robbers damaged the entrance door to the wheelhouse and the anti-piracy grating, and stole generator spare parts before departing the ship. The master reported that no crew members were injured. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)
10. (U) MALAYSIA: On 7 March at 2022 local time, three robbers boarded the barge *LKH 7887* under tow by the Singapore-flagged tugboat *HK Tug 9* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:17N – 104:20E. The master confirmed that the robbers had disembarked from the barge, the crew was not injured and there was no damage to the vessel. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics; IMB)
11. (U) INDONESIA: On 3 March at 0500 local time, as many as five robbers, one armed with gun-like object, boarded the Gambia-flagged crude oil tanker *Ailama* while underway in the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:04N – 103:42E. After the duty crew spotted the robbers in the engine room, the master raised the alarm and the crew mustered and a search was conducted with no further sighting of perpetrators. No crew members were injured and engine spare parts were stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; IMB)
12. (U) INDONESIA: On 28 February at 0700 local time, several robbers, one armed with a gun-like object, boarded the Singapore-flagged product tanker *Basset* while underway in the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:08N – 103:45E. The duty crew spotted unauthorized persons entering the engine room through the steering gear room. The alarm was raised and the crew was alerted. While making their escape with stolen ship's stores, the robbers attacked and injured one crew member. The vessel diverted to Singapore Anchorage where a medical team evacuated the injured crew member to the hospital. The Singapore coast guard boarded the ship to investigate. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; IMB; Maritime Executive)
13. (U) INDONESIA: On 28 February at 0122 local time, five perpetrators, one armed with a gun-like object, boarded the Barbados-flagged bulk carrier *DSM Rose* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:05N – 103:43E. After the duty crew sighted the perpetrators in the steering gear room, the alarm was raised and the crew mustered at the bridge to search the vessel. The search revealed no perpetrators onboard and that nothing was stolen. No crew members were injured during the incident. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; Maritime Executive)

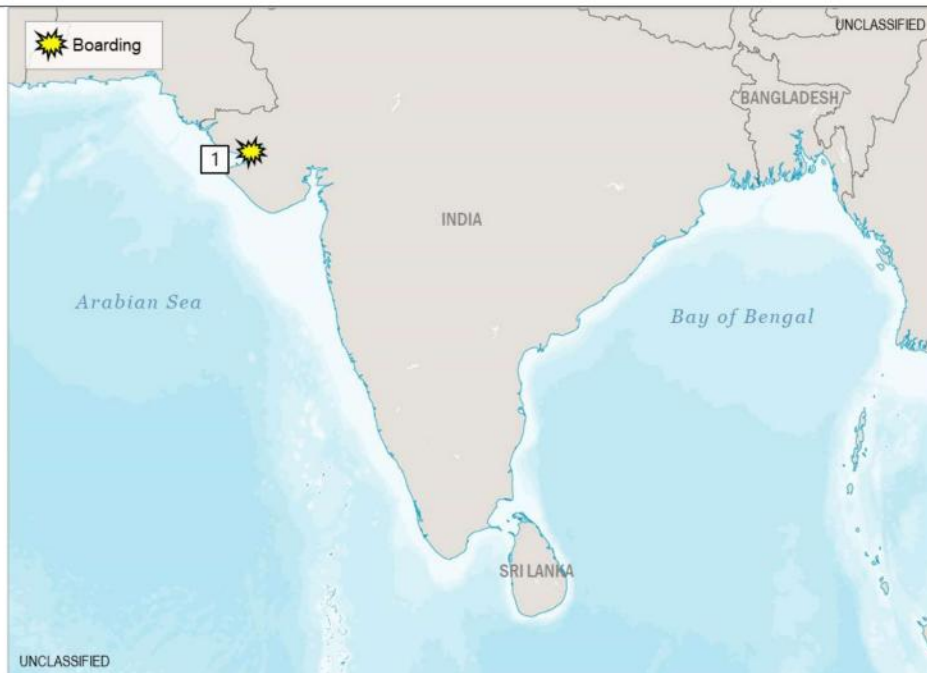


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14. (U) INDONESIA: On 28 February at 0030 local time, six perpetrators armed with hammers boarded the Bahamas-flagged bulk carrier *Ifestos* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:06N – 103:44E. After the crew spotted the perpetrators in the engine room workshop, the alarm was raised and the crew mustered at the bridge. A search was conducted with no further sighting of the perpetrators. No crew members were injured and nothing was stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics; ReCAAP; Maritime Executive)
15. (U) INDONESIA: On 26 February at 0520 local time, five perpetrators boarded the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier *Ocean Diligence* while underway in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait TSS, near position 01:06N – 103:44E. The duty crew sighted the unarmed perpetrators at the aft poop deck and raised the alarm, which mustered the crew. Seeing the crew's alertness, the perpetrators escaped empty-handed. The master confirmed that all crew members were safe and that the vessel was continuing to its next port of call. (ReCAAP; Clearwater Dynamics)

## (U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

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**(U) Figure 2. Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea in Indian Subcontinent**

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1. **(U) INDIA:** On 21 March at 2359 local time, as many as seven robbers boarded the Panama-flagged container ship *Xin Long Yun 58* while anchored at Kandla Anchorage, near position

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22:45N – 070:02E. After the duty crew spotted the robbers on the forecastle, the alarm was raised which resulted in the perpetrators escaping with stolen ship's property. The crew was not injured. (Clearwater Dynamics; IMB; ReCAAP)

2. (U) INDIA: On 7 March at 2023 local time, three robbers armed with knives boarded an offshore supply vessel while anchored at Kakinada Anchorage, near position 17:00N – 082:19E. The duty crew spotted the robbers cutting mooring lines. After the alarm was raised, the perpetrators escaped into a small boat with the stolen mooring lines. (Clearwater Dynamics)

### (U) AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

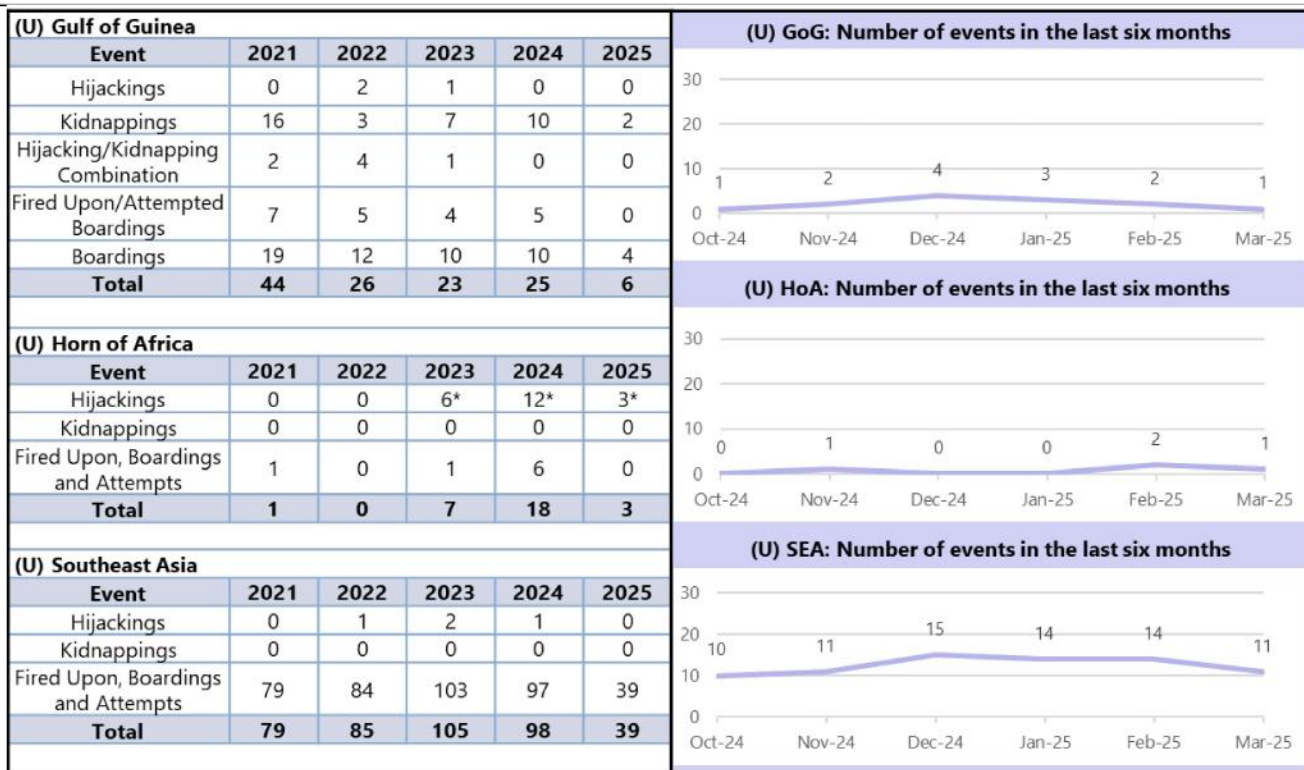
(U) No current incidents to report.

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

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## (U) 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

(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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# (U) Appendix C: Active U.S. Maritime Advisories

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## (U) Active U.S. Maritime Advisories

Title	Effective Date	Expiration Date
<a href="#">2025-004: Black Sea and Sea of Azov – Military Combat Operations</a>	5 Mar 2025	1 Sep 2025
<a href="#">2025-003: Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom</a>	14 Feb 2025	11 Aug 2025
<a href="#">2025-002: Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman – Iranian Illegal Boarding/Detention/Seizure</a>	14 Feb 2025	11 Aug 2025
<a href="#">2025-001: Southern Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, and Gulf of Aden – Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels</a>	14 Feb 2025	11 Aug 2025
<a href="#">2024-014: Gulf of Guinea – Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom</a>	20 Dec 2024	17 Jun 2025
<a href="#">2024-013: Global – U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts</a>	11 Oct 2024	11 Apr 2025
<a href="#">2024-011: Worldwide – Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence</a>	9 Oct 2024	7 Apr 2025

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