



Worldwide

(U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 17 September – 15 October 2025

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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) DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: On 09 October, a robbery took place onboard a Marshal Islands flagged tanker while anchored at Ikungulu 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

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) NORTHERN EUROPE – BALTIC

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) MEDITERRANEAN – BLACK SEA

(U) No current incidents to report.

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(U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA



1. **(U) DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:** On 9 October, two armed intruders boarded the *M/T Sea Challenger* at anchor in Ikungulu, Anchorage. The crew's prompt response and alarm caused the robbers to flee, though they escaped with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to authorities via VHF Channel 16. (Clearwater Dynamics)
2. **(U) REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:** On 29 September 0700 at local time perpetrators boarded an anchored barge at Pointe-Noire anchorage. Perpetrators boarded the barge from a small fishing boat and stole an outboard engine and other stores. The incident was reported to port control. (IMB/Clearwater Dynamics)
3. **(U) GHANA:** On 28 September 0610 at local time, an attempted robbery occurred on a UK-flagged cargo vessel anchored at Tema anchorage, involving two small boats with approximately six to seven perpetrators. All crew members were reported safe, and the matter was escalated to the relevant authorities. (Clearwater Dynamics)

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4. **(U) NIGERIA:** On 25 September, armed men attacked a passenger vessel traveling from Calabar to Oron, kidnapping 17 passengers. The Nigerian Navy later confirmed that all hostages were released on 6 October 2025 without ransom, following a successful recovery operation. (Open/Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) PERSIAN GULF

1. **(U) PERSIAN GULF:** Persian Gulf: Between 3–7 October, an increase of incidents involving GNSS interference and AIS speed anomalies affecting vessels have been reported. Mariners are advised to stay alert, avoid relying solely on electronic navigation or autopilot, and use traditional navigation methods to verify positions. (Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA

1. **(U) GULF OF ADEN:** On 29 September 1251 UTC, Netherlands-flagged *M/T Minervagracht*, approximately 128 nautical miles southeast of Aden, Yemen, was struck by a missile, resulting in significant damage, a fire and two injured crewmembers. The two injured crewmembers and the 17 remaining crew were evacuated by helicopter from a French naval vessel, with assistance from Greek military forces. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics/Reuters)

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(U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA

1. **(U) SINGAPORE STRAIT:** On 30 September 0140 local time, a robbery occurred on a Malta-flagged tanker while underway in the Phillip Channel. A duty crew member was restrained by three perpetrators in the engine room but escaped unharmed. The robbers were seen stealing spare parts for the vessel's engine. All crew members are safe, and the tanker has continued its journey to Ulsan, South Korea. (IFC/Clearwater Dynamics)
2. **(U) PHILIPPINES:** On 23 September at 2230 local time, the deck crew reported two perpetrators at the forecandle and immediately alerted the bridge, causing them to flee. Upon further inspection it was found that two fire hoses and two portable embarkation ladders had been stolen, all crew reported as safe by the Master. (Clearwater Dynamics)
3. **(U) INDONESIA:** On 17 September at 0045 local time, *Athens Spirit* reported a boarding and robbery. The intruders fled by jumping overboard and escaped via high-speed craft, all crew members were safely mustered. Ships stores reported as stolen. (Clearwater Dynamics/ReCAAP)

(U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

1. **(U) BANGLADESH:** On 18 September at 0230 local time, there has been a report of an attempted robbery on board a Denmark-flagged LPG tanker *Adriatic Gas* while anchored at Chittagong Anchorage. Duty crew spotted four robbers attempting to board the vessel. The alarm was raised which resulted in the perpetrators escaping. All crew were reported as safe and nothing was reported stolen. (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

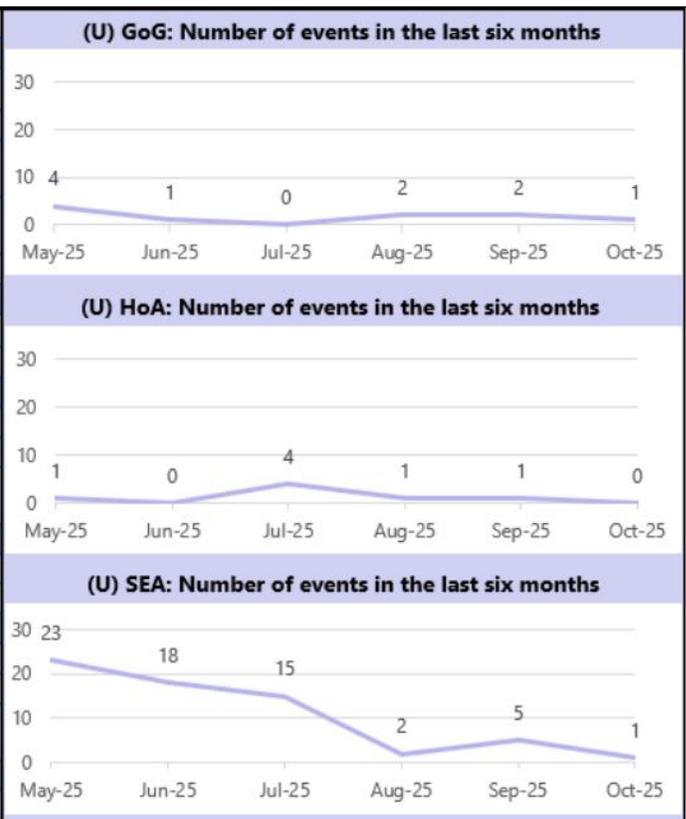
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(U) Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends

(U) Gulf of Guinea					
Event	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Hijackings	0	2	1	0	0
Kidnappings	16	3	7	10	8
Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination	2	4	1	0	0
Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings	7	5	4	5	4
Boardings	19	12	10	10	11
Total	44	26	23	25	23

(U) Horn of Africa					
Event	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Hijackings	0	0	6*	12*	3*
Kidnappings	0	0	0	0	0
Fired Upon, Boardings and Attempts	1	0	1	6	7
Total	1	0	7	18	10

(U) Southeast Asia					
Event	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Hijackings	0	1	2	2	0
Kidnappings	0	0	0	0	0
Fired Upon, Boardings and Attempts	79	84	103	96	122
Total	79	85	105	98	122



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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
2025-012: Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Persian Gulf, and Somali Basin-Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	24 Sep 2025	26 Mar 2026
2025-11: Black Sea and Sea of Azov-Military Combat Operations	29 Aug 2025	28 Feb 2026
2025-010: Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean –Piracy / Armed Robbery / Kidnapping for Ransom	13 Aug 2025	9 Feb 2026
2025-009: Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman – Iranian Illegal Boarding / Detention / Seizure	13 Aug 2025	9 Feb 2026
2025-008: Gulf of Guinea – Piracy / Armed Robbery / Kidnapping for Ransom	18 Jun 2025	15 Dec 2025
2025-007: Global – U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts	9 Apr 2025	6 Oct 2025
2025-006: Worldwide – Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence	9 Apr 2025	6 Oct 2025
2025-005: Red Sea, Bab el-Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Persian Gulf, and Somali Basin – Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	28 Mar 2025	24 Sep 2025

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