



*Worldwide*

# (U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 18 March – 15 April 2026

16 APRIL 2026

## (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. **\*\*LATE REPORT\*\* (U) ARABIAN SEA:** On 07 April, a bulk carrier was struck by two unidentified projectiles.
2. **(U) RUSSIA:** On 15 April, a tanker was attacked by a unmanned surface vessel (USV).
3. **(U) SINGAPORE:** On 13 April at 1330 local time, a robbery occurred onboard a barge.
4. **(U) RED SEA:** On 13 April at 0915 local time, an attempted boarding occurred onboard a tanker.
5. **(U) RED SEA:** On 12 April at 1125 local time, an attempted boarding occurred onboard a vessel.
6. **(U) ARABIAN SEA:** On 09 April at 1317 local time, a dhow was hijacked by probable pirates.

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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 incidents are not double-counted. In the event 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.

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**(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**

1. **(U) RUSSIA:** On 15 March, a Liberian-flagged tanker was attacked by a USV while underway near the port of Novorossiysk. The vessel sustained minor damage above the waterline and all crew members were reported safe. (CLOSED)

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2. **(U) TURKEY:** On 25 March at 1740 local time, a Sierra Leone-flagged tanker was hit by an Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (UUV) while underway 11NM off the coast of Turkey. The vessel sustained damage to the engine room and bridge. All crew members were reported safe. (Clearwater Dynamics)

**(U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA**

1. **(U) IVORY COAST:** On 21 March at 0125 local time, a robbery occurred onboard a Vanuatu-flagged supply vessel while anchored at Abidjan inner anchorage. Four perpetrators were spotted boarding the vessel and stole an FRC engine and some paint cans. All crew members were reported safe. (CLOSED)

**(U) PERSIAN GULF**

1. **(U) PERSIAN GULF:** On 07 April at 0045 local time, a container vessel was struck by an unidentified projectile while operating approximately 25NM south of Kish Island, Iran. The vessel was reportedly struck above the waterline. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO)
2. **(U) QATAR:** On 31 March at 2235 UTC, a tanker was struck by two unknown projectiles while operating 17NM north of Ras Laffan. The vessel received damage above the waterline on the port side of the ship. All crew members were reported safe. (UKMTO)
3. **(U) PERSIAN GULF:** On 30 March at 1806 UTC, a Kuwait-flagged tanker was attacked by an unmanned vehicle while anchored approximately 26NM northwest of Dubai. The Master of a Singapore-flagged tanker in the area reported a fire on the starboard bow of the tanker. All crew members were reported safe. (Master of Vessel)
4. **(U) PERSIAN GULF:** On 30 March at 0538 UTC, a container vessel was targeted by two unknown projectiles approximately 22NM northeast of Ras Tanura. All crew members were reported safe. (UKMTO)
5. **(U) UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:** On 21 March at 2308 local time, an unknown projectile exploded near a bulk carrier 15NM north of Sharjah. All crew members were reported safe. (UKMTO)
6. **(U) QATAR:** On 19 March at 0130 local time, a Qatar-flagged tug boat was struck by an unknown projectile approximately 4NM east of Ras Laffan. All crew members were reported safe. (UKMTO/CLOSED)

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(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA



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1. **\*\*LATE REPORT\*\* (U) ARABIAN SEA:** On 07 April, a bulk carrier was struck by two unidentified projectiles while operating approximately 112NM southeast of Ras Al Hadd, Oman. A fire broke out onboard the vessel and all the crew members were reported safe. (UKMTO)
2. **(U) RED SEA:** On 13 April at 0915 local time, a tanker was approached by seven suspicious perpetrators while underway in the Red Sea. The individuals approached on a high-speed craft and got within 0.8NM of the vessel, gun-like objects were displayed on the tanker railings deterring the perpetrators. All crew members were reported safe. (Master of the Vessel)
3. **(U) RED SEA:** On 12 April at 1125 local time, a vessel was approached by ten to twelve suspicious perpetrators 45NM southwest of Al Hudayah. Four to five of the individuals were armed with automatic weapons. The perpetrators attempted to board the vessel, the master deployed a flare prompting the group to disengage and depart to the southeast. All crew members were reported safe. (UKMTO)
4. **(U) UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:** On 05 April at 1248 local time, a container vessel was attacked by multiple unknown projectiles while conducting loading operations in Khor Fakkan Port. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO)
5. **(U) ARABIAN SEA:** On 25 March at 0834 UTC, an Iran-flagged dhow was hijacked by possible pirates while operating approximately 400NM east of Mogadishu. (MSCIO)
6. **(U) GULF OF OMAN:** On 18 March at 2300 UTC, a vessel was struck by an unknown projectile approximately 11NM east of Khor Fakkan, United Arab Emirates, causing a fire onboard. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)

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## (U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA



1. **(U) SINGAPORE:** On 13 April at 1330 local time, a robbery occurred onboard a barge while transiting in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme. Three individuals stole some scrap metal, all crew members were reported safe. (IFC)
2. **(U) PHILIPPINES:** On 28 March at 0700 local time, an attempted robbery occurred onboard a shipping container anchored at Manila anchorage. The duty crew discovered three perpetrators on board. All crew members reported safe. (IMB)
3. **(U) SINGAPORE STRAIT:** On 19 March at 0345 local time, a robbery occurred onboard a Cyprus-flagged bulk carrier while underway in the Philip Channel. Four perpetrators were sighted in the engine control room. All crew members were reported safe and items of ship's parts were reported to be stolen. (IFC)
4. **(U) SINGAPORE STRAIT:** On 19 March at 0155 local time, an attempted robbery occurred onboard a Liberia-flagged bulk carrier while underway in the Philip Channel. Four perpetrators were spotted in the steering gear room. One crew member received a minor head injury and nothing was reported stolen. (IFC)
5. **(U) SINGAPORE STRAIT:** On 18 March at 0130 local time, an attempted robbery occurred onboard a Hong Kong-flagged bulk carrier while it was underway in the Phillip Channel. Four perpetrators were spotted near the gangway. The crew were reported safe and it is undetermined if anything was stolen. (IFC/Clearwater Dynamics)

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(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

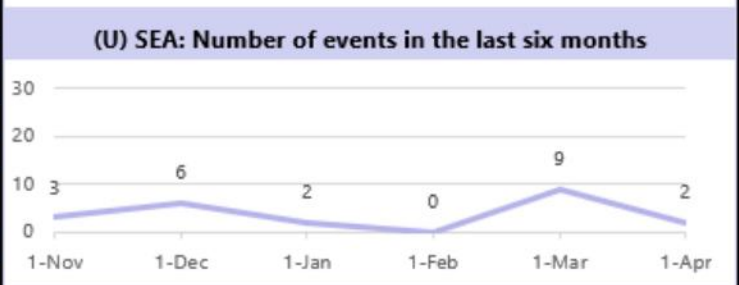
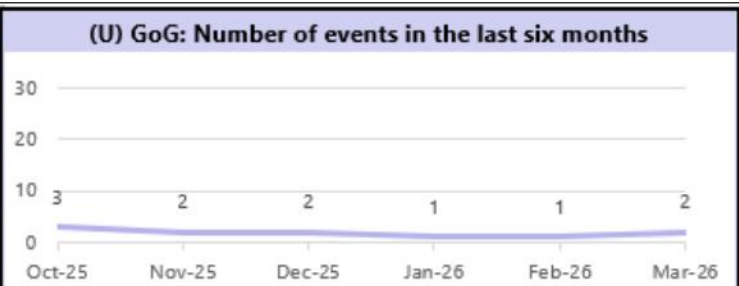
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**(U) Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends**

<b>(U) Gulf of Guinea</b>					
Event	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Hijackings	2	1	0	0	0
Kidnappings	3	7	10	9	1
Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination	4	1	0	0	0
Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings	5	4	5	5	0
Boardings	12	10	10	15	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>(U) Horn of Africa</b>					
Event	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Hijackings	0	6*	12*	4*	1
Kidnappings	0	0	0	0	0
Fired Upon, Boardings and Attempts	0	1	6	9	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>

<b>(U) Southeast Asia</b>					
Event	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Hijackings	1	2	2	0	0
Kidnappings	0	0	0	0	0
Fired Upon, Boardings and Attempts	84	103	96	134	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>11</b>



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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

<a href="#">2026-006-Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, and Somali Basin-Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels</a>	26 Mar 2026	22 Sep 2026
<a href="#">2026-005-Black Sea and Sea of Azov-Military Combat Operations</a>	19 Mar 2026	15 Sep 2026
<a href="#">2026-004-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman-Iranian Attacks on Commercial Vessels</a>	13 Mar 2026	09 Sep 2026
<a href="#">2026-002-Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean-piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom</a>	09 Feb 2026	08 Aug 2026
<a href="#">2025-015-Gulf of Guinea-Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom</a>	15 Dec 2025	13 Jun 2026

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