Worldwide

(U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 22 July – 19 August 2026

21 AUGUST 2026

ICOD: 19 August 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. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 18 August at 0135 UTC, a vessel was struck by an unknown projectile.
2. **(U) SOMALIA:** On 17 August at 1136 UTC, a cargo vessel was hijacked.
3. **(U) BAB-EL-MANDEB:** On 17 August at 1100 UTC, a cargo vessel was struck by multiple unknown projectiles.
4. **(U) BLACK SEA:** On 16 August at 1600 LT, a tanker was struck by a drone.
5. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 15 August at 2200 UTC, a bulk carrier was struck by an unknown projectile.
6. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 14 August at 2000 UTC, a bulk carrier was struck by an unknown projectile.
7. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 13 August, two tankers were struck by unmanned aerial vehicles.
8. **(U) NIGERIA:** On 11 August, a passenger boat was hijacked.

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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.

(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) BLACK SEA:** On 16 August at 1600 LT, a Liberian-flagged tanker was struck by a drone whilst drifting after completing loading operations near CPC Terminal, Novorossiysk, Russia. The vessel sustained a direct hit tot the bridge, resulting in communications systems being disabled. All crew members reported safe. (MASTER OF VESSEL/ Clearwater Dynamics)

2. **(U) BLACK SEA:** On 05 August, A Guinea-Bissau-flagged cargo vessel and a Liberian-flagged bulk carrier were reportedly struck by unknown projectiles by Russia whilst operating in the Northwestern region of the Black Sea. Fires broke out onboard both vessels following the strikes. A total of one fatality and three casualties were reported. All other crew members were reported safe. (OPEN SOURCE/Clearwater Dynamics)

3. **(U) BLACK SEA:** On 01 August at 0420 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unmanned surface vehicle aft of the vessel. The vessel experienced a complete blackout, then restored

main electrical power and proceeded to port. All crew members reported safe. (MASTER/CSO/Clearwater Dynamics)

4. **(U) EGYPT:** On 29 July at 1420 UTC, two LNG carriers were struck by an unknown projectile while alongside at Damietta Port. Fires broke out onboard both vessels following the strikes, all crew members reported safe. (CLOSED/Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND – PACIFIC OCEAN AREA

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) WEST AFRICA – GULF OF GUINEA

1. **(U) NIGERIA:** On 11 August, a passenger boat with 22 passengers on board was attacked by sea pirates while transiting within the area of Calabar, Oron, and Ibaka waterways. The boat was intercepted by armed sea robbers after passing Enwang. Nigerian Navy personnel, in coordination with security agencies, recovered the hijacked passenger boat and safely recovered all 22 passengers. (OPEN/Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA

1. **(U) BANGLADESH:** On 10 August at 1000 UTC, it was reported that a Singapore-flagged tanker had been boarded while berthed at Chattogram Port. The vessel crew reportedly sighted four perpetrators near the port side mid-ship store. The alarm was raised and the perpetrators escaped. All crew are reported safe and some items from the store were stolen. (IFC/Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) PERSIAN GULF

(U) No current incidents to report.

(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA

1. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 18 August at 0135 UTC, the UKMTO reported that a vessel was struck by an unknown projectile whilst conducting an outbound transit of the Strait of Hormuz. The impact caused damage to the engine room and resulted in a crew casualty. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
2. **(U) SOMALIA:** On 17 August at 1136 UTC, the UKMTO reported that a cargo vessel had been hijacked whilst transiting approximately 4NM south of Mareeyo, Somalia. The

Company Security Officer reported that eight-armed unauthorized persons boarded the vessel and have taken control. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)

3. **(U) BAB-EL-MANDEB:** On 17 August at 1100 UTC, the UKMTO reported that a cargo vessel was struck by multiple unknown projectiles approximately 40NM southeast of Al Mukha, Yemen. The vessel was unmanned at the time of the incident and the damage sustained has resulted in a complete constructive loss of the vessel. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
4. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 15 August at 2200 UTC, the UKMTO reported that a bulk carrier was attacked whilst transiting in the Strait of Hormuz by an unknown projectile. The strike caused damage to the starboard side of the vessel and resulted in a crew casualty. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
5. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 14 August at 2000 UTC, the UKMTO reported that a bulk carrier was attacked whilst transiting in the Strait of Hormuz near Kumzar, Oman. The vessel was struck on the hull by an unknown projectile. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
6. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 13 August, two Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) tankers were struck by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) whilst conducting an outbound transit of the Strait of Hormuz. The vessels sustained minor damage and all crew members reported safe. (Closed/UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
7. **(U) GULF OF OMAN:** On 11 August at 0715 UTC, the UKMTO reported that an incident involving a container ship and military forces has occurred in the Gulf of Oman. There are no reports of casualties or environmental impacts. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
8. **(U) OMAN:** On 05 August at 1918 UTC, a tanker heard two explosions while transiting in the Strait of Hormuz, 9NM southeast of Kumzar, Oman. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
9. **(U) GULF OF ADEN:** On 05 August at 1430 UTC, a tanker heard an explosion in close proximity of the vessel, 95NM southeast of Aden, Yemen. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
10. **(U) YEMEN:** On 04 August at 0730 UTC, an Indian-flagged small cargo vessel was attacked by an unmanned surface vessel (USV) approximately 9NM southwest of Mokha, Yemen. The attack caused the vessel to capsize and sink. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/CLOSED/Clearwater Dynamics)
11. **(U) OMAN:** On 03 August at 2200 UTC, a cargo vessel was struck by an unknown projectile whilst transiting approximately 20NM northeast of Khasab, Oman. There are no reports of casualties. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
12. **(U) OMAN:** On 02 August at 2037 UTC, a tanker heard an explosion near the vessel whist transiting approximately 20NM northeast of Khasab, Oman. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
13. **(U) OMAN:** On 31 July at 2330 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile approximately 11NM northeast of Lima, Oman. The impact caused damage to the engine

room and the tanker is not under command. There are no reports of casualties. (UKMTO/ Clearwater Dynamics)

14. **(U) OMAN:** On 31 July at 2206 UTC, a tanker reported witnessing the splash from an unknown projectile occur near the vessel, approximately 21NM northeast of Khasab, Oman. There are no reports of casualties. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
15. **(U) RED SEA:** On 24 July, a tanker reported witnessing the splash from a unknown projectile occur near the vessel while underway in the southern portion of the Red Sea. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
16. **(U) RED SEA:** On 24 July, a Saudi-flagged tanker was attacked while underway in the Red Sea. The vessel sustained minor damage to the hull as the result of the attack, all crew members reported safe. (OPEN SOURCE/Clearwater Dynamics)
17. **(U) RED SEA:** On 22 July at 2000 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while underway approximately 70NM southwest of Al Shuqaiq, Saudi Arabia. A fire had broken out onboard, which the crew had actively been fighting at the time of reporting. There are no reports of casualties or environmental impacts. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

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

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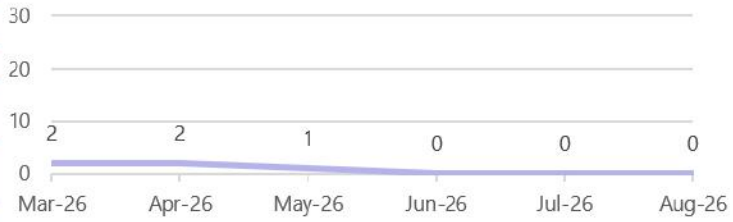
(U) Appendix A: Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea Statistics and Trends

(U) Gulf of Guinea					
Event	**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	1
Boardings	12	10	10	15	6
Total	**26**	**23**	**25**	**29**	**8**

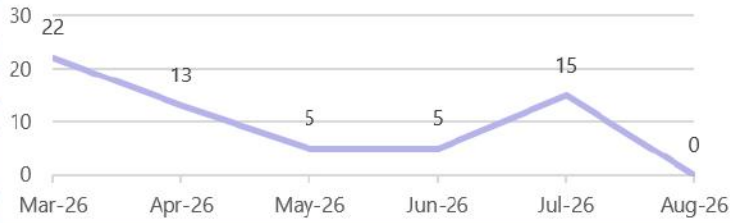
(U) Horn of Africa					
Event	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**
Hijackings	0	6*	12*	4*	3
Kidnappings	0	0	0	0	0
Fired Upon, Boardings and Attempts	0	1	6	9	48
Total	**0**	**7**	**18**	**13**	**51**

(U) Southeast Asia					
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	27
Total	**85**	**105**	**98**	**134**	**27**

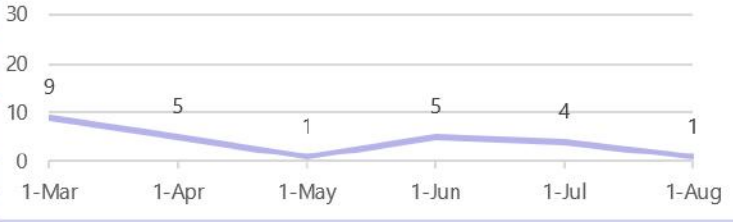
(U) GoG: Number of events in the last six months



(U) HoA: Number of events in the last six months



(U) SEA: Number of events in the last six months



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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.

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

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

2026-010-Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean-Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	07 Aug 2026	04 Feb 2027
2026-009-Gulf of Guinea-Piracy/Armed Robbery/Kidnapping for Ransom	24 Jun 2026	21 Dec 2026
2026-008-Global-U.S. Maritime Advisory Updates, Resources, and Contacts	24 Apr 2026	21 Oct 2026
2026-007-Worlwide-Worldwide-Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence	24 Apr 2026	21 Oct 2026
2026-006-Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, and Somali Basin-Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	26 Mar 2026	22 Sep 2026
2026-005-Black Sea and Sea of Azov-Military Combat Operations	19 Mar 2026	15 Sep 2026
2026-004-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman-Iranian Attacks on Commercial Vessels	13 Mar 2026	09 Sep 2026

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