



NAVAL
INTELLIGENCE

OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

Worldwide

(U) Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report, 23 September – 21 October 2026

22 OCTOBER 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 21 October at 0145 UTC, a tanker was struck by a unknown projectile
2. **(U) IRAQ:** On 20 October at 1930 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile.
3. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 18 October at 0001 UTC, a tug was struck by an unknown projectile.
4. **(U) YEMEN:** On 17 October at 1030 UTC, a tanker was attacked.
5. **(U) SAUDI ARABIA:** On 16 October at 1922 UTC, a tanker was attacked.
6. **(U) SAUDI ARABIA:** On 16 October at 0900 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile.

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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

(U) No current incidents to report.

(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) LIBERIA:** On 30 September at 0310 UTC, a robbery occurred onboard a container ship while anchored in Monrovia Anchorage. The crew spotted one perpetrator and a search was conducted, four paint buckets were missing and multiple areas of the ship had been broken into. Local authorities and the Coast Guard were notified and later boarded the vessel to investigate. (CLOSED SOURCE/Clearwater Dynamics)

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(U) EAST ASIA – SOUTHEAST ASIA

1. **(U) VIETNAM:** On 03 October at 1630 UTC, a robbery occurred onboard a Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier while anchored at Vung Tau Anchorage. Perpetrators approached the vessel and boarded. A quantity of paint drums were reported stolen, all crew members reported safe. (IFC/Clearwater Dynamics)
2. **(U) SINGAPORE STRAIT:** On 30 September at 1920 UTC, an attempted robbery occurred onboard a Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier while transiting in the Phillip Channel, Singapore Strait. The crew spotted four unarmed perpetrators in the engine room. All crew members were reported safe and accounted for, and nothing had been stolen. (IFC/Clearwater Dynamics)

(U) PERSIAN GULF



1. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 21 October at 0145 UTC, a Kuwait-flagged tanker was struck by an unknown projectile approximately 11NM west of Bukha, Oman. A fire broke out onboard which was quickly extinguished, all crew members reported safe and no environmental impact reported. (NAVAREA/Clearwater Dynamics)

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2. **(U) IRAQ:** On 20 October at 1930 UTC, a Liberia flagged tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while underway approximately 30NM southeast of Al Faw, Iraq. There has been no reported damage to the vessel and all crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/CLOSED SOURCE/Clearwater Dynamics)
3. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 18 October at 0001 UTC, a Netherlands flagged tug was struck by two unknown projectiles while transiting southbound, northeast of the UAE. The attack caused damage to the vessel and one minor casualty was reported. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
4. **(U) SAUDI ARABIA:** On 16 October at 1922 UTC, a tanker was attacked by a rocket-propelled grenade fired from a small boat approximately 78NM northeast of Al Jubayl. The attack caused damage to the aft port quarter of the vessel, all crew members reported safe. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
5. **(U) SAUDI ARABIA:** On 16 October at 0900 UTC, a Marshall Islands flagged tanker was struck by an unknown projectile approximately 68NM northeast of Al Jubayl. The vessel was evacuated and all crew members reported safe. No environmental impact reported at this time. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
6. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 13 October at 0000 UTC, a Barbados flagged Crude Oil Tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz (exact time and position not specified). Authorities are investigating the incident. (UKMTO/ Clearwater Dynamics)
7. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 13 October at 1640 and 1700 UTC, two container ships were struck by unknown projectiles while transiting. The first vessel involved was a 50,000-tonne Singapore flagged container ship transiting inbound. The second vessel involved was a 19,000-tonne Marshall Islands flagged container ship while transiting outbound. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
8. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 12 October at 0000 UTC, a container vessel was struck by an unknown projectile while transiting inbound through the Strait of Hormuz. The status of the crew, damage assessment, and environmental impacts are unknown at the time of the report. The authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
9. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 11 October at 1200 UTC, a Company Security Officer (CSO) reported a tanker being struck by an unidentified projectile on the port side, resulting in damage to the vessel. All crew members were reported safe, and no

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environmental impacts were reported at the time of the attack. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)

10. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 11 October at 0000 UTC, the UKMTO reported a tanker heading outbound being struck by an unknown projectile. The crew have been confirmed as safe. The damage assessment and environmental impact are unknown at the time of the report. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
11. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 11 October at 0000 UTC, the UKMTO have reported an incident involving a tanker being hit by a Drone while anchored at the Port of Sohar, Oman. The status of crew, damage assessment, and environmental impacts are unknown at the time of the report. Nine of the eleven crew members are reported safe and two crew remain missing. Search and rescue operations are underway. (UKMTO/OPEN SOURCE/Clearwater Dynamics)
12. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 11 October at 0000 UTC, UKMTO reported a products tanker being struck by an unknown projectile while transiting outbound. The status of crew, damage assessment, and environmental impacts are unknown at the time of the report. The authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
13. **(U) UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:** On 10 October at 1850 UTC, UKMTO has reported that several Masters in the vicinity of Ras Al Khaimah, UAE they have been directed via VHF broadcast to move from their anchorages. Authorities continue to investigate and vessels are requested to continue to report any further suspicious activity. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
14. **(U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 10 October at 1920 UTC, it has been reported that a tanker has been struck on the port side by an unknown projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz outbound. The crew have been reported safe. (UKMTO/OPEN SOURCE/Clearwater Dynamics)
15. **(U) UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:** On 09 October at 1000 UTC, UKMTO has received multiple third-party reports that a vessel has been struck by an unknown projectile. The strike caused a fire onboard, which has since been extinguished. The status of the crew, the extent of any damage, and any environmental impacts remain to have been confirmed at this time. The authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
16. **(U) PERSIAN GULF:** On 07 October at 1930 UTC, an Antigua and Barbuda-flagged tanker was targeted by an aerial attack while drifting in the Persian Gulf. Three

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drones struck the vessel's funnel and deck, all crew members reported safe.
(CSO/Clearwater Dynamics)

- 17. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 05 October at 1637 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while underway in the Strait of Hormuz. The strike caused fires to break out in the engine room. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 18. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 05 October at 0000 UTC, a Panama-flagged oil tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while transiting outbound of the Strait of Hormuz. The projectile hit the super structure and caused a fire to break out onboard, 12 crew members sustained injuries. (CLOSED SOURCE/OPEN SOURCE/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 19. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 04 October at 0000 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile, causing damage to the engine room. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 20. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 04 October at 1716 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while transiting inbound within the Strait of Hormuz. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 21. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 03 October at 0001 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while in the Strait of Hormuz. The vessel sustained damage above the waterline. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 22. (U) OMAN:** On 02 October at 2142 UTC, a tanker was struck on the port side by an unknown projectile approximately 4NM east of Oman, near the Strait of Hormuz. All crew members reported safe and no environmental impact reported.
(UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 23. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 02 October at 1122 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while in the outbound transit of the Strait of Hormuz. The strike caused a small fire and a blackout onboard. The fire has been extinguished and continued transiting. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 24. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 01 October at 1750 UTC, a tanker was struck by an unknown projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz. The strike caused a fire to break out onboard, all crew members reported safe. Authorities are investigating.
(UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
- 25. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ:** On 28 September at 0530 UTC, a Kuwaiti-flagged tanker was reportedly struck by an unknown projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz.

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The strike resulted in a fire onboard, which has since been extinguished. The crew has been reported safe and there have been no environmental impacts reported. (UKMTO/Closed Source/Clearwater Dynamic)

26. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ: On 29 September at 0001 UTC, two Liberian-flagged tankers, and one Bahamas-flagged tanker were struck by unknown projectiles while transiting the Strait of Hormuz. No further information regarding casualties, damage, or environmental impact has been reported. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)

27. (U) STRAIT OF HORMUZ: On 23 September at 0630 UTC, UKMTO reported that a cargo vessel was struck by an unknown projectile whilst transiting through the Strait of Hormuz. The vessel's Company Security Officer reported that the vessel caught fire and is currently adrift, with the engines being confirmed as non-operational. All crew have been evacuated, with two casualties reported. No environmental impacts were reported at this time. Authorities are investigating the incident. (UKMTO/ MICA CENTRE)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA – RED SEA



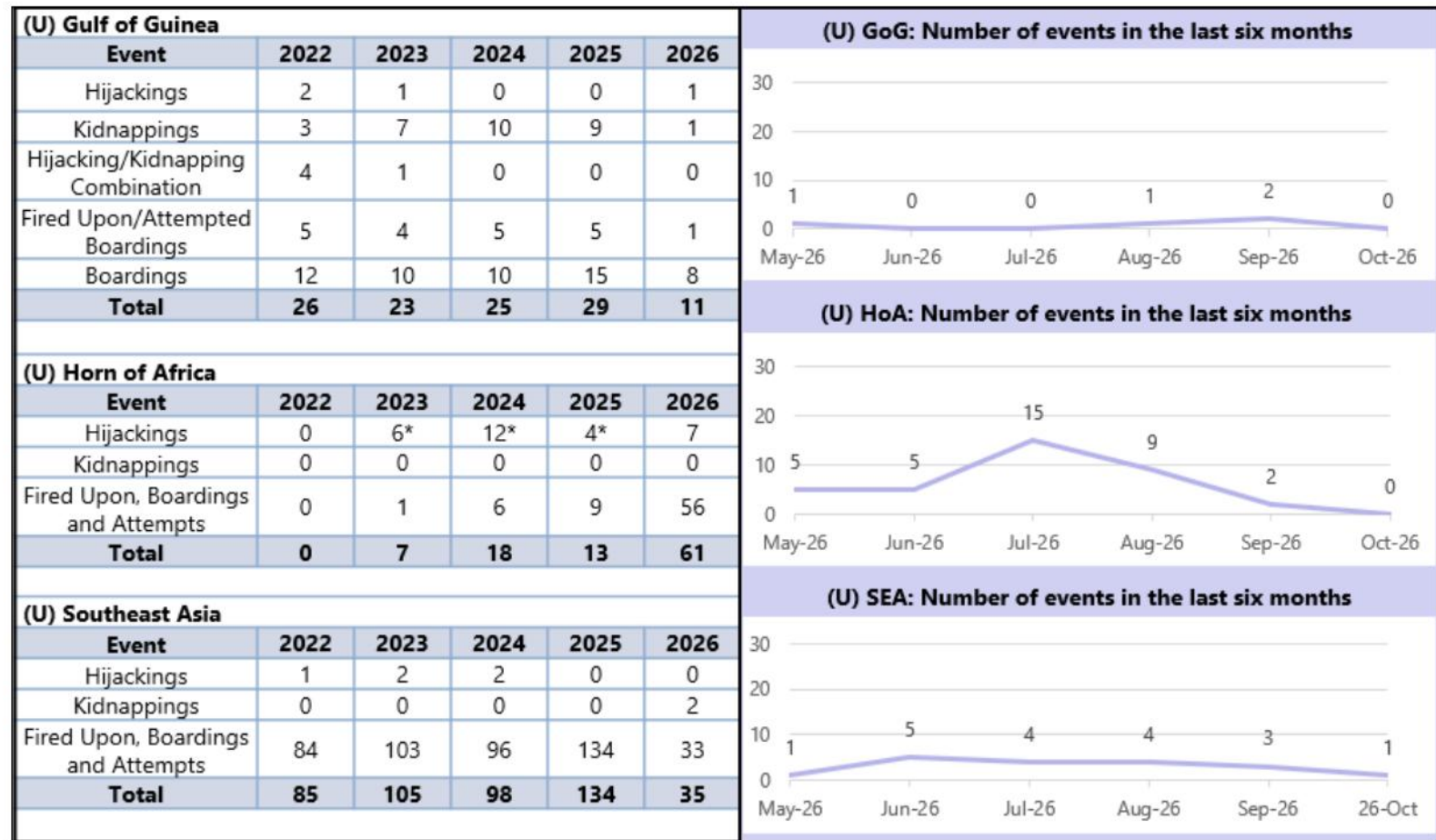
1. **(U) YEMEN:** On 17 October at 1030 UTC, a Bahamas flagged tanker was attacked by seven perpetrators on a skiff while transiting approximately 140NM southeast of Al Mukalla, Yemen. The skiff fired two shots at the tanker and the vessel's armed security team discharged two warning shots in response. Authorities are investigating. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
2. **(U) RED SEA:** On 07 October at 0615 UTC, a Singapore-flagged container ship was involved in a maritime incident in the Southern Red Sea. A small craft approached the vessel and shots were fired. All crew members reported safe. (CLOSED SOURCE/MSCIO/Clearwater Dynamics)
3. **(U) GULF OF ADEN:** On 04 October at 1650 UTC, a tanker reported sightings of multiple explosions near the vessel approximately 60nm south of Al Mukha, Yemen. All crew members reported safe. (UKMTO/Clearwater Dynamics)
4. **(U) INDIA:** On 26 September at 0001 UTC, an attempted robbery occurred onboard a Nicaragua-flagged tanker. A group of people boarded the vessel to remove copper wiring and piping. During this activity an explosion occurred, killing four of the perpetrators. Local police were alerted and investigations are ongoing. (IFC/Clearwater Dynamics)

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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

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(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

2026-013-Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, and Somali Basin-Houthi Attacks on Commercial Vessels	23 Sep 2026	22 Mar 2027
2026-012-Black Sea and Sea of Azov-Military Combat Operations	23 Sep 2026	22 Mar 2027
2026-011-Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman-Iranian Attacks on Commercial Vessels	09 Sep 2026	08 Mar 2027
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-Worldwide-Worldwide-Foreign Adversarial Technological, Physical, and Cyber Influence	24 Apr 2026	21 Oct 2026

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