



Maritime OPINTEL Report

**(U) SOMALIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly
(PAWW) Report
(Horn of Africa) for 27 Jan – 2 Feb 2011**

3 February 2011

Maritime Crime/Piracy

(U) Table of Contents

- 1.(U) Scope Note**
- 2.(U) Piracy Events over Past Week**
- 3.(U) Forecast of Upcoming Week**
- 4.(U) Outlook**

1. (U) Scope Note

(U) The Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly (PAWW) Report is a review of recent Somali piracy incidents and an outlook on threats around the Horn of Africa.

2. (U) Piracy Events

(U) This section provides information on piracy events for this week in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.

A. (U) Summary

(U) Pirates are operating at an unprecedented high level during the current northeast monsoon season. Most of the current activity is occurring in the Somali basin and Arabian Sea, including two attacks in the extreme northern Arabian Sea in the past week. There were seven overall incidents in this one week period: one illegal boarding, and six attacks.

B. (U) Details

- **(U) Vessels Hijacked**

(U) Boardings

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (NEW YORK STAR) was boarded 28 Jan at 0400 UTC while underway in position 11:17.5N – 063:33.4E, approximately 560 NM east of Socotra Island, Yemen. Pirates in two skiffs launched from a mother ship armed with RPG and guns chased the tanker. The tanker increased speed, enforced counter piracy measures, and all crew went into the citadel. Four unarmed security guards fired rocket flares; however pirates were able to board the tanker. A Dutch warship was dispatched to the location to render necessary assistance to the crew and tanker. On 29 Jan, the Dutch navy boarding team boarded the tanker and rescued the 23 crew and four security guards from the citadel. The pirates escaped before the

arrival of the warship. (IMB)

(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding

(U) GULF OF ADEN: Tanker (MAERSK PHOENIX) was fired upon 2 Feb at 1636 UTC, while underway in position 15:16.6N – 054:35.8E, approximately 105NM south of Salalah, Oman. Pirates in two skiffs armed with machine guns chased and fired upon the tanker. The master raised alarm, activated SSAS alert and increased speed. The skiffs chased the vessel for some time and then aborted the attack. (IMB)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Products tanker (PORT STEWART) was fired upon 2 Feb at 1431 UTC while underway in position 13:03N – 063:30E, approximately 515NM SE of Duqm, Oman. One skiff with a mother ship fired weapons and RPG at the vessel, but the boarding attempt was unsuccessful. (ONI, UKMTO)

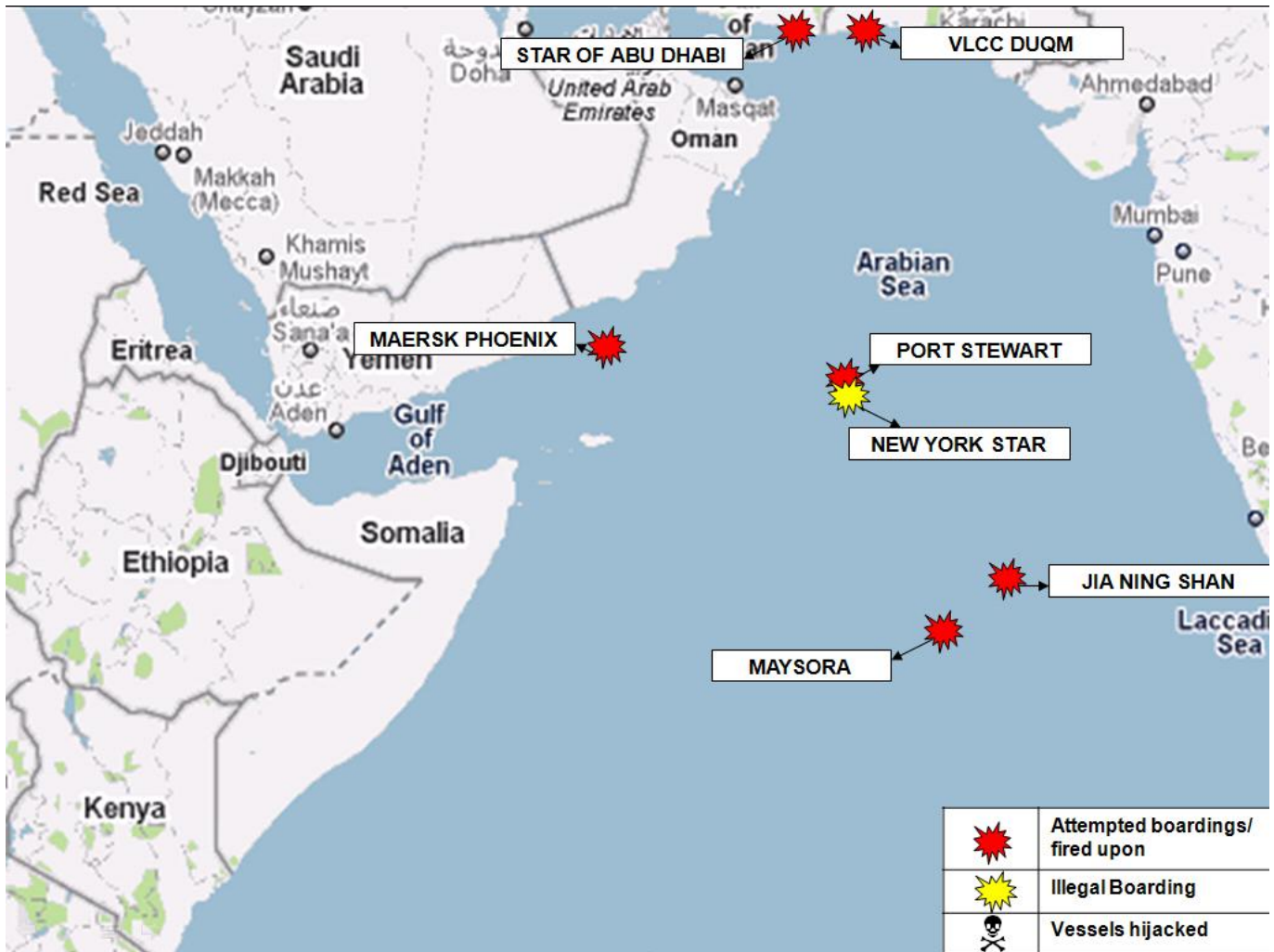
(U) INDIAN OCEAN: VLCC (DUQM) was attacked 02 Feb at 0918 UTC while underway in position 24:14.50N – 063:20.11E, approximately 60NM south of Pasni, Pakistan. International warships came to the assistance of the vessel and fired one 5 inch illumination round above the ship and launched a helicopter. The hijacking attempt was unsuccessful. (IMB)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (JIA NING SHAN) was fired upon 1 Feb at 1157 UTC, while underway in position 06:44N – 069:24E, approximately 295NM NW of Male, Maldives. Two skiffs with five persons each attacked and fired upon the vessel, which evaded a boarding. (IMB)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Livestock carrier (MAYSORA) was fired upon 30 Jan at 1640 UTC while underway in position 04:20N – 066:20E, approximately 375NM west of Male Island, Maldives. Eight pirates in a skiff armed with machine guns and RPG launched from a mother ship, chased and fired upon the vessel with intent to hijack. The master raised alarm, increased speed and crew directed searchlights towards the skiff. Pirates managed to get alongside the vessel. Due to evasive maneuvering the pirates were unsuccessful in boarding the vessel. The starboard lifeboat was damaged due to RPG fire. (IMB)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (STAR OF ABU DHABI) was fired upon 30 Jan at 1013 UTC while underway in position 25:01N – 060:26E, approximately 20NM south of Chah Bahar, Iran. The vessel was attacked by two skiffs with three people each. The skiffs broke off the attack when at Iranian warship arrived in the area. (IMB)

C. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 1. HOA Pirate Activity, 27 JAN 2011 – 2 FEB 2011 (IMB).

(U) Figure 1 is a visual depiction of the incidents detailed in above summary of events.

C. (U) Tabulated Data

	This Week	Last Week	February 2011	January 2011	2011	2010	2009*
Vessels Hijacked	0	2	0	6	6	49	52
Boarding	1	1	0	4	4	15	0
Vessels Fired Upon/ Attempted Boarding	6	4	4	27	31	125	131

*Dataset originates 22 May 2009

(U) Table 1 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years.

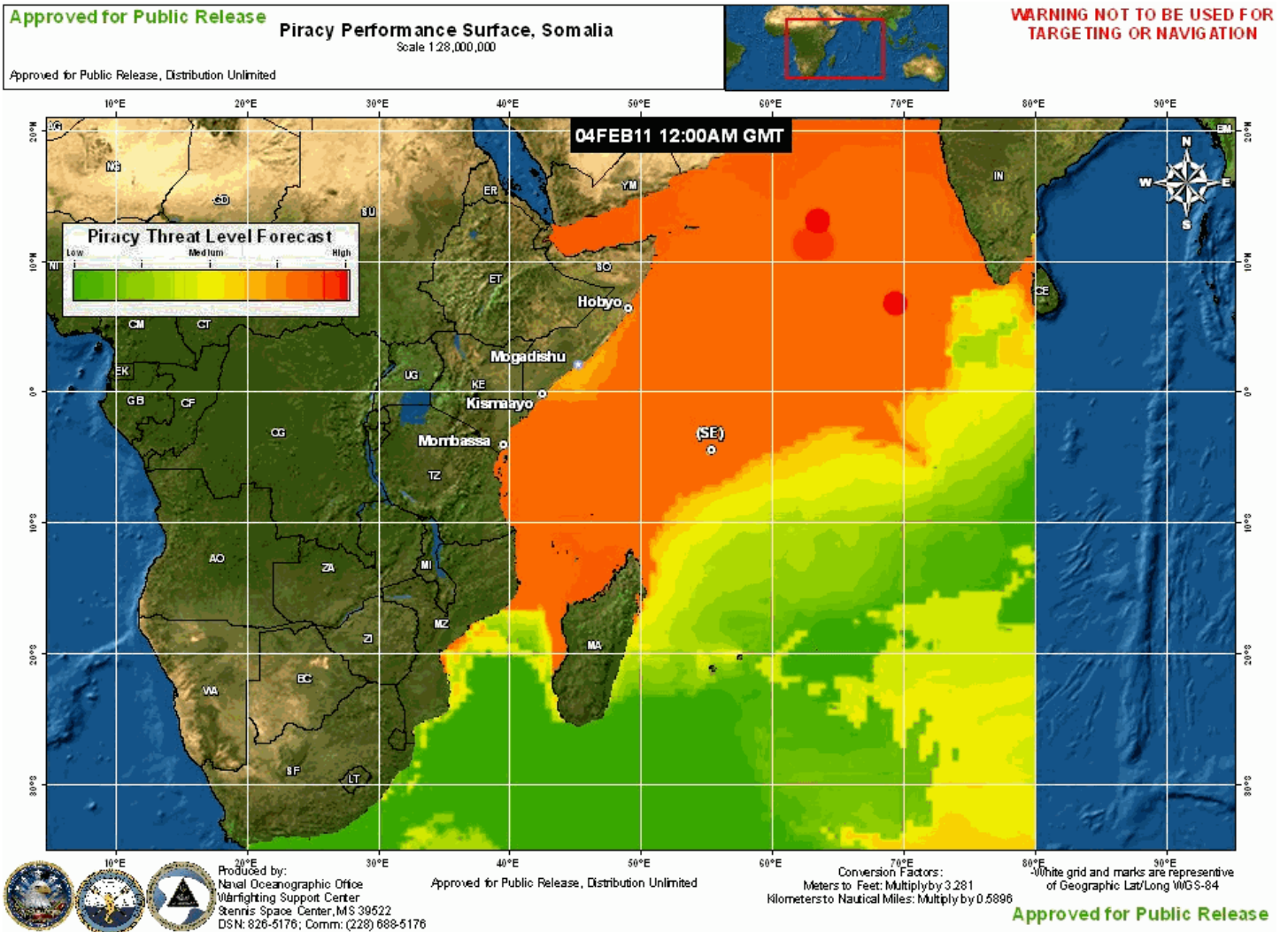
3. (U) Outlook

A. (U) Summary

(U) Weather conditions are expected to remain relatively calm despite the current monsoon season, creating conditions conducive to small boat activity throughout the piracy operating area.

(U) Mariners are advised that the Gulf of Aden, Somali basin, Arabian Sea, Mozambique Channel, and the area around Comoros are currently high risk. When transiting the region, mariners are encouraged to contact UKMTO and all appropriate authorities.

B. Forecast for the Week of 3 – 9 FEB 2011



(U) Figure 2. Likelihood of Pirate Activity (Graphic courtesy of the Naval Oceanographic Office Warfighting Support Center).

(U) In the graphic above, green represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while red represents a high likelihood of pirate activity.

(U) Appendix

(U) Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental authorities in lawful pursuit of their authority.

(U) Terms of Reference

(U) The following terms are adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping 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 boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.
- **(U) Firing 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) Robbery** - Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.
- **(U) Suspicious Approach** - All other unexplained close proximity of an unknown vessel.

(U) Sourcing

(U) Information contained in this report is derived through direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources:

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO), Denmark

- BBC News
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- Fairplay (FP), London
- Informa Group (INFO), formerly LLP, Llp Limited, London
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Latitude38.com (LAT) website
- Lloyd's List (LL), daily, London
- Local Media (LM)
- MaRisk by Risk Intelligence (Risk Intelligence/MaRisk)
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S.
- Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)
- Maritime Security Council (MSC), U.S.
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Brussels
- Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) (analysis and comment)
- Operator (owner or operator of affected vessel)
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- Seafarers' Assistance Program (SAP), Kenya
- Tradewinds (TW)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)
- U.S. Department of State (DOS)
- U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

(U) **ICOD:** 2 Feb 2011

(U) **Contributors:** Maritime Crime/Piracy