



Maritime OPINTEL Report

**(U) SOMALIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly
(PAWW) Report
(Horn of Africa) for 20 Jan – 26 Jan 2011**

Maritime Crime/Piracy

27 January 2011

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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 Arabian Sea. During January 2011, there have been over 25 pirate incidents in the Arabian Sea. No incidents occurred in the Arabian Sea during January 2010. There were seven overall incidents in this one week period, two hijackings, one boarding, and four attacks.

B. (U) Details

- **(U) Vessels Hijacked**

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Multi-purpose ship (BELUGA NOMINATION) was hijacked 22 Jan at 1236 UTC while underway in position 01:49N – 056:35E, approximately 360NM north of Seychelles Island. The crew made stress calls and retreated to the citadel when the pirates boarded, but there were no warships in the area. A surveillance overflight by a Seychelles coastguard aircraft on 24 Jan reported at least four pirates on board. The pirates managed to break into the citadel and take control of the ship, now believed to be heading towards Somalia with the captured 12 man crew. (IMB)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (KHALED MUHIEDDINE K) was hijacked 20 Jan at 1224 UTC, while underway in position 15:11N – 059:38E, approximately 336NM NE of Socotra Island, Yemen. Pirates with

automatic weapons hijacked the vessel and took hostage the crew of 25. (IMB)

(U) Boardings

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Chemical tanker (BUNGA LAUREL) was boarded 20 Jan at 1708 UTC, while underway in position 20:09N – 063:38E, approximately 250NM SE of Ras al Hadd, Oman. Seven pirates boarded the vessel, and the crew members locked themselves in the citadel and requested assistance. The pirates were later apprehended by Malaysian naval forces, and the crew is safe. (IMB)

(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding

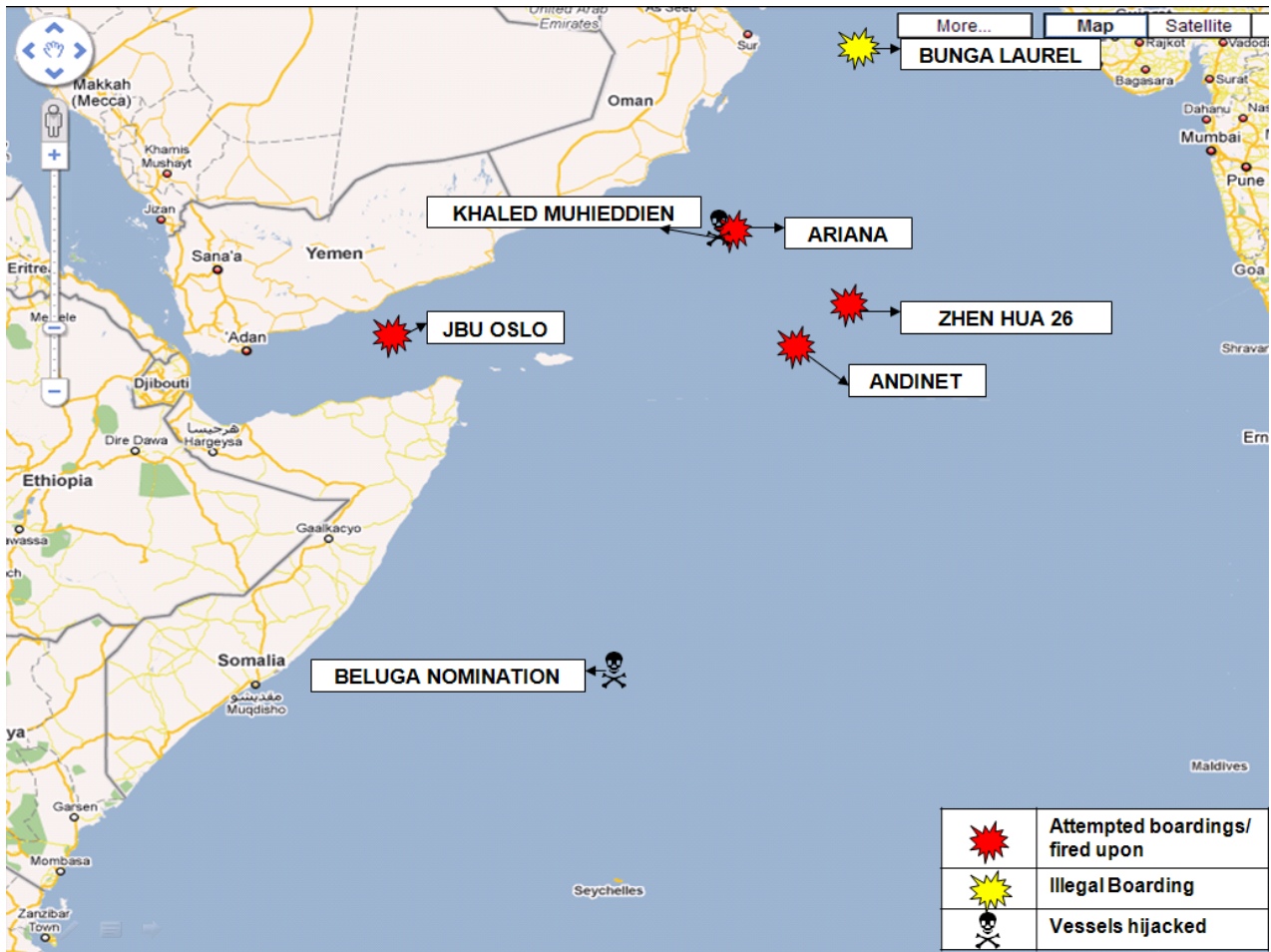
(U) INDIAN OCEAN: General cargo ship (ANDINET) was fired upon 26 Jan at 0630 UTC while underway in position 11:14N – 062:50E, approximately 493NM SE of Socotra Island, Yemen. Pirates in two skiffs fired upon the vessel with small arms. A dhow acting as a mother ship was also observed. The vessel evaded the hijack attempt. (IMB)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Heavy load carrier (ZHEN HUA 26) was fired upon 21 Jan at 1055 UTC while underway in position 12:37N – 065:00E, approximately 840NM east of Caluula, Somalia. Armed pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon the vessel. The ship increased speed and took evasive maneuvers and managed to avoid a boarding. (IMB)

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (ARIANA) was fired upon 20 Jan at 1023 UTC while underway in position 14:56N – 059:14E, approximately 308NM NE of Socotra Island. Pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon the vessel. The master increased speed and carried out evasive maneuvers. Pirates abandoned the attempt after chasing more than an hour, with no injuries to the crew. (IMB)

(U) GULF OF ADEN: Product tanker (JBU OSLO) was fired upon 20 Jan at 0333 UTC while underway in position 13:09N – 049:14E, approximately 83NM south of Al Mukallah, Yemen. One skiff with five pirates with ladders fired upon the vessel. The vessel evaded the hijacking attempt. (ONI, UKMTO)

C. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 1. HOA Pirate Activity, 20 JAN 2011 – 26 JAN 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	January 2011	December 2010	2011	2010	2009*
Vessels Hijacked	2	3	6	8	6	49	52
Boarding	1	1	3	0	3	15	0
Vessels Fired Upon/ Attempted Boarding	4	9	25	13	25	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.

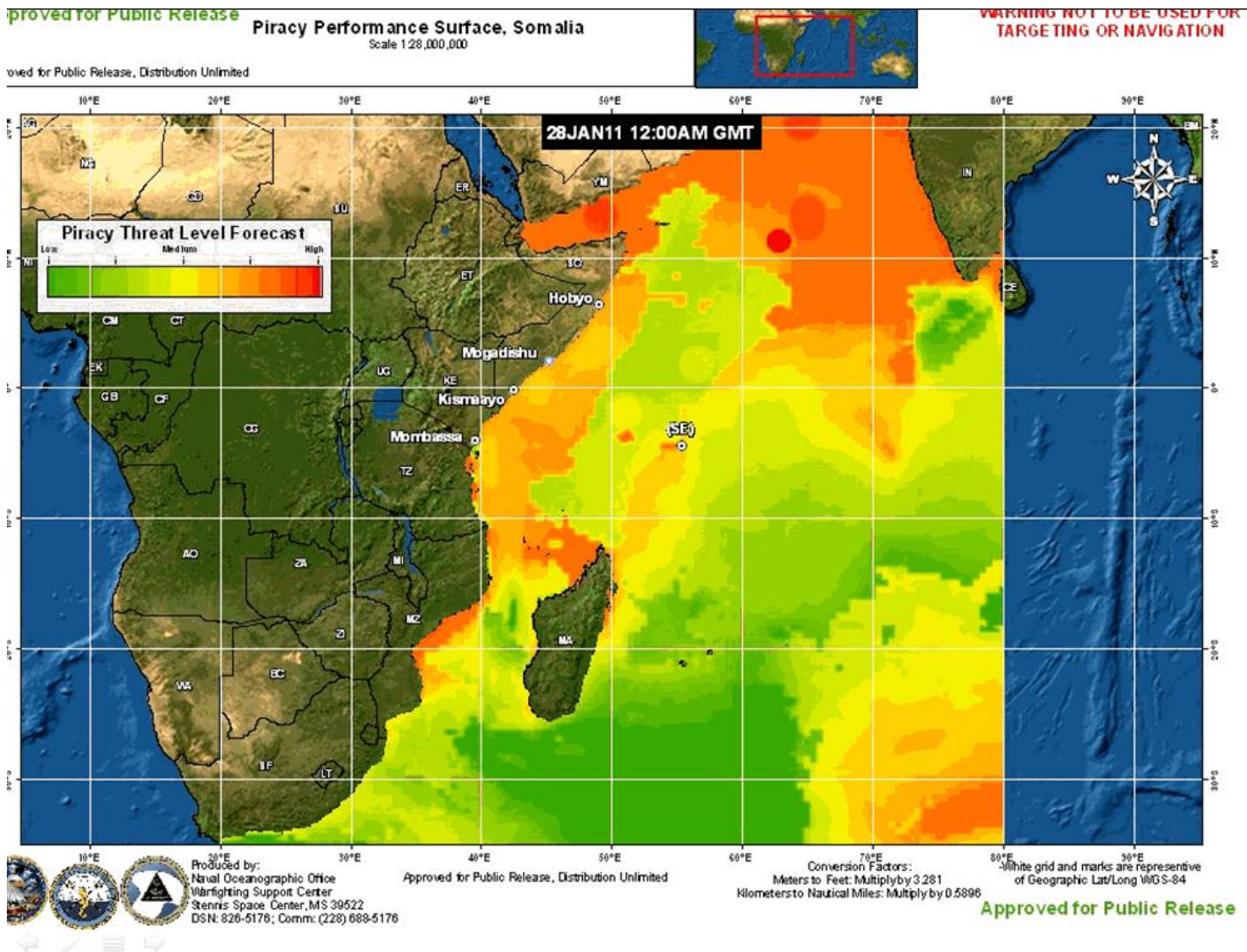
3. (U) Outlook

A. (U) Summary

(U) Weather conditions are expected to worsen, creating conditions less conducive to small boat activity, particularly in the Somali Basin. Weather is expected to remain calmer and more conducive to small boat activity in the Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden.

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

B. Forecast for the Week of 27 JAN – 2 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:** 27 Jan 2011

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