



*Maritime OPINTEL Report*

**(U) SOMALIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly  
(PAWW) Report  
(Horn of Africa) for 5 – 11 April 2012**

12 April 2012

*Maritime Crime/Piracy*

**(U) Table of Contents**

- 1.(U) Scope Note**
- 2.(U) Piracy Events Over Past Week**
- 3.(U) Weather Forecast for 12 – 18 April**
- (U) Appendix**

**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 Over Past Week**

(U) Somali piracy incidents are occurring at low levels. There was one vessel hijacked during this one week period. There were no reported vessel attacks during this one week period.

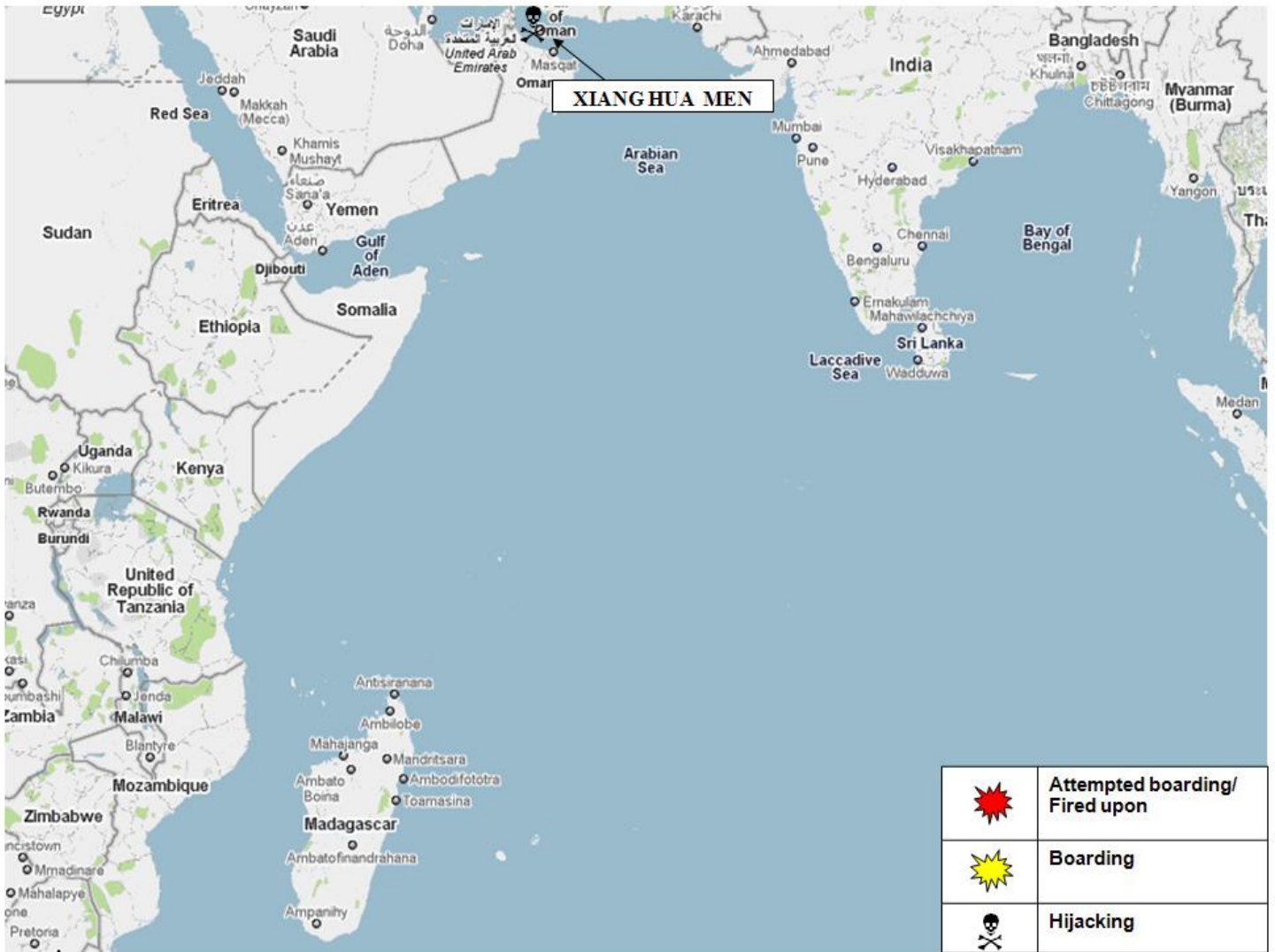
**A. (U) Details**

**(U) Vessels Hijacked:** Container carrier M/V XIANG HUA MEN hijacked on 6 April while underway in the Gulf of Oman near position 25:28 N - 057:32 E, approximately 16nm southwest of Bandar-e-Jask, Iran. An Iranian Navy ship responded to the ship's request for assistance and proceeded towards the vessel at high speed. Ship's Master contacted the Iranian Navy ship via bridge-to-bridge radio communications and requested the navy ship not approach due to the high risk to the crew and the death threats received from the pirates. The warship moved closer to the ship, resulting in exchange of gunfire between the pirates and the navy vessel. Several hours later, a boarding party from the Iranian Navy ship successfully boarded the ship, arresting nine pirate suspects and saving all 28 crewmembers. (IMB)

**(U) Vessels Boarded:** No current incidents to report.

**(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:** No current incidents to report.

**B. (U) Incident Disposition**



(U) Figure 1. HOA Pirate Activity, 5 – 11 April

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

**C. (U) Tabulated Data**

	This Week	Last Week	Apr 2012	Mar 2012	2012	2011	2010	2009
<b>Vessels Hijacked</b>	1	0	1	3	6	27	51	52
<b>Boarding</b>	0	0	0	0	0	17	16	0
<b>Vessels Fired Upon/ Attempted Boarding</b>	0	1	1	9	16	122	119	129

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

### 3. Currently Hijacked Vessels

Name	Flag	Type	Hijacked Date
ICEBERG I	Panama	RoRo	29 March 2010
ALBEDO	Malaysia	Container Cargo	25 November 2010
ORNA	Panama	Bulk Cargo	20 December 2010
SHIUH FU NO.1	Taiwan	Fishing Vessel	25 December 2010
LIQUID VELVET	Marshall Islands	Tanker	31 October 2011
ENRICO IEVOLI	Italy	Chemical Tanker	27 December 2011
FREE GODDESS	Liberia	Bulk Cargo	7 February 2012
LEILA	Panama	RoRo	15 February 2012
ROYAL GRACE	Panama	Chemical Tanker	2 March 2012
FISHING VESSEL	Taiwan	Fishing Vessel	26 March

### 4. Weather Forecast for 12 – 18 April

**A. (U) GULF OF ADEN:** Moderate conditions will persist throughout the period. Expect easterly winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Easterly winds of 8 – 13 knots, with seas of 1– 3 feet.

**B. (U) SOMALI COAST:** The northeast monsoonal flow off the Somali coast continues to slowly subside as the transition season progresses. Expect wind and sea conditions to be variable as the weather pattern shifts. Southeasterly winds at 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet will predominate. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Winds will maintain southeasterly at 5 – 10 knots, with seas of 2 – 4 feet. Winds expected to shift to easterly at 5 to 10 knots by 16 April.

**C. (U) ARABIAN SEA:** Southwesterly winds of 10– 15 knots, with seas of 2 -4 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwesterly winds of 10 – 15 knots, becoming westerly at 5 to 10 knots by 16 April, with seas of 2 – 4 feet.

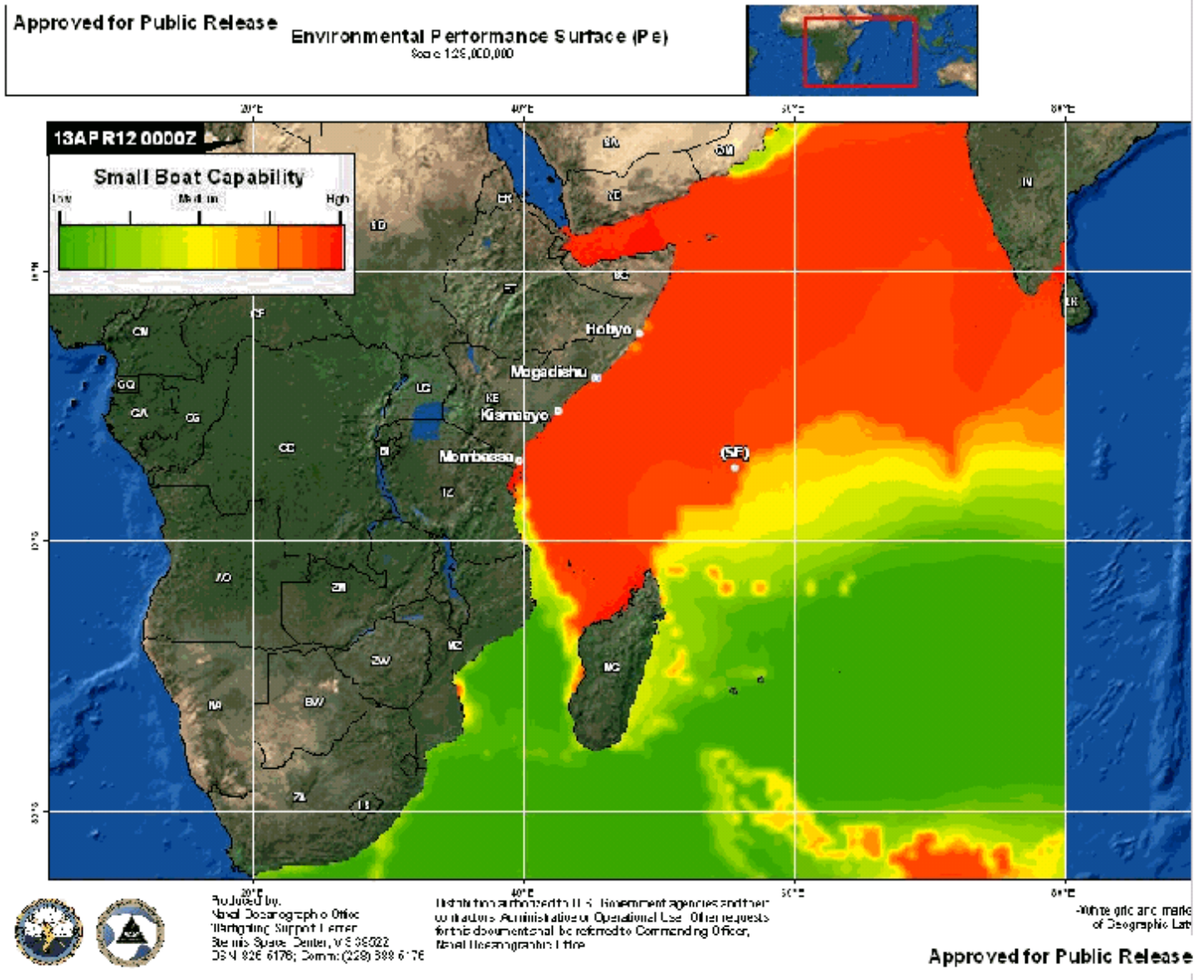
**D. (U) CENTRAL AFRICAN COAST/INDIAN OCEAN:** Residual swell waves from the southern Somali Basin region continue to impact area but overall conditions will remain marginal, with southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots, becoming southwesterly at 13 – 18 knots by 13 April, with seas of 1 – 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Small boat operations off the Tanzania and Kenyan coast will have significant impacts as winds will remain southwesterly at 13 – 18 knots, with seas of 1 – 3 feet increasing to 5 – 7 feet by 15 April.

**E. (U) MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL:** Expect significant impacts in the southern channel from swell waves moving into the area from the southwestern Indian Ocean produced by migrating low pressure systems. Winds in the northern channel will be primarily southerly at 8 – 13 knots with seas of 4 - 6 feet, increasing to 6 – 9 feet by 13 April. In the southern channel, winds will be southwesterly at 15 – 20 knots, with seas of 8 – 11 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** In the northern channel, expect southerly winds at 8 – 13 knots, with seas of 6 – 9 feet, decreasing to 2 – 4 feet by 16 April. In the southern channel, expect southwesterly winds of 15 – 20 knots, with seas of 8 – 11 feet, decreasing to 6 – 8 feet by 15 April.

**F. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS:** Currents within the Somalia Basin, Gulf of Aden, and into the Indian Ocean remain variable with most areas having average speeds of less than 1.5 knots. An area of increased current speeds exists along the Somali coast, continuing south off the northern Kenya coastline until about 5 degrees south. This northeast to southwest current is moving along the coastline at speeds of 1 to 3 knots. The Mozambique Channel has an average current of 1 - 2 knots.

### 5. (U) Graphic Aids to 10 Day Weather Conditions and Small Boat Operations Capabilities \*

\*(U) These include the environmental performance surface for Somalia and a 10 day weather forecast to provide better situational awareness to mariners.

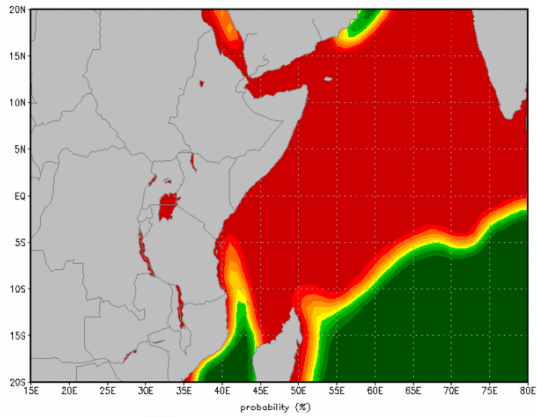


(U) Figure 2. Pirate Skiff Capability (Graphic courtesy of the Naval Oceanographic Office Warfighting Support Center)

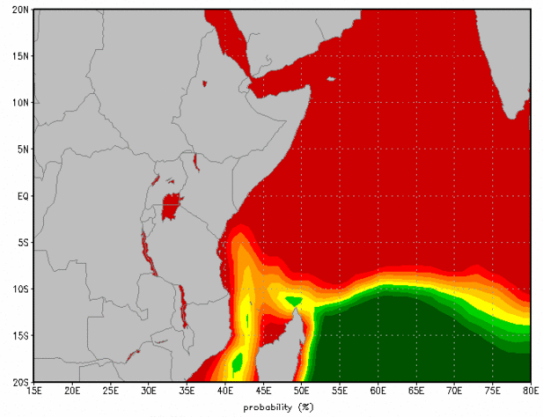


Approved for Public Release

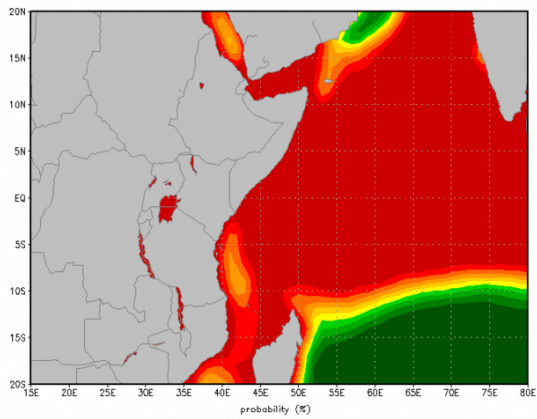
# 10 Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast



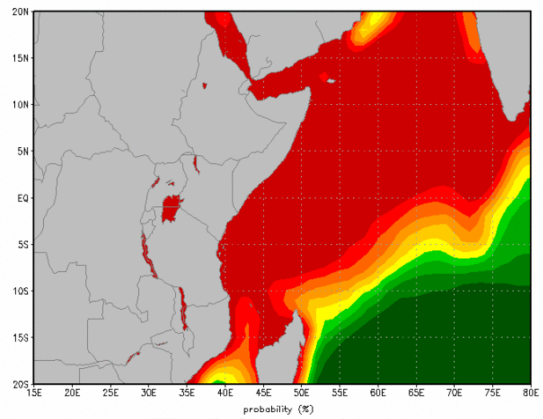
1200Z 13 APR 2012  
Winds < 15 kts and Wave Heights < 5 ft



0000Z 16 APR 2012  
Winds < 15 kts and Wave Heights < 5 ft



1200Z 18 APR 2012  
Winds < 17 kts and Wave Heights < 7 ft



0000Z 21 APR 2012  
Winds < 17 kts and Wave Heights < 7 ft

Approved for Public Release

**(U) Figure 3. Ten-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast (Graphic courtesy of the Naval Oceanographic Office Warfighting Support Center)**

(U) In the graphic above, green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while red represents a higher 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 it also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity, are independent of target vessel status, and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities.

#### (U) Terms of Reference

(U) The following terms have been 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) Piracy levels

- (U) **High:** More than 7 piracy incidents in this one-week period
- (U) **Moderate:** 3–6 piracy incidents in this one-week period
- (U) **Low:** 1–2 piracy incidents in this one-week period

**(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. Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain
- 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: 11 Apr 2012

(U) Contributors: Maritime Crime/Piracy

(U) The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted each week on the ONI Intel Portal and can be found at:  
[http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence\\_Community/piracy.htm](http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm)



