



Maritime OPINTEL Report

**(U) SOMALIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly
(PAWW) Report
(Horn of Africa) for 16 – 22 May 2013**

23 May 2013

Maritime Crime/Piracy

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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 Over Past Week

(U) Somali pirate activity is at low levels. There were no reported vessel attacks during this one week period. There were no vessels reported as hijacked during this one week period.

A. (U) Details

(U) Vessels Hijacked: No current incidents to report.

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

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

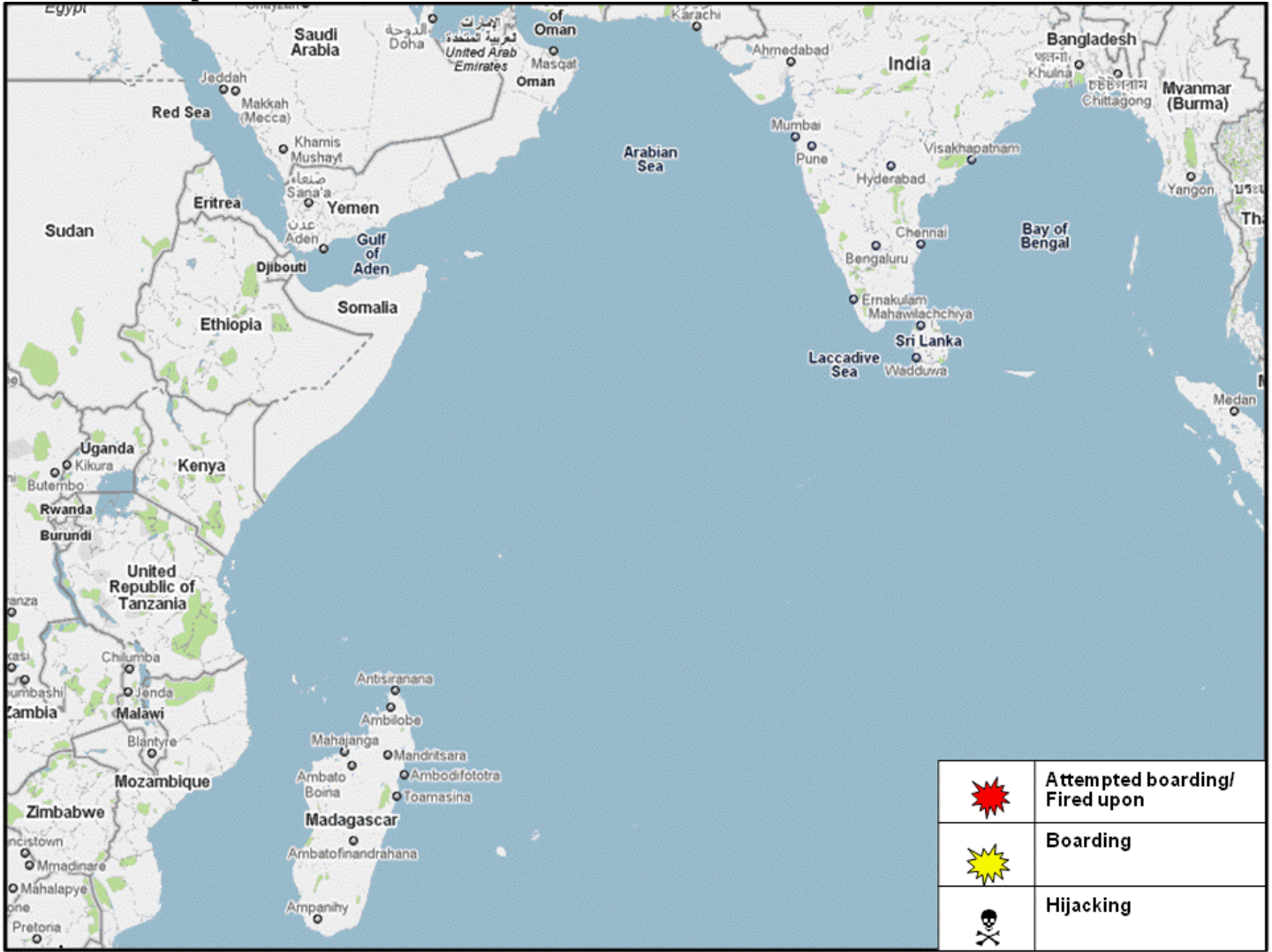
(U) Other Activity:

1. (U) IRAN: On 19 May, an underway LPG tanker experienced a suspicious approach at 25:32 N – 057:27 E, approximately 18 nm west-southwest of Bandar-e-Jask. Four suspicious boats with three armed persons in each boat chased an LPG tanker while underway. Master raised alarm, activated SSAS, increased speed, took evasive maneuvers, contacted an Iran warship by VHF for assistance, and the crew mustered in the citadel. The boats followed the tanker for 30 minutes and then moved away. (IMB, LSS)

2. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 19 May, the underway cargo ship SE PELAGICA experienced a suspicious approach at 12:12 N – 044:20 E, approximately 52 nm south-southwest of Aden, Yemen. Five pirates armed with AK-47 rifles and a RPG approached a general cargo ship underway. The vessel employed anti-piracy measures and the embarked armed guards fired warning shots at the skiff once it had closed to 400 meters from the vessel; resulting in the skiff aborting the attempt and moving away. The crew and vessel are safe. (IMB, IMO)

3. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 16 May, a merchant vessel experienced a suspicious approach at 12:03 N – 045:42 E, approximately 58 nm south-southeast of Aden, Yemen. A suspected pirate mothership towing two skiffs was spotted by the security team onboard the merchant ship. The suspect vessel increased its speed and moved closer to the M/V. At a distance of 3 nm from the M/V, the mothership deployed the two skiffs with suspected pirates onboard, heading toward the M/V. The alarm was sounded and all non-essential crew moved into the citadel. The M/V commenced evasive maneuvering; the Master contacted a nearby warship, and sent a mayday message via VHF Channel 16. As the suspected pirate vessels approached within 2 nm, the embarked security team showed their presence onboard, resulting in the skiffs changing course and moving away. Due to poor visibility, the number of people and the presence of any piracy-related equipment in the skiffs was not reported. MV continued transit to her destination. (OCL)

B. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 1. HOA Pirate Activity, 16 – 22 May 2013

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

C. (U) Tabulated Data

	This Week	Last Week	May. 2013	Apr. 2013	2013	2012	2011	2010
Vessels Hijacked	0	0	0	0	0	7	27	51
Boarding	0	0	0	0	0	1	17	16
Vessels Fired Upon/ Attempted Boarding	0	0	0	1	4	24	122	119

(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
ALBEDO	Malaysia	Container Cargo	25 November 2010
NAHAM 3	Oman	Fishing Vessel	26 March 2012

4. Weather Forecast for 23 – 29 May 2013

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

B. (U) GULF OF OMAN: Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

C. (U) SOMALI COAST: Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet.

D. (U) ARABIAN SEA: West-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.

E. (U) CENTRAL AFRICAN COAST/INDIAN OCEAN: Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.

F. (U) MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL: South-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the southern Channel. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern Channel.

G. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS: The northern Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden currents are northeasterly with most areas having average speeds of 1 – 2 knots. The Mozambique Channel currents are variable, having average speeds of 2 – 3 knots. Current speeds in the Somali Basin average between 1 – 2 knots.

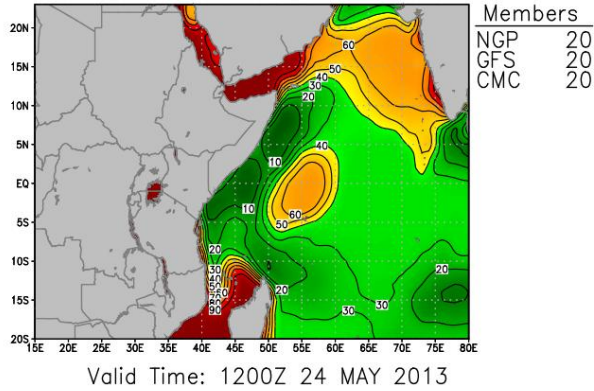
H. SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: The northern and western Indian Ocean areas are under the influence of the onset of the southwest monsoon season. The Mozambique Channel will be under the influence of a low pressure system. Expect cloudy to mostly cloudy conditions with thunderstorms and rain showers throughout east African coastal areas.

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

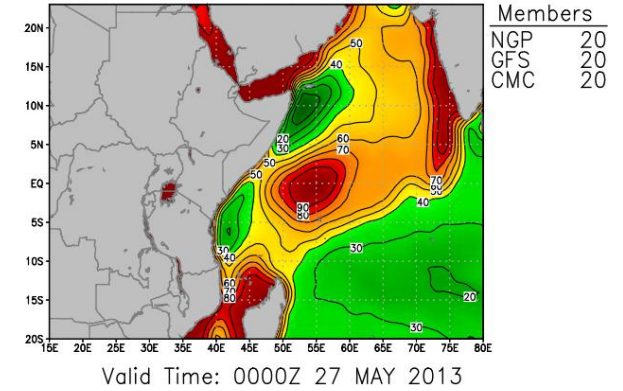
Approved for Public Release

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2013052200

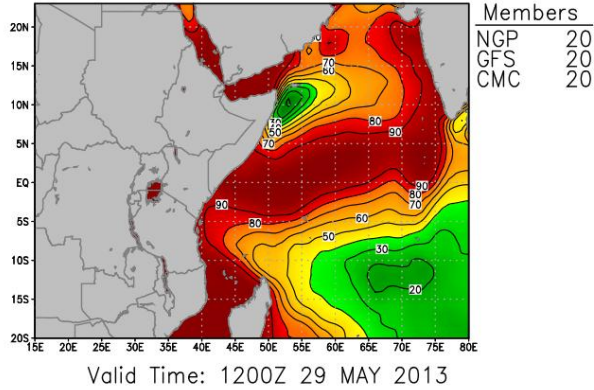
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



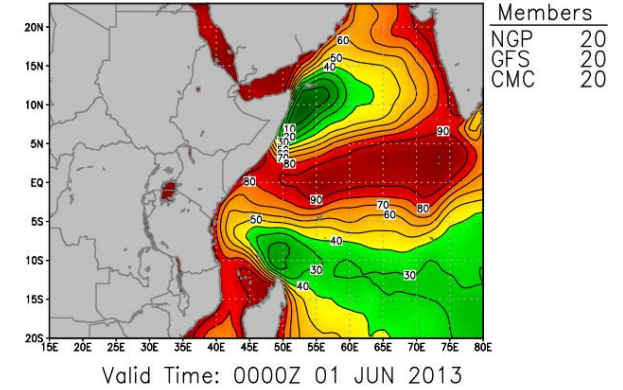
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



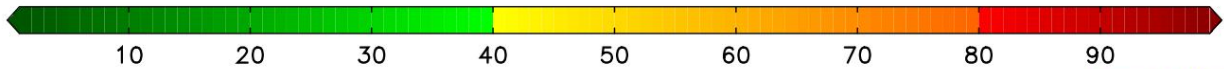
Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



probability (%)



Approved for Public Release

(U) Figure 2. Ten-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast (Graphic courtesy of the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center, FNMOC)

(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 activity in close proximity by 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)
- LSS-SAPU.com (LSS)
- 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
- Naval Oceanographic Office Warfighting Support Center
- 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:** 22 May 2013

(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