



Maritime OPINTEL Report

**(U) SOMALIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly
(PAWW) Report
(Horn of Africa) for 17 Feb – 23 Feb 2011**

Maritime Crime/Piracy

24 February 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) Overall, pirates are operating at an unprecedented high level during the current northeast monsoon season. The Arabian Sea remains an area of elevated pirate threat. Pirate attacks this week were below levels seen in previous weeks of the monsoon season. There were two piracy events in this one week period: one hijacking in the Arabian Sea and one attack near the northern tip of Madagascar.

B. (U) Details

- **(U) Vessels Hijacked**

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Yacht (QUEST) was hijacked 18 Feb at 1323 UTC while underway in position 18:00N – 061:02E, approximately 282NM SE of Sur, Oman. Nineteen pirates reportedly were involved in the hijacking on QUEST, which resulted in the death of all four crew members and four pirates onboard, and the detainment of fifteen pirates by U.S. forces. (IMB, Press)

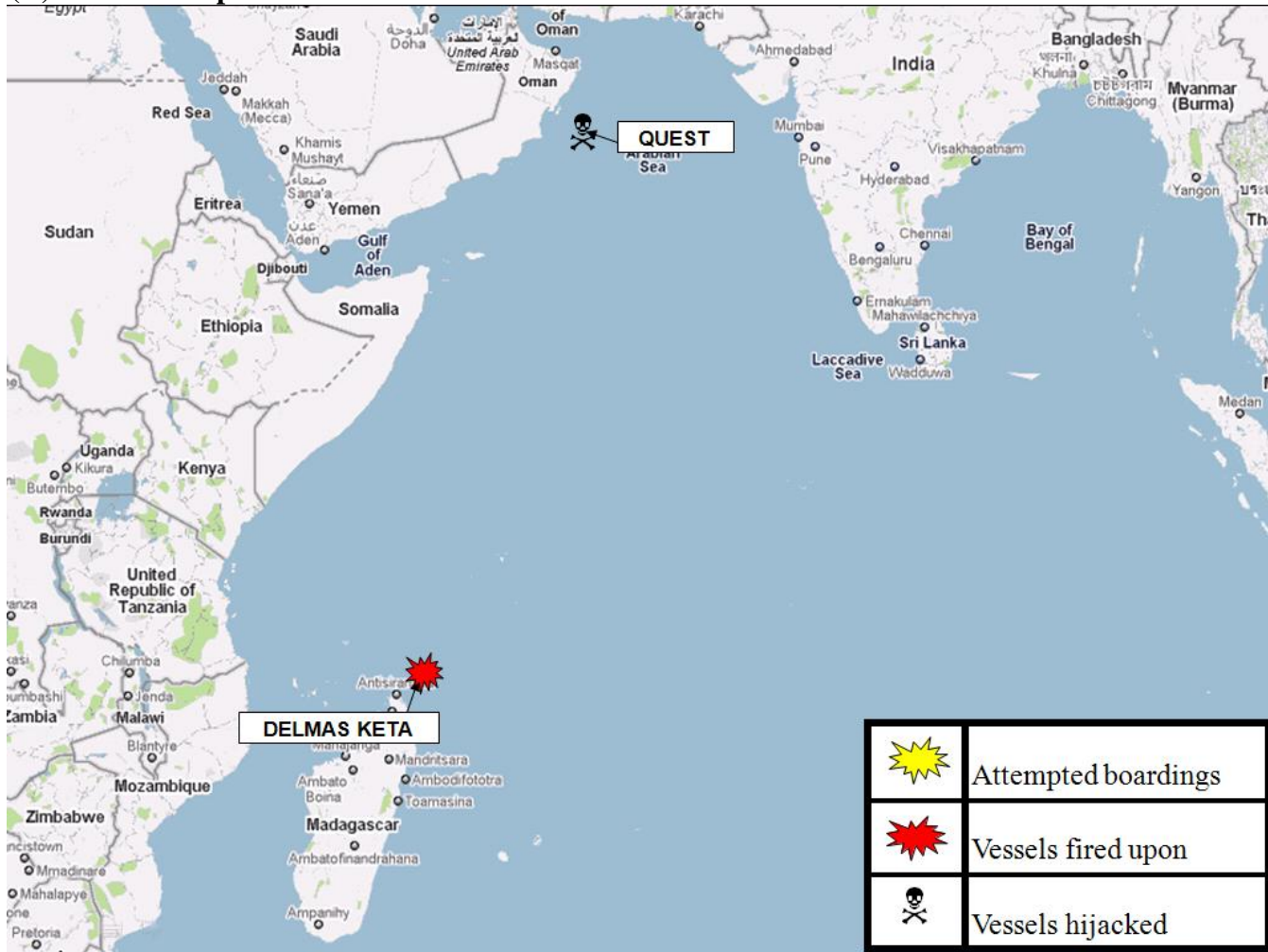
(U) Boardings

(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding

(U) INDIAN OCEAN: Container ship (DELMAS KETA) was fired upon 19 Feb at 1416 UTC while

underway in position 12:19N – 044:06E, approximately 100NM NE of Antsiranana, Madagascar. The vessel was fired upon with automatic weapons by a pirate action group consisting of a single skiff and a mother ship 8.7NM off the attack. The vessel increased speed, carried out evasive maneuvers and evaded the hijack attempt. (ONI, UKMTO)

C. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 1. HOA Pirate Activity, 17 FEB 2011 – 23 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	1	2	5	6	11	49	52
Boarding	0	0	0	4	4	15	0

Vessels Fired Upon/ Attempted Boarding	1	0	7	27	34	125	131
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*Dataset originates 22 May 2009

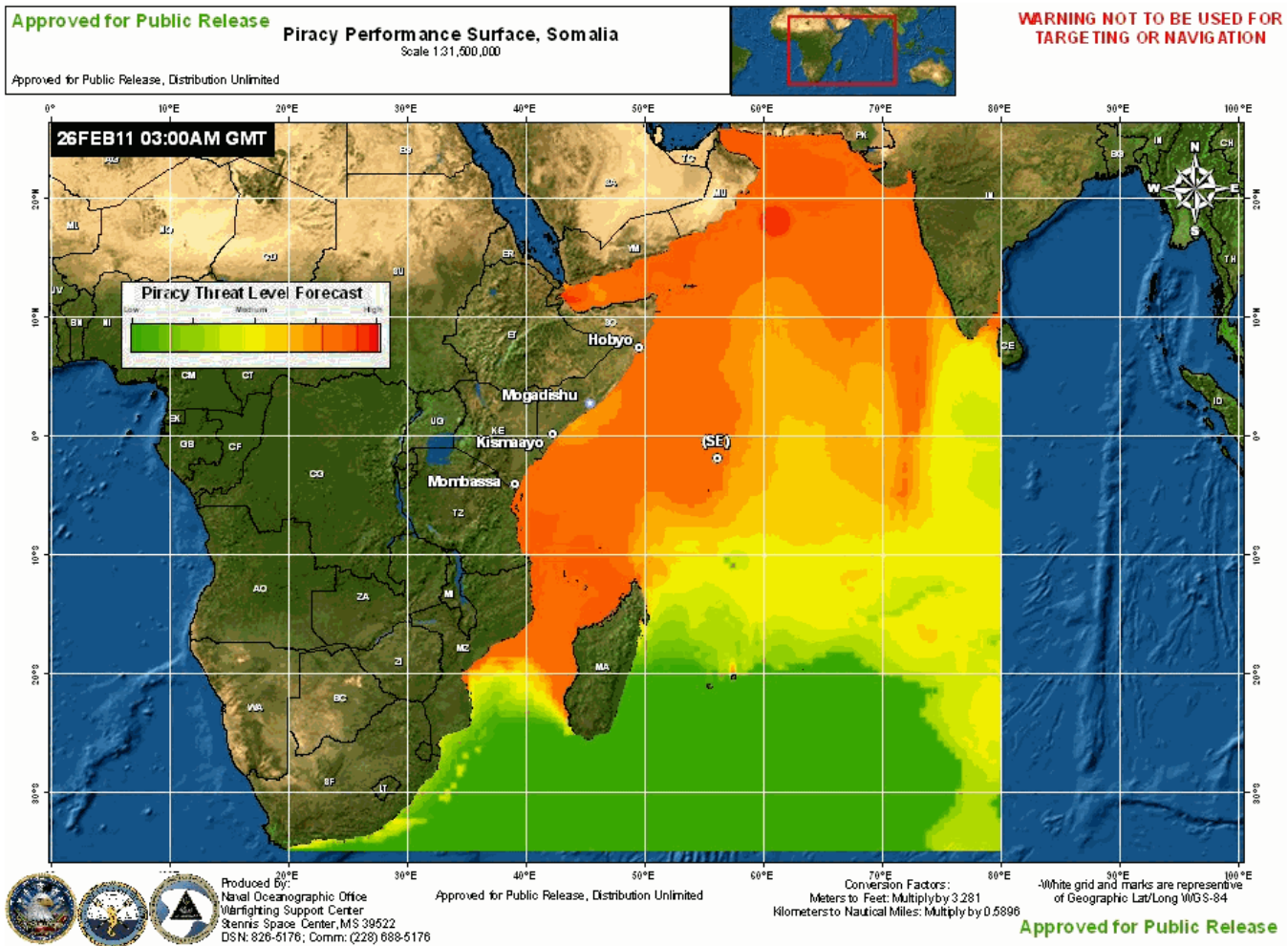
(U) Table 1 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years.

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, particularly in the Arabian Sea, Somali Basin, and Gulf of Aden. When transiting the region, mariners are encouraged to contact UKMTO and all appropriate authorities.

B. Forecast for the Week of 24 FEB – 2 MAR 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:** 23 Feb 2011

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