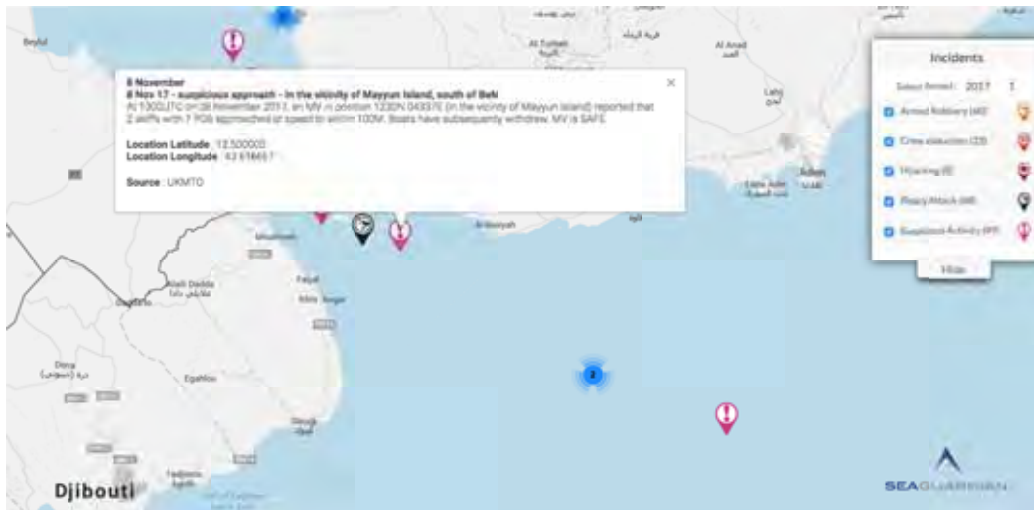


Red Sea - Indian Ocean

GoA incidents:



- At 1300UTC on 08 November 2017, an MV in position 1230N 04337E (in the vicinity of Mayyun Island) reported that 2 skiffs with 7 POB approached at speed to within 100M. Boats have subsequently withdrawn. MV is SAFE.



- On 18 October 2017, 1930UTC, an MV in position: 201530N 0665036E reported 2 vessels following her at a range of 50M for approximately 1 hour. Nothing sighted in boats due to darkness. Boats have subsequently departed MV but remain in the vicinity. MV is SAFE.



- On 24 October 2017, a Wooden Vessel in position: 1150.0N 05435.0E, (IVO SOCOTRA ISLAND), was attacked by Pirates. Mariners are advised to exercise extreme caution when transiting this area.

Interesting information:

- Condemning the acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, the United Nations Security Council called for a “comprehensive response” to prevent and suppress such acts and tackle their underlying causes. In a resolution adopted on 7 Nov 17, during a meeting chaired by the Italian PR Sebastiano Cardi, the Council also urged Somali authorities to continue expedite the passing of comprehensive anti-piracy and maritime laws, to establish security forces with clear roles and jurisdictions to enforce these laws, as well as strengthen the capacity of its Somali courts to investigate and prosecute those responsible for piracy.

- The UN body responsible for matters relating to international peace and security further encouraged flag States and port States to also consider the development of safety and security measures on board vessels, including, where applicable, developing regulations for the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships, aimed at preventing and suppressing piracy off the coast of Somalia, through a consultative process, including through the relevant UN entities.

- Saudi led coalition closes all ports into Yemen-remaining open only for humanitarian supplies, following on what the Saudi Arabian Coalition forces had previously announced regarding the ballistic missiles launched by the Iranian-controlled Houthi militias from within Yemeni territory that targeted the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the most recent of which was the flagrant military aggression by the Iranian-controlled Houthi militias which targeted the city of Riyadh on November 11, 2017 (Corresponding to 15/2/1439 Hijri) using a ballistic missile with a range of more than 900 km. To address the vulnerabilities in the current inspection procedures that led to the continuation of the supply of ballistic missiles and military equipment to the Houthi militias which enabled them to continue to commit crimes against the

Kingdom, the Yemeni people, and the peoples of countries in the region, which constitutes blatant violations to international humanitarian laws, the Coalition's Command has decided to temporarily close all Yemeni ground, air, and sea ports.

- Police arrested five pirates in connection with relevant incident in which they had attempted to hijack a cargo ship from Bangladesh. The pirates had attempted to hijack the cargo ship when it was passing through Sundarbans area. Acting on a tip-off, the police had conducted a raid when the pirates were about to attack the cargo ship. There was a gun battle between the team led by Arijit Sinha, Superintendent of Baruipur police district, and the pirates. However, the accused managed to flee into the forest of Sundarbans taking advantage of darkness.

- The last 2 horrific Somalia's bombing is a clear sign of government's powerlessness who has no chance of stopping al-Shabab. As is so often the case in Somalia, the government has managed to lose the confidence of the population within just a few months.

Threat Assessment:

- There have been 3 confirmed incidents during the last 30 days. The most significant took place off Socotra, Yemen, when an Iranian fishing dhow came under attack by pirates south of the island of Socotra, in which CTF 151 forces provided assistance to the crew of the Iranian Dhow.

- The recent United Nations Security Council resolution for a comprehensive response to prevent and suppress acts of piracy and tackle their underlying causes indicates that global community is dedicated to the fight against the roots cause Somali piracy. Moreover instability in Somalia continues to plague, considering the last 2 horrific deadly explosions at Mogadishu and the state of the civil war in Yemen, which is continuing to affect the threat level to Merchant Vessels. Especially for Somalia, the threat to Merchant Shipping remains either in the form of Piracy or the ongoing possibility of the Al Shabaab terrorist group targeting maritime assets. The last failed attempt of pirates to hijack an Iranian fishing vessel off Socotra indicates that the trend to capture mother ships, thus making their effective range a lot greater. Pirates obviously have the intent to capture Vessels (driven among others from the famine and exacerbated by the results of the resurgence of heavy commercial fishing in the vicinity) and continue to enjoy increased capability. Only thing that has made the difference has been BMP-4 Implementation and Armed Security Teams.

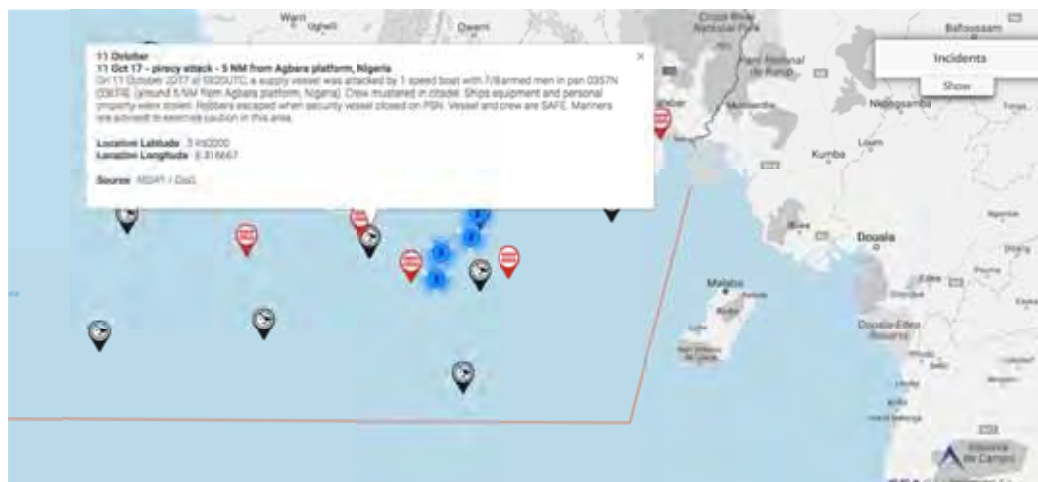
- In Yemen, the high risk and almost inevitable spill over of violence stemming from the Yemen Civil war to the maritime domain in the form of terrorism, piracy or collateral damage from unrelated incidents remains. The Houthis have declared the UN Envoy persona non grata and while the Houthi militia has been driven away from the straights themselves, they still hold the majority of the Red Sea Coast line. The Arab Coalition urged "Arms and ammunition smuggling activities into Yemen that are carried out by Al Houthi militias, threaten maritime security in this vital part of the world". In addition the recent announcement from Saudi led coalition to close all ports

into Yemen-remaining open only for humanitarian supplies, should be taken seriously under consideration form all Shippers that are planning to enter Yemeni ports in the near future.

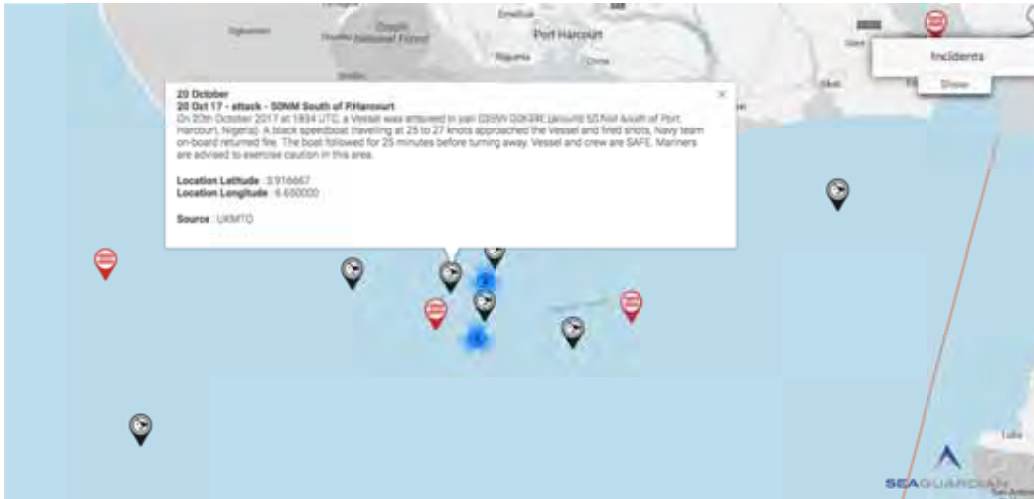
Sea Guardian continues to urge high levels of vigilance in the entire HRA with South Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and Somali Coast, remaining areas where caution needs to be exercised considering the recent incidents. ALL advisories in effect in South Red Sea and Yemeni Coast must be adhered by all. Reduced military presence in the area makes strict BMP Implementation (including IRTC and group transit scheme use) of the outmost importance.

West Africa

Incidents:



- On 11 October 2017 at 0820UTC, a supply vessel was attacked by 1 speed boat with 7/8 armed men in psn 0357N 00619E (around 5 NM from Agbara platform, Nigeria). Crew mustered in citadel. Ships equipment and personal property were stolen. Robbers escaped when security vessel closed on PSN. Vessel and crew are SAFE. Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area.



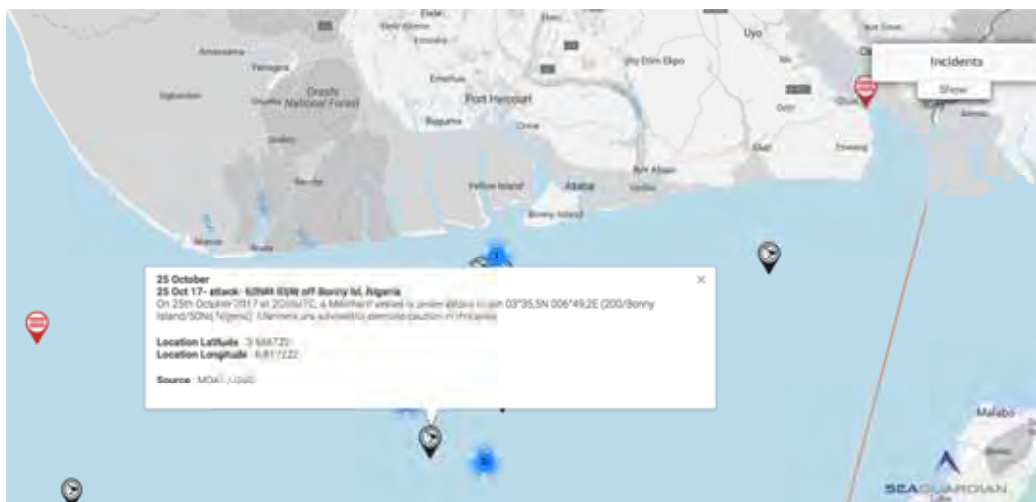
- On 20th October 2017 at 1834 UTC, a Vessel was attacked in psn 0355N 00639E (around 50 NM south of Port Harcourt, Nigeria). A black speedboat travelling at 25 to 27 knots approached the Vessel and fired shots, Navy team on-board returned fire. The boat followed for 25 minutes before turning away. Vessel and crew are SAFE. Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area.



- On 21th October 2017 early in the morning, a merchant vessel was attacked close to position psn 0335N 00700E (OFF Nigerian coast, Nigeria). The attack was conducted by 4 pirates on a speed boat with two engines. Vessel is SAFE. She resumed her route and is currently underway to exit the HRA. Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area.



- On 21 Oct 17, 0600 UTC, Container ship DEMETER was attacked by pirates in position 03 47N 007 09E, south of Port Harcourt, Nigeria, Bight of Bonny, while en route from Malabo Equatorial Guinea to Monrovia, Liberia, probably with Onne Nigeria call. Pirates boarded the ship, kidnapped 6 crewmembers, including Master, Chief Officer, Second Officer, Second Engineer, Boson and Cook, and then left DEMETER. According to report, there were 8 pirates on a black speedboat. The remaining 12 crewmembers reported unhurt, the ship resumed sailing, ETA Monrovia Oct 25. At 1300 UTC Oct 23 the ship was in Gulf of Guinea southeast of Abijan, heading for Monrovia at some 12 knots speed. Nationalities of kidnapped crew unknown.

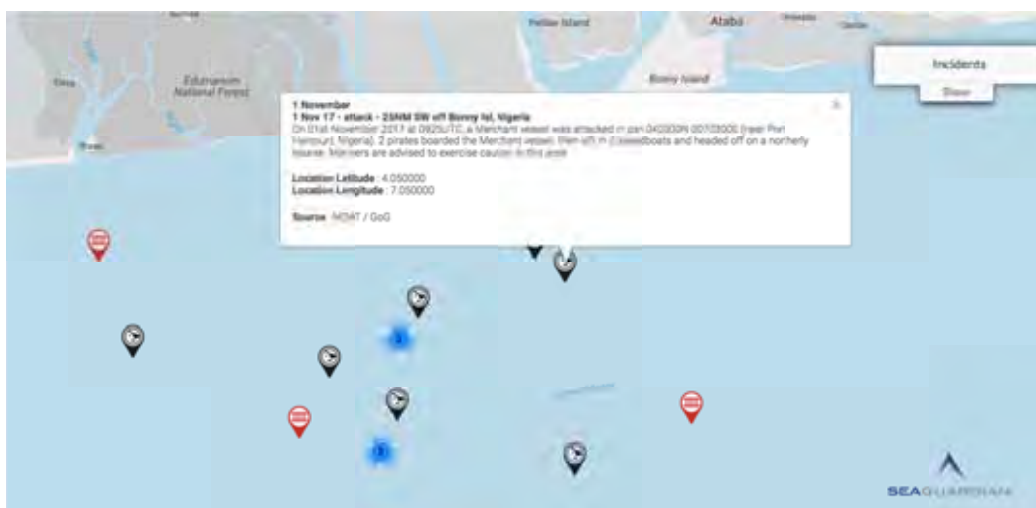


- On 25th October 2017 at 2005UTC, a Merchant vessel was under attack in psn 03°35,5N 006°49,2E (200/Bonny Island/50Nq Nigeria). Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area. Update: Two armed pirates boarded the vessel and crew mustered in the citadel. The vessel and crew are SAFE, currently being

escorted by a Nigerian navy ship. Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area.



- On 27 October 2017 at 1617UTC, MT reported 5 speed boats in position 00 41.8N – 006 03.6E (34NM off SAO TOME). Each boat had 2 POB with green clothing. Vessel and crew are SAFE. Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area.



- On 1st November 2017 at 0925UTC, a Merchant vessel was attacked in psn 040330N 0070300E (near Port Harcourt, Nigeria). 2 pirates boarded the Merchant vessel, then left in 2 speedboats and headed off on a northerly course. Mariners are advised to exercise caution in this area.

Interesting information:

- The Nigerian militant group known as the Niger Delta Avengers has proclaimed an end to a year-long ceasefire agreed with the Nigerian government, and has alluded to a desire to prevent the startup of world’s largest FPSO. In a statement released Thursday, the Avengers disavowed any further obedience to the Pan Niger-Delta Forum (PANDEF), a representative body that was involved in the peace deal, and they denied any further allegiance to a prominent ex-militant leader known as Tompolo

(aka Government Ekpemupolo). They also asserted that a competing group known as the Reformed Niger Delta Avengers was just “a money making tool” for “Niger Deltan political jobbers in connivance with top government functionaries.” RNDF has called on the government to abandon talks with PANDEF and to recognize a competing body instead.

- The United States of America, through its Maritime Administration has published a Maritime Alert warning ships to be wary when approaching Nigerian waters. According to the US Maritime Administration, the two recent incidences of pirate attacks in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria is a confirmation of escalating insecurity around and on the waters of Nigeria. It made reference to the attacks which occurred on October 21 and October 25, 2017.

- As a takeaway from last IMBs last global piracy report, a total of 20 reports against all vessel types were received for Nigeria, 16 of which occurred off the coast of Brass, Bonny and Bayelsa. Guns were reportedly used in 18 of the incidents and vessels were underway in 17 of 20 reports. 39 of the 49 crewmembers kidnapped globally occurred off Nigerian waters in seven separate incidents. Other crew kidnappings in 2017 have been reported 60 nautical miles off the coast of Nigeria. In general, all waters in and off Nigeria remain risky, despite intervention in some cases by the Nigerian Navy. The number of attacks in the Gulf of Guinea could be even higher than our figures as many incidents continue to be unreported.

- Nigeria’s Federal Government announced it had contracted the security of the nation’s waterways to an Israeli security firm at the cost of \$186 million. Disclosing this in Lagos, at the World Maritime Day with the theme, "Connecting Ships, Ports and People," Minister of Transport, Mr, Rotimi Amaechi, said the three-year contract would also see the firm train members of the Nigerian military personnel on water security, saying the intervention will save huge security cost for the likes of Mearsk line shipping firm that spends between \$15 million and \$18 million annually on escorts.

Threat assessment:

- There have been 7 incidents in West Africa waters the last 30 days. One of the attacks, 6 seafarers were abducted increasing the total number in 45 since the beginning of the year.

- Taking under consideration the overall trends and the recent US administration advisory, Gulf of Guinea remains the world’s hotspot for piracy and maritime crime, particularly marine kidnapping for ransom. As long as corruption, militant disruptions, degradation of marine environment and poverty of the Niger Delta communities can’t be confined, it is clear that maritime piracy and kidnapping will continue to plague the waters of West Africa.

Sea Guardian continues to urge high levels of vigilance for all vessels operating GoG waters should adopt strict BMP4 implementation measures, follow MDAT-GoG guidelines and report any suspicious activity.

South East Asia

Incidents:



- On 30 Oct 17, the master of tanker, GP T2 reported to the Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS) that at about 0142 hrs, five perpetrators armed with knives boarded the ship while she was underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) of the Singapore Strait (SS) at approximately 6.5 nm North East of Terumbu Betata, Batam Island, Indonesia. The perpetrators tied up the duty oiler in the engine room, took away some engine spare parts and escaped in a small boat. The small boat was seen moving towards the southerly direction. The master raised the alarm and conducted a security search on board the ship. No other perpetrators were found. The crew was not injured and the ship is proceeding towards the next port of call in China. This was the seventh incident reported to have occurred in the Singapore Strait (SS) since January 2017, compared to two incidents during January-October 2016.

Interesting information:

- BIMCO issued a warning to all vessels transiting Tawi Tawi/North East Sabah waters /Celebes Sea / Sulu Sea / Southern Philippines. ASG planned kidnapping in Sabah waters and coastal areas. Philippine intel revealed that Sulu-based ASG is planning to conduct kidnapping in Sabah coastal areas; or seajacking in Tawi-Tawi-Sabah waters anytime starting 10 October. The group has already prepared a jungkong-type speed boat coloured blue with three mega engines (200hp). As of 8 October, said speedboat is positioned somewhere in the coastal area of Parang, Sulu. Further information disclosed that the group's priority targets are Korean nationals aboard Korean sea vessels passing by Tawi-Tawi-Sabah waters. At the moment, it is not clear if the priority target is a Korean vessel passing by Tawi-Tawi-Sabah waters or Korean nationals/tourists in Sabah. If they are unable to target Korean vessels, they may target other nationalities. All vessels are strongly advised to beef up their anti-piracy watches and security measures on board their vessels. Keep clear of jungkong-type speed boat coloured

blue with three mega engines. Report all attacks to local authorities and to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre.

Threat assessment:

- The number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia in October 2017 increased slightly compared to the same period in 2016. Nine incidents were reported in October 2017 compared to seven incidents reported in October 2016. However, the total number of incidents during January-October 2017 is the lowest among the 10-year reporting period of January-October 2008-2017. There was no report of incident of abduction of crew from ships in the Sulu-Celebes Sea and waters off Eastern Sabah, and no report of hijacking of ship for theft of oil cargo in October 2017. However, of concern was the increase in the number of incidents occurred in SOMS. During January-October 2017, seven incidents were reported in SOMS compared to two incidents reported during the same period in 2016.

- While no abduction cases have been reported since April 17, sea kidnappings remain a concern, as operations by enforcement agencies are still ongoing. Sulu-Celebes Sea and eastern Sabah region remain the most dangerous waters in SE Asia. Common patrols to fight the terrorist groups in addition with the shore-based efforts have managed to confine the surge of incidents comparing with the same period 2016 and the first quarter of 2017.

SEAGUARDIAN continues to reiterate the need for collective efforts and shared responsibility among regional authorities and the shipping industry in addressing the situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. In any case all ships transiting the areas of concern should enhance vigilance especially during hours of darkness and report all incidents to the nearest coastal State and flag State immediately.

Overall Map of Incidents can be found at <http://www.sguardian.com/risk-map/>
We would also like to encourage the recipients of this report, to follow Sea Guardian's Social networks for up to date and real time information

