



MDAT – GoG

Quarterly Report 01-18

January – March 2018

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

IN THIS ISSUE

OVERVIEW

The MDAT-GOG has been operational since 20 June 16. It is a virtual reporting mechanism supporting the interregional architecture defined by the Yaounde Code of Conduct. The primary output from the MDAT-GoG is to contribute by maintaining coherent maritime situational awareness in the central and western African Maritime Space, with the ability to inform and support industry, contributing to the safety and security of the Mariner in the regional maritime domain.

All vessels are encouraged to report to the MDAT-GoG using the existing reporting formats. The information supplied by vessels will be treated as commercially confidential.

All details can be found on SHOM Chart 8801CSD or UKHO Chart Q6114, 30 June 2016, to allow vessels to report their vessels when transiting the revised Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA), also described on both security charts with the MDAT-GOG, using the email address watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org. Phone number is monitored permanently (+33 298 22 88 88).

The Quarterly report from January to March 2018, summarizes all the events previously reported within the Weekly reports. We hope this digest provides a useful overview of the events during the period.

Fair winds and following seas!

37 events have been reported to MDAT-GoG for Q01-2018; Serials 001/18 to 037/18.

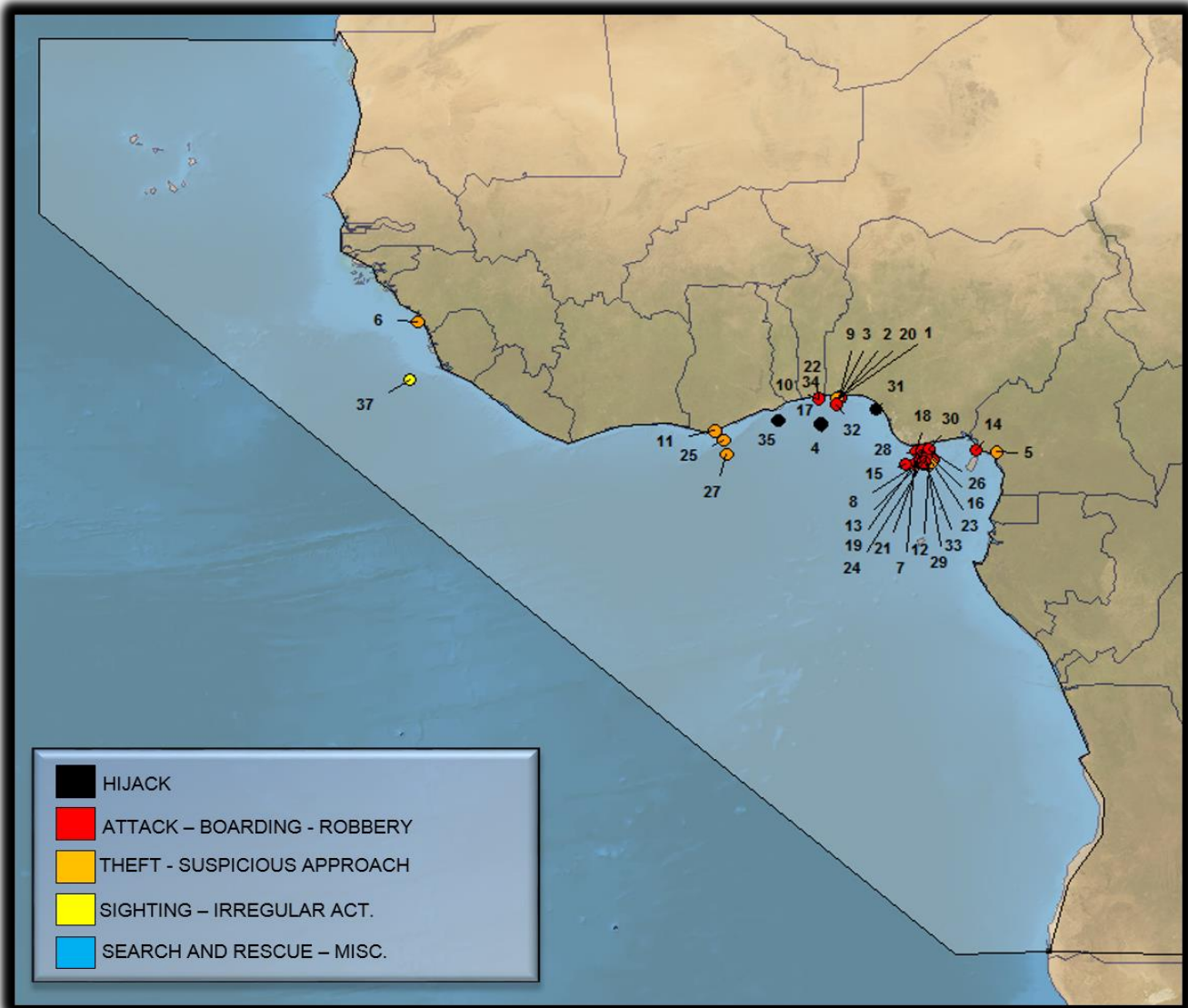
Classification criterias

- Sighting and Irregular activity: All suspicious information with no proof of intent to board the vessel.
- Suspicious approach: Close approach with intent to board the vessel.
- Attempted boarding: **Actual** attempt to board a vessel.
- Boarding: Assailants board a vessel.
- Theft: Theft realized in territorial waters with no violence.
- Robbery: Theft realized in territorial waters with threat/violence to crew.
- Attack: Use of weapons by assailants at vessel.
- Kidnap: Crew taken off vessel by force.
- Hijack: Vessel taken by attacker, no longer under the control of the Master.

ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[Naval Oceanic and Hydrographic Service \(SHOM\)](#)
[Best Management Practice \(BMP\)](#)
[United Kingdom Hydrographic Office \(UKHO\)](#)
[IMB Live Piracy Reports](#)

CHART OF EVENTS



QUARTERLY EVENTS

- **Hijack:**
5 incident(s) to report.

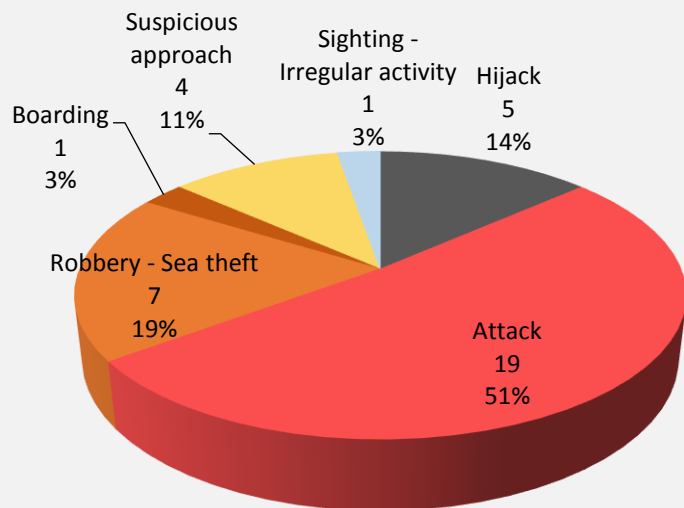
- **Boarding:**
1 incident(s) to report.

- **Attack:**
19 incident(s) to report.

- **Robbery – Sea theft:**
7 incident(s) to report.

- **Suspicious approach:**
4 incident(s) to report.

- **Sighting – Irregular activity:**
1 incident(s) to report.



WARNINGS and ADVISORIES

9 Warnings and 18 advisories have been issued this quarterly.

SERIAL	DATE	SUMMARY
ADVISORY 007/MAR/18	29/03/18	SIGHTING
ADVISORY 008/MAR/18	22/03/18	HIJACK
WARNING 003/MAR/18	26/03/18	HIJACK
WARNING 002/MAR/18	22/03/18	ATTACK
ADVISORY 006/MAR/18	22/03/18	ATTACK
ADVISORY 005/MAR/18	16/03/18	ATTACK
WARNING 001/MAR/18	16/03/18	ATTACK
ADVISORY 004/MAR/18	15/03/18	POSSIBLE ATTACK
ADVISORY 003/MAR/18	08/03/18	SUSPICIOUS APPROACH
ADVISORY 002/MAR/18	06/03/18	ATTACK
ADVISORY 001/MAR/18	01/03/18	SUSPICIOUS APPROACH
WARNING 005/FEB/18	27/02/18	ATTACK
WARNING 004/FEB/18	22/02/18	ATTACK
ADVISORY 004/FEB/18	20/02/18	THEFT ATTEMPT
ADVISORY 003/FEB/18	18/02/18	ATTACK
WARNING 003/FEB/18	17/02/18	ATTACK
WARNING 002/FEB/18	15/02/18	ATTACK
WARNING 001/FEB/18	09/02/18	ATTACK
ADVISORY 002/FEB/18	08/02/18	SUSPICIOUS APPROACH
ADVISORY 001/FEB/18	02/02/18	POSSIBLE HIJACK
ADVISORY 005/JAN/18	27/01/18	BOARDING
ADVISORY 004/JAN/18	24/01/18	ATTACK
WARNING 001/JAN/18	24/01/18	ATTACK
ADVISORY 003/JAN/18	23/01/18	THEFT
ADVISORY 002/JAN/18	16/01/18	THEFT
ADVISORY 001/JAN/18	09/01/18	THEFT

CONTACT

Contact the MDAT-GoG:
 E-mail: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org
 Phone : +33 (0) 2 98 22 88 88 (emergency)
 Phone : +33 (0) 2 98 22 13 02 (exercise)

NOTES

Any queries regarding these Advisory Notices ring: 0033 298 22 88 88 only, for further information. ADVISORIES are not Classified as Maritime Security Events and have not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.

DETAIL OF EVENTS

**037/18 – SIGHTING - On 29th March 2018, in position: 07°04.00N – 014°02.00W**

At 07:00Zhrs, out of Sierra Leone, a sailing merchant tanker was approached by a large fishing vessel not transmitting AIS. Two small skiffs were released from fishing vessel and approached the tanker at speed. The tanker used evasive manoeuvres and skiffs aborted the closing.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 13-18 and Advisory 007/MAR/18)

**036/18 – HIJACK - On 22nd March 2018, in position: 60NM south of Equatorial Guinea**

At 14:00Zhrs, a merchant tanker was hijacked by ten armed pirates, 60NM south of Equatorial Guinea. Pirates used satellite phone to contact another vessel in order to sell the cargo. When this other vessel closed the hijacked one, she then also was attacked by the pirates.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 13-18 and Advisory 008/MAR/18)

**035/18 – HIJACK - On 26th March 2018, in position: 05°20.00N – 000°51.00E**

At 17:30Zhrs, a fishing vessel was attacked and hijacked by pirates. According to reports, fishing vessel was released few days after.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 13-18 and Warning 003/MAR/18)

**034/18 – ATTACK - On 22nd March 2018, in position: 06°15.00N – 002°30.00E**

At 01:15Zhrs, a merchant vessel, anchored at Cotonou, was attacked by one speed boat with eight persons on board. No more information.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 12-18)

**033/18 – ATTACK - On 22nd March 2018, in position: 03°35.00N – 006°44.00E**

At 22:40Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked by two speed boats. No more information but crew and vessel were reported safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 12-18 and Warning 002/MAR/18)

**032/18 – ATTACK - On 22nd March 2018, in position: 06°01.00N – 003°12.00E**

At 09:00Zhrs, two fishing vessels were attacked and boarded by one speed boat. Vessels were shortly reported hijacked before being rescued by Nigerian Navy.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 12-18 and Advisory 006/MAR/18)

**031/18 – HIJACK - On 10th March 2018, in position: 05°48.00N – 004°48.00E**

At unknown time, a merchant vessel was hijacked while transiting from Cotonou to Port Harcourt. After research, vessel was found on 16th March at Cotonou anchorage.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 12-18)

**030/18 – ATTACK - On 16th March 2018, in position: 04°09.00N – 006°56.00E**

At 08:00Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked by two speed boats. Crew mustered in the citadel and vessel performed evasive manoeuvres. Pirates then aborted the attack and fled. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 12-18 and Advisory 005/MAR/18)

**029/18 – ATTACK - On 16th March 2018, in position: 03°49.00N – 006°48.00E**

At 06:17Zhrs, a merchant vessel was boarded by unknown number of pirates. Crew mustered in citadel during the attack. Nigerian Navy came to assist but pirates had already left.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 12-18 and Warning 001/MAR/18)

**028/18 – POSSIBLE ATTACK - On 14th March 2018, in position: 03°51.00N – 006°40.00E**

At 18:40Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked by pirates on board speed boat. The tanker started evasive measures and pirates were not able to board.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 11-18 and Advisory 004/MAR/18)

**027/18 – SUSPICIOUS APPROACH - On 08th March 2018, in position: 03°55.00N – 001°14.00W**

At 17:00Zhrs, a merchant vessel was approached by three boats with six men on each. They were dressed with camouflages suits and carrying weapons. They closely approached the tanker before leaving the area. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 10-18 and Advisory 003/MAR/18)

**026/18 – ATTACK - On 06th March 2018, in position: 04°04.00N – 006°56.00E**

At 09:20Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked by two fast boats. Crew raised alarm and mustered in citadel. Shots were fired against tanker. Pirates managed to board the vessel, broke the systems and equipment and left before the arrival of a Nigerian gunboat. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 10-18 and Advisory 002/MAR/18)

**025/18 – SUSPICIOUS APPROACH - On 1st March 2018, in position: 04°31.00N – 001°21.00W**

At 09:00Zhrs, a merchant vessel was approached by two boats. The vessel increased its speed to 17.5 knots and contacted local authorities. Pirates then aborted the pursuit.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 09-18 and Advisory 001/MAR/18)

**024/18 – ATTACK - On 27th February 2018, in position: 03°32.00N – 006°42.00E**

At 16:20Zhrs a merchant vessel was attacked by one speed boat with ten armed pirates. Pirates opened fire on the MV, the armed guards on the MV returned fire. The pirates then aborted the attack.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 09-18)

**023/18 – SUSPICIOUS APPROACH - On 24th February 2018, in position: 03°34.00N – 007°02.00E**

At 10:30Zhrs, a merchant vessel was approached by one skiff. Vessel increased its speed to 20 knots and contacted the Nigerian local authorities. After 30minutes the pirates stopped their pursuit. Nigerian navy patrol boat closed vessel to assist.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 09-18)

**022/18 – ATTACK - On 27th February 2018, in position: 06°16.52N – 002°29.45E**

At 00:15Zhrs an anchored merchant tanker was attacked and boarded by 5 armed men. Shots were fired between boarders and security team. Assaultants asked for a ransom but vessel was unloaded. They then left tanker with ship's and personnel properties. Beninese Navy vessel closed to assist vessel.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 09-18 and Warning 005/FEB/18)

**021/18 – ATTACK - On 18th February 2018, in position: 04°03.00N – 006°41.00E**

At 13:20Zhrs, a merchant vessel was attacked by a white-hulled skiff with approximately seven to eight on board. The pirates shot at the vessel. Security team on board repelled the attack by returning fire forcing the pirates to retreat. Vessel and crew are reported safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 08-18 and Warning 004/FEB/18)

**020/18 – THEFT ATTEMPT - On 20th February 2018, in position: 06°17.00N – 003°14.00E**

At 01:45Zhrs, a merchant tanker was boarded by 6 thieves. They jumped overboard once vessel sounded alarms. Nothing was reported stolen.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 08-18 and Advisory 004/FEB/18)

**019/18 – ATTACK - On 18th February 2018, in position: 04°03.00N – 006°41.00E**

At 21:18Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked while in transit. The crew on board the vessel deployed anti-piracy measures and mustered in the citadel, however the pirates failed in their attempt to board the vessel. Three Nigerian Navy vessels closed tanker to assist but pirates had already left. Crew and vessel are reported

safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 08-18)

**018/18 – ATTACK - On 19th February 2018, in position: 04°02.00N – 006°26.00E**

At 07:30Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked by unknown number of pirates. Distress alert was relayed on VHF16. Shots were fired and then escort vessel made the pirates abort and fly. Crew and vessel are SAFE.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 08-18 and Advisory 003/FEB/18)

**017/18 – ATTACK - On 17th February 2018, in position: 06°17.53N – 002°30.21E**

At 23:00Zhrs, an anchored merchant tanker was attacked by wooden boat. Shots were fired, alarm was raised and crew mustered in the citadel. Three pirates boarded the vessel while crew advised local authorities by satellite phone. Pirates had already left when navy arrived.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 08-18, Warning 003/FEB/18 and its update)

**016/18 – ATTACK - On 15th February 2018, in position: 03°40.00N – 007°06.00E**

At 19:50Zhrs, a merchant vessel was attacked by two speed boats with four men. Pirates opened fire on vessel. Evasive manoeuvres were taken and close escort vessel opened fire on pirates, who finally aborted attack. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 07-18, Warning 002/FEB/18 and its update)

**015/18 – ATTACK - On 3rd February 2018, in position: 03°29.40N – 006°36.42E**

At 17:40Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked by one speed boat with at least 10 armed men on board. Alarm was raised, naval guards were alerted and crew mustered. Pirates shot on merchant tanker. After two attempts and seeing the security team, pirates aborted the attack and left. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 07-18)

**014/18 – ATTACK - On 9th February 2018, in position: 04°06.00N – 008°51.00E**

At 12:45Zhrs, a fishing vessel was attacked by one blue/green hulled speed boat. No more information.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 07-18)

**013/18 – ATTACK - On 09th February 2018, in position: 03°43.00N – 006°45.00E**

At around 10:30Zhrs in position 03°43N – 006°45E, a merchant vessel was attacked by unknown number of boats. Vessel sent SSAS distress alarm and relayed MAYDAY on VHF16.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 06-18 and Warning 001/FEB/18)

**012/18 – SUSPICIOUS APPROACH - On 7th February 2018, in position: 03°28.00N – 006°56.00E**

A merchant vessel was approached by one skiff up to 0.8NM. The Armed Security Team was in position and the unknown reduced speed before turning away. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 06-18, Advisory 002/FEB/18)

**011/18 – THEFT - On 2nd February 2018, in position: 04°54.24N – 001°43.06W**

At 02:50Zhrs, a merchant vessel was boarded by two thieves. Alarm was raised and thieves then jumped overboard. They fled away on board a boat in which three other men were waiting. Some ship's properties were reported stolen. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 06-18)

**010/18 – POSSIBLE HIJACK - On 2nd February 2018, in position: 06°15.57N – 002°30.30E**

At 04:00Zhrs, a merchant tanker was reported missing from Cotonou anchorage. No contact has been established with the ship. According to reports, vessel has been released few days later and crew is safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 05-18, Advisory 001/FEB/18 and its update)

**009/18 – BOARDING - On 27th January 2018, in position: 06°18.00N – 003°20.00E**

At 00:01Zhrs, an anchored merchant tanker was attempt boarded by at least one man. Duty team raised alarm, and man left the vessel empty-handed. Crew and vessel are safe. Nothing was reported stolen. Boarding failed.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 05-18 and Advisory 005/JAN/18)

**008/18 – ATTACK - On 24th January 2018, in position: 03°38.00N – 006°37.00E**

At 05:15Zhrs, a merchant vessel was attacked by two fast boats. Shots were fired towards starboard bridge wing and accommodation. Security team repelled the attack. Crew and vessel are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 04-18 and Advisory 004/JAN/18)



007/18 – ATTACK - On 24th January 2018, in position: 03°30.00N – 006°20.00E

At 09:00Zhrs, a merchant tanker was attacked. Armed security team on board repelled the attack.
(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 04-18 and Warning 001/JAN/18)



006/18 – THEFT - On 23rd January 2018, in position: 09°30.00N – 013°43.00W

At 05:30Zhrs in position 09°30N – 013°43W (Conakry Port Terminal), two men tried to board a merchant vessel berthed at Conakry Port Terminal. They were seen climbing up ship's astern line. Once they were spotted, they jumped into water and swam away.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 04-18 and Advisory 003/JAN/18)



005/18 – THEFT - On 21st January 2018, in position: 04°00.05N – 009°40.00E

At 01:00Zhrs, a berthed merchant vessel was boarded by one man. Officer of the watch spotted the intruder, raised alarm and asked Cameroons' local navy duty man for assistance. Thief then jumped overboard and left on board a boat. Theft failed.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 04-18)



004/18 – HIJACK - On 10th January 2018, in position: 05°12.36N – 002°35.18E

On Wednesday 10 Jan, a Shipping Company reported lost communications with her vessel in the vicinity of Cotonou Anchorage (last known position 05°12'36"N 002°35'18"E). The MDAT-GOG and the local Maritime Ops Centre were informed. A Beninese patrol vessel confirmed the vessel was missing from the anchorage. Further investigations have verified that the vessel had been hijacked. MDAT-GOG can now confirm that the vessel and its crew have been released and are safe.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 03-18)



003/18 – THEFT - On 05th January 2018, in position: 06°18.00N – 003°20.00E

At 04:15Zhrs, an anchored merchant tanker was boarded by 2 men. Thieves cut double layer of razor and managed to board the vessel. They tried to steal some cargo. Once they were spotted, they jumped overboard and fled on board a fast wooden boat. Theft failed. Incident notification received on 19/01/2018.



002/18 – THEFT - On 16th January 2018, in position: 06°18.05N – 003°23.31E

At 03:00Zhrs, an anchored merchant tanker was boarded by 2 men. Crew and vessel are safe, nothing was reported stolen. Theft failed. Earlier, a small craft with 5 people was observed roving on port quarter but later moved away from the ship.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 03-18, Advisory 002/JAN/18 and its correction)



001/18 – THEFT - On 08th January 2018, in position: 06°19.15N – 003°20.35E

At 23:05Zhrs, an anchored merchant vessel was boarded by two men who tried to steal cargo. They jumped overboard once they were spotted. Nothing was reported stolen.

(MDAT-GoG Weekly Report 01-18 and Advisory 001/JAN/18)