



Monthly Advisory / Situation Report September 2018

Red Sea - Indian Ocean Incidents



Interesting information

- [Saudi Navy Intercepts Two Explosives-Filled Drone Boats](#) On Sunday, Saudi Arabia's navy reported that it had destroyed two remote-controlled, explosives-filled vessels that were targeting the port of Jizan (Jazan). According to Saudi coalition spokesman Col. Turki Al-Maliki, the Saudi Navy detected the boats approaching in series, one at 0450 hours and one at 0505 on Sunday morning.
- [Strengthening maritime cooperation and security in the Indian Ocean](#) Delivering the Keynote address at the Shangri-La dialogue of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in Singapore on 1 June 2018, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the first time articulated India's vision towards the 'Indo-Pacific region' and placed it firmly at the

heart of India's engagement with the world.

Threat assessment

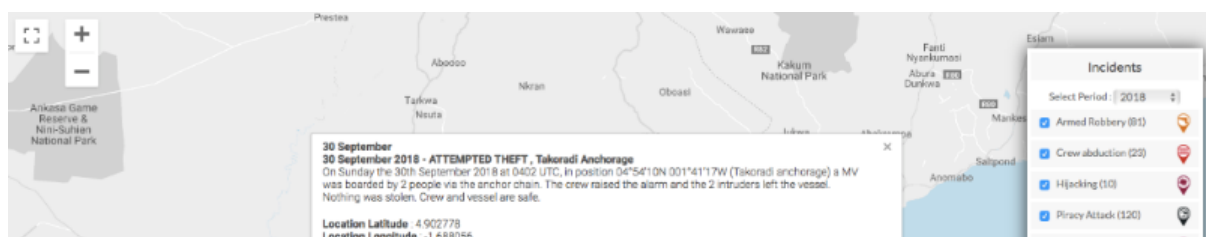
~No incidents were reported in Red Sea/Indian Ocean during this time period.

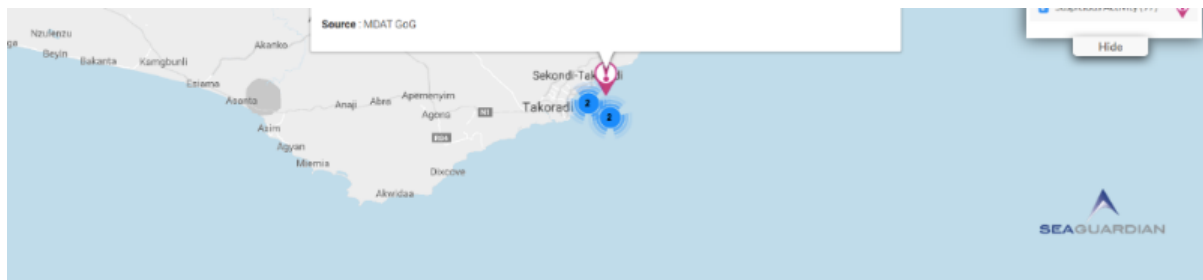
~In the Indian Ocean Region, the Singapore Navy has handed command of CTF-151 to the Kuwait Navy, signing off with the fact that there have been no piracy reports in the Gulf of Aden under their watch.

~ Iran has discounted the idea of an attack by US forces which, of course, is a bit of light sabre-rattling intended to keep the pot simmering. The Pakistan Navy has, in conjunction with the country's maritime security agency, scooped up a huge cargo of hashish that smugglers were transporting in the Arabian Sea. Another win for law and order.

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

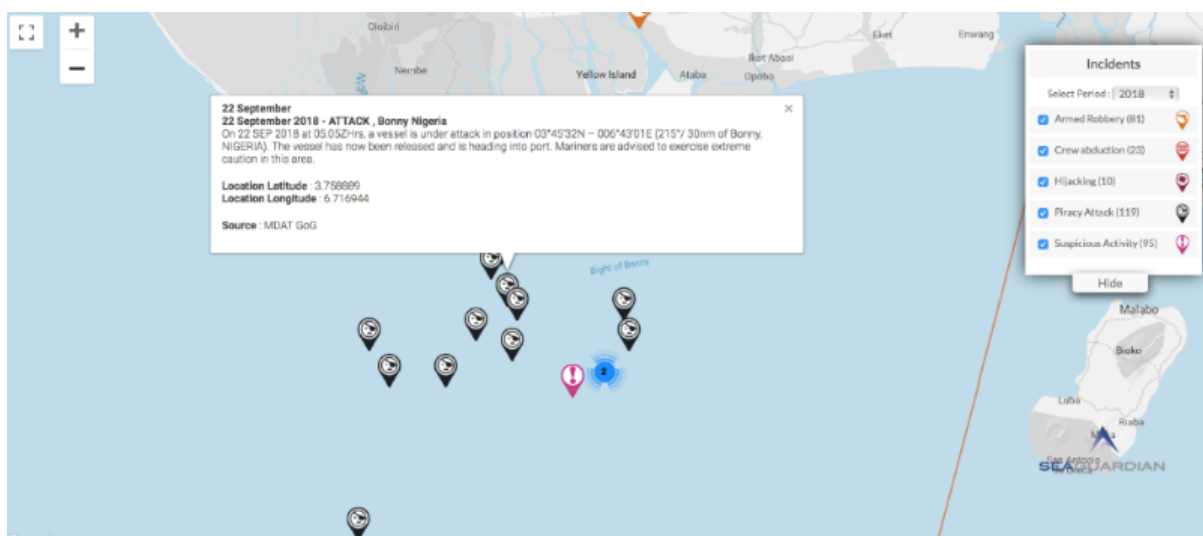




- On Sunday the 30th September 2018 at 0402 UTC, in position 04°54'10N 001°41'17W (Takoradi anchorage) a MV was boarded by 2 people via the anchor chain. The crew raised the alarm and the 2 intruders left the vessel. Nothing was stolen. Crew and vessel are safe.



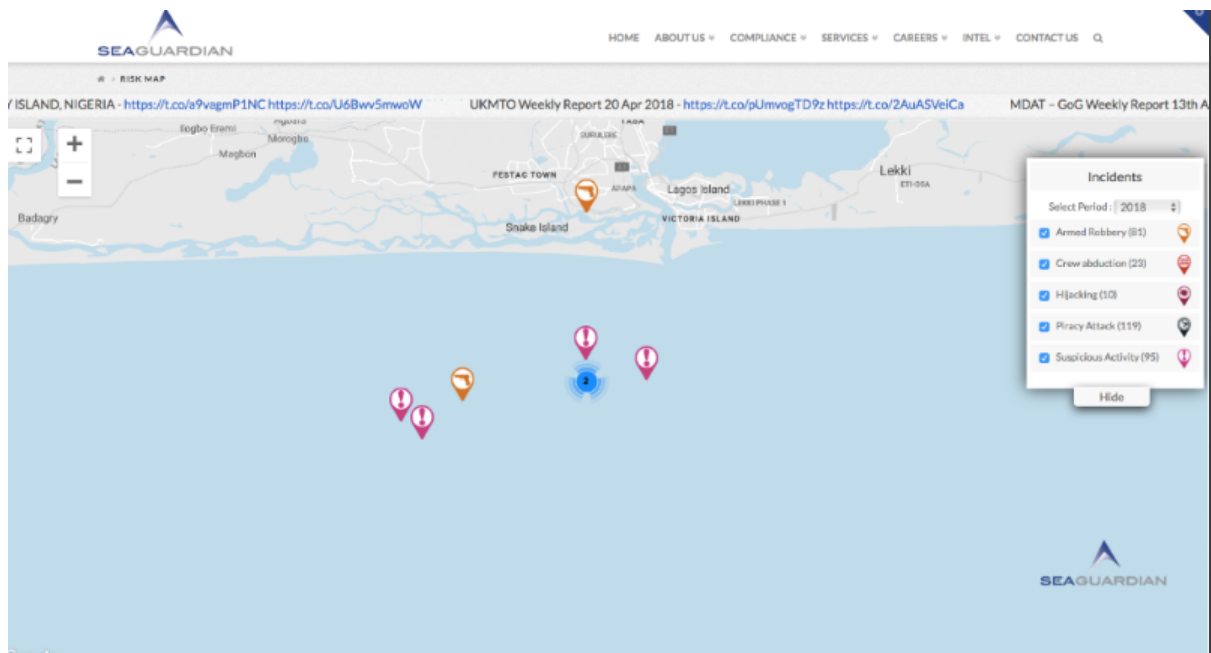
- On Tuesday the 25th Sept. at 1151 UTC, in position 02°45'55N 006°39'19E a MV was approached by 1 speed boat with 7 people on board. Shots were fired in the vessel's direction. Attacked was thwarted by the arrival of a local security vessel. Crew & vessel are SAFE. VESSEL TRANSITING THE AREA ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION.



- On 22 SEP 2018 at 05:05Zhrs, a vessel is under attack in position 03°45'32N –

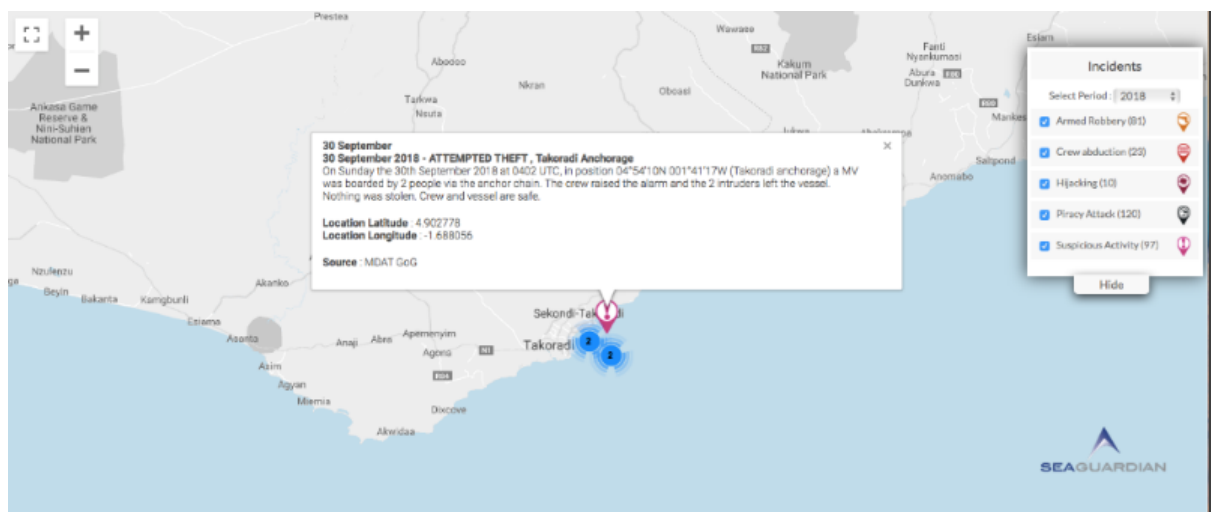
006°43'01E (215°/ 30nm of Bonny, NIGERIA). The vessel has now been released and is heading into port.

Mariners are advised to exercise extreme caution in this area.



- On Thursday the 20st September 2018 at 2345 UTC, a MV was approached by 2 boats at Lagos anchorage at 06°16'51N 003°13'16E.

At 2358 UTC, 2 unauthorised personnel were spotted on the Main deck. Once challenged, they escaped with a rope tied on board. Nothing was reported as stolen.



- On monday the 17th September 2018at 0310 UTC, a MV has been boarded by 4 armed pirates at Conakry anchorage at 09°20'48N/ 01°34'318. They boarded via the anchor chain

Interesting information

-[Nigerian pirates kidnap 12 crew from Swiss cargo ship](#) Pirates have kidnapped 12 crew members from a Swiss cargo vessel in Nigerian waters. Massoel Shipping said its vessel, MV Glarus, was carrying wheat from Lniagos to Port Harcourt when it was attacked on Saturday.

-[Poor funding, corruption hampering security](#). Despite insufficient resources and lack of long term funding mechanisms, Nigeria has signed another agreement with its neighbour to tackle maritime security, BAYO AKOMOLAFE reports Four years after the Yaoundé summit on maritime security, efforts by Nigeria and other maritime countries in the Gulf of Guinea to set up institutional structures to tackle the menace of robberies on sea

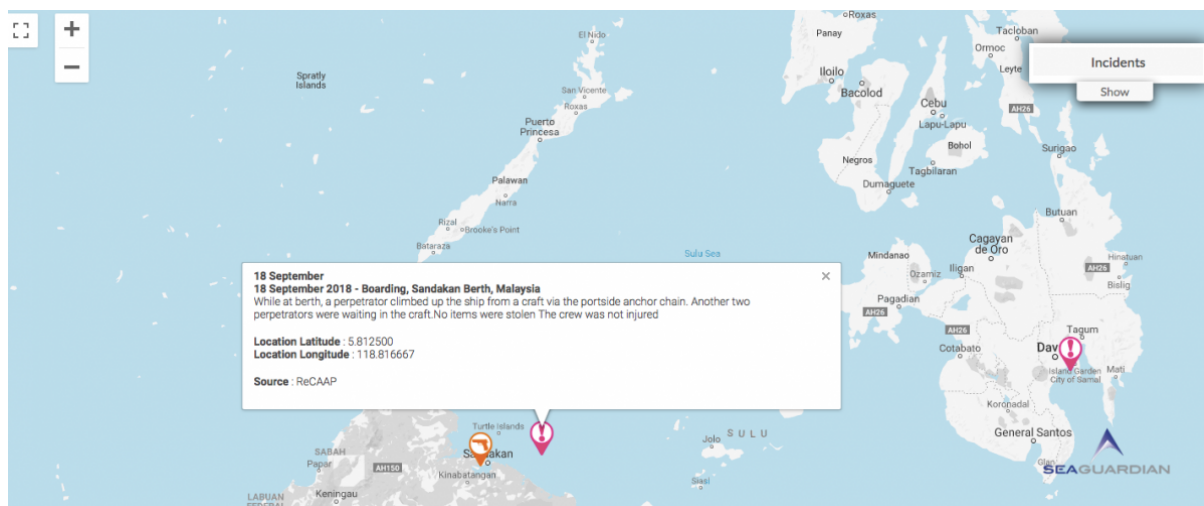
Threat assessment

~Following last weekend's crew kidnapping off Bonny, Nigeria, the news has been very Gulf of Guinea-centric. The good news is that the kidnappers have made contact with the owners of the vessel and negotiations to release the 12 crew currently being held are underway. Naturally, this week has seen pledges from various maritime bodies in Nigeria to clamp down on maritime crime and piracy. There has even been a claim that Nigeria's waters are becoming safer, which rather flies in the face of recent evidence, given the number of attacks in recent weeks.

~Ships off Nigeria and in the wider Gulf of Guinea are vulnerable to pirate attack, especially in waters off the Niger Delta. Attacks typically involve assailants coming alongside in small boats and climbing aboard using ladders, ropes and hooks. The attackers are often armed and violent. Vessels in the area should exercise extreme caution. They should monitor the approach of unknown skiffs and speedboats, avoid slow steaming and minimise time spent in anchorages. Evasive action and the use of citadels have proved effective in frustrating pirate assaults as have some vessel hardening measures.

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



-While at berth, a perpetrator climbed up the ship from a craft via the portside anchor chain. Another two perpetrators were waiting in the craft. No items were stolen
The crew was not injured

Interesting Information

-[PH, Australia hold joint maritime security activity](#) ZAMBOANGA CITY–The Philippine Navy (PN) and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) is conducting a 10-day maritime security activity to enhance the capabilities and readiness of sailors of the two countries in combating terrorism at sea. Dubbed as the 5th Combined PN-RAN Maritime Security

- [Fishermen Kidnapped Off Sabah, Malaysia. ASG Suspected.](#) LOCAL authorities in Malaysia report the kidnapping of two Indonesian fishermen

from a fishing vessel, Dwijaya 1, by suspected Abu Sayyaf militants on 11 September in the province of Sulu, the southern province of Philippines between midnight and 1 am (local time).

- [INDIA, THE U.S. AND “THE NEW ORDER OF THINGS”: CHANGING SECURITY DYNAMICS IN THE INDO-ASIA-PACIFIC](#) Rear Admiral (Retd) William C. McQuilkin On the eve of the first ever United States – India 2+2 Dialogue, which gathers together the leaders of defense and diplomacy of our respective countries, a quick assessment of defense priorities between our two countries is in order.

Threat assessment

~the Royal Australian Navy has returned to the Philippines for another round of anti-piracy naval drills. These have the added effect of suppressing local maritime crime while training crews, so we look forward to a drop in reports from the region.

Malaysia is expressing concerns over the security of its waters around Malaysian Borneo, and is looking to improve the situation. Still in the region, the Singapore Navy has a new training facility and commissioned two new littoral vessels into the fleet this week.

~It is difficult to estimate how many ships have been targeted by criminals in South East Asia waters as many incidents are thought to go unreported. The Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia (ReCAAP) recorded 30 attacks on shipping in Indonesian waters in 2017.

~Most of the incidents were opportunistic with perpetrators coming alongside ships at night and clambering aboard, sometimes climbing anchor chains.

~Ships are advised to use anchorages patrolled by Marine Police and to maintain heightened vigilance and to report attacks and suspicious activity.

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 our website](#).

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.

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Our contact information :

opscenter@sguardian.com / west-ops@sguardian.com
tel: +357 25351125

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