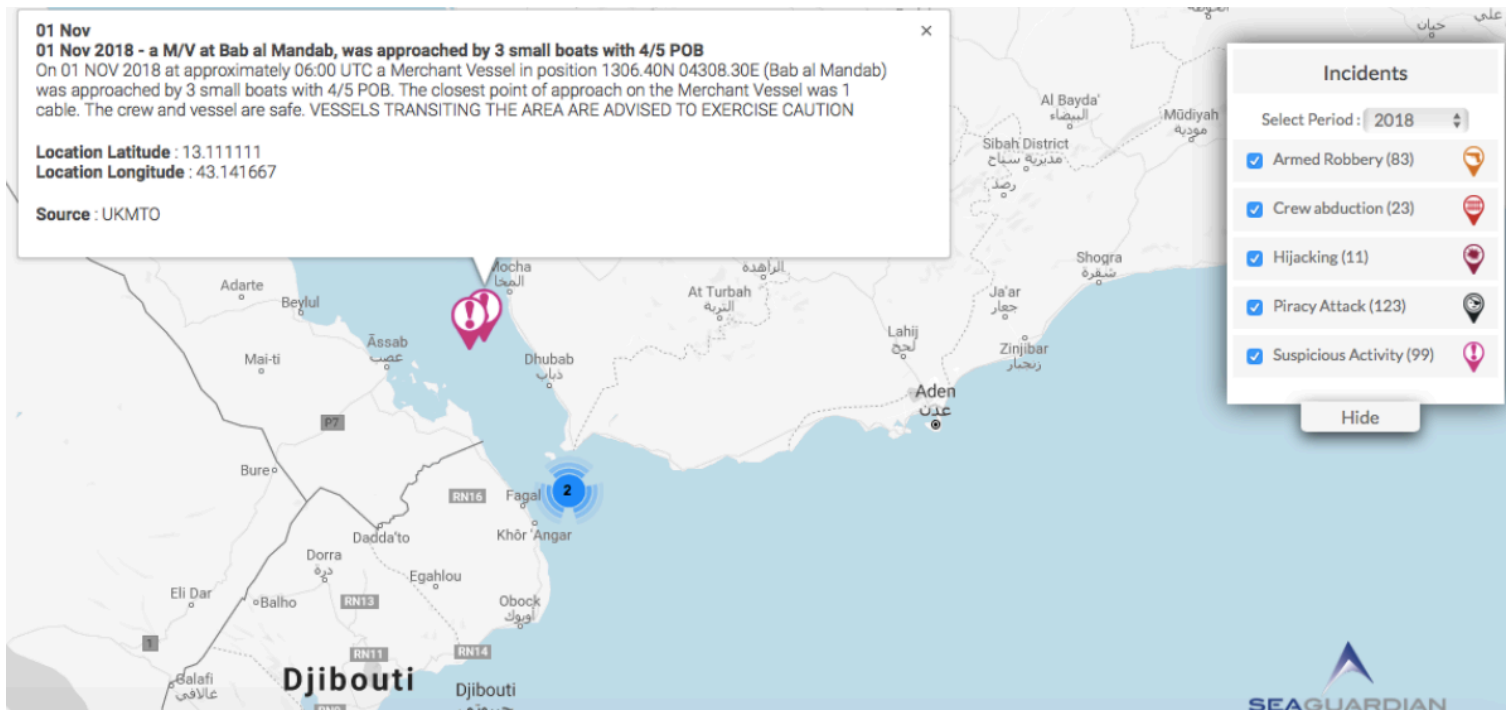


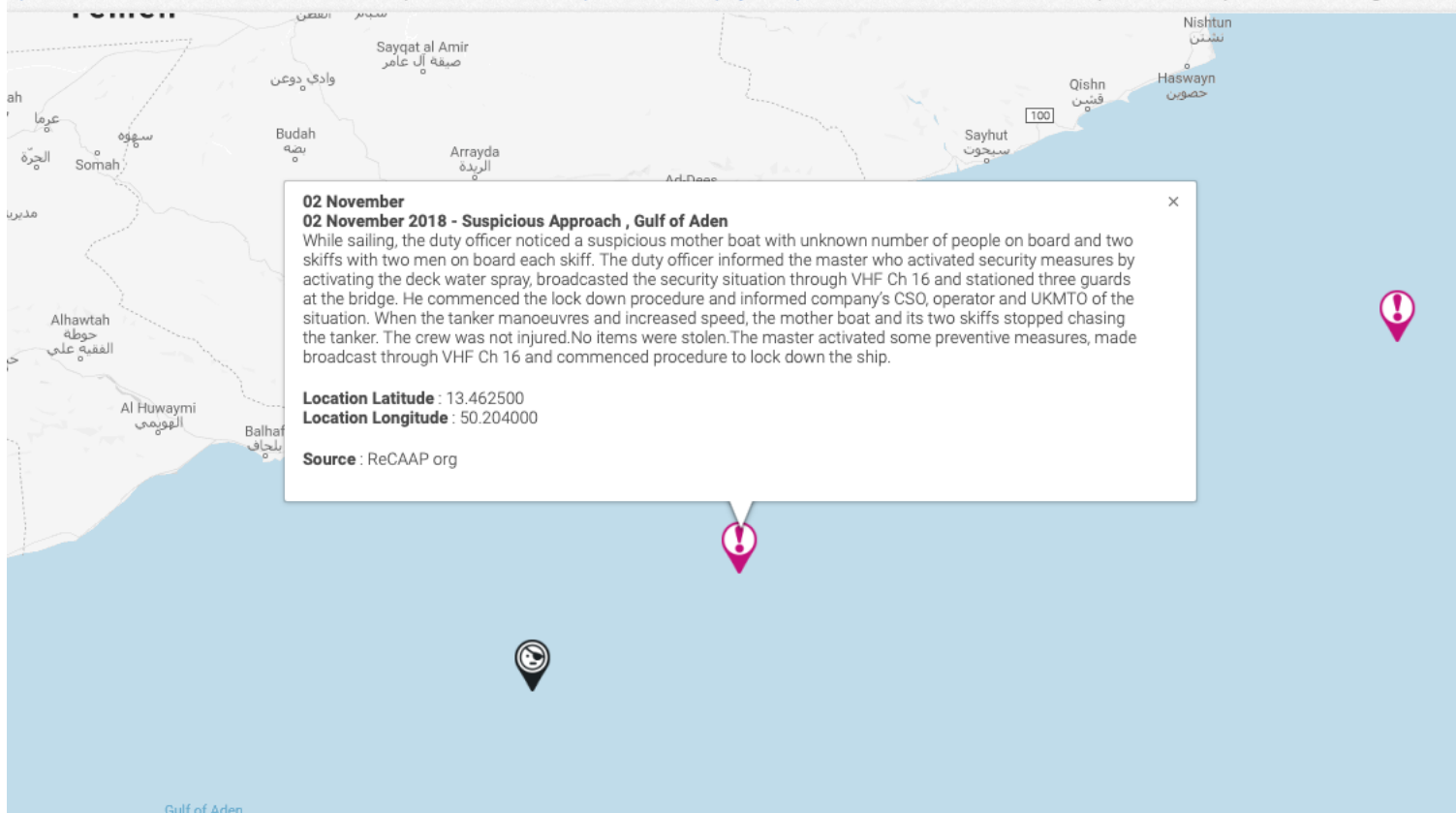
## Monthly Advisory / Situation Report November 2018

### Red Sea - Indian Ocean Incidents



-On 01 NOV 2018 at approximately 06:00 UTC a Merchant Vessel in position 1306.40N 04308.30E (Bab al Mandab) was approached by 3 small boats with 4/5 POB. The closest point of approach on the Merchant Vessel was 1 cable. The crew and vessel are safe. VESSELS TRANSITING THE AREA ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE CAUTION

Source : UKMTO



- On November 02, While sailing, the duty officer noticed a suspicious mother boat with unknown number of people on board and two skiffs with two men on board each skiff.

The duty officer informed the master who activated security measures by activating the deck water spray, broadcasted the security situation through VHF Ch 16 and stationed three guards at the bridge. He commenced the lock down procedure and informed company's CSO, operator and UKMTO of the situation.

When the tanker manoeuvres and increased speed, the mother boat and its two skiffs stopped chasing the tanker.

The crew was not injured.No items were stolen.The master activated some preventive measures, made broadcast through VHF Ch 16 and commenced procedure to lock down the ship.

Source: ReCAAP org

## Interesting information

- [Maritime Security Agency to hold oil spill response exercise](#) KARACHI: The ninth Barracuda (oil spill response) exercise under the aegis of the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency will be held in December, MSA said in a statement. Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Ali Zaidi, will be chief guest of the inaugural ceremony, the MSA said in its press release.

- [‘Pak Navy to ensure maritime security, peace in region’](#) ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi reiterated that Pakistan Navy is committed to enhance mutual collaboration in all the realms of maritime commons including joint development of platforms, equipment and

sensors and exchange of quality training on reciprocal basis to the officers and men of other countries.

-[Somalia: EU training mission extended, budget agreed and mandate amended](#) The Council extended the mandate of EU military training mission EUTM Somalia until 31 December 2020 and agreed on a budget of €22.9 million for the period 1 January 2019 until 31 December 2020.

-[Uhuru launches Kenya Coast Guard Service, says to boost maritime security](#) President Uhuru Kenyatta on Monday launched the newly formed Kenya Coast Guard Service at Liwatoni in Mombasa. Uhuru said the Coast Guard service will help increase efficiency in protection of maritime resources. “It will enforce security, safety, and protection of Kenya’s maritime resources,” Uhuru said.

-[Maritime Lessons from the Yemen Conflict](#) The Yemen conflict has involved sophisticated and effective attacks at sea in one of the world’s busiest maritime straits, through which passes a significant amount of the UK’s imported gas and oil. Despite these attacks, the flow of shipping continues relatively unabated, even including pleasure cruises!

-[Saudi Coalition Halts Hodeidah Offensive](#) The Saudi-led coalition backing the Yemeni government in Yemen’s civil war has ordered a temporary halt in its offensive to retake the key port city of Hodeidah. The move comes amidst growing pressure on the government of Saudi Arabia to reach a truce with Houthi rebels, who have controlled Hodeidah and much of Yemen’s Red Sea Coast since 2014.

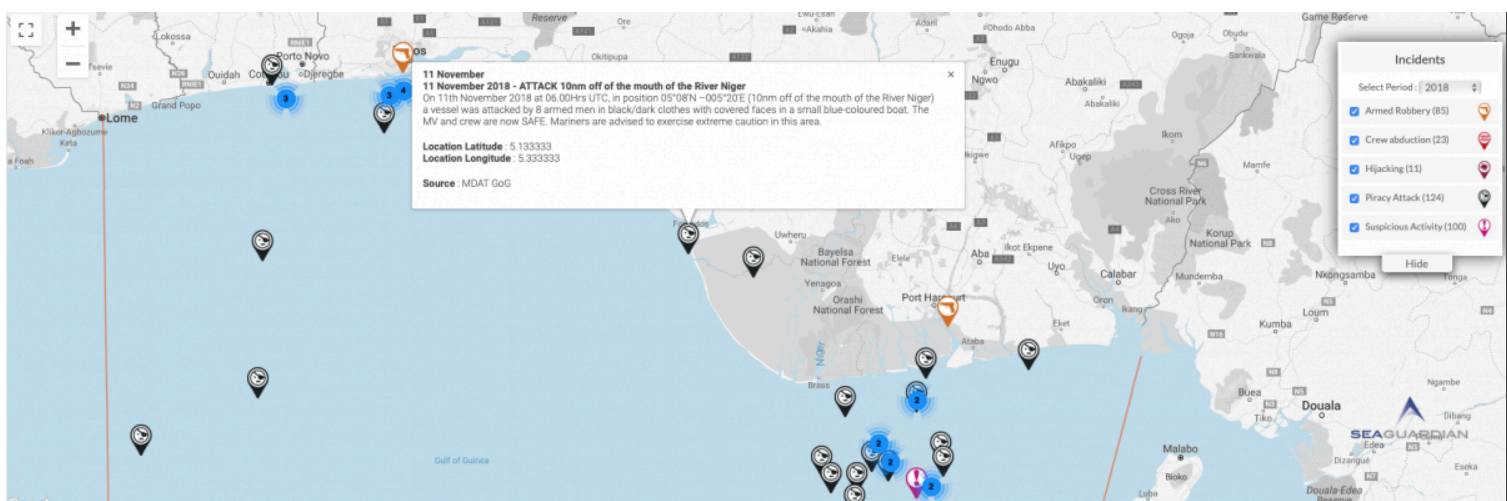
## Threat assessment

~Two incidents were reported in Red Sea/Indian Ocean during this time period. The first one in Bad el Mandeb where 3 small boats **approached** a merchant vessel but due to high vigilance nothing occurred and the second in Gulf of Aden, where a vessel was **approached** by two skiffs but after some successful manoeuvres they left.

~ Pakistan has again committed to protecting its waters robustly. The Pakistan Navy and Pakistan Maritime Security Agency have intercepted a number of smugglers this year and, although they are no longer part of the Combined Maritime Forces in the region, they maintain a significant presence. France and Egypt have held further naval exercises in the Red Sea, which not only boost capabilities but are also intended to send a clear signal that the Red Sea is protected. (from Maritime Security Review)

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 11th November 2018 at 06.00Hrs UTC, in position 05°08'N – 005°20'E (10nm off of the mouth of the River Niger) a vessel was attacked by 8 armed men in black/dark clothes with covered faces in a small blue-coloured boat. The MV and crew are now SAFE.

Mariners are advised to exercise extreme caution in this area.

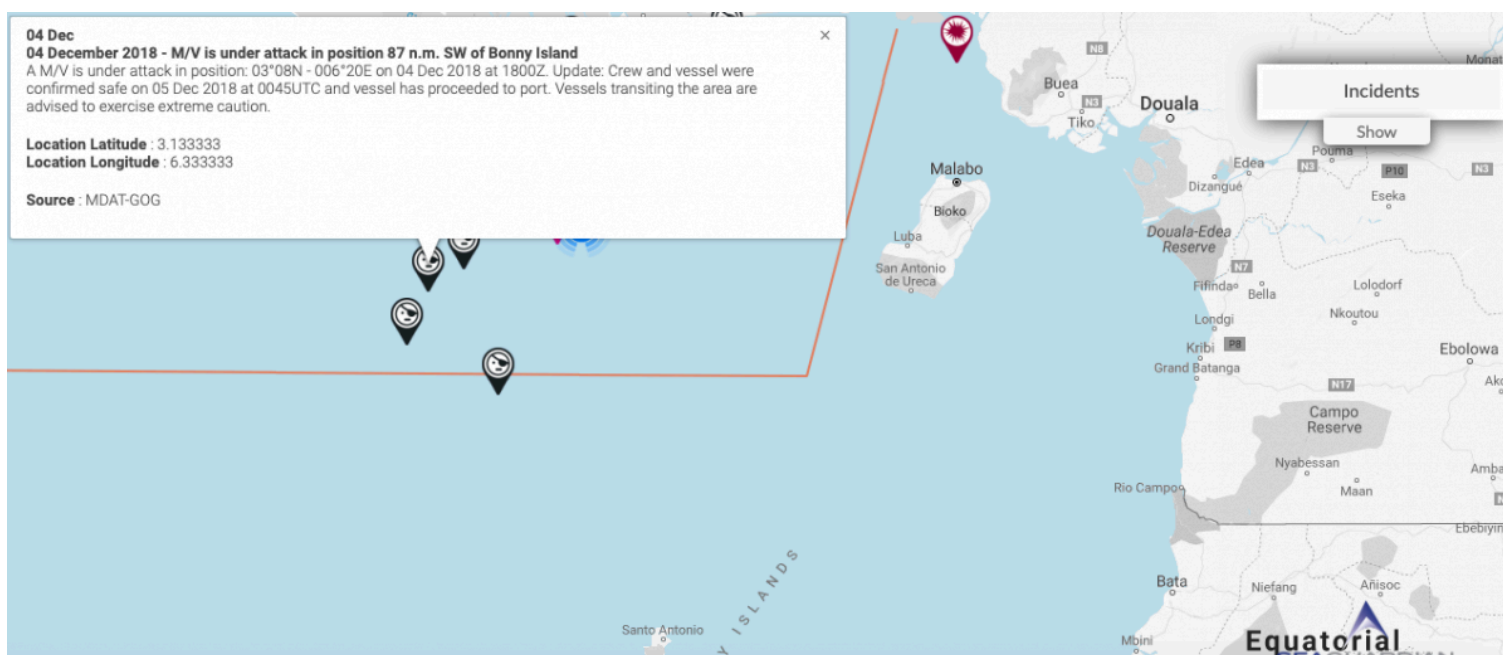
Source MDAT GoG





-On Friday 23rd November 2018 at 0200 UTC, 4 trawlers have been attacked by an unknown number of pirates in position 04°18N – 008°47E. Bearing 160°, 12NM from Bakassi Peninsula. The ships have been released and are now safe. Patrol boats are investigating the area.

Source : MDAT GoG



-04 December 2018 – M/V is under attack in position 87 n.m. SW of Bonny Island  
A M/V is under attack in position: 03°08N – 006°20E on 04 Dec 2018 at 1800Z.

Update: Crew and vessel were confirmed safe on 05 Dec 2018 at 0045UTC and vessel has proceeded to port. Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution.

Source : MDAT GoG

## Interesting information

- [Gulf of Guinea Boosts Maritime Security](#) Maritime security depends on the capacity of national authorities to develop effective port security plans and procedures and the ability to self-audit, says International Maritime

Organization (IMO). A regional workshop for participants from a number of countries in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Tema, Ghana (13-16 November) has helped to build national capacity to enhance port security.

-[Waning piracy threat in African oceans no reason for relaxation: IMO](#)

[Durban workshop hears](#) Durban: 13 November 2018 The virtual elimination of piracy along eastern oceans of the African continent over the last few years – thanks to a concerted highly collaborative international effort – is no reason for the continent to relax.

-[Military attacks militants, pirates, destroys illegal oil facilities in Niger](#)

[Delta](#) The raid equally claimed four large reservoirs containing stolen crude as well as seven Cotonou boats used for the illicit act. In Akwa Ibom, he said the military located and destroyed illegal dumpsites in Eket and Ibeno council areas of the state.

## Threat assessment

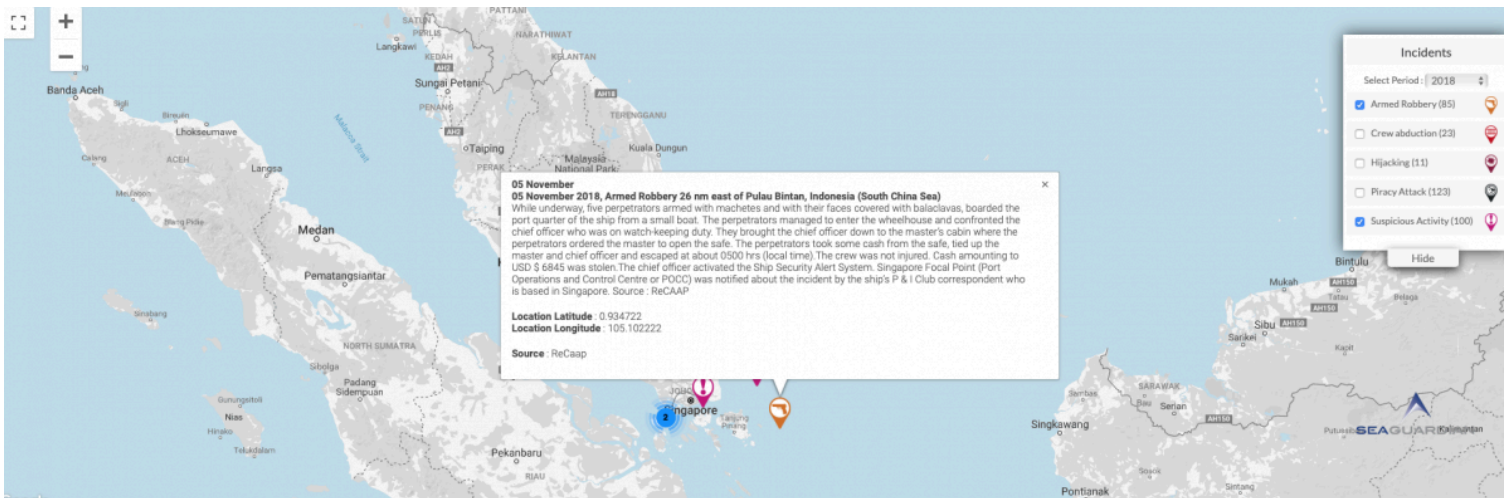
~ 3 incidents occurred in West Africa during this time period; 3 different pirate **attacks** on merchant vessels. Fortunately , it all ended well

~ In Nigeria, NIMASA has called on the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) to ensure fairness and balance in its reportage of piracy issues on Nigeria's territorial waters. The IMB only report incidents logged directly with them by vessel Masters or shipping companies, so it's an interesting development between the two agencies. In a further step, the Nigerian Navy, also made headlines when one admiral suggested that there hadn't been an incident of piracy in the country's waters for the last three months. (from Maritime Security Review)

*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 November 05, While underway, five perpetrators armed with machetes and with their faces covered with balaclavas, boarded the port quarter of the ship from a small boat.

The perpetrators managed to enter the wheelhouse and confronted the chief officer who was on watch-keeping duty. They brought the chief officer down to the master's cabin where the perpetrators ordered the master to open the safe. The perpetrators took some cash from the safe, tied up the master and chief officer and escaped at about 0500 hrs (local time). The crew was not injured.

Cash amounting to USD \$ 6845 was stolen. The chief officer activated the Ship Security Alert System.

Singapore Focal Point (Port Operations and Control Centre or POCC) was notified about the incident by the ship's P & I Club correspondent who is based in Singapore.

Source : ReCAAP

## Interesting Information

- [The End of U.S. Naval Dominance in Asia](#) Editor's Note: Although the Trump administration has made much of China's rise when it comes to trade, the president should be focused more on the security implications. Robert Ross of Boston College points to the decline in U.S. naval strength in East Asia as a game-changer for the regional order.

- [Japan boosts int'l coast guard diplomacy in PH-SEA waters](#) By Roy Mabasa  
A Filipino coast guard officer has cited Japan's role and support in promoting "coast guard diplomacy" to the Philippines and to the Southeast Asian

region, in view of the developing issues and challenges. Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Lieutenant Commander Jay Tristan Tarriela conveyed view of Japan amid regional maritime issues such as the South China Sea

## Threat assessment

~ 1 incident occurred in Southeast Asia during this time period. Armed perpetrators boarded the vessel and managed to steal some cash from the safe

~ Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines conducted INDOMALPHI naval exercises in the region, which focused on piracy and the terrorism and kidnap threat posed by the Abu Sayyaf Group.

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.

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**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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