

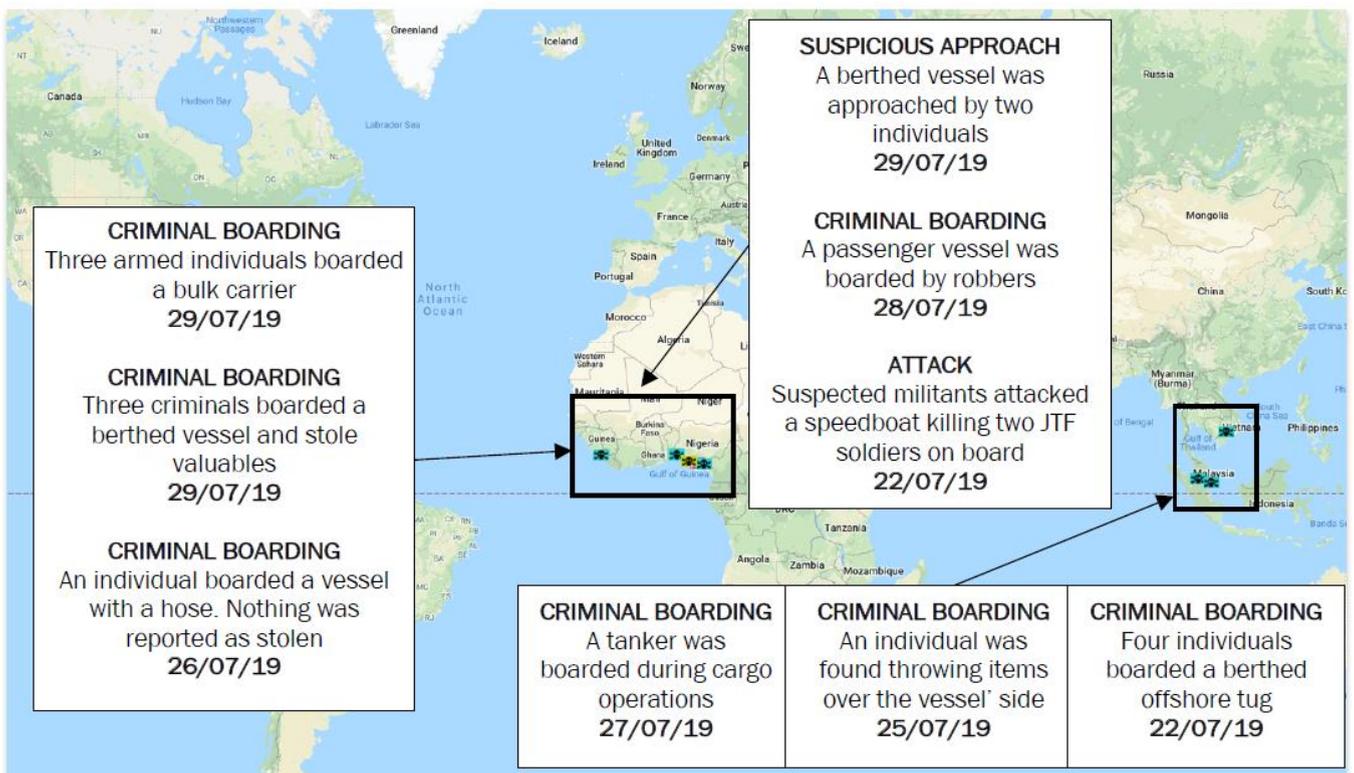
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- > Nine incidents were recorded globally during the reporting period
- > East Africa HRA and Indian Ocean: No incidents were recorded during the reporting period
- > West Africa HRA: Six incidents were recorded during the reporting period
- > South and Southeast Asia: Three incidents were recorded during the reporting period
- > Americas: No incidents were recorded during the reporting period

ADVISORIES

- > East Africa: UK proposes EU naval mission to the Persian Gulf
- > West Africa: Ghana hosts IMDEC in Accra

RECORDED INCIDENTS



REGIONAL SUMMARY

- > No incidents were recorded during the reporting period
- > Continuous piracy threat off the Somali coast and extending to the Gulf of Aden and Gulf of Oman. Actors involved in the ongoing conflict in Yemen have targeted vessels transiting the Bab-el-Mandeb Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS); increased vigilance is advised during daylight hours
- > High pressure dominates the weather pattern over the region producing mostly clear skies. Tropical
- > Cyclone 02A is influencing all areas. Southwest monsoon conditions resume after and will continue
- > until September. Expect increased localised wind flow through the Strait of Hormuz due to funnelling effects (Source: US ONI)

RECORDED INCIDENTS

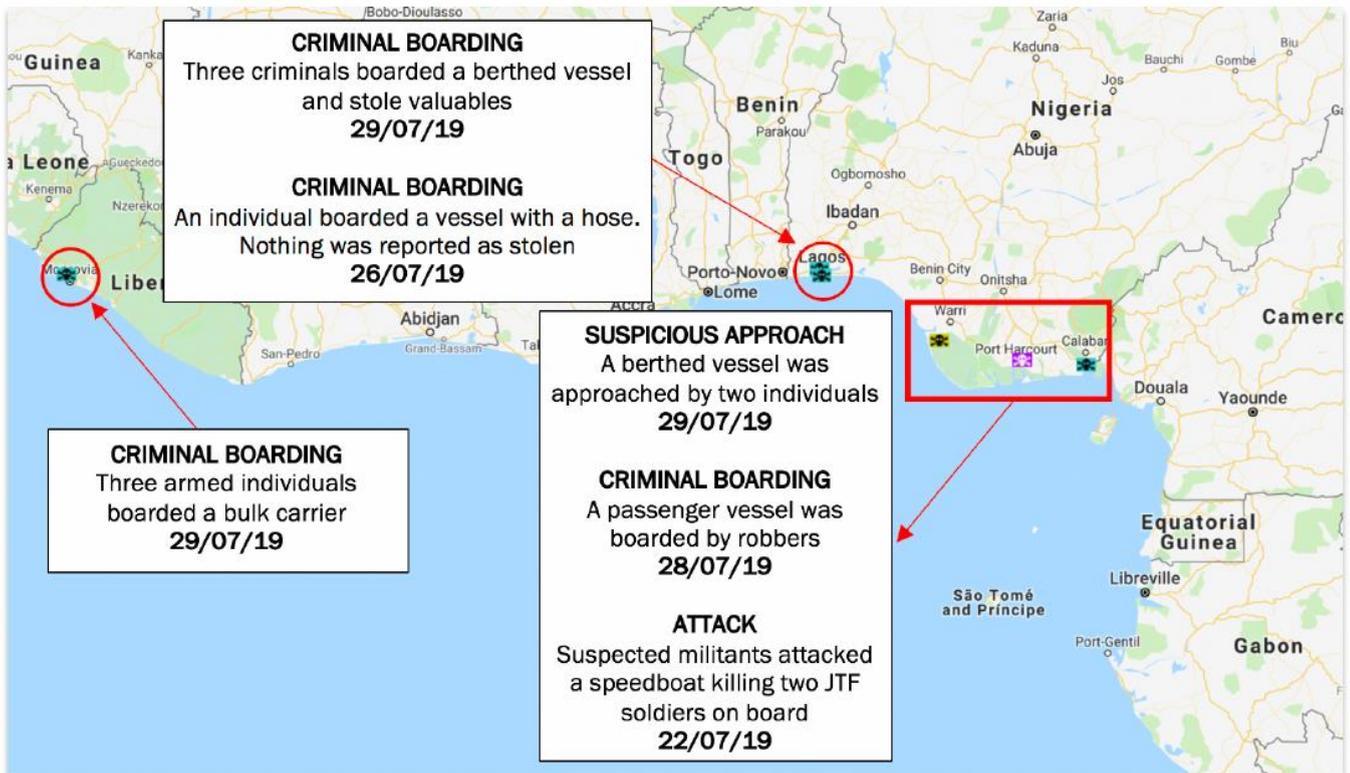
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REGIONAL SUMMARY

- > There is new information following the Maritime Security Alerts circulated on 22 July regarding hijackings off Ghana and Togo. The original sources were later assessed to have been incorrect and the incidents have not been confirmed. Consequently, the records of the hijackings have been removed from MarTrack and reports of the incidents may at this time be discounted.
- > Six incidents were recorded during the reporting period.
- > Continuous threat off Nigeria, Benin, Togo and Ghana in addition to the coastlines of Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- > High pressure continues to dominate the weather in the region. Isolated thunderstorms and rain showers can be routinely expected along the West African coast (Source: US ONI)

RECORDED INCIDENTS



01 29JUL2019. 0330 UTC. CRIMINAL BOARDING. NYA, ICC-IMB. 06:19:29N – 010:51:18W. Monrovia Anchorage, Liberia. Three armed individuals boarded a bulk carrier. Crewmembers raised the alarm, causing the criminals to flee. Master tried to call Port Control but received no response. Time is approximate.

02. 29JUL2019. 0310 UTC. CRIMINAL BOARDING. NYA. 06:25:30N – 003:20:30E. Tin Can Island, Nigeria. A container vessel berthed at Tin Can Island was boarded by three individuals. The criminals assaulted and beat the AB on duty before stealing personal valuables.

- 03. 29JUL2019. 0145 UTC. SUSPICIOUS APPROACH. NYA. 04:41:18N – 007:09:30E. Onne Port, Nigeria.**
A supply vessel berthed at the Onne Port Federal Light Terminal was approached by two unarmed individuals on board a canoe. The officer on duty detected the canoe and raised the alarm, causing it to retreat. Onne Nigeria Port Authority was notified. The crew and vessel were reported as safe.
- 04. 26JUL2019. 0330 UTC. CRIMINAL BOARDING. ICC-IMB. 06:18:04N – 003:23:21E. Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria.** During routine rounds, the duty officer approached the forward cargo tanks and noticed one unauthorised person jumping overboard with a hose. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. Subsequent investigations indicated that the person was attempting to steal cargo. The incident was reported to a proximate Navy patrol vessel whereby a search of the surrounding waters was conducted. Nothing was reported stolen.
- 05. 22JUL2019. 1500 UTC. ATTACK. NYA. 05:04:00N - 005:36:60E. Azagbene Community, Ekermor Local Government Area, Bayelsa State, Nigeria.** Suspected militants attacked a speedboat which had three Joint Task Force (JTF) soldiers on board, guarding a pipeline. Two of the personnel are reported to have been killed and the third is reported missing. The assailants stole rifles and the speedboat before escaping.

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SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

THREAT LEVEL: MODERATE

REGIONAL SUMMARY

- > Three incidents were recorded during the reporting period
- > Criminal boardings remain the primary threat to the region. However, the threat from Extended Duration Cargo Theft (EDCT) is present across the Malacca Strait and South China Sea
- > Expect strong gusts in and around scattered thunderstorms throughout the Malacca Strait and the Andaman Sea due to funnelling effects and daytime heating. The west Pacific Ocean's Tropical Cyclone Season runs from April to October. Expect numerous Tropical Cyclones to impact the region during this timeframe that could change the forecast (Source: US ONI)

RECORDED INCIDENTS



- 01. 27JUL2019. 1955 UTC. CRIMINAL BOARDING. ICC-IMB. 01:45:27N – 101:22:03E. SDS Terminal St 1, Lubuk Gaung, Indonesia.** Four armed individuals boarded a berthed tanker during cargo operations. Crewmembers noticed the robbers near the engine room and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the criminals escaped through the steering gear room. A search was carried out revealing that engine spares were stolen. Incident reported to the PFSO.
- 02. 25JUL2019. 1240 UTC. CRIMINAL BOARDING. ICC-IMB. 10:44:06N – 106:44:23E. Phú My Bridge, Vietnam.** Third officer on routine rounds on board a berthed general cargo vessel noticed an unauthorised person on deck throwing items over the vessel's side. Upon checking the duty officer noticed two smaller vessels collecting the items thrown over the side. The alarm was raised and seeing the approaching officer, the individual escaped. Upon investigation it was found that the padlock of the forward store was broken. Local authorities have been notified.

03. 22JUL2019. 2300 UTC. CRIMINAL BOARDING. ICC-IMB. 10:44:06N – 106:44:23E. PT Dharma Sentosa Marindo Yard, Batam, Indonesia. Four robbers in a speedboat approached and boarded a berthed offshore tug. The second officer on routine rounds noticed footprints on the main deck and further checks revealed a broken storeroom padlock. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. Vessel's properties were reported stolen. The following day at 2100 UTC a suspicious speedboat with two individuals on board came alongside the tug. One of them was armed with a knife. Crewmembers raised the alarm resulting in the boat moving away. Incident reported to PFSO and Yard Manager.

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SPECIAL ADVISORIES

EAST AFRICA: UK PROPOSES EU NAVAL MISSION TO THE PERSIAN GULF

On 22 July former UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt outlined plans to parliament for a naval mission led by European states that could ensure safe shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. This follows the seizure of a British-flagged tanker by Iran on 19 July. Newly appointed Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, however, said that such a mission would not be “viable” without the support of the US. It remains unclear whether the three European states interested in partaking in this mission (France, Germany and the UK) have the military strength to successfully undertake this task independent of the US.

Analysis: *Despite their outspoken support of a European presence in the Persian Gulf, free of US influence, both Germany and France are under pressure to lend their military strength to the mission. Germany is hesitant to appear complacent a country “dependent on the freedom of international shipping”, according to Wolfgang Ischinger former German ambassador to the US; whereas France stated that they will not send military forces to the region but are willing to share information and coordinate deployed assets. In light of a string of incidents in the Persian Gulf targeting commercial tankers, which Iran is suspected of orchestrating, the prospect of European states adopting a retaliatory strategy cannot be ruled out. Iranian officials have issued public statements claiming that Tehran is looking for a diplomatic solution to the current tensions in the region, while maintaining an aggressive maritime posture in recent weeks. Any EU mission with the support of the US will likely elevate the threat to British-flagged vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz in the short to medium term.*

WEST AFRICA: GHANA HOSTS IMDEC IN ACCRA

On 24 July the Ghanaian Navy hosted in Accra over 10 Chiefs of Navies from across Africa, in addition to 250 international senior officials from navies, coast guards and marine police for the first International Maritime Defence Exhibition and Conference (IMDEC). The event was scheduled to discuss the prevailing challenges to maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) and to review the impact of piracy, illegal fishing, oil theft, human and drug trafficking on the success of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement.

Analysis: *This event represents progressive steps towards increasing solidarity amongst maritime security experts in Africa and across the world. According to NYA MarTrack™ data, the number of piracy incidents recorded between January-July 2019 fell from 105 to 78, representing a 26% decrease compared to the same period in the previous year. In addition to this, the ICC-IMB reported that the first half of 2019 incidents in the GoG accounted for 73% of kidnappings and 92% of hostage-takings at sea worldwide. The incidence of piracy in the GoG highlights the long-term issues destabilising the region and maritime security, which state officials and private industry experts are called to address. This is particularly pertinent as international and regional shipping will increase following the ratification of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement.*

ANNEX A – THREAT TERMINOLOGY

The report’s findings are predictive and estimative. To communicate these findings clearly and in order to accurately compare threat levels, the report uses a variation of terminology used by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

TERMINOLOG	DESCRIPTION
Critical	The likelihood of an incident is certain
Severe	The likelihood of an incident is almost
Substantial	The likelihood of an incident is probable
Moderate	The chances of an incident are about even
Low	The likelihood of an incident is improbable

Piracy: NYA uses a modified version of the definition of piracy adopted by BMP5. For the purposes of this report, the term ‘piracy’ includes all violent and non-violent acts against vessels, her crew and cargo occurring either in internal waterways, territorial waters or deep offshore. Based on this definition, NYA classifies piracy incidents into six categories:

- > **Hijacking** – Crew lost control of the vessel and / or pirates kidnapped at least one crewmember and / or passenger(s)
- > **Boarding** – Pirates successfully board a vessel with the intent to hijack it but their attempt to take control of the vessel or kidnap crewmember(s) and / or passenger(s) failed
- > **Attack** – Vessel was attacked with gunfire or RPG fire, no boarding was successfully completed
- > **Pirate Action Group (PAG)** – Sighting or reporting of firearms and boarding equipment on board a suspicious vessel or sighting of a confirmed pirate mother ship
- > **Criminal boarding** – Vessel boarded with criminal intent, theft does not have to occur
- > **Suspicious approach** – Suspicious activity reported (i.e. a vessel was approached by unidentified skiff(s) with one or more persons on board)

LIMITATIONS

Our opinion and advice are given on the basis of the information given to us in our instructions and the surrounding circumstances known to us to exist at the time when those instructions are given. We do not accept responsibility for verifying the information or investigating beyond its limits. Subsequent changes to relevant information or to the surrounding circumstances may affect the reliability of our opinion and advice but we do not accept responsibility for that effect. We do not accept responsibility for the outcome of action taken or not taken as a result of our opinion and advice unless the possibility of that action being taken or not taken is set out in specific terms in our instructions.

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