

This Week: Hijacking in Togo, Attacks in Indonesia

Threat Analysis Summary: 24 August 2012 – 30 August 2012

This past week there were six reported incidents, with targets concentrated in Togo and Indonesia. See below for brief descriptions of the incidents as well additional information in convey schedules and weather patterns for the week.

Togo



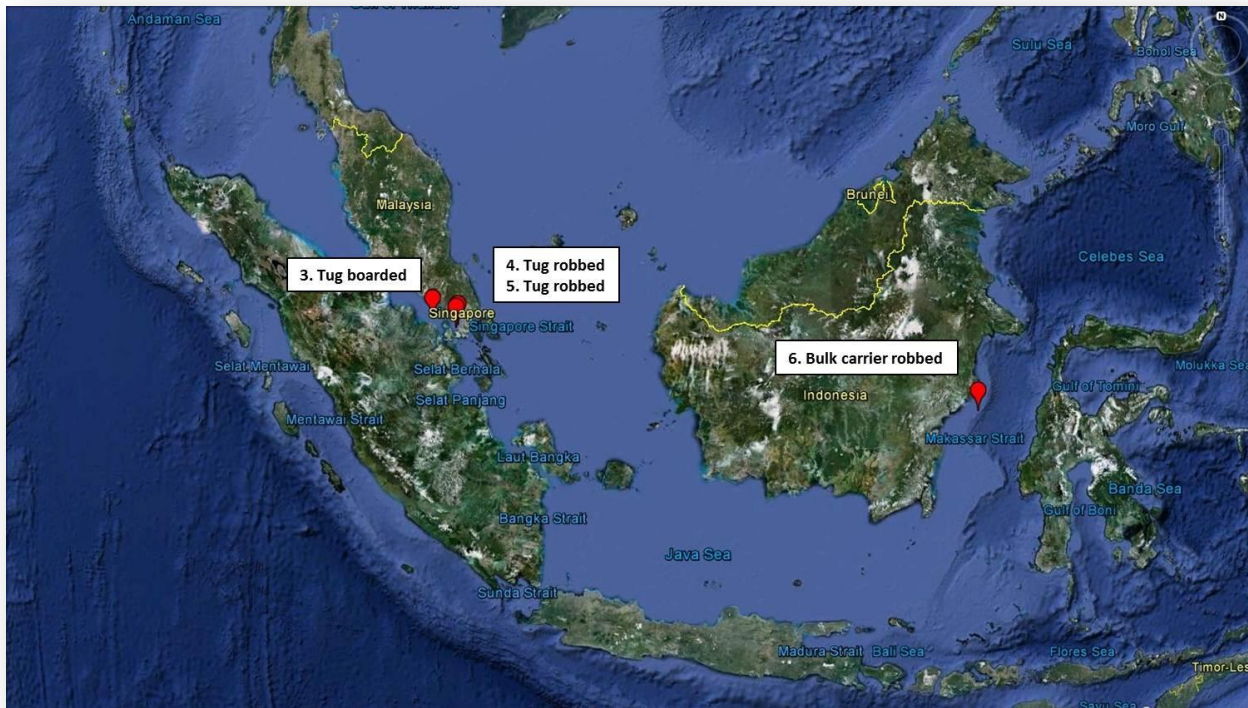
1. Lome Anchorage

28 August 2012 - An oil tanker was attacked when an unknown number of pirates boarded and hijacked the vessel. The Togo Navy dispatched a patrol boat which intercepted the tanker and ordered her to stop. The tanker ignored the warning and an exchange of gunfire took place between the pirates and the naval patrol boat. The pirates held control of the vessel until 30 August when the ship was released. (IMB, Press)

2. Lome Anchorage

18 – 23 August - Last week a tanker drifting off of Anchorage mainland was boarded by sixteen armed pirates who hijacked the vessel and sailed her to an unknown location. The pirates damaged the ship's communication equipment, engine, speed and rescue boats. In effort to conceal the vessel, they painted the exterior, changed the name, and removed the IMO number. However, when the vessel was further damaged by another vessel, the pirates fled the ship, taking crew and ship equipment. The crew and ship were released on 23 August, with no physical injuries to crew members. (IMB)

Indonesia



3. Singapore Strait

23 August - A tug boat was boarded by an unknown number of robbers. There was no damage to ship or crew reported. (IBM)

4. Pulau Tekong Kecil

19 August – A tug boat was boarded by four robbers armed with knives. The robbers raided the crew’s personal belongings, rice and rations. The crew suffered no injuries and the pirates were not apprehended. (ReCAAP)

5. Pulau Tekong Kecil

17 August – A tug boat was attacked by two armed robbers with unidentified sharp weapons. Upon boarding the vessel, the robbers tied up the master and crew, escaping with technology and personal valuables. The crew reported no physical injuries. (IMB)

6. Muara Berau Anchorage

28 August – Robbers boarded a bulk carrier, stealing ship stores. The robbery was not identified until the attackers were clear of the scene. The robbers accessed the store by forcing open the forward storeroom door. (IMB)

Convoy Schedules

Escort services are provided by the following countries during the month of September for vessels transiting the Gulf of Aden:

Government of Japan convoy scheduled for September 2012.

Merchant vessels that wish to apply for JMSDF escort operation should visit http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html and follow the application procedure. For further information, please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MILT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932 Fax: +81-3-5253-1643 Email: INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp (MSCHOA).

Korean Navy convoy scheduled for September 2012.

All merchant vessels wishing to join the convoy group must submit their application forms directly to the ROK naval warship carrying out the mission. The ROK MTG can be reached directly at INMARSAT: 870-773-110-374 Email: rokcheonghae@gmail.com (MSCHOA).

Chinese convoy scheduled for September 2012.

For further information, email cnmrcc@mot.gov.cn, or call Tel: 86-10-652-92221 Fax: 86-10-652-92245 (MSCHOA).

Indian Navy convoy schedule available on the Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa internet site: <http://www.mschoa.org/on-shore/home> (MSCHOA).

Weather Forecast 31 Aug – 6 Sep 2012

Gulf of Aden: West-southwesterly winds of 11 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western portion, and west-southwesterly winds of 10 – 14 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the while in the eastern portion. **Extended Forecast:** West-northwesterly winds of 8 – 12 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet, abating to 3 – 5 feet, in the western portion. In the eastern portion, west-southwesterly winds of 10 – 14 knots, gusting to 21 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet.

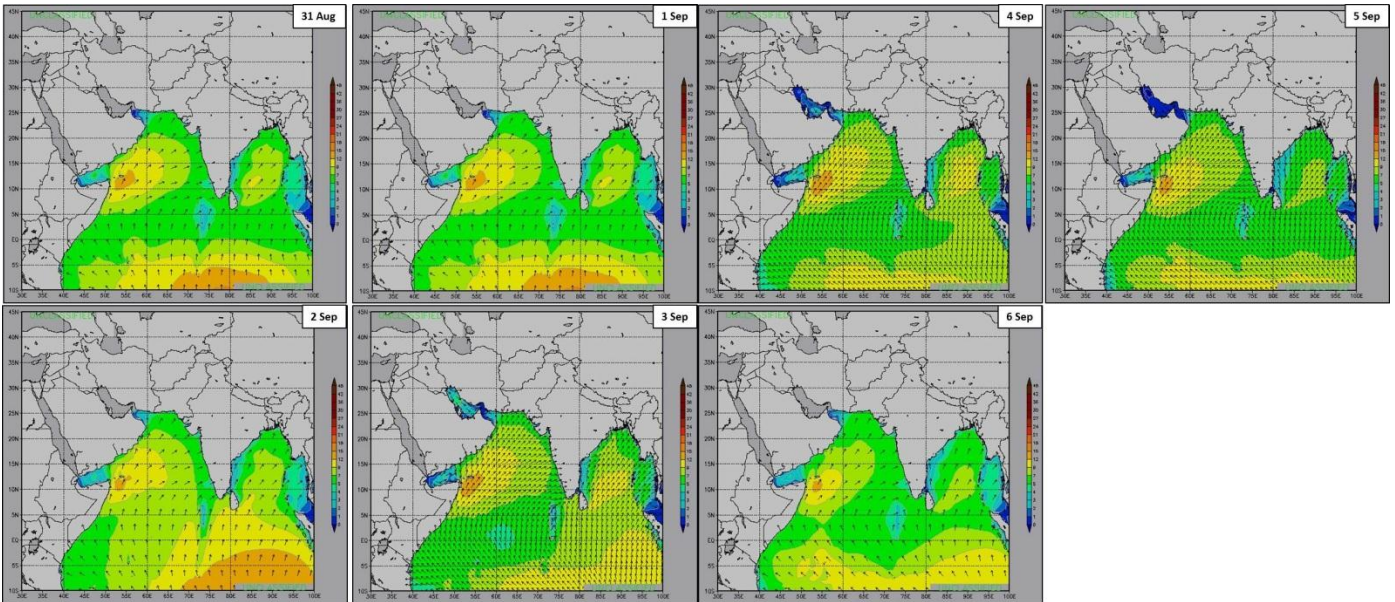
Somali Coast: Southwesterly winds of 21 – 25 knots and seas of 10 – 12 feet north of 5 degrees North. South-southwesterly winds of 13 – 17 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet south of 5 degrees North. **Extended Forecast:** Southwesterly winds of 23 – 27 knots and seas of 10 – 12 feet north of 5 degrees North. South-southwesterly winds of 16 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet south of 5 degrees North.

Arabian Sea: Southwesterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 - 9 feet. **Extended Forecast:** Southwesterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 6 - 8 feet.

Central African Coast/Indian Ocean: South-southeasterly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet. **Extended Forecast:** South-southeasterly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.

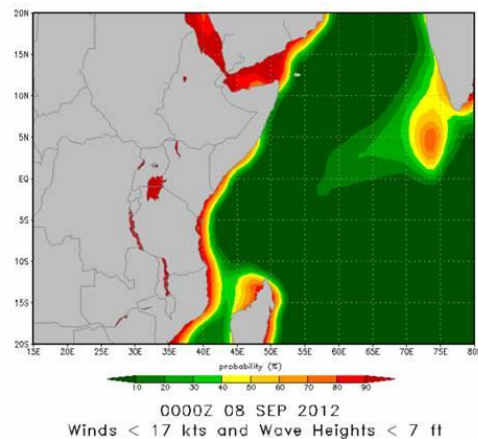
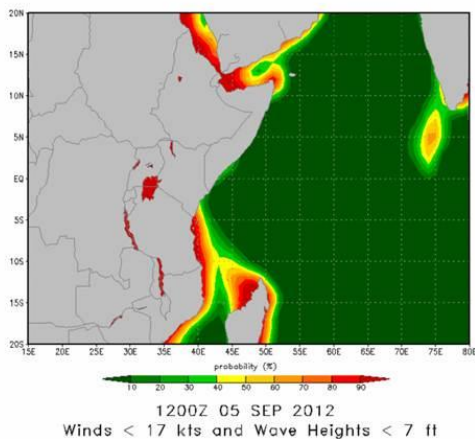
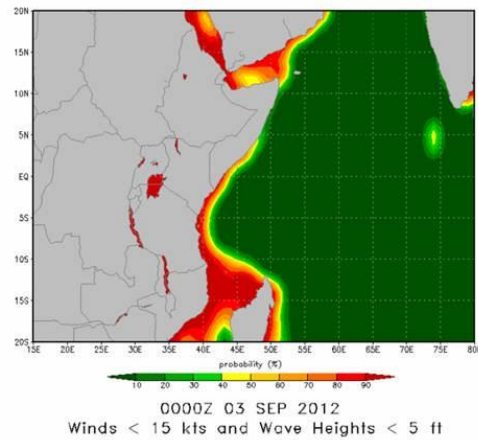
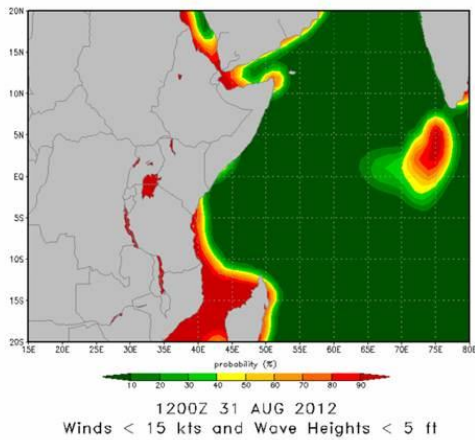
Mozambique Channel: South-southeasterly winds of 8 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern section of the channel. In the southern channel, south-southeasterly winds of 10 – 12 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet. **Extended Forecast:** South-southeasterly winds of 8 – 12 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet. In the southern channel, south-southeasterly winds of 12 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.

Surface Currents: The Northern Arabian Sea and the Mozambique Channel currents are variable with most areas having average speeds of less than 1 knot, except for an area at the mouth of the Mozambique Channel where there is a current south of 10 degrees South of approximately 2 knots. Currents speeds along the Somali basin average fewer than 2 knots with an area just north of 5 degrees North averaging above 4 knots. Currents in most of the Gulf of Aden are variable with an average speed of less than 1 knot, except for central Gulf of Aden where it averages approximately 2 – 3 knots.



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10 Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast



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