

Piracy Threat Analysis Report

31 August 2012 – 6 September 2012



Threat Analysis Center

Summary

There were four reported incidents worldwide this week. Somali pirate activity continues to remain at low levels. As the summer monsoon season comes to an end over the next few weeks, we expect to see an increase of pirate activity in the Indian Ocean.



1. Nigeria: Oil tanker hijacked on 4 September at 06:11N – 002:55E, 14NM from Lagos. Upon boarding, the crew members locked themselves in the ship's citadel and asked for assistance from the Navy. Nigerian Naval forces boarded and freed the ship on 5 September. The pirates fled the vessel and none were apprehended. (IMB, Press)



2. Indonesia: Bulk carrier boarded on 31 August at 01:42N - 101:27E, Dumai anchorage. Three armed robbers carrying long knives approached and boarded an anchored vessel. The robbers took several crew members hostage but other crew members who saw the boarding were able to raise the alarm and alert the crew. Shore security personnel onboard the vessel were able to speak to the robbers and convinced them to free the captured crew members. No crew members were injured and nothing was stolen. (IMB)

3. Indonesia: Chemical tanker robbed on 4 September at 01:04N – 104:08E, Kabil Port anchorage. Four robbers boarded a berthed chemical tanker and entered the engine room where a crew member noticed and challenged them. One of the robbers then pushed and hit the crewman who then retreated into the engine control room. The crew member locked himself in the room, raised the alarm and informed the Duty Officer. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped. The Coast Guard was informed and arrived at the vessel and conducted an investigation. (IMB)

4. Indonesia: Bulk carrier robbed on 2 September at 00:13S - 117:35E, Muara Berau anchorage. Five robbers in a speed boat approached and boarded an anchored bulk carrier which was awaiting cargo operations. The robbers broke into the paint and boatswain stores and stole ship stores and properties. The Captain noticed the robbers on the forecastle deck and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the reaction of the crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with the stolen items they had placed in their waiting boat. The vessel made several attempts to contact port control but received no response. (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, please e-mail cnmrcc@msa.gov.cn, 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 7 Sep – 13 Sep 2012

Gulf of Aden: West-northwesterly winds of 10 – 14 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western portion; and west-northwesterly winds of 15 – 19 knots and seas of 4 – 7 feet in the eastern portion of the gulf. **Extended Forecast:** West-northwesterly winds of 8 – 12 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western portion; and west-northwesterly winds of 8 – 12 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the eastern portion of the gulf.

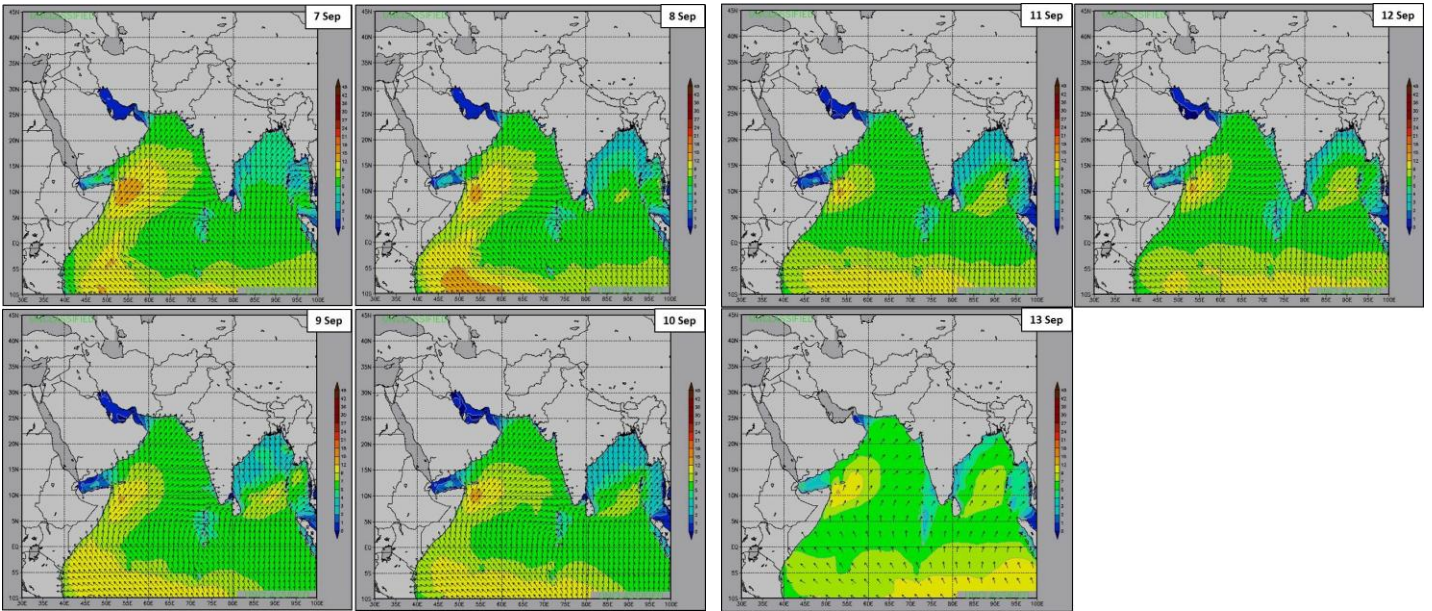
Somali Coast: South-southwesterly winds of 22 – 26 knots and seas of 12 – 14 feet north of 5 degrees North; and south-southwesterly winds of 18 – 22 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet south of 5 degrees North. **Extended Forecast:** South-southwesterly winds of 20 24 knots and seas of 10 – 12 feet north of 5 degrees North; and south-southwesterly winds of 16 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet south of 5 degrees North.

Arabian Sea: Southwesterly winds of 8 – 12 knots and seas of 5 - 9 feet. **Extended Forecast:** West-southwesterly winds of 12 – 16 knots and seas of 5 – 9 feet.

Central African Coast/Indian Ocean: South-southeasterly winds of 13 – 17 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet. **Extended Forecast:** South-southeasterly winds of 16 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.

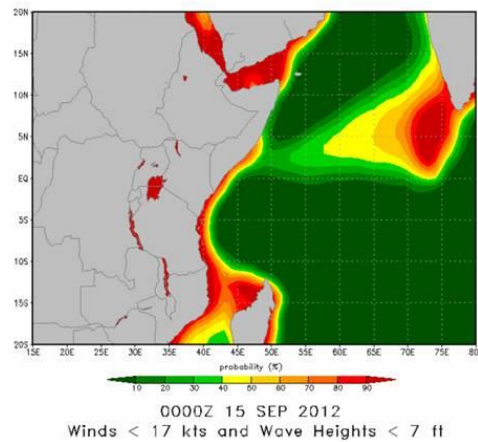
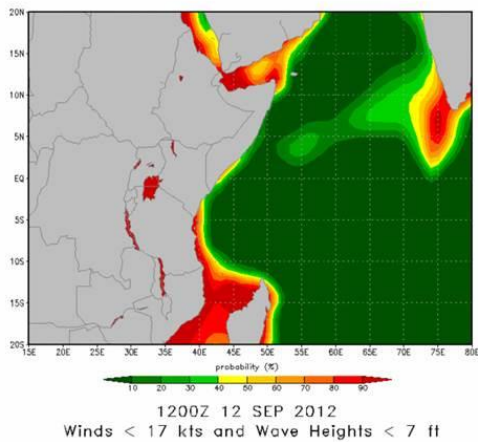
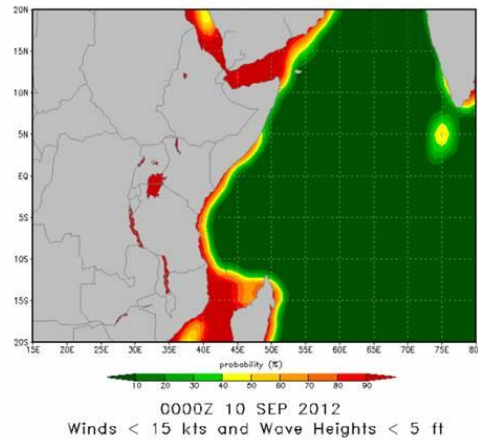
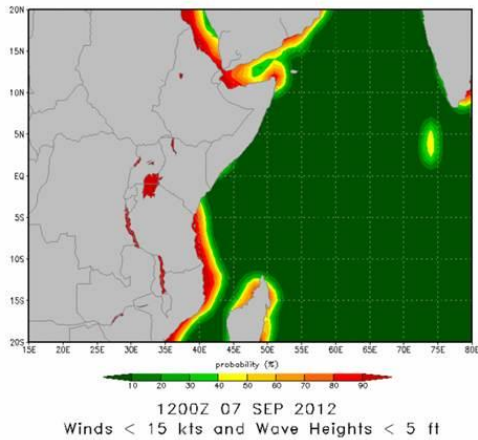
Mozambique Channel: South-southwesterly winds of 12 – 14 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the northern Channel. Southeasterly winds of 18 – 20 knots and seas of 10 - 12 feet in the southern Channel. **Extended Forecast:** South-southeasterly winds of 10 - 12 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the northern Channel. South-southeasterly winds of 12 – 14 knots and seas of 10 - 12 feet in the southern Channel.

Surface Currents: The northern waters of the Arabian Sea and water currents in the Mozambique Channel 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 of approximately 2 knots. Water current speeds along the Somali basin average less 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 the central gulf where it averages around 1 – 2 knots.



10 Day Weather Conditions and Small Boat Operations Capabilities
 Approved for Public Release

10 Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast



Approved for Public Release

Courtesy of the Naval Oceanographic Office
 Warfighting Support Center

Terminology

Attempted Boarding – Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with reporting that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.

Boarding – Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.

Fired Upon – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.

Hijacking – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.

Kidnapping – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.

Robbery – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.

Suspicious Approach – All other unexplained close proximity of an unknown vessel.

Information Cut-off Date: 6 Sep 2012