



ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU

**PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY
AGAINST SHIPS**

ANNUAL REPORT

1 January – 31 December 2008

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January 2009

INTRODUCTION

The ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) is a specialised division of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). The IMB is a non-profit making organisation, established in 1981 to act as a focal point in the fight against all types of maritime crime and malpractice. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) in its resolution A 504 (XII) (5) and (9) adopted on 20 November 1981, has *inter alia*, urged governments, all interests and organization to co-operate and exchange information with each other and the IMB with a view to maintaining and developing a coordinated action in combating maritime fraud.

This report is an analysis of world-wide reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships from 1 January to 31 December 2008.

Outrage in the shipping industry at the alarming growth in piracy prompted the creation of the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) in October 1992 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The key services of the PRC are:

- Issuing daily status reports on piracy and armed robbery to ships via broadcasts on the Inmarsat-C SafetyNET service
- Reporting piracy and armed robbery at sea incidents to law enforcement and the IMO
- Helping local law enforcement apprehend pirates and assist in bringing them to justice
- Assisting shipowners whose vessels have been attacked or hijacked
- Assisting crewmembers whose vessels have been attacked
- Providing weekly updates on pirate activity via the Internet
- Publishing comprehensive quarterly and annual reports detailing piracy statistics

The services of the PRC are provided free of charge to all ships irrespective of their ownership or flag.

The IMB also locates ships seized by pirates and recovers stolen cargos on a chargeable basis.

The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre is located at:

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Weekly piracy report on the Internet: The IMB posts the weekly updates of attacks on the Internet at www.icc-ccs.org. The report is compiled from the Piracy Reporting Centre's daily status bulletins. By posting the information on the Internet, ship owners and authorities ashore as well as ships at sea can access the weekly updates.

Sometimes, incidents occurring in the previous quarter(s) are reported to the Centre after a time lag. This late reporting of incidents results in changes to the figures in the tables. The Centre has, as at 31 December 2008, received reports of 293 incidents but may receive details of more in the coming months relating to the same period.

Because of the recent debate concerning Malacca Straits, narrations of incidents in this area are shown as separate categories. Similarly because of the increasing serious incidents off Somalia, incidents in this area are also shown as separate categories.

Attacks in the Gulf of Aden and off the east coast of Somalia have been grouped together in the narrations for easy reading.

COMMENTS OF DEFINITIONS AND FIGURES

For *statistical purposes*, the IMB defines Piracy and Armed Robbery as;

“An act of boarding or attempting to board any ship with the apparent intent to commit theft or any other crime and with the apparent intent or capability to use force in the furtherance of that act”.

This definition thus covers actual or attempted attacks whether the ship is berthed, at anchor or at sea. Petty thefts are excluded unless the thieves are armed.

The above definition has been adopted by the IMB as the majority of attacks against ships take place within the jurisdictions of States and piracy as defined under United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (1982) does not address this aspect.

The IMB is pleased to record that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 74th meeting of MSC addressed this matter in the draft Code of practice for the Investigation of Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships (MSC/Circ.984) article (2.2) (The Code of Practice).

The Code of Practice defines “Piracy “and “Armed Robbery against Ships” as follows;

- Piracy means unlawful acts as defined in article 101 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS):

ARTICLE 101

Definition of Piracy consists of any of the following acts:

- a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed-*
 - (i) on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;*
 - (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;*
 - (b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;*
 - (c) any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in subparagraph (a) or (b).*
- *“Armed Robbery against Ships means any unlawful act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of “piracy”, directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such ship, within a State’s jurisdiction over such offences”*

The above definitions now cover actual or attempted attacks whether the ship is berthed, at anchor or at sea.

FUNDING

The Piracy Reporting Centre is financed by contributions from the following :

- Associazione Nazionale Fra Le Imprese Assicuratrici (ANIA), Italy
- Britannia Steam Ship Insurance Association Limited
- Chellaram Shipping
- Den Norske Krigsforsikring for Skib, Norway
- GARD P&I, Norway
- Government of Cyprus
- Standard Steam Ship Mutual P&I Association
- Steam Ship Insurance management Services limited
- Japan P&I Club, Japan
- SKULD
- The North of England P&I Association Ltd
- Union of Greek Shipowners, Greece
- United Arab Shipping Co SAG, Kuwait
- Wallenius Marine AB, Stockholm, Sweden

**TABLE 1: Locations of ACTUAL and ATTEMPTED attacks.
January – December: 2003 – 2008**

Locations	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
S E ASIA Indonesia	121	94	79	50	43	28
Malacca Straits	28	38	12	11	7	2
Malaysia	5	9	3	10	9	10
Myanmar (Burma)		1				1
Philippines	12	4		6	6	7
Singapore Straits	2	8	7	5	3	6
Thailand /Gulf of Thailand	2	4	1	1	2	
FAR China / HK / Macau	1	3	4	1		
EAST Papua New Guinea					1	
Solomon Islands					1	
South China Sea	2	8	6	1	3	
Taiwan	1					
Vietnam	15	4	10	3	5	11
INDIAN SUB Bangladesh	58	17	21	47	15	12
CONTINENT India	27	15	15	5	11	10
Sri Lanka	2			1	4	1
SOUTH Argentina				1		
AMERICA Brazil	7	7	2	7	4	1
Caribbean	4					
Colombia	10	5	2	2		1
Cuba	4					
Dominican Republic	6	2	1			
Ecuador	2	1		1		2
Guyana	6	2	1	1	5	
Haiti	1	6	2		2	2
Honduras	1	1				
Jamaica	5	7	8	3	1	
Martinique	1					
Panama	2					
Peru	7	5	6	9	6	5
Salvador			1			
Suriname					2	
Trinidad & Tobago	2	1		1		
USA	1	1				
Venezuela	13	7	2	4	1	3
AFRICA Angola	3			4	1	2
Benin	1					
Cameroon	2	4	2	1		2
Congo						1
Dem. Congo Republic				3	4	1
Egypt					2	
Equatorial Guinea						1
Eritrea		1			1	
Ghana	3	5	3	3	1	7
Guinea	4	5	1	4	2	
Gulf of Aden / Red Sea*	18	8	10	10	13	92
Ivory Coast	2	4	3	1		3
Kenya	1	1			4	2
Liberia	1	2			1	1
Madagascar		1	1		1	
Mauritania		2	1	1		
Morocco			1		1	1

Mozambique	1				3	2
Nigeria	39	28	16	12	42	40
Senegal	8	5				
Sierra Leone		3		2	2	
Somalia	3	2	35	10	31	19
South Africa	1					
Tanzania	5	2	7	9	11	14
Togo	1			1		1
REST OF Arabian Sea		2	2	2	4	
WORLD Arabian Gulf	1					
Belgium				1		
Bulgaria	1					
France						1
Indian Ocean			1			
Iran	2			2	2	
Iraq		1	10	2	2	
Oman					3	
Pacific Ocean		1				
Saudi Arabia				1		
Seychelles						1
UAE		2				
United Kingdom					1	
Total at year end	445	329	276	239	263	293

*NO ATTACKS REPORTED IN THE RED SEA. SOMALI PIRATES RESPONSIBLE FOR GULF OF ADEN INCIDENTS.

CHART A: The following locations shared more than two thirds of the total reported incidents, i.e. 216 from a total of 293 reported attacks for the period.

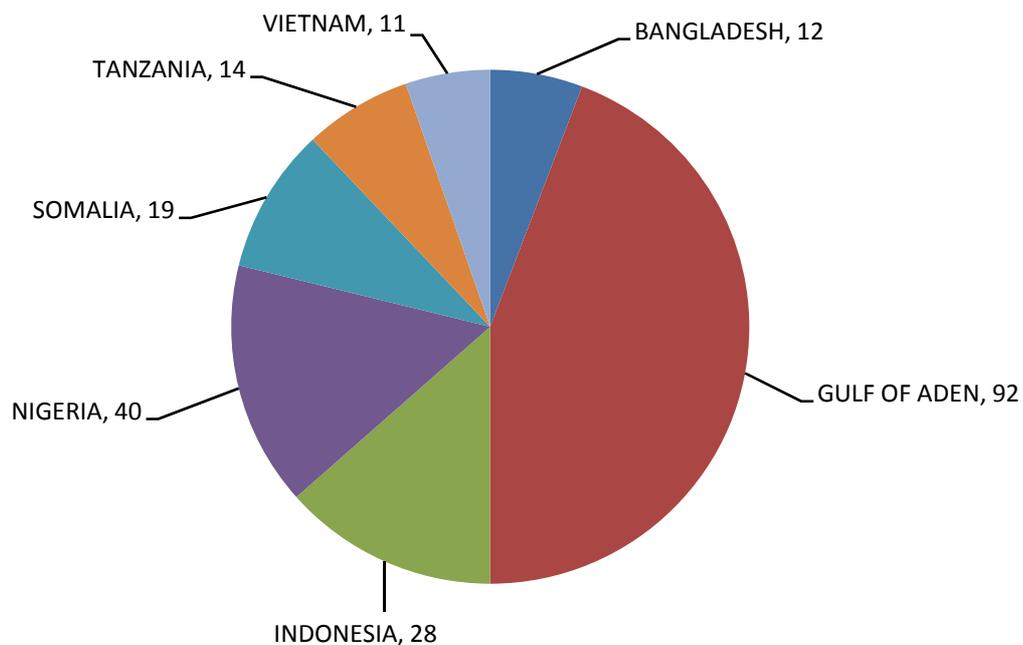


CHART B: Monthly comparison of incidents during January – December 2008

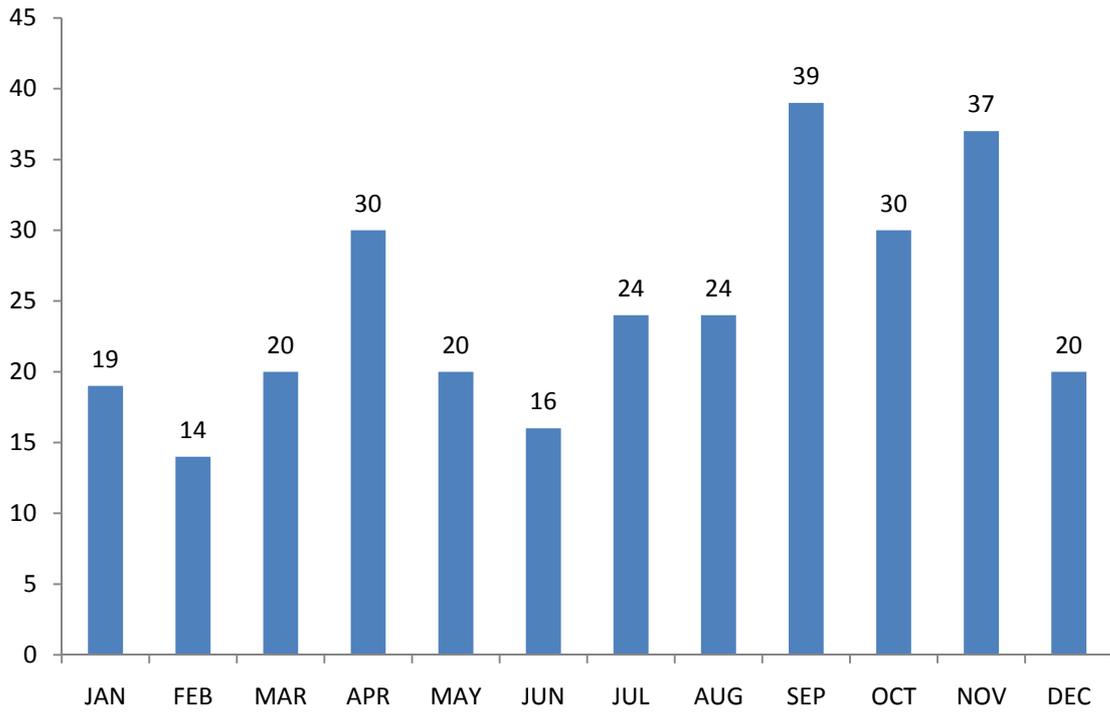
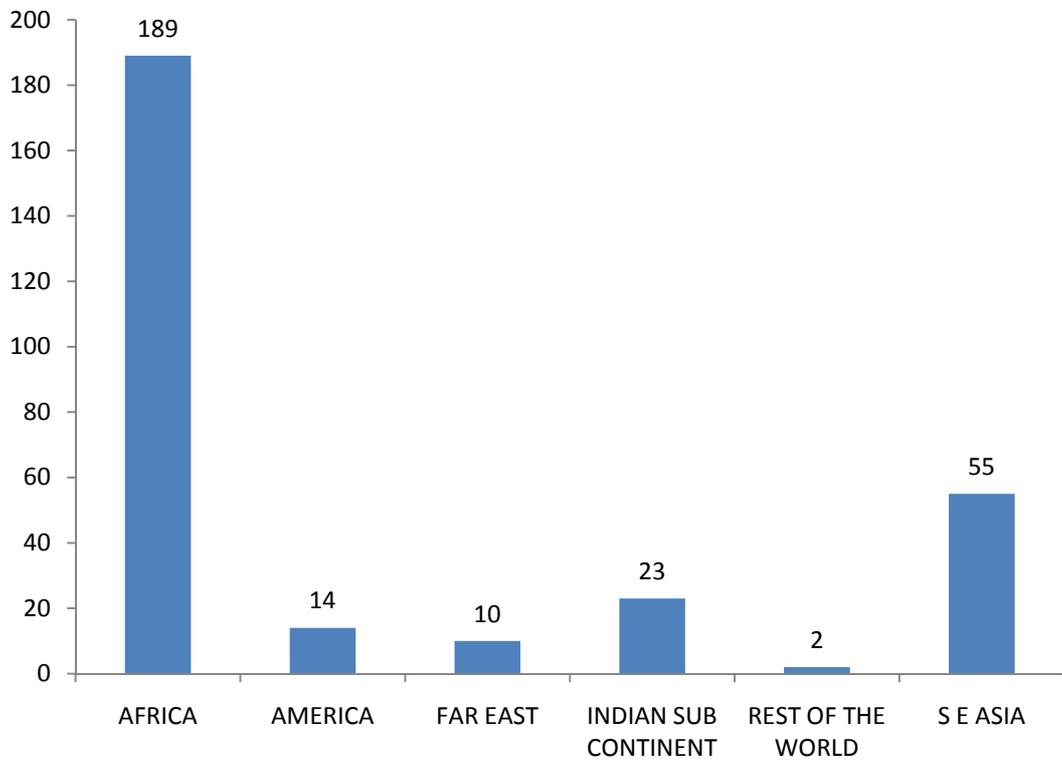


Chart C: Total Incidents as per region of the world January – December 2008



**Chart D: Countries where five or more incidents have occurred
January – December 2008**

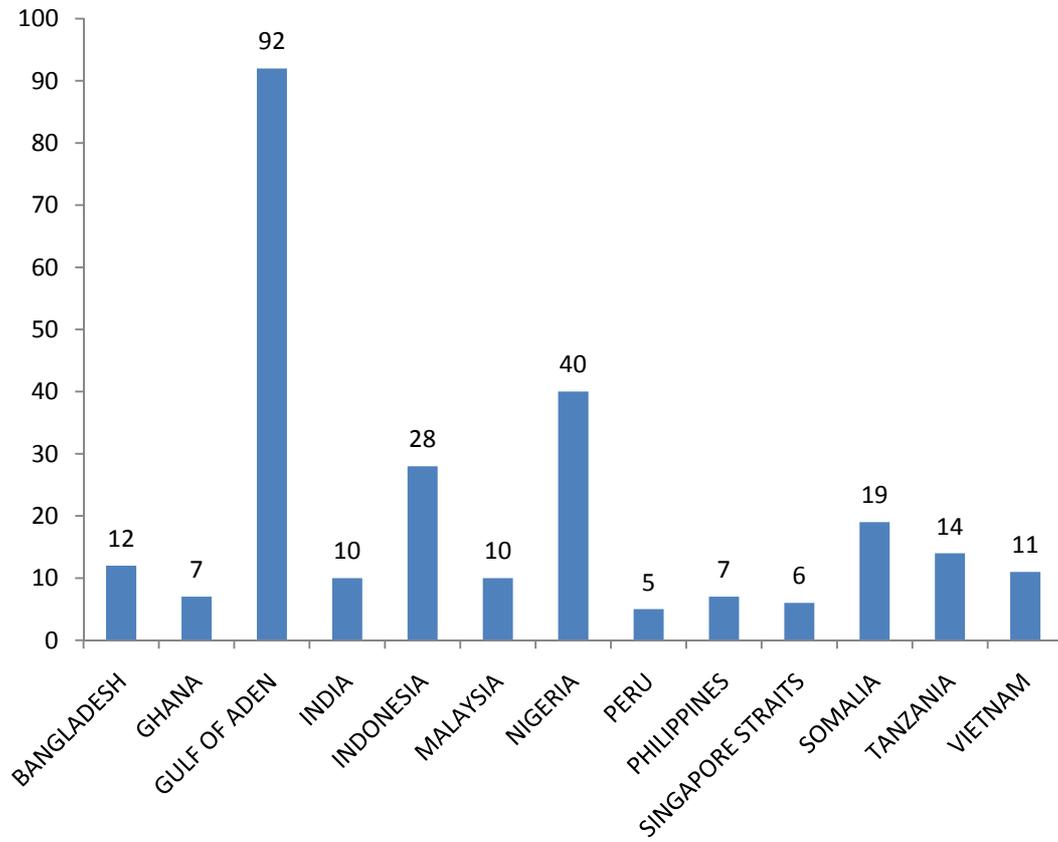


TABLE 2: ACTUAL and ATTEMPTED attacks by location, January – December 2008

Location	ACTUAL ATTACKS				ATTEMPTED ATTACKS	
	Boarded	Hijacked	Detained	Missing	Fired Upon	Attempted Boarding
S E ASIA Indonesia	25	1			1	1
Malacca Straits						2
Malaysia	7	3				
Myanmar						1
Philippines	5					2
Singapore Straits	5					1
FAR EAST Vietnam	10					1
INDIAN Bangladesh	12					
SUB CONT India	9					1
Sri Lanka						1
SOUTH Brazil	1					
AMERICA Colombia	1					
Ecuador	2					
Haiti	2					
Peru	4					1
Venezuela	3					
AFRICA Angola	2					
Cameroon	2					
Congo	1					
Dem. Republic Congo	1					
Equatorial Guinea	1					
Ghana	6					1
Gulf of Aden	2	32			31	27
Ivory Coast	3					
Kenya					1	1
Liberia	1					
Morocco						1
Mozambique	2					
Nigeria	27	3			5	5
Somalia		10			8	1
Tanzania	14					
Togo	1					
REST OF WORLD France	1					
Seychelles	1					
Sub total	151	49			46	47
Total	293					

**TABLE 3: Ports and anchorages, with three or more reported incidents.
January - December 2008**

Country	Location	1.1.2008 to 31.12.2008
Ivory Coast	Abidjan	3
Ghana	Tema	6
India	Kakinada	3
India	Kanda	3
Bangladesh	Chittagong	11
Indonesia	Jakarta-Tg. Priok	4
Indonesia	Belawan	6
Nigeria	Bonny River	6
Nigeria	Lagos	22
Peru	Callao	5
Philippines	Manila	3
Tanzania	Dar es Salaam	12
Vietnam	Vung Tau	6

TABLE 4: Status of ships during ACTUAL attacks, January - December 2008

LOCATION		BERTHED	ANCHORED	STEAMING	NOT STATED
S E ASIA	Indonesia	2	13	11	
	Malaysia	1	4	5	
	Philippines		3	2	
	Singapore Straits		1	4	
FAR EAST	Vietnam	1	8	1	
INDIAN	Bangladesh	2	9	1	
SUB CONT	India		8	1	
SOUTH AMERICA	Brazil		1		
	Colombia		1		
	Ecuador		2		
	Haiti		2		
	Peru		4		
	Venezuela		1	1	1
AFRICA	Angola		2		
	Cameroon	1		1	
	Congo		1		
	Dem. Republic Congo		1		
	Equatorial Guinea			1	
	Ghana		6		
	Gulf Aden			34	
	Ivory coast		3		
	Liberia	1			
	Mozambique	1	1		
	Nigeria	8	14	8	
	Somalia			10	
	Tanzania		7	7	
	Togo		1		
France		1			
REST OF WORLD	Seychelles		1		
	Sub Total	17	95	87	1
	Total			200	

**TABLE 5: Status of ships during ATTEMPTED attacks,
January – December 2008**

LOCATION	BERTHED	ANCHORED	STEAMING	NOT STATED
S E ASIA Indonesia			2	
Malacca Straits			2	
Myanmar		1		
Philippines			2	
Singapore Straits			1	
FAR EAST Vietnam		1		
INDIAN Bangladesh				
SUB India		1		
CONT Sri Lanka			1	
AMERICA Peru		1		
AFRICA Gulf of Aden			58	
Ghana		1		
Kenya	1		1	
Morocco	1			
Nigeria		4	6	
Somalia			9	
Sub Total	2	9	82	-
Total	93			

TABLE 6: Types of arms used during attacks, January - December 2003 - 2008

Types of Arms	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Guns	100	89	80	53	72	139
Knives	143	95	80	76	67	68
Not stated	168	130	103	100	110	80
Other weapons	34	15	13	10	14	6
Total at year end	445	329	276	239	263	293

TABLE 7: Comparison of the type of attacks, January - December 2003 – 2008

Category	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Attempted	93	77	52	56	62	47
Fired upon	20	13	19	7	14	46
Hijack	19	11	23	14	18	49
Missing	2	-	-	-	-	-
Boarded	311	228	182	162	169	151
Total	445	329	276	239	263	293

TABLE 8: Types of violence to crew, January – December 2003 – 2008

Types of Violence	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Taken hostage	359	148	440	188	292	889
Kidnap/Ransom		86	13	77	63	42
Crew threatened	65	34	14	17	6	9
Crew assaulted	40	12	6	2	29	7
Crew injured	88	59	24	15	35	32
Crew killed	21	32	-	15	5	11
Missing	71	30	12	3	3	21
Total	644	401	509	317	433	1011

TABLE 9: Type of violence to crew by location, January - December 2008

Location	Taken Hostage	Crew Threatened	Crew Assault	Crew Injured	Crew Killed	Missing	Kidnap
S E ASIA Indonesia	16	4		2		6	
Malaysia	26		1	1			
Singapore Straits	2						
Philippines				9	7	1	
FAR EAST Vietnam		4					
INDIAN SUB CONT Bangladesh	1			1			
AMERICA Brazil			2				
Colombia	1						

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Ecuador	2						
Peru	3						
Venezuela	1		4	2			
AFRICA Ghana	3						
Gulf of Aden	629			2	3	14	
Mozambique		1					
Nigeria	13			14			39
Somalia	186				1		3
Tanzania	6			1			
Sub total	889	9	7	32	11	21	42
Total	1011						

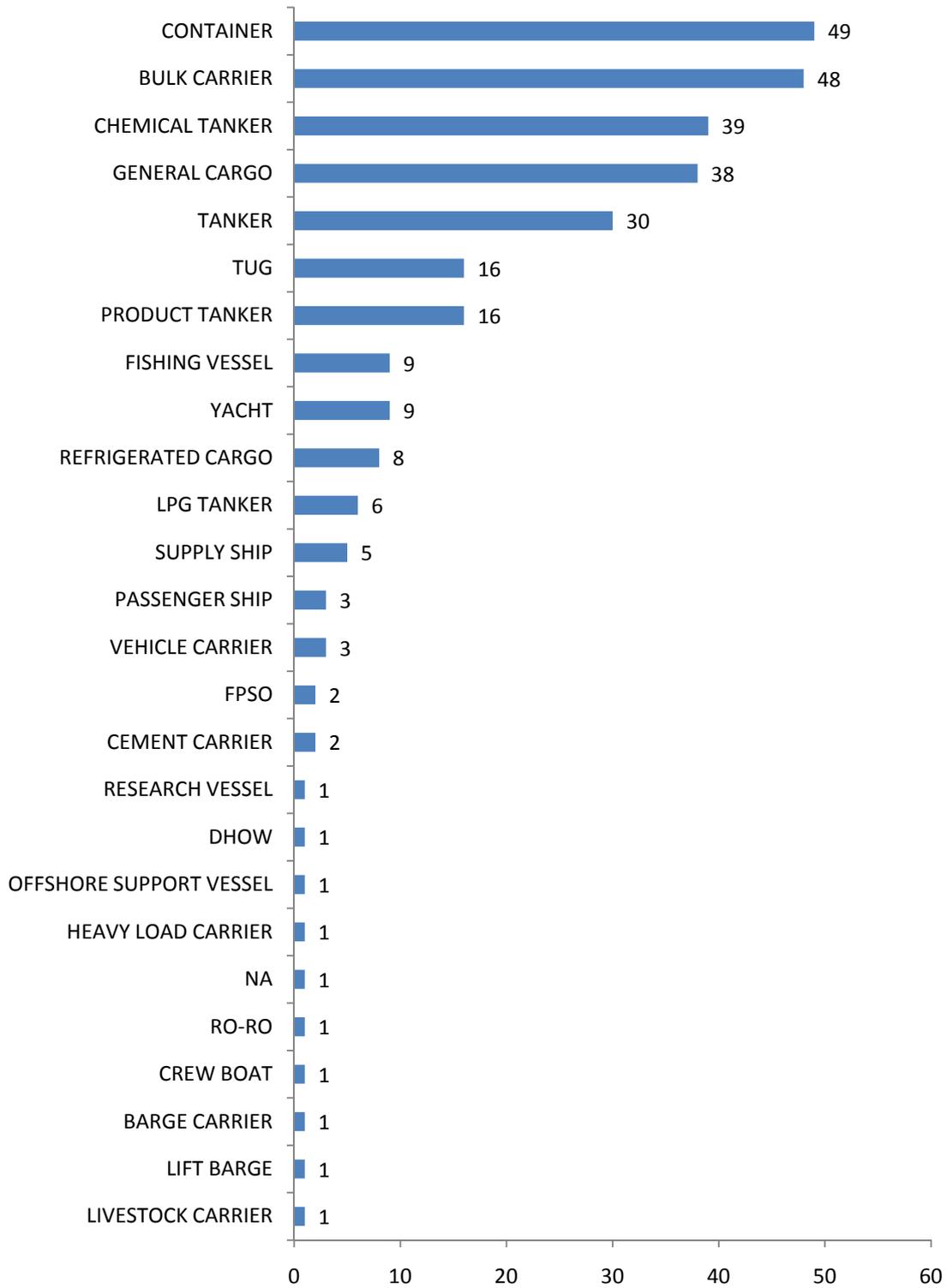
**TABLE 10: Types of arms used by geographical location,
January - December 2008**

LOCATIONS		Armed with Guns	Armed with Knives	Other Weapons	Not Stated
S E ASIA	Indonesia	4	13	1	10
	Malacca Straits				2
	Malaysia	4	3		3
	Myanmar				1
	Philippines	2	3		2
	Singapore Straits	1	4		1
FAR EAST	Vietnam		5		6
INDIAN	Bangladesh	1	5	1	5
SUB CONT	India		3		7
	Sri Lanka				1
AMERICA	Brazil			1	
	Colombia	1			
	Ecuador				2
	Haiti		1		1
	Peru		3		2
	Venezuela	2			1
AFRICA	Angola				2
	Cameroon	1		1	
	Congo				1
	Dem. Republic Congo				1
	Equatorial Guinea	1			
	Ghana		4		3
	Gulf of Aden	85			7
	Ivory Coast		2		1
	Kenya	1			1
	Liberia		1		
	Morocco				1
	Mozambique		2		
	Nigeria	18	10	2	10
	Somalia	17			2
Tanzania		8		6	
Togo		1			
REST OF WORLD	France	1			
	Seychelles				1
Sub total		139	68	6	80
Total		293			

**TABLE 11: Types of vessels attacked,
January – December 2003 – 2008**

Type	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Barge / Barge carrier	2	1	2	2	1	1
Bulk carrier	114	73	81	57	32	48
Cable Layer	1		1			
Catamaran	1	1	1			
Cement Carrier		1				2
Container	56	48	30	49	53	49
Crew boat						1
Diving Support Vessel		1				
Dhow				2	3	1
Ferry	2					
General cargo	73	38	46	30	36	38
Heavy Lift						
Heavy Load Carrier						1
Hopper Dredger				1		
Landing Craft		2		2		
Lighterage Ship						
Lift Barge						1
Livestock carrier		2				1
Multipurpose	1					
OBO	2					
Offshore Processing Ship			1	1	1	2
Passenger/Passenger boat	1		1	2	1	3
Pollution Control				1		
Refrigerated	7	10	3	3	7	8
Research ship					2	1
Rig / Platform					3	
RORO	5	2	5	2	3	1
Special Purpose Ship	1					
Supply Ship	5	8	2	1		5
Support ship					1	1
Survey Ship	2					
Tanker Bitumen					1	
Tanker Chem / Product	49	56	43	35	52	55
Tanker Crude Oil	42	17	22	9	25	30
Tanker LNG		1			1	
Tanker LPG	14	13	5	4	5	6
Trawler/Fishing	28	18	7	18	16	9
Tug	19	24	13	9	7	16
Vehicle carrier	1	1	2	1	1	3
Yacht	15	11	7	10	8	9
Not stated	4	1	4	-	4	1
Total at year end	445	329	276	239	263	293

CHART E: Types of vessels attacked for the year 2008



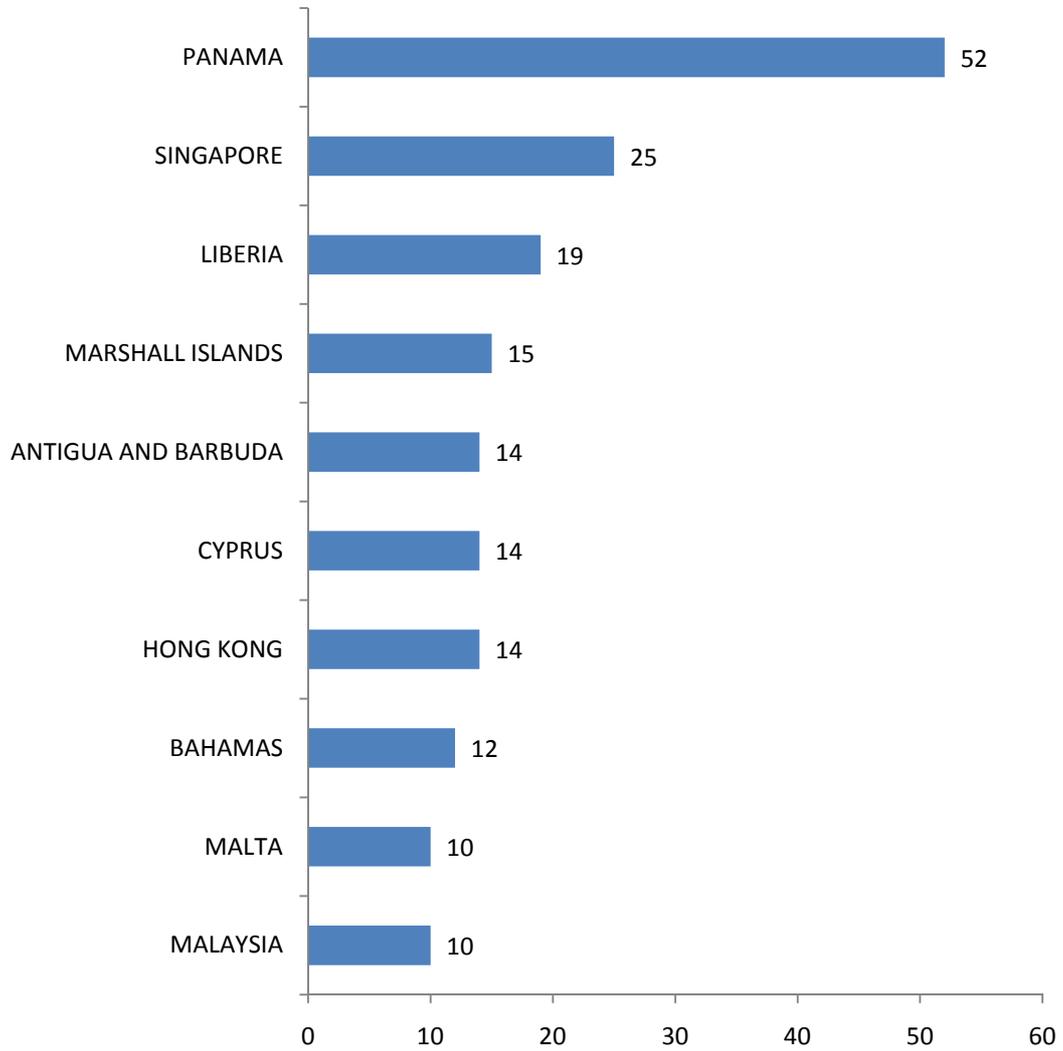
**TABLE 12: Nationalities of ships attacked,
January - December 2003 – 2008**

Flag State	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Algeria	1	1	1			
Antigua Barbuda	11	9	8	10	13	14
Antilles Netherlands	3	4	2	2		
Australia	4			1		
Austria				2		
Bahamas	17	8	9	5	7	12
Bahrain		1				1
Bangladesh	18	6		1	1	
Barbados	1					2
Belgium	1					
Belize	1	2	1			2
Bermuda	2					2
Bolivia	1					
Brazil		2	1		1	
British Virgin			1			
Cambodia	2		1		1	
Canada		1			1	
Canary Islands						1
Cayman Island	1	4	3	1	1	1
Chile		2				
China	2	2	1	1	2	5
Comoros					3	
Colombia	1					
Croatia	1				1	1
Cuba	2					
Cyprus	24	14	13	5	10	14
Denmark/Int'l	12	2	1	1	3	3
Dominica			1			
Estonia	1					
Egypt			1		1	1
France	3	1		1		7
Gambia					1	
Georgia		1	2			
Germany	1	1		1	1	5
Gibraltar	2	4	1		6	2
Greece	10	5	1	1	1	2
Guyana					6	
Honduras	1	1	1		1	
Hong Kong (SAR)	20	6	12	10	7	14
Hungary	1					
India	17	9	10	7	6	4
Indonesia	8	12	6	6	3	2
Iran	3	3	7	2		1
Isle Of Man	6	2		4	2	5
Italy	1	3	3		1	3
Japan		2	2		1	2
Jordan				3	1	1
Kiribati						1
Korea North	1	1		1	1	
Korea	4	2		4		3
Lebanon	1					
Liberia	27	34	18	24	28	19

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Lithuania	1				2	
Luxemburg	1				1	
Madeira				1		
Malaysia	27	17	13	11	5	10
Maldives	1		2			
Malta	17	13	11	14	6	10
Marshall Islands	6	6	9	7	16	15
Mongolia		1	1		1	
Monrovia			1			
Morocco	1					
Myanmar		1	2	1	1	
Netherlands	6	1	3	3	4	3
Nigeria	2	5			2	1
Norway	11	7	3	3	8	7
Oman				1		
Pakistan		1	2		1	
Panama	62	64	50	42	42	52
Paraguay				1		
Philippines	5	2	3	3	1	5
Portugal					2	1
Qatar	2	1			2	
Russia	1			1		
South Africa		1				
Saudi Arabia		1		1		1
Seychelles						2
Singapore	41	31	24	20	23	25
Spain	1					
St. Kitts & Nevis			1	1	3	
St. Vincent	6	3	7	6	4	8
Sri Lanka	1	2	2			
Suriname					1	
Switzerland	1			2		
Taiwan	3		4		2	1
Thailand	4	4	6	2	3	3
Tanzania	1				2	
Trinidad & Tobago	1	1		1		
Turkey	1	2	1	2	2	2
Tuvalu		1		5	2	
UAE		2		1	3	1
Ukraine	1					1
United Kingdom	6	7	4	3	3	6
USA	6	1	7	6	1	5
Vanuatu	2	2	1	2	1	2
Venezuela		1				
Vietnam	1	3	3	1	1	
Yemen						2
Not Stated	14	3	9	5	7	
Total year end	445	329	276	239	263	293

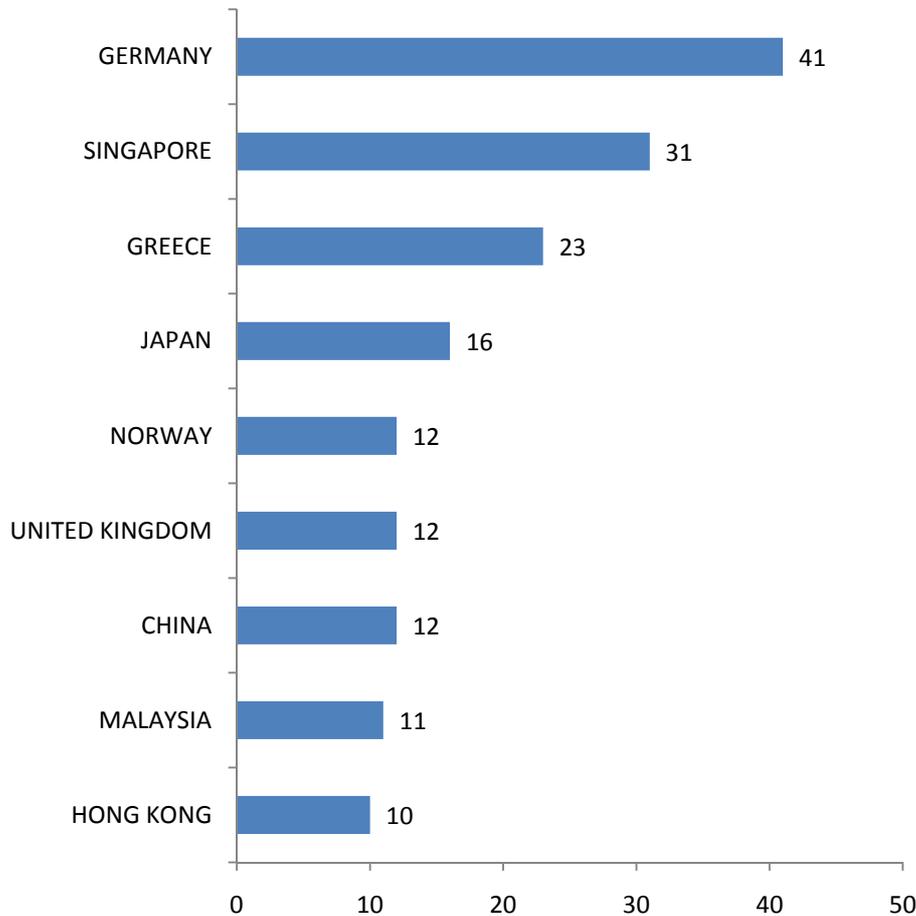
CHART F: Flag States whose vessels attacked ten times or more from January – December 2008



**TABLE 13: Countries where victim ships controlled / managed,
January – December 2008**

Country	No of Ships
Bangladesh	1
Bulgaria	1
China	12
Croatia	2
Cyprus	6
Denmark	7
Egypt	2
France	7
Germany	41
Greece	23
Hong Kong	10
India	8
Indonesia	3
Iran	7
Italy	4
Ivory Coast	1
Japan	16
Korea South	6
Kuwait	1
Malaysia	11
Mexico	1
Monaco	4
Netherlands	9
Nigeria	2
Norway	12
Panama	2
Philippines	7
Poland	1
Portugal	1
Seychelles	1
Singapore	31
Somalia	1
South Africa	1
Spain	1
Switzerland	1
Syria	2
Taiwan	3
Thailand	4
Turkey	6
UAE	6
Ukraine	4
United Kingdom	12
USA	9
Yemen	2
Not Stated	1
Total	293

CHART G: Managing countries whose ships attacked more than ten times from January – December 2008



SOMALIA / GULF OF ADEN ATTACK FIGURES UPDATE

As of 31 December 2008, the IMB PRC received a total of 111 attacks for Somalia and the Gulf of Aden (Somali pirates are responsible for the Gulf of Aden incidents). 815 crew members have been taken hostage.

There have been 19 attacks off the east coast of Somalia and 92 attacks in the Gulf of Aden.

Out of the 111 attacks, 42 vessels were hijacked. At present suspected Somali pirates are holding 13 vessels for ransom and 242 crew members as hostages. Four crewmembers have died due to the direct / indirect result of the attack and two crewmembers have been injured while another 14 remain missing and are feared dead.

All type of vessels; general cargo, bulk carriers, tankers, Ro Ro, fishing vessels, sailing yachts and tugboats have been attacked.

PIRACY PRONE AREAS AND WARNINGS

Mariners are warned to be extra cautious and to take necessary precautionary measures when transiting the following areas:

SOUTH EAST ASIA AND INDIAN SUB CONTINENT

Bangladesh : Although the number of attacks has fallen, the area is still listed as very high risk. Pirates are targeting ships preparing to anchor. Most attacks reported at Chittagong anchorages and approaches.

Indonesia: Anambas / Natuna island area, Belawan, Jakarta/Tg Priok. Pirates normally armed with guns / knives / machete. Generally be vigilant in other areas. Many attacks may have gone unreported.

Malacca Straits: Although the number of attacks has dropped due to the increase and aggressive patrols by the littoral states Authorities since July 2005, ships are advised to continue maintaining a strict anti piracy watch when transiting the straits. Currently, there are no indications for how long the patrols will continue.

Malaysia: off Tioman Island / South China Sea

Philippines: Manila – Pirates target ships at anchor and surrounding waters.

Singapore Straits: Vessels are advised to continue to be vigilant and maintain anti piracy watch. Pirates attacking ships while underway or while anchored at OPL.

Vietnam: Vung Tau

AFRICA AND GULF OF ADEN.

Africa: - Tema (Ghana) : most attacks occurred while ship at anchor.

- Lagos & Bonny River (Nigeria) : Pirates are violent and have attacked and robbed vessels/kidnapped crews along the coast and rivers, anchorages ports and surrounding waters. Vessels advised to be also vigilant in other parts in Nigeria.
- Dar Es Salaam (Tanzania) : Pirates continue to target ships in port, anchorages and surrounding waters.

Gulf of Aden: Somali pirates are attacking vessels in the northern Somali coast in the Gulf of Aden. These pirates are firing automatic weapons and Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPG) in an attempt to board and hijack vessels. Once the attack is successful and the vessel hijacked, they would sail her towards the Somali coast and thereafter demanding a ransom for the release of the vessel and crew. All vessels transiting the area are advised to take additional precautionary measures and maintain strict 24 hours visual and radar anti piracy watch using all available means. Watch keeping crews should look out for small suspicious boats converging to own vessel. Early sightings/detection and accurate assessment will allow Master to increase speed and take evasive manoeuvres to escape from pirates and at the same time request for assistance from various Authorities/Agencies including the IMB PRC.

The US Naval Central Command has established a Maritime Security Patrol Area (MSPA) in the Gulf of Aden. A force of coalition Navy warships will patrol the area and aircraft will fly in the airspace above. The corridor of coordinates through the Gulf of Aden is:-

WAYPOINT : 12 15 N 045 E
WAYPOINT : 12 35 N 045 E
WAYPOINT : 13 35 N 049 E
WAYPOINT : 13 40 N 049 E
WAYPOINT : 14 10 N 050 E
WAYPOINT : 14 15 N 050 E
WAYPOINT : 14 35 N 053 E
WAYPOINT : 14 45 N 053 E

Masters using the Maritime Security Patrol Area (MSPA) are not relieved of their obligation and should continue to maintain a strict 24 hour lookout using all available means to get an early warning of an approaching threat. Some vessels have been attacked/hijacked in the corridor.

The French Navy ceased the close protection escorts on 5 December 2008 and the new EU operation ATALANTA had taken over. The EU webpage is www.mschoa.org Ships/Owners are advised to register their details and obtain further information regarding the close support protection details for ships transiting the Gulf of Aden. Ships would be encouraged to conduct their passage through the UKMTO Transit Corridor in groups based on their transit speed (Gulf of Aden Group Transits). Military assets (Naval and Air) will be strategically deployed within the area to best provide protection and support to ships.

Masters are also advised to maintain a listening watch on VHF Channels 16 and 72 in order to hear the Maritime Advisory Calls from the warships in the area who will make general security broadcasts to announce their location and in turn will also listen for merchant ships calling them.

Somalia: Recent attacks have indicated that the pirates are resuming attacks on vessels along the eastern and southern coast of Somalia. Some attacks have taken place as far as off the coasts of Kenya and Tanzania. The Somali pirates are dangerous and are prepared to fire their automatic weapons and RPG (Rocket Propelled Grenade) at ships in order to stop them. Pirates are believed to be using “mother vessels” to launch attacks at great distances from the coast. These “mother vessel” are able to proceed far out to sea to launch smaller boats to attack and hijack passing ships. Some of these attacks have taken place almost 500nm from the coast. The IMB - PRC maintains its advice that vessels not making scheduled calls to ports in Somalia should keep as far away as possible from the Somali coast, preferably more than 250 nautical miles until a more permanent and encouraging sign is seen. Mariners are advised to report any suspicious boats to the 24 hour manned Piracy Reporting Centre. A 24 hour visual and radar watch must be maintained as early sightings / detection and accurate assessment will allow Masters to take evasive actions, increase speed and request for assistance and escape.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN WATERS.

Brazil: Although the number of reported attacks has dropped in Santos. Ships are advised to continue to be vigilant.

REST OF THE WORLD

Arabian Sea – Sightings and calls from suspicious small boats. In some cases, boats chased the ships with unknown intent.

Reporting of incidents

Ships are advised to maintain strict anti-piracy watches and report all piratical attacks and suspicious movements of crafts to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Tel: +60 3 2078 5763

Fax: + 60 3 2078 5769,

Telex: MA 34199 IMBPCI,

E-mail : imbkl@icc-ccs.org // piracy@icc-ccs.org

The Centre's 24 Hours Anti Piracy HELPLINE is: + 60 3 2031 0014.

IMB Maritime Security Hotline

The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) has also launched a dedicated hotline for seafarers, port workers, shipping agents, shipyard personnel, brokers, stevedores, and all concerned parties to report any information that they may have seen / heard / known etc relating to maritime Crime and Security including terrorism, piracy and other illegal activities.

All information received will be treated in strict confidence and will be passed on to relevant Authorities for further action. Maritime Crime and Security concerns us all and with your help, we can try to minimize the risks and help save lives and property.

The Maritime Security Hotline can be contacted 24 hours everyday at :

Tel: + 60 3 2031 0014

Fax: +60 3 2078 5769

Telex: MA 34199

E-mail : imbsecurity@icc-ccs.org

REMEMBER: Your information may save lives. All information will be treated in strict confidence.

TRENDS

A total of 293 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships have been reported to the ICC International Maritime Bureau's Piracy Reporting Centre (IMB PRC) in 2008. This is more than an 11% increase on 2007 which is attributed to the unprecedented number of attacks in the Gulf of Aden.

This is the second successive year that the number of incidents has increased. In 2006 and 2007, there were a total of 239 and 263 incidents reported respectively.

Not only has 2008 seen an unprecedented number of attacks in the Gulf of Aden, it has also seen the largest tanker ever being hijacked, and successful attacks carried out at greater distances from land, along the east coast of Africa, than ever before. Every attack off Somalia is aimed at hijacking the vessel, hence every attempted attack is a failed hijacking. All types of vessels, with varying freeboards and speeds have been targeted and attacked.

Worldwide in 2008, a total number of 49 vessels were hijacked, 889 crew taken hostage and a further 46 vessels reported being fired upon. These numbers surpass all figures recorded by the PRC. Thirty-two crew were injured, 11 killed and 21 missing – presumed dead. The nature of the attacks indicates that the pirates / robbers boarding the vessels are better armed and prepared to assault and injure the crew. The total incidents in which guns have been used are 139, up from 72 in 2007.

The report states that 111 incidents were reported for the east coast of Somalia and the Gulf of Aden in 2008. This is an increase of nearly 200% compared to 2007. A total of 42 vessels were hijacked by Somali pirates and 815 crew taken hostage. As at 31 December 2008, Somali pirates were holding 13 vessels for ransom and 242 crew hostage. The attacks peaked in September with 19 attacks. In October and November there were 15 and 16 vessels attacked respectively.

These numbers are due to the increased ability of Somali pirates to range further out to sea than before. This coupled with the inability of the Somali government to respond, encouraged the pirates. Currently the reward to risk ratio for the Somali pirate is so large that only robust measures by international governments and navies will enable the safety and security of this major trade route to be restored.

Nigeria has the second highest number of serious attacks and continues to be viewed as another high risk area. The main differences between the East and West African pirate activities is that almost all the incidents in Nigeria are conducted within its territorial waters whereas most of the incidents along the East coast of Africa and the Gulf of Aden occur on the high seas. The motives for the attacks are also different with Somalia being completely financial whilst in Nigeria it is at least partly political. Forty confirmed incidents in Nigeria have been reported to the PRC via the masters, owners and other risk intelligence gathering organisations. The PRC is also aware of approximately a further 100 incidents which have occurred but have not been confirmed. Under-reporting from vessels involved in incidents in the Nigerian waters remains a great concern for the PRC.

Of the 40 reported attacks 27 vessels have been boarded and five hijacked. Nigeria has recorded the highest number of crew being kidnapped (39). Due to the under reporting, the actual numbers are likely to be higher. The attacks in the Niger delta and the kidnappings are targeted against the oil industry, and purportedly for political change. From the shipping industry's point of view these attacks are criminal. Seventeen of the incidents were against tankers, seven on support and supply ships and the remaining on bulk carriers, general cargo ships and container ships. The incidents in Nigeria are often quite violent and crews are frequently injured and kidnapped. Even ships provided with escort protection and armed security guards still fall prey to dedicated pirates.

On the more positive side, there have been declines in other areas.

Indonesia for example, should be applauded for their tireless efforts in curbing piracy and armed robbery in its waters. Compared to 2003 when 121 attacks had been reported, there has been a continued year on year decline in Indonesia with 28 incidents reported in 2008. The majority have been opportunistic in nature. The Malacca Straits has seen a further reduction in the number of incidents reported, only two in 2008 as compared to seven in 2007. Incidents in the Singapore Straits are however up from three in 2007 to six in 2008. Malaysia has also seen a slight increase in the number of incidents with three vessels being hijacked and seven boarded as compared to nine boarded in 2007.

This welcome reduction has been the cumulative result of increased vigilance and patrolling by the littoral states and the continued precautionary measures on board ships. With the world economy in its present uncertain condition, there is a possibility of piracy increasing. Navies and coastguards must continue therefore to maintain their efforts against pirates.

Bangladesh (Chittagong) and Tanzania (Dar es Salaam) have shown a few similarities in the method of attacks. Vessels at anchor and those approaching the anchorage are targeted. Robbers in Chittagong, mainly steal ship stores whilst in Dar es Salaam the cargo is the target. Of the 14 vessels attacked in Dar es Salaam 12 were container ships. Bangladesh has shown a slight increase in the number of attacks (12) as compared to last year (10). It has taken the Bangladeshi authorities considerable effort to bring the number of incidents down and this pressure on the robbers should be sustained. Masters are advised to maintain strict anti piracy watches especially while approaching these anchorage and while anchored.

The IMB therefore strongly urges all Shipmasters and Owners, to report all incidents of actual and attempted piracy and armed robbery to the IMB PRC This is the first step in the response chain and vital in ensuring that adequate resources are allocated by governments to deal with the problem. A set of transparent statistics from an independent, non-political, international organisation such as the IMB PRC acts as an effective catalyst to achieve this goal.

OBSERVATIONS

Narrations of the 293 attacks for 2008 are listed on pages 43 to 87. The following serious incidents, are described in more detail

Bangladesh:

On 4 March 2008, a St Vincent and Grenadines General Cargo ship MV Theodor was attacked by armed robbers at Ruby Cement Jetty, Chittagong, Bangladesh at approximately 0100 Hrs LT.

Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship. One of the robbers attacked and seriously injured the shore watchman by cutting his face. The alarm was raised and the ship's crew mustered. The robbers then jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores. The injured watchman was taken ashore for medical treatment.

Brazil :

On 26 December 2008, a French Yacht Maclow while at anchor was attacked by armed robbers at Bahia de Todos os Santos, Brazil during the night.

Two armed robber boarded the yacht and attacked the two French couple / crew members. The pirates came from a motorized boat. The Robbers stole yacht's properties, cash and personal belongings before escaping. They French couple was badly beaten and had to be hospitalized. The Police are investigating the incident.

Cameroon:

On 31 October 2008, a French flagged tug Bourbon Sagitta was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 04:13 North and Longitude 008:33 East, Bakasi Peninsula, Kole Oil Terminal, Cameroon at approximately 0001 LT.

Ten heavily armed pirates with automatic guns and RPG in 3 boats attacked and boarded the off shore supply tug boat. A number of crew members were kidnapped and subsequently released.

Gulf of Aden:

On 1 February 2008, a Malta flagged tanker MT Oriental Green was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 12:55 North and Longitude 051:23.6 East, 65 nm northeast off the Somali coast, off Cape Raas Casey, in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1510 Hrs LT.

The officer on watch observed a small wooden fast boat with four men on board approaching the tanker. The Master of the tanker was informed, alarm raised, accommodation locked down, fire hoses rigged and fire pump started.

The small boat approached the tanker on the port side at the distance of 60 meters and signalled the tanker to stop. The tanker Master then started taking evasive action by commencing a zig-zag course. The pirates started firing at the tanker's accommodation. The tanker continued zig-zaging and activated the fire hoses. The pirate boat continued to follow the tanker for about six miles and aborted the attempt at 1530 Hrs LT. No damage to the tanker except for bullet marks.

On 1 February 2008, a St Vincent and Grenadines tug Svitzer Korsakov was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 12:57 North and Longitude 051:24 East at approximately 1317 Hrs UTC.

Heavily armed pirates attacked and hijacked the tug underway, along the northern Somali coast off Cape Raas Casey in the Gulf of Aden and sailed her towards the Somali coast. Six crew members were taken hostage and the pirates then anchored the tug near Eyl.

On 18 March 2008, the tug and her six crew members were released after lengthy negotiations. It appears that a ransom was paid to secure the release of the tug and crew.

On 1 April 2008, a Yemeni flagged fishing vessel Brum Ocean was attacked while steaming at position Latitude 14:30 North and Longitude 049:10 East, 75 nm south of Mukalla port in the Gulf of Aden.

Pirates armed with guns attacked, boarded and hijacked the fishing vessel and sailed into Somali territorial waters. The fishing vessel along with her 34 crew members were released when a military helicopter intervened.

On 1 April 2008, a Panama flagged Chemical Tanker MT Sunshine Sky was attacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 13:45 North and Longitude 049:18 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0915 LT.

Three speed boats chased and attacked the tanker with automatic weapons and rocket launchers (RPG). Master took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed and subsequently managed to escape. Tanker's funnel and lifeboat were damaged by gunfire and RPG fire. An hour later, five speedboats chased the ship again from various directions. The tanker prevented the boats from closing in and managed to escape. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre communicated with the coalition navy, the owners and the Master of the tanker to provide assistance as required. One coalition warship was in the vicinity monitoring the five speed boats.

On 4 April 2008, a French flagged Passenger Vessel Le Ponant was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:12 North and Longitude 050:14 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0948 UTC.

Ten pirates armed with AK47 guns and RPG in two speed boats attacked and hijacked the sailing passenger vessel. They took hostage all 30 crew members and ordered the Captain to sail the vessel to Somali coast. There were no passengers onboard at the time except for the crew members. The passenger vessel SSAS was activated and Yemeni Maritime Authorities and the coalition forces were informed.

The crew and vessel was released unharmed on 11 April 2008. It appears that the Owners paid a ransom for the safe release of the crew and vessel.

On 21 April 2008, a Japanese flagged Tanker MT Takayama was attacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 13:00 North and Longitude 049:07 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0110 UTC.

Five speedboats chased and opened fire on the tanker in ballast. The tanker increased speed and enforced anti piracy measures. The speed boats aborted the attack after 30 minutes and disappeared. The tanker sustained damage to hull due to RPG fire.

On 28 April 2008, a South Korean flagged Bulk Carrier MV Alexander Carl was attacked by armed pirates while steaming in position 12:38 North and Longitude 049:46 East, 90 nautical miles off Bosasso, northern Somalia in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0940 UTC.

Pirates in two speed boats opened fire using machine guns and RPG in an attempt to board the ship. The Master increased speed and carried out evasive manoeuvres. Due to actions by Master and high freeboard, the pirates were unable to board the ship. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre informed the coalition forces and liaised with Master and Owner of the ship. A military aircraft was dispatched. The boats moved away.

On 19 May 2008, a Panama flagged Container ship MV River Elegance was attacked by armed pirates while steaming in position Latitude 12:49 North and Longitude 050:36 East, 55 nautical miles off Somali coast in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1500 LT.

Two small speed boats approached the ship from the bow. One of the speedboats had four pirates onboard armed with automatic weapons and rocket launcher (RPG). The pirates aimed the rocket launcher towards the bridge and tried to board the ship.

Master raised the alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and crew mustered. After 10 minutes, the pirates aborted the attempt and were seen approaching two other ships about five miles off.

On 23 May 2008, a United Kingdom flagged Bulk Carrier MV Cape Merlin was attacked by armed pirates while steaming in position Latitude 13:16 North and Longitude 049:08 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0430 UTC.

Four pirates armed with automatic guns and rocket launchers in a grey coloured long speed boat approached the ship from port quarter. They then fired at the bridge and accommodation. Master immediately raised the alarm, increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres and crew mustered. OOW informed other ships in the vicinity via VHF Ch 16. The pirates tried to board the ship without success and finally aborted the attempt. One white hull fishing boat was noticed about six nautical miles off.

On 24 May 2008, a Singapore flagged Product Tanker MT Taiyoh II was attacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 13:58 North and Longitude 050:42 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1420 LT.

Two boats with four armed pirates in each boat closed onto the tanker. The pirates opened fire with automatic guns and RPGs. One RPG hit and damaged the port bridge wing and another RPG fire missed the ship. Pirates shouted and signalled to ship crew to stop. Evasive manoeuvres prevented the pirates from boarding. After breaking off, the two boats were reported to be drifting in the same vicinity.

On 25 May 2008, a Antigua and Barbuda General cargo ship MV Amiya Scan was attacked by armed pirates while steaming in position Latitude 13:16 North and Longitude 050:49 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1530 UTC.

Pirates had attacked, boarded and hijacked the ship 80 nautical miles off the coast of Somalia. Nine crew members were taken hostage. The pirates then sailed the ship and anchored her 2.5 nautical miles off Somali coast. The pirates demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. On 24 June 2008, the crew and ship were released. It appears that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship. The ship then proceeded to a safe port.

On 28 May 2008, a Gibraltar General cargo ship MV Lehmann Timber was attacked while steaming at position Latitude 13:10 North and Longitude 048:58 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1038 UTC.

Four heavily armed pirates in a speed boat attacked, boarded and hijacked the ship. They sailed the ship into territorial waters and demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. As of 30 June 2008, negotiations are continuing for the safe release of the crew and ship.

On 3 June 2008, a Taiwanese flagged Container ship MV YM Ocean was attacked by armed pirates while steaming in position Latitude 12:43 North and Longitude 049:51 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0705 UTC.

Two pirate boats opened fire with automatic guns at the ship. The pirates were also armed with RPGs. Two coalition warships in the vicinity came to assist the ship. The pirates aborted the attack.

On 20 July 2008, a Panama flagged Bulk Carrier MV Stella Maris was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:16.99 North and Longitude 050:03.47 East, SE of Al Mukalla in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0011 UTC.

Armed pirates attacked and hijacked the ship and took hostage 21 crew members. The ship was enroute to Europe. The ship activated her SSAS and sent voice message to the coalition forces indicating pirates onboard. The hijackers sailed the ship to Eyl and anchored her and demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 12 August 2008, a Thai flagged General Cargo ship MV Thor Star was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:38.81 North and Longitude 049:45.14 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0822 UTC.

Armed pirates hijacked the ship and took 28 crew members as hostage. The ship activated SSAS distress alert. The pirates sailed the ship to territorial waters and anchored her near Eyl. Pirates are demanding a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 19 August 2008, a Malaysian Chemical Tanker MT Bunga Melati Dua was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates at position Latitude 12:46.24 North and Longitude 047:55.18 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1413 UTC.

Pirates in two speedboats attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. Tanker's SSAS was activated. The pirates sailed the tanker to coastal waters and anchored near Eyl. They then demanded a ransom for the safe release of the crew and ship. The crew and ship was released on 29 September 2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid to secure the release.

On 21 August 2008, an Iranian Bulk Carrier MV Iran Deyanat was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates in position Latitude 13:49.3 North and Longitude 050:23.9 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0223 UTC.

Pirates armed with guns attacked and hijacked the ship underway. The ship enroute to Rotterdam sent a distress message. The pirates sailed the ship to coastal waters and anchored at Eyl. They then demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

More than an hour later on the same day on 21 August 2008, a Panamanian Chemical Tanker MT Irene was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 14:26.42 North and Longitude 049:56.46 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0358 UTC.

Pirates sailed the tanker to coastal waters and anchored off Eyl. They then demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

Several hours later on the same day on 21 August 2008, an Antigua and Barbuda General cargo ship MV BBC Trinidad was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 12:57.9 North and Longitude 048:56.7 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0945 UTC.

Pirates sailed the ship to coastal waters and later demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. On 11 September 2008, the crew and ship was released. It is believed a ransom was paid to secure the release.

On 29 August 2008, a Malaysian Chemical Tanker MT Bunga Melati 5 was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:12 North and Longitude 046:37 east in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1350 UTC.

Pirates armed with guns attacked, boarded and hijacked the tanker and sailed into Somali territorial waters. The pirates anchored the tanker off Eyl and demanded a ransom for the safe release of the crew and ship. The crew and ship was released on 27 September 2008. It was believed that a ransom was paid to secure the release.

On 02 September 2008, a French flagged yacht Carre D'AS IV was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates at position Latitude 11:48.42 North and Longitude 050:32.00 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1853 UTC.

The yacht enroute to Aden was hijacked by armed pirates while underway. The pirates sailed the yacht to unknown location in Somalia where it was anchored. French commandos rescued the two crew members onboard on 15 September 2008 and towed away the yacht. Six pirates were detained and one killed.

On 03 September 2008, a Panamanian General Cargo ship MV Al Mansourah was attacked at position Latitude 14:27 North and Longitude 049:40 East, off Al Mukalla in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0930 LT.

Twelve pirates armed with automatic guns and RPG in a small high speed craft attacked and hijacked the cargo ship underway. They took hostage all 25 crew members and sailed the ship to coastal waters. They demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. On 27 September 2008, the crew and ship was released. It is believed that a ransom was paid to secure the release.

On 10 September 2008, a South Korean flagged Bulk Carrier MV Bright Ruby was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:09.06 North and Longitude 047:57.00 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0657 UTC.

Twenty one crew members were taken hostage by the pirates. The pirates sailed the ship to coastal waters and anchored near Eyl. They had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 15 September 2008, a Hong Kong flagged Chemical Tanker MT Stolt Valor was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:34.54 North and Longitude 049:00.58 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1043 UTC.

About 15 pirates armed with automatic guns and RPG attacked and hijacked the tanker and took 22 crew members hostage. The pirates sailed the ship to coastal waters and anchored near Eyl. They had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 18 September 2008, a Hong Kong flagged Bulk Carrier MV Great Creation was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 14:13.00 North and Longitude 049:59.00 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0618 UTC.

About eight pirates armed with guns boarded the ship drifting due to engine problems. They took 25 crew members hostage. The pirates later sailed the ship to coastal waters and demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 26 September 2008, a Liberian flagged Chemical Tanker MT Genius was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:32.23 North and Longitude 048:36.36 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0828 UTC.

Armed pirates fired at the tanker and managed to successfully board her. They took 19-crew members hostage. The pirates sailed the ship to coastal waters and demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 09 October 2008, a Panamanian General Cargo ship MV Wael H was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 14:04 North and Longitude 050:52 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1700 UTC.

The pirates attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the cargo ship and taken 11 crew members as hostage. The pirates sailed the ship into Somali waters and demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. On 14 October 2008, Somali Puntland soldiers rescued the crew and ship. There were casualties among the pirates and Somali soldiers but the crews were safe. The ship then continued her voyage.

On 10 October 2008, a Panamanian Chemical Tanker MT Action was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 13:06 North and Longitude 047:13 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1330 UTC.

The pirates attacked and hijacked the tanker and took hostage 20 crew members. The pirates then sailed the tanker into Somali waters and anchored her at Eyl. Negotiations were carried out and on 12 December 2008, the crew and tanker were released. It is believed that a ransom was paid. Owner reported that one crew member had died due to unknown causes during the captivity period.

On 14 October 2008, an Indian Dhow Shri Shiv Shamboo was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 12:59 North and Longitude 048:29 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1400 LT.

Nine armed pirates in two speedboats attacked, boarded and hijacked the dhow. They took hostage 13 crew members and sailed the dhow towards Somali coast. On 23 October 2008, the crew and dhow were released. It is unknown if any ransom was paid to secure the release.

On 15 October 2008, a Panamanian flagged Bulk Carrier MV African Sanderling was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:33 North and Longitude 050:10 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0409 UTC.

Armed pirates in speedboats attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the ship and took hostage 21 crew members. The pirates then took the ship to Somali waters and anchored at Eyl.

On 29 October 2008, a Marshall Islands Bulk Carrier MV Yasa Neslihan was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:00 North and Longitude 046:40 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1030 UTC.

Pirates armed with automatic weapons in two speed boats fired at the ship. The pirates successfully boarded and hijacked the ship. They took hostage 20 crew members and sailed the ship to Somali coast and anchored at Eyl. Pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 07 November 2008, a Bahamas General Cargo ship MV CEC Future was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates in position Latitude 12:46 North and Longitude 045:56 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1241 UTC.

Pirates attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the ship and taken hostage 13 crew members. The pirates sailed the ship to Somali coast and anchored at Eyl. Pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 10 November 2008, a Philippine flagged Chemical Tanker MT Stolt Strength was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:27 North and Longitude 048:26 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1400 UTC.

Pirates armed with automatic weapons and RPG attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the tanker. They took hostage 23 crew members and sailed the tanker to Somali coast. The tanker anchored off the Somali coast and the pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and tanker. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 12 November 2008, a Turkish flagged Chemical Tanker MT Karagol was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:07 North and Longitude 046:48 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 1414 UTC.

Armed pirates attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the tanker. The pirates took hostage 14 crew members and sailed the tanker to Somali coast and anchored off Eyl. The pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and tanker. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 15 November 2008, a Panamanian Chemical Tanker MT Chemstar Venus was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates in position Latitude 12:51 North and Longitude 046:43 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0915 UTC.

Pirates attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the ship and took hostage 23 crew members. The pirates sailed the ship to Somali coast and anchored off the coast. Pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 18 November 2008, a Hong Kong Bulk Carrier MV Delight was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 14:23 North and Longitude 051:05 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0600 UTC.

Pirates attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the ship. They took hostage 25 crew members and sailed the ship to the Somali coast. The ship anchored off Eyl and the pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 18 November 2008, a Kiribati flagged Fishing Vessel Ekawatnava 5 was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 14:17 North and Longitude 050:15 East, 30 NM east of Ash Shir in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0930 LT.

Armed Pirates in three speed boats attacked, boarded and hijacked the fishing vessel. They took hostage all 16 crew members and sailed the vessel towards the Somali coast. When a warship approached the vessel, the armed pirates opened fire at the warship. In the ensuing exchange of fire, the fishing vessel was sunk. One crew member was rescued by a Yemeni fishing boat and another died due to injuries. 14 others remain missing and feared dead. A search conducted by the Yemeni Authorities and coalition warship did not locate any survivors.

On 28 November 2008, a Liberian flagged Chemical Tanker MT Biscaglia was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates in position Latitude 13:54 North and Longitude 049:09 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0447 UTC.

Armed pirates attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the tanker and taken hostage 28 crew members. The pirates sailed the ship to Somali coast and anchored off Eyl. Pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 16 December 2008, an Antigua and Barbuda General Cargo ship MV Bosphorus Prodigy was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 13:20 North and Longitude 047:57 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0904 UTC.

Pirates in two speedboats armed with automatic weapons and RPG attacked and opened fire at the ship. The pirates managed to board and successfully hijacked the ship. They took hostage 11 crew members and sailed the ship to Somali coast. The ship anchored off the Somali coast and the pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 16 December 2008, a Malaysian flagged tug Masindra 7 and Barge AMD 1 were attacked and hijacked by armed pirates in position Latitude 13:54 North and Longitude 049:39 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0715 LT.

Pirates attacked, boarded and successfully hijacked the tug and barge and taken hostage 11 crew members. The pirates sailed the ship to Somali coast and demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and tug and barge. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 25 December 2008, a Egyptian flagged Bulk Carrier MV Wadi Alarab was attacked by armed pirates in position Latitude 14:13 North and Longitude 050:51 East in the Gulf of Aden at approximately 0743 UTC.

Armed pirates chased the bulk carrier and open fire at the ship. The ship sent a distress message which was relayed by a passing ship to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC). The IMB PRC immediately contacted the Authorities for assistance. A warship and a helicopter were sent to assist the ship. Seeing the helicopter approaching, the pirate boat aborted their attempt and moved away. One crew member was shot on his leg from a bullet fired by the pirates. The injured crew was airlifted to the warship for medical treatment.

Indonesia:

On 21 May 2008, an Indonesian Product Tanker MT Blue Ocean 7 was attacked by pirates while enroute from Sulawesi to Surabaya, Indonesia.

About 10 pirates armed with guns and knives boarded and hijacked the tanker loaded with a cargo of crude palm oil. Pirates took the crew members hostage and sailed the tanker to unknown location.

The Owners contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre for assistance to locate the tanker. The IMB PRC then informed all Authorities in the region to lookout for the tanker and liaised with them regularly.

The Royal Malaysian Marine Police located and detained the tanker on 19 June 2008 at the port of Sandakan where the tanker had changed her name and discharged the cargo. Eight crew members were onboard and six others were missing. Malaysian Police are investigating.

On 7 June 2008, a Philippines flagged Livestock Carrier MV Hereford Express was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 03:18 North and Longitude 125:05 East in the vicinity of Kepulauan Sangir, Indonesia at approximately 1000 LT.

Pirates in a speedboat chased and opened fire on the vessel in ballast enroute to Australia. Master took evasive manoeuvres to prevent boarding and reduce casualties to crew and ship.

The Master informed the Managers who in turn contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) for assistance. The PRC contacted the Indonesian Authorities who instructed their local units to assist and respond accordingly.

After two hours of continuing firing and chasing, the pirate boat aborted the attempt. Master fearing further attack from the pirate boat discontinued the passage to next port and returned to the last port at Gen Santos port, Philippines. The ship sustained heavy and serious damages to bridge, communication equipment and hull due to gunfire.

Malaysia:

On 2 May 2008, two Malaysian flagged fishing vessels KNF 7547 and KNF 7548 were attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while the crews were resting at position Latitude 03:48.98 North and Longitude 100:43.03 East approximately 4 NM off Tanjung Sauh, Malaysia at about 0200 LT. Both fishing boats were anchored at the time of the incident.

Four masked pirates armed with pistols and knives boarded the fishing boats. They were violent towards the crew, sailed the fishing boats to an Indonesian island, and forced all the crews to jump overboard.

A passing Indonesian fishing boat later saved all the crews and they were handed over to the Indonesian Authorities. An investigation was carried out and the crews were later repatriated to Malaysia.

Both the fishing vessels are still missing and an IMB Special Alert was transmitted and a reward offered.

On 07 September 2008, Singapore flagged tugboat Whale 7 and barge Sinobest 2503 was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates off Pulau Tioman, Malaysia at approximately 2030 LT.

The tug, towing the barge from Singapore to Thailand, in ballast was attacked and hijacked by about 15-armed pirates. The pirates armed with knives approached in three boats.

The pirates landed the seven Indonesian crew members in Pulau Tioman who then lodged a police report. The tug and barge are still missing.

Nigeria:

On 12 March 2008, a Nigerian tug Berger Explorer was attacked by armed pirates while underway from Calabar to Port Harcourt, Nigeria at approximately 1250 Hrs LT.

Armed pirates in three speed boats attacked and boarded the tug and kidnapped six Nigerian nationals and took them ashore. The pirates claimed to be from the “Protectors of the Bonny River”. A ransom was demanded for the safe release of the six crew members. One of the crew was released on the same day and the remaining five were released on 16 March 2008. It appears a ransom was paid to secure the release of the crew members.

On 6 April 2008, a Marshall Islands Tanker MT Genmar George T was attacked by armed pirates in position Latitude 05:17 North and Longitude 004:43 East, off Escravos, Nigeria at approximately 2000 UTC. An unlit speed boat approached the tanker from the stern. The alarm was raised and SSAS alarm activated. The speed boat fired warning shots from automatic weapons and attempted to board the tanker, which managed to escape.

On 14 April 2008, a Ukraine flagged Bulk Carrier MV Sumy was attacked by armed robbers while at anchor at position Latitude 06:17 North and Longitude 003:22 East at Lagos, Nigeria at approximately 0340 LT.

Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor and took hostage one duty crew. The robbers were aggressive and tied the duty crew hands and feet and injured another crew. Alarm was

raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped in their boat with ship's stores. Lagos port was informed.

On 13 May 2008, a United States flagged supply vessel Lourdes Tide was attacked by armed pirates while steaming at Fairway Buoy, area of Rivers State, Nigeria at approximately 1400 LT.

The supply vessel, with 11 crew was boarded and hijacked while underway. The hijackers later demanded a ransom for the safe release of the crew and vessel.

On 26 June 2008, the crew and vessel was released. It is believed that the Owners had paid a ransom for the safe release of the crew and vessel.

On 16 November 2008, a Hong Kong flagged General cargo Ship MV Thor Galaxy was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position latitude 05:34 North and Longitude 005:22, Warri River, Nigeria at approximately 0945 LT.

Armed pirates in several speedboats approached the ship under pilotage. They fired warning shots into the air and ordered the pilot to stop the ship and demanded the gangway ladder lowered. The pirates then boarded the ship and sailed her to their rebel base and anchored her. The 19 crew members were taken ashore. Later the crew and ship were released. It is not confirmed whether any ransom was paid for the release.

Philippines:

On 17 March 2008, a Philippine Passenger Boat Baby Renze was attacked by armed pirates while underway between Cagbalite, Mauban and Balisen, Polilio Island at approximately 0230 LT.

The passenger boat with 10 passengers including five crew members was returning to Polilio Island after discharging her cargo on the mainland. Two of the passengers who had earlier boarded the boat after asking for a ride to Polilio Island took control of the passenger boat and immediately shot dead three crew members including the Captain. The pirates then tied them to the anchor and threw them overboard. The pirates shot the remaining two crew members and injured them. One of the injured crew jumped into the sea and is still missing. The other injured crew is recuperating in the hospital. Three other passengers including a child were unharmed. The Philippine Coast Guard has mounted a search for the missing and dead crewmembers and for the pirates who fled in a motor boat.

On 6 May 2008, a Philippine flagged fishing boat Al-Aziz was attacked by armed pirates while steaming off Tapul Island and Parang, Sulu, Philippine at approximately 1400 Hrs LT.

Four high-powered speedboats carrying about 20 violent and aggressive pirates attacked the fishing vessel carrying 20 passengers. The pirates were armed with automatic weapons. The pirates fired at the fishing vessel killing four passengers and injuring eight others. The wounded were later sent to shore for medical treatment. Philippine Authorities are investigating.

Somalia:

On 20 April 2008, a Canary Islands flagged Fishing Vessel Playa De Bakio was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 00:06 South and Longitude 049:08 East, Somalia at approximately 1452 UTC.

Pirates armed with guns and grenade launchers attacked the fishing vessel and hijacked her to an unknown location. Pirates took all 26 crew members as hostage and demanded a ransom.

On 25 April 2008, the crew and vessel were released by the pirates. It appears that Owners paid a ransom for the safe release of the crew and vessel. All 26 crewmembers in good health and on 29 April 2008; the crew and vessel arrived safely at Seychelles.

On 21 April 2008, an UAE flagged ship Al-Khaleej while steaming was attacked and hijacked 11 km off Bossaso Port, Somalia.

Pirates armed with guns opened fire at the cargo ship and successfully boarded her. They hijacked the ship and took all 16 crew members as hostage.

Local security forces raided the ship and rescued all 16 crew members. All crews were safe and a number of pirates were injured and captured.

On 4 May 2008, a Marshall Islands flagged Chemical Tanker MT Fairchem Pegasus was attacked by armed pirates while steaming at position 00:57 North and Longitude 051:43 East, off Somalia at approximately 1420 UTC.

Two speedboats with pirates onboard chased the tanker underway. The pirates opened fire on the tanker. Master took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed. Later, the boats aborted the chase and the tanker continued her passage.

On 17 May 2008, a Jordanian flagged General Cargo ship MV Victoria was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 02:13 North and Longitude 046:49 East, Somalia at approximately 0905 LT.

Pirates boarded and hijacked the ship while she was on passage to Mogadishu, Somalia. Pirates then sailed the ship to coastal waters in Somalia. On 23 May 2008, the crew and vessel were released. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of all the crew and ship. The ship then sailed for Mogadishu to discharge her cargo.

On 04 August 2008, a Panamanian tug Yenegoa Ocean was attacked by armed pirates while enroute to Dubai.

Pirates attacked and hijacked the tug underway. They took all crew members hostage and sailed the tug to coastal waters of Somalia. The pirates are demanding a ransom for the release of the crew and tug.

On 23 June 2008, a yacht Rockall was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway off the coast of Somalia. The pirates kidnapped the three crew members and held them on land for a ransom. It was believed that a ransom was paid and all three crew members were released and safely returned to their respective country. The yacht is believed to have been abandoned in Somalia.

On 18 September 2008, a Malta flagged Bulk Carrier MV Centauri was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 02:22.13 North and Longitude 050:55.15 East at approximately 0250 UTC.

Five armed pirates in a speedboat attacked and hijacked the ship underway. They took hostage 25 crew members and sailed the ship to Somalia coastal waters. The ship later anchored at Hobyo and pirates are demanding a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 21 September 2008, a Bahamas flagged ship Bulk Carrier MV Capt. Stefanos was attacked and hijacked while underway at position Latitude 02:30.00 North and Longitude 051:59.30 East, off Somalia's coast at approximately 0200 UTC.

Four armed pirates in three speedboats attacked and hijacked the ship underway. They took hostage all 19 crew members and sailed the ship to coastal waters and anchored near Hobyo. The pirates had demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

Four days later, a Belize flagged Ro-Ro ship MV Faina was attacked and hijacked while underway by armed pirates in position Latitude 02:10 North and Longitude 050:40 East, off Somalia's coast at approximately 1600 LT.

Armed pirates successfully boarded and hijacked the ship and sailed to coastal waters. They took hostage all 21 crew members and the Master later died of heat attacked onboard the ship. The ship sailed and anchored at Hobyo where pirates are demanding a ransom for the release of the crew and ship.

On 14 November 2008, a Chinese Fishing Vessel Tianyu No. 8 was attacked and hijacked off southern Somalia in the early hours.

The armed pirates boarded the fishing vessel and hijacked her and took hostage all 24 crew members. The pirates sailed the vessel into Somali waters and are demanding a ransom for their release. Negotiations are currently in progress.

On 15 November 2008, a Liberian flagged Crude Oil Tanker MT Sirius Star was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 04:41 South and Longitude 048:43 East off southern Somalia at approximately 0723 UTC.

Armed pirates attacked and successfully hijacked the VLCC and took hostage 25 crew members. The pirates sailed the tanker to the Somali coast and anchored her and demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and tanker.

Venezuela:

On 05 July 2008, a British flagged yacht Raven-Eye was attacked by armed pirates while steaming at position Latitude 10:45 North and Longitude 063:00W, about 8NM off Puerto Santos, Venezuela at approximately 1900 Hrs LT.

Six armed pirates with guns and knives in an old fishing pirogue waved their guns and knives to try to stop the yacht underway. The skipper of the yacht rammed his vessel into the fishing boat but the pirates managed to board the yacht. One of the pirates was dressed in a military uniform and two others with facemasks.

The pirates were violent and tied the skipper and his wife and pointed their guns to their heads. The pirates shot and stabbed the skipper's dog who tried to defend them.

The pirates stole the yacht's equipment, property and left. The skipper's wife suffered severe cut to her hand when the pirates tried to take her wedding ring.

The British couple lodged a police report and the Authorities are investigating.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The IMB appreciates the assistance and vital cooperation provided by the Coalition naval forces / EU (EUNAVFOR ATALANTA) / US Navy / French Alindien / NATO / Indian Navy / Malaysian Navy / Russian Navy / Yemeni Coast Guard for assisting the many vessels that had been attacked by suspected Somali pirates both in the Gulf of Aden and eastern Somali coast. Although regrettably some vessels have been hijacked, many others also escaped after intervention by these agencies.

PIRACY NEWS

ShipLoc

There are a number of reliable ship tracking devices available on the market today based upon Inmarsat and other satellite systems.

The IMB endorses ShipLoc, an inexpensive satellite tracking system, which allows shipping companies, with Internet access, to monitor the exact location of their vessels. In addition to its anti-hijacking role, ShipLoc facilitates independent and precise location of ships at regular intervals. ShipLoc is fully compliant with the IMO Regulation SOLAS XI-2/6 adopted during the diplomatic conference in December 2002, concerning a Ship Security Alert System. The ship security alert system regulation that came into force in July 2004 requires ships of over 500 GT to be equipped with an alarm system in order to reinforce ship security. The system allows the crew, in case of danger, to activate an alarm button that automatically sends a message to the ship owner and to competent authorities. The message is sent without being able to be detected by someone on-board or by other ships in the vicinity. ShipLoc is contained in a small, discrete waterproof unit, which includes: an Argos transmitter, a GPS receiver, a battery pack in case of main power failure, and a flat antenna. ShipLoc is one of the most reliable systems available today. For more information, please visit www.shiploc.com

Secure-Ship

Secure-Ship is an effective innovation in the fight against piracy. It is a non-lethal, electrifying fence surrounding the whole ship, which has been specially adapted for maritime use. The fence uses 9,000-volt pulse to deter boarding attempts. An intruder coming in contact with the fence will receive an unpleasant non-lethal shock that will result in the intruder abandoning the attempted boarding. At the same time an alarm will go off, activating floodlights and a very loud siren. The IMB strongly recommends ship owners to install this device on board their ships. For safety reasons it cannot be deployed on vessels carrying inflammable cargoes. Further details can be obtained at www.secure-ship.com

IMB : ANTI-PIRACY MEASURES PROVIDE WORKING SOLUTION TO GULF OF ADEN HIJACKS

It seems the combined anti-piracy action in the Gulf of Aden is having a positive effect on the region. Attacks have been attempted, but nearly all have been thwarted, and at the time of writing there have been only two hijacks in nearly a month, which is testament to the success of the increased naval activity against the pirates and the increased vigilance of merchant crews.

Amongst the many accounts coming from the region, two are worth relating. In the first on December 13, the Indian INS Mysore broke off escort duty to respond to a distress call from an Ethiopian vessel that was being fired upon by pirates in two boats. The ship went to the scene, found the pirate mother ship nearby and sent commandos onboard. They seized arms and equipment and captured 24 people, amongst them the original Yemeni crew of the fishing vessel. The Somali pirates have since been handed over to the Yemeni authorities.

More recently, a Malaysian naval vessel sent a helicopter to assist a Chinese ship where pirates had already got onboard. The swift thinking crew had barricaded themselves in the accommodation and reported the attack to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre, which relayed the message to the navies in the area. On arrival, the helicopter fired on the pirate boats and, as a result, one of the boats capsized. In the ensuing panic the pirates onboard the Chinese ship abandoned their attack and retreated back onto the remaining boat, using it to make their escape.

Monitoring the situation closely, the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) says there is considerable evidence that the increased naval activity against the pirates, no doubt bolstered by the UN Security Council's recent sanction authorising Somali pirates to be hunted down on land or sea using all measures necessary, is working and if sustained can have a major impact as a deterrent over time.

The navies have also acted against pirate mother vessels and both Kenya and Yemen have accepted captured pirates for prosecution. Despite 10 attempted attacks against ships in December 2008, only two were hijacked. In October and November on average one in three attacks succeeded.

The news that China is sending two destroyers to the Gulf of Aden to enforce the UN sanctions and cooperate with the other convoy protection ships, is also welcomed. Iran has also announced it will be sending a naval vessel to the region to join in, whilst Switzerland is proposing to send troops to protect its ships.

In addition, says the IMB, all these measures by naval forces are being supported with evidence of more robust and aggressive action by the ships being attacked, with Masters offering more resistance and their owners prepared to consider fitting anti-piracy equipment such as a long range acoustic device that emits a non-lethal blast and a system that electrifies the vessel perimeter.

Another 'crimewatch' initiative proposed by the IMB is requesting all vessels in the area to provide any information they have about suspected pirate mother ships – colour, numbers on board, arms seen, last position etc. This vital information is then passed on to the navies patrolling the region so they may monitor them and if appropriate take action. A number of reports which provide valuable intelligence gives the naval vessels a competitive edge in their battle against the pirates.

With The Times in the UK reporting that shipowners are now paying up to \$1.5 million to insure vessels sailing up the coast of Somalia and through the Gulf of Aden, and cruise liners paying to disembark passengers from ships sailing through the area and fly them to rejoin the ship somewhere safer, every measure to prevent hijacking is worth considering.

The challenge for 2009 is to sustain this major deployment of naval vessels for as long as necessary. In today's intensely trade dependent world, it is vital that international waters of major world trade routes be protected when coastal states are unable to do so.

IMB : PRIVATE ARMED RESPONSE TO PIRACY – A CONTINUING DEBATE

There have been 111 attacks off the coast of Somalia / Gulf of Aden this year during which 42 vessels have been hijacked and 815 crew taken hostage. At the time the report was published there were 12 vessels with 221 crew onboard held by pirates in anchorages from Harardheere to Eyl on the East coast of Somalia. Whilst in other high risk areas the attacks include low level armed theft from the vessel, in Somalia every attack is aimed at a hijacking. Large vessels have been seized at great distances off the Somali coast in attacks launched from pirate mother ships. A loaded VLCC of over 319,000 tonnes deadweight was hijacked approximately 450 miles south east of Mogadishu and taken back to the Somali coast. Owners of substantial fleets have declared their intention to re-route their vessels around the Cape of Good Hope rather than run the gauntlet of pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden.

From every perspective, the phenomenon of Somali piracy is unprecedented and has spiralled out of control. Crews and Owners feel vulnerable and rightly believe that once a vessel is hijacked no one will come to their assistance. Their only option is to wait out the negotiations and payment of ransom, which can sometimes take many months. It is perhaps understandable that against this background the issue of having private armed guards onboard has been raised and debated.

There are a few variations to private armed response. Weapons can be placed onboard for use by the crew. Specialist armed security teams can ride the vessel for the duration of the high risk passage. Private security companies with armed vessel and helicopters have offered to provide close armed escort to vulnerable vessels.

Is these tense times with the crews hesitant to sail through the Gulf of Aden, the IMB is aware that some owners have deployed such measures to protect their vessels. Could this be the answer to modern day piracy threatening a major waterway?

The laws have not changed. Most flag states do not allow arms to be carried onboard their merchant vessels. Merchant vessels normally have the right of innocent passage through territorial waters of a coastal state. This is based upon the premise that they are unarmed and pose no threat to the coastal state or others using their waters. This situation could significantly change if merchant vessels were

armed. Coastal state laws may well forbid the possession or use of unlicensed arms in its territorial waters, just as it forbids such use ashore on its territory.

If as a result of an armed encounter with suspected pirates, a local sailor or fishermen were to be hurt or killed, the Master of the Merchant Vessel could find himself at the receiving end of a detailed and prolonged investigation into the circumstances of the incident. Questions as to the legality of the use of weapons, proof of the intentions of the suspected pirates and whether reasonable force was used would finally determine if the Master (and the Owner) had stepped beyond the law. Criminal sanctions and detention of the vessel could well follow.

Furthermore, pirates may open fire at crew or anyone onboard on sight as they may feel threatened or unsure whether the person is armed / assumed armed. This may lead to more casualties and injuries to crews. Currently, pirates are aware that crews are not armed and although they open fire at the ship, their target is not at the crew directly but at the accommodation and bridge to influence and scare the Master to stop the ship.

What about ships/owners that could not afford these armed security guards? They are left to defend themselves.

The use of weapons is best left to those who are authorized by law to use them. In the piracy context, they include the Coast Guard, the Police and the Navy. They can arrest, detain and prosecute suspects under the laws of the state.

A private armed response does not solve the problem. All it does is displace it to those targets not so well protected. It will certainly lead to an escalation in the arms carried by the pirates. The inevitable result will be security becoming the preserve of the few who can afford it whilst most other vessels go defenceless in the even more dangerous waters.

On balance, there is little to be gained and much to lose from having private armed security on board a few vessels transiting this high risk area. The IMB supports the view of all ship owning associations and international organizations that the arming of merchant vessels through private security companies is not the answer.

IMO EMPHASISES CONCERNS TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL

The head of the IMO has personally briefed the UN Security Council on the deteriorating security conditions in the Gulf of Aden and the East coast of Somalia.

In his briefing, IMO Secretary General Efthimios E. Mitropoulos has called for coordinated and robust action by the international community to regain the safety and security of the Gulf of Aden.

The Secretary General outlined a series of actions for the consideration of the Security Council, which includes the extension of the validity of the mandate in paragraph 7 of resolution 1816. The briefing also called on member states that have the capability to take active part in the fight against piracy and armed robbery, urging them to produce clear rules of engagement for participating navies. Mr. Mitropoulos also proposed that the states should establish an effective and legal jurisdiction to bring offenders to justice.

Mr. Mitropoulos expressed his concerns not only for the safety of the crew, vessels, cargo and humanitarian aid affected by this menace, but also for the security of one of the most important trade routes in the world.

A total of 293 incidents worldwide have been reported to the IMB's Piracy Reporting Centre so far this year. Of these, 111 incidents were reported in the waters around Somalia / Gulf of Aden. The number of crew taken hostage is 815 and 42 vessels were hijacked in these waters.

The Gulf of Aden is the primary trade route between Asia and Europe because it is the shortest and hence most economical. The current pirate activities in the Gulf have resulted in some ship owners having already and other considering rerouting their ships via the Cape of Good Hope.

EU OPERATION ATALANTA MISSION LAUNCH

[Quote]

09/12/2008 15.03 GMT

The European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) Anti Piracy Operation off the coast of Somalia named Op ATALANTA was formally launched this morning at a press conference attended by Jean Christof Belliard, the EU Special Advisor on African Affairs and the Operation's Commander, Rear Admiral Phillip Jones from the UK Navy.

The Operation has been established in support of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Resolutions 1814, 1816, 1838 and 1846 (2008) and will complete the following specific tasks during the period of the operation:

- the protection of vessels of the WFP (World Food Programme) delivering food aid to displaced persons in Somalia;
- the protection of vulnerable vessels cruising off the Somali coast,
- the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast.

3. It is the first EU maritime operation, and is being conducted within the framework of the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) and is part of the EU's wider economic and political commitment to the region.

4. Operational Details

EU Operation Commander	Rear Admiral Phillip Jones UK Navy
Deputy Operational Commander	Le Contre Amiral Jean-Pierre Labonne from the French Navy
EU Force Commander at Sea	Commodore Antonios Papaioannou from the Hellenic Navy

The operation, which has been established for 12 months with a Headquarters in Northwood, (West London) United Kingdom. will command a force of up to six ships and three maritime patrol aircraft. In the first four month phase of the Operation, force contributions are expected to be made by the United Kingdom, France, Greece, Spain, and Germany and approximately 1200 people will be taking part in the Operation at any one time

It will also have the authority to liaise with other organisations and States, working in the region to combat acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast.

[Unquote]

CHINA AND IRAN SENDS WARSHIPS FOR ANTI PIRACY MISSION

Two Chinese Navy destroyers and a supply ship join the anti piracy patrols off Somalia. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said that the task of the warships would be to protect Chinese ships and crew including humanitarian relief cargo ships. He added that the Chinese warships are ready to work with the warships from the other countries and take part in humanitarian relief tasks when necessary.

It was also reported that Iran has sent a warship to the Gulf of Aden to protect its merchant ships from attacks by pirates. Iranian officials were quoted saying that their warship would be prepared to use force against the pirates if necessary.

Japan and South Korea may also be sending warships to join the anti piracy mission soon.

UN APPROVES LAND OPERATIONS ON SOMALI PIRATES

The United Nations Security Council unanimously voted to authorize nations to conduct land attacks on pirate bases in Somalia. US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice hailed the adoption saying it sent a "strong signal to combat the scourge of piracy and the need to end the impunity of Somali pirates." Rice also said that the resolution will have a significant impact since "pirates are adapting to the naval presence by travelling further "into the sea not guarded by warships sent by the US and other countries.

Resolution 1851 authorizes the states to “take all necessary measures that are appropriate in Somalia” to suppress “acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea.”

FRENCH CONTAINER CARRIER IMPOSE GULF OF ADEN SURCHARGE

It was reported recently that the French container carrier CMA CGM will impose a \$23 per TEU surcharge for all containers onboard its ships that it transports through the pirate infested Gulf of Aden from 01 January 2009. The company made the announcement after it accepted the demand for double pay for crews onboard its ships that transit through the Gulf of Aden.

The company also states that the surcharge is justified in relation to the increase in insurance premiums and other costs caused by the prevailing risks of piracy in the area.

UK AND KENYA SIGNED MOU ON PIRACY

UK and Kenya signed a MOU on arrest, transfer and prosecution of Somali pirates arrested by the British Navy.

Britain’s under-secretary of state security and counter terrorism Lord West of Spithead said “This MOU is very important. Kenya is a step ahead of the rest doing this and this fits well with the EU force that has just been established.”

KENYAN PRESIDENT CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST PIRATES

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki urges the international community to take measures to stop piracy in the Indian Ocean. The President said that piracy off the coast of Somalia was impacting negatively on the region’s economy as it disrupted trade routes. President Kibaki emphasized the need to address the security situation and problems in Somalia. He urges the US and EU to go beyond providing patrols and look into ways that would ensure the complete elimination of the piracy menace in the Indian Ocean.

INDONESIAN NAVY PREDICTS GLOBAL RECESSION MAY LEAD TO RISE IN PIRACY

Indonesia Navy says that piracy may rise due to the world economic crisis. Navy spokesman Sago Tamboen was quoted saying that due to the economic turmoil, there would be extra risk to shipping in the Malacca Straits. “We predict that with the global crisis, there will be more pirates and illegal activities taking place in the Malacca Strait. Co-ordinated patrols with Malaysia and Thailand will be maximized,” he said.

NARRATIONS OF ATTACKS**1 January – 31 December 2008****ACTUAL ATTACKS****SOUTH EAST ASIA (MALACCA STRAITS)**

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
NO	ATTACKS	REPORTED	DURING	THIS QUARTER

SOUTH EAST ASIA (EXCLUDING MALACCA STRAITS)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	19.01.2008 1145 LT Steaming Boarded	PU 2406 Tug Singapore 287 9370252 PU 3306 Barge Singapore - -	01:44.91S – 108:04.09E, Karimata Straits, Indonesia	A tug towing a barge noticed the barge store room door open. Upon inspection, it was found ship's stores and some equipment stolen. Pirates had boarded unnoticed and entered the store by breaking the door window to open from inside. Vessel continued her passage to destination port.
2.	29.01.2008 0415 LT Anchored Boarded	Princess Nadia Bulk Carrier Panama 84788 8409800	Pulau Laut Anchorage, Indonesia	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. Duty crew confronted them but robbers still managed to steal stores. 2/O raised alarm, ship's whistle sounded and crew mustered. 14 crewmembers went forward. Seeing the crew, the robbers jumped into the water and escaped in a 30M long speedboat. Port authorities requested the vessel to call back in an hour when incident was reported.
3.	17.02.2008 0540 LT Berthed Boarded	Shahrazade Dream General Cargo Hong Kong 16075 8811704	05:48N – 118:05E, Berth No.2, Sandakan Port, Malaysia	Duty crew on board the ship reported that a boat approached from the port bow. One robber was noticed on the forecastle deck passing ship stores to the other robbers in the boat. On seeing the alert crew, the robber jumped overboard and escaped with the ship stores. The forward booby hatch lock was found broken. The IMB PRC was notified who then liaised with local police for further action. Police arrived and conducted an investigation.
4.	08.03.2008 0400 LT Berthed Boarded	Motivator Chemical Tanker Marshall Islands 8539	Berth Jetty No.106, Belawan Port, Indonesia	Unauthorised persons diverted attention of duty crew and shore watchmen, while three robbers armed with long knives boarded the tanker from offshore

		9340386		side of the vessel and stole ships stores. Luckily, the duty crew spotted the robbers and raised alarm. Upon seeing crew alertness the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in a small unlit craft.
5.	17.03.2008 0230 LT Steaming Boarded	Baby Renze Passenger Boat Philippines - -	Enroute Cagbalite, Mauban and Balisen, Polilio Island, Philippines	A passenger boat with ten passenger including five crew members was returning to Polilio Island after discharging her cargo on the mainland. Two passengers who had earlier boarded after asking for a ride to Polilio Island took control of the vessel and shot dead three crew members including the captain. The pirates then tied them to the anchor and threw them overboard. The pirates shot the remaining two crew members and injured them. One of the injured jumped into the sea and is still missing. The other injured crew is recuperating in the hospital. Three other passengers including a child were unharmed. The coast guard has mounted a search for the missing and dead crewmembers and the pirates who fled in a motor boat.
6	11.04.2008 1550 UTC Anchored Boarded	Kuwana General Cargo Panama 20087 9333759	14:31.1N – 120:50.3E, Manila Bay, Philippines	Three robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored ship via the anchor cable and broke the hawse pipe cover securing. Two duty crew saw the robbers and raised alarm. The robbers succeeded in escaping with ship's stores and property.
7.	13.04.2008 0355 LT Steaming Boarded	Monalisa Product Tanker Singapore 3802 8113748	03:16.18N – 105:26.68E, Off Mangkai Island, Indonesia	Pirates armed with long knives in a speed boat boarded the tanker underway. They stole crew personal belongings and ship's property and escaped. No injuries.
8.	13.04.2008 0205 LT Steaming Boarded	Spar Cetus Bulk Carrier Norway 25982 9154608	03:13N – 105:26E, 12NM Off Mangkai Island, Indonesia	Twelve pirates, in a speedboat, armed with guns, swords and iron bars approached the ship underway. Master raised alarm, crew directed fire hoses and SSAS activated. Pirates boarded the ship and stole crew personal belongings, ship's cash and property. After 50 minutes, they left the ship. No injuries to crew except minor bruises. Ships in vicinity alerted.
9.	24.03.2008 - Steaming Boarded	Ocean Seal Lift Barge Japan 12714 8766507	02:52.5N – 105:11.0E Off Anambas Island, Indonesia	Pirates boarded the barge under tow and stole barge equipments and properties.
10.	16.04.2008 0630 LT Anchored Boarded	Yangon Star General Cargo Cyprus 14539 7713735	06:01.9S – 106:53.8E, Tanjung Priok, Indonesia	Crew noticed robbers on board just after anchoring. The robbers had broken into the safety equipment locker and had stolen ship stores. When challenged the robbers jumped over board and escaped. No injuries to crew.
11.	17.04.2008 0155 LT Anchored	UBT Bay Chemical Tanker Singapore	03:56.31N – 098:46.14E, Belawan	Robbers armed with knives boarded the tanker from a small boat. Duty crew spotted them and tried to inform the

	Boarded	7500 9417476	Anchorage, Indonesia	bridge by walkie-talkie. Robbers attacked him with knives and a piece of wood. He received injuries on his arm and back. However, he managed to inform the bridge, which raised the general alarm. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Ship's stores stolen. Port authorities did not respond to calls on vhf radio.
12.	25.04.2008 0020 LT Steaming Boarded	Pataravarin 2 Product Tanker Thailand 699 8816314	01:31.0N – 104:24.5E, 16 NM North Off Horsburg Light House, Malaysia	Six pirates armed with guns boarded the tanker underway. Pirates ordered the master to reduce speed. They checked the type of cargo the tanker was carrying. The pirates stole personal effects of crew before escaping.
13.	30.04.2008 2330 LT Steaming Boarded	PU 2008 Tug Singapore 244 9430337 PU 3306 Barge Singapore 3823 -	02:22N – 104:24E, Off Tioman Islands, Malaysia	Six pirates, in a dark blue speed boat, armed with long knives and wearing masks boarded the tug towing a barge underway. Pirates entered the accommodation and stole personal and ship's properties and escaped. No injuries to crew.
14.	02.05.2008 0200 LT Anchored Hijacked	KNF 7547 Fishing Vessel Malaysia 110.68 -	03:48.98.3N – 100:43.03.3E. 4 NM Off Tanjung Sauh, Malaysia	The fishing vessel and four crew members were attacked and hijacked while the crew was resting. The vessel was taken to an Indonesian island and all crew were forced to jump overboard. A passing Indonesian fishing boat saved all crew and the crew were handed over to Indonesian Navy. All crew were repatriated to Malaysia safely after investigation. As of 30.09.2008 the vessel is still missing.
15.	02.05.2008 0200 LT Anchored Hijacked	KNF 7548 Fishing Vessel Malaysia 110.22 -	03:48.98.3N – 100:43.03.3E. 4 NM Off Tanjung Sauh, Malaysia	The fishing vessel and four crew members were attacked and hijacked while the crew was resting. The vessel was taken to an Indonesian island and all crew were forced to jump overboard. A passing Indonesian fishing boat saved all crew and the crew were handed over to Indonesian Navy. All crew were repatriated to Malaysia safely after investigation. As of 30.09.2008 the vessel is still missing.
16.	06.05.2008 1400 LT Steaming Boarded	Al-Aziz Fishing Boat Philippines - -	Off Tapul Island and Parang, Sulu, Philippines	Four speedboats carrying 20 pirates, all armed with automatic weapons, attacked the fishing vessel carrying 20 passengers. The pirates fired upon the fishing vessel killing four passengers and injuring eight others. The wounded passengers were sent to shore for medical treatment.
17.	21.05.2008 - Steaming Hijacked	Blue Ocean 7 Product Tanker Indonesia 1280 8004117	Enroute From Sulawesi to Surabaya, Indonesia	About ten pirates armed with guns and knives boarded and hijacked the tanker laden with crude palm oil. Pirates took 14 crewmembers as hostage and sailed the tanker to unknown location. Owners contacted the Piracy Reporting Centre for

				assistance to locate the vessel. The Piracy Reporting Centre informed all authorities in the region to look out for the tanker and liaised with them regularly. The Royal Malaysia Marine Police located and detained the tanker on 19 June 2008 at the port of Sandakan, where the tanker had discharged the cargo. Eight crew members were onboard. The other six crew members are still missing.
18.	27.05.2008 0300 LT Steaming Boarded	Cathay 5 Tug Singapore 153 9447512	01:06.50N – 103:45.58E, Singapore Straits	Four pirates, armed with long knives boarded the tug towing a barge. The pirates stole cash and personal belongings of the crew. No injuries to crew members.
19.	03.06.2008 2000 UTC Steaming Boarded	Medbothnia Container Cyprus 9900 9437220	03:24.6N – 105:31.5E, Off Anambas Islands, Indonesia	Eight pirates, armed with long knives and bars, boarded the ship underway. Pirates stole ship's cash and crew properties and escaped. No injuries to crew.
20.	04.06.2008 1230 UTC Steaming Boarded	Red Wing Chemical Tanker Liberia 4859 9327334	02:36.85N – 105:09.9E, Off Anambas Islands, Indonesia	Pirates in a wooden speedboat armed with long knives and bars boarded the tanker underway. They stole cash and crew property and escaped. No injuries to crew.
21.	29.06.2008 0030 LT Steaming Boarded	Wecoy 6 Tug Singapore 245 9301213	02:30.6N – 104:14.0E, Off Tioman Island, Malaysia	Six pirates armed with knives boarded a tug towing a barge underway, while four pirates armed with guns remained standby in a speedboat. The pirates stole crew personal belongings, tug's properties and cash. After three hours of looting, the pirates escaped in their speed boat.
22.	11.07.2008 0655 LT Anchored Boarded	Eighth Ocean General Cargo Malta 15670 9165803	06:02.54S – 106:53.68E, Jakarta Inner Cargo Anchorage, Indonesia	Robbers attempted to board the ship on four different occasions. Finally they succeeded in boarding it. Robbers stole ship's spares and escaped. Port authorities informed who came onboard to investigate.
23.	13.07.2008 0250 LT Anchored Boarded	Gaz Millennium LPG Tanker Panama 16685 9229233	Manila Quarantine Anchorage, Philippines	Shore security guard noticed four robbers on the forecastle of the tanker, armed with knives and pipes, while the crew was busy preparing to receive bunkers. The robbers attempted to assault the shore guard who alerted the crew. On seeing the alert crew approaching, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in two waiting boats. The boats had around 12 more robbers in them. No one injured. Ship's equipment stolen.
24.	20.07.2008 0155 LT Anchored Boarded	Palau Bulk Carrier Malta 19795 9261035	03:55.4N – 098:44.9E, 1 NM from Buoy No.2, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia	Duty watchman onboard the ship at anchor, noticed robbers trying to open the watertight door to the forecastle store. He immediately reported to OOW who in turn raised the alarm and crew mustered. Upon seeing crew alertness, robbers jumped overboard with empty handed and escaped in a waiting boat with one accomplice.
25.	22.07.2008 0340 UTC	Victoria Strait Container	14:33.4N – 120:55.1E,	Twelve robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. They stole

	Anchored Boarded	Antigua and Barbuda 9966 9265574	Manila South Port, Outer Anchorage, Philippines	ship's stores and property and escaped. Crew were unable to stop them. No injuries to crew. Master reported to VTMS Manila and coast guard but no response.
26.	26.07.2008 0330 LT Anchored Boarded	CPO Germany Chemical Tanker United Kingdom 23270 9353096	03:57N – 098:48E, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia	Three to four robbers boarded an anchored tanker, via the anchor cable. On seeing the robbers, the master raised the alarm. Seeing the alert crew the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in an unlit boat. Port authority informed.
27.	06.08.2008 2330 LT Anchored Boarded	Kriti Ruby Product Tanker Greece 29832 9391282	03:56.2N – 098:46.8E, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia	Robbers boarded the tanker at anchor by climbing the anchor chain. They opened the forecandle store and tried to steal ship's stores. Duty crew noticed them. Alarm raised, crew alerted and mustered as per company procedures. Sensing crew alertness the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. No injuries to crew and nothing stolen.
28.	06.08.2008 0400 LT Anchored Boarded	Sylvie LPG Tanker Hong Kong 22954 9332066	00:10.19N – 117:36.12E, Bontang Anchorage, Indonesia	Duty crew onboard the tanker saw robbers stealing ship's equipment. Alarm raised and crew alerted. On seeing crew alertness, robbers escaped into a waiting boat. Upon investigation, it was discovered ship's stores and equipment were stolen.
29.	11.08.2008 0745 – 1330 LT Berthed Boarded	Straits Success Vehicle Carrier Malaysia 4197 8822090	06:05.9S – 106:55.0E, Jakarta Car Terminal, Indonesia	Robbers boarded the ship at berth and stole ship's equipment (spare parts) of considerable value from the spare parts locker. The incident was unnoticed by ship's crew.
30.	30.08.2008 0430 LT Anchored Boarded	Deauville LPG Tanker Bahamas 3617 9113939	00:04.8S – 117:34.3E, Santan Port, Indonesia	Several robbers boarded the tanker at anchor at the forward mooring station. Ship raised alarm and the intruders escaped in a waiting boat. Due to heavy rain, master unable to confirm the number of robbers and the weapons. Ship's stores were stolen.
31.	06.09.2008 0240 LT Anchored Boarded	Spar Neptun Bulk Carrier Norway 36559 9077238	00:33.3N – 117:43.4E, Tanjung Bara Anchorage, Indonesia	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor, via the forecandle and stole ship's stores. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers escaped.
32.	07.09.2008 2030 LT Steaming Hijacked	Whale 7 Tug Singapore 227 9455428 Sinobest 2503 Barge Singapore 1705 -	Off Pulau Tioman, Malaysia	About 15 pirates armed with long knives boarded and hijacked the tug towing a barge. The tug / barge were enroute to Thailand from Singapore in ballast. The pirates landed the seven Indonesian crew members on Tioman Island. The seven crew members lodged a police report on the Island. The tug and barge was located in Thailand on 24.9.2008 by Thai authorities.
33.	08.09.2008 0405 LT Steaming Boarded	Kimtrans Echo Tug Singapore 267 9311397	01:10.23N – 104:46.95E, Vicinity of Bintan Islands, Indonesia	Five pirates armed with long knives boarded the tug underway. They entered the bridge, tied the masters' hands and took him to his cabin. The pirates stole personal belongings of the master and then the crew and later left in a waiting

				speedboat. No injury to crew.
34.	23.09.2008 2025 UTC Anchored Boarded	Kuo Hung Container Panama 15075 9138159	06:02.45S – 106:54.61E, Tg Priok Cargo Anchorage, Jakarta, Indonesia	Three pirates armed with knives boarded a container ship at anchor via the stern. Alert watchman notified duty officer who raised ship's alarm and whistle. Pirates immediately jumped overboard and escaped. The incident was reported to Tg. Priok port control but no response.
35.	30.09.2008 0350 LT Steaming Boarded	J.K.M. Muhieddine Bulk Carrier Panama 15099 7917123	02:48.0N – 105:09.2E, Vicinity of Anambas Island, Indonesia	Eight pirates armed with long knives boarded the ship underway. The pirates tied up captain's hands and stole cash. Then they went to chief engineers' cabin and stole cash money. Later they took the captain to aft deck and tied him to the bollard before escaping.
36.	02.10.2008 0220 LT Steaming Boarded	Sun Geranium Chemical Tanker Panama 4976 9012173	03:11.50N – 105:22.23E, Off Mangkai Island, Indonesia	Eight pirates armed with guns and knives boarded the tanker underway. Pirates took hostage 2nd mate and a duty A/B. Pirates took second mate to captain's cabin. They held a knife to the captain's throat and stole ship's cash and escaped. Master was kicked in his chest.
37.	03.10.2008 0230 LT Steaming Boarded	Diamond Coral LPG Tanker Panama 3419 9392884	03:05.05N – 105:31.00E, 5 NM Off Mangkai Island, Indonesia	Six pirates armed with long knives boarded the tanker underway. They stole ship's and crew cash and crew personal belongings before escaping.
38.	04.10.2008 0050 LT Steaming Boarded	Sin Huat General Cargo Malaysia 1539 8217477	01:12.03N – 103:54.02E, Singapore Straits	Four pirates armed with long knives boarded the ship underway, while one pirate remained standby in the wooden boat. They gained access to the bridge, tied the hands of one A/B to the steering wheel and threatened the second A/B to take them to the masters' cabin. They then damaged the ships' internal and external communication equipment. Pirates stole ship's cash, crew properties and escaped. No injuries to crew.
39.	08.10.2008 0430 – 0600 LT Anchored Boarded	APL Chiwan Container Panama 59622 9087946	01:18.90N – 104:15.00E, 2.7 NM South of Teluk Ramunia, Johor, Malaysia	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They stole engine spares and escaped unnoticed.
40.	31.10.2008 0030 LT Steaming Boarded	Arowana Rangers Product Tanker Malaysia 741 8859471	01:11.0N – 103:50.5E, Off Batu Berhenti, Singapore Straits	Five pirates in a wooden boat, armed with knives boarded the tanker underway. They stole ship's equipment and crew personal belongings and escaped.
41.	05.11.2008 0300 LT Anchored Boarded	Trident Endeavor Bulk Carrier Greece 37519 8800315	03:40.8S – 114:26.7E, Taboneo Anchorage, Kalimantan, Indonesia	Four robbers armed with catapults, knives and hacksaws boarded the ship at anchor. They threatened the duty crew with catapults and stole ship's stores from forward locker. Alarm raised and ship's whistle sounded. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped in a wooden fast boat.
42.	10.11.2008 0030 LT	Maju Daya 3 Tug	01:11.09N – 103:52.10E,	Five pirates armed with long knives boarded the tug towing a barge

	Steaming Boarded	Indonesia 167 9028720 Marco Polo 188 Barge Indonesia 1995 -	Off Batu Berhenti, Singapore Straits	underway. The barge laden with 5000 mt of sand. Pirates stole crew personal belongings and escaped. No injury to crew. Master informed port authority.
43.	22.11.2008 0230 LT Anchored Boarded	Kirana Dwitya Tanker Singapore 13203 9279666	01:18.25N – 104:12.40E, East OPL Singapore, Singapore Straits	Five robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the tanker at anchor. They stole ship's equipment and escaped once alarm raised. No injury to crew.
44.	01.12.2008 2100 LT Steaming Boarded	Entebe Star 21 Tug Singapore 229 9336103	02:51.00N – 104:19.00E, 7.3NM Off Teluk Juara, East of Pulau Tioman, Malaysia	Ten armed pirates boarded the tug underway. They threatened the master and crew with knives. Pirates tied up the crew with ropes and locked them in a compartment. They escaped with tug boat and crew cash, documents and personal belongings. On 02.12.2008 at 0215 LT, the 2nd officer reported the incident to owners and owners instructed the master to sail the tug to Thailand. Incident reported to local police.
45.	06.12.2008 0145 LT Anchored Boarded	Conti Guinea Chemical Tanker Germany 22000 9391402	Belawan Outer Anchorage, Indonesia	Robbers boarded the tanker at anchor. They broke the bosun store padlock and stole ship's stores. Attempt to contact authorities were futile.
46.	26.12.2008 0340 LT Anchored Boarded	Allied Centurion Offshore Support Vessel Malaysia 2455 6716895	01:18.05N – 104:08.9E, Johor Outer Port Limits, Malaysia	Six armed robbers boarded an offshore support vessel and stole ship's stores and properties. One crew suffered head injuries but condition is stable. Authorities informed who later boarded for investigation.

FAR EAST

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	04.01.2008 0920 LT Steaming Boarded	SYMS Huashan Container Antigua and Barbuda 9957 9306251	20:51.8N – 107:07.4E, Vinh Ha Long Inner Anchorage, Haiphong, Vietnam	Seven pirates, armed with knives, in a wooden boat came alongside the ship during anchoring operations. They stole ship's stores and attacked three crewmembers who tried to stop them. A Vietnamese official watchman was onboard but did not take any action to stop the robbers. No injuries to crew. Incident reported to agent. Agent advised not to contact the police. No action taken.
2.	21.04.2008 2030 UTC Anchored Boarded	Chelsea Bridge LPG Tanker Bahamas 47249 8519966	Vung Tau Song Go Gia STS Anchorage, Vietnam	Robbers boarded the tanker from the forecandle. They broke open the forward store room and stole ship's stores. Duty crew spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. Fog horn sounded. Robbers escaped immediately. Later, a police

				patrol boarded for investigation. Anti piracy watch doubled up. No injuries to crew.
3.	13.06.2008 0230 LT Anchored Boarded	Ji Mei Da General Cargo Panama 16947 7615165	20:53.84N – 107:15.66E, Port Campha Inner Anchorage, Vietnam	Robbers in a small boat boarded the ship at anchor. They stole ship's stores from the forecandle deck and escaped. Duty AB on patrol noticed a fishing boat in the vicinity. Authorities informed.
4.	01.07.2008 0330 LT Anchored Boarded	Marcompetition Container Antigua and Barbuda 16269 9106144	Nha Be River, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	Three robbers boarded and broke into the forward locker on the ship at anchor. Alert anti piracy watch keepers raised alarm. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Nothing stolen. No injuries to crew.
5.	01.07.2008 0230 UTC Anchored Boarded	Garden City River Tanker Singapore 56146 9302970	10:15N – 107:07E, Vung Tau Anchorage, Vietnam	Robbers boarded and stole ship stores from the forward locker on the tanker at anchor. Anti piracy watch keepers spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. Robbers escaped with stolen goods. No injuries to crew.
6.	25.07.2008 2130 LT Berthed Boarded	CSL Sams Bulk Carrier Barbados 11532 8618188	Go Dau Port, Vietnam	Two robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship. They broke open the padlocks to the forward store. Duty crew noticed the open stores and raised the alarm. Hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped in a waiting boat. Authorities and local agents informed.
7.	31.07.2008 2015 LT Anchored Boarded	Rengganis Chemical Tanker Singapore 2543 9064217	10:16.36N – 107:02.85E, Vung Tau Anchorage, Vietnam	Robbers boarded the tanker at anchor. D/O raised alarm and crew rushed to forecandle. Upon seeing crew alertness the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores in a small boat.
8.	13.10.2008 0600 LT Anchored Boarded	Sumire Container Panama 14089 9153070	10:14.6N – 107:26.3E, Vung Tau Anchorage, Vietnam	Robbers boarded an anchored ship unnoticed by crew. They stole ship's stores and escaped. Crew on routine patrol noticed bosun store padlock was broken and ship's store stolen. Authorities informed.
9.	28.11.2008 1950 UTC Anchored Boarded	BBC Orinoco General Cargo Antigua and Barbuda 11864 9366110	10:16.1N – 107:02.2E, Vung Tau Outer Anchorage, Vietnam	Six robbers in a fishing boat approached the ship at anchor. Two robbers armed with knives boarded the ship. One of them threatened the duty crew with a knife while the other robber stole ship's stores. Later they jumped overboard and escaped in their boat with the stolen stores. Port control informed.
10.	25.12.2008 0030 LT Anchored Boarded	Eugenia B Bulk Carrier Malta 26778 9166883	10:41.22N – 106:45.6E, Mid Stream of Saigon River, Vietnam	An A/B stationed on forecandle deck heard some noises and he immediately conducted a search. Two robbers were seen escaping. Upon investigation store padlocks were found broken. Nothing stolen.

INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	05.01.2008 0556 LT Anchored Boarded	Acavus Chemical Tanker Isle of Man 8531 9308754	16:59.8N – 082:26.7E, Kakinada Roads, India	Seven robbers in a 12M length open boat approached the tanker at anchor. One robber boarded the tanker using a grappling hook attached with rope via the poop deck. Duty A/B noticed the robber and challenged him and informed OOW. Alarm raised and crew mustered. The robber climbed back into the waiting boat. Ship's property and stores stolen.
2.	16.01.2008 1345 LT Steaming Boarded	Gondwana Tug Belize 1137 7401320	16:58.17N – 082:24.26E, Kakinada Roads, India	Pirates in a small craft came alongside the tug, underway, towing a barge. They stole tug's stores. Alert crew raised alarm, crew mustered and took back the stolen stores and pushed the pirates back to their craft. The pirates boarded the barge and left after 20 minutes. Nothing stolen. Local agent informed.
3.	09.02.2008 0030 LT Anchored Boarded	Bow Clipper Chemical Tanker Norway 23197 9047518	22:46.7N – 070:00.9E, Kandla Outer Anchorage, India	Duty watchman on the tanker at anchor noticed robbers on the forecastle. On seeing the alert ship's crew the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. The padlock of the forecastle store was broken but nothing was missing.
4.	13.02.2008 0315 LT Anchored Boarded	Kota Tegap Container Singapore 7683 9251145	22:25N – 091:36E, Chittagong Anchorage 'C', Bangladesh	12 robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the ship at anchor. They held the duty watchman at gun point and tied his hands and legs to the winch. They stole ship's stores and property and escaped when another duty watchman raised the alarm. Port control and coast guard informed.
5.	20.02.2008 0330 LT Anchored Boarded	Tianjin General Cargo St. Vincent and Grenadines 23239 7729215	08:45.8N – 078:16.3E, Tuticorin Anchorage, India	Robbers in two fishing boats boarded the ship from the port and stbd side. Alarm raised and port control informed. Robbers escaped. Nothing stolen. A patrol boat came and established contact with master and one boat with seven crew apprehended.
6.	04.03.2008 0100 LT Berthed Boarded	Theodor General Cargo St Vincent and Grenadines 10322 7804390	Ruby Cement Jetty, Chittagong, Bangladesh	Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship. They assaulted and grievously injured the shore-based watchman, by cutting his face. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores. Injured watchman later received medical treatment ashore.
7.	05.03.2008 0105 UTC Anchored Boarded	Atlantic Star Bulk Carrier Panama 16949 9350082	22:49.5N – 070:02.5E, Kandla Outer Anchorage, India	Upon anchoring at the outer anchorage, Kandla Tower informed the master that security level II was being maintained in the outer anchorage area. Keeping this in mind strict anti piracy watch keeping procedures were maintained. The alert watch keepers spotted a robber onboard the vessel. Bridge informed, raised alarm, and crew mustered. The robber jumped

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				overboard and was picked up by a red motor boat in which there were around six to seven more robbers. Nothing stolen.
8.	24.03.2008 0230 LT Berthed Boarded	Butet Bulk Carrier Cyprus 10897 7710173	22:16.6N – 091:48.4E, Chittagong TSP Jetty, Bangladesh	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship during discharging operations. Fearing injuries, crew on anti piracy watch retreated into accommodation. Within ten minutes, crew mustered and went forward to investigate. By then, robbers had escaped in waiting boat after stealing ship's stores.
9.	28.03.2008 0200 LT Anchored Boarded	Fantasy I Chemical Tanker Panama 12927 8007975	22:47.18N 070:04.63E Kandla Outer Anchorage India	Three robbers boarded a tanker at anchor via the main deck. Crewmembers were maintaining anti piracy watches forward and aft. Alarm was raised as soon as the robbers were spotted. On hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped in their waiting boat. Investigation revealed ship's stores stolen. Port authorities were informed.
10.	02.04.2008 0500 LT Anchored Boarded	Tabago Bay Container Liberia 9966 9373917	Chittagong Anchorage Bravo, Bangladesh	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They broke aft store padlock and stole ship's stores. Port authority and ships in vicinity informed by vhf.
11.	26.04.2008 1518 LT Steaming Boarded	Martha Russ Container Antigua and Barbuda 9956 9346562	Berth CCT3, Chittagong Port, Bangladesh	Robbers boarded the ship, preparing to berth, while crew was busy at the mooring stations. As soon as the crew spotted the robbers, the alarm was raised. The robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Port control informed immediately but no action taken. Ship's stores stolen.
12.	29.04.2008 2310 LT Anchored Boarded	Tabago Bay Container Liberia 9966 9373917	22:11.75N – 091:44.8E, Chittagong Anchorage Bravo, Bangladesh	Eight robbers armed with sticks boarded the ship at anchor from two boats. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped without stealing anything. Authorities informed.
13.	04.05.2008 2300 LT Anchored Boarded	Hudson Strait Container Marshall Islands 9030 9187423	22:12.9N – 091:45.0E, Chittagong Anchorage Bravo, Bangladesh	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship from stern whilst seven robbers remained in the boat. They broke open padlock of store room and stole ship's stores. Alarm raised and robbers escaped in the waiting boat.
14.	13.06.2008 2354 LT Anchored Boarded	Ellen S Container Antigua and Barbuda 9957 9374117	22:13.8N – 091:44.3E, Chittagong Outer Road Anchorage 'B', Bangladesh	Six robbers in a long wooden boat with outboard engine boarded the ship at anchor. They stole ship's stores and property and escaped. Port control informed.
15.	06.07.2008 0135 LT Anchored Boarded	Port Louis Product Tanker Marshall Islands 24910 9223253	21:48N – 091:42E, Kutubdia Island, Bangladesh	Two robbers using a rope and hook boarded the tanker at anchor. Alert duty watch-keepers raised alarm. Robbers disembarked into a waiting boat, which had four other robbers and escaped. No injury to crew. Nothing reported stolen.
16.	20.08.2008 2130 UTC	OEL Dubai Container	09:55N – 076:05E,	Four robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They stole ship's stores from the paint

	Anchored Boarded	Panama 9990 9351804	Cochin Anchorage, India	locker. Alarm raised and crew alerted. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped in their boat.
17.	24.08.2008 0005 LT Anchored Boarded	Clipper Tobago Chemical Tanker Bahamas 5483 9209001	16:59.7N – 082:21.4E, Kakinada, India	Two robbers boarded the tanker at anchor. Robbers tried to steal the fire wire and other ship stores. On hearing the emergency alarm and ship's horn, the robbers fled with the fire wire in a waiting boat along with two other accomplices.
18.	13.09.2008 0300 LT Anchored Boarded	Kinship Prosperity General Cargo India 2002 8027884	09:57.75N – 076:15.79E, Warf No.Q4, Cochin Port, India	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the ship moored to buoys. They broke pad locks of forward store. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, robbers escaped empty handed in a wooden boat with eight accomplices. Port control and coast guard informed.
19.	07.11.2008 2055 LT Anchored Boarded	Baizo Tanker Panama 28517 9263916	22:15.8N – 091:44.1E, Chittagong Anchorage 'A', Bangladesh	Five robbers boarded an oil tanker at anchorage. Robbers jumped overboard when sighted by ship's crew. Nothing stolen and no injury to crew.
20.	11.12.2008 0142 LT Anchored Boarded	Tulum Product Tanker Marshall Islands 28534 9222560	22:15N – 091:44E, Chittagong 'A' Anchorage, Bangladesh	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the tanker at anchor. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Coast guard boarded for investigation. Ship's stores stolen from bosun store.
21.	20.12.2008 0340 LT Anchored Boarded	A Elephant Tanker Liberia 145661 8608028	22:14.39N 091:44.43E Chittagong Anchorage "B" Bangladesh	Duty Oiler onboard the tanker spotted armed robbers near the engine store area. The alarm was raised, crew alerted and authorities contacted. Robbers escaped with stolen engine spares.

AMERICAS

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	15.01.2008 2245 LT Not Stated Boarded	Ti Ve Yacht France 25 -	11.03N – 064:39.0W, Bahia de Robledal, Isla de Margarita, Venezuela	Five pirates armed with guns boarded the yacht. They assaulted the crew and demanded from the crew all their property. One crew was shot and injured. Incident reported to local authorities who undertook an investigation.
2.	31.01.2008 1955 LT Anchored Boarded	Samsun Earnest Bulk Carrier South Korea 19035 8307533	12:01.8S – 077:11.8W, Callao No.1 Anchorage, Peru	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship at anchor. The robbers tied up the duty crew, stole his personal belongings, broke into the bosun store, stole ship's stores and escaped. Master tried to contact port authority via vhf but no response.
3.	06.02.2008 0052 LT Anchored Boarded	Cap Vilano Container Cyprus 28372 9311787	Callao Anchorage No.1, Peru	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor from a small boat. Duty crew spotted them, raised alarm and crew mustered. Robbers escaped. Authorities informed. Coast guard patrol boat arrived after more than one hour, patrolled the waters around the

				ship for about ten minutes, and moved away.
4.	18.06.2008 0530 LT Anchored Boarded	Lyra Leader Vehicle Carrier Panama 62510 9284752	18:34.2N – 072:24.2W, Port Au Prince Anchorage, Haiti	Robbers boarded an anchored vehicle carrier via the anchor chain. They stole ship's stores from the forward station and escaped.
5.	05.07.2008 1900 LT Steaming Boarded	Raven-Eye Yacht United Kingdom 14 -	10:45N – 063:00W, 8 NM Off Puerto Santos, Venezuela	Six pirates armed with guns and knives in a pirogue fishing boat, one dressed in military uniform and two with facemasks approached the yacht underway. The skipper rammed into the fishing boat but the pirates managed to board the yacht. They tied the two-crew members and pointed guns to their heads. They shot and stabbed the skipper's dog. The pirates stole equipment, property, and left. One crew injured.
6.	13.07.2008 2040 LT Anchored Boarded	CFL Prudence General Cargo Netherlands 4040 9398046	18:34.0N – 072:24.0W, Port Au Prince Anchorage, Haiti	Duty A/B, on the ship at anchor, noticed six robbers on the forecandle stealing ship's stores. Master informed, alarm raised and crew mustered. On seeing alert crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Two junks were noticed moving away from the ship. Port control was informed.
7.	13.08.2008 0005 UTC Anchored Boarded	Darya Sur Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 18675 9118563	12:00.8S – 077:12.1W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Duty crew noticed robbers boarding the ship. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers overpowered the duty crew and tied him up. Robbers stole ship's properties and escaped. Local authorities informed.
8.	13.08.2008 0130 LT Anchored Boarded	Sun Genius Refrigerated Cargo Bahamas 9417 8222989	02:43.3S – 080:26.6W, Guayaquil Outer Anchorage, Ecuador	Duty watchman onboard the ship spotted two robbers hiding behind a 40' container. They had stolen ship's stores from the paint locker and lowered them into a waiting boat. As soon as they realised they had been spotted they jumped into the water and escaped in the waiting boat.
9.	19.09.2008 2120 LT Anchored Boarded	Natacha-C General Cargo United Kingdom 7752 9267285	10:16.23N – 064:34.12W, Guanta Roads, Venezuela	Five robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They broke into the forecandle store and stole ship's stores and property. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers escaped with stolen items. Duty crew directed search light at the robber's boat, saw the name of the boat and informed port control. Coast guard came on board the ship to take statements and later searched for the boat. Two hours later, the boat was found with the stolen items. Master went to police station to give statement and now waiting for court hearing in few months to receive the stolen items.
10.	08.11.2008 1400 UTC Anchored Boarded	Sarana Yacht USA - -	00:48N – 080:07W, Pedernales, Ecuador	Five armed robbers in a small fishing boat boarded an anchored yacht. They roughed up the crew and stole valuables and yacht's property. With the assistance of another yacht, the incident was reported to USCG Alameda who then

				contacted the Ecuadorian authorities. The authorities advised the yachts to meet at Punta Galera.
11.	13.11.2008 1000 UTC Anchored Boarded	Glory Ocean Cement Carrier Singapore 10337 9116448	Mamonal 'A' Anchorage, Cartagena, Colombia	Robbers armed with gun and knives boarded the ship at anchor. They tied up one crewmember and stole ship's stores. Coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
12.	26.12.2008 Night Hrs Anchored Boarded	Maclow Yacht France - -	Bahia de Todos os Santos, Brazil	Two armed robbers boarded the yacht at anchor and assaulted the two crewmembers. Robbers stole ship's properties, cash and crew properties before escaping. The two injured crew were given shore medical treatment. Authorities are investigating.
13.	28.12.2008 1950 LT Anchored Boarded	Velebit Bulk Carrier Croatia 23277 8915237	12:01.9S – 077:11.1W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Ten robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They took hostage one duty crew and tied his hands and legs. Robbers stole ship's stores and property and escaped. Port control informed. A coast guard boat came and patrolled the area.

AFRICA (SOMALIA)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	20.04.2008 1452 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Playa De Bakio Fishing Vessel Canary Islands 2101 9010345	00:06.24S – 049:08.56E, Somalia	Pirates armed with guns and grenade launchers attacked the fishing vessel and hijacked it to an unknown location. Twenty-six crew members were taken hostage and a ransom demanded for their safe release. On 25 April 2008 the crew and vessel were released by the pirates. It appears the owners paid a ransom for the safe release of the crew and vessel. On 29 April 2008 the crew members and vessel arrived safely at Seychelles.
2.	21.04.2008 - Steaming Hijacked	Al-Khaleej - UAE - -	11 KM Off Bossaso Port, Somalia	Pirates armed with guns opened fire on the ship underway. They hijacked the ship and took the 16 crewmembers hostage. Local security forces raided the ship and rescued the 16 crewmembers and ship. All crew are safe. A number of the pirates were injured and captured.
3.	17.05.2008 0905 LT Steaming Hijacked	Victoria General Cargo Jordan 3440 7906203	02:13.19N – 046:49.38E, Coastal Waters Off Somalia	Pirates boarded and hijacked the ship underway. Ship was on passage to Mogadishu, Somalia. Pirates then sailed the ship to the coastal waters in Somalia. The crew and ship was released on 23.05.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship. The ship sailed for Mogadishu to discharge her cargo.
4.	23.06.2008 - Steaming	Rockall Yacht -	Off Somali Coast, Somalia	Pirates attacked and hijacked the yacht underway. They kidnapped it's three crew members and held them on land for

	Hijacked	- -		a ransom. It is believed a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew. All three crew members had arrived safely in their respective country. The yacht was believed to have been abandoned. A full report is awaited from the authorities.
5.	04.08.2008 0300 LT Steaming Hijacked	Yenegoa Ocean Tug Panama 1101 7342500	Off Bosasso, Somalia	Pirates attacked and hijacked the tug underway. They took the crew hostage and sailed the tug into Somali coastal waters. To date the where about of the crew and vessel is not known.
6.	18.09.2008 0250 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Centauri Bulk Carrier Malta 12812 7701354	02:22.13N – 050:55.15E, 250 NM Off Mogadishu, Somalia	Five armed pirates in a speedboat attacked the ship underway. They took hostage 25 crewmembers and hijacked the ship. The ship is anchored near Hobyo. The crew and ship was released on 27.11.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
7.	21.09.2008 0200 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Capt. Stefanos Bulk Carrier Bahamas 39035 9227194	02:30.00N – 051:59.30E, Off Somali Coast, Somalia	Four pirates in three speedboats attacked and successfully boarded the ship underway. They took hostage 19 crewmembers and hijacked the ship. The ship is anchored off Hobyo. The crew and ship was released on 06.12.2008. It is believed a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
8.	25.09.2008 1310UTC Steaming Hijacked	Faina Ro-Ro Belize 10931 7419377	02:10N – 050:40E, East Coast of Somalia	Armed pirates boarded and hijacked the ship underway. The ship is anchored off Hobyo. The pirates are holding 21 crew as hostage. The Master died of a heart attack onboard. Negotiations in progress.
9.	14.11.2008 Early Hours Steaming Hijacked	Tianyu No. 8 Fishing Vessel China - -	Off Southern Somalia	Pirates boarded the fishing vessel, hijacked it with its 24 crew members, and sailed the vessel into Somali waters. No further details available.
10.	15.11.2008 0723 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Sirius Star Tanker Liberia 162252 9384198	04:41S – 048:43E, Off Southern Somalia	Armed pirates attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. They have taken hostage 25 crew members. Owners informed that the vessel is anchored off Somali coast. Negotiations in progress.

AFRICA (GULF OF ADEN)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	01.02.2008 1317 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Svitzer Korsakov Tug St. Vincent & Grenadines 663 9389590	12:57N – 051:24E, North of Northeast of Somalian Coast (Cape Raas Caseyr), Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates attacked the tug underway and hijacked it. The pirates took hostage six crew members and sailed the tug towards Somali coast and anchored near Eyl. On 18.03.2008, the tug and crew were released after lengthy negotiations. It appears that a ransom was paid to secure the release of the tug and crew.
2.	31.03.2008 -	Lina 2 Fishing Vessel	12:10N 052:10E	Pirates armed with guns attacked and boarded a fishing vessel. They shot and

	Steaming Boarded	Yemen - -	Abd Al-Kuri Island, Gulf of Aden	injured the master on his left shoulder. Pirates stole three zodiac boats and escaped into Somali waters.
3.	01.04.2008 - Steaming Hijacked	Brum Ocean Fishing Vessel Yemen - -	14:30N – 049:10E, 75NM South of Mukalla Port, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with guns attacked and hijacked the fishing vessel and sailed into Somali territorial waters. The fishing vessel, along with its 34 crew was released when a military helicopter intervened.
4	04.04.2008 0948 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Le Ponant Passenger Vessel France 1189 8914219	13:12.84N – 050:14.63E, Gulf of Aden	Ten pirates armed with AK47 guns and RPGs in two speed boats attacked the vessel underway. They took hostage 30 crewmembers and hijacked the vessel to the Somali coast. SSAS activated. Yemen Maritime Authorities and coalition forces informed. The crew and vessel was released on 11 April 2008. It appears the owners paid a ransom for the safe release of the crew and vessel.
5.	25.05.2008 1530 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Amiya Scan General Cargo Antigua and Barbuda 2546 9280718	13:16.37N – 050:49.82E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates hijacked the ship 80 NM off the coast of Somalia. Nine crewmembers were held hostage onboard, 2.5 NM from the coast. Pirates demanded a ransom for the release of the crew and ship. On 24.06.2008 the crew and ship were released. It appears that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
6.	28.05.2008 1038 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Lehmann Timber General Cargo Gibraltar 5285 9418286	13:10.20N – 048:58.77E, Gulf of Aden	Four heavily armed pirates in a speed boat attacked and hijacked the ship underway. They sailed the ship into Somali territorial waters. The crew and ship was released on 07.07.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
7.	20.07.2008 0011 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Stella Maris Bulk Carrier Panama 30046 9317157	13:16.99N 050:03.47E, SE of AL Mukalla, Gulf of Aden	Pirates boarded the ship underway. The ship activated SSAS and sent voice message to the coalition forces indicating pirates on board. The hijackers sailed the ship to Eyl. The crew and ship was released on 09.10.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
8.	12.08.2008 0822 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Thor Star General Cargo Thailand 10572 8311364	13:38.81N – 049:45.14E, Gulf of Aden	A general cargo ship underway was attacked and hijacked by pirates. The ship sent an SSAS alert distress. The pirates sailed the ship into Somali territorial waters and anchored her near Eyl. Pirates are demanding a ransom for the safe release of the 28 crew members and ship. The crew and ship was released on 14.10.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
9.	19.08.2008 1413 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Bunga Melati Dua Chemical Tanker Malaysia 22254 9123661	12:46.24N – 047:55.18E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates in two speed boats attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. The tanker sent distress messages which were relayed by passing ships in the vicinity to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre. Duty officer at the Piracy Reporting Centre contacted the coalition navy to render

				assistance to the crew members and the tanker. Coalition navy despatched a warship to intercept the tanker. The tanker was carrying a cargo of palm oil. The tanker is anchored off Eyl. The crew and ship was released on 29.09.2008. It is believed a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
10.	21.08.2008 0223 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Iran Deyanat Bulk Carrier Iran 25168 8107579	13:49.3N – 050:23.9E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with automatic weapons attacked and hijacked the ship underway. The ship sent distress messages which were relayed by passing ships in the vicinity to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre. Duty officer at the Piracy Reporting Centre immediately contacted the coalition navy to render assistance to the crew members and the ship. The ship was enroute to Rotterdam from China carrying steel products and minerals. Pirates have taken hostage 29 crew members. A coalition warship is monitoring the hijacked ship. The ship is anchored off Eyl. The crew and ship was released on 10.10.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
11.	21.08.2008 0358 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Irene Chemical Tanker Panama 7373 9221669	14:26.42N – 049:56.46E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with automatic weapons attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. The owners and ships in the vicinity of the tanker contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre and informed of the incident. The IMB Piracy Reporting centre immediately contacted the coalition navy to render assistance to the tanker. The tanker was carrying a cargo of flammable chemical cargo from Fos, France to India. 19 crew members taken hostage. Coalition warships are monitoring the hijacked tanker. The tanker is anchored off Eyl. The crew and ship was released on 09.10.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
12.	21.08.2008 0945 UTC Steaming Hijacked	BBC Trinidad General Cargo Antigua and Barbuda 6296 9356414	12:57.9N – 048:56.7E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates boarded and hijacked the ship underway. A passing ship reported the incident and distress to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre who had immediately contacted all relevant agencies and the coalition forces for assistance. The crew and ship was released on 11.09.2008. It is believed a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
13.	29.08.2008 1350 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Bunga Melati 5 Chemical Tanker Malaysia 22116 9172258	13:12N – 046:37E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates in speed boats attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. They sailed the tanker to Eyl. The crew and ship was released on 27.09.2008. It is believed a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
14.	02.09.2008 1853 UTC	Carre D'AS IV Yacht	11:48.42N – 050:32.00E,	A yacht enroute from Cocos (Keeling) Islands to Aden, Yemen has been

	Steaming Hijacked	French - -	Gulf of Aden	attacked and hijacked by pirates. The hijackers sailed the yacht to a unknown location in Somalia where it was anchored. French troops rescued the only two crew members onboard on 15.09.2008 and towed away the yacht.
15.	03.09.2008 0930 LT Steaming Hijacked	Al Mansourah General Cargo Panama 9751 7707683	14:27N – 049:40E, Off Al Mukalla, Yemeni Coast, Gulf of Aden	12 pirates armed with automatic guns and RPG in a small high speed craft attacked, boarded and hijacked the ship along with her 25 crewmembers. The crew and ship was released on 27.09.2008. It is believed a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
16.	10.09.2008 0657 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Bright Ruby Bulk Carrier Korea 15872 8604474	13:09.06N – 047:57.00E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates boarded and hijacked the ship underway. There are 21 crew members onboard who are being taken hostage. The ship is anchored off Eyl. The crew and ship was released on 16.10.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
17.	15.09.2008 1043 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Stolt Valor Chemical Tanker Hong Kong 15732 9274290	13:34.54N – 049:00.58E, Gulf of Aden	About 15 armed pirates boarded and hijacked the tanker underway. The tanker enroute to Mumbai, India, was carrying chemical products. 22 crewmembers have been taken hostage. The tanker is anchored of Eyl. The crew and ship was released on 16.10.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
18.	18.09.2008 0618 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Great Creation Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 18179 9175456	14:13.00N – 049:59.00E, Gulf of Aden	About eight pirates armed with guns boarded the ship drifting due to engine problems. Pirates took hostage 25 crewmembers and sailed the vessel to Somali coast where is it anchored. The crew and ship was released on 19.11.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
19.	26.09.2008 0828 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Genius Chemical Tanker Liberia 6765 9008811	13:32.23N – 048:36.36E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates fired at the tanker underway. The tanker sent mayday messages via vhf channel. The pirates boarded and hijacked the tanker. The 19 crew members are taken hostage. The crew and ship was released on 19.11.2008. It is believed that a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship.
20.	09.10.2008 1700 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Wael H General Cargo Panama 1975 7425273	14:04.52N – 050:52.24E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates in speedboats boarded and hijacked the ship underway. They hijacked the ship and sailed it to an undisclosed location in Somalia. 11 crew members taken hostage. The ship was enroute from Salalah to Bossaso, Somalia when it was hijacked. Owners advised that the Puntland soldiers rescued the crew and vessel on 14.10.2008. The crew and vessel are safe and proceeding to discharge the cargo.
21.	10.10.2008 1330 UTC	Action Chemical Tanker	13:06.16N – 047:13.43E,	Pirates attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. They sailed the tanker and

	Steaming Hijacked	Panama 5280 8210261	Gulf of Aden	anchored off Eyl. They have taken 20 crew members as hostage. The crew and ship was released on 12.12.2008. It is believed a ransom was paid for the safe release of the crew and ship. Owners reported that one crew member died due to unknown causes during the captivity.
22.	14.10.2008 1400 LT Steaming Hijacked	Shri Shiv Shamboo Dhow India 383 -	12:59.42N – 048:29.72E, Gulf of Aden	Nine armed pirates in two speedboats attacked and hijacked the dhow underway enroute from India to Berbera, Somalia. Pirates sailed the dhow to an undisclosed location in Somalia. There are 13 crew onboard held hostage. The crew and vessel was released on 23.10.2008. It is not known if a ransom was paid.
23.	15.10.2008 0409 UTC Steaming Hijacked	African Sanderling Bulk Carrier Panama 32379 9403059	13:33.92N – 050:10.70E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates in speedboats boarded and hijacked the ship underway along with its 21 crew. The pirates sailed the ship to Eyl where it is anchored.
24.	29.10.2008 1030 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Yasa Neslihan Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 42895 9286566	13:00.15N – 046:40.73E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with automatic weapons in two speed boats fired upon the ship underway. The pirates successfully boarded and hijacked the ship. They have taken 20 crew members as hostages and sailed the ship to Eyl where it is anchored. The ship was carrying a cargo of iron ore pallets from Pointe Noire, Canada to Rizhao, China when it was hijacked. Negotiations in progress.
25.	07.11.2008 1241 UTC Steaming Hijacked	CEC Future General Cargo Bahamas 4980 9076351	12:46N – 045:56E, Gulf of Aden	Somali pirates hijacked the ship underway. There was no radio communication or any alarm received from the ship. There are 13 crewmembers onboard. The vessel is anchored off Eyl. Negotiations in progress.
26.	10.11.2008 1400 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Stolt Strength Chemical Tanker Philippines 20059 9311024	13:27.6N – 048:26.8E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with RPG and guns boarded the tanker underway and hijacked it. They are holding 23 crewmembers as hostage onboard. The tanker is anchored off Somali coast. Negotiations in progress.
27.	12.11.2008 1414 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Karagol Chemical Tanker Turkey 3974 9369928	13:07N – 046:48E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. 14 crew taken hostage. The vessel is anchored off Eyl. Negotiations in progress.
28.	15.11.2008 0915 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Chemstar Venus Chemical Tanker Panama 11951 9185841	12:51N – 046:43E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates attacked and hijacked the tanker underway. They sailed the tanker to an undisclosed location in Somalia. Negotiations in progress.
29.	18.11.2008 0600 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Delight Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 25768 8320133	14:23N – 051:05E, Gulf of Aden	Pirate boarded and hijacked the ship underway. 25 crew members have been taken hostage. A coalition aircraft flew over the ship and sighted five armed pirates onboard with a skiff tied alongside. The pirates sailed the vessel into Somali waters and anchored 90 NM

				South off Eyl. Negotiations in progress.
30.	18.11.2008 0930 LT Steaming Hijacked	Ekawatnava 5 Fishing Vessel Kiribati 566 9094846	14:17.15N – 050:15.70E, 30 NM East of Ash Shir, Gulf of Aden	Pirates in three speedboats boarded the fishing vessel underway. They took hostage 16 crew members and hijacked it into Somali waters. When a warship approached the vessel, armed pirates opened fire at the vessel. In the ensuing exchange of fire, the fishing vessel sunk. Two crew members were rescued by a Yemeni fishing boat. One of them succumbed to injuries, died later. 14 other crew members are missing. A search by coalition warships and Yemeni authorities is continuing for the survivors.
31.	28.11.2008 0447 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Biscaglia Chemical Tanker Liberia 16282 8406339	13:54N – 049:09E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates attacked the tanker underway. The tanker broadcast a distress message. Two coalition helicopters arrived at the location but the pirates had already boarded and hijacked the tanker. They took the 28 crew as hostage and sailed the vessel to Eyl where it is anchored. Negotiations in progress.
32.	16.12.2008 0904 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Bosphorus Prodigy General Cargo Antigua and Barbuda 3062 8415158	13:20.82N – 047:57.63E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates in two speedboats armed with automatic weapons and RPG attacked and opened fire on the ship underway. Master transmitted mayday messages and took evasive manoeuvres. Pirates managed to board and hijack the ship. Eleven crewmembers have been taken hostage. Negotiations in progress.
33.	16.12.2008 0715 LT Steaming Hijacked	Masindra 7 Tug Malaysia 262 7419688 AMD 1 Barge Malaysia 1822 -	13:54N – 049:39E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates boarded and hijacked the tug towing an un laden barge enroute to Port Klang, Malaysia. The vessel is anchored at Bosasso, Somalia. Negotiations in progress.
34.	17.12.2008 0419 UTC Steaming Boarded	Zhen Hua 4 Heavy Load Carrier St. Vincent and Grenadines 26650 7354292	14:28N – 051:36E, Gulf of Aden	Nine pirates in two speed boats chased and successfully boarded the ship. The pirates were on the main deck and could not enter the accommodation. Ship sent a distress message to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre which was immediately relayed to coalition naval forces to render assistance. A Malaysian warship was sent to assist and a Malaysian helicopter arrived on scene and opened fire on the pirates. Coalition naval forces informed that the warship was on its way to assist the ship. The pirates disembarked from the ship into a speed boat. Crew and ship are safe and proceeding to destination port.

AFRICA (EXCLUDING SOMALIA)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	07.01.2008 0235 LT Berthed Boarded	W-O Noroc Chemical Tanker Marshall Islands 9240 9232553	19:47.99S – 034:49.77E, Berth No.5, Beira Port, Mozambique	Duty seaman onboard the berthed tanker noticed one robber on the forecandle deck. Duty officer informed and crew alerted. When confronted, robber threatened the duty seaman with a knife. Noticing the alert crew the robber jumped into the water and escaped. Ship's stores stolen. Port facility informed.
2.	08.01.2008 0055 LT Anchored Boarded	Risanger Chemical Tanker Norway 28246 9212369	Tema Anchorage, Ghana	Three robbers, armed with knives boarded the tanker via the forecandle. Duty A/B spotted the robbers who tried to catch him. Luckily, the A/B managed to escape. D/O raised the alarm, crew mustered and searched the area. It was found that the robbers had unscrewed all the butterfly nuts of the forecandle hatch. However, as the hatch was locked from inside the robbers could not enter the store. Nothing was stolen. Port control informed.
3.	09.01.2008 - Steaming Boarded	Bourbon Offshore Supply Ship USA 1702 9315513	Bonny River, Nigeria	Gunmen suspected to be militants in a speed boat attacked the supply vessel underway. They fired upon the vessel indiscriminately wounding three crewmembers. The injured crew were taken to hospital for treatment.
4.	14.01.2008 0144 LT Anchored Boarded	Global Patriot General Cargo USA 26409 7504627	08:42.9S – 013:18.8E, Luanda Anchorage, Angola	Two robbers boarded the ship from a small boat. They broke open the forecandle paint store and stole ship's stores. Robbers were spotted by ship's crew. Alarm raised, robbers jumped overboard and escaped.
5.	18.01.2008 0353 LT Anchored Boarded	Scottish Bard Product Tanker Isle of Man 20662 8810023	06:20.77N – 003:21.23E, 3NM Off Lagos, Nigeria	Robbers boarded the tanker during STS cargo operations, stole ship's store and escaped. No injuries to crew.
6.	23.01.2008 0620 LT Anchored Boarded	Global Patriot General Cargo USA 26409 7504627	08:46.2S – 013:16.4E, Luanda Inner Anchorage, Angola	Robbers boarded the ship, broke open forward paint locker, and stole ship's stores unnoticed. The ship was later searched but no robbers were found. No injuries to crew. Authorities notified.
7.	30.01.2008 0145 LT Anchored Boarded	Go Friendship Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 26136 9082958	Abidjan Inner Anchorage, Ivory Coast	Two robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They stole ship's stores and escaped. Port authorities informed.
8.	30.01.2008 2130 UTC Anchored Boarded	Scottish Bard Product Tanker Isle of Man 20662 8810023	06:17.62N – 003:24.69E, Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Four robbers armed with hand guns and knives boarded the tanker at anchor. Alert crew raised alarm and crew mustered. Robbers stole ship's store and escaped in their waiting boat.
9.	31.01.2008 0615 LT Steaming	Elbia Cement Carrier Panama	03:12N – 008:36E, 15 NM SW Off	Ten armed persons in military clothing boarded the ship underway. The intruders identified themselves as Nigerian rebels

	Boarded	8323 7702140	Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea	and only demanded food. After nearly six hours onboard, the intruders disembarked into speedboats where five accomplices were waiting. No injury to crew or any damage to the ship.
10.	01.02.2008 0315 UTC Berthed Boarded	Emilia Container Antigua and Barbuda 6264 9184249	Berth Tin Can No.4, Lagos Port, Nigeria	Three robbers boarded the ship at berth. Robbers broke into forward paint locker. Duty officer raised alarm and the robbers escaped in a waiting boat. Nothing stolen.
11.	03.02.2008 0330 LT Anchored Boarded	MSC Emilia S General Cargo Panama 10932 7026522	04:46S – 039:20E, Dar Es Salaam Anchorage Area 4, Tanzania	Twelve robbers in a speedboat approached the ship at anchor. Two robbers boarded the ship. Alert crew raised alarm, SSAS activated and port control informed. Ship's crew mustered and took necessary anti-piracy measures. The robbers jumped into the water and escaped in their waiting boat. Police patrol boat came for investigation.
12.	14.02.2008 0341 LT Steaming Boarded	Safmarine Cotonou Container Netherlands 21054 8417223	06:43.5S – 039:43.8E, 20 NM Off Tanzania Coast, Tanzania	Three pirates boarded the ship from a small wooden boat equipped with an out board engine. The ship was drifting, awaiting berthing instructions. Alert duty crew noticed the pirates and the alarm was raised, ship's whistle sounded, crew mustered and master increased speed. Pirates fled immediately. Upon inspection, two containers were found opened.
13.	21.02.2008 0330 LT Berthed Boarded	Happy River General Cargo Netherlands 10990 9139294	06:26.3N – 003:23.5E, Apapa Berth No.12, Lagos, Nigeria	Two persons managed to board the ship at berth in spite of armed navy guards being onboard. The robbers forced opened the forecandle door and stole ship's stores. Duty watchman noticed the robbers and informed the guards. By the time the guards arrived forward, the robbers escaped in their speedboat.
14.	02.03.2008 0045 LT Anchored Boarded	BW Orinoco Product Tanker Panama 43797 9324320	Nacala Bay Anchorage, Mozambique	Robbers in three boats boarded the tanker at anchor. They were in the process of lowering ship's stores when duty crew spotted the robbers. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Port control informed.
15.	02.03.2008 2315 LT Anchored Boarded	London Star Tanker Liberia 41966 9330343	06:18.3N – 003:20.54E, Lagos Light House Anchorage, Nigeria	Two robbers armed with knives attacked, injured and robbed the duty AB onboard an anchored tanker. Other watchman, nearby, informed the bridge and tried to assist the watchman. Alarm raised and the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Facial injuries tended to by onboard medical officer. Arrangements made for injured AB to visit the doctor the next day. Masters' attempt to contact port control was futile.
16.	09.03.2008 0445 LT Steaming Boarded	Nordstar Container Cyprus 16803 9149873	06:31.8S – 039:51.5E, 35 NM Off Dar Es Salaam Pilot Station, Tanzania	Whilst drifting and waiting for pilot, the deck patrol onboard spotted one speedboat with ten persons near the fore part of the ship. Crew alerted. Upon inspection, it was discovered that some ship's stores were stolen and some

				containers seals broken and contents stolen. Port control informed.
17.	12.03.2008 1250 LT Steaming Boarded	Berger Explorer Tug Nigeria 135 9148063	Enroute from Calabar to Port Harcourt, Nigeria	Armed pirates in three speed boats boarded the tug underway and kidnapped six Nigerian nationals and took them ashore. The kidnappers claim to be the 'Protectors of the Bonny River' and demanded a ransom for the safe release of the six crew members. One crew was released the same day and the remaining five crew members were released on 16.03.2008. It appears that a ransom was paid to secure the safe release of the six crew members.
18.	19.03.2008 0300 LT Anchored Boarded	MOL Rise Container Antigua and Barbuda 12997 9007506	05:01S – 039:11E, Tanga Anchorage, Tanzania	A robber from a fishing boat boarded an anchored container ship. The robber jumped overboard as soon as the anti-piracy crew spotted him. Alarm raised, crew mustered and searched the ship. Nothing stolen. The watch keepers noticed seven more people in the boat.
19.	23.03.2008 0055 LT Anchored Boarded	Tristar Kuwait Tanker Bahamas 27997 8613293	05:34N – 000:02E, Tema Anchorage, Ghana	Three robbers boarded the tanker at anchor. Duty crew noticed the robbers. Bridge informed. D/O raised alarm, sounded ship's whistle and crew mustered. Robbers jumped into the water and escaped. Nothing stolen. Port control informed. A security boat came and conducted a full search of the area.
20.	02.04.2008 - Anchored Boarded	Nova Flandria Refrigerated Cargo Liberia 4574 8919893	Boma Anchorage, Democratic Republic of Congo	Two robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They broke the seal to the cargo compartment and commenced stealing the cargo. Duty watchman noticed some cargo on deck and raised the alarm. On seeing the watchman the robbers threatened him however upon seeing crew alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped.
21.	08.04.2008 0247 LT Anchored Boarded	Hudson River Container Cyprus 9940 9330848	06:46.4S – 039:20.5E, Dar Es Salaam Anchorage No.6, Tanzania	Anti piracy watchman sighted one robber near the boson store, on a ship at anchor. On sighting the watchman, the robber jumped overboard and escaped in a waiting boat. Alarm raised. Investigations indicated duty watch keepers had abandoned their stations to look into a noise they had heard, allowing the robber to access the ship unnoticed. Ship's stores were found stolen.
22.	14.04.2008 0340 LT Anchored Boarded	Sumy Bulk Carrier Ukraine 14136 7701691	06:17.3N – 003:22.4E, Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. They took hostage one duty crew, tied his hand and feet and injured another crew. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, robbers escaped in their motor boat with ship's stores. Lagos port control informed.
23.	17.04.2008 0300 LT Anchored Boarded	Name With held Product tanker Liberia 28010	Lagos Anchorage Nigeria	Robbers boarded and stole ship stores from a product tanker at anchor. Duty crew injured during the incident
24.	17.04.2008	Claes Maersk	Apapa - Tin	Ten robbers in two speed boats boarded

	0455 LT Berthed Boarded	Container Denmark 20842 9064396	Can Island, Nigeria	the ship berthed alongside. They broke open the paint store and stole ship's stores. Alarm raised and ship's crew locked themselves inside the accommodation for their own safety. Another group of robbers on motorcycles arrived near the ship and the stolen ship's stores were lowered. The two shore watchmen employed for security duties were missing during the incident and appeared once the robbers had gone. Authorities informed but no action taken.
25.	22.04.2008 0315 LT Anchored Boarded	Kapitan Maslov Container Cyprus 16575 9130157	Dar Es Salaam Anchorage No.1, Tanzania	Eight robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. Before the watch keepers could contact and warn the bridge the robbers over powered and tied them up. The alarm was raised only when the chief officer could not contact the watch keepers. By then the robbers had stole contents from several containers. The robbers escaped when the alarm was raised. Port authorities informed.
26.	22.04.2008 2150 LT Anchored Boarded	Sean Rickmers Container Marshal Islands 16986 9197349	06:41.0S – 039:42.1E, 28NM Off Dar Es Salaam Pilot Station, Tanzania	Eight robbers armed with long knives boarded an anchored ship. They tied up the duty crew and stole his personal belongings, ship's stores and property. They broke open three containers and stole its contents. Robbers escaped once the alarm was raised. Local authorities informed.
27.	27.04.2008 2145 UTC Anchored Boarded	Raiatea Refrigerated Cargo Cyprus 2989 7637527	06:05N – 001:17E, Lome Anchorage, Togo	Six armed robbers boarded the ship at anchor, via the forecastle. When spotted by crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Ship's stores stolen.
28.	29.04.2008 - Anchored Boarded	Freja Spring Product Tanker Panama 28546 9174488	06:15.1N – 003:22.2E, Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Four robbers boarded the tanker at anchor. They stole ship's stores from aft locker and escaped immediately upon seeing alert crew. Lagos port control informed. The tanker weighed anchor and proceeded about 30 NM off the coast to drift while awaiting berth.
29.	04.05.2008 0050 LT Berthed Boarded	Vaal River Container Cyprus 9940 9330252	Port Monrovia, Liberia	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at berth. Robbers cut and stole reefer container electric cables. They escaped when sighted by ship's crew. Master tried to contact PFSO by VHF but no response.
30.	10.05.2008 0330 LT Berthed Boarded	Emilia General Cargo Antigua and Barbuda 6264 9184249	Tin Can Port, Lagos, Nigeria	Robbers boarded the ship at berth. Alert crew raised alarm and the robbers jumped into their waiting boat and headed for another ship.
31.	13.05.2008 1400 LT Steaming Hijacked	Lourdes Tide Supply Vessel USA 499 9269881	Fairway Buoy Area of Rivers State, Nigeria	The supply vessel with 11 crew was boarded and hijacked while underway. The hijackers demanded a ransom for the safe release of crew and vessel. On 26 June 2008 the crew and vessel were released. It is believed the owners paid a ransom for the safe release of the crew and vessel.

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32.	27.05.2008 0545 LT Anchored Boarded	Leone Product Tanker Barbados 4597 7351642	Offshore Lagos, Nigeria	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the tanker at anchor. They lowered a hose into cargo tank no.1 and started to discharge cargo into the boat. Duty crew spotted them and raised the alarm. The robbers threatened the crew. Crew retreated into the accommodation and returned armed with pipes, sticks etc. On seeing the crew armed, the robbers threw their knives towards the crew and jumped overboard. No injuries to crew.
33.	05.06.2008 0415 LT Anchored Boarded	Nova Friesia Refrigerated Cargo Liberia 5839 8609084	04:45.5S – 011:49.5E, Pointe Noire Anchorage, Congo	Two robbers, in a canoe approached the ship at anchor. One robber attempted to board the ship with a long pole attached with a hook. As the robber reached the main deck level, the duty AB hit him and he fell overboard. Port control responded after nearly two hours, but was not interested in the incident.
34.	08.06.2008 0400 LT Berthed Boarded	Belisaire Chemical Tanker France 7093 9229025	Tanker Berth, Lagos Port, Nigeria	Robbers boarded the tanker at berth from the outboard side. They attempted to open an inerted cargo tank. Duty AB spotted him and the robber immediately jumped overboard and escaped. At the time of the incident there were no shore guards as there was no cargo operation in progress.
35.	19.06.2008 0600 LT Steaming Boarded	Name With held Supply ship Vanuatu 204	App. 53 NM west of Escravos	Pirates in three fast boats boarded a supply ship underway. The captain was kidnapped and two crew were injured in the incident.
36.	05.07.2008 0325 LT Anchored Boarded	Kristina Theresa Chemical Tanker Isle of Man 8455 9321641	Abidjan Anchorage, Ivory Coast	Duty A/B onboard the tanker noticed a small boat approaching from aft. A/B informed OOW and went to check the other side of the tanker and saw one robber armed with a knife running towards him. OOW raised alarm and alerted crew. Robber stole ship's equipment and escaped by ship's messenger line. Port control informed.
37.	15.07.08 0505 LT Anchored Boarded	Name with held Tug ST. Vincent and Gremdaines 374	04:11.27 N 08:34.38 E Rio del Rey Field KLB Buoy	Ten robbers approached and boarded a tug at anchor. Two duty crew were injured in the incident
38.	16.07.2008 0028 UTC Anchored Boarded	Spar Gemini Bulk Carrier Norway 32474 9307580	04:40.37N 007:06.23E, Bonny River Anchorage, Nigeria	Eight armed and two unarmed militants boarded the ship at anchor, via a barge that was alongside. They incapacitated the local security guards and entered the accommodation. They manhandled the crew and damaged the accommodation. Militants stole crew personal belongings, ship's cash and property. No injuries to crew. SSAS activated.
39.	19.07.2008 2040 LT Steaming Boarded	Lissy Schulte Container Liberia 16800 9102497	06:39.9S – 039:25.8E, 15 NM Off Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania	Duty watchman on board the ship, drifting, noticed a robber on the forecandle deck. Alarm raised and ship's whistle sounded. Robber escaped. A ten-meter long orange boat with five people in it was noticed slowly moving away from the ship. Port control informed. No stores

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				stolen.
40.	24.07.2008 1615 LT Steaming Hijacked	Name With held Tug Portugal 762	04.02.02 N006.45.37 E Sambreiro River	Pirates in two speed boats approached and hijacked a tug under way. They kidnapped five crew. The tug was later released with the remainder of the crew
41.	25.07.2008 2350 LT Anchored Fired upon	Berge Okoloba Toru Storage tanker Bermuda 44190 7411557	04:29.60N 007:11.00 E Bonny River	Six fast boats approached the anchored tanker. The navy on board the vessel were unable to prevent eight crew members from being kidnapped
42.	25.08.2008 0030 LT Anchored Boarded	Hellespont Chivalry Chemical Tanker Liberia 8515 9321110	06:10.7N – 003:23.8E, Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Robbers armed with long knives boarded an anchored tanker. They stole ship's stores. Duty crew spotted them and informed duty officer who raised alarm and alerted crewmembers. Robbers escaped.
43.	29.08.2008 2005 LT Anchored Boarded	MOL Ultimate Container Germany 16803 9217553	06:46.95S – 039:21.68E, Dar Es Salaam Anchorage, Tanzania	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. Duty crew noticed one robber on the stbd side armed with a knife. The robber threw a lashing bar towards the duty crew who escaped and informed the bridge. Alarm raised, crew mustered and rushed to forecandle. The robbers escaped upon hearing the alarm. Crew found one container opened and ship's stores stolen. Port control informed. Ship weighed anchor and proceeded further out to sea for drifting.
44.	30.08.2008 0001 LT Steaming Boarded	Kota Hapas Container Hong Kong 13491 9238624	06:47.4S – 039:40.2E, Dar Es Salaam Roads, Tanzania	Three pirates armed with knives boarded the ship drifting. Another three pirates were noticed climbing up using a knotted line. However, when the pirates were noticed, ship raised alarm and started engine. The pirates fled empty handed.
45.	30.08.2008 2330 LT Anchored Boarded	Zallaq Tanker Bahrain 79812 9205067	05:13N – 004:02W, Port Abidjan Anchorage, Ivory Coast	Duty crew onboard the tanker spotted a robber at poop deck. Bridge was informed and alarm raised. The robber jumped overboard escaping with ship's stores
46.	30.08.2008 2300 LT Steaming Boarded	Pac Antlia Container Singapore 13764 9238870	06:48.6S – 039:32.3E, Dar Es Salaam Outer Roads, Tanzania	Five pirates armed with knives boarded the ship drifting. Two of the pirates tried to attack the duty A/B on the forecandle, who informed the duty officer. Alarm raised and main engine started and crew mustered. On hearing the ship's whistle, the pirates released the duty A/B and jumped overboard. No stores were stolen and no crew was injured. Port control was informed.
47.	07.09.2008 2345 LT Steaming Boarded	Maersk Needham Container Singapore 26671 9301938	06:09.5N – 003:35.0E, Off Lagos, Nigeria	Four pirates boarded the ship drifting from the poop deck. Pirates hit the duty watchman causing minor head injuries. Alarm raised and crew mustered. The pirates escaped with ship's stores. Port control contacted but no response. Later, the ship moved away 30 NM away from fairway buoy.
48.	08.09.2008 0500 LT	CMA CGM Aguila Container	Berth No.4, Tincan Island	Duty AB, onboard the ship detected a suspicious boat. Upon checking, he

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	Berthed Boarded	Cyprus 24053 9134505	Container Terminal, Lagos, Nigeria	discovered one robber had already boarded. There were six more persons in the boat. Crew alerted and they rushed towards the robber. When robber realized he had been detected, he jumped overboard and escaped with the others in the boat.
49.	18.09.2008 0045 UTC Steaming Boarded	Torm Freya Product Tanker Denmark 30058 9250490	06:40.00S – 039:35.00E, 18 NM Off Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania	Six pirates boarded the tanker drifting. They broke forward store and stole ship's stores. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Pirates jumped overboard and escaped with stolen stores in a waiting small craft.
50.	20.09.2008 2130 UTC Steaming Boarded	Safmarine Asia Container Liberia 21887 8413887	06:44.06S – 039:26.06E, Dar Es Salaam Anchorage, Tanzania	16 pirates, in a 15-meter long boat, armed with knives boarded the ship awaiting pilot. The pirates gained access to the ship via the forecastle deck. They took hostage three duty crew and tied them up. The pirates broke into three containers and stole cargo. D/O sent another crew to check the status of the three duty crewmembers who were not responding. The crew noticed the pirates and informed D/O who raised the alarm. All crew mustered and searched the forecastle. Pirates jumped overboard and escaped with crew personal belongings, ship's stores and property.
51.	20.09.2008 0100 LT Anchored Boarded	Greataf Tanker Marshall Islands 80274 8617201	06:18N – 003:19E, 6.6 NM Off Lagos Breakwater, Nigeria	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the tanker at anchor conducting STS operations. Duty A/B noticed the robbers on the poop deck. He shouted at them and informed the D/O. Robbers caught the A/B, threatened him with a knife and took his personal belongings. Alarm raised, ship's whistle sounded and crew mustered. On hearing the alarm the robbers escaped. A/B received minor injuries.
52.	23.09.2008 2150 UTC Anchored Boarded	Nordstar Container Cyprus 16803 9149873	06:45S – 039:20E, Dar Es Salaam Anchorage, Tanzania	About six robbers boarded the ship. Alarm raised and crew mustered. On seeing crew alertness robbers jumped into a waiting boat and escaped.
53.	23.09.2008 0130 UTC Anchored Boarded	CMA CGM Comoe Container Liberia 23633 9339868	05:33.0N – 000:00.9E, Tema Anchorage, Ghana	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They took hostage one crew member and stole ship's stores. Robbers fled when master alerted the authorities.
54.	27.09.2008 2140 UTC Anchored Boarded	Berta Container Antigua and Barbuda 6264 9184225	06:17.48N 003:24.00E Fairway Buoy, Lagos Roadstead, Nigeria	One robber boarded a container ship at anchor. Duty crew spotted the robber and raised the alarm. Crew mustered. Robber jumped overboard and escaped in a waiting boat with accomplices. Ship's stores stolen.
55.	02.10.2008 1100 LT Steaming Boarded	Calypso III General Cargo Panama 3120 8410366	5 NM off Bonny Fairway buoy	An unknown number of robbers boarded the vessel underway and robber ship stores and crew property. No injuries
56.	21.10.2008 0330 LT	Aquamarine I Chemical Tanker	05:34.4N – 000:04.0E,	Robbers boarded the tanker at anchor, broke open forecastle locker, stole ship's

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	Anchored Boarded	Panama 25457 8313374	Tema Anchorage, Ghana	stores and escaped. Authorities informed.
57.	25.10.2008 0130 LT Berthed Boarded	Dynamic Installer Offshore Supply Ship Bahamas 3204 8224494	Doula Port, Cameroon	Robbers boarded the vessel berthed alongside several times. Alert shore security apprehended them. Nothing stolen.
58.	31.10.2008 0001 LT Steaming Boarded	Bourbon Sagitta Tug France 2014 9372705	04:13.34N – 008:33.88E, Bakasi Peninsula, Kole Oil Terminal, Cameroon	Heavily armed pirates boarded an off shore supply vessel and kidnapped some crewmembers. Further report awaited.
59.	01.11.2008 2105 UTC Anchored Boarded	Freja Breeze Tanker Panama 28433 9127708	06:18.6N – 003:26.4E, OPL Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Two robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored tanker from the stern. They overpowered the duty crew, tied up his hands, stole his walkie-talkie and threatened him that they would kill him if he screamed. The robbers then stole ship's stores. When duty officer on bridge could not get a response to his routine call on walkie-talkie, he instructed another crewmember to look for him. The second crew noticed the robbers and notified the bridge. Alarm raised and crew alerted. Robbers escaped in their waiting boat.
60.	02.11.2008 0420 LT Berthed Boarded	Pontica General Cargo St Vincent and Grenadines 10322 8114041	06:26.57N – 003:23.096E, Berth No.8, Apapa Port, Lagos, Nigeria	Seven robbers boarded the ship at berth. Robbers broke the forecandle store padlocks but escaped in a waiting speedboat as soon as the alert duty crew noticed them. Local agent and company CSO were informed.
61.	16.11.2008 0945 LT Steaming Hijacked	Thor Galaxy General Cargo Hong Kong 10021 9449352	05:34.53N – 005:22.39E, Warri River, Nigeria	Several speedboats with heavily armed men approached the ship under pilotage. They fired warning shots into the air, ordered the pilot to stop the ship and demanded the gangway ladder to be lowered. The pirates boarded the ship and sailed it to their rebel base where they anchored it. The 19 crew were taken ashore. The crew and ship was later released. No harm to crew. No confirmation whether a ransom was paid to secure the release of the crew and ship.
62.	20.11.2008 0200 LT Anchored Boarded	Northern Joy Container Germany 30567 9039250	05:34.5N – 000:03.5E, Tema Anchorage, Ghana	Eight robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship at anchor via the anchor chain. They took hostage two duty-crew, tied them up and robbed them. They then stole ship's equipment and stores. The duty officer from the bridge called the duty crew several times via VHF radio. On hearing the call, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in a waiting boat.
63.	26.11.2008 0430 LT Anchored	Seychelles Pride Chemical Tanker Seychelles	06:19.0N – 003:20.4E, Lagos	Robbers armed with knives in a small craft boarded the tanker at anchor. They stole ship's stores and property and

	Boarded	21353 9251664	Anchorage, Nigeria	escaped before the duty A/B raised the alarm. The craft was observed approaching another vessel. The tanker warned the vessel. The craft aborted the attempt and headed back to shore.
64.	02.12.2008 0230 UTC Anchored Boarded	Afrodite Product Tanker Bahamas 30053 9292620	Tema Anchorage, Ghana	Four robbers boarded the tanker at anchor. They stole ship's stores and escaped when noticed. No injuries to crew.

REST OF WORLD

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/GRT/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	20.07.2008 2000 LT Anchored Boarded	Cool Change Sailing yacht Seychelles - -	Beau Vallon Bay, Mahe Island, Seychelles	A person in a swimsuit boarded and attempted to steal ship's stores. A lady crew onboard scared the robber who escaped.
2.	24.08.2008 2340 LT Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Yacht Cayman Islands 428 -	41:30.3N – 009:16.0E, Golfe De Porto Novo, Corsica, France	Four armed robbers boarded an anchored yacht and stole valuables and personal property of crew and passengers. Local police informed who are investigating the incident.

ATTEMPTED ATTACKS

1 January – 31 December 2008

SOUTH EAST ASIA (MALACCA STRAITS)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	01.02.2008 0140 UTC Steaming Attempted	Kasagisan Tanker Bahamas 160216 9324100	04:00N – 099:35E, Malacca Straits	Six small speed boats attempted to approach the tanker underway. Master increased speed and carried out evasive manoeuvres. The prompt action of the crew along with the worsening weather conditions resulted in the boats aborting the attempt.
2.	10.05.2008 1625 LT Steaming Attempted	Bow Clipper Chemical Tanker Norway 23197 9047518	05:35N – 097:05E, Northern Tip of Sumatera, Malacca Straits	Pirates in military camouflage attempted to board the tanker underway using a bamboo pole attached to a hook. Master raised alarm and alerted ships in vicinity. Pirates aborted the attempt and escaped in their blue hull speed boat.

SOUTH EAST ASIA (EXCLUDING MALACCA STRAITS)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	10.01.2008 2155 LT Steaming Attempted	Lion City River Tanker Singapore 56347 9329409	01:05.6N – 103:34.50E, Phillip Channel, Singapore Straits	At a distance of one NM, a small craft, with its searchlight on, started impeding the safe passage of the tanker underway. The tanker altered course to manoeuvre clear of the craft. At the same time, the crew noticed another, unlit, small craft near midships on the portside. The tanker enforced preventive measures and informed Singapore VTIS, who broadcast a security message to all ships in the area. A navy patrol boat arrived on the scene and patrolled the area. VTIS assured the master that the tanker was being monitored continuously.
2.	04.03.2008 1440 LT Steaming Attempted	Murshidabad Bulk Carrier India 28739 8409769	03:17.2N – 124:18.4E, Indonesia	A ship underway was approached from a distance of 3 – 4 nautical miles by about 15 – 20 speed boats at speeds of 30 - 40 knots from all directions. Some came as close as five meters from the ship's stern. ship raised alarm, increased speed, crew mustered, manoeuvred in a zigzag course and enforced anti piracy measures. Master broadcast a security message on vhf ch 16 and contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre. Seeing the crew vigilance the speed boats moved away and regrouped near a fishing

				trawler in the vicinity. ship continued to her port of destination.
3.	09.03.2008 1045 LT Steaming Attempted	Taizan Tanker Panama 160084 9244635	18:03.7N – 119:55.44E, Off Luzon, Philippines	The tanker was passing a group of 15 fishing vessels. When about 1.5 NM off, three boats left the group and approached the tanker at high speed. One boat came within 10 meters of the tanker. Master took evasive manoeuvres, raised alarm, whistle sounded and crew mustered. After 15 minutes, the boats aborted the attempted attack.
4.	07.06.2008 1000 LT Steaming Fired upon	Hereford Express Livestock Carrier Philippines 4634 8202202	03.18.5N 125.05.8E, Vicinity of Kepulauan Sangir, Indonesia	Pirates in a speedboat chased and opened fire on the ship in ballast enroute to Australia. Master took evasive manoeuvres to prevent boarding and reduce casualties to crew and ship. Master informed managers who inturn contacted the Piracy Reporting Centre for assistance. The Centre contacted authorities whom instructed their local units to assist and respond accordingly. After two hours of continuous firing and chasing, the pirate boat aborted the attempt. Master fearing further attack from pirate boat, discontinued passage to next port and returned to last port, Gen Santos port, Philippines with ETA of the morning of 8 June.2008. Ship sustained serious damages to bridge, communication equipment, and hull. Further report is awaited.
5.	26.06.2008 0345 LT Anchored Attempted	Bunga Mas 12 Container Malaysia 8612 9168570	16:38.8N – 096:15.5E, N.E.A. Anchorage, Yangon, Myanmar	Six robbers in a speed boat tried to come alongside the ship at anchor. Alert crew raised alarm and directed the search light towards the boat. Seeing the alert crew the robbers turned away. Ships in the vicinity informed. Earlier the port authority and pilot had warned the master of robbers in the anchorage.
6.	21.11.2008 0130 UTC Steaming Attempted	Vancouver Victory Bulk Carrier Panama 35592 8010843	16:17.0N – 119:32.5E, West Coast Luzon, Philippines	Three blue coloured speedboats, chased the ship underway. Ship increased speed, made evasive manoeuvres, raised alarm and crew activated fire hoses. Pirates aborted the attempt after 30 minutes.

FAR EAST

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	09.09.2008 0200 LT Anchored Attempted	Maersk Aberdeen Container Hong Kong 14063 9175793	10:16.0N – 107:05.9E, Vung Tau Anchorage, Vietnam	Duty AB, onboard the ship at anchor, noticed one robber attempting to board via the anchor chain. Crew alerted. On seeing the alert crew, the robber jumped overboard and escaped in a waiting boat with three accomplices.

INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	29.01.2008 0830 UTC Steaming Attempted	Cobra Yacht Germany - -	06:00.8N – 082:01.9E, Sri Lanka	Pirates approached the yacht underway. Crew fired shots in the air and the pirates aborted the attempt. The pirates attempted to attack the yacht again later that same day at 1100 UTC.
2.	22.04.2008 0430 LT Anchored Attempted	Fugro Gauss Research Vessel Gibraltar 1684 7824883	18:55.3N – 072:51.9E, H1 Anchorage, Mumbai, India	Four robbers in a motor boat attempted to board the vessel at anchor. Attempt failed due to strict anti piracy watch.

AMERICAS

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	02.10.2008 2305 LT Anchored Attempted	CCNI Mejillones Container Panama 18716 9123922	Callao Anchorage No.12, Peru	Five masked robbers attempted to board the ship at anchor via the anchor chain. Alert crew used fire hoses and flashlights to scare off the robbers.

AFRICA (SOMALIA)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	02.03.2008 0237 UTC Steaming Attempted	Eide Trader Barge Carrier Marshall Islands 7258 7734167	04:40.2N – 057:38.9E, 390 NM Off Somalia Coast	An orange painted dhow with white stanchions, while drifting, called up the ship five nautical miles away requesting them to stop because they had no food or water and they had 25 persons on board. As the vessel altered course, the Master noticed that the dhow had increased speed and was heading directly for them. Seeing this, the Master suspected an attempted attack and altered course and headed away from the dhow. The ship and the dhow were both doing around seven knots and after around 3.5 hours the dhow altered towards Socotra Island. The same dhow was later heard calling another vessel to stop.
2.	04.05.2008 1420 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Fairchem Pegasus Chemical Tanker Marshall Islands 11580 9286542	00:57N – 051:43E, Off Somalia	Two speedboats chased and opened fire on the tanker underway. Pirates opened fire on the tanker. Master took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed. Later, the boats aborted the chase. Tanker

				continued her passage. No reported injuries to crew.
3.	13.09.2008 0900 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Drennec Fishing Vessel France 2732 9359703	02:10N – 054:40E, 450 NM Off Mogadiscio, Somalia	Three white coloured speed boats, possibly, from a mother ship armed with RPG fired upon and tried to close onto the fishing vessel underway. The master increased speed and moved away. No injuries to crew and no damage to the vessel.
4.	20.09.2008 1700 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Hengam Tanker Malta 160930 9212905	02:37.00N – 051:25.00E , Off Somali Coast, Somalia	Three pirates armed with machine guns and RPG in a white coloured fast boat chased and fired upon the tanker underway. Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, sent distress message, raised alarm, crew mustered and activated fire hoses. Pirates aborted the attempted boarding after 30 minutes.
5.	09.10.2008 1330 LT Steaming Fired upon	As Salaam General Cargo Panama 9207 7616286	02:07S – 043:09E, Off Somalia	Pirates in a speedboat attempted to board the ship underway. Master took anti-piracy measures and the pirates aborted the attempted attack.
6.	10.11.2008 1005 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Al Mareekh Refrigerated Cargo Saudi Arabia 13299 8211461	01:12.5N – 050:41.1E, 250 NM East of Mogadishu, Somalia	Two speedboats approached the ship underway. One boat approached from the stbd quarter and the other from astern. The pirates armed with guns and RPG started to open fire on the ship. Ship made evasive manoeuvres. The speedboats could not get closer due to the waves created by the evasive manoeuvres. Later the speedboats aborted the attempt. Ship sustained damages from gunfire. Crew safe.
7.	13.11.2008 1245 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Kapitan Maslov Container Cyprus 16575 9130157	04:51.4S – 044:54.1E, Off Southern Somalia	Pirates armed with automatic weapons and RPG chased and fired upon the ship underway. Because of the firing, fire broke out in the third officers' cabin. The ship increased speed and made evasive manoeuvres. The pirate boat came alongside on port side. Pirates tried to embark on board but were unsuccessful. Later they aborted. Ship continued to her destination port.
8.	14.11.2008 2134 UTC Steaming Fired upon	TS Colombo Container Hong Kong 15095 9108233	04:25.6S – 048:58.5E, Off Southern Somalia	Pirates heavily armed with automatic weapons and RPG in two speedboats chased and fired upon the ship underway. Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and crew activated fire hoses. Pirates aborted the attempted attack at 2256 UTC. Ship sustained damages due to gunshots and RPG fire. No injuries to crew.
9.	06.12.2008 1142 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Maersk Regensburg Container Hong Kong 9957 9332676	06:42S – 046:58E, Off Southern Somalia	Two pirate skiffs were seen approaching the ship underway. The 2nd mate increased speed, raised alarm, activated fire hoses and mustered crew on bridge. The pirates fired upon the ship with guns and RPG. Master activated SSAS, DSC distress and increased speed to maximum. After some time, the pirates stop firing

				and the distance increased. The pirates reloaded their weapons and start firing again. For some reason, one of the skiffs slowed down and the other boat was just trailing without firing. Finally, the two skiffs stopped and aborted the attempted attack. No injuries to crew. A fire broke out on board the ship due to the gunfire and RPG. A white hulled fishing boat-like vessel was sighted 10 NM away, which could be the pirate mother vessel.
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AFRICA (GULF OF ADEN)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	01.02.2008 1510 LT Steaming Fired upon	Oriental Green Tanker Malta 56955 9178317	12:55N – 051:23.6E, 65 NM North Northeast of Somalian Coast (Cape Raas Caseyr), Gulf of Aden	The officer on watch on the tanker underway, sighted a small wooden boat with four men on board approaching the tanker. Master informed, alarm raised, accommodation locked down, fire hoses rigged and fire pump started. The boat approached on the port side at a distance of 60 meters and signalled the tanker to stop. Master started taking evasive action by adopting a zig - zag course. The pirates started firing at the tanker accommodation. The tanker continued zig-zaging and activated the fire hoses. Pirate boat followed the tanker for about six miles and aborted the attempt at 1530 hrs. No damage to the tanker except for bullet marks. Informed ships in the vicinity via vhf.
2.	18.03.2008 0350 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Front Lady Tanker Singapore 149945 8906913	12:53.2N – 050:14.7E, Gulf of Aden	Ten persons dressed in camouflage clothes and armed with automatic weapons approached the VLCC in ballast in two five meter length speed boats. Master raised alarm, crew alerted, evasive manoeuvres taken and speed increased. The boats fired shots in the air. Later, the boats aborted the attempted boarding. All vessels in the vicinity warned.
3.	29.03.2008 1040 LT Steaming Attempted	Name Withheld General Cargo Isle of Man 2815 -	14:12.1N 050:44.8E Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates in three speed boats attempted to board a ship underway. Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and contacted coalition warship for assistance. After two hours the speedboats aborted the attempt.
4.	01.04.2008 0915 LT Steaming Fired upon	Sunshine Sky Chemical Tanker Panama 9488 9146027	13:45.81N – 049:18.79E, Gulf of Aden	Three speed boats chased and attacked the tanker underway with automatic weapons and rocket launchers. Master took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed. Later, boats moved away. Ship's funnel and lifeboat were damaged by gunfire/RPG. An hour later, five

				speedboats chased the tanker again from various directions. Tanker took evasive manoeuvres and prevented the boats from closing in. Later the boats moved away. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre communicated with the coalition Navy, the owners and Master of Tanker to provide assistance as required. One coalition warship was in the vicinity monitoring the five speed boats.
5.	21.04.2008 0110 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Takayama Tanker Japan 150053 9052343	13:00.3N – 049:07.4E, Gulf of Aden	Five speed boats chased and opened fire on the tanker underway, in ballast. Tanker increased speed and enforced anti piracy preventive measures. Speed boats aborted the attack after 30 minutes and disappeared. Some damage to hull possibly due to RPG fire. No injuries to crew.
6.	28.04.2008 0940 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Alexander Carl Bulk Carrier South Korea 110627 9039169	12:38.8N – 049:46.9E, 90 NM Off Bosasso, North Coast of Somalia, Gulf of Aden	Pirates in two speedboats, fired upon the ship underway using machine guns and RPG in an attempt to board the ship. The Master increased speed and carried out evasive manoeuvres. Due to the actions of the master and the high freeboard, the pirates were unable to board the ship. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre informed the coalition forces. A military aircraft was dispatched. The boats moved away.
7.	28.04.2008 2203 LT Steaming Attempted	Navajo Princess General Cargo Philippines 22053 8613413	14:15.5N – 050:11.8E, 35 NM Off Yemen Coast, Gulf of Aden	A ship underway observed on radar three speedboats approaching at high speed. Alarm raised and anti piracy measures activated. All accommodation lights and navigations lights switched off. The boats continued to follow and slowly close onto the ship. Finally, to deter the pirates the chief officer threw wooden pallets and old garbage drums overboard in the path of the boats. This caused the boats to suddenly stop and abort the chase.
8.	19.05.2008 1500 LT Steaming Attempted	River Elegance Container Panama 48161 9072147	12:49.3N – 050:36.3E, 55 NM Off Somalia Coast, Gulf of Aden	Two small speedboats approached the ship underway from the bow. One of the speedboats had four pirates armed with automatic weapons and rocket launcher. The pirates aimed the rocket launcher towards the bridge and tried to board the ship. Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and crew mustered. After 10 minutes, the pirates aborted the attempt and were seen approaching two other ships about five miles off.
9.	23.05.2008 0430 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Cape Merlin Bulk Carrier United Kingdom 77503 9056818	13:16.2N – 049:08.7E, Gulf of Aden	Four pirates armed with automatic guns and rocket launchers in a grey coloured, long speed boat approached the ship underway from the port quarter. They fired at the bridge and accommodation. Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and crew mustered. OOW informed ships in vicinity via VHF Ch. 16. The pirates tried to board the ship without success and finally aborted the attempt. One, white

				hull fishing boat, was noticed about six nm off.
10.	24.05.2008 1420 LT Steaming Fired upon	Taiyoh II Product Tanker Singapore 39268 9006746	13:58N – 050:42E, Gulf of Aden	Two boats with four armed pirates in each boat closed onto a tanker underway. The pirates opened fire with automatic guns and RPG. One RPG hit and damaged the port bridge wing. Evasive manoeuvres prevented the pirates from boarding. No injuries to crew and no pollution. After breaking off, the two boats were reported to be drifting in the same vicinity.
11.	25.05.2008 0610 LT Steaming Attempted	Furtrans Bulk Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 25312 9188908	13:25.2N – 047:57.8E Gulf of Aden	Three boats closed onto the ship underway. There were four armed persons in each boat. The boats followed the ship at a distance of one cable and the armed men were heard shouting in a foreign language. Master raised alarm, all crew mustered and anti piracy measures enforced. After following the ship for 25 minutes, the boats aborted the attempt and moved away.
12.	03.06.2008 0705 UTC Steaming Fired upon	YM Ocean Container Taiwan 29872 7810923	12:43.8N – 049:51.5E, Gulf of Aden	Two pirate boats opened fire on the ship underway. Two coalition warships in the vicinity, came to assist the ship. The pirates aborted the attack. All crew safe.
13.	21.06.2008 0610 LT Steaming Attempted	Hudson Bay Refrigerated Cargo Antigua and Barbuda 8052 8202654	13:08.7N – 048:03.7E, Gulf of Aden	Two wooden speed boats approached the ship. One boat crossed the ship's bow whilst the other remained on the portside. Not suspecting any pirate activity the master sailed between the two boats, which then closed in on the ship. One of the crafts was preparing ladder with hook in order to board. Ship raised the alarm and evasive manoeuvres adopted. The two speed boats aborted their attack and moved away. The ship continued on her passage.
14.	06.07.2008 0945 LT Steaming Attempted	Shamrock Bulk Carrier Liberia 30046 9324667	12:34.3N – 043:25.6E, Off Mayyun Island, Gulf of Aden	Blue coloured wooden boats, with 10 – 15 people attempted to close onto the ship underway. Alarm raised. Crew implemented anti piracy measures. After 10 minutes of trying to get closer to the ship, the boats aborted the attempt and moved away.
15.	15.07.2008 1030 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Chemstar Moon Chemical Tanker Panama 11590 9255983	13:31.0N – 049:11.6E, 44 NM Off Yemen, Gulf of Aden	D/O onboard the tanker underway noticed about 10 - 12 pirates in two blue and white coloured speedboats at a distance of 2.5 NM. The speedboats suddenly approached the tanker and fired at her. D/O raised the alarm, sounded ship's whistle and crew mustered. Pirates noticed crew alertness and reduced their speed and aborted the attempted boarding.
16.	18.07.2008 0720 UTC Steaming Attempted	MSC Rania Container Panama 94489 9309447	12:47.5N – 051:02.0E, Gulf of Aden	Heavily armed pirates, in two, six-meter long yellow craft, attempted to board the ship underway from the aft. Master took evasive manoeuvres, raised alarm and crew mustered with pressurised fire

				hoses. Upon seeing crew alertness, pirates aborted the attempt.
17.	08.08.2008 0345 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Gem of Kilakarai Bulk Carrier Singapore 32474 9287962	13:12N – 049:56E, Gulf of Aden	Seven pirates, in two speedboats, armed with guns and rocket propelled grenade launchers chased and fired on the ship underway. The master contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre for assistance. Duty officer at the Piracy Reporting Centre advised master to enforce anti piracy measures to prevent boarding of ship and informed him that the coalition navy and other relevant authorities would be contacted to render assistance to the ship. The coalition navy dispatched one warship to assist the ship. The constant manoeuvring of the ship prevented the boarding of the pirates. On seeing the coalition warship, the pirate boats aborted their attempt and moved away. Ship resumed voyage. All crew safe. No damage to ship. An unexploded grenade was found on the bridge wing. Master and crew were advised not to go near the grenade. The coalition navy sent their teams who disposed the grenade.
18.	23.08.2008 0908 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Aizu General Cargo Panama 14103 8214607	14:16N – 050:19.40E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates, in two speedboats chased and fired upon the ship underway. Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, activated anti-piracy measures and fired rocket flares. At 1020 UTC, when the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre contacted the master of the ship again he indicated that the pirates stopped firing and stopped chasing the ship. The master informed that the mother ship was about three NM away.
19.	23.08.2008 1220 UTC Steaming Fired upon	St. Anna Bulk Carrier Liberia 31661 8623884	14:11.3N – 050:20.3E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates chased and fired upon the ship underway. Master contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre for help. The centre informed the coalition and other agencies for immediate assistance. Military aircraft arrived and the pirates stopped the chase.
20.	03.09.2008 1436 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Orsolina Bottiglieri Bulk Carrier Italy 39713 9219434	13:36.9N – 049:12.2E, 39 NM Off Yemeni Coast, Gulf of Aden	Two speedboats with five persons in each boat attempted to board the ship underway. Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and crew mustered. The pirates fired upon the ship and the master contacted the coalition warship. The boats aborted the attempt at 1450 UTC and moved away. A coalition warship arrived at location and escorted the ship.
21.	05.09.2008 0510 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Jin Yuan Men General Cargo St. Vincent and Grenadines 14991 7609207	12:57.5N – 047:04.0E, Gulf of Aden	A general cargo ship underway, noticed a blue coloured tug suspected to be a pirate mother vessel, towing a small boat. The small boat suddenly proceeded at high speed and approached the ship. D/O raised alarm and crew mustered. Four pirates, armed with RPG and automatic weapons were firing at the ship in an

				attempt to board the ship. Master increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres. Crew activated fire hoses and threw hard objects to hit the pirates. Pirates kept on firing at the ship and at 0600 UTC, The pirates gave up the attempt and fled.
22.	06.09.2008 0705 UTC Steaming Attempted	Sigloo Discovery LPG Tanker Singapore 7954 8511964	12:57.8N – 047:01.6E, 33 NM South of Yemeni Coast, Gulf of Aden	About six pirates armed with RPG in a white speedboat approached the tanker underway. Alarm raised, foghorn sounded, crew mustered and Chief officer directed fire hose towards the boat. The pirates signalled to reduce speed and pointed RPG at the Chief officer, who dropped the fire hose and entered the accommodation. Master increased ship speed to maximum and took evasive manoeuvres by giving large helm orders. This resulted in the speedboat rolling heavily, causing four pirates to fall overboard. The speedboat recovered the pirates and resumed chasing the tanker again. Mayday broadcast made and SSAS activated. UKMTO Dubai and IMB Piracy Reporting Centre informed. The Centre immediately informed the Coalition Forces. The speedboat came close to the tanker, but later gave up the chase and met up with a pirate mother vessel that was a raft with an orange cover. A passing ship informed that coalition warships were proceeding for assistance and were calling the tanker on VHF.
23.	06.09.2008 1000 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Front Voyager Tanker Bahamas 88946 8902668	12:57N – 047:17E, 38 NM Off Yemen Coast, Gulf of Aden	A blue-hulled vessel was spotted at a range of 6 NM by the tanker underway. A small speed craft was released from the mother vessel and it started approaching the tanker. Alarm raised, speed increased, coalition warship contacted. Speedboat, with five persons armed with machine guns opened fire. When coalition warship and navy helicopter arrived, speedboat aborted attack and moved towards mother vessel. Tanker sustained damages. No injuries to crew. Tanker continued passage.
24.	07.09.2008 0942 UTC Steaming Attempted	Fonarun Naree Bulk Carrier Thailand 13881 8323862	12:46N – 045:50E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates in two speedboats chased the ship underway. Owners contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) for assistance. Duty officer at the PRC immediately informed the authorities to render necessary assistance and relayed the same to the master. Master advised to enforce anti piracy measures to delay / prevent boarding. The authorities advised the centre that every effort was being made to send assistance to the ship. At 1340 UTC master reported that pirate boats had stopped chasing and that ship was continuing passage to destination

				port.
25.	08.09.2008 0655 UTC Steaming Attempted	Ocean Queen Tanker Singapore 62863 9368223	12:45.48N– 046:05.3E, Gulf of Aden	About ten speedboats chased the tanker underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres and contacted the coalition naval forces for help. A coalition aircraft arrived at location. The speedboats aborted the attack.
26.	08.09.2008 0500 UTC Steaming Attempted	OOCL Tokyo Container Hong Kong 89097 9310238	12:54.2N – 046:04.2E, Gulf of Aden	Two high-speed boats crossed the bow of the ship underway at a distance of one NM and then turned towards the ship. Master altered course in a threatening way to hit the speedboats. As the boats got closer, the master observed that the persons onboard were carrying guns. Later the boats aborted the attempt.
27.	10.09.2008 0230 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Michael S Bulk Carrier Malta 27996 9230127	12:40.5N – 048:22.5E, Gulf of Aden	One speed boat chased the ship and opened fire at it. The ship took evasive actions and contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre for assistance. Duty officer at the centre informed coalition navy. Coalition navy sent a warship and a helicopter which flew over the speed boat and interrupted the attack. The attack was aborted. The ship continued her passage to destination port. No damage to the ship and no injury to crew.
28.	12.09.2008 1513 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Le Tong General Cargo China 15589 9175444	13:24N – 048:20E, Gulf of Aden	Eight pirates, in a skiff, chased the ship underway. They fired upon the ship and attempted to board. Master contacted the coalition warships. A helicopter intervened and the pirates aborted the attempt.
29.	13.09.2008 0440 UTC Steaming Attempted	Golden Elizabeth Chemical Tanker Panama 9599 9170949	13:32.30N – 048:47.30E, Gulf of Aden	Speed boats chased the tanker underway with intend to board. Master increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres to prevent boarding, altered course southward to rendezvous with a coalition warship. Speedboats approached as close as two cables before aborting the attempt.
30.	14.09.2008 1435 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Shou Chang Hai Bulk Carrier China 27766 8316508	13:38.52N – 048:59.00E, Gulf of Aden	Duty officer onboard the ship noticed a mother vessel (red colour) releasing speed boats which approached the ship. Six pirates in the speed boat opened fire at the ship. Master contacted the coalition warships but no response. Anti piracy measures were enforced, the speed boats followed for about 10 minutes and later aborted.
31.	18.09.2008 0630 UTC Steaming Attempted	Jo Oak Chemical Tanker Norway 22772 8112495	13:54.00N – 049:31.00E, 40 NM SE of Al Mukalla, Gulf of Aden	Two white hull boats with several persons onboard approached aggressively towards the tanker underway with intend to board. Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and contacted coalition forces. SSAS activated and crew mustered. The boats kept on following and at 0700 UTC, the boats aborted the attempt.
32.	19.09.2008 1339 LT Steaming Attempted	Uni-Premier Container Panama 17887	13:13.06N – 049:31.04E, Gulf of Aden	Twelve pirates, in three speedboats, armed with automatic guns and rocket propelled grenade launchers chased the ship. Ship increased speed, evasive

		9202223		manoeuvres taken and fire hoses directed at the speedboats. Pirates approached the ship on stbd bow and tried to board. Later, they aborted the attempt and moved away.
33.	01.10.2008 0300 UTC Steaming Attempted	Vancouver Victory Bulk Carrier Panama 35592 8010843	13:23.00N – 048:09.00E, Gulf of Aden	About eight pirates armed with guns in two speed boats approached the ship underway on port bow and stbd bow with intentions to board. Master adopted evasive manoeuvres to prevent boarding. One boat approached on stbd bow and the pirates hooked a ladder in order to board. Ship's crew were able to remove it. Master contacted coalition warships on vhf ch. 16 for assistance. The boats continued their attempts to board on both port and stbd bow. Master kept altering course to avoid the boats. A coalition navy helicopter arrived at location, after surveying the area, informed the ship that there were no pirate boats around / ahead. Ship continued her normal passage.
34.	01.10.2008 0523 UTC Steaming Attempted	Four Springs Tanker Italy 52176 8900402	13:13.59N – 047:57.52E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates in speed boats attempted to board the tanker underway. Master increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres to avoid boarding. Later, the speed boats aborted the attempt and moved away.
35.	01.10.2008 0345 UTC Steaming Attempted	Athena 4 Chemical Tanker Panama 2191 9301639	13:10.00N – 047:43.00E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with RPG in speed boats attempted to board the tanker underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres and informed owners who contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre for assistance. Duty officer informed authorities to render assistance to the tanker. A warship arrived at the location and chased away the boats.
36.	01.10.2008 1435 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Ever Unicorn Container Panama 69246 9196967	12:42.47N – 049:10.30E, Gulf of Aden	Four pirates armed with rifles attempted to board the ship underway. Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. The crew mustered and activated fire hoses. The pirates fired upon the ship and aborted their attack after ten minutes.
37.	02.10.2008 0745 LT Steaming Attempted	Toronto Vehicle Carrier United Kingdom 61321 9302205	13:07.40N – 048:45.80E, Gulf of Aden	A suspected pirate mother vessel approached the ship underway. When the range was about 3 NM, the mother vessel launched a speed boat. As the speed boat approached, ship's crew noticed two pirates armed with guns and then saw another three coming out of hiding with a portable ladder. Ship took anti piracy measures and carried out evasive manoeuvres. The boarding was averted.
38.	10.10.2008 0900 LT Steaming Attempted	Sophia Bulk Carrier Bahamas 32583 9330642	15:10.0N – 051:45.0E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates in a speedboat chased the ship underway from astern. Master increased speed and made evasive manoeuvres to prevent boarding and contacted coalition warship on vhf ch. 16. Later, the boat aborted the attempt. Coalition warship was monitoring the situation.
39.	16.10.2008	Hormoz	12:44.0N –	A tanker underway noticed on radar the

	1700 UTC Steaming Attempted	Tanker Malta 160930 9212890	045:52.0E, Gulf of Aden	echo of three high-speed boats approaching. Master increased speed, commenced evasive manoeuvres and altered course to prevent the speedboats from getting closer. Master attempted to contact the coalition warship via vhf ch. 16 but failed to get any response. Later coalition warship responded and advised master to take evasive manoeuvres. As the speedboats approached the tanker, master noticed one speedboat with three men armed with machine guns. The evasive manoeuvres of the tanker prevented the boats from coming closer and later the speedboats aborted their attempt and disappeared.
40.	28.10.2008 1350 LT Steaming Fired upon	Aquilo General Cargo St. Vincent and Grenadines 14188 7716220	13:17.08N – 048:35.43E, Gulf of Aden	Five pirates in a small fast speed boat approached the ship underway. Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and crew activated fire hoses. Pirates fired upon the ship with automatic weapons and the crew took shelter. They tried to board the ship using a ladder but the pirate boat's skipper fell overboard and they aborted the boarding and rescued him. Master activated SSAS and contacted the coalition warships. During a second approach to the ship the pirate boat's engine failed. A coalition warship responded and advised the master to steer a course towards them. The warship escorted the ship and later the ship resumed voyage. No damages and injuries to crew.
41.	28.10.2008 0800 LT Steaming Fired upon	Leander Tanker Panama 159187 9179608	13:26N – 048:27E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates in three high-speed crafts approached the tanker underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres, transmitted mayday messages, sounded foghorn and crew mustered. Pirates fired upon the tanker and attempted to board. Master maintained evasive manoeuvres and mayday messages. Pirates aborted the attempt after 10 minutes. Crew and ship safe.
42.	28.10.2008 1500 LT Steaming Fired upon	Leander Tanker Panama 159187 9179608	12:54N – 046:40E, Gulf of Aden	12 pirates in three fast attack boats were noticed departing from a white coloured fishing vessel (pirate mother vessel). Master took evasive manoeuvres, activated SSAS, sent mayday messages and crew mustered in a safe compartment. For five minutes, the pirates aggressively fired towards the accommodation of the tanker and attempted to board. A coalition warship responded to the mayday messages and sent an aircraft to the scene. Master maintained the evasive manoeuvres. The pirates briefly stopped the attack to re-grouped and then attacked again. The aircraft made a very low pass over the pirates and then dropped some ordinance

				on them. The attempted attack was aborted and the situation became safe. After 20 minutes, a French helicopter arrived to check the situation and master informed them about the pirate mother vessel's location. Crew and ship safe.
43.	02.11.2008 1000 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Britta Maersk Chemical Tanker Denmark 19758 9341433	13.02N – 046:37E, Gulf of Aden	A tanker underway sighted one fishing boat – white hull and orange inboard on port bow. One speedboat, which was hidden behind the fishing boat, started to approach the tanker at high speed. The ship crew noticed five men armed with automatic weapons in the boat. Anti piracy measures enforced. Pirates opened fire on tanker. Tanker released foam through the foam monitors and fire hoses, which covered the water on both sides of the tanker. Speedboats stopped firing and returned to fishing boat.
44.	11.11.2008 0415 UTC Steaming Attempted	Jag Arnav Bulk Carrier India 38265 9109392	12:45N – 046:04E, Gulf of Aden	Two speed boats with 3-4 pirates armed in each boat chased the ship underway. Evasive manoeuvres made and warship contacted. A naval helicopter arrived at location and interrupted the speed boats. Speed boats aborted the attack. Later, a warship was sighted and established contact.
45.	12.11.2008 1210 UTC Steaming Attempted	Haraz Tanker Cyprus 163660 9357406	12:33.6N – 045:10.6E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates in two speedboats chased the tanker underway. Tanker took evasive manoeuvres and escaped from the pirates.
46.	13.11.2008 0630 LT Steaming Fired upon	Tai Bai Hai Bulk Carrier China 22041 8318269	13:28.0N – 049:21.5E, Gulf of Aden	Six pirates in a fast speedboat approached the ship underway. Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and crew activated fire hoses. The pirates ordered the ship to stop but master continued with the evasive manoeuvres. The pirates fired upon the ship with two rocket propelled grenades and automatic weapons. Master called coalition warship and asked for immediate assistance. A coalition warship responded and came to the location in 15 minutes and chased away the pirate boat. No injuries to crew or damages to the ship.
47.	14.11.2008 0635 UTC Steaming Attempted	Golden Ambrosia Chemical Tanker Singapore 8302 9453729	13:21.3N – 047:18.86E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with automatic weapons in three small speedboats approached the tanker underway. Master contacted coalition warship and took evasive manoeuvres. The speedboats spread out and approached the tanker at high speed. The pirates failed in their attempt to board the tanker.
48.	24.11.2008 0605 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Josco Suzhou Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 27162 9281968	14:11.72N – 049:59.05E, Gulf of Aden	Armed pirates, in two speedboats approached and chased the ship underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres, activated fire hoses and raised alarm. Pirates opened fire but could not board due to anti piracy measures. Later the pirates gave up the

				chase. A coalition warship proceeded to render assistance.
49.	28.10.2008 1127 LT Steaming Attempted	Noor Tanker Malta 156809 9079066	12:40.2N – 045:28.9E, Gulf of Aden	Six speed boats with four armed pirates in each boat chased the tanker underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres and enforced anti piracy measures. After a while the boats aborted the attack.
50.	29.11.2008 0520 UTC Steaming Attempted	Tai Shun Hai Bulk Carrier China 27958 8919568	12:20N – 044:11E, Gulf of Aden	Two speedboats with ten pirates armed with guns and RPG attempted to board the ship underway. The pirate boats closed in at the ship's bow and quarter. Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and activated fire hoses. After 25 minutes of chasing, the pirates aborted the attempt.
51.	29.11.2008 0300 UTC Steaming Attempted	Neverland Tanker Italy 56346 9247390	13:54N – 049:26E, Gulf of Aden	Ten speedboats with 3 to 4 men wearing mask onboard each boat came close to an oil tanker underway. One of these boats came very close and the pirates were sighted carrying guns. Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. Pirate boats then moved away. A coalition warship was informed.
52.	30.11.2008 0528 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Nautica Passenger Marshall Islands 30277 9200938	14:02.7N – 049:43.7E, Gulf of Aden	Two pirate boats with three pirates onboard each boat intercepted the ship underway. Master sighted a gun on the second boat and later the pirates fired upon the ship. Master increased speed and the pirate boats were unable to follow the ship and aborted the attempt. UKMTO Dubai was informed.
53.	03.12.2008 0419 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Ginga Saker Chemical Tanker Panama 12110 9258155	12:59.49N – 047:41.56E, Gulf of Aden	Pirates armed with automatic rifles in a speedboat fired upon the tanker underway. They tried to board the tanker twice, using a portable ladder, but were unsuccessful due to the evasive manoeuvres taken by the tanker. Pirates aborted the attempted attack after two hours. A coalition helicopter came to investigate.
54.	12.12.2008 1212 LT Steaming Fired upon	Altair General Cargo Panama 16325 7813602	13:32.7N – 048:37.5E, Gulf of Aden	Eight pirates armed with machine guns and RPG in a blue coloured speed boat doing 17 knots attacked the ship underway. They fired upon the ship with machine guns and attempted to board the ship, twice, using a ladder. Crew managed to detach the ladder even though the pirates were firing at the ship. Pirates aborted the attempted attack and tried to attack other vessels in the vicinity. Coalition forces were informed.
55.	12.12.2008 1140 LT Steaming Attempted	Ionian Sea Tanker Singapore 55790 8920244	13:31N – 048:39E, Gulf of Aden	One pirate boat with seven armed men chased the tanker underway. Pirates were seen carrying automatic weapons, RPG and a wooden ladder for boarding. Later, the boat aborted the chase and headed towards another vessel nearby. A navy helicopter arrived at location. Description of the speed boat: wooden construction, 8 – 10 meters in length, blue coloured hull, raised bow, speed about 17 knots.

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56.	13.12.2008 1145 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Conti Express General Cargo Cyprus 17465 8009466	13:43N – 048:17E, 31 NM SW of Ras Al Kalb, Gulf of Aden	One wooden speed boat with 5 - 6 persons armed with automatic weapons and RPG chased and opened fire on the ship underway. Pirates attempted to board with a ladder. Master took evasive manoeuvres and contacted coalition warships for assistance. A naval helicopter arrived at location. One seeing the helicopter the skiff aborted the attack.
57.	25.12.2008 0743 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Wadi Alarab Bulk Carrier Egypt 37550 9107681	14:13.72N – 050:51.05E, Gulf of Aden	A bulk carrier underway was chased and fired upon by a pirate boat. The ship sent a distress message which was relayed by a passing ship to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) for assistance. The IMB PRC immediately contacted the authorities for assistance. A warship and a helicopter were sent to assist the ship. Seeing the naval helicopter approaching, the pirate boat aborted and moved away. One crew member was injured on his leg from a bullet fired by the pirates. The injured crew was airlifted to a warship for medical treatment. Rest of the crew are safe. Ship proceeding to destination port.
58.	31.12.2008 1330 UTC Steaming Fired upon	S. Venus Bulk Carrier Panama 22221 8323111	13:08N – 047:27E, Gulf of Aden	A bulk carrier underway was chased and fired upon by pirates in speed boat. Naval warships informed and attack was prevented.

AFRICA (EXCLUDING SOMALIA)

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	04.01.2008 0140 UTC Anchored Attempted	Althea Bulk Carrier Malta 17697 9224855	06:16.2N – 003:22.7E, 7.5 NM Off Shore, Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Four armed robbers in a small rubber boat attempted to board the ship at anchor using grappling hook. Duty crew raised alarm and crew mustered. Robbers escaped. Nothing stolen. Master tried to report to port control but no response.
2.	27.01.2008 2105 LT Berthed Attempted	Safmarine Memling Container Marshall Islands 23722 9193719	Agadir Port, Morocco	Three persons in divers' suites, without cylinders, swam to the ship at berth. Ship's watchmen saw the divers and raised the alarm. The suspected robbers swam to another berth and escaped. Master informed port control. The port police arrived one hour after reporting.
3.	21.02.2008 2340 LT Anchored Attempted	London Star Tanker Liberia 41966 9330343	06:18.4N – 003:20.4E, Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Just before watch change over time the forward duty watchman heard the engine of a motor boat, approaching on the port side. He immediately alerted the others who commenced checking the port side. At the same time, the watchmen checked the starboard side realized that the boat on the port side could be a decoy. The watchmen noticed four to five persons

				attempting to board the tanker via hooks attached to the starboard side deck. Duty officer raised alarm, watchman shouted at them, and the robbers slowly moved away.
4.	04.03.2008 1930 LT Steaming Attempted	Jeannie Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 16368 7433012	06:23.5N – 003:24.2E, Off Lagos, Nigeria	Armed pirates in a speedboat attempted to board the ship underway in pilotage waters. Second officer on duty at poop deck alerted the bridge. Master raised alarm. Seeing the alert crew the pirates aborted their attempt to board the ship.
5.	06.04.2008 2000 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Genmar George T Tanker Marshall Islands 79235 9336971	05:17.7N – 004:43.0E, Off Escravos, Nigeria	An unlit speed boat approached the tanker from the stern. Alarm raised and SSAS alarm activated. The speed boat fired warning shots from automatic weapons and left. No injuries to crew or any damage to tanker suffered.
6.	31.05.2008 2323 LT Anchored Fired upon	Berge Okoloba Toru Storage tanker Bermuda 44190 7411557	4 :29.6N – 7 :11.0 E Nigeria	Armed militants approached and fired upon the superstructure of the tanker at anchor. All crew safe
7.	28.06.2008 2145 UTC Anchored Attempted	Yasa H. Mehmet Bulk Carrier Turkey 30303 9222510	Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana	One robber, armed with a long knife, attempted to climb onboard the ship at anchor via the anchor chain. Alert duty watchman saw the robber and informed the duty officer who raised the alarm. On hearing the alarm, the robber jumped into the sea and escaped with two other accomplices waiting in a boat.
8.	30.06.2008 0200 LT Berthed Attempted	Harrier Explorer Supply Vessel Panama 4009 7807380	Berth No.12, Mombasa, Kenya	Alert crew onboard the vessel at berth spotted a robber using a rope attached with a hook to gain access to their vessel from the offshore side. As soon as the robber saw the alert crew he jumped overboard and escaped in a waiting boat.
9.	09.07.2008 1430 LT Steaming Fired upon	Name With held Crew boat Vanuatu 668	4:3.7N – 6:48.4E Nigeria	Six armed robbers chased and fired upon a crew boat underway. The vessel was able to escape without casualties. Vessel sustained damages due to bullet holes
10.	02.10.2008 1215 UTC Steaming Attempted	Ivan Pribylskiy Refrigerated Cargo Panama 6670 8628157	03:59.17N – 006:45.23E, 20 NM South of Bonny Signal Station, Bonny River, Nigeria	About ten pirates armed with submachine guns and hand grenades attempted to board the ship drifting. Ship contacted authorities and enforced preventive measures. Pirates aborted the attempt. No injury to crew.
11.	04.10.2008 1530 LT Steaming Attempted	Ocean Grace Chemical Tanker Liberia 28010 8321395	03:36.00N – 006:19.50E, 53 NM Offshore SW of Bonny River, Nigeria	Pirates armed with guns in a wooden boat approached the tanker underway. The tanker increased speed and the boat kept following for two hours before aborting. Master informed authorities.
12.	23.10.2008 1700 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Kota Hening Container Singapore 13497 9278909	03:35.43S – 042:49.95E, 180 NM of Mombasa, Kenya	Pirates in two speedboats chased and fired upon the ship underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed. Later, the speedboats aborted. The ship sustained bullet-hole damages.
13.	16.11.2008	Frio Roma	04:08N –	Six robbers armed with automatic

	0310 UTC Anchored Fired upon	Refrigerated Cargo Panama 8245 8220280	006:50E, Bonny Outer Road Anchorage, Nigeria	weapons opened fire at a refrigerated cargo ship at anchor. Robbers in a speedboat circled 4 times around the ship and left. No injury to crew.
14.	16.12.2008 0740 LT Steaming Fired upon	Ekturus Tanker United Kingdom 14937 8409068	03:43.3N – 007:13.8E, 41 NM South of Bonny River, Nigeria	OOW onboard the tanker drifting, observed two speed boats approaching. Engines were started and crew alerted. Several bullets from automatic guns were fired towards the accommodation. The boats were white in colour. Each boat had at least nine pirates dressed in blue/white clothes.

REST OF WORLD

Ref	Date Time Status Type	Name of Ship Type/Flag/GRT/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
NO	ATTACKS	REPORTED	DURING	THIS QUARTER



IMB Piracy Report January – December 2008



Total number of attacks - 293



IMB Piracy Report January – December 2008

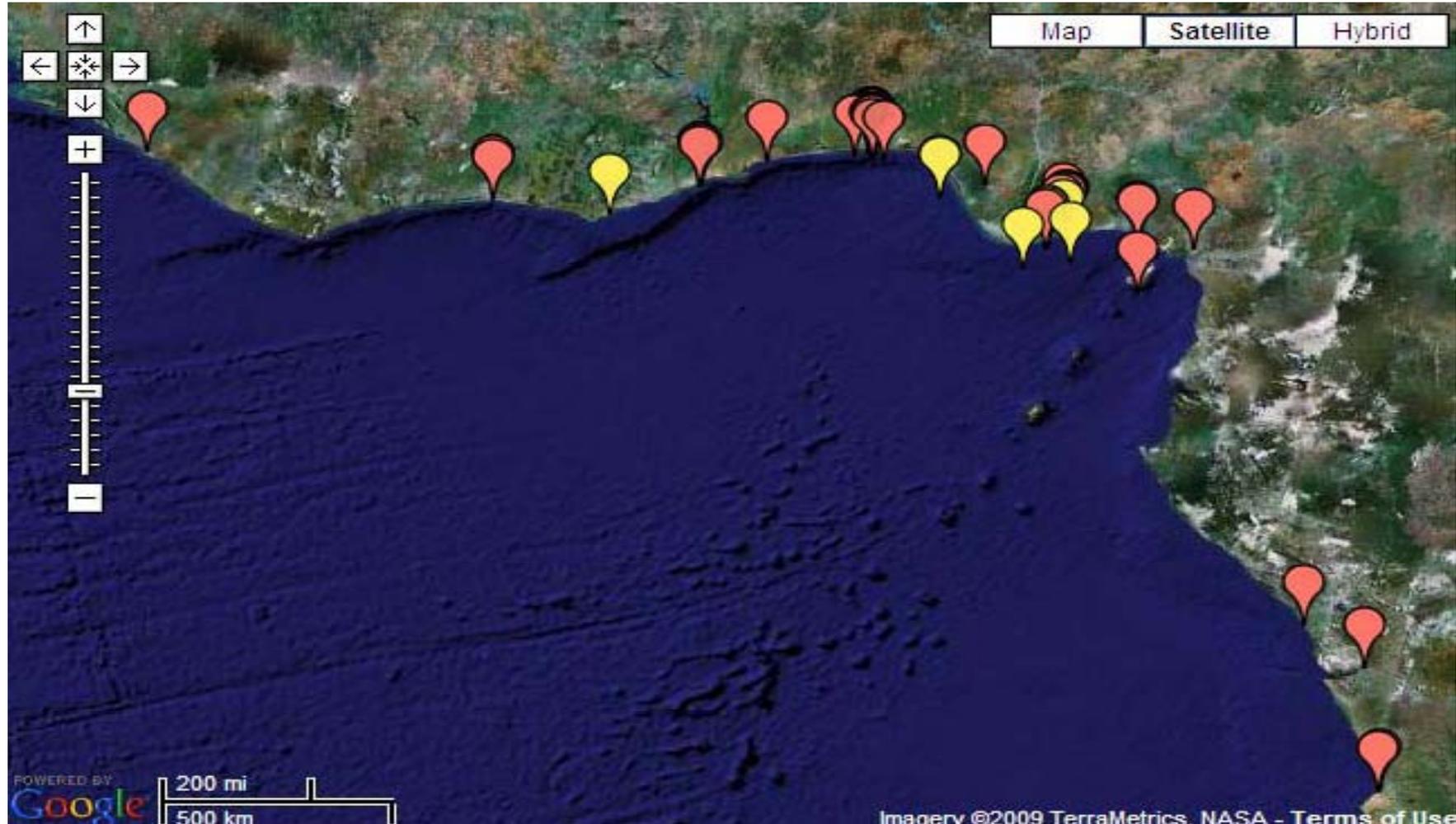


Total attacks Indian Sub Continent - 23

Total attacks Far East & SE Asia - 65



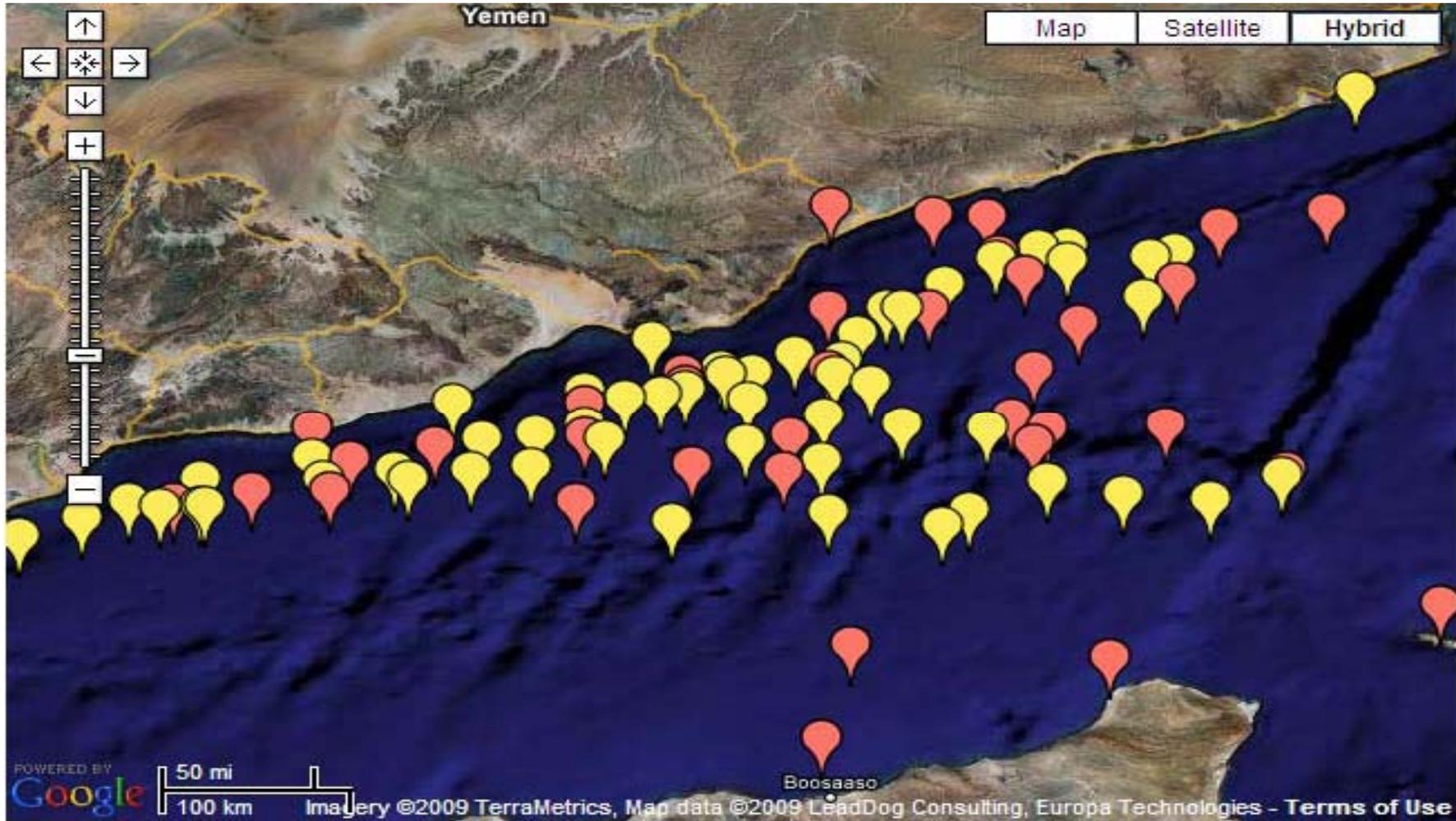
IMB Piracy Report January – December 2008



Total attacks west coast Africa - 60



IMB Piracy Report January – December 2008



Total attacks Gulf of Aden- 92



IMB Piracy Report January – December 2008



Total attacks east coast Africa - 37