

Weekly Security & Risk Report

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MAKING THE
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MARITIME SECURITY PHYSICAL AND ASSET SECURITY RISK CONSULTING SECURITY SYSTEMS



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Issue 301 of the series reviews, analyses and threat assesses the fragile and conflict affected coastal states Libya, Somalia and Yemen. The Mediterranean migrant crisis, incidents affecting maritime security and influencing maritime news are also reported and analysed, focusing on the keys theatres of maritime instability.

The Security and Risk Report Series focuses on:

- Operational risks in areas of instability which could affect the safety of commercial and private vessels and personnel ashore and at sea.
- In country reporting on key countries where civil conflict are directly impacting on maritime operations; and
- Reporting and analysis of incidents of terrorism, piracy and other related criminal activity.

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Working closely in conjunction with a host of experts, MAST Intelligence offers a market leading service pertaining to all maritime affairs.

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Gulf of Guinea

Nigerian media reports that four fishermen have been kidnapped by 'sea pirates' in Ibaka, Mbo local government area of Akwa Ibom state. The men, one Nigerians and three Ghanaians, were kidnapped "just behind the Nigerian Navy Forward Operating Base in Ibaka waterways" according to Vanguard. The incident, on Thursday 30th, occurred on local waterways so will not be reported by agencies. Four boats were attacked and their engines stolen in an incident that "lasted several hours".

Incidents: Nothing significant to report.

We can arrest criminals in Lagos within one week – Merchant navy chief

The Nigerian Merchant Navy Coastal Defence Force, Lagos, has claimed to have uncovered several 'criminal hideouts' on Lagos waterways. Their Training Depot Commander, Ichuku Agaba, told Nigerian media that they were prepared to take on the criminals, and had partnered with the Nigerian Navy to clamp down on coastal criminals in Lagos.

Five stowaways arrested by Nigerian Navy

Nigerian media reported on Oct. 3rd that five stowaways had been located on the MT Jane, at Lagos anchorage. The vessel was bound for Europe, but personnel from NNS Beechcroft located the men during a routine patrol. It is believed they accessed the ship via the rudder compartment. "The suspects have been handed over to the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) for further investigation and prosecution," the Navy said.

Ex-Militants Migrate To Piracy, Devastating Communities

Nigeria's Leadership newspaper reported on Oct. 2nd that residents in the Niger Delta have raised the alarm over the increase in piracy, kidnapping, deadly fights among pirates and attacks on oil infrastructure in the region. Former militants are widely thought to be behind the incidents. One resident told the paper, "There are people who go into the creeks disguised as oil pipeline vandals but end up terrorising the whole waterways. These are the robbers on the sea, the highwaymen. They steal, they kidnap and sometimes they rape victims.

Buhari assures of Deep Blue Project

In an Independence Day speech to commemorate Nigeria's 61st anniversary, President Buhari has assured the country that securing the country's waters and the Gulf of Guinea is

on track, thanks to the Deep Blue Project. "I am happy to inform Nigerians that we have taken delivery of key assets for this project and very soon, its impact will be felt," the President declared. The Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Awwal Zubairu Gambo, has restated the commitment of the Nigerian Navy to the successful implementation of the Deep Blue Project, and working with NIMASA.

Marine Police Officers trained in Anti-Human Trafficking

Ghana's Marine Police are undergoing a three-week Maritime Law Operations and Anti-Human Trafficking training course, in order to better protect the country's waters and safeguard against child trafficking in Volta Lake, Myjoyonline reported on Sept. 30th.

For further information and to see MAST Services in the region, [please click here.](#)

Gulf of Guinea Piracy & Maritime Crime Figures:

2021:

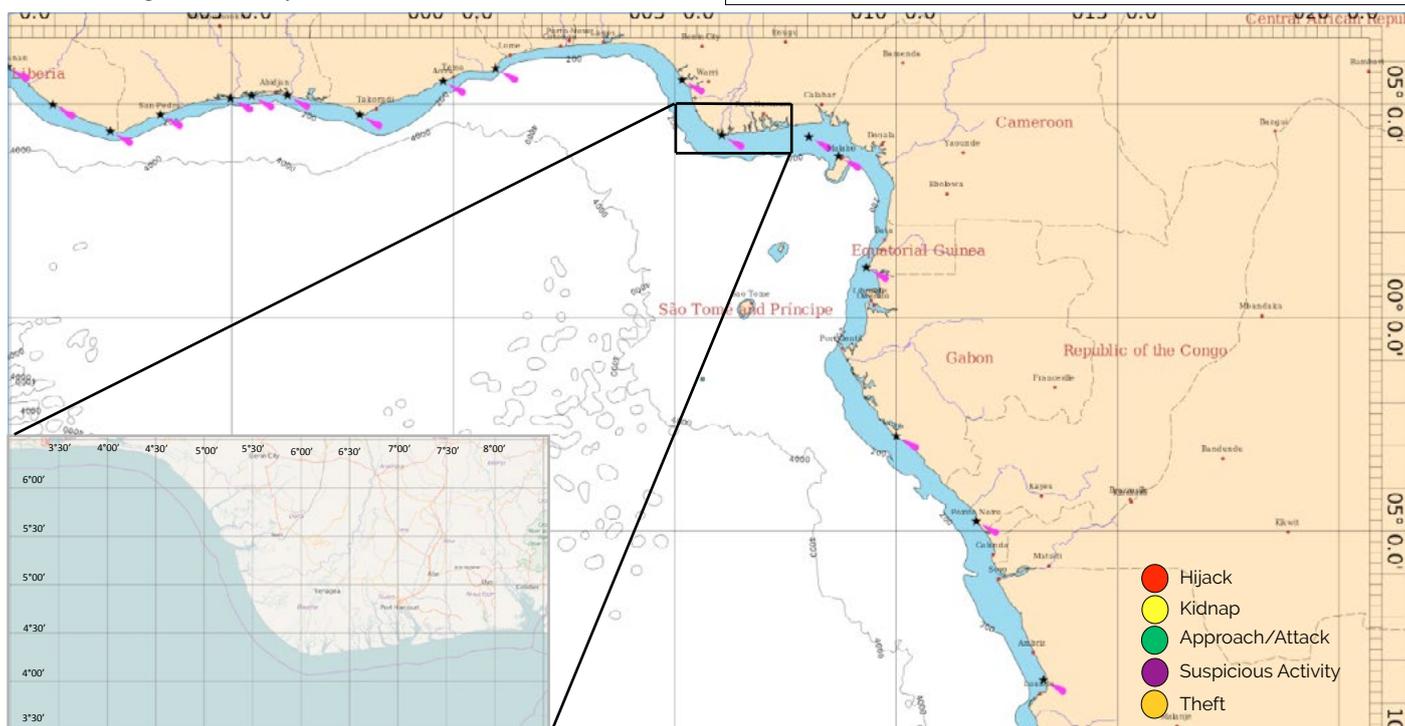
Incidents reported: 42 (MDAT-GoG/Others)
Crew kidnapped: 46 (IMB, MDAT)
Vessels hijacked: 1 (MDAT-GoG)

2020:

Incidents reported: 132 (MDAT-GoG)
Crew Kidnapped: 130 (IMB)
Vessels Hijacked: 3 (IMB)

2019:

Incidents reported: 111 (MDAT-GoG)
Crew kidnapped: 121 (IMB)
Vessels hijacked: 4 (IMB)





Indian Ocean Region

FS Languedoc, operating as part of the Combined Maritime Forces, has once again been in action in the Indian Ocean. Working with the Royal New Zealand Navy-led CTF 150, the vessel has seized some 3600kg of hashish, worth an estimated \$2.59 million. The seizure took place as the monsoon season eases, and the CMF noted that it was seeing an increase in macrotrafficking as a result.

Incidents: Nothing significant to report.

Pakistan-Saudi joint naval drill 'Naseem Al Bahr-XIII' kicks off

Joint naval exercise, Naseem Al Bahr XIII, held by the Pakistan and Royal Saudi navies began on Sunday 3rd, regional media reported. The exercise included joint conduct of maritime security operations across the traditional and non-traditional warfare domains thus enhancing interoperability between both the navies.

Mozambique's tuna corruption scandal puts justice on trial

The biggest corruption trial in Mozambique's history is under way at a maximum security prison, at the same time as the credibility of the country's judicial system is on trial in neighbouring South Africa. The scandal involves more than \$2.7bn (£2bn) of undisclosed state debts - money which the government borrowed to set up a sophisticated tuna industry - to buy trawlers and military patrol boats, but much of it was allegedly diverted to corrupt officials, BBC News reported on Sunday 3rd.

Navy Chief Warns of Iran's Crushing Response to Threats

Commander of the Iranian Navy Rear Admiral Shahram Irani cautioned the enemies that any wrong move will draw a harsh response from the Islamic Republic. Speaking to Tasnim on Saturday 2nd, the Navy commander said Iran will respond to hostile threats and measures so harshly and decisively that it will make the aggressors regret their move. "Rest assured that we will never allow other countries to intend to upset security and calm in the region in a belligerent format," he stated.

Iran, UAE rehash tensions over contested islands

The UAE and Iran are at political impasse over three disputed

islands, Al-Monitor reported on Sept. 29th. The islands, Abu Musa, Lesser Tunb and Greater Tunb, are all located in the Strait of Hormuz. "The three islands are inseparable swaths of Iranian territory and any claim on them is vehemently rejected," read a statement by Iran's permanent mission to the United Nations.

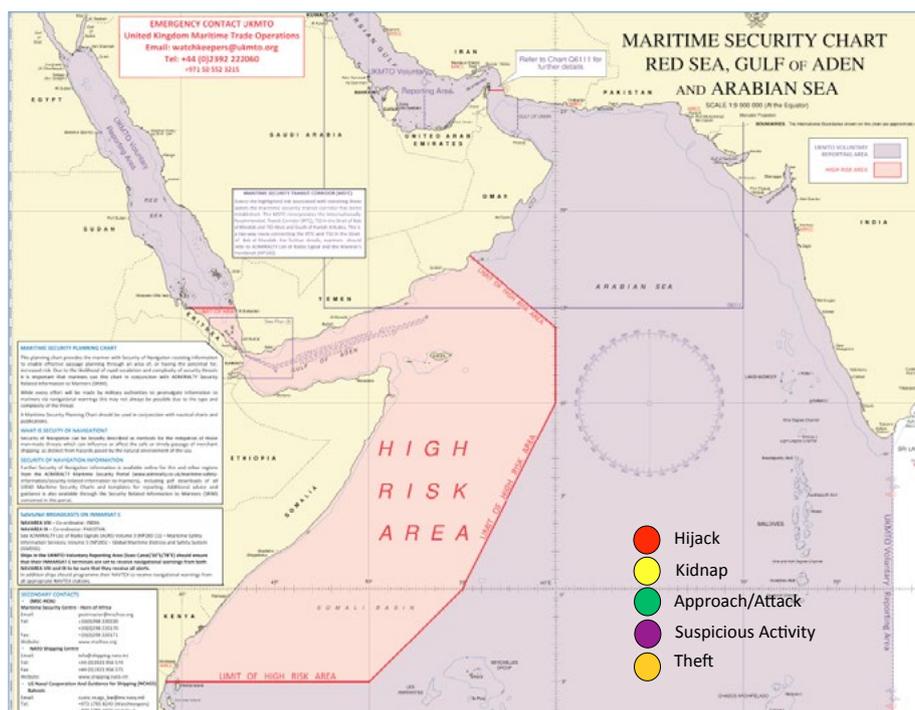
India, Oman sign pact to boost maritime security cooperation

A new agreement on the exchange of white shipping information in an effort to boost maritime security has been signed by Oman and India, PTI reported on Sept 28th. The pact was signed by Chief of Navy Staff Admiral Karambir Singh and his Omani counterpart Admiral Saif bin Nasser bin Mohsen Al-Rahbi in Muscat, officials said. Information will be exchanged by the Maritime Security Centre, Oman, and the Indian Navy's Information Fusion Centre, allowing for far greater maritime domain awareness in the region.

China sends new fleet on Gulf of Aden escort mission

Xinhua reported on Sept. 26th that the 39th Fleet of the PLA Navy had set out from Qingdao, destined for the Gulf of Aden, where it will perform convoy escort duties for ships transiting the region. The fleet is composed of the guided-missile destroyer Urumqi, the missile frigate Yantai, and the supply ship Taihu, with dozens of special-operations soldiers and two helicopters on board, Xinhua said.

To see MAST's services in the Indian Ocean Region, [please click here.](#)





Somalia

The moderate Islamist militia group, Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a, has taken control of a key government-held town in central Galmudug state. The Sufi group engaged in fighting with the Galmudug state forces before seizing Guri'el, according to the local website Goobjoog News. More than 10 people were reportedly killed. The Sufi clerics reportedly received backing from local clans in central Somalia, BBC News reported on Monday 4th.

SNA special forces kill seven Al Shabaab terrorists

Garowe Online reported on Oct. 5th that the Somali National Army's Danab unit killed seven Al Shabaab fighters in the Lower Shabelle region on Monday 4th. Military commanders said that three senior Al Shabaab leaders were killed during the operation, which also destroyed several hideouts used by the terror group.

International Partners' Meet Jubaland President Madobe

A delegation made up of some of Somalia's partners visited Jubaland on Monday 4th to reaffirm the international community's collective support for the country's elections and to discuss the next steps in the process, including the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, James Swan.

Pressure mounts on Farmajo and Roble to talk

Garowe Online reported on Oct. 3rd that international partners are applying increasing pressure on the Somali PM and President to resolve their differences and come together, as the country's election process stalls. Garowe Online reported that a statement on Saturday said that the two needed to come together for the better of the country, adding that Somali was in a "trying moment".

Two Soldiers Killed By Al Shabaab in Baidoa Town

At least two members of the Somali National Army were killed during an ambush by Al Shabaab terrorists in Baidoa town,

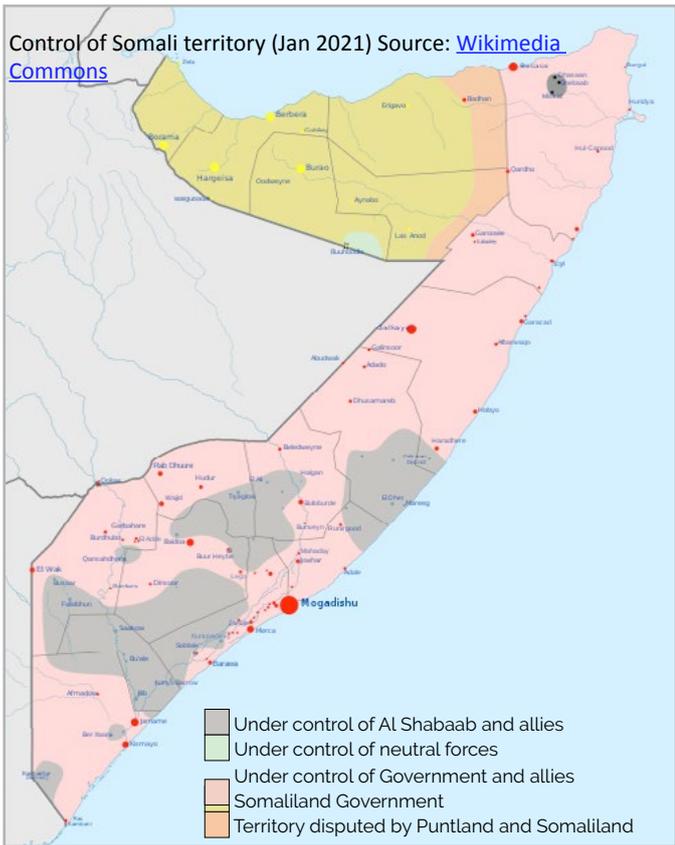
southwest of Mogadishu, on Sept. 30th, All Africa reported. The terror group attacked a checkpoint near the airport, killing two and wounding several others. Somali regional police claimed to have repulsed the attack but would not comment on injuries or fatalities.

Somalia opens first public oxygen plant to help treat COVID-19 amid severe shortage

Reuters reported on Sept. 30th that Somalia had opened its first public oxygen plant. The new plant was purchased by the Hormuud Salaam Foundation from Turkey and will be housed at Banadir hospital, Mogadishu. The hospital has recently been repaired following an attack in July by Al Shabaab terrorists. It is hoped that the new plant will go some way to easing the country's requirements amid the pandemic.

Al Shabaab Re-asserts Authority Over Southwest Federal State Regions

MENAFN reported on Sept. 30th that Al Shabaab was increasing its foothold in the country's Southwest state. According to the report, Al Shabaab had appointed two new governors for Bay and Bakool regions, splitting them in to two administrative regions. The ceremony took place close to a number of AMISOM/SNA military bases without incident, MENAFN reported, a move which underlines the new confidence Al Shabaab has in its position there.



Threat Assessment

There is a risk that complacency in some quarters has seen a reduction in PMSC presence in these waters that could result in a piracy success. A lack of adherence to BMP5 protocol, particularly not maintaining a safe distance off the coast, has increased risks to shipping. Merchant vessels would be wise to maintain the same distance from the coast, particularly ensuring that the Socotra Gap isn't taken. All vessels are advised to update risk assessments and register with UKMTO/MSCHOA prior to entering the Indian Ocean High Risk Area (HRA).

Analysis

The ongoing political spat between the Somali president and prime minister once again threatens the country's election process. The stalled elections are widely seen as a crucial step to a more stable Somalia, but have been seized upon by terror group, Al Shabaab, as an opportunity to strengthen its hold on parts of the country. In Southwest state, the group appears to operate with little resistance locally, installing its own governors in areas occupied by both AMISOM and SNA forces.

In Galmudug state, the previously moderate Ahlu Sunna militia (ASWJ) has reportedly taken control of Guri'el town, with the backing of local clan elders, and are demanding a share of political power in a new headache for the country's administration. Previously, the group had been influential in forcing Al Shabaab fighters out of major areas of Galmudug, so maintaining good political relations with the group is key for Somalia as it struggles to control Al Shabaab in the country. Hopes that the country could unite behind the elections continue to fade, and it may take much greater international pressure to resolve the current political deadlock in the country.

Yemen

The National reported on Sunday 3rd that Houthi missiles had killed a woman and two children in Marib, injuring at least 30 others. The missiles reportedly struck a residential area, according to AFP. The fight for Marib has become increasingly violent in recent weeks, as forces backed by the internationally recognised Yemen government attempt to exert control over the region.

Greek company denies tanker seized by Saudi Arabia

Aerio Shipmanagement, a Greek company, has denied claims by the Yemen Petroleum Co. that Saudi coalition forces had seized the MT Fos Power tanker, preventing it from berthing in Hodeidah, currently controlled by the Houthi rebel group, according to a report on Oct. 4th in the Greek City Times. AIS data reportedly showed the vessel at anchor in the Red Sea as of Sunday 3rd. It left Djibouti in mid-September but to destination port was listed. The company told Tradewinds that there had been "no seizure of any kind."

MSF receives patients following missile attacks

MSF staff working in the emergency department of Marib General Hospital, in conjunction with other hospital staff, treated 14 people including women and children; eight of whom were in a critical condition, while four arrived at the hospital deceased, following missile attacks on Sunday 3rd, MSF said in a press release.

Yemen Presses Grundberg for a Comprehensive Plan

Asharq Al-Awsat reported on Oct. 5th that officials from the Yemen government had told the UN's Special Envoy, Hans Grundberg, that they are ready for peace talks with the Houthi leadership and have urged him to put forward a plan to achieve peace in the country via negotiation.

EU Applying Pressure For Yemen Ceasefire

Eurasia Review reported on Oct. 4th that the EU is pushing both Yemen and Saudi Arabia for a ceasefire, while adding that Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia violated international law. "The EU countries are Saudi Arabia's largest strategic partner," EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell Fontelles said during a press conference in Riyadh, Eurasia Review reported.

Clashes between separatist forces kill four fighters in Aden

Reuters reported on Oct 2nd that members of the Southern Transitional Council had clashed in Aden, with at least four fighters left dead as a result, with AP reported as many as 10 deaths. The infighting led to heavy gunfire through the day in

the Crater district of Aden, Reuters said. Aden has seen tensions rise between the STC and government forces. The Prime Minister returned to Aden last week, and is currently residing at the presidential palace, according to reports.

Yemen's fighting sides swap detainees

Xinhau reported on Sept. 29th that a prisoner exchange had taken place between Yemen government-backed forces and Houthi rebels in the Tiaz province. The report said that 136 Yemeni soldiers had been swapped for 70 Houthi rebels. The exchange took place after medical checks and was carried out by tribal chiefs, according to the report.

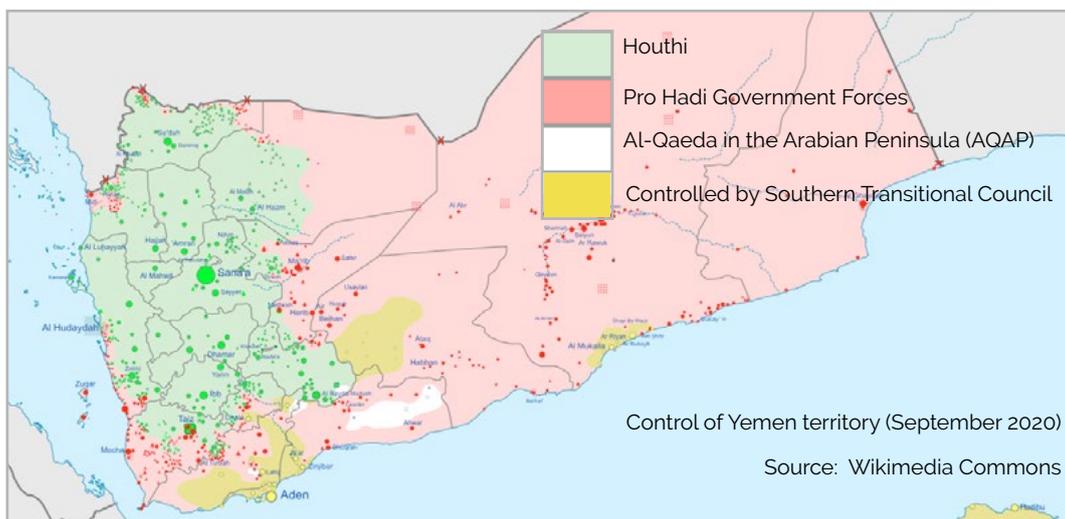
Houthis mortar an industrial area in Hodeidah

Local sources told website, AssumeTech, that Houthi rebels fired mortars at an industrial area in the city on Friday 2nd, targeting industrial and commercial premises. Fires broke out, causing significant damage but there were no reports of casualties. The website claims that Houthis have previously conducted similar attacks, but did not expand on the motivation behind the attacks.

Houthis reject calls for truce, intensify attacks on Marib

Arab News reported on Sept. 30th that despite efforts by both Saudi Arabia and the internationally-recognised government to begin peace negotiations, the moves have been rejected by Houthi rebels. On Thursday Sept. 30th, Houthi spokesman Mohammed Abdul-Salam demanded the Arab coalition stop military operations and lift what he described as a blockade on their territory, before any initiatives could be accepted by the Houthis. "Steps for peace include stopping the aggression, lifting the blockade, (the) withdrawal of foreign forces from the country, addressing the effects of the aggression and paying compensation," Abdul-Salam said on Twitter.

MAST recommends BMP measures be enforced and watches strengthened during transits in the region.



South East Asia

Al Jazeera reported on Oct. 5th that Malaysia had summoned the Chinese ambassador to protest the 'presence and activities' of Chinese vessels in Kuala Lumpur's EEZ off the island of Borneo. Several Chinese vessels, including a survey ship, have been operating off Sabah and Sarawak, in breach of UNCLOS, according to Malaysia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Incidents:

1. Late report: On Sept. 21st at 1518 LT, crew onboard a tanker in position 1:21.2N-116:59.94E, Balikpapan Anchorage Zone A, noticed one perpetrator attempt to board the vessel via the anchor hawse pipe. Due to the plates securing the hawse pipe, the perpetrator was unable to access. Alarm raised and the suspect escaped in a nearby boat. Reported by ReCAAP.

Record number of China planes enter Taiwan air defence zone

Taiwan has urged Beijing to stop "irresponsible provocative actions" after a record number of Chinese warplanes entered its air defence zone on Monday 4th. Monday's incursion marks the fourth straight day of incursions by Chinese aircraft, with almost 150 aircraft sent into Taiwan's defence zone in total. Some analysts say the flights could be seen as a warning to Taiwan's president ahead of the island's national day, BBC News reported.

Over 150 Chinese Vessels Still Continue On Philippine Territory; Manila Files Protest

International Business Times reported on Oct. 1st that the Foreign Secretary of the Philippines ordered diplomatic protests to be filed against China, after large numbers of Chinese vessels remained in waters claimed by the Philippines. Around 150 Chinese vessels were believed to be inside the TTW of the country, almost eight months after they were first sighted. Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr., who is in the United States for an official visit, issued instructions via Twitter to the Department of Foreign Affairs to file the protests.

Two tankers detained for anchoring illegally in Johor waters

Malaysia's MMEA continues to clamp down on illegal anchorage in the waters of Johor, with The Star reporting on Oct. 5th

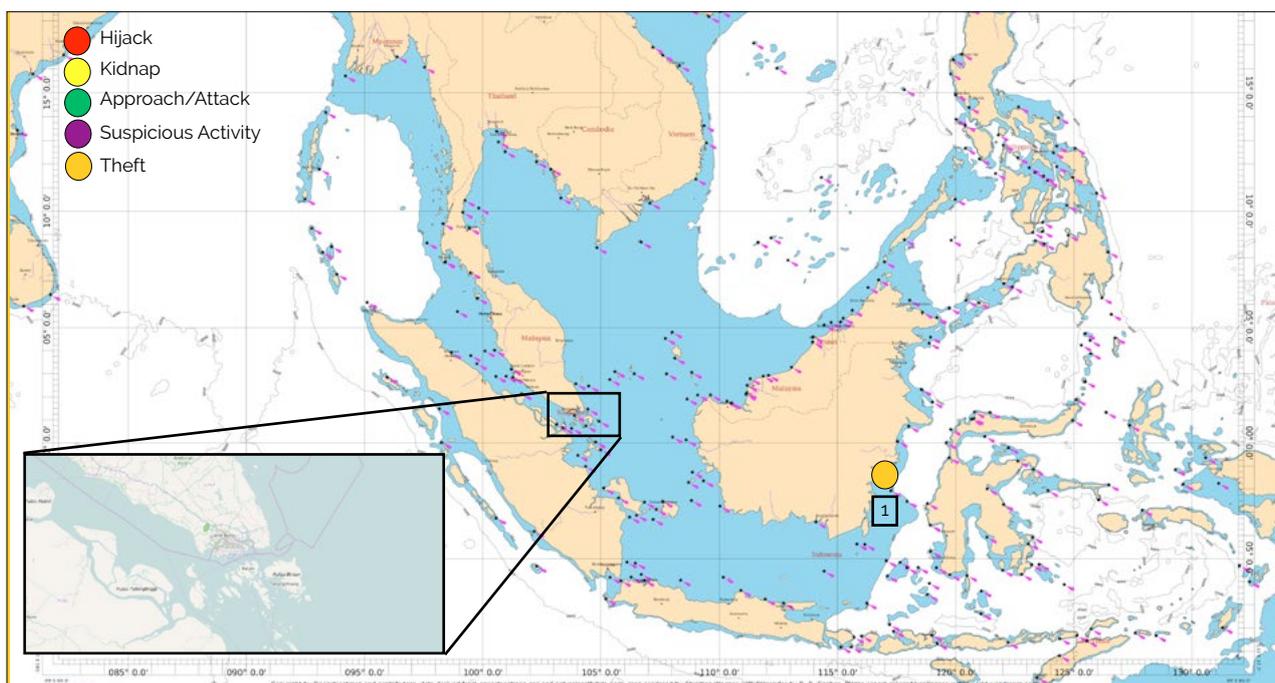
that two further tankers had been seized. Johor MMEA director First Admiral Nurul Hizam Zakaria (pic) said both ships' captains have also been detained for failing to obtain approval to anchor in Malaysian waters. Marine insurers have previously warned vessels in the region to ensure all paperwork is up to date, should they intend to transit these waters.

Indonesia to further bolster security in Natuna Sea area

Following reports of incursions by Chinese vessels in the Natuna Sea, an area rich in both fish and mineral deposits, the Indonesian government looks set to increase maritime security measures within its EEZ. A number of recent incidents involved Chinese vessels have worried oil and gas companies operating in the area, particularly those close to Harbour Energy's assets, Energy Voice reported on Oct. 1st.

Indonesia, Singapore strengthen maritime security cooperation

Cooperation between Indonesia's Bakamla maritime security agency and the Singapore Coast Guard looks set to increase, after the two held an online meeting to strengthen their agreement on Sept. 28th, according to a report by Vietnam+ website. The head of Bakamla, Vice Admiral Aan Kurnia proposed four areas of cooperation to the Commander of the SPCG Cheang Keng Keong, including an annual bilateral meeting under the rotating mechanism between the two countries' coast guards to discuss cooperation, security and maritime safety issues in the region. Joint training and greater communication was also proposed.



European Waters

The UK prime minister said the French authorities "could do more" to stop migrants crossing the English Channel. The number of people who have crossed the Channel so far this year is more than double the total for 2020. In an interview with BBC South East Today, Boris Johnson said: "We are seeing perhaps not enough resources put into it by our French friends." But Mr Johnson added he was "very grateful" to French police working in the Calais area.

French police accused of shooting migrants in boats trying to cross English Channel

LBC reported on Oct. 2nd that French police had been accused of using rubber bullets or baton rounds in an attempt to stop migrants leaving French waters in small boats. The incident occurred on Sept. 22nd on a beach in the Dunkirk area, a few miles from a large migrant camp. One migrant claimed to have been shot at 'point blank range' by police. An investigation by the French police authority is now underway. "When the police saw us, they shouted stop. We stopped and they still shot us. Then we ran away as best we could," the migrant told The Daily Mail. Two Iranian Kurds hit by the bullets were taken to hospital, according to reports.

Albania angrily denies deal with 'anti-immigration' Britain to process Channel migrants

UK newspaper, The Sun, claimed that migrants arriving in the UK via the English Channel in small boats could be flown to Albania in order to have their asylum claims processed. The report claimed that the UK Home Office was in talks with the country in order to facilitate the process. However, Albania's Foreign Minister, Olta Xhaka, has 'furiously' denied the claims, according to an article in the Independent newspaper on Oct. 4th.

Libya detains over 4,000 migrants in major security campaign

The authorities in Libya have conducted a major security operation, detaining at least 4,000 migrants in various parts of the country, according to Libyan officials on Oct. 3rd. It is believed that all of those held intended to attempt to cross the Mediterranean in the coming days and weeks.

70 migrants still missing in Mediterranean after leaving Libya

The Libyan Observer reported on Oct. 3rd that as many as 70 migrants who were attempting to cross from Libya to Europe had gone missing at sea, according to the NGO, Alarm Phone. There had been no contact with the group for four days, it reported, leading to fears that their vessel had capsized in the Malta SAR zone, some 11 miles from Italian waters.

France and UK in new war of words over fish

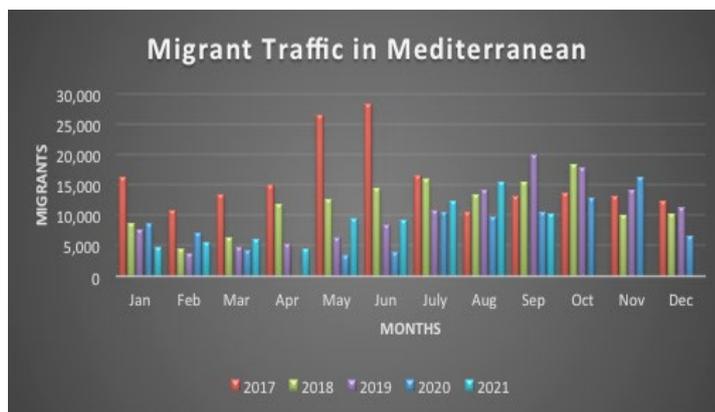
A recent decision by the authorities in Jersey to deny a number of French fishing boats licences to fish in its waters presents yet another diplomatic challenge to the UK and France, it is reported. As France adjusts to the fallout from the recent collapse of the Australian submarine deal, diplomatic relations with the UK remain strained, and this new quarrel will do little to help. Writing in The Local, John Lichfield said that: There is a danger that the French government – seven months from an election and angered by the submarine dispute – will relish a high-profile confrontation with Britain. French fishermen's leaders – even pro-Macron members of the National Assembly – are talking about blockades of Calais and the Channel Tunnel.

Spain says rescuers find 11 bodies floating at sea off Balearic Isles

Press TV reported on Oct. 4th that Spanish authorities had discovered the bodies of 11 migrants at sea, off the Balearic Islands on Monday. "Three people were rescued alive and 11 bodies have been recovered," a government delegation spokesman said, after initially saying that 17 bodies had been spotted floating in the water just west of the island of Cabrera, the website reported. Over the course of six days last week, rescuers pulled 274 migrants to safety off the Balearic Isles, figures provided by the government showed.

Hundreds of migrants land on the Italian island of Lampedusa

Euronews reported on Oct. 4th that 'hundreds' of migrants had made landfall on the island of Lampedusa on Sunday, as at least 18 vessels with over 600 people arrived at the small island. The camp on the island is reported to be overcrowded and at least 250 people are being transferred to other Italian localities. Lampedusa has seen a significant increase in arrivals in 2021, placing a strain on all of the facilities there.



Migrant crossings 2017-2021. Source: [UNHRC](https://www.unhcr.org/)

The current migrant smuggling situation

UNHCR figures for the past seven days suggest that at least another 3,000 migrants have successfully cross the Mediterranean. However, the recent arrivals in Lampedusa will not appear in figures for at least another week, suggesting that we are currently still seeing a significant push by human traffickers. News that the Libyan authorities have detained large numbers of migrants is positive, but only if they are repatriated, rather than held in detention centres. The situation is not improving, as our graph illustrates, and there have been no political moves in the last few weeks which might break the deadlock.

Libya

War crimes and crimes against humanity have likely been committed in Libya by all parties to conflict since 2016 including by external actors, a Human Rights Council-appointed probe said on Monday 4th. From arbitrary detention to torture, the recruitment of child soldiers and mass killings, the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya listed numerous grave rights violations which had impacted the country's people and which gave them "reasonable grounds" for the war crimes allegations.

10 bodies found in newly discovered Libya mass grave

The Daily Sabah reported on Oct. 5th that a new mass grave had been located in Tarhuna, formerly held by forces loyal to Khalifa Haftar. The new site was found to hold 10 bodies in total, in two graves. It is believed that more bodies may be found in a number of holes in what it said was a local landfill site. Tarhuna, a strategic town some 65 kilometers (41 miles) southeast of the Libyan capital of Tripoli, was under the control of the al-Kaniyat militia, which gained a reputation for its brutal tactics, the Daily Sabah reported.

Libya Says 'Very Modest Start' to Pullout of Foreign Fighters

Defense Post reported on Monday 4th that Libya's Foreign Minister, Najla al-Mangoush, on Sunday 3rd had announced a "very modest start" to the withdrawal of foreign fighters from the country. UN estimates suggest that as many as 20,000 foreign troops and mercenaries may be operating in the country, including personnel from Russia's controversial Wagner private security company. "The news is true... It's a very modest start," Mangoush told a news conference in Kuwait City in response to a question on the pullout of foreign forces, Defense Post wrote.

Work begins on new refinery

Africa News reported on Oct 4th that work had started on the construction of a new oil refinery near Al-Charara oil field, in the Oubari region of the country. The cost of the project is estimated at around \$500 million, while income from the refinery is said to be estimated at around \$75 million p.a. Announced in the early 1980s, the project for a refinery in southern Libya had been put on hold for years before being revived in 2017, Africa News reported.

Libyan parliament adopts law on legislative polls

France 24 reported on Monday 4th that Libya's parliament had passed a new law on legislative elections, ahead of the planned national elections on December 24th, as part of the United Nations' peace process. The move comes a few weeks after speaker, Aguila Saleh signed off a law for presidential elections to be held the same day -- a move opponents said

bypassed due process and favoured a run by his ally, east Libyan military chief Khalifa Haftar, according to AFP.

US lobbying firms terminate one million dollars contract with Haftar

The Libya Observer reported on Oct. 3rd that two US lobbying firms of Lanny Davis and Robert Livingston have terminated their contract with Khalifa Haftar, who vowed to pay about a million dollars for the firms' services to lobby US President Joe Biden's administration as he prepares to run for Libya president.

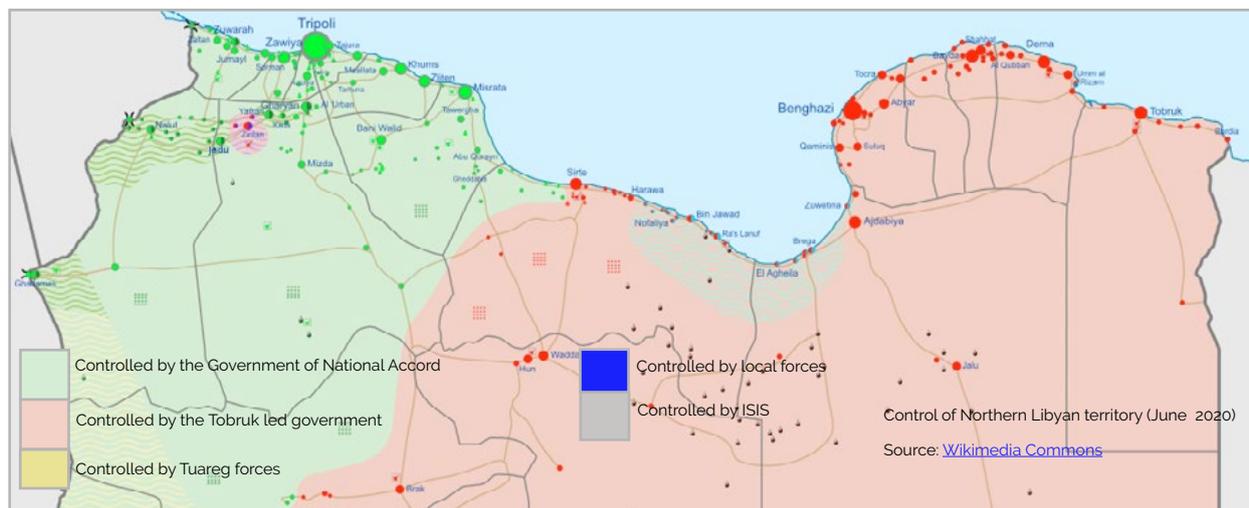
UN extends mission to Libya, but only until January

On Thursday Sept. 30th, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution to extend its mission in Libya until January 31st, 2022. The political mission will end just weeks after the planned presidential elections in the country, although the UN had hoped to extend the operation for a year. However, a dispute between the UK and Russia meant that this was not possible and an abbreviated resolution was adopted instead.

Norland: More efforts needed to bring Libyan parties closer

The Libyan Observer reported on Oct. 2nd that US ambassador and special envoy, Richard Norland, had said that greater efforts were needed to bring the Libyan House of Representatives (HoR) and High Council of State (HCS) together ahead of the country's elections. "If parliamentary and presidential elections are to proceed on December 24 in order to put in place a lasting legitimate government for Libya, the process must move forward now so candidate registration and other aspects of implementation can begin." Norland said.

To read MAST's Libyan Country report on MASTOPEDIA, [please click here](#).





Central and South America

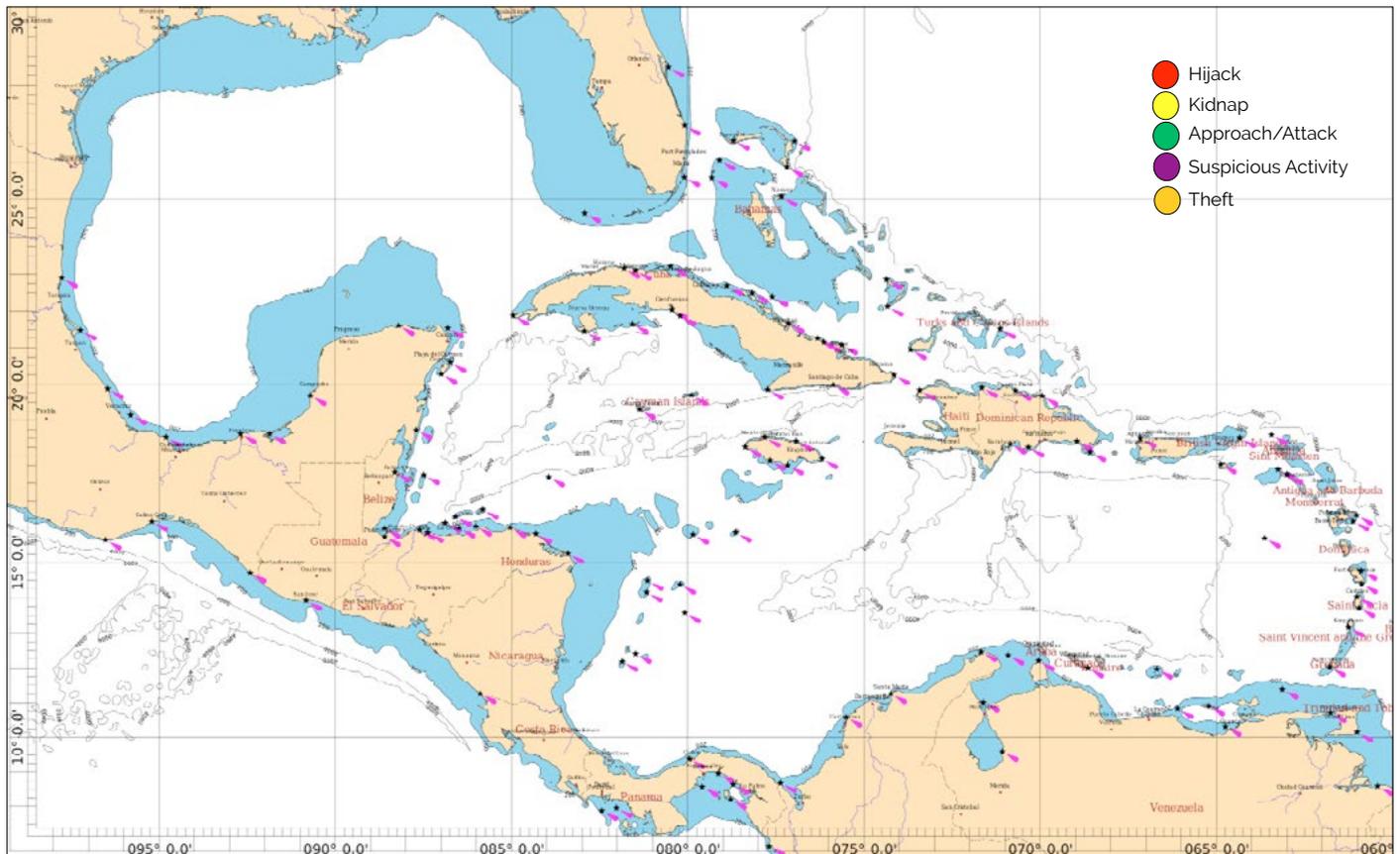
Nothing significant to report.

Incidents: Nothing significant to report.

Standing advice:

The repercussions of a vessel being caught acting as a mule with drugs stowed will depend on the type, amount and national laws, but may be disruptive and costly. When and if operating in these areas, especially Columbia and Peru, it is advised that:

- Potential stowage areas such as rudder shafts are denied as far as possible, and/or routinely searched.
- Access points are closely monitored by a vigilant watch for the duration of the vessel's call at port.





Severe Weather Warnings

Warnings detailed on this page are from the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and are issued by respective Regional Specialised Metrological Centres, Tropical Cyclone Centres or National Meteorological Services. For further information on severe weather warnings please click [here](#).

Nothing significant to report.

Note: The forecasts are correct as of the day before publication. For latest updates please follow the provided links.