

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 306 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.

MAST has a global reach and presence, delivering first hand, accurate and exclusive intelligence. MAST is entrenched and committed in continuing to support and promote the awareness of the very real risks that seafarers and other stakeholders face.

This Intelligence Report Series is a brief snapshot of MAST's Intelligence capabilities. MAST Intelligence specialises in providing clients with a suite of products and services, including; political and economic risk analysis, detailed port and vessel security briefs, vessel passage plans, threat and risk mitigation and travel risk management.

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

Exercise Grand African NEMO 2021 was launched on Thursday 4th off the coast of Nigeria. The multinational naval drills feature 13 Nigerian Navy ships as well as assets from the UK Royal Navy and French Navy and is intended to improve Nigeria's capability to deter and fight piracy in its waters.

Incidents:

1. Late Report: Passenger craft was boarded by armed robbers while underway in the Bayelsa state waterways at 0835 UTC in position 04:24.05N – 006:15.05E, Bayelsa state waterways, Nigeria. The robbers stole personal effects of the passengers and escaped with the passenger craft's engine. Nigerian authorities dispatched a patrol boat to render assistance. All passengers reported safe. Reported (IMB) 1 Nov.

Nigerian agency issues advisory to forestall maritime threats, stowaways

NIMASA has issued an advisory to shipping companies as part of a clamp down on stowaways and other maritime security threats to its waters. NIMASA now requires vessel Masters to complete and submit Security-Related Pre-Arrival Information, SRPA forms to the agency at least 48 hours prior to the vessel's arrival at any Nigerian port. Ship Captains are also required to exchange the Declaration of Security, DoS, with the Port Facility Security Officer, PFSO, of their next port of call not later than 72 hours before the ship's arrival at that port for conveyance to NIMASA within 48 hours. Vessels are also required to maintain a 24-hour watch while in Nigerian waters, to protect against approach by small boats and skiffs.

Concerted effort to fight back against illegal fishing

Four African nations and a regional fisheries organization are harnessing new technology to strengthen port controls and combat illegal fishing. The international nonprofits, Global Fishing Watch and Trygg Mat Tracking are partnering with Senegal, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya and the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea have come together in a new project which will use satellite data and analysis to monitor fishing activity and identify illegal operators in the region, All Africa reported on Nov. 5th.

Nigerian Navy orders two patrol vessels from Turkey's Dearsan

The Nigerian Navy's shopping spree continues, as media reports state that they have ordered two new patrol vessels from Dearsan in Turkey. The two new Offshore Patrol Vessels are expected to be delivered within three years and will be used in maritime interdiction operations. Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Awwal Gambo, said, "The OPVs will also be capable of conducting search and rescue operations, anti-piracy, anti-smuggling and anti-drug trafficking operations and disaster relief operations among others."

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

Gulf of Guinea Piracy & Maritime Crime Figures:

2021:

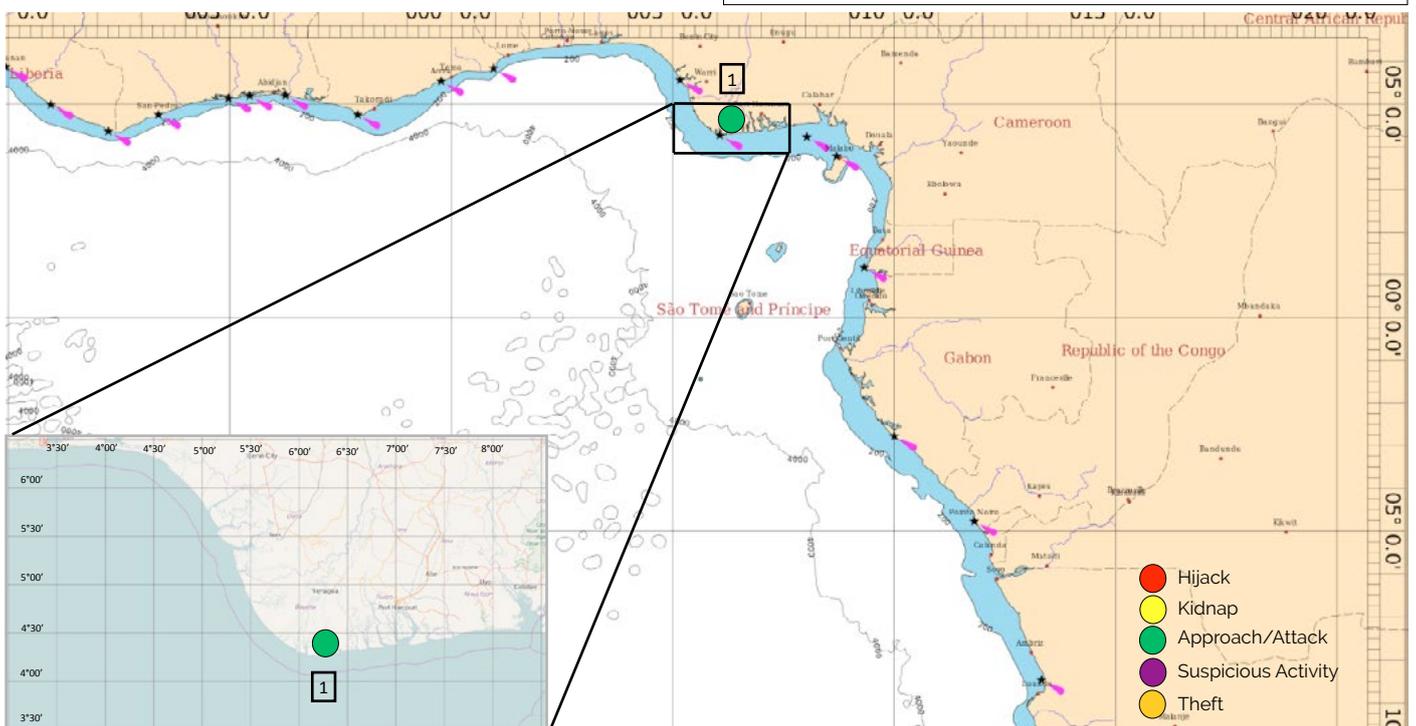
Incidents reported: 46 (MDAT-GoG/Others)
Crew kidnapped: 46 (IMB, MDAT)
Vessels hijacked: 1 (MDAT-GoG)

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

HMS Kent arrived in Mombasa, Kenya, on Wednesday 3rd for joint exercises with the Kenyan Navy. The British High Commission said Thursday that HMS Kent, a Type 23 frigate which docked in the Mombasa port on Wednesday, and will conduct joint training exercises with members of Kenya's Special Operations Squadron (SOS) until Saturday.

Incidents: Nothing significant to report.

India, Sri Lanka and Maldives in intelligence sharing move

The Times of India reported on Nov. 8th that in a new step towards maritime security coordination, India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives are to begin sharing intelligence on common threats such as terrorism and drug smuggling in the IOR.

Iran begins military drills near Strait of Hormuz

A large military exercise involving the Iranian army began on Sunday 7th near the Strait of Hormuz, media outlets report. "The exercise of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran on an area of more than one million square kilometres (386,000 square miles) east of the Strait of Hormuz and the Sea of Oman and north of the Indian Ocean has begun," state television said. State TV broadcast images of land and sea assets being deployed.

Pakistan Navy kills Indian fisherman

Indian media reports that at least one fisherman was killed and another injured, when a Pakistan Navy vessel fired on their boat off the coast of Gujarat. The incident reportedly took place near Okha town, India's Economic Times reported on Nov. 7th.

Vietnamese tanker seized

Amid confusing news reports from the region last week, it has emerged that Iran's Navy seized a Vietnam-flagged tanker, the MV Southys, in the Sea of Oman on Wednesday 3rd. Initial reports from Iran suggested that the US Navy had attempted to detain the vessel, which was denied by The Pentagon. It now appears that the ship had been taken by Iran. The Vietnamese government has been in discussions with Iran over the inci-

dent, and reports state that the crew is well and unharmed. Media outlets reported that the ship had been released on Nov. 10th after discharging its cargo.

12 Navies gather to discuss challenges of maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region

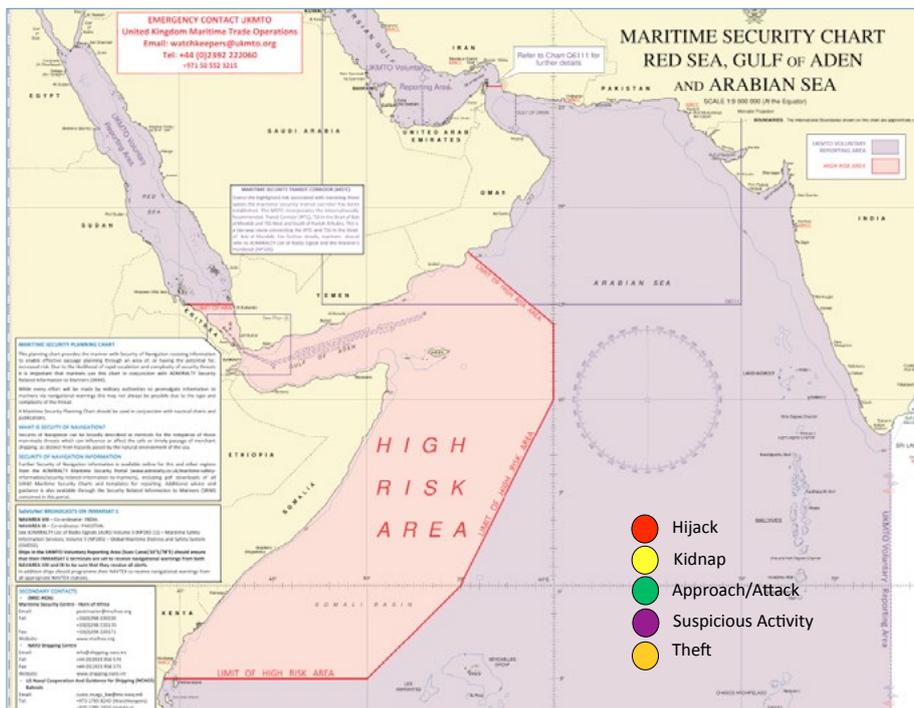
Sunday 7th saw the Goa Maritime Conclave begin. Representatives of 12 navies are attending the event, which is designed to promote collaborative implementation strategies to deal with the growing security challenges in the IOR. This year the theme is "Maritime Security and Emerging Non-Traditional Threats: A Case for Proactive Role for IOR Navies", and Madagascar, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bangladesh, Comoros, Indonesia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, and Singapore are all due to attend the Conclave in Goa.

IOR to face complicated security situation with increasing threats from terrorists supported by govts

India's Foreign Secretary, Harsh Vardhan Shringla, has said that the Indian Ocean region should expect to face an increasingly complex security situation at sea, with a rise in threats from non-state and state actors. In remarks made at the Goa Maritime Conclave, he said that non-traditional threats and new technology have combined to create a new spectrum of risk in the region.

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

MAST Note: This chart will be replaced as soon as Admiralty UK releases the updated version.





Somalia

Somalia's government has declared a senior African Union official persona non grata and ordered him to leave the country within seven days. In a statement Thursday 4th, Somalia's Foreign Affairs Ministry ordered Simon Mulongo, the deputy special representative of the chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia, to leave the country. It said Mulongo was being expelled because of activities that were described as incompatible with the mandate of the AU mission in Somalia and the country's security strategy. The statement did not elaborate, VOA reported.

Al Shabaab terrorists arrested

Garowe Online reported on Nov. 9th that at least 12 Al Shabaab terrorists had been caught and arrested on Sunday 7th by security forces in Baidoa, administrative capital of Southwest state. The region has lately seen large numbers of Al Shabaab fighters arrive, and they control significant parts of the region.

COVID-19 restrictions eased sees maritime training restart in Somalia

Defence Web report that EU NAVFOR has returned to in-person training for the Somali Police Unit and Mogadishu Maritime Police Unit. The relaxation of Covid restrictions allowed personnel from both forces to attend training onboard ESPS Victoria at the end of October. Organised in conjunction with EU CAP Somalia, the maritime skills training is seen as crucial in the country's fight against piracy and maritime crime such as illegal fishing. Training focussed on improving boarding and investigation skills and enhancing maintenance capabilities for overboard motors (OBM) as well as manoeuvring rigid-hulled inflatable boats and preparatory boarding procedures.

Int'l partners push for elections without further delay

The UN, AU, EU and USA have once again called on the Somali government to ensure that parliamentary elections are held without delay, media reported on Nov. 7th. "We urge national and Federal Member State leaders and election management bodies to advance quickly to complete inclusive and credible House of the People elections before the end of 2021, respect-

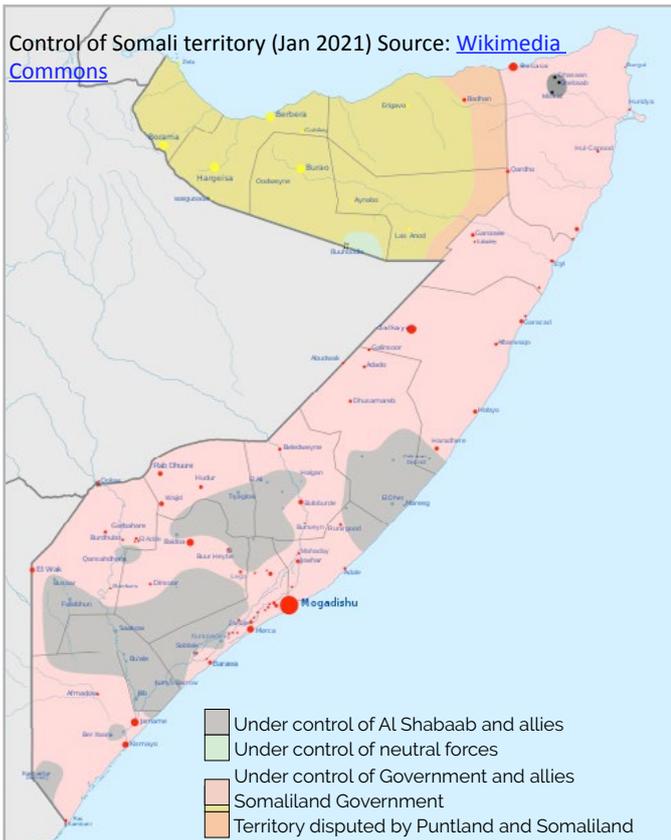
ing the 30 percent minimum quota for women," the partners said in a joint statement issued on Friday 5th evening, CGTN reported.

US renews bounty offering for details on top Al Shabaab leaders

The US State Dept. has announced that any members of the public who can give information on the locations of four top Al Shabaab leaders will receive \$6 million. The men named on the list include Abu Ubaidah, Mahad Karate, Fuad Mohamed Khalaf and Jafar and are all believed to be senior leaders within the terror group, Garowe Online reported on Nov. 6th.

KDF Chief: It's not too late to defeat Al Shabaab

Garowe Online reported on Nov. 4th that Gen. Robert Kibochi had discussed the situation in Somalia on Kenyan TV, saying that Al Shabaab can be defeated in Somalia, but that economic and social development in the country is crucial to that process. While there have been "considerable gains" in the fight against the terrorists, kinetic military force was not the only tactic. Preventing the group from recruiting was of equal importance. "People in the area need to see development coming in, schools re-opening and children going to school so you can dry the pool where Al Shabaab recruits from," he said.



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

Arab News reported on Nov. 6th that Yemen government troops repelled Houthi attacks and made limited advances in hotly contested areas around Marib province, according to local reports on Saturday. Fighting began on Friday in the hills around AL-Amud, near a strategic road that links Marib with Juba district. Coalition forces, Yemen troops and allied tribesmen helped fight back the push by Houthi forces, the media reported.

Infamous female British terrorist believed to be fighting Yemeni government

The Sun newspaper has reported that one of the UK's most wanted terrorists, Samantha Lewthwaite, is believed to be in Yemen fighting government forces. Nicknamed 'the white widow', she has been linked to several terrorist attacks in a number of countries and is believed to have recently been involved in recruiting female suicide bombers in Yemen.

STC slams Yemen president over state oil company reshuffle

The Southern Transitional Council, backed by the UAE, has reportedly rejected recent appointments to the country's two state oil companies by Yemen's president, Middle East Monitor reported on Nov. 8th. "STC rejects Hadi's decisions and all their consequences," the separatist group's spokesperson, Ali Al-Kathiri, said on Twitter, adding that the decisions violated the Riyadh Agreement, while "further impeding efforts to complete its implementation". The STC still has military and security control over Aden and other areas in the south of Yemen.

More than 150 Houthis dead in Yemen raids, says Saudi coalition

Ongoing fighting in Marib province has seen at least 150 Houthi rebels killed in the last few days, the Saudi coalition reported on Nov. 7th. "Fourteen military vehicles were destroyed and more than 157 terrorist elements eliminated" in the latest raids, the coalition said in a statement carried by the Saudi state news agency SPA. Air strikes targeted AL-Jawf in the north and AL-Bayda in the south, media reports stated.

Pro-government forces kill 5 Houthis in Hodeidah

Xinhau reported on Nov. 8th that Yemen government forces clashed with Houthi rebels in Hodeidah on Sunday, according to a military official. "A group of Houthi gunmen attempted to sneak into the government-held sites in Hodeidah's district of Tuhyata and sparked intense clashes in the area," the local source said on condition of anonymity. He confirmed that at least eight soldiers of the Saudi-backed Yemeni government forces were injured in the armed confrontation with the Houthi militia. Hodeidah remains under the control of the Houthi rebel

group.

UN Envoy: Military Escalation in Yemen Undermines Peace Efforts

Asharq Al-Awsat reported on Nov. 4th that UN Special Envoy for Yemen, Hans Grundberg, has called for supporting UN efforts to find a negotiable settlement to the conflict in Yemen, warning that military escalation undermines peace efforts in the country. Following his visit to Iran, Grundberg expressed concern that the military situation in the country was escalating and damaging the chances for peace. "A peaceful and stable Yemen will benefit the region. I intend to work with the countries in the region to help Yemen reach a peaceful end to the conflict," Grundberg said.

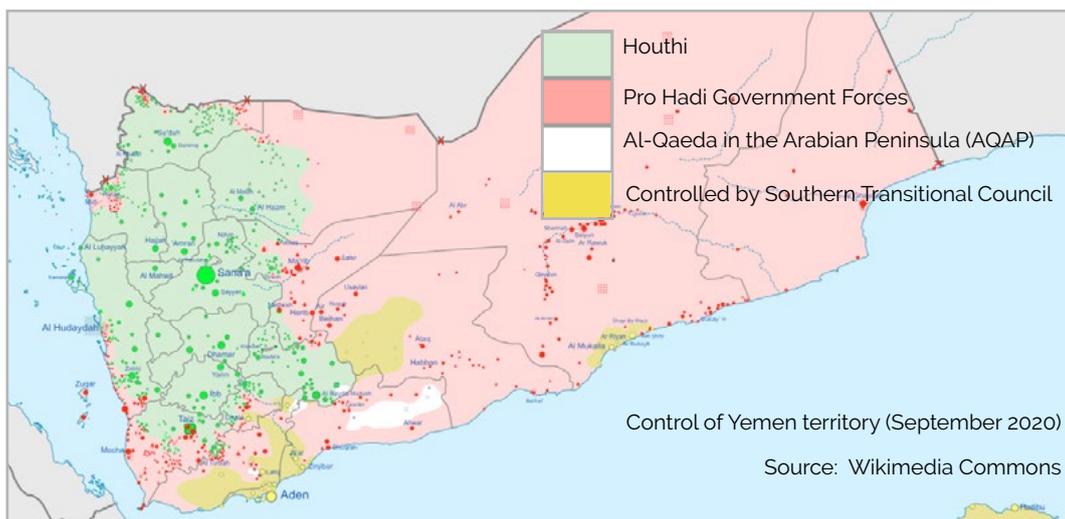
Saudi mine clearing efforts continue

Arab News reported on Nov. 6th that the Saudi Project for Landmine Clearance had made safe some 1,759 mines and munitions during the month of October. The figure comprised 11 antipersonnel mines, 569 anti-tank mines, 1,174 unexploded ordnances, and five explosive devices, Arab News said. Saudi and international experts are removing mines planted by the Houthi militia in Marib, Aden, AL-Jawf, Shabwa, Taiz, Hodeidah, Lahij, Sanaa, AL-Bayda, AL-Dhale, and Saada. Over 280,000 devices have been removed since the project began.

AQAP attack Houthi fighters

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) conducted two attacks targeting al Houthi fighters in al Bayda governorate on Nov. 1st and 2nd. AQAP claimed the second attack caused casualties. These are the third and fourth AQAP attacks in al Bayda since Oct. 28th, Critical Threats reported.

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



South East Asia

China appears to have built full-scale mock-ups of US warships in a desert in the country's north-western Xinjiang region, satellite images show. One of the images, captured by US space technology company Maxar, shows a structure shaped like a military aircraft carrier placed on rail tracks. USNI News, a site specialising in the US Navy, said the structures appeared to be targets built by the military. Beijing has been developing and testing anti-ship ballistic missiles for years, BBC News reported on Nov. 8th.

Incidents:

1. Duty crew onboard Switzerland-flagged bulk carrier underway noticed four unauthorised persons onboard and attempting to enter the steering gear room at 1702 UTC in position 01:14.9N – 104:01.7E, Singapore Strait. Alarm raised and crew mustered resulting in the persons escaping. All crew safe. Nothing reported stolen. Incident reported Singapore VTIS. Reported (IMB) 3rd Nov.

U.S. Vinson Carrier Strike Group Drills with Japanese Force in South China Sea

While the United Kingdom's Carrier Strike Group 21 (CSG21) has departed the Western Pacific, there is still a significant amount of maritime activity from deployed naval groups. The main body of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Indo-Pacific Deployment 2021 (IPD21) task group, which includes JMSDF helicopter destroyer JS Kaga (DDH-184) and JS Murasame (DD101), carried out joint training in the South China Sea with the Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group from Oct. 29 through Nov. 3. The American CSG includes carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70) and embarked Carrier Air Wing 2 (CVW 2), cruisers USS Lake Champlain (CG-57) and USS Shiloh, (CG-67) and destroyer USS Milius (DDG-69), USNI reported on Nov. 8th.

MMEA busts human trafficking syndicate in Klang Valley

Malaysia's MMEA has broken up a human trafficking ring which is believed to have been operating in the region for at least three years. Selangor maritime director Capt (Maritime) Mohammad Rosli Kassim said the syndicate, known as "Ibu Ani", was responsible for arranging accommodation, provisions and vehicles to move illegal immigrants in and out of Malaysia through unauthorised routes, local media reported on Nov. 8th.

Army trains more reservists to boost security against Abu Sayyaf in Sulu

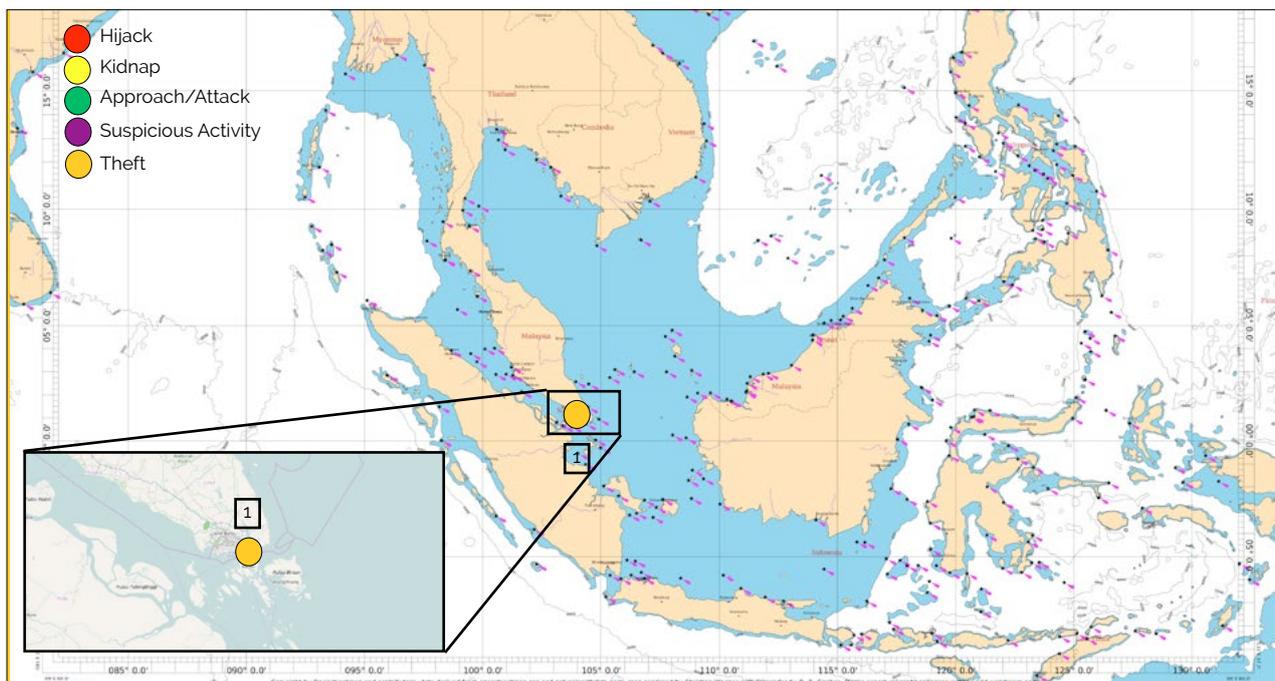
The Malaysian Army has begun training 300 reservists as a further security measure against Abu Sayyaf Group terrorists operating in Sulu, the country's Dail Express reported on Nov. 8th. Lt. Col. Andres Soriano, Army Reserved Command's (Arescom) 906th Community Defense Center commander, said in a statement the trainees, belonging to the BCMT Class 02-2021, are being trained on basic soldiery and relief and rescue operation in Barangay Liang, Patikul, Sulu.

US submarine commander fired after South China Sea crash

Commander Cameron Aljilani and two other senior officers have been removed from their positions following an incident which saw their nuclear-sub collide with an underwater obstacle on Oct. 2nd. Al Jazeera reported on Nov. 5th that the vessel struck an undersea mountain in a preventable accident. "Sound judgement, prudent decision-making and adherence to required procedures in navigation planning, watch team execution and risk management could have prevented the incident," the western Pacific-based 7th Fleet said in a statement.

Duterte wants more aircraft for Coast Guard to improve maritime security

CNN reported on Nov. 4th that Philippines' President Duterte has ordered three more surveillance aircraft for the Philippines Coast Guard, to boost maritime security. This is in addition to an increase in recruitment for the service and the purchase of additional new assets, intended to strengthen its functions.



European Waters

Sky News reported on Friday 5th that a record 853 migrants crossed the English Channel heading for the UK on small boats in a single day, according to the UK Home Office. The crossings all took place on Wednesday 3rd, and rescuers ran 25 separate operations to ensure there was no loss of life.

One person found dead in France after channel attempt

A migrant has died after an attempt to cross the English Channel, French authorities have confirmed. The person was found dead on a beach near Calais on Thursday morning, following the discovery of a boat which was full of water. Two other people were found with them - both suffering from hypothermia, French authorities said. This is believed to be the third death of a person attempting to reach the UK from France over the past two days, BBC News reported on Nov. 6th.

UK Border Force refuses to turn small boats back

Despite plans by the UK Home Secretary to 'turn' small boats in the English Channel in order to prevent them from reaching the UK, Border Force agents have stated that they will not comply with those instructions. Officials do not support the move and there are grave concerns within the agency that such action could lead to further loss of life in the Channel, UK media reported on Nov. 6th.

One dead and second missing off French coast

A migrant has died while attempting to cross the English Channel, according to the French authorities. A second person has been reported as missing. One migrant was pulled from the water unconscious and was later pronounced dead when rescuers returned to dock on Wednesday. Several boats are said to have got into difficulty in the Strait of Pas-de-Calais and 400 people have been rescued by French authorities, according to BBC News on Nov. 4th.

NGO ship laden with rescued migrants rushes to rescue more

Sea-Eye 4, run by a German NGO, declared a state of emergency last week, the Metro reported on Nov. 4th. The ship, already carrying around 400 migrants, received a distress call from a wooden boat in an area usually covered by Malta's SAR teams. The boat had around 400 migrants on board and needed assistance. When Maltese rescuers did not respond, Sea-Eye 4 steamed for six hours in order to reach the distressed boat. 'Several people were in the water without life jackets and had to be rescued directly from the sea,' said Sea-Eye, which operates the rescue ship along with the NGO German Doctors.

Isle of Inishmore ferry rescues migrants in Channel

An Irish Ferries ship had to pause its journey through the Strait of Dover in order to rescue 12 migrants in distress, Afloat reported on Nov. 4th. The crew of the ferry threw lines over the side to secure the migrant vessel before helping them onboard. The vessel then returned to Calais to disembark the group. The ferry captain announced to the passengers: "Apologies for the delay, but we had to stop and rescue 13 migrants in distress, whose boat had run out of fuel and was sinking."

Dozens of migrants rescued off Turkish coast

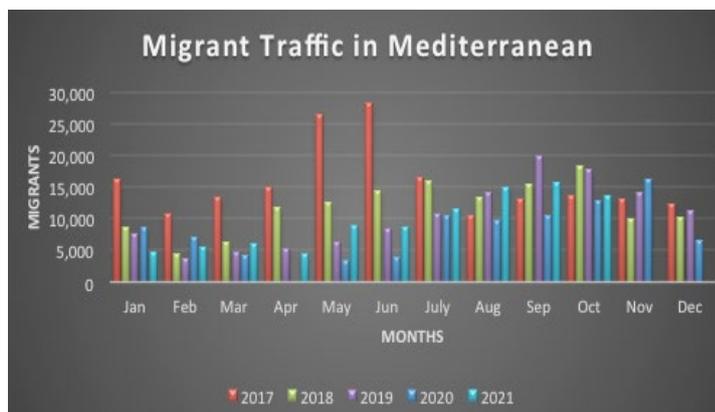
Sunday saw a large operation off the coast of Turkey, with the country's Coast Guard rescuing 57 migrants in a series of operations, The New Arab reported on Nov. 7th. The day before, seven migrants were saved from a sinking vessel in the Aegean Sea, while three were reported to be missing. Turkey has rescued dozens of migrants in recent weeks, "blaming Greece for the mounting casualties," the media outlet said.

Libyan coast guard intercepts 280 migrants at sea

InfoMigrants reported on Nov. 5th that Libya's Coast Guard had intercepted some 280 migrants in five boats off the country's coast and returned them the port of Zuwarah, near the border with Tunisia. It is expected that they will now be repatriated to their countries of origin, the article stated. The UNHCR also announced it had resumed evacuation flights, and that a plane with 172 asylum seekers had been flown from Libya to Niger on Nov. 5th.

Over 99 Gambian migrants repatriated from Morocco

Following a report by The Point on conditions in a Moroccan detention centre, the government of Gambia has taken steps and repatriated some 99 Gambian migrants who were detained after their boat veered off course in the Mediterranean on October 7th. The plane carrying the migrants landed at the Banjul International Airport on Monday 1st Nov.



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

The current migrant smuggling situation

Figures released by UNHCR show that over 3,500 migrants have crossed the Mediterranean in the last week. Large scale rescues have taken place by NGOs and coast guard teams, once again highlighting the scale of the issue EU nations face.

The UK, too, has seen large numbers attempt to cross the English Channel in the last seven days, despite worsening sea states and weather. The news that Border Force agents are refusing to 'push back' migrant boats in the Channel will mean further political issues for the UK government, who are pains to be seen to be clamping down on the problem, but also must avoid any potential loss of life at sea as a result.

Libya

The fragile political situation in Libya has been highlighted once again, with another incident which demonstrates the tenuous nature of peace in the country. Media outlets report that last week, the country's foreign minister, Najla El-Mangoush, was suspended from her office and banned from leaving the country by the president. A short time later, the prime minister countered the decision. El-Mangoush had been accused of carrying out foreign policy without coordination with the Presidential Council.

Libya opens registration for election hopefuls

Libya on Monday 8th opened registration for candidates in presidential and parliamentary polls. Candidates are able to lodge applications at offices of the High National Electoral Commission in the three main cities in Libya's west, east and south until November 22, the HNEC said Sunday, France 24 reported. Parliamentary candidates have until December 7 to do so.

Libya finds 3 more mass graves in Tarhuna

Middle East Monitor reported on Nov. 7th that three further mass graves had been discovered in Tarhuna, an area held by militia loyal to Haftar's forces during the recent conflict. In a statement, the General Authority for Research and Identification of Missing Persons said its teams discovered three locations of mass graves in an area near the Abdaly Highway in Tarhuna city. Exhumations were due to begin on Monday 8th. Since June last year, Libyan authorities have discovered 83 mass graves in different areas in Tarhuna, from which more than 200 bodies were exhumed.

Haftar's son visits Israel for assistance ahead of Libya elections

Media outlets in Israel reported on Nov. 7th that the son of Khalifa Haftar had been in the country trying to raise support for his father's attempts to run for president. Haaretz reported that Saddam Haftar visited the country for a very short period and met with unnamed officials. He carried a message from his father asking for political and military support, with a vow to ease relations between the two countries.

Accident at Bouri offshore field

The Libyan Observer reported on Nov. 6th that an accident at Bouri offshore field has resulted in the deaths of two maintenance workers while a third is in serious condition in hospital. The report says that five workers affiliated with a Tunisian company carrying out maintenance work at the offshore field fell from a floating storage tank after one of the chains binding the platform broke.

Libya and Malta concur on a process to unfreeze Libyans' funds

Libya's Observer reported on Nov. 6th that the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Murad Hemima, on Friday, revealed an agreement with the Maltese government on a process to lift the freezing of Libyan citizens' funds and permit them to transfer the previously frozen monies. Citizens' frozen accounts are held at Bank of Valletta and Satabank, confirming that there are 1,800 closed accounts in the Bank of Valletta, whereas the Satabank accounts remain under monitoring and assessment.

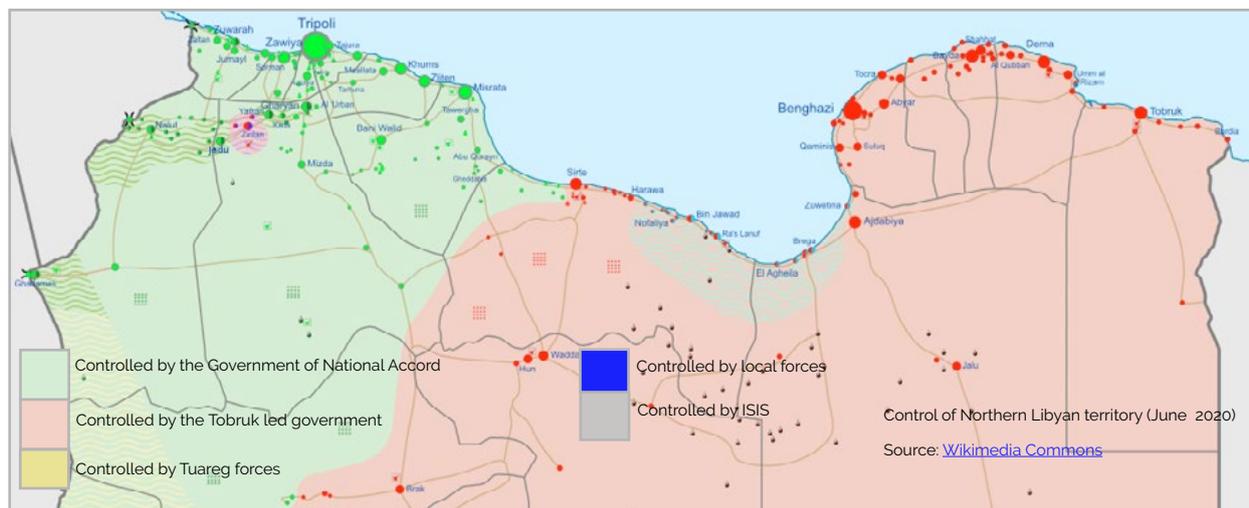
Libya's JMC to meet with Turkish, Russian officials

A meeting to discuss the withdrawal of foreign fighters is planned between Libya, Turkey and Russia for later this month. Libyan media announced that another meeting will be held by the JMC in Egypt after Paris Conference on Libya this month, saying it will be similar to the JMC recent meeting in Cairo with representatives from Chad, Sudan and Niger, who said they were ready to facilitate the mercenaries and fighters in a way that wouldn't affect stability in their countries and the region, according to a statement by UN envoy to Libya Jan Kubis.

The Attorney General arrests NOC board member, Oil Minister supports enforcement of law

The Attorney General / Public Prosecution Office announced on Nov. 3rd that it had ordered the arrest of a board member of the National Oil Corporation (NOC), the Director of the Department of Occupational Safety and Security and Health at Akakus Oil Operations Company, and the employee in charge of the work of the Administrative Affairs Unit in the Security, Safety and Occupational Health Department at Akakus.

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





Central and South America

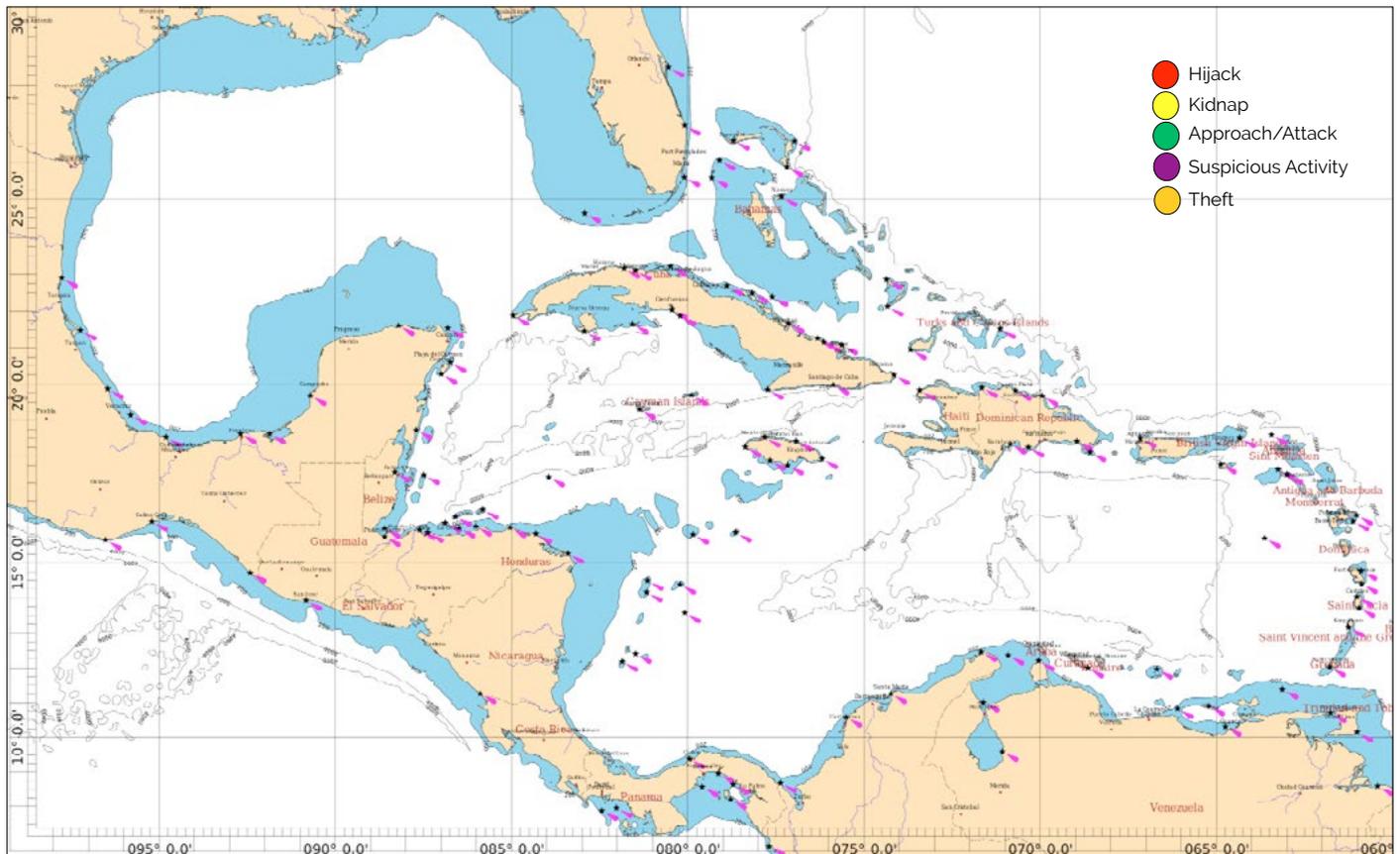
Nothing significant to report.

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.