



Piracy Report

Independent Global
Incident Analysis

PIRACY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2018

Piracy and Acts of Armed Robbery of Ships

For Monthly Reports
Please contact
Lydelle Joubert
info@PiracyReport.co.za

Analysis

- ❑ Between January and September 2018 the Gulf of Guinea was the area worst affected by piracy and maritime robbery worldwide. A high concentration of incidents was found in Nigeria off Brass and Bonny, as well as Lagos Anchorages and the Lagos port complex. A high number of incidents were also reported in the Malacca and Singapore Straits, at Samarinda Anchorages, Indonesia and Chittagong Anchorages, Bangladesh.
- ❑ The kidnapping of two fishermen from their fishing vessel at Semporna, Sabah, Malaysia in September 2018 emphasizes that the threat of kidnapping in the Sulu and Celebes Seas, as well as in eastern Sabah, remains. Crews of vessels are strongly advised to remain vigilant when transiting the area and when possible re-route ships from this area. Best management practices to deter piracy and kidnapping should also be practised.
- ❑ Two kidnapping incidents were recorded in the internal waterways of Nigeria and the coast off Bonny, Nigeria. The surveyor of an oil company seismic survey team and a community affairs officer were kidnapped from a passenger boat near the Bayelsa-Rivers State boundary and 12 crew were kidnapped from the Bulk Carrier, *MV Glarus* off Bonny. The risk of kidnapping remains high in this area.
- ❑ Several anchorages reported high incidents of piracy, robbery and attempted robbery in 2018. Four of these anchorages reported incidents in September 2018. They are:
 - Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, – 15 incidents in 2018
 - Chittagong Anchorages, Bangladesh – 11
 - Lagos Anchorages and the Lagos Port Complex – 24
 - Anchorages off Barcelona, Venezuela – 11.
- ❑ The Royal Saudi Navy intercepted two Houthi remotely controlled water-borne improvised explosive devices (WBIEDs) targeting the port of Jizan, Saudi Arabia in September 2018. Attacks using WBIEDs remain a risk in the Red Sea and with it the possibility that any vessel could be caught in an attack.

2017 Incidents



2018 Incidents

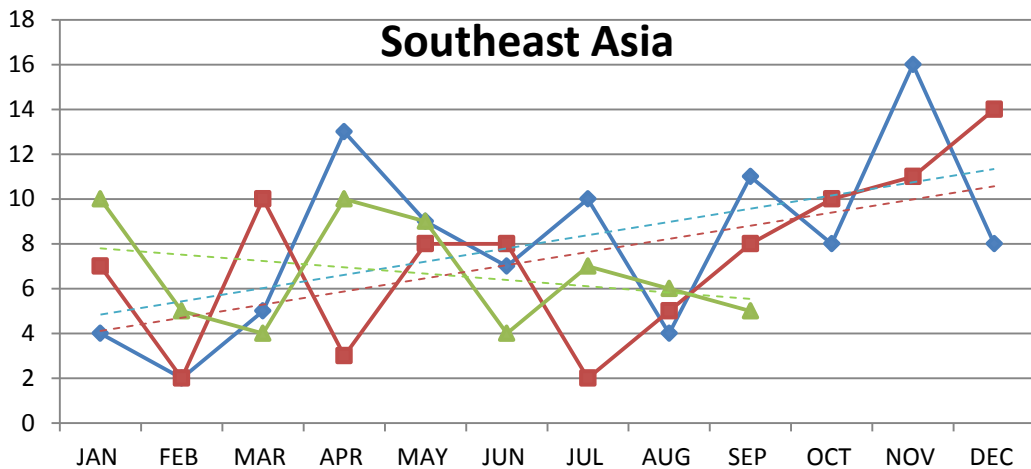


September 2018 Incidents

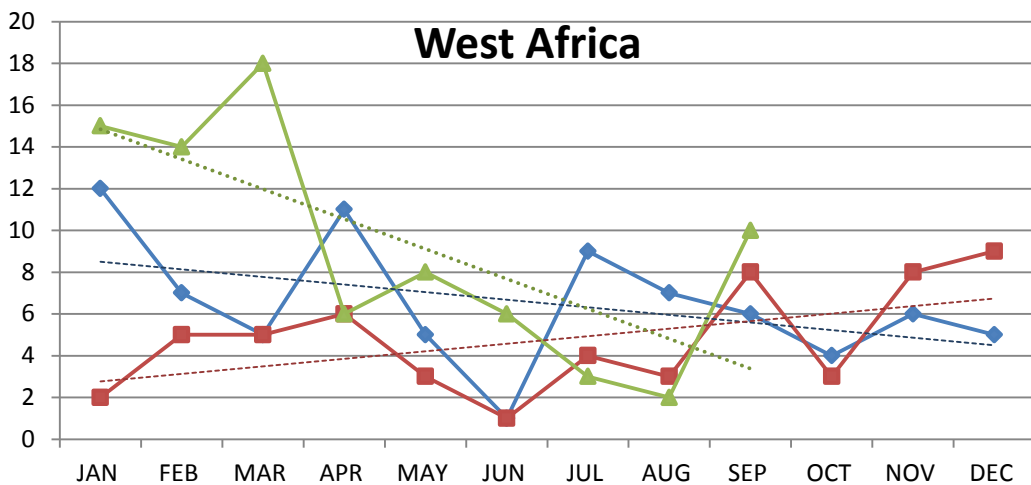


Incidents of Piracy and Robbery of Vessels: 2016 to 2018

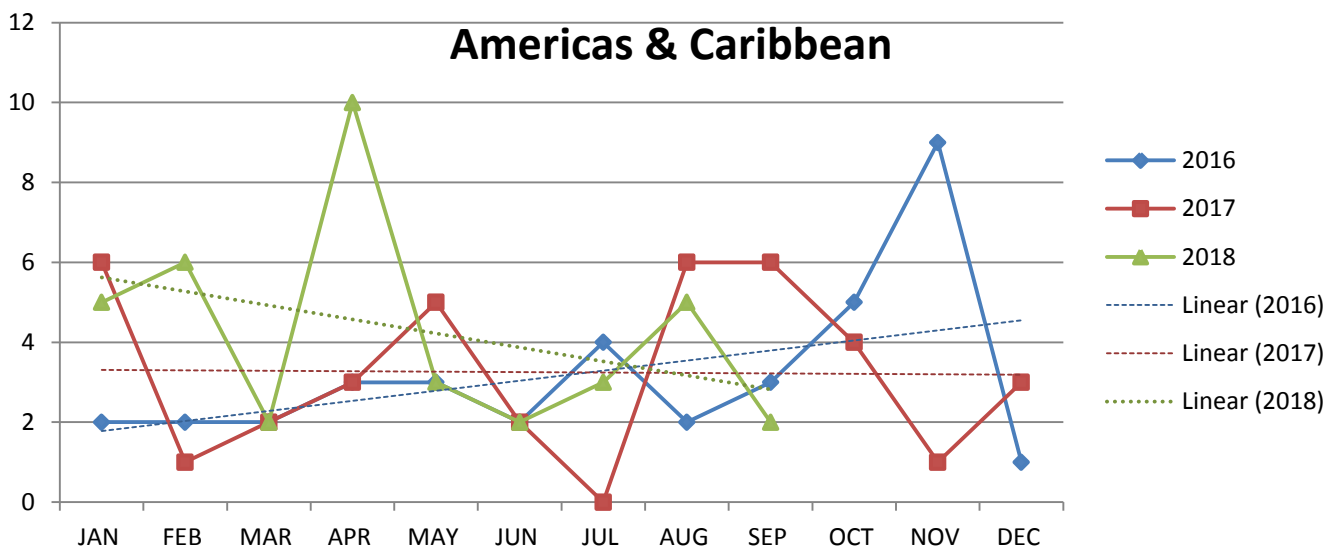
Southeast Asia



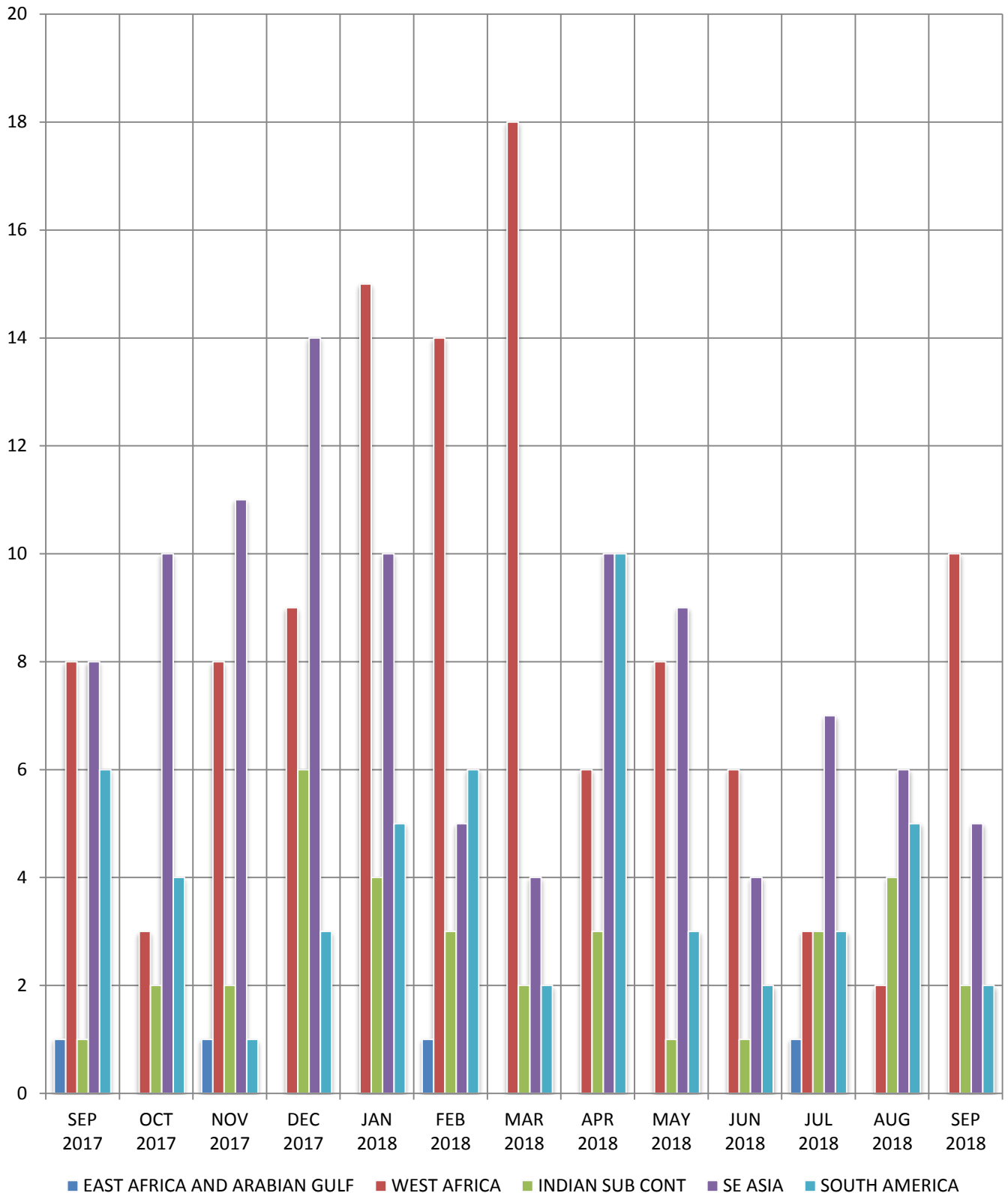
West Africa



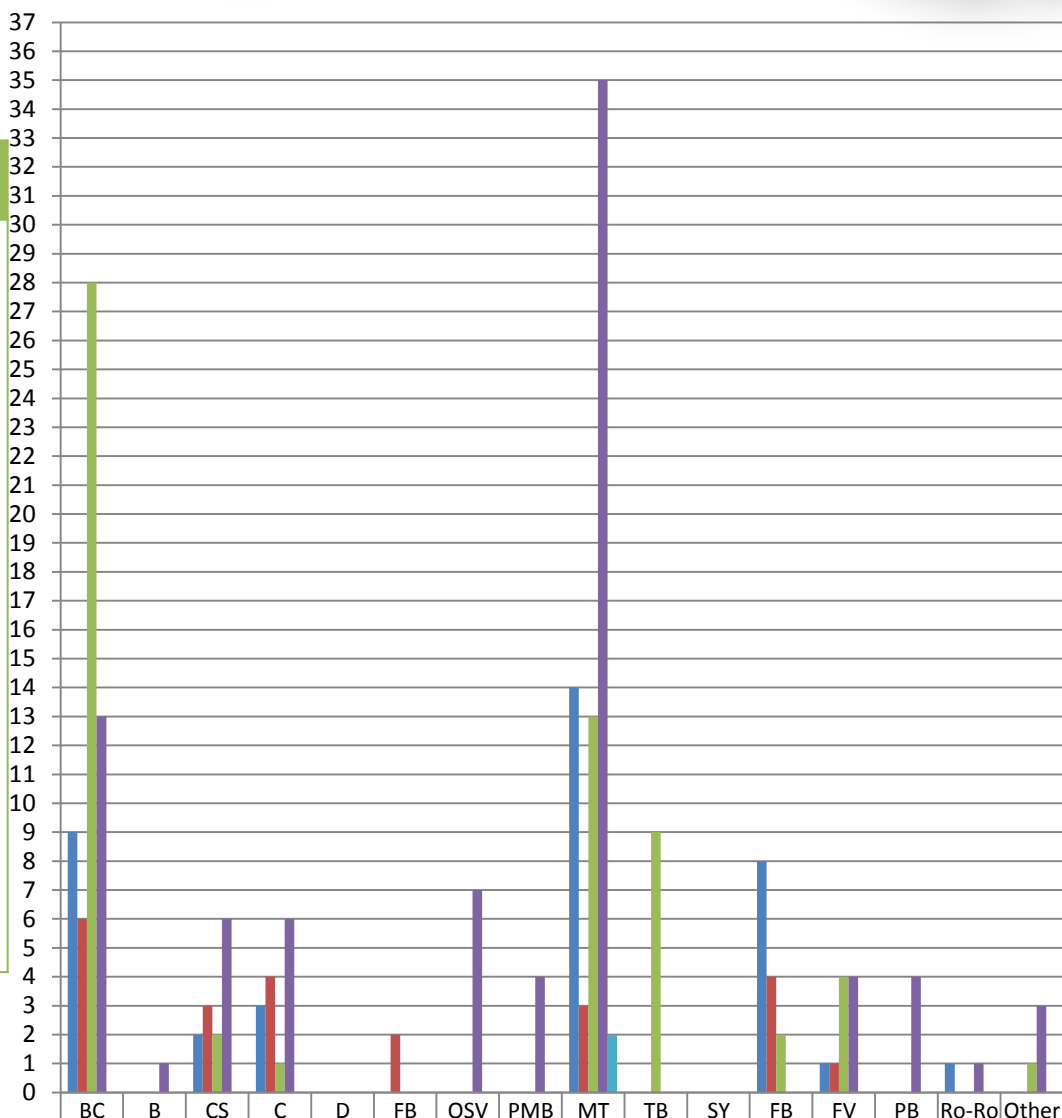
Americas & Caribbean



Incidents by Region September 2017 to September 2018



Incidents 2018: Type of Ship Attacked



	BC	B	CS	C	D	FB	OSV	PMB	MT	TB	SY	FB	FV	PB	Ro-Ro	Other
Americas	9		2	3					14			8	1		1	
Indian Sub Continent	6		3	4		2			3			4	1			
SE Asia	28		2	1					13	9		2	4			1
West Africa	13	1	6	6			7	4	35				4	4	1	3
East Africa/Arabian Gulf									2							

Southeast Asia



Five incidents of piracy and robbery of vessels were reported in Southeast Asia in September 2018. Two fishermen were kidnapped from a Fishing Trawler off Sabah, Malaysia. A robbery was reported at Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia. Fifteen incidents had been recorded at this anchorage in 2018. Attempted robberies were reported on a berthed Chemical Tanker at Tarahan Jetty, Indonesia and on a berthed Bulk Carrier at Sandakan Port, Sabah, Malaysia. The Chief Engineer of the LPG Tanker, Maregas sustained injuries during a robbery when three perpetrators boarded the vessel while underway in the Westbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme in the Singapore Strait.¹



Sri Dewi 1's Sister Ship Jaya 1 (SA-858/5/F)
Source: Zam Yusa

- ❑ **11 September 2018** – Two masked men armed with M16 rifles boarded the Fishing Trawler, *Sri Dewi 1* from a motor banca at Pulau Gaya, Semporna, Sabah, Malaysia at 01:00LT. They kidnapped two Indonesian fishermen - the skipper Samsul Saguni, 40 and Usman Yusuf, 35. Fishing boats, *Sri Dewi 1* and *Dwi Jaya 1* with a combined crew of 15 were fishing off Pulau Gaya, Sabah for three days before the attack. At the time of the attack only four crew were on board the two vessels as the other 11 crew members went to Semporna with small tenders to deliver their fish catch. The kidnappers allegedly arrived with the two hostages at the Abu Sayyaf operational base in Talipao, Sulu, Philippines at 14:00LT on 11 September 2018. The white motor banca, with the name *Ainigel* and a picture of eagle on the side, used in the kidnapping was seized by East Sabah Security Command (Esscom) in Kampung Air Kunuk Tiga on 20 September 2018. Two men believed to be spotters for the kidnappers were killed while trying to flee by boat. A 22-caliber revolver and a 38-caliber revolver were recovered.²

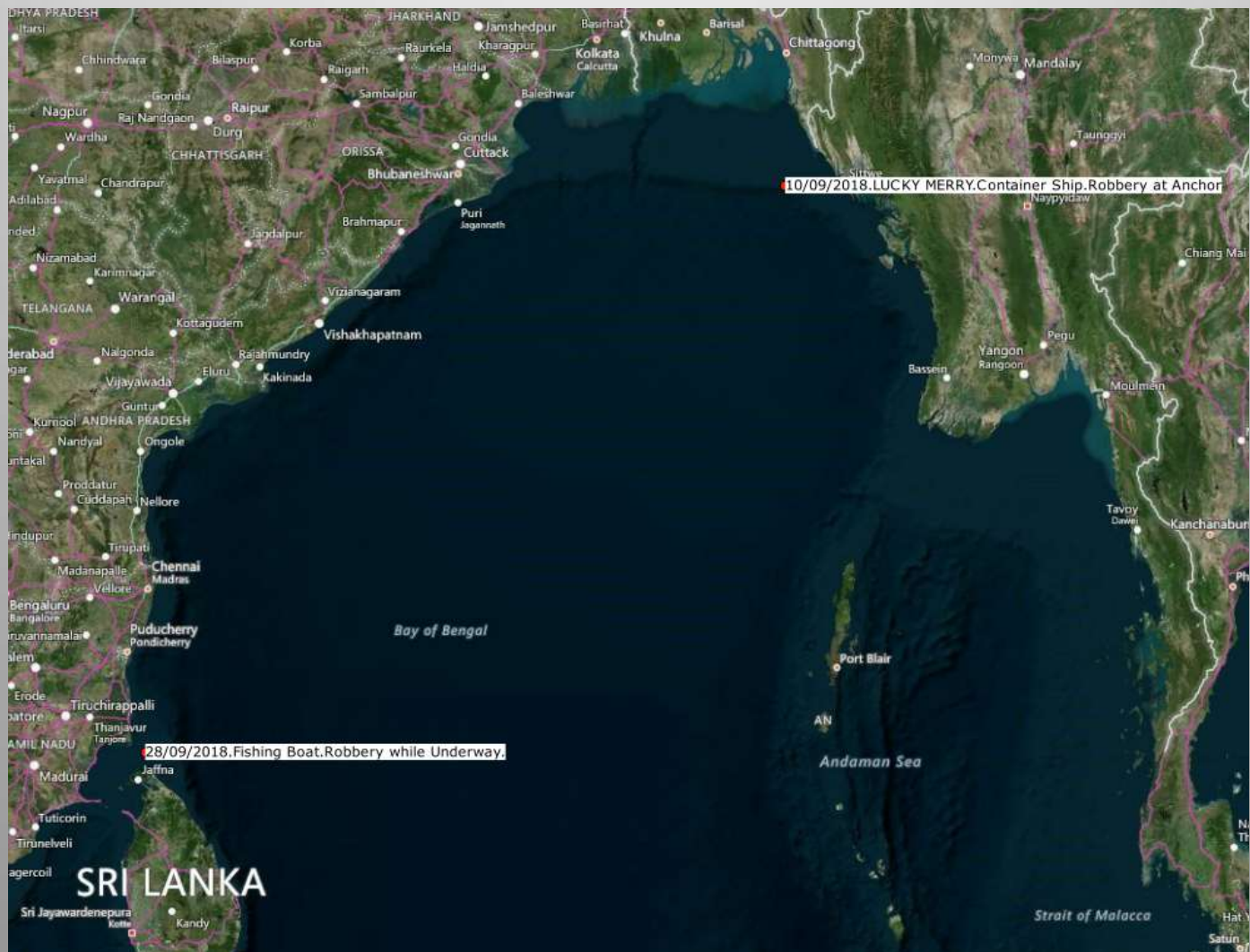
Update Abu Sayyaf Kidnappings

- ❑ **14 September 2018** – Abu Sayyaf released hostages Hamdam Salim, Subandi Sattuh and Sudarlan Samansung on payment of a ransom. The Indonesians were freed with the help of the Moro National Liberation Front.³ The three men were kidnapped on 18 January 2017 from the Malaysian fishing banca with registration *BN 838/4F*. Nine assailants in a grey speed boat boarded the boat 4nm east of Bakungan Island, Taganak, Tawi-Tawi, Philippines. The fishing banca was found drifting close to Bakungan Island.⁴

Suspicious Approach

- ❑ **16 September 2018** – Six masked men in two speedboats approached an Asphalt/Bitumen Tanker approximately 4nm SW of Balabac Island, Philippines. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. The boat aborted the approach after five minutes.⁵

Indian Subcontinent



Two incidents of piracy and robbery of vessels were reported in Bangladesh and India in September 2018. A robbery on a Container Ship at anchor was reported at Chittagong Anchorage, Bangladesh and a Fishing Vessel was robbed off Koiyakarai, India.

28 September 2018 – Three fishermen were injured during an attack by alleged Sri Lankan pirates 18nm SE off Kodiakarai. The attackers boarded their Fishing Vessel and attacked them with iron rods and sickles. They stole their catch, fishing nets and GPS equipment.

Remark. Jurisdiction is often a point of tension between the Sri Lankan Navy and Indian fishermen in the waters between the two countries. According to Indian fishermen they are often chased away and their nets cut by the Sri Lankan Navy for allegedly illegally fishing in Sri Lankan waters.⁶

East Africa, Gulf of Oman and the HRA

No piracy related incidents were reported off East Africa or the Arabian Sea in September 2018.



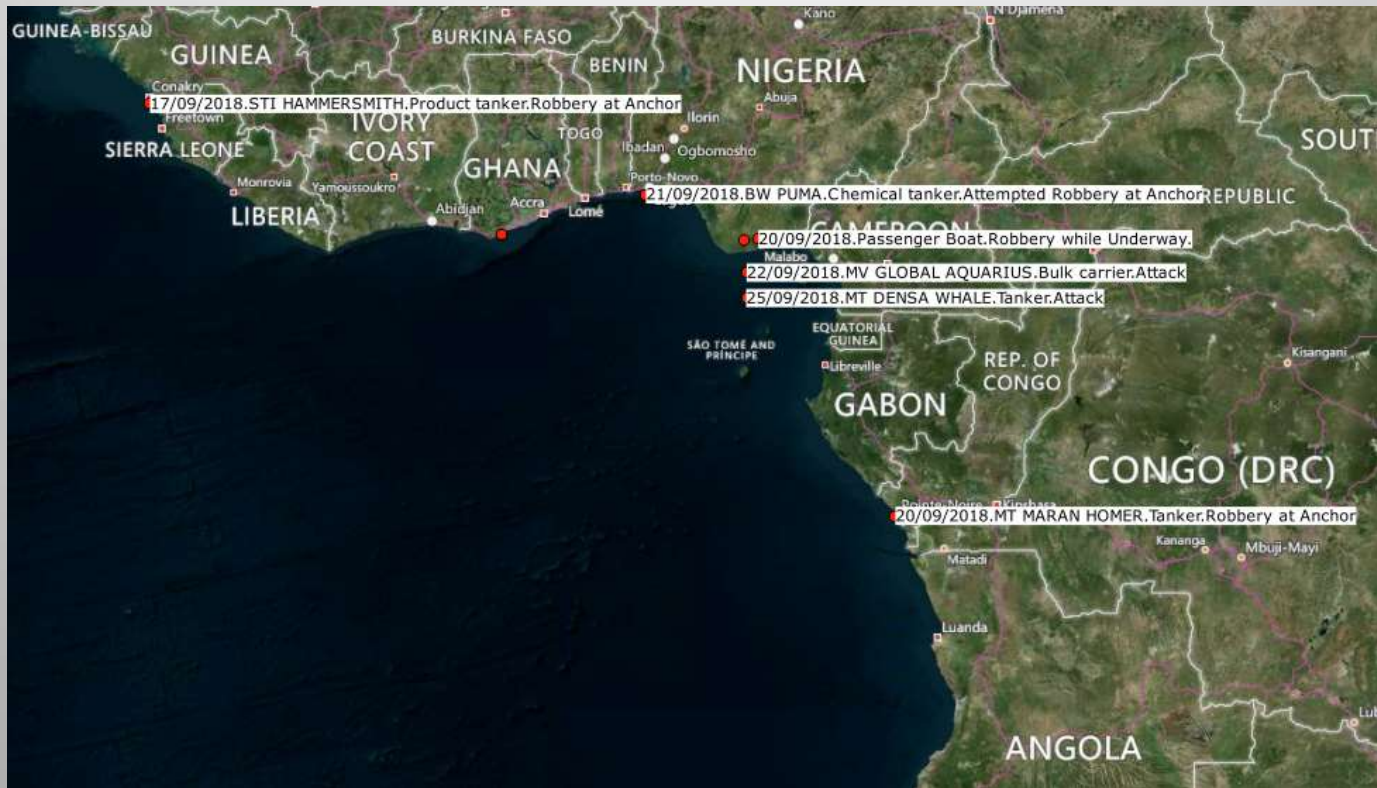
Similar WBIED found Hajjah coast in August 2018

Source: Twitter Yemen Observer
@YemeniObserv

Saudi Navy Destroys Two Suicide Boats near Jizan Port

The Royal Saudi Navy reported that they intercepted and destroyed two Houthi remotely controlled water-borne improvised explosive devices (WBIEDs) which were on their way to hit the port of Jizan, Saudi Arabia on 30 September 2018. It is presumed that Jizan was targeted in response to a Saudi - UAE coalition strike on fishing boats at Ugban Island near al-Hodeidah on 30 August 2018. The attack reportedly led to the deaths of 19 fishermen and three fishing boats were destroyed.⁷

West Africa



Ten incidents of piracy and robbery of vessels were reported off the Gulf of Guinea in September 2018. One incident was recorded in Guinea, two in Ghana, six in Nigeria and one in the Congo.

Guinea

- ❑ **17 September 2018** – The anchored Product Tanker, *Sti Hammersmith* was boarded by four armed robbers at Conakry Anchorage, Guinea. The alarm was raised, the accommodation locked down and the crew mustered in the citadel. The armed men fired at the bridge windows and gained access to the accommodation which they then ransacked. Crews possessions were stolen. A navy boat arrived to assist the crew.⁸

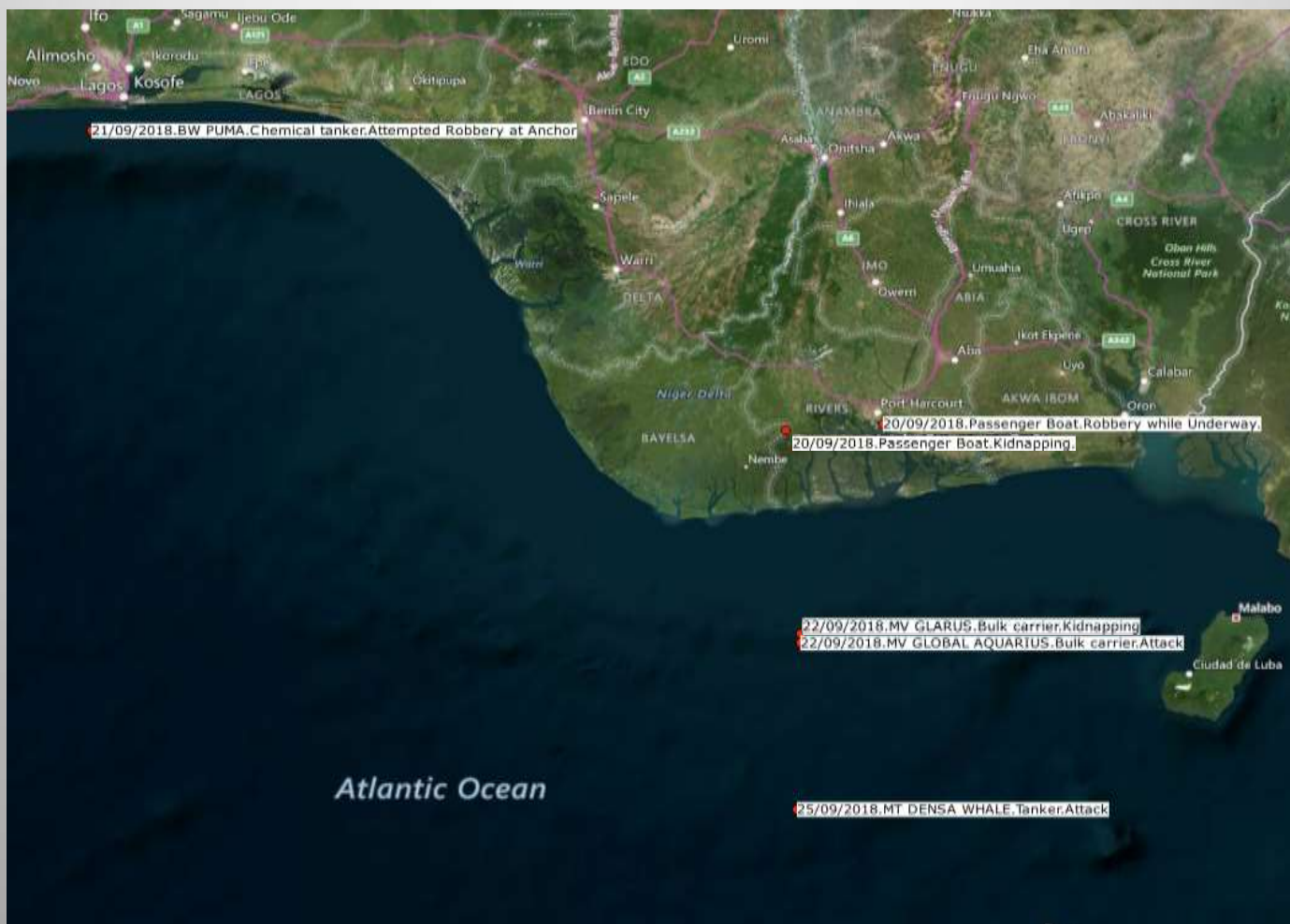
Congo

- ❑ **20 September 2018** – The Tanker, *MT Maran Homer* was robbed while at anchor at Pointe Noire Anchorage, Congo.⁹



Ghana

A robbery on an OSV and an attempted robbery on a Container Ship were recorded at Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana.



Nigeria

Two kidnappings were recorded in September 2018. Two members of a survey team were kidnapped in the internal waterways near the Bayelsa- Rivers state boundary and 12 crew members were kidnapped off Bonny. In addition to this attack two other attacks were also reported off Bonny. A robbery was recorded on the Bonny River. An attempted robbery was reported at Lagos Secure Anchorage Area (SAA).

- ❑ **20 September 2018** – A passenger boat carrying an oil company seismic survey team was attacked near the Bayelsa-Rivers State boundary. Ten personnel were kidnapped, but all except for the surveyor and community affairs officer were returned later. It is believed that the kidnapping is linked to a local community dispute.¹⁰
- ❑ **20 September 2018** – A passenger boat carrying 20 passengers was attacked on the Bonny River by seven armed men in a speedboat. They stole passengers money, cell phones and other valuables. They forced passengers to disembark in the mangrove and stole the passenger boat.¹¹
- ❑ **21 September 2018** – At 01:00LT two robbers attempted to syphon product from no 1 port cargo tank on the Petroleum/Chemical tanker, *BW Puma* at SAA, Lagos. The robbers jumped overboard on discovery and escaped in two small boats.¹²

- ❑ **22 September 2018** – At 04:50LT the drifting Bulk Carrier, *MV Global Aquirius* was attacked by armed pirates in a speedboat 54nm SW of Bonny Island. The embarked Nigerian Navy security team fired warning shots after which the pirates ended the pursuit.¹³



MV Glarus Attack

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/zyndryx.bacani.5>

- ❑ **22 September 2018** – At 06:00LT the Swiss flagged Bulk Carrier, *MV Glarus* with a cargo of wheat was boarded 45nm off Bonny. The vessel was boarded with long ladders and the razor wire was cut to get entry to the vessel. Navigational equipment was destroyed. The pirates kidnapped 12 of the 19 crew. The incident was reported to the Nigerian Navy which dispatched a vessel to the scene. The remaining crew sailed the *MV Glarus* to a safe anchorage.¹⁴

- ❑ **25 September 2018** – Tanker, *Densa Whale* was attacked by seven armed pirates in a speedboat 100nm SSW of Bonny Island. They broke the attack off when the security team fired warning shots.¹⁵

South America



Two incidents were reported off Venezuela in September 2018. A robbery on a VLCC was reported at Jose Anchorage and an attempted robbery on a Product Tanker at Puerto la Cruz Anchorage.

End Notes

1. ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 18-24 Sep 2018
2. ReCAAP Incident Alert 01/2018, Abduction of crew of Fishing Trawler ;
<https://www.benarnews.org/english/news/malaysian/fishermen-kidnapped-09112018145205.html>;
<http://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news.cfm?NewsID=127116>;
[http://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/reports/weekly/2018/ReCAAP-ISC%20Weekly%20Report%20\(11-17%20Sep%2018\).pdf](http://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/reports/weekly/2018/ReCAAP-ISC%20Weekly%20Report%20(11-17%20Sep%2018).pdf); <https://deskgram.net/explore/tags/abusayyaf> viewed 3/10/2018;
<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2018/09/21/2-suspected-kidnappers-shot-dead-after-sabah-high-speed-sea-chase/>; Zam Yusa @SecurityJourno Sep 12
3. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/southeast-asia/article/2164425/three-indonesian-men-freed-after-being-kidnapped-abu-sayyaf> viewed 17/09/2018
4. <http://www.recaap.org>
5. <https://icc-ccs.org/piracy-reporting-centre/live-piracy-report> viewed 20/09/2018
6. https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/another-mid-sea-attack-by-lanka-pirates-3-tn-fishermen-injured-118092801055_1.html viewed 1/10/2018; http://www.ptinews.com/news/10073243_Over-600-TN-fishermen-chased-away-by-Lankan-Navy.html
7. <https://southfront.org/saudi-navy-destroys-two-suicide-boats-near-jizan-port/>;
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/08/fishermen-hodeidah-reportedly-targeted-saudi-uae-attacks-180831104309738.html>
8. <https://gis.imo.org/Public/PAR/Incident.aspx?Action=View&ID=7880> viewed 18/09/2018;
<https://www.marinetraffic.com>
9. EOS Risk Group, WEST AFRICA SITREP 25-09-2018
10. EOS Risk Group, GULF OF GUINEA MARITIME INCIDENT ALERT 22-09-2018
11. Ibid
12. ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 18-24 Sep 2018
13. EOS Risk Group, GULF OF GUINEA MARITIME INCIDENT ALERT 22-09-2018
14. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-45618679> viewed 24/09/2018; <https://icc-ccs.org/piracy-reporting-centre/live-piracy-report> viewed 25/09/2018
15. EOS Risk Group, WEST AFRICA SITREP 25-09-2018