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(U) HORN OF AFRICA/GULF OF GUINEA/ SOUTHEAST ASIA: Piracy Analysis and Warning Weekly (PAWW) Report for 21 - 27 February 2019

28 February 2019

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1. (U) Horn of Africa - Piracy Events Over the Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in East Africa waters is at a low level. No piracy incidents were reported this past week. Two suspicious approaches were reported this past week.

A. (U) Details:

(U) Vessels Hijacked: No incidents to report.

(U) Vessels Boarded: No incidents to report.

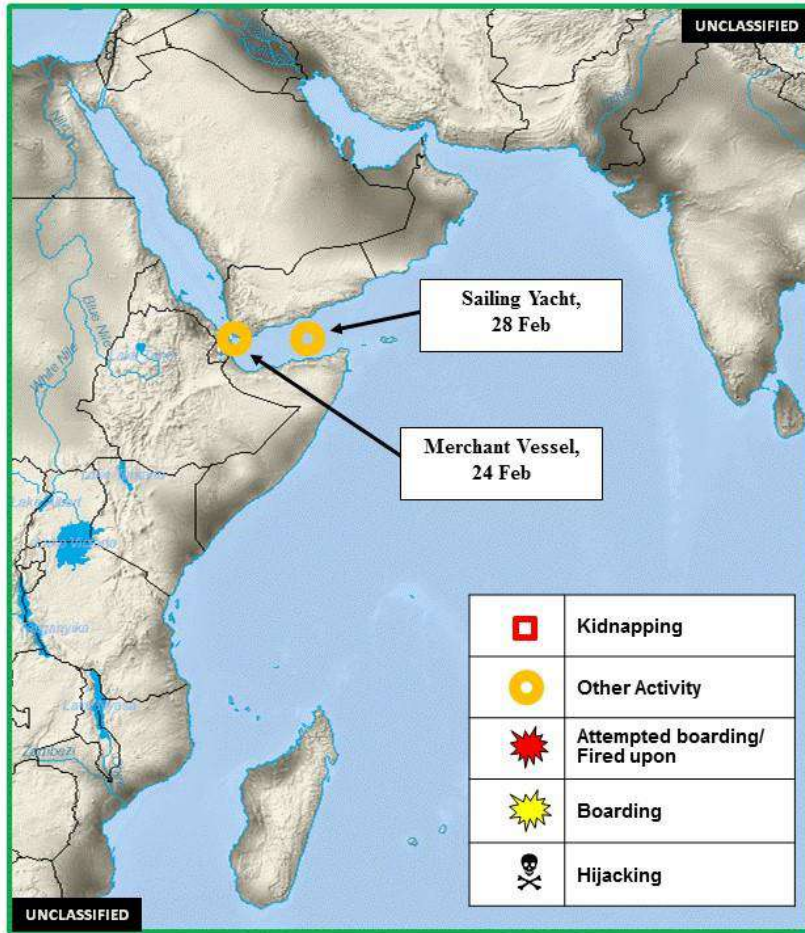
(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings: No incidents to report.

(U) Other Activity:

1. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 26 February, a sailing yacht was approached in position 12:56N - 048:17E by 1 skiff, approximately 62 nm south of Qana, Yemen. The skiff closed to 1 nm before departing. (www.ukmto.org)

2. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 24 February, a merchant vessel was approached in position 12:16N - 044:03E by 2 skiffs, approximately 22 nm south of Al Khayman, Yemen. The skiff closed to 1 cable before departing. (www.ukmto.org; www.sguardian.com)

(U) Incident Disposition:



(U) Figure 1. Horn of Africa Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 21 - 27 February 2019

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Horn of Africa Activity

UNCLASSIFIED									
(U) Table 1.									
(U) Summary of Horn of Africa Piracy Events									
Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Hijacked	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Boarding	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	1	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	1	0

(U) Table 1 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. Note: The above statistics do not include regional dhows/fishing vessels that were hijacked. Hijacked dhows are frequently used as motherships by pirates and released without a ransom being paid.

2. (U) Weather Forecast for 28 February - 6 March 2019 and Graphic Aids to 10-Day Weather Conditions and Small Boat Operations Capabilities

(U) Horn of Africa Weather Forecast for 28 February - 6 March 2019

A. (U) NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA: Southerly winds of 8 - 14 knots, with seas of 2 - 4 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Westerly winds of 10 - 15 knots, with seas of 3 - 5 feet.

B. (U) GULF OF OMAN: East-southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-southeast winds of 12 - 17 knots, and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-northwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, and seas of 6 - 9 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with west-northwest winds of 20 - 25 knots, gusting to 30 knots, and seas of 8 - 11 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: East-northeast winds of 8 - 13 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-northwest winds of 12 - 17 knots, gusting to 22 knots, and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-northeast winds of 10 - 15 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.

D. (U) SOMALI COAST: East-northeast winds of 8 - 13 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with east-northeast winds of 8 - 13 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the southern section of the coastline. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** East-northeast winds of 8 - 13 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with east-northeast winds of 8 - 13 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the southern section of the coastline.

E. (U) CENTRAL AFRICAN COAST/INDIAN OCEAN: Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet.

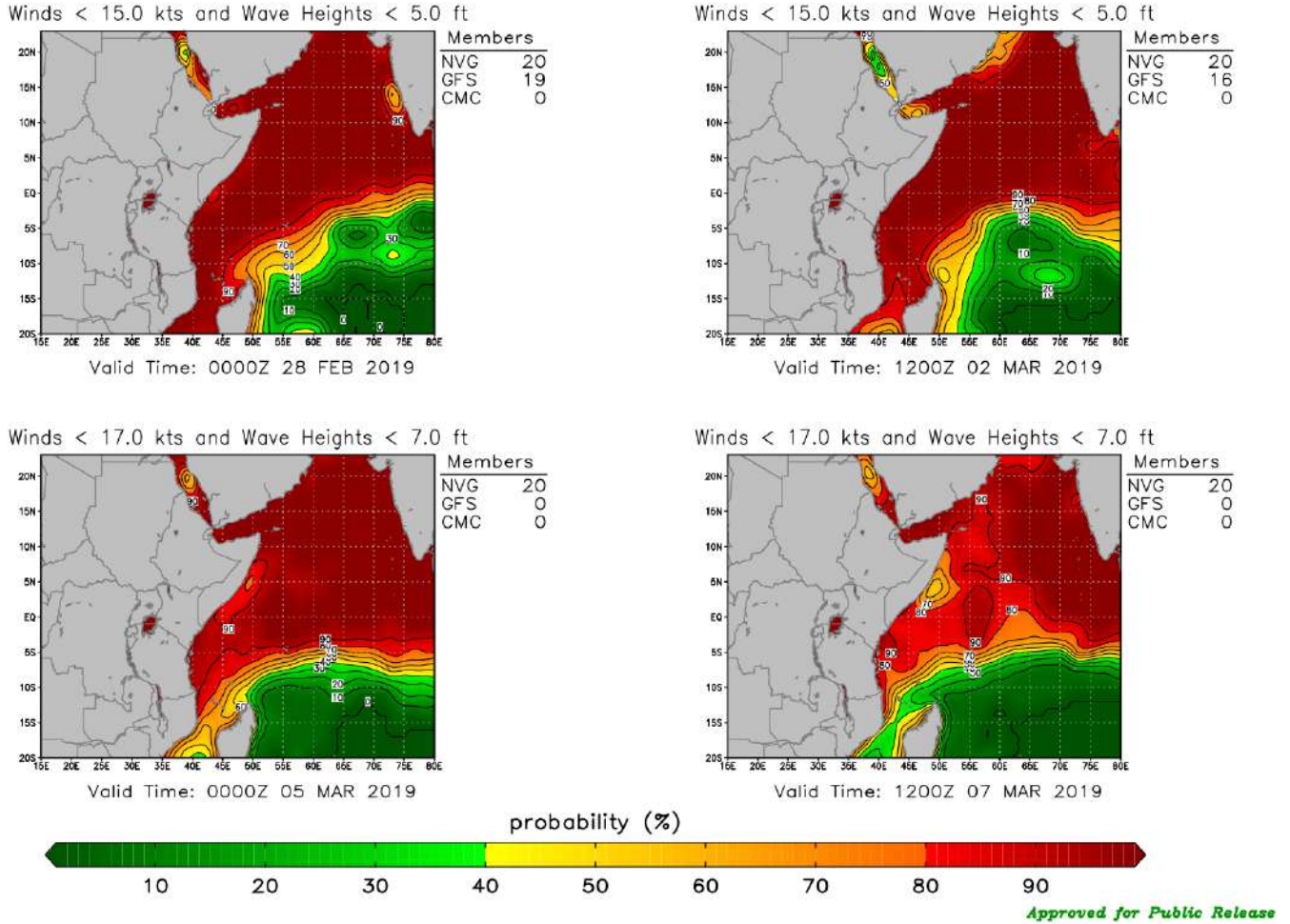
F. (U) MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL: West-southwest winds of 8 - 13 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the northern Channel; with southwest winds of 8 - 13 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the southern Channel. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** West-northwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 5 - 8 feet in the northern Channel; with west-northwest winds of 15 - 20 knots, gusting to 25 knots, and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the southern Channel.

G. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS: The northern Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden currents are variable with most areas having an average speed of 1 knot. The Mozambique Channel currents are variable having an average speed of 2 knots. Currents' speed along the Somali Basin are northeasterly averaging between 2 - 3 knots.

H. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: High pressure dominates the weather pattern over the region producing mostly clear skies with isolated areas of thunderstorm activity. Expect an area of low pressure to develop over southern Iran and bring an increase in winds and seas to the Gulf of Oman and northern Arabian Sea.

Approved for Public Release

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2019022512



(U) Figure 2. Ten-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast (Graphic courtesy of the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center, FNMOC)

(U) In the graphic above, green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while red represents an increased likelihood of pirate activity.

3. (U) Gulf of Guinea - Piracy Events Over the Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in West Africa waters is at a high level. Three kidnapping events, three attacks, one attempted boarding and one boarding were reported this past week. No further information is available on the boarding or kidnappings.

A. (U) Details

(U) **Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Kidnapping:** No incidents to report.

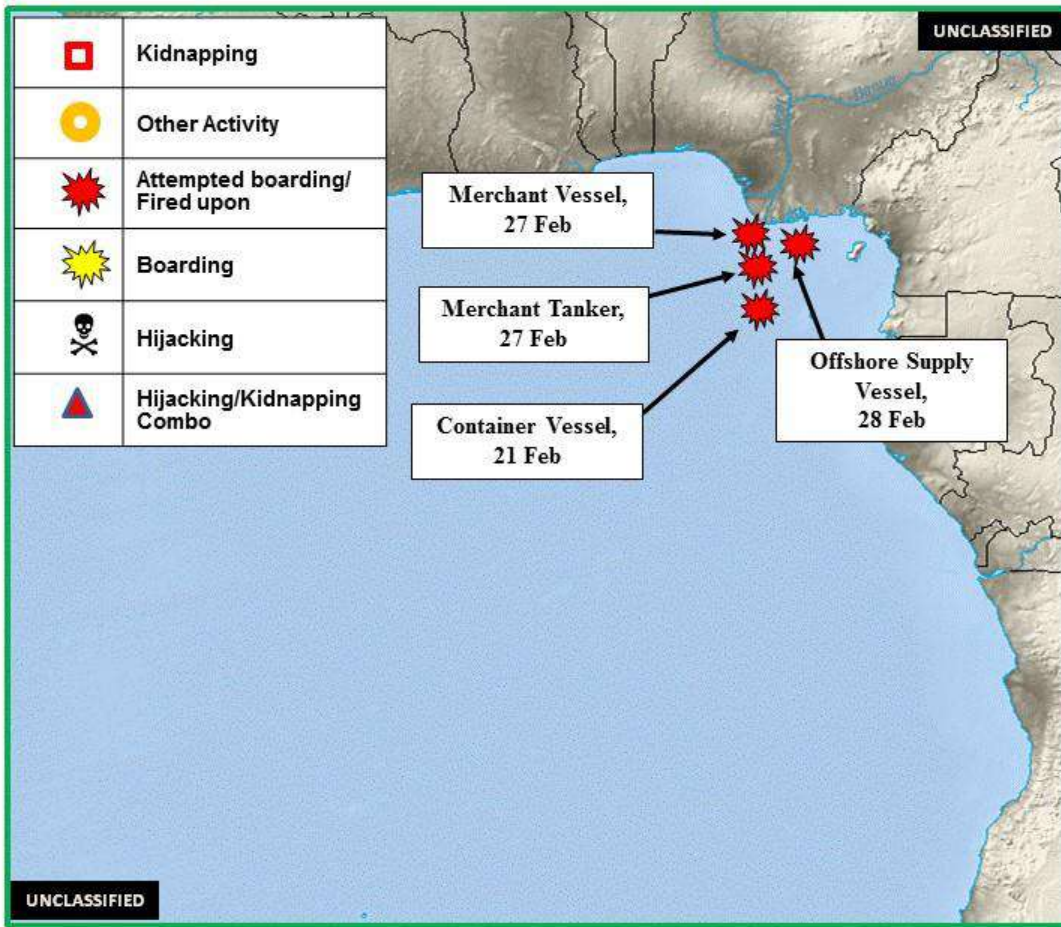
(U) **Vessels Boarded:** No incidents to report.

(U) Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack:

1. (U) NIGERIA: On 28 February, an offshore supply vessel reported being attacked near position 03:54N - 007:04E, 29 nm south-southwest of Bonny. A Nigerian Navy vessel responded. Vessel and crew reported safe. (IMB)
2. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 February, armed pirates in two skiff fired upon a tanker underway near position 03:08N - 006:03E, 70 nm south of Brass. Alarm raised and crew mustered in citadel. Due to the presence of armed guards and ship hardening measures, the pirates aborted the attack. Vessel and crew reported safe. (IMB)
3. (U) NIGERIA: On 27 February, a merchant vessel reported being attacked near position 03:18N - 006:13E, 58 nm south of Bayelsa. All crew took shelter in the citadel. Nigerian authorities and navy notified. The attack was aborted by approach of a security patrol boat. Vessel and crew reported safe. (MDAT-GoG)
4. (U) NIGERIA: On 21 February, four to six armed persons in a speed boat approached a container vessel underway near position 02:59N - 005:56E, 81 nm southwest of Bayelsa. Due to evasive maneuvers, the boarding was unsuccessful. They made a second attempt and fired upon at the vessel. They failed and left the area. Nigerian Navy notified. Vessel and crew reported safe. (IMB)

(U) Other Activity: No incidents to report.

B. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 3. Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 21 - 27 February 2019

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Gulf of Guinea Activity

UNCLASSIFIED									
(U) Table 2.									
(U) Summary of Gulf of Guinea Piracy Events*									
Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Hijacked	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	0	2
Kidnapping	3	0	5	1	6	28	30	26	23
Hijacking/Kidnapping Combination	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	3	0
Boarding	1	1	5	3	8	64	53	39	29
Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding	4	0	4	4	8	44	35	54	40
Total	8	1	14	8	22	146	120	122	94
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(U) Table 2 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. * Militant activity is no longer listed in this table.

4. (U) Gulf of Guinea Weather Forecast for 28 February - 6 March 2019

A. (U) GULF OF GUINEA: Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet.

B. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: High pressure continues to dominate the weather in the region. Isolated thunderstorms and rain showers can be routinely expected along the West Africa coast.

5. (U) Southeast Asia - Piracy Events Over the Past Week

(U) Pirate and maritime crime activity in Southeast Asia waters is at a low level. No maritime crime events were reported this past week.

A. (U) Details

(U) **Vessels Hijacked:** No incidents to report.

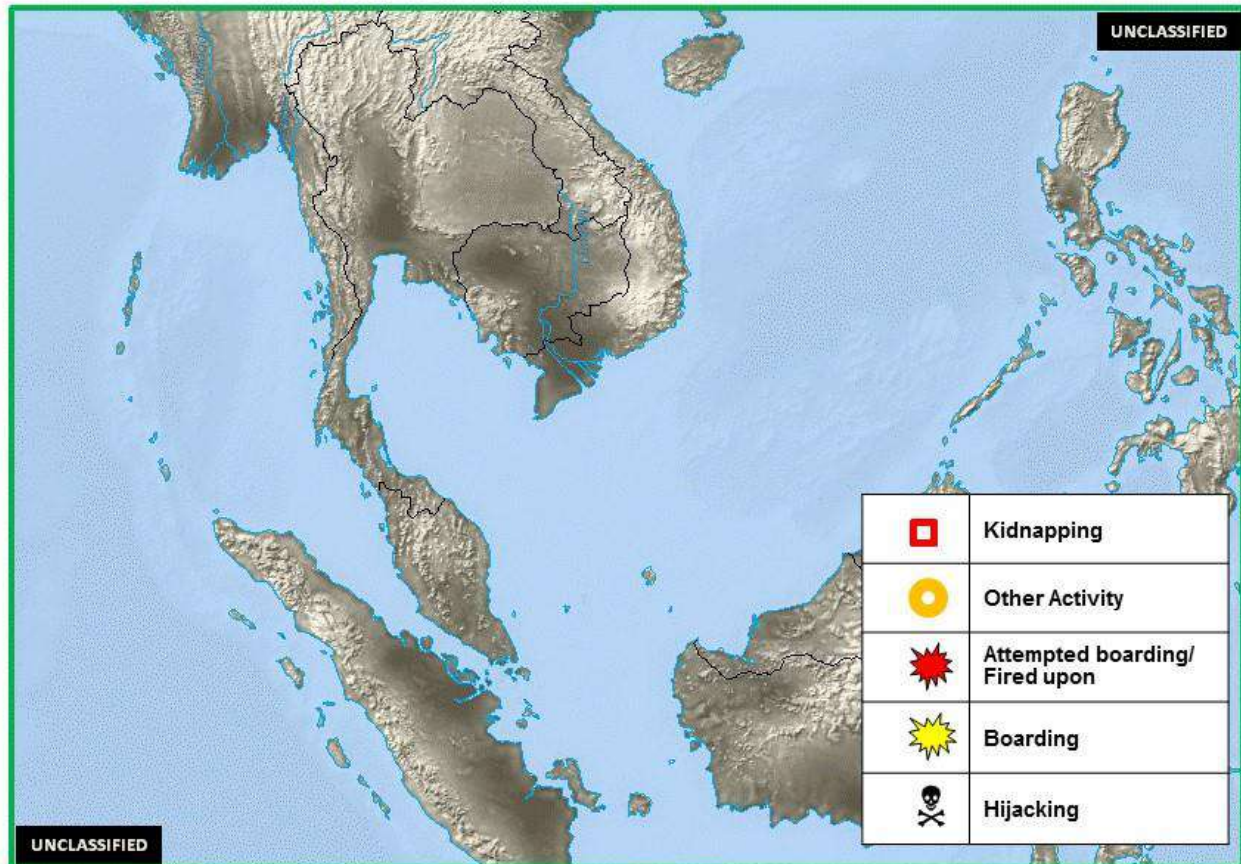
(U) **Kidnapping:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Vessels Boarded:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding/Attack:** No incidents to report.

(U) **Other Activity:** No incidents to report.

B. (U) Incident Disposition



(U) Figure 4. Southeast Asia Piracy and Maritime Crime Activity, 21 - 27 February 2019

C. (U) Tabulated Data for Southeast Asia Activity

UNCLASSIFIED									
(U) Table 3.									
(U) Summary of Southeast Asia Piracy Events									
Vessels	This Week	Last Week	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Attacks, Boardings, Attempted Boardings	0	1	3	2	5	82	90	96	238
Hijackings	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	16
Kidnappings	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	19	0
Total	0	1	3	2	5	86	97	117	254
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(U) Table 3 is a summary of piracy events that have occurred this week, this month, and current/prior years. This table includes incidents not described in this product line.

6. (U) Southeast Asia Weather Forecast for 28 February - 6 March 2019

A. (U) SOUTHERN SOUTH CHINA SEA: Easterly winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Easterly winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 2 - 4 feet.

B. (U) MALACCA STRAIT: Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the northern Strait; with light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the southern Strait. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the northern Strait; with light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet in the southern Strait.

C. (U) ANDAMAN SEA: Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet.

D. (U) SOUTHERN SULU SEA - NORTHERN CELEBES SEA: Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet. **EXTENDED FORECAST:** Light and variable winds of 5 - 10 knots, and seas of 1 - 3 feet.

E. (U) SURFACE CURRENTS: Currents in the southern South China Sea, Malacca Strait, and Andaman Sea are generally less than 1 knot with a few areas in the southern South China Sea averaging 1 knot.

F. (U) SYNOPTIC DISCUSSION: Expect strong gusts in and around scattered thunderstorms, throughout the Malacca Strait and the Andaman Sea due to funneling effects and daytime heating.

(U) Appendix**(U) Terminology and References**

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting, and it also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity, are independent of target vessel status, and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authority.

(U) Terms of Reference

(U) The following terms have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis:

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

(U) Blocking – Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.

(U) Boarding – Unauthorized embarkation of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.

(U) Fired Upon – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.

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

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

(U) Robbery – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.

(U) Suspicious Approach – All other unexplained activity in close proximity by an unknown vessel.

(U) Piracy Levels

(U) High: 5 or more piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Moderate: 2 - 4 piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Low: 0 - 1 piracy incidents in this one-week period.

(U) Sourcing

(U) Information contained in this report is derived through direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources:

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- BBC News
- DNK Intelligence & Operations Centre (DNK IOC)
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur

- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Lloyd's
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S.
- Maritime Security Centre - Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)
- Marine Domain Awareness for Trade - Gulf of Guinea (MDAT- GoG)
- Maritime Asset Security and Training (MAST) Ltd
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- Noonsite.com (Noonsite), website
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- The Maritime Executive (website)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

(U) **ICOD**: 28 February 2019

(U) The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted each week on the ONI Intel Portal and can be found at:
<http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence-Community/Piracy>