



12-03-2010

“Caret periculo, qui etiam cum est tutus, cavet”

Publilius

NEWSLETTER - SEA PIRACY

10/2010



Maritime Safety & Security Ltd

Poland, Szczecin, Jana z Kolna 7

Te/Fax.: +4891 433 63 60

Mobile:+48 602 671 167

www.maritime-security.eu



The International Association For
Counterterrorism & Security
Professionals

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Last week brought high pirate activity in Horn Of Africa area. 1 incident was reported at Red Sea and 5 on waters of West Indian Ocean.

Spectacular action of EU NAVFOR forces – 6 pirates groups intercepted.

Swedes join operation Atalanta by deploying state of the art Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

Terrorist threat in Malacca Strait “real and credible”.

Pirates free *THAI UNION 3*.

President of Somalia visits EU NAVFOR headquarter.

In recent issue of our newsletter you will also find a piracy forecast for next week.

We wish you a pleasant read,

Maritime Safety & Security Team

1. Pirates activity 5 – 11 March 2010

NORTH AMERICA

No current incidents

CENTRAL AMERICA – CARIBBEAN

No current incidents

SOUTH AMERICA

No current incidents

ATLANTIC OCEAN

No current incidents

BALTIC SEA

No current incidents

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

No current incidents



WEST AFRICA

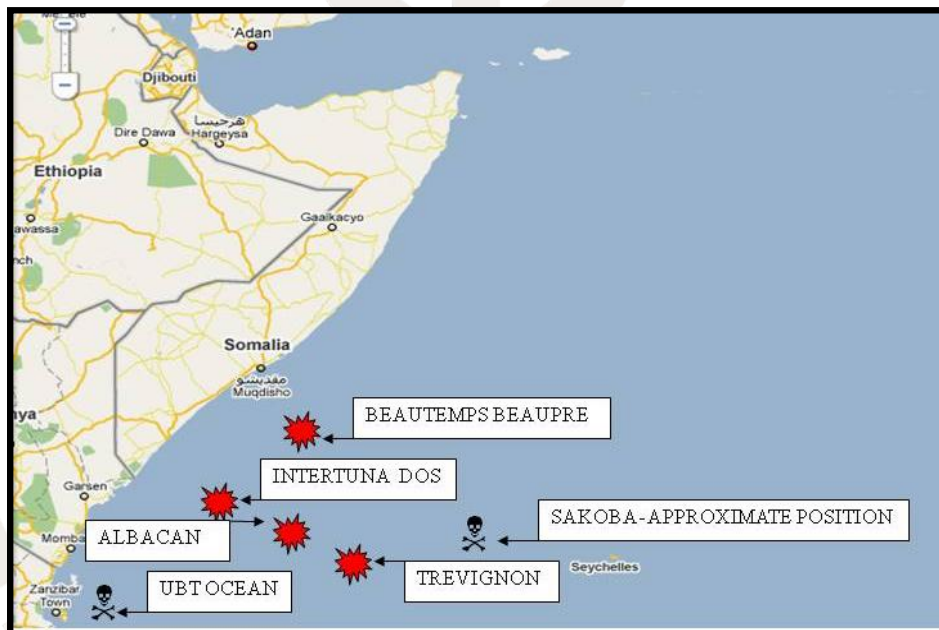
1. Liberia, port of Monrovia

TIME: 03:03: 2010: 2300LT

While crew were busy during final stages of cargo operations robbers broke into galley and stole ship stores and provisions. The PFSO was notified but no action taken. The vessel was attacked on three more occasions before she sailed out. Additionally during final stowaway search the crew found five stowaways hiding in the rudder trunk.



INDIAN OCEAN – EAST AFRICA



1. HORN OF AFRICA: 277NM southeast of Kismayo, Somalia

POSSITION: 01:17S – 047:07E

TIME: 04.03.2010: 1437 UTC

Oceanographic Vessel (BEAUTEMPS BEAUPRE) fired upon. Armed men in two skiffs fired upon the vessel. Vessel employed evasive maneuvers and was able to prevent boarding

before French Naval vessel NIVOSE arrived on scene detaining the suspect pirates. UKMTO,
LM: Ennahar Online

2. HORN OF AFRICA: 243NM southeast of Kismayo, Somalia

POSSITION: 02:56S – 045:52E

TIME: 05 Mar 10 at 0540 UTC

Fishing Vessel (INTERTUNA DOS) fired upon. Armed men in two small skiffs and one large skiff approached and fired automatic weapons at the vessel. Security team on board helped repel the attack as a maritime patrol aircraft and two French helicopters arrived on scene. Suspect pirates soon fled the area (IMB, EU).

3. HORN OF AFRICA: approximately 413NM southeast of Kismayo, Somalia

POSSITION: 04:34S – 048:09E

TIME: 05 Mar 10 at 0639 UTC

Fishing Vessel (TREVIGNON) fired upon. Armed men on two skiffs and one larger skiff fired at the vessel. The fishing vessel had an armed security team embarked which returned fire at the suspect pirates (UKMTO).

4. HORN OF AFRICA, 660 nm south off Mogadishu,
Somalia.

POSSITION: 08:53S – 043:23E

TIME: 05.03.2010: 0535 UTC

Armed pirates attacked a chemical tanker underway. They took hostage 21 crewmembers and hijacked the ship to Somali coast.



Norwegian Owned Chemical Tanker Reported Hijacked

March 6, 2010,

A Marshall Island flagged chemical tanker, UBT Ocean, is reported to have been hijacked on Friday morning 300 nautical miles from Dar El Salam.

The Norwegian owned UBT Ocean was not registered on MSCHOA. UBT Ocean has a crew of 21 and they are all from Myanmar/Burma.



UBT Ocean

UBT Ocean with deadweight of 9,380 tones was heading from United Arab Emirates to Dar El Salam when, yesterday morning, contact with the ship was lost. EU NAVFOR is monitoring the situation. EU NAVFOR

5. HORN OF AFRICA

TIME: 09.03.2010

The Kenyan flagged fishing vessel SAKOBA is reported hijacked 400 NM east of Dar Es Salam.

The ship is believed to be Spanish owned. At the moment EU NAVFOR has no information concerning the nationality or number of the crew. The SAKOBA is heading towards Haradere and EU NAVFOR is continuing to monitor the situation.



Fishing Vessel SAKOBA

Polish sailor onboard hijacked ship

Polish seaman is among crew of hijacked fishing vessel SAKOBA. Ship could be used by pirates to their activities. Ship has a crew of 16. Money.pl

At the moment two Polish sailors are held hostage by Somali pirates. Other one onboard of chemical tanker ST JAMES PARK. Pole from SAKOBA is 9th polish sailor to spend time in captivity. Up to this moment crews of fishing vessels seajacked by pirates was very often mistreated. The best example is one of Taiwanese WIN FAR 161 and death of 3 of its' crew

members caused by lack of fresh water, food and exhaustion. We all hope that Polish sailor will not faced similar lot.

After successful finish of hostage situation help of experienced psychologist is necessary. Because of traumatic experiences it is hard to come back to "normal life" for people that faced long captivity. Very often they suffer from PTSD Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, they can't cope with all by themselves. Beside psychologist, families often participate in therapy.

Maritime Safety & Security from Szczecin offers psychological help for those that experienced hostage situation and also help for their families. MS&S

RED SEA

1. SOUTHERN RED SEA, 9nm from Hanish Al Kubra Island.

POSSITION: 13:37.5N – 042:31.0E

TIME: 08.03.2010: 1354 UTC

Pirates in five skiffs, approached a bulk carrier from the port quarter, port bow and stern bow with intent to board. Ship raised alarm, sent distress messages, took evasive manoeuvres and fired rocket flares to warn other ships. Coalition forces were contacted and a warship was dispatched. After 35 minutes, the pirates aborted the attempted attack due to the crew alertness. Crew noticed six armed pirates in two skiffs. The other three skiffs there were about three to four pirates.



Because of presence of international forces in Gulf of Aden, pirates start to expand a territory of their activity, both west – to South Red Sea, and east – east of Socotra. The area of high pirate activity are also waters west and north-west of Seychelles. MS&S

SOUTHEAST ASIA

No current incidents

NORTH ASIA

No current incidents

PACIFIC – ARCTIC OCEAN

No current incidents

2. Anti-piracy measures

EU NAVFOR Disrupts 5 Pirate Action Groups

March 8, 2010, published in Press Releases

Over the weekend of 5 – 7 March, EU NAVFOR units have been involved in concerted operations to interdict and disrupt pirate action groups before they had the opportunity to pirate vessels in the Indian Ocean.

Six pirate action groups have been intercepted, mother ships and skiffs have been destroyed and over 40 pirates have been taken into custody.

As reported by EU NAVFOR on 5 March, the Force Commander of Operation ATALANTA, RAdm Giovanni GUMIERO, onboard the ITS *ETNA*, tasked the French EU NAVFOR Warship FS *NIVOSE* to intercept and disrupt the pirate attack group, which had previously been repelled by the Vessel Protection Detachment embarked onboard a French vessel. The *NIVOSE* intercepted the group of 1 mother ship and 2 skiffs and found pirate paraphernalia in the skiffs including a rocket launcher, grappling hooks and several fuel barrels. The pirates were arrested and the mother ship destroyed.

This was the start of a weekend where the Command Ship ITS *ETNA*, FS *NIVOSE* and their helicopters and the Maritime Patrol Aircraft from Luxemburg, Spain and Sweden were involved in the disruption of 5 pirate action groups, including the destruction of



EU NAVFOR Italian warship ITS ETNA



FS NIVOSE

mother ships and skiffs, and the arrest of over 40 pirates.

During an attack on a French fishing vessel, *TORRE GIULIA*, two other fishing vessels, *TREVIGNON* and *TALENDUIC* came to her rescue. During close contact, the mother ship collided with one of the fishing vessels and sank, and the Fishing vessel immediately stopped to help those in the water to save their lives. Only four pirates were found initially but a search and rescue effort including, an EU NAVFOR Spanish Maritime Patrol Aircraft, ensured that the remaining two pirates were found and taken onboard the *TORRE GIULIA*.

The efforts of all units and aircraft in this operation show the determination of EU NAVFOR to fight piracy in the Indian Ocean as well as the Gulf of Aden. Attacks will still happen and hijackings may still take place but this recent success ensures that there were 6 less ships hijacked over the weekend.

EU NAVFOR Somalia – Operation ATALANTA's main tasks are to escort merchant vessels carrying humanitarian aid of the 'World Food Program' (WFP) and vessels of AMISOM, and to protect vulnerable ships in the Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean and to deter and disrupt piracy. EU NAVFOR also monitors fishing activity off the coast of Somalia. EU NAVFOR

Operation that took place last weekend is largest one carried so far. It is consequence of agreement made by ministers of defense of EU nations made on 24th of February. EU NAVFOR forces may now intense surveillance of Somali harbors and intercept pirate units before they reach full sea. Right now scheme of actions looks pretty much like this – maritime patrol aircrafts are patrolling Somali coastline and pass all the information to Command Ship ITS ETNA where it is analyzed. After confirmation that noticed units are pirates' one warship is sent to intercept them. Important change is a green light for destroying pirates boats. Especially mother-ships are very precious assets for pirates. By destroying them pirates lose possibility of constant activity. MS&S

Swedish Coast Guard's first mission for EU NAVFOR

10/03/2010 18.17 UTC

On Monday 8th March, the Swedish Coast guard Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) conducted its first formal mission for EU NAVFOR's anti piracy operation – Atalanta.

During the next four months one of the Swedish Coast Guard aircraft, a DASH 8, will monitor the waters off the coast of Somalia providing the Force Commander with essential information on the movements of ships in the area.



Swedish Coast guard Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA)

The Swedish Project Manager of the MPA in Seychelles Lars Franzen stated "We have just completed our first flight within the EU NAVFOR and we were in the air for around 6 hours. The flight was diverted because of suspicious activity in a particular area and It turned out to be suspect pirates who were remaining close to a fishing vessel. We were able to alert the Force Commander and document the incident."

This is the first time a MPA from the Swedish Coast Guard has participated in an international operation of this type. The MPA is a DASH-8 Q-300 equipped with several advanced surveillance systems that makes it one of the world's most advanced sea surveillance aircraft. The MPA is manned by a civilian crew.

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Sweden is another country which agreed to participate in EU NAVFOR mission Atalanta. Deployment of such modern surveillance plane like DASH-8 Q-300 will allow better observation of Somali coast. Role of MPAs (Maritime Patrol Aircraft) shouldn't be underestimated. They could provide crucial evidence of pirate activity by delivering photos and video recordings. In past, many times pirates manage to escape custody by throwing all weapon and equipment outboard. MSS

3. Other news

Hijacked Thailand Fishing Vessel *Thai Union 3* Released

March 7, 2010

EU NAVFOR can confirm that early this morning a Thailand flagged fishing vessel (*Thai Union 3*) was released by pirates from the port of Haradeere after the payment of a ransom.

The *Thai Union 3* was hijacked on 29 October last year about 200 miles north of the Seychelles and 650 miles from the Somali coast. MSCHOA

Somalis suspected in attack

AN ATTEMPT to hijack a Greek bulker off India has the hallmarks of a Somali pirate attack, despite its location, a Kenyan maritime official told Fairplay today.

Maltese-flagged Melina 1 radioed for help after coming under attack by armed men in skiffs at the weekend, about 200 n-miles west of India's Lakshwadeep islands, said Andrew Mwangura of the East African Seafarers' Assistance Programme.



Melina 1

India's navy dispatched a coastguard ship and helicopter to the area, and the attackers fled.

"The modus operandi of the attackers shows that they must be Somali gunmen," Mwangura told Fairplay today.

Mwangura earlier told Reuters: "The location seems way outside Somali pirate territory, but the unsuccessful attack seems to bear all the hallmarks of Somali pirates: three mother ships, two skiffs."

Indian navy commander Roy Francis told Reuters that Melina 1 had been escorted away from the area and was now safe.

The ship was transporting coal from the Ukraine to India when attacked. Its 23-man crew consisted of Ukrainians and Filipinos, Mwangura said. Sea-Sentinel Safety At Sea © Lloyd's Register - Fairplay Ltd. 1996 - 2010

If information about participation of Somali pirates in this attack confirms, it will be most distant incident in history of Somali piracy. Lakshwadeep islands are approximately 1500Mm from Somali coast. If pirates increased their area of activity to such long distances it will be necessary to deploy more warship to the region. Tendency of expanding pirates' AoA (Area of activity) has been noticed from some time now. It is mostly caused by presence of international forces in Gulf Of Aden and off Somali costs which lead to drop in percentage of successful attacks in comparison to 2008 (44 of 293 in 2008 – 15%, 47 of 406 in 2009 – 11.5%). MS&S

Shipping reacts to terror alert

TERRORISM and maritime security experts have urged shipping to step up security to guard ships transiting the congested Malacca Strait.

The warning was issued in response to the Singapore navy's advisory – which became public yesterday – alerting shipping that an unidentified terrorist group

might be planning an attack on tankers in the strait. The three Malacca littoral states – Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore – have intensified patrols.



Rohan Gunaratna

“Like pirates, terrorists rely on the surprise element,” Noel Choong of the International Maritime Bureau told Fairplay today. “If shipboard personnel take prompt evasive measures while being chased, 99% of the time they will be successful in shaking off pursuers.”

Apart from onboard measures, prompt reporting can deter attackers because help can arrive in the strait faster than patrols can react in the vast waters off Somalia, the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean, Choong said.

Terrorism expert Rohan Gunaratna of the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, a Singapore think tank, told Fairplay that the threat is “real and credible” but again ruled out ties between terrorists and pirates.

“Their objectives are completely different,” he pointed out.

Singapore's navy said the terrorists' intention would probably be to achieve widespread publicity and showcase their viability.

In recent weeks, Indonesia has cracked down on suspected Islamic militants in Aceh, which at one time was a fertile breeding ground for pirates. It also monitors the Al Qaeda-tied Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist network suspected in suicide attacks on Westerners in hotels and the Bali bombing in 2002 that killed 202 people. Sea-Sentinel Safety At Sea © Lloyd's Register - Fairplay Ltd. 1996 - 2010

EU NAVFOR hosts a visit by the President of Somalia

10/03/2010 18.14 UTC

On the evening of 9 March the President, His Excellency Sharif Sheikh Ahmed and his delegation were greeted by Rear Admiral Peter Hudson CBE, Operational Commander of EU NAVFOR – Operation ATALANTA.

The delegation was given a tour of the new offices occupied by the Operational Headquarters within the purpose built Multi National Headquarters. In addition to receiving a briefing on the operation the delegation visited the Joint Operations Centre (JOC) which houses the Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa (MSCHOA).

His Excellency Sharif Sheikh Ahmed had the opportunity to meet several of the international staff from EU member states and Merchant Navy representatives.

Following the briefings a reception was held where Rear Admiral Peter Hudson presented the President with a gift of a framed photo of the Spanish warship ESPS NAVARRA escorting a World Food Program (WFP) Ship to Somalia.



The President, His Excellency Sharif Sheikh Ahmed and Op Comd Rear Admiral Peter Hudson

The President appeared impressed with the Operational Headquarters and the professionalism of the European multinational anti piracy team and recognised the “extensive efforts” of the international community off the coast of Somalia. He went on to say that a “permanent solution must be found” to resolve the issue of piracy.

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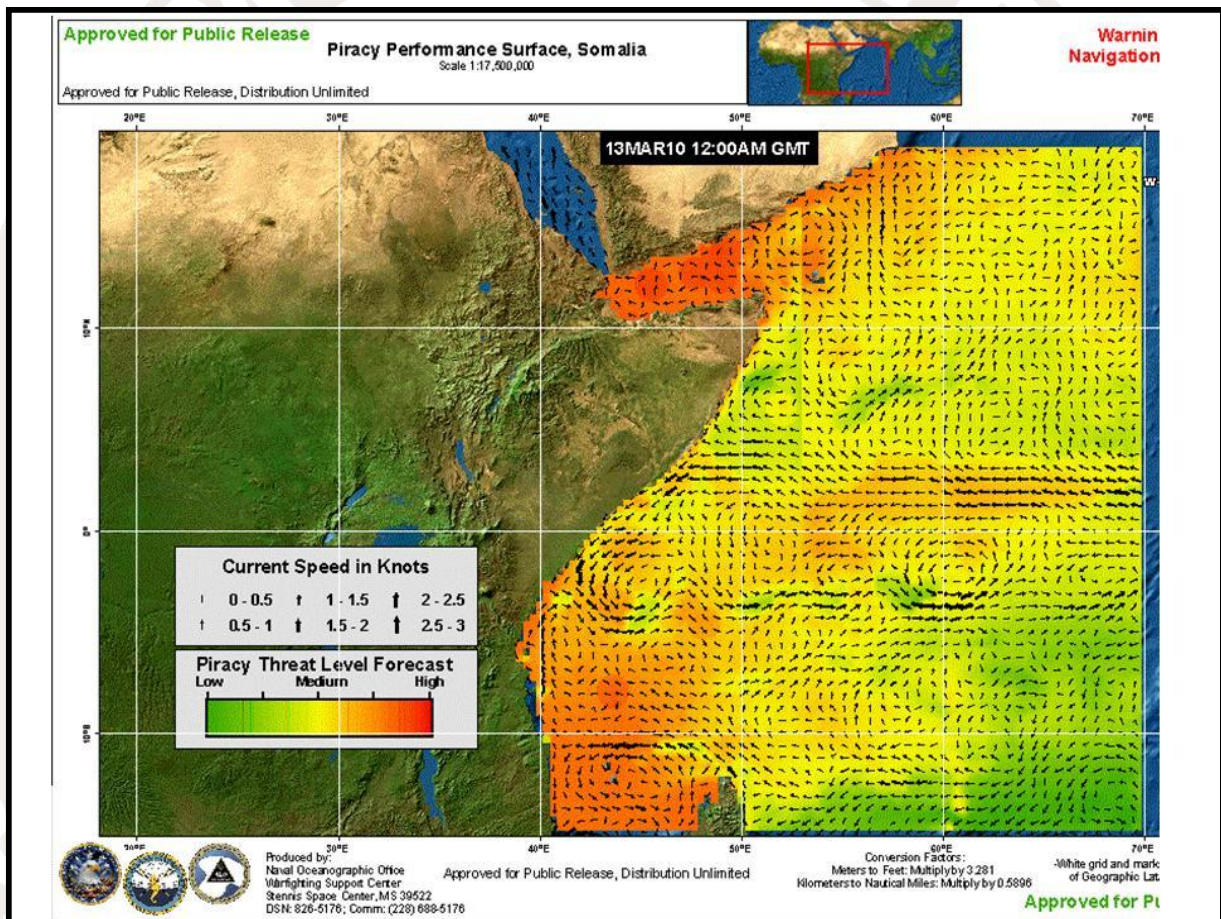
List of ships in captivity (11.03.2010)

Name of Vessel	Incident	Flag	Crew	Vessel type
SAKOB	9.03.2010	Kenya	16	Fishing vessel
UNT OCEAN	5.03.2010	Marshall Islands	21	Chemical Tanker
AL NISR AL SAUDI	1.03.2010	Saudi Arabia	14	Tanker
RIM	3.02.2010	North Korea	17	General cargo
ASIAN GLORY	2.01.2010	United Kingdom	25	Vehicle Carrier
ST JAMES PARK	28.12.2009	United Kingdom	26	Chemical Carrier
AL MAHMOUD 2	18.12.2009	Yemen	16	Dhow
NEFEYA	18.12.2009	India	13	Dhow
THERESA VIII	17.11.2009	Kiribati	28	Chemical & Oil Tanker

Piracy forecast for upcoming week 4 – 10 march 2010

GULF OF ADEN: Over the next 72 hours: wind speeds of 5-15 knots with associated wave heights of 2-4 feet FNMOG

INDIAN OCEAN: Over the next 72 hours: wind speeds of 5-15 knots with associated wave heights of 2-5 feet FNMOG



Newsletter prepared by:

Marek Sajdak
Maritime Safety & Security Ltd

Sources:

First page picture – NATO

AFP, Agence France Presse

AP, Associated Press

BBC, BBC News

BIMCO, Baltic and International Maritime Council, Denmark

DHS, U. S. Department of Homeland Security

DOJ, U. S. Department of Justice

DOS, U.S. Department of State

DOT, U. S. Department of Transportation

FNMOC, Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center

FP, Fairplay, London

IMB, International Maritime Bureau, London and Kuala Lumpur

IMO, International Maritime Organization, London

INFO, Informa Group, formerly LLP, Llp Limited, London

LAT, Latitude38.com website

LL, Lloyd's List, daily, London

LM, local media

MARAD, Maritime Administration, US

MDN, Military Daily News

MS&S, Maritime Safety & Security- <http://www.maritime-security.eu/>

MSC, Maritime Security Council, US

MSCHOA, Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa <http://www.mschoa.eu/>

NATO, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Brussels

NGA, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, Navigation Safety System

ONI, Office of Naval Intelligence analysis and comment

Operator, owner or operator of affected vessel

OSAC, Overseas Security Advisory Council

USCG, United States Coast Guard

RAN, Royal Australian Navy

ReCAAP ISC, Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia,

Information Sharing Center <http://www.recaap.org>

REUTERS, Reuters

Risk Intelligence/MaRisk, Maritime Security Risk Solutions

RNZN, Royal New Zealand Navy

SAP, Seafarers' Assistance Program, Kenya

STATE, U. S. Department of State

TW, Tradewinds

UKMTO, United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization

UPI, United Press International