



## PIRACY REPORT FEBRUARY 2017

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### Piracy and Acts of Armed Robbery of Ships

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## Analysis

- ❑ Currently the 2017 heatmap is based on 30 incidents of piracy and robbery of vessels in 2017. Areas with only two recorded incidents, such as Honduras and Sierra Leone, light up in the 2017 heatmap. It should therefore not be the only indication of piracy and armed robbery threats at this time.
- ❑ The most dangerous areas with regard to piracy and kidnappings of crew in early 2017 are the coast of Nigeria and the Sulu and Celebes Seas off Malaysia and the Philippines.
- ❑ One crew member was killed and six were kidnapped from a Bulk Carrier off Tawi-Tawi, Philippines in February 2017. Another Bulk Carrier was chased by armed men in a speed boat in the same area - presumably members of Abu Sayyaf (ASG). It is likely that kidnappings will continue in the Sulu and Celebes Seas and that commercial vessels will be targeted.
- ❑ German hostage Juergen Kantner was beheaded by the ASG in February 2016 after the 26 February 2017 ransom deadline passed.
- ❑ Crew were kidnapped from vessels during two incidents off the coast of Nigeria in February 2017. Eleven crew members were kidnapped in the two incidents.
- ❑ A robbery on a Bulk Carrier was reported at Callao Anchorage in Peru in February 2017. Ten incidents of robbery and attempted robbery on vessels were reported at this anchorage in 2016. Although monthly reports remain in the single figures, incidents of robberies of vessels and yachts are in an upward trend in South and Central America and the Caribbean since 2015.
- ❑ An attempted robbery on a Bulk Carrier was recorded at Jingtang Anchorage, China. Marine Diesel Oil (MDO) was the target in the robbery. A few robberies and attempted robberies were reported at anchorages in China in the Yellow Sea in 2015 and 2016. MDO is more than often the target in these robberies.

## 2016 Incidents



## 2017 Incidents

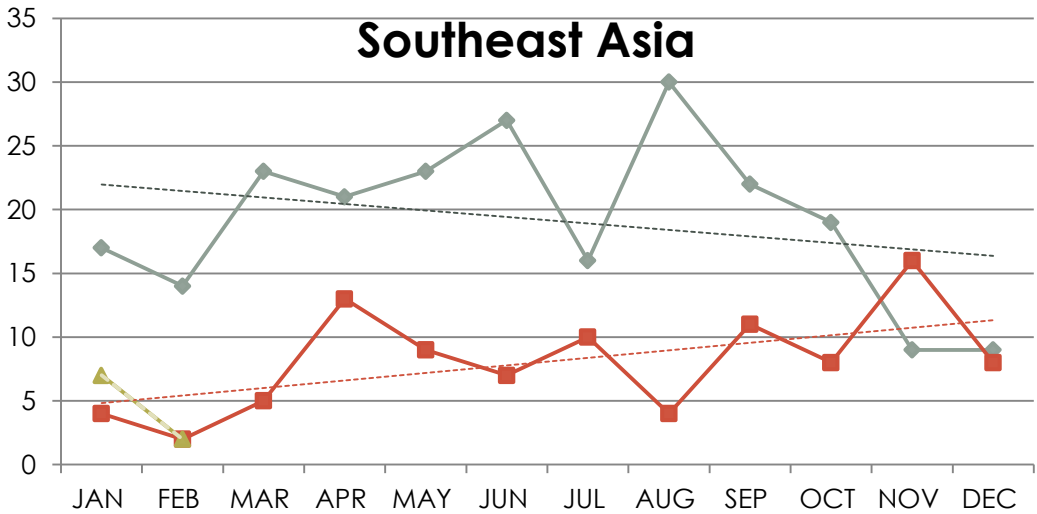


## February 2017 Incidents

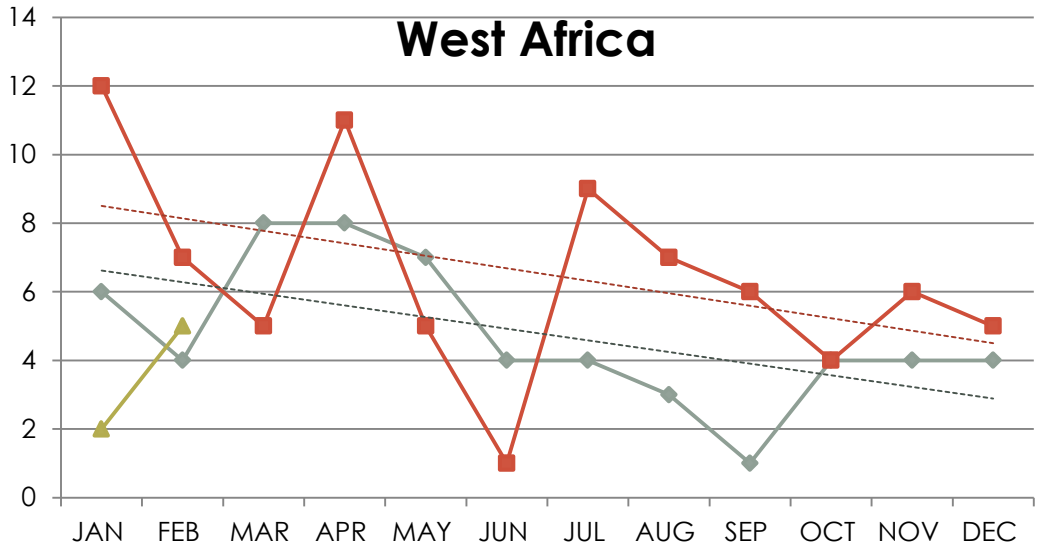


# Incidents of Piracy and Robbery of Vessels: 2015 to 2017

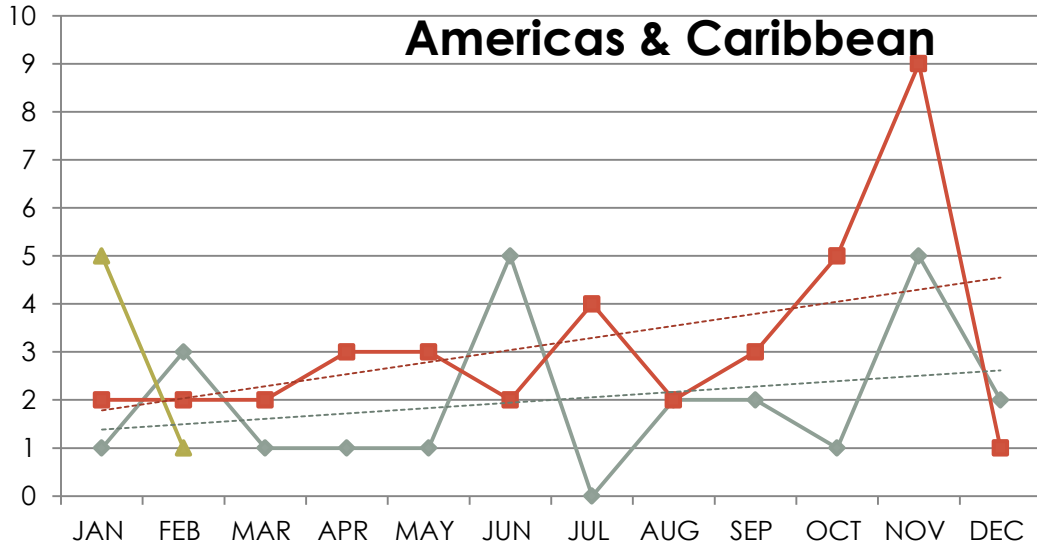
## Southeast Asia



## West Africa

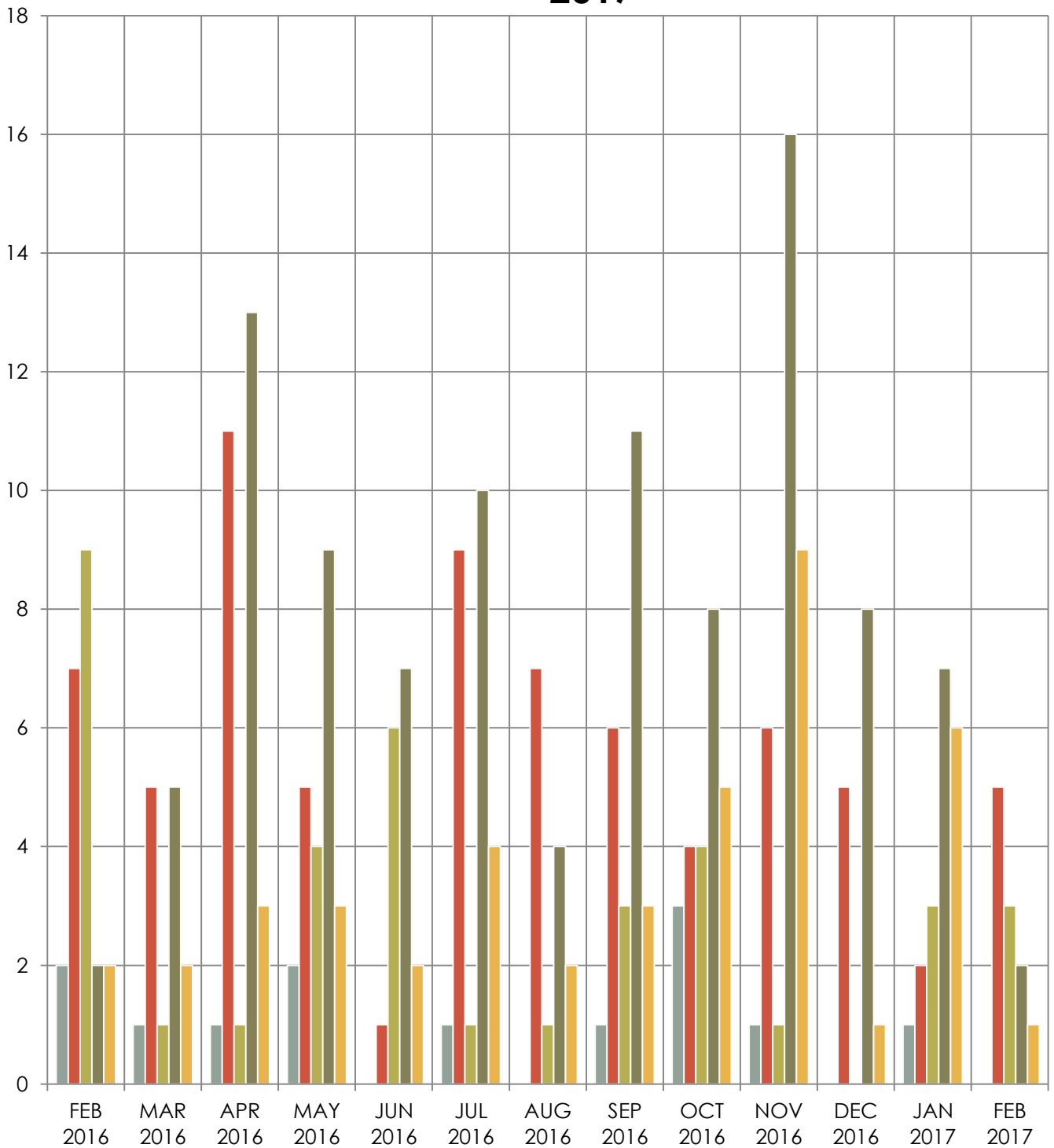


## Americas & Caribbean



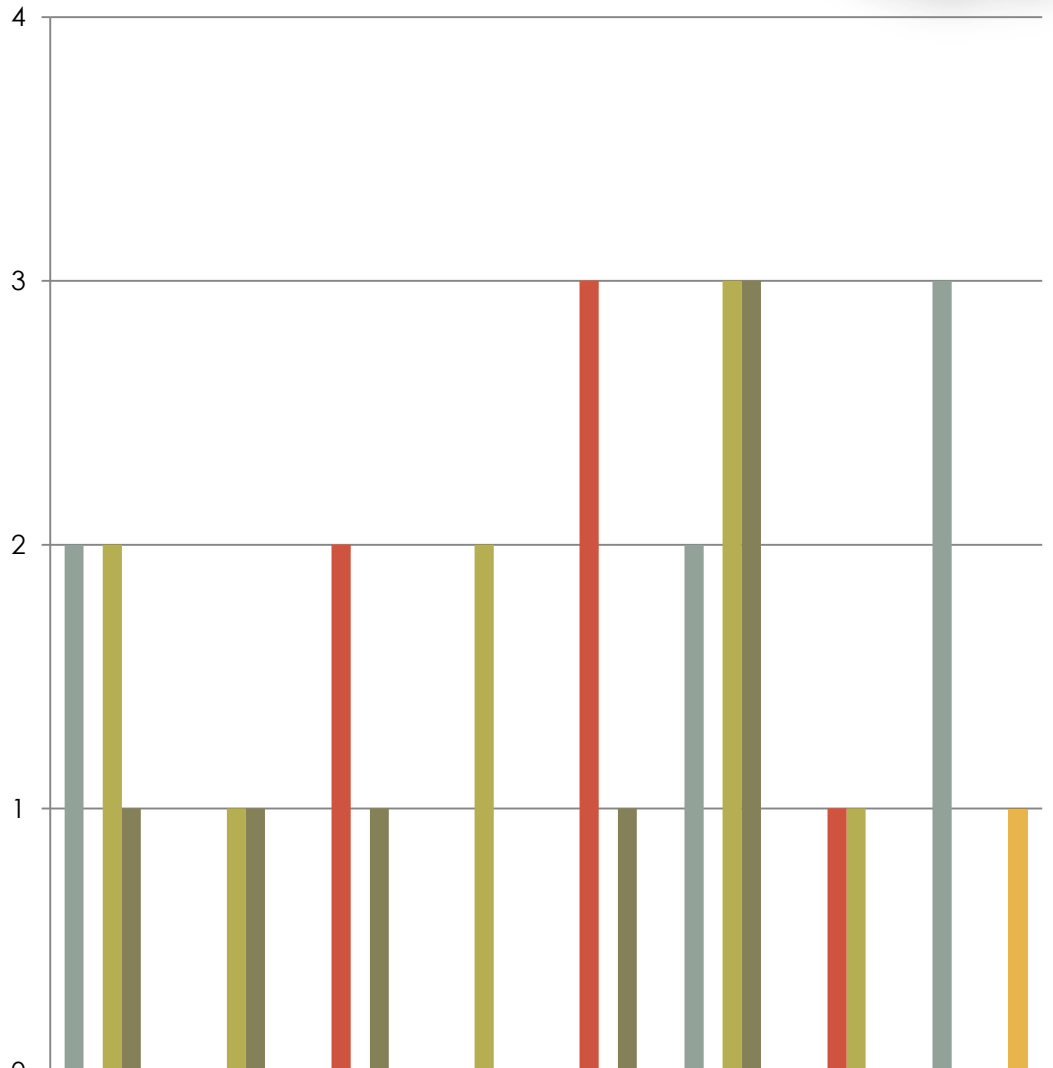
- ◆ 2015
- 2016
- ▲ 2017
- ..... Linear (2015)
- ..... Linear (2016)

# Incidents by Region February 2016 to February 2017



■ EAST AFRICA AND ARADIAN GULF ■ WEST AFRICA ■ INDIAN SUB CONT ■ SE ASIA ■ SOUTH AMERICA

# Incidents 2017: Type of Ship Attacked



Type Vessel	Code
Barge	B
Bulk Carrier	BC
Cargo ship	CS
Coast Guard/ Patrol Boat	PB
Container	C
Dhow	D
Ferry	F
Fishing Boat	FB
Fishing Trawler	FV
Offshore Supply Vessel	OSV
Passenger Boat	PMB
Roll-on-Roll-off Cargo Ship	Ro-Ro
Tanker	MT
Tug	TB
Yacht	SY

	BC	CS	C	FB	OSV	MT	TB	SY
Americas	2					2		3
Indian Sub Continent			2		3		1	
SE Asia	2	1		2		3	1	
West Africa	1	1	1		1	3		
East Africa/Arabian Gulf								1

# Southeast Asia



Two incidents of piracy and robbery of vessels, including a maritime kidnapping, were reported in Southeast Asia in February 2017. A suspicious approach was also reported close to the location where the kidnapping was reported. An attempted robbery was recorded at Batu Ampar Anchorage, Batam, Indonesia.

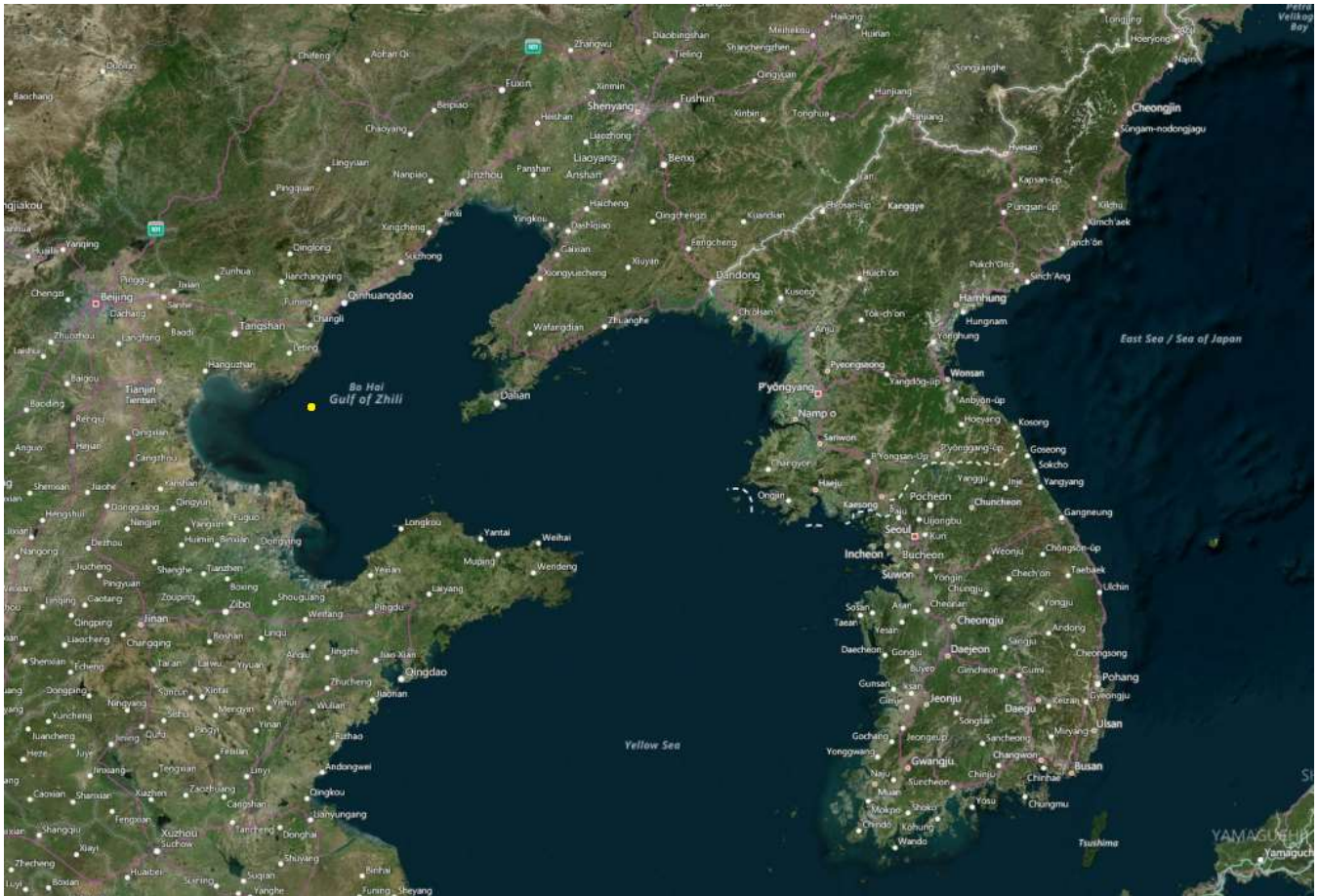
- ❑ **19 February 2017** – The Bulk Carrier, *Giang Hai* with a crew of 25, was attacked by armed men in speedboats near Baguan Island, Tawi-Tawi, Philippines. One crew member was killed and six were kidnapped presumably by ASG. Navigation and communication equipment were also destroyed.<sup>1</sup>
- ❑ **22 February 2017** – The Bulk Carrier, *Donghae Star* transmitted a distress call after noticing armed men dressed in black in three speedboats chasing them at 20.5 kn near Baguan Island, Tawi-Tawi, Philippines. The boats fled on arrival of patrol boats of the Naval Forces Western Mindanao.<sup>2</sup>

## **Feedback : ASG Hijackings of Vessels and Kidnapping Incidents in the Philippines**

- ❑ **26 February 2017** – ASG beheaded German hostage Juergen Kantner after their deadline for ransom payment passed. Kantner was kidnapped from his yacht *Rockall* on 5 November 2016.



# Far East



On 14 February 2017 the Bulk Carrier, *Skythia* was boarded by four robbers at Jingtang Anchorage, China. The robbers attempted to open the port side Marine Diesel Oil (MDO) manhole, but were spotted by the duty officer who sounded the alarm. They fled without stealing anything.<sup>3</sup> A few robberies and attempted robberies were reported at Chinese anchorages in the Yellow Sea in 2015 and 2016. MDO was more than often the target in these robberies.

## West Africa

Five incidents of piracy and robbery of vessels were reported in the Gulf of Guinea in February 2017 of which four were off Nigeria. Crew members were kidnapped during two of these incidents. A robbery on a supply ship was reported at Pointe Noire Anchorage, Congo. Seven robberies were reported at this anchorage in 2016.

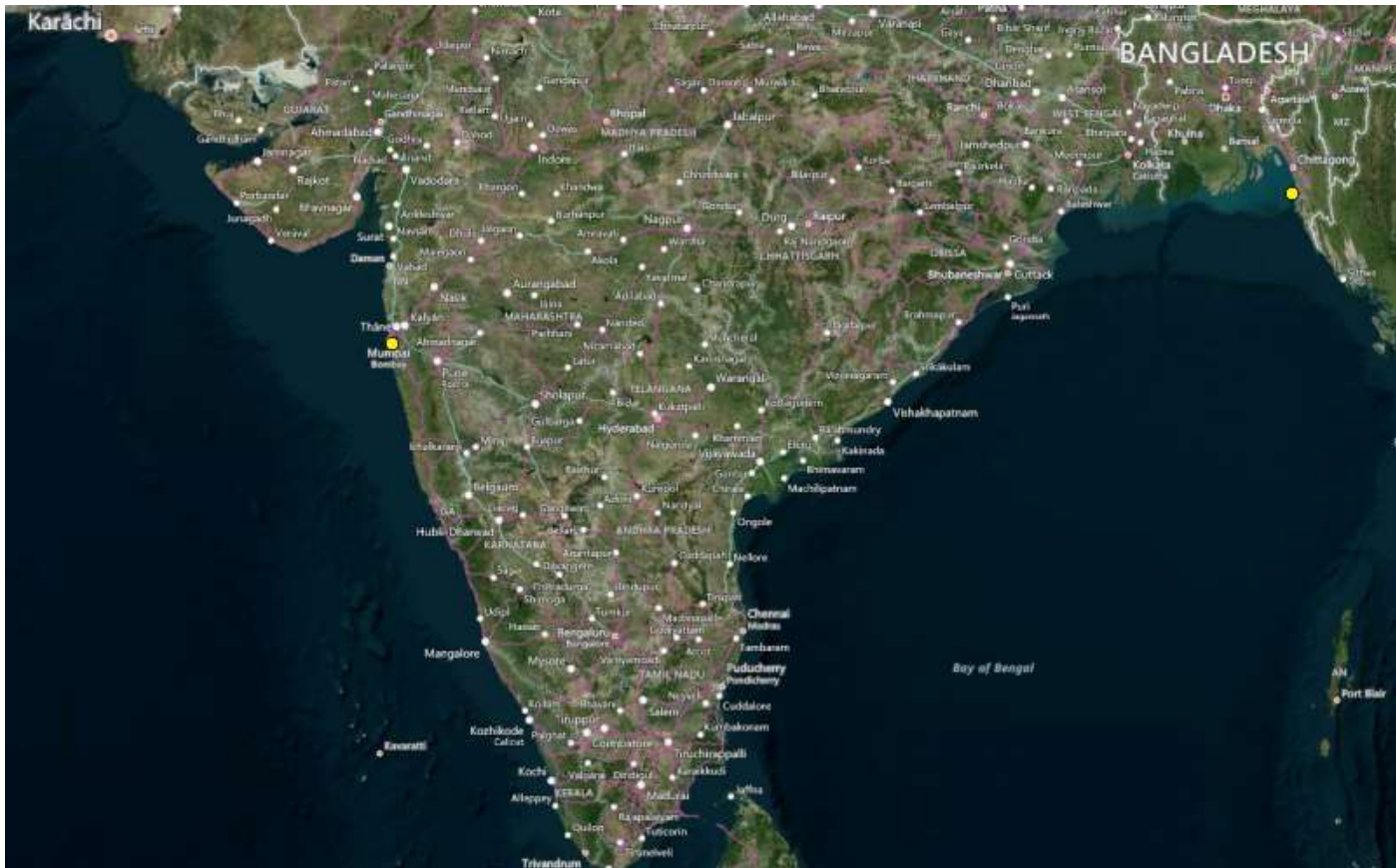
- ❑ **5 February 2017** – Eight crew were kidnapped from the General Cargo ship, *BBC Caribbean* 45nm southwest of Brass, Nigeria.<sup>4</sup>



- ❑ **7 February 2017** – Three crew were kidnapped from the LPG Tanker, *MT Gaz Providence* 40nm south of Bonny Island, Nigeria.<sup>5</sup>
- ❑ **8 February 2017** – Gunmen attempted to board the Crude oil tanker, *MT Rio Spirit* 110 nm South of Akassa Creek, Nigeria. The vessel was underway after picking up product at the Exxon Qua Iboe Terminal. She had an armed Nigerian Navy Security Team onboard which repelled the attack. The gunmen made another attempt half an hour later, which was also unsuccessful.<sup>6</sup>
- ❑ **19 February 2017** – An Asphalt Tanker was boarded by gunmen from a speed boat 33nm WSW of Forcados, Nigeria. The crew raised the alarm, activated SSAS and retreated to the citadel. The attackers stole crew and ship properties and damaged equipment.<sup>7</sup>

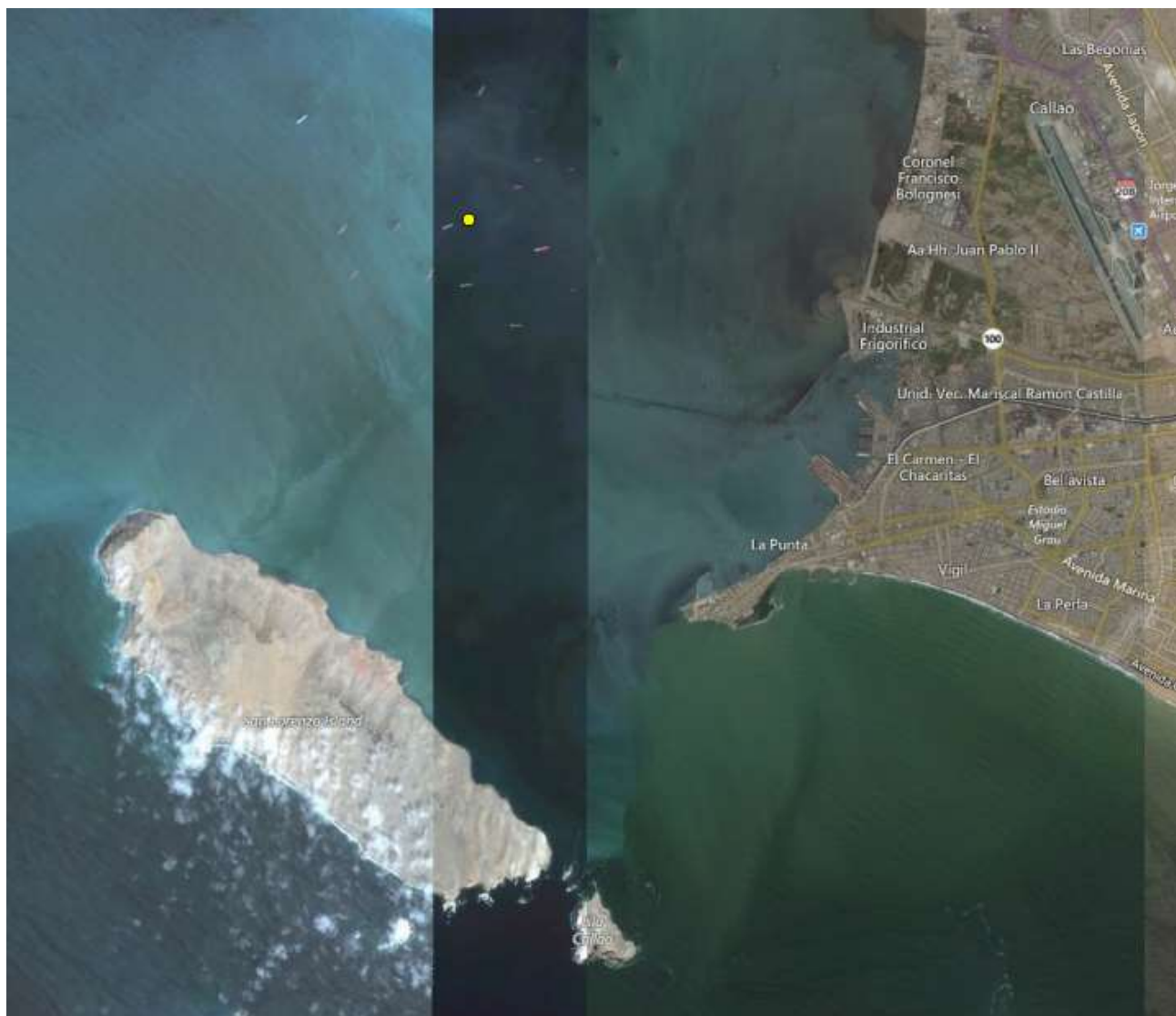


# Indian Sub-Continent



A robbery and an attempted robbery were reported on two supply vessels 1nm West of Kutubdia Island, Bangladesh in February 2017. The vessels were at anchor at the time. Paint was stolen. Ship properties were also stolen at Mumbai D4 Anchorage, India.

# Americas



A robbery was reported at Callao Anchorage in Peru in February 2017. The Bulk Carrier, *Jumeirah Beach* was boarded on 7 February 2017 by four robbers who approached in a small boat. They tied the duty crew up and stole ship's stores.<sup>8</sup> Ten incidents of robbery and attempted robbery on vessels were reported at this anchorage in 2016.

# The Med



The Car Carrier, *Morning Compass* was seized by heavily armed Marshal Khalifa Haftar militants off Susah, Libya on 17 February 2017. The vessel was enroute to Misrata with a cargo of 5 000 Korean KIA and Hyundai cars. The vessel was escorted to Ras Al Halil Port. The vessel was released on 21 February 2017 after it was searched for weapons. This incident is not piracy related, but related to the conflict in Libya.

## End Notes

1. <http://ca.reuters.com/article/topNews/idCAKBN15Z0J1> viewed 20/02/2017; Recaap incident alert
2. <http://www.update.ph/2017/02/navy-foils-abu-sayyaf-piracy-attempt/14830> viewed 27/02/2017; <http://www.recaap.org>
3. <https://icc-ccs.org/index.php/piracy-reporting-centre/live-piracy-report/details/158/27> viewed 16/02/2017
4. <https://gisis.imo.org/Public/PAR/Incident.aspx?Action=View&ID=7477> viewed 13/02/2017; <http://www.maritimeherald.com/2017/kidnapped-crew-of-cargo-ship-bbc-caribbean-is-alive-and-well/> viewed 17/02/2017
5. <https://gisis.imo.org/Public/PAR/Incident.aspx?Action=View&ID=7487> viewed 28/02/2017; <http://www.maritimeherald.com/2017/lpg-tanker-gaz-providence-was-attacked-by-pirates-in-bight-of-bonny/> viewed 13/02/2017
6. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-02-08/nigerian-navy-says-it-foiled-attacks-on-2-tankers-frees-21-crew> viewed 13/02/2017; <http://leaders.ng/report-navy-rescues-hijacked-oil-vessel-rivers/>
7. <https://icc-ccs.org/index.php/piracy-reporting-centre/live-piracy-report/details/158/28> viewed 24/02/2017
8. <https://gisis.imo.org/Public/PAR/Incident.aspx?Action=View&ID=7480> viewed 13/02/2017
9. <http://www.maritimeherald.com/2017/car-carrier-morning-compass-seized-by-libyan-militants-off-susah/> viewed 21/02/2017; <https://www.fleetmon.com/maritime-news/2017/17291/eukor-car-carrier-released-libya-update/> viewed 24/02/2017