



Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO)
Reporting from 21 DEC 10 – 5 MAR 11
Amended with recent activity reported by ICC & Marlo

A. INDIAN OCEAN-EAST AFRICA:

March 04, 2011 *Latitude: 1823N 06341E *Alert Number 109 / 2011** At 1020 UTC a merchant vessel is currently under attack by 1 skiff and 1 mothership. The vessel was fired upon by small arms and RPG.

March 04, 2011**Latitude: 1835N 06347E*Alert number 108 / 2011* At 0922 UTC a merchant vessel is currently under attack by 1 skiff

04 March 2011 at 0738Z a German owned Liberian flagged Motor Vessel (MV) E.R.ELSLETH (Call Sign A8DMP) was in position 0448S/04840E on a course of 258T and a speed of 20 knots. Vessel was being pursued by a skiff that was moving at a rate of speed of 20 knots and was at a distance of 1.3 nautical miles. The skiff has three to four personnel on board.

At 756Z on 04 March 2011 Motor Vessel (MV) E.R.ELSLETH was in position 0447S/04834E. The skiff was still located 1 nm astern MV E.R.ELSLETH and still pursuing.

At 0824Z 04 March 11 MV E.R.ELSLETH was located at 0446S/04826E on a course of 261 and speed of 20 knots with one skiff still in pursuit. At 0852Z 04 March 11 MV E.R.ELSLETH was located in position 0449S/04816E. Skiff was located at 2.8 nm astern with smoke coming from skiff. The skiff DIW and no longer pursuing.

At 0922Z on 04 March 11 Greek flagged MV AEGEA (Call Sign: SVAC3) was located at 1835N/06347E when it came under attack by a skiff. The skiff was attacking MV AEGEA with AK47 and RPG rounds.

03 March 2011 at 0814 UTC Motor Tanker (MT) VOGUE DIGNITY was located at 1147.2N/05847E while on a course of 027 and a speed of 13.5 knots. MT VOGUE DIGNITY sighted one skiff in position 1155N/05841E. At 0816 UTC the skiff was observed as heading towards VOGUE DIGNITY. At 0823 UTC MT VOGUE DIGNITY was located at 1150N/05848E. A skiff and mother ship (100 meters length) was visually sighted. MT VOGUE DIGNITY altered to 050 and commenced increasing to maximum SOA. At 0830 UTC the skiff and mother ship was sighted as heading towards MT VOGUE DIGNITY. At 0905 UTC the skiff was observed via the RADAR at a distance of 4 miles, speed of 22 knots and a course directly at MT VOGUE DIGNITY. At 0920 UTC the skiff had a 1.0 mile CPA and was moving at a speed of 22 knots. All non-essential personnel were mustered in the citadel and security personnel were on standby. At 0923 UTC the skiff began firing at MT VOGUE DIGNITY when it was a quarter of mile away in distance. Warning shots were fired

by security guards onboard MT VOGUE DIGNITY. MT VOGUE DIGNITY observed 5 pirates onboard the skiff. The skiff continued approach and fire at MT VOGUE DIGNITY. The skiff closed MT VOGUE DIGNITY at about 1.0 to 1.5 cables and continued firing. Both the security personnel embarked on MT VOGUE DIGNITY and the pirates exchanged gunfire for 5 to 6 minutes. At 0932 UTC the skiff aborted approach and headed back to the mother vessel. Color of mother ship - Black; Color of skiff color - Bluish; Number of persons onboard the skiff - 5.

03 MAR 2011 at 1113Z a merchant vessel was attacked at 0959N/06226E. Automatic weapons and a RPG were used during the attack. The merchant vessel was able to evade capture. MARLO has no further information concerning this report at this time.

On 03 March 2011 at 0615 UTC in location 1731.2N/05731.9E a white and black hulled dhow was located with one grey skiff. The skiff had 4 armed pirates onboard. The skiff was chasing a tanker, which was able to escape due to evasive maneuvers, increase their speed and use of fire hoses. The skiff has now aborted the attack.

On 03 MAR 2011 at 0802Z Motor Vessel (MV) E R CAEN (Call Sign: A8FL5) reported one skiff pursuing MV E R CAEN in position 0541S/04507E while heading 145 true at 21.7 knots. At the time of the attack a skiff was spotted at 4 cables astern pursuing with 4 persons onboard with a ladder and rocket propelled grenade. A second dark colored skiff was confirmed at 0841Z. No further information at this time.

On 02 MAR 2011 at 0929Z MV AL BAHIA (Call Sign - A6QD) sighted one skiff with 10 persons onboard off the starboard quarter at 7 cables. At the time of the sighting MV AL BAHIA was located at 1232N/06324E. Additionally, weapons were sighted. Vessels are warned that if passing within 100 nm of this area that they are to exercise extreme caution.

On 02 MAR 11 at 0752Z SY CAPRICORN was attacked in position 1211N/06358E. Automatic weapons fired, pirates boarded but were repelled by armed security personnel onboard an escorting vessel. Both vessels evaded capture. Vessels are warned that if passing within 100 nm of this area that they are to exercise extreme caution.

On 02 MAR 11 at 1103Z SY IMAGINE relayed that at 0745 L on 02MAR11 Motor Vessel Liberty reported a dhow towing two skiffs in position 1229.5N/04651.8E. Vessels are warned that if passing within 100 nm of this area that they are to exercise extreme caution.

28 FEB 11 at 1630 GMT the Turkish Chemical/Oil Tanker ALFA KARDENIZ (IMO 8422008) was in position 1644N/05537E. The Turkish Chemical/Oil Tanker ALFA KARDENIZ was attacked via the starboard bow while steaming at 11 knots. One skiff attacked Turkish Chemical/Oil Tanker ALFA KARDENIZ for 5 minutes and had a closest point of approach of 3 - 5 meters.

28 FEB 2011 at 0606 UTC in position 1848N/05825E Panamanian flagged merchant vessel DOVER (Call Sign H8RV) was attacked by pirates and managed to board the vessel. The pirate action group is still in the area.

28FEB11 at 0950 UTC Suspicious sighting: 3 skiffs and one fishing vessel (possible mother ship) were noted in position 1736.2N/05645.6E. No further information at this time.

13 Feb 2011: Approximate Position 12:00.0N 053:02.1E around 8nm south of Samhah island, Yemen, Gulf of Aden. Pirates attacked and hijacked a fishing vessel and took hostage its eight crewmembers. The FV is suspected of being used as a mother vessel for other piratical attacks.

12 Feb 2011: 1218 UTC: Posn: 20:15.43N - 064:16.09E, around 280nm SE from Ras al Had, Oman, (Off Somalia). Pirates have hijacked a bulk carrier underway. The owners received a distress alert from the ship and informed the coalition forces. A coalition aircraft was sent to the location, which noticed two suspected pirate skiffs on board the ship. There has been no communication with the ship.

10 Feb 2011: 1440 UTC: Posn: 13:09.6N - 043:06.5E, Bab el Mandeb, Red Sea. Four skiffs chased a bulk carrier underway. D/O altered course and alerted the armed security team onboard who made themselves seen. Warship contacted for assistance. The skiffs came close to 0.3 nm and the duty lookout saw 4-6 pirates in each skiff armed with guns. The pirates observed the ship with binoculars and aborted the attempted attack upon noticing the armed security guards.

10 Feb 2011: 0045 LT: Posn: 05:31.9N - 003:38Ee, around 50nm off Lagos, Nigeria. Seven to eight armed robbers in a fishing boat approached a drifting chemical tanker from astern. The duty officer noticed the suspicious movement of the boat and informed master. Master raised alarm, activated SSAS alert, increase speed and took evasive manoeuvres. Robbers open fire while attempted to board the tanker using heaving line attached to a hook. The pirates chased the tanker for around one hour before aborting the attack. Local authorities informed. No action taken.

09 Feb 2011: 0926 UTC: Posn: 21:27N - 063:18E, around 205nm WNW of Ras Al Had, Oman, (Off Somalia). Armed pirates chased and attacked a tanker underway. The pirates managed to board and hijack the tanker and its 25 crew. Further details awaited.

09 Feb 2011: 0315 LT: Posn: 01:20.8N - 104:20.5E, 1nm south of Tanjung Penyusop, Malaysia. Five robbers armed with guns and knives boarded a tanker at anchor. The C/E and the duty AB were held by the robbers with guns and knives. The robbers stole personal belongings and escaped in the waiting boat.

08 Feb 2011: 0918 UTC: Posn: 13:06N - 064:09E, around 560nm east of Socotra island, Yemen (Off Somalia). Armed pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon a vehicle carrier underway with intent to hijack. Ship increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres and managed to evade the hijack. The skiff was noticed moving towards a mother vessel.

08 Feb 2011 at 0937Z A merchant vessel attacked in position 1309N/06410E. Automatic weapons fired, but the vessel was able to evade capture. Vessels are warned that if passing within 100 nm of this area they are to exercise extreme caution.

08FEB2011 at 0427 UTC MV SAVINA CAYLYN is currently under attack by 1 skiff with 5 pirates onboard in POSITION 1210N/06600E. Weapons were being fired at MV SAVINA CAYLYN and a mother ship was sighted nearby.

07 Feb 2011 at 0720 GMT MV GAMBOA (IMO No. 8218732) was attacked in position 1559.7S/06140.3E. The vessel was able to escape after some maneuvering.

05 Feb 2011 at 0930 UTC the Greek flagged Motor Tanker (MT) CHIOS (IMO No.9043029) was attacked in position 1000.1N/07059.4E. The pirates were able to close the ship and attempt a boarding, which was unsuccessful. The attack lasted an hour and half, which MT CHIOS was fired upon several time by AK-47 weapons.

05FEB11 at 0315UTC M/V PUELICHE came under attack in the following location 1021.2N/06527.7E (830 nm from Somali East coast/620 nm from mainland India) by one skiff with six persons.

05FEB11 at 1011 UTC a merchant vessel was under attack by 1 skiff with 4 persons on board in position 1004N/07054E.

02FEB11 at 1240LT (08:40UTC) M/V DUQM (IMO Number: 9410387) was attacked by two skiffs in position 2016.2N/063-36.0E.

02FEB11 at 2201 UTC M/V TAI CANG HAI was in position 1719.8N 06347.0E and heading a course of 236 at a speed of 12.7. One pirate mothership chased M/V TAI CANG HAI.

02FEB11 at 1715 UTC M/V BADER III picked up 2 targets on radar at 6.0 miles at position 1034.0N/05649.0E. One contact looked appeared to be towing another. The targets course was 012 deg true and speed 6.5 kts, which remained constant until M/V BADER III lost contact.

02 FEB 2011 at 1431 UTC a pirate mother ship with an associated skiff fired upon a merchant vessel in position 1303N/06330E. The merchant vessel managed to evade the pirates. Although, the pirate action group is still in the area.

02 FEB 2011 at 1157 UTC a merchant vessel was chased and fired upon by pirates in 2 skiff in position 06:44N/069:24E. The vessel managed to evade the hijack attempt, but the pirates remain active in the area.

01 FEB 2011 at 1134 UTC MV JIA NING SHAN sent a distress signal in position 6.36'N/69.17'E due to armed pirates.

01 FEB 2011 at 0900 UTC a pirate action group consisting of one mothership and 1 skiff was reported in position: 10:56N - 056:17E.

30 Jan 2011 at 1640 UTC the Bahamas flagged livestock carrier MAYSORA (IMO 8310542) was attacked by 8 pirates that were using a brown skiff. At the time of the attack, the vessel was located at 0420N/06620E (near Maldives) while steaming at 15 knots. The pirates were dressed in combat fatigues and had machine guns and RPG's. The pirates were firing their machine guns and RPG's intermittently. The final RPG round was fired at the bridge and hit the starboard lifeboat. The pirates attempted to scale the ship via a ladder. The pirates attacked from the starboard quarter and directly astern. The attacks lasted for over an hour.

26.01.2011: 0630 UTC: Posn: 11:14N – 062:50E around 490 nm east of Socotra island, (Off Somalia). Pirates in two skiffs chased and fired upon a general cargo ship underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres. The onboard security team and the pirates exchanged fire for around 15 minutes before the pirates aborted the attack.

22.01.2011: 1236 UTC: Posn: 01:49N – 056:35E 360 nm north off Seychelles island (Off Somalia). Pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon a general cargo ship underway. The crew members locked themselves in the citadel and requested for assistance. The pirates managed to gain command of the vessel and took the 12 crew as hostage. Vessel currently sailing towards Somalia.

23.01.2011: 0320 LT: Conakry anchorage, Guinea. Four robbers armed with knives boarded a container ship at anchor. Duty AB noticed the robbers, informed bridge thru vhf radio and took shelter from the pirates. D/O raised alarm and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with a drum of oil. Port control informed.

24.01.2011: 0300 LT: Posn: 10:42N – 109:44E, South China Sea. Duty officer onboard a product tanker underway spotted a suspicious vessel approaching from the stbd bow on a collision course. The vessel adjusted her course to maintain a collision course as the tanker altered courses. The suspicious vessel directed her search light towards the main deck area, ship's name and accommodation of the tanker. Master altered course, increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres. The suspicious vessel followed the tanker for 30 minutes and later lost contact on the radar.

21.01.2011: 1055 UTC: Posn: 12:37N – 065:00E, around 620nm east of Socotra (Off Somalia). Armed pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon a heavy load carrier underway with intent to hijack. Ship increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres and managed to evade the hijack.

21.01.2011: 0210 LT: Posn: 01.31.5S – 048:47.0W, Vila do Conde port, Brazil. Deck watch keeper onboard an anchored livestock carrier noticed a robber on the forecastle deck. Duty officer informed. Alarm raised. The robber managed to escape before ship's crew arrived on forecastle.

20.01.2011: 1708 UTC: Posn: 20:09N– 063:38E around 250 nm SE of Ras al Hadd, Oman (Off Somalia). Seven pirates boarded a chemical tanker underway. The crew members locked themselves in the citadel and requested for assistance. A Malaysian auxiliary naval vessel responded with a boarding team which boarded the vessel and detained the pirates. Crew were rescued and are safe.

20.01.2011: 1023 UTC: Posn: 14:56N–059:14E, around 300nm NE of Socotra Island, (Off Somalia). Pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon a bulk carrier underway. Master increased speed and carried out evasive manoeuvres. Pirates abandoned the attempt after chasing more than one hour. No injuries to crew.

20.01.2011: 1242 UTC: Posn: 15.11N – 059:38E around 330 nm ESE of Salalah, Oman (Off Somalia). Pirates armed with automatic weapons boarded and hijacked the vessel with her 25 crew as hostage.

1. INDIAN OCEAN: Merchant vessel (TORM KRISTINA) was attacked 19 Jan at 2155 UTC while underway in position 20:16N - 064:29E, approximately 380NM SE of Muscat, Oman. One skiff with six pirates fired upon the vessel and attempted to board with a ladder. One crew member was slightly injured on the shoulder, but the vessel managed to evade a boarding.
2. INDIAN OCEAN: Ro Ro (HOEGH OSLO) was fired upon 19 Jan at 0453 UTC while underway in position 13:28N – 065:06E, approximately 660NM ESE of Salalah, Oman. The vessel was fired upon by pirates in three skiffs armed with small arms and RPGs. The pirates aborted their attack after an hour.
3. INDIAN OCEAN: Merchant vessel (ADVANTAGE) was fired upon 18 Jan at 2303 UTC while underway in position 03:10N – 051:11E, approximately 315NM SE of Garacad, Somalia. The vessel was attacked and fired upon by pirates with automatic weapons in one skiff but managed to avoid the hijack attempt.
4. INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (LUCKY VISHIP) was fired upon 18 Jan at 1125 UTC while underway in position 19:24N – 058:54E, approximately 260 nautical miles east of Salalah, Oman. Pirates in three skiffs fired upon the vessel but were evaded.
5. INDIAN OCEAN: Container ship (COURIER) was fired upon 17 Jan at 1330 UTC while underway in position 17:02N – 061:33E, approximately 420NM east of Salalah, Oman. Five pirates in a white hulled skiff chased and fired upon the ship. The master increased speed and carried out evasive maneuvers, prompting the pirates to abort the attack after an hour.
6. INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (HOANG SON SUN) was hijacked 17 Jan at 0700 UTC while underway in position 1836N – 06422E, approximately 370NM off Oman.
7. INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (EAGLE) was hijacked 17 Jan at 0641 UTC while underway in position 13:17N – 061:42E, approximately 415NM east of Socotra Island. Six pirates armed with guns and an RPG in a skiff chased, fired upon, and boarded the vessel, taking 24 crewmembers hostage.
8. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (SEACREST) was fired upon 16 Jan at 1450 UTC while underway in position 12:30N – 061:05E, approximately 385NM east of Socotra Island. Six pirates armed with a ladder and RPG chased and fired upon the tanker. The tanker made evasive maneuvers and enforced preventative counter piracy measures, successful evading the attack.
9. GULF OF ADEN: Oil tanker (RUDEEF GNA) was attacked 15 Jan at 1833 UTC while underway in position 12:41N – 044:48E, approximately 3 NM SW of Aden Island, Yemen. Two pirates in a skiff approached the tanker underway. No shots were fired by the pirates but the skiff hooked a ladder to the vessel's rails. A security team on board fired warning shots and the pirates aborted the attack.
10. INDIAN OCEAN: Chemical tanker (SAMHO JEWELRY) was hijacked 15 Jan at 0729 UTC while underway in position 21:58N - 063:50E, approximately 110 NM east of Ras al Hadd, Oman. Pirates attacked and boarded the chemical tanker taking 21 crewmembers hostage.

11. INDIAN OCEAN: Products tanker (SMERALDO) was fired upon and boarded 14 Jan at 1730 UTC while underway in position 17:11N – 061:21E, approximately 433NM NE of Salalah, Oman. The crew met in a citadel after two pirates managed to board, and awaited naval assistance.

12. INDIAN OCEAN: Cargo vessel (LE LI) was fired upon 14 Jan at 0530 UTC while underway in position 13:53N – 056:30E, approximately 141NM NE of Socotra Island, Yemen. Four pirates onboard a skiff attempted to board with a ladder, and weapons were sighted but not used. The vessel evaded the boarding.

13. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (NEW FORTUNER) was fired upon 13 Jan at 0914 UTC while underway in position 13:50N – 056:45.0E, approximately 150NM NE of Socotra Island. Four pirates armed with guns and an RPG chased and fired upon the tanker. The tanker took evasive maneuvers and enforced preventative counter piracy measures, and evaded the boarding.

14. INDIAN OCEAN: Vessel (LEOPARD) was fired upon 12 Jan at 1322 UTC while underway in position 15:13N – 058:17E, approximately 263NM ESE of Salalah, Oman. Pirates in two skiffs attacked and boarded the vessel. Pirates later transferred the crew to a nearby pirate mother ship and departed the area.

15. GULF OF ADEN: Oil supply ship (BOURBON HESTIA) was chased 12 Jan at 1046 UTC while underway in position 12:06N – 044:25E, approximately 50NM SW of Aden, Yemen. The vessel was attacked together with BOURBON HESTIA, but the attack ceased when the onboard security team fired warning and arresting shots.

16. GULF OF ADEN: Oil supply ship (BOURBON HECTOR) was chased 12 Jan at 1046 UTC while underway in position 12:06N – 044:25E, approximately 50NM SW of Aden, Yemen. The vessel was attacked together with the BOURBON HESTIA, but the attack ceased when the onboard security team fired warning and arresting shots.

17. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (ALPINE PERSEFONE) was attacked 11 Jan at 1345 UTC while underway in position 14:01N – 067:25E, approximately 380NM west of Goa, India. Pirates in one skiff came alongside the vessel with weapons and attempted to board with a ladder. The attack was repelled with water hoses, and no shots were fired.

18. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (BARBAROSA) was fired upon 11 Jan at 1021 UTC while underway in position 16:33N – 059:08E, approximately 290NM east of Salalah, Oman. Five pirates on a skiff fired automatic weapons and RPGs at the Tanker. Due to evasive maneuvering, the attack was averted.

19. INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (HONG OCEAN) was chased 8 Jan at 0352 UTC while underway in position 15:46.8N – 055:42.8E, approximately 115NM SE of Salalah, Oman. The master enforced evasive maneuvers and increased speed, and after two hours the pirates aborted the attack.

20. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (BW BAUHINIA) was attacked 7 Jan at 1629 UTC while in position 21:08N – 062:45E, approximately 180NM ESE of Ras al Hadd, Oman. Five pirates in a skiff fired upon and attempted to board the vessel, but were evaded when the master

increased speed and took evasive maneuvers.

21. INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (ACHILLEAS) was fired upon 6 Jan at 0908 UTC while underway in position 21:04N – 063:21E, approximately 220NM ESE of Ras Al Hadd, Oman. Five pirates in a skiff fired upon and attempted to board the carrier. The master increased speed, took evasive maneuvers and evaded the attempted boarding.

22. INDIAN OCEAN: LPG Carrier (BW AUSTRIA) was fired upon 6 Jan at 0700 UTC while underway in position 21:10.4N – 063:17.4E, approximately 205NM ESE of Ras Al Hadd, Oman. Five armed pirates fired upon the vessel, and an RPG made a hole in the accommodation block. The master increased speed, took evasive maneuvers and managed to evade the attempted boarding with all crew members safe.

23. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (FRONT WARRIOR) was fired upon 6 Jan at 0220 UTC while underway in position 20:00N – 064:06E, approximately 503NM NE of Mumbai, India. Pirates in one skiff fired at the tanker, but the crew used razor wire and fire hoses to evade the attack.

24. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (MAERSK PELICAN) was fired upon 3 Jan at 1503 UTC while underway in position 19:35N – 065:13E, approximately 430NM west of Mumbai, India. Pirates in a small high speed boat approached from the stern, and fired upon the tanker with hand-held weapons. Due to evasive maneuvers, the tanker succeeded in evading a boarding.

25. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (CPO CHINA) was boarded 3 Jan at 1039 UTC while underway in position 15:48N – 059:49E, approximately 330NM ESE of Salalah, Oman. Pirates in two skiffs chased the tanker and opened fire with automatic weapons. The pirates made several attempts to board the vessel and finally managed to gain access. The 20 member crew locked themselves in a citadel until the pirates abandoned the ship. HMAS Melbourne boarded the vessel on 4 Jan and found the pirates gone and all the crew safe.

26. INDIAN OCEAN: General cargo ship (MSC SINDY) was chased 2 Jan at 1055 UTC while underway in position 15:29.0N – 059:23.6E, approximately 320NM east southeast of Salalah, Oman. The master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive maneuvers, and the crew threw empty drums to deter the skiffs. The hijacking was evaded.

27. INDIAN OCEAN: Chemical tanker (RATNA SHALINI) was fired upon 1 Jan at 2123 UTC while underway in position 14:53.0N – 063:45.9E, about 575NM east of Socotra Island. Pirates armed with guns chased and fired upon the vessel. The master increased speed and took evasive maneuvers until pirates aborted the attack.

28. INDIAN OCEAN: Tug (TIBA FOLK) was chased 1 Jan at 1950 UTC while underway in position 02:41N – 059:17E, approximately 690NM SE of Haradera, Somalia. The tug, which had been previously attacked by pirates on the same day, released the barge it was towing to increase speed and maneuverability, and the security team onboard fired flares. The skiffs later aborted the attack.

29. INDIAN OCEAN: Bulk carrier (BLIDA) was hijacked 1 Jan at 1536 UTC while underway in position 15:28N – 055:51E, approximately 130NM SE of Salalah, Oman, and the 27 member crew was taken hostage. The HANNIBAL II was also in the area and probably acted as a mothership.

30. GULF OF ADEN: Chemical tanker (GREEN PARK) was fired upon and a boarding was attempted 1 Jan at 1321 UTC while underway in position 13:09N – 048:49E, approximately 84NM SW of Al Mukalla, Yemen. Six pirates in a skiff chased the tanker, but due to evasive maneuvers and effective counter piracy measures, a hijacking was evaded.

31. INDIAN OCEAN: Tug (TIBA FOLK) was fired upon 1 Jan at 0754 UTC while underway in position 03:56N – 59:33E, approximately 672NM east of Hobyo, Somalia. Twelve armed pirates in two skiffs chased and fired upon the tug, but due to evasive maneuvers and effective anti-piracy measures, a hijacking was evaded.

32. INDIAN OCEAN: General cargo ship (EMS RIVER) was hijacked 27 Dec at 1303 UTC while underway in position 17:57N – 057:43E, approximately 225NM northeast of Salalah, Oman. Pirates using a previously hijacked tanker attacked and hijacked a general cargo ship along with its either crew.

33. INDIAN OCEAN: Tanker (SIGLOO STAR) was chased 27 Dec 10 at 1200 UTC while underway in position 15:17N – 056:22.8E, approximately 160NM southeast of Salalah, Oman. Skiffs launched from a previously hijacked vessel chased an LPG tanker. The tanker enforced counter-piracy measures and requested assistance from a warship. Upon arrival of a naval helicopter, the skiff aborted the attack and returned to the mother vessel. Pirates on the mother vessel warned the helicopter via VHF to move away or they would kill the ship's crew. Vessel and crew are safe.

34. INDIAN OCEAN: Fishing vessel (SHIUH FU 1) was hijacked 25 Dec 10 at 1000 UTC while underway in position 12:58.9S – 051:52.01E, approximately 120NM east of Nosy Ankao, Madagascar. Pirates hijacked a fishing vessel along with her 26 crew members. A previously hijacked merchant ship was reported to be in the vicinity during the hijacking of the fishing vessel.

35. MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL: Bulk carrier (MAJESTIC) was fired upon 25 Dec 10 at 0830 UTC while underway in position 19:04S – 038:42E, approximately 185NM east of Beira, Mozambique. Eight pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon a bulk carrier underway. Pirates aborted attempt.

36. INDIAN OCEAN: General cargo ship (THOR NEXUS) was hijacked 25 Dec 10 at 0140 UTC while underway in position 16:01N – 060:12E, approximately 380NM east of Salalah, Oman. Pirates boarded and hijacked a general cargo ship underway with her 27 crew members hostage.

37. MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL: Tanker (NS AFRICA) reported a suspicious approach 24 Dec 10 at 1528 UTC while underway in position 18:51S – 039:53E, approximately 115NM southeast of Macalanga Point, Mozambique. A mother vessel was spotted on radar at a range of 14NM approaching a tanker. At a distance of approximately 7.9NM, the mother vessel was seen launching a skiff. Tanker raised alarm, activated SSAS alarm, broadcast distress message, increased speed, activated water jets, and all crew except bridge and engine team mustered in the safe room. The skiff with approximately six armed pirates approached and chased the tanker for around 50 minutes before aborting and returning to the mother vessel.

38. INDIAN OCEAN: Chemical tanker (NORD STRAIT) reported an attempted boarding

22 Dec 10 at 0350 UTC while underway in position 17:00N – 062:53E, approximately 500nm east of Salalah, Oman. One skiff with six pirates armed with RPGs and AK-47s fired on and attempted to board the chemical tanker while underway. Due to evasive maneuvers and anti piracy measures, the attack was aborted after 80 minutes.

39. INDIAN OCEAN: Cargo ship (THOR NAUTILUS) was fired upon 22 Dec 10 at 0300 UTC while underway in position 12:10N - 062:31E, approximately 470nm east of Socotra Island. Due to evasive maneuvering, the hijack was evaded.

J. PERSIAN GULF:

1. KUWAIT: Vessel was robbed and boarded 9 Jan at 29:23.30N – 048:45.26E, in international waters off Kuwait. Five armed robbers, apparently Iraqis, boarded the vessel from a speedboat, threatened the six crew, and escaped with items from the vessel. The Kuwaiti Coast Guard was contacted, but the robbers had escaped once the Coast Guard arrived on the scene.