



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC.4/Circ.12
31 December 2001

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Fourth quarterly report (October to, and including, December 2001)

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-fifth session in May 1995, instructed the Secretariat to issue, as from 31 July 1995, monthly reports of all incidents of piracy¹ and armed robbery against ships² reported to the Organization and, in addition on a quarterly basis, composite reports accompanied by an analysis, on a regional basis, of the situation and an indication whether the frequency of incidents is increasing or decreasing and advising on any new feature or pattern of significance.

2 Annexed hereto is a composite report covering all reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships which occurred between 1 October and the end of December 2001, and a regional analysis thereof, including a distinction between acts of piracy, acts of armed robbery against ships and attempted attacks.

3 The areas most affected over the period under review were, once again, South China Sea, the Indian Ocean, West Africa, the Malacca Strait, South America, East Africa and the Mediterranean Sea. Most of the attacks were reported in port areas while the ships were at anchor or on berth.

4 During the period under review, eight crew members were killed and, on one occasion, the entire crew of a ship went missing. One ship was hijacked. In several of the incidents reported, the crew were violently attacked by individuals or groups of two to ten persons carrying guns or knives.

5 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 2,511, out of which 73 occurred during the fourth quarter of 2001. Of these 73 reported acts, 23 constituted allegedly attempted acts.

¹ "Piracy" is defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (article 101) as follows:

"Piracy consists of any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed:
 - (i) on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;
 - (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;
- (b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;
- (c) any act inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in sub-paragraph (a) or (b)."

² "Armed robbery against ships" is defined in the draft Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (MSC/Circ.984) (article 2.2) as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any unlawful act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of "piracy", directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such ship, within a State's jurisdiction over such offences."

**REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2001**

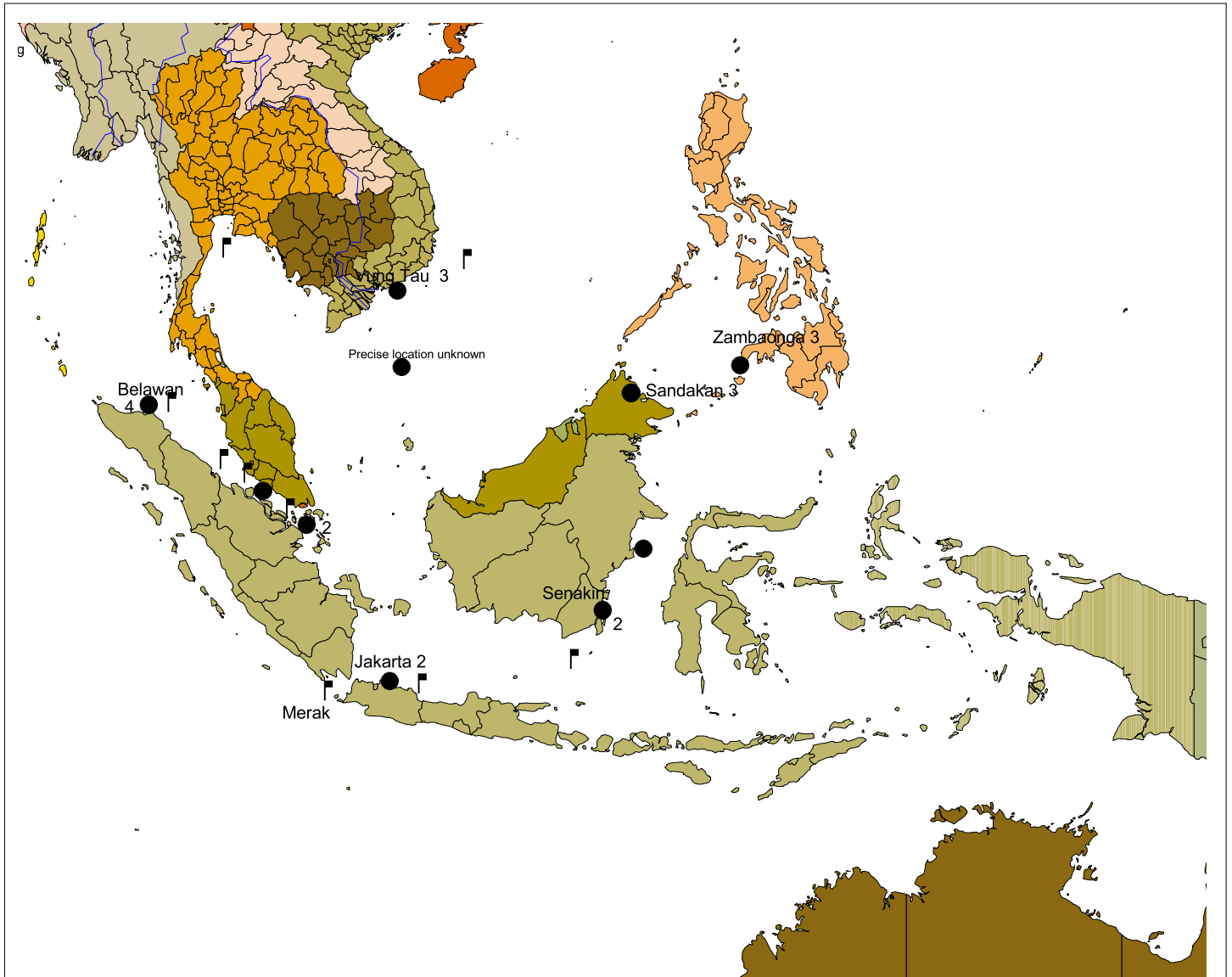
		FAR EAST			AFRICA		SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	MEDITERRANEAN SEA
		MALACCA STRAIT	SOUTH CHINA SEA	INDIAN OCEAN	EAST AFRICA	WEST AFRICA		
Location of incident								
	In international waters		1	1		1		1
	In territorial waters	6	8	5	1	7	3	
	In port areas	1	6	5		4		
Status of ship when attacked								
	Steaming	2	5	1		4	3	
	At anchor or on berth	5	10	10	1	8		1
	Not stated							
Number of persons involved in the attack								
	1-4 persons		7	2		7	1	
	5-10 persons	3	3	1	1	2	2	
	More than 10 persons	1		1				
	Not stated	3	5	7		3		1
Consequences to the crew								
	Actual violence used against crew		2	3		3	1	
	Threat of violence (including crew being tied up but not physically attacked)	6	5	4	1	7	2	
	Ship missing							
	Ship hijacked		1					
	None/not stated	1	7	4		2		1
Weapons used by attackers								
	Guns		4			3	2	
	Knives	3		6		7		
	Other	1			1			1
	None/Not stated	3	11	5		2	1	
Parts of the ship raided								
	Master and crew accommodation	2	2				1	
	Cargo area		2			1	1	
	Store rooms	4	5	7	1	10		
	Engine room		1					
	Not stated	1	5	4		1	1	1
Total number of incidents reported per areas		7	15	11	1	12	3	1
Total number of incidents reported		50						

**REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTED DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2001**

		FAR EAST		INDIAN OCEAN	AFRICA		SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
		MALACCA STRAIT	SOUTH CHINA SEA		EAST AFRICA	WEST AFRICA	
Location of incident							
	In international waters	1	1	1		1	1
	In territorial waters	3	3	5	2	4	
	In port areas		1				
Status of ship when attacked							
	Steaming	3	3	4		3	1
	At anchor or on berth	1	2	2	2	2	
	Not stated						
Number of persons involved in the attack							
	1-4 persons	1	2	1			
	5-10 persons	1	2	1	1	2	1
	More than 10 persons	1					
	Not stated	1	1	4	1	3	
Consequences to the crew							
	Actual violence used against crew			1	1		
	Threat of violence (including crew being tied up but not physically attacked)	2	4	2			
	Ship missing						
	Ship hijacked						
	None/not stated	2	1	3	1	5	1
Weapons used by attackers							
	Guns	2		2	1		
	Knives		1				
	Other		1				
	None/Not stated	2	3	4	1	5	1
Parts of the ship raided							
	Not boarded	4	5	6	2	5	1
Total number of incidents reported per areas		4	5	6	2	5	1
Total number of incidents reported		23					

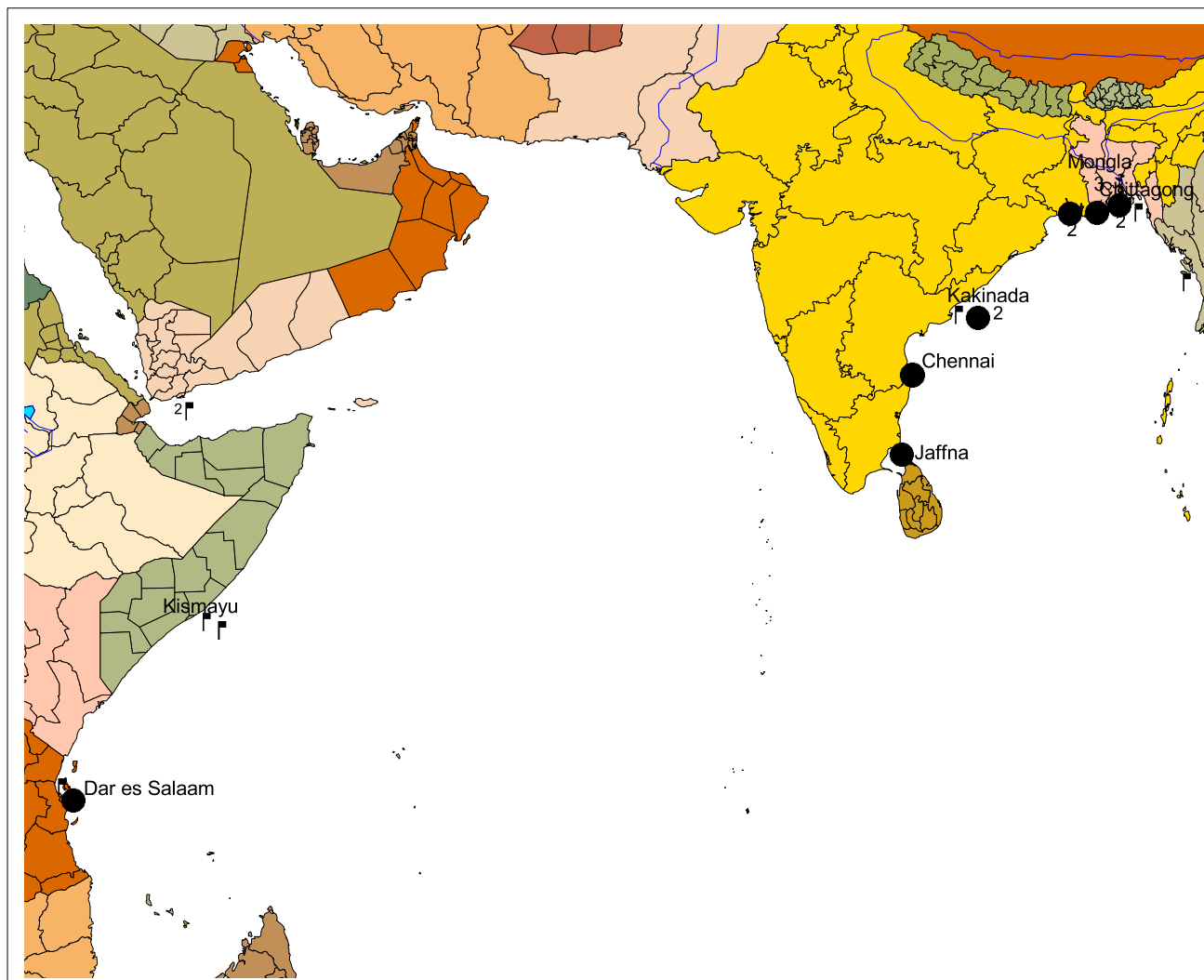
ANNEX 3

SOUTH CHINA SEA AND MALACCA STRAIT



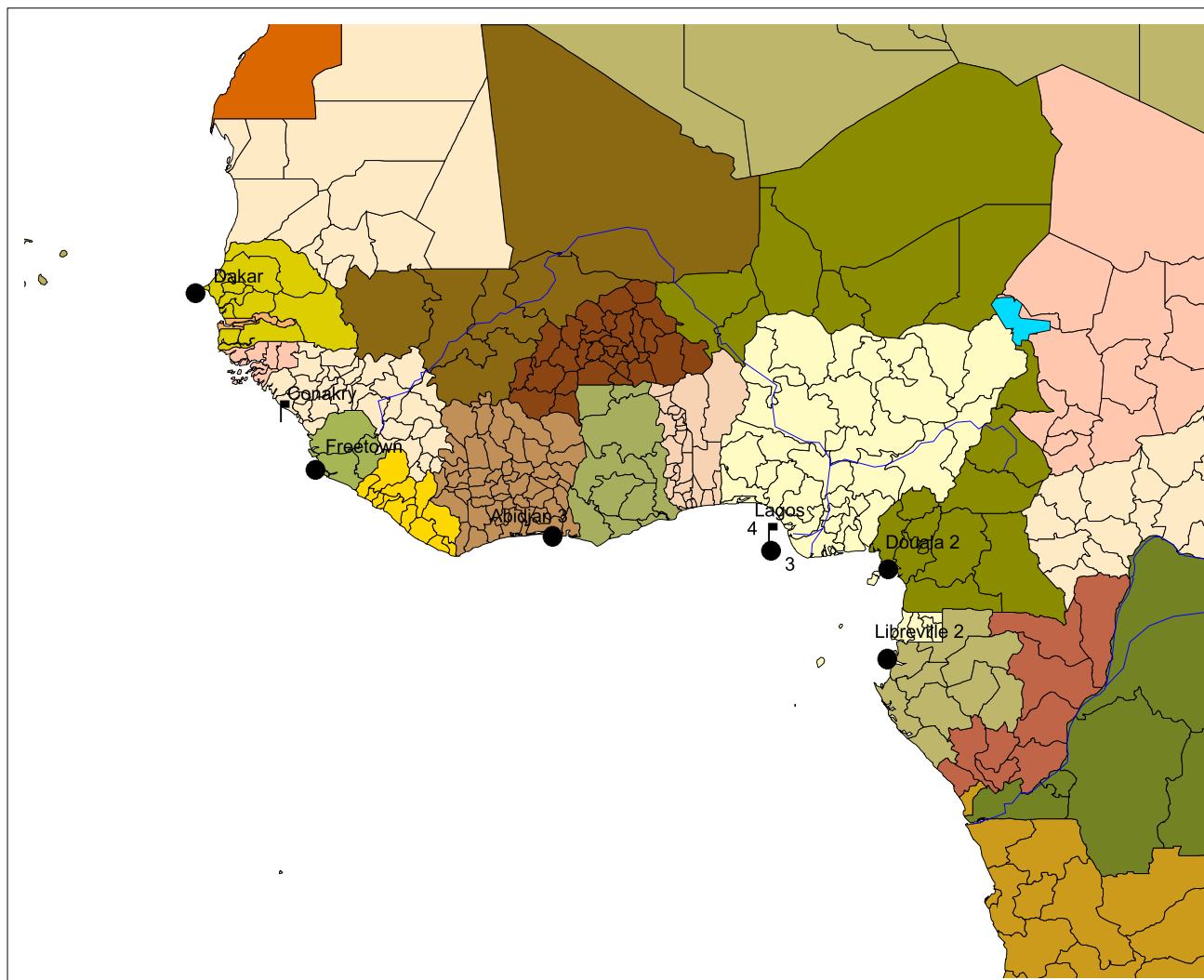
- Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- ▧ Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

INDIAN OCEAN AND EAST AFRICA



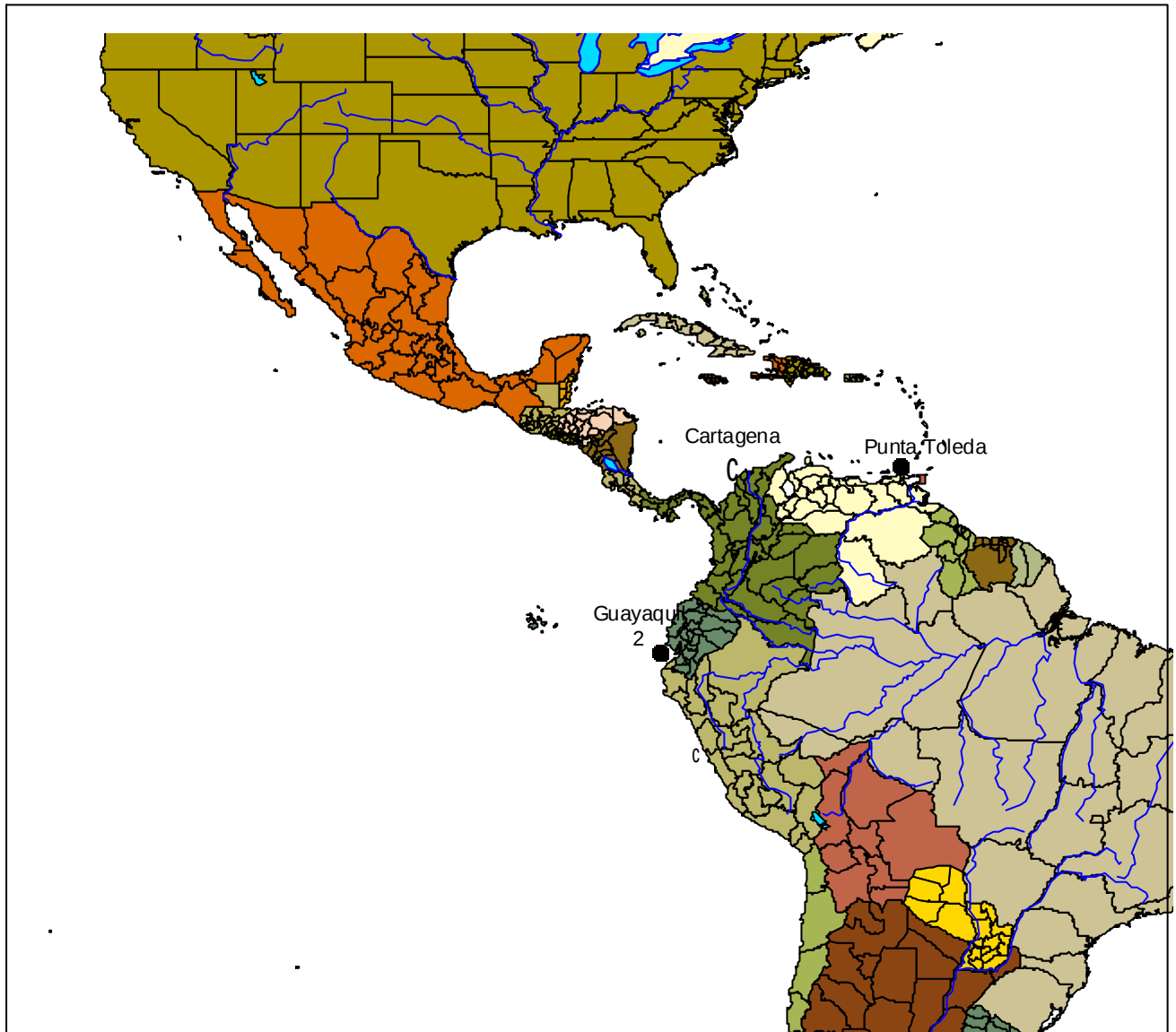
- Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- ▮ Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

WEST AFRICA



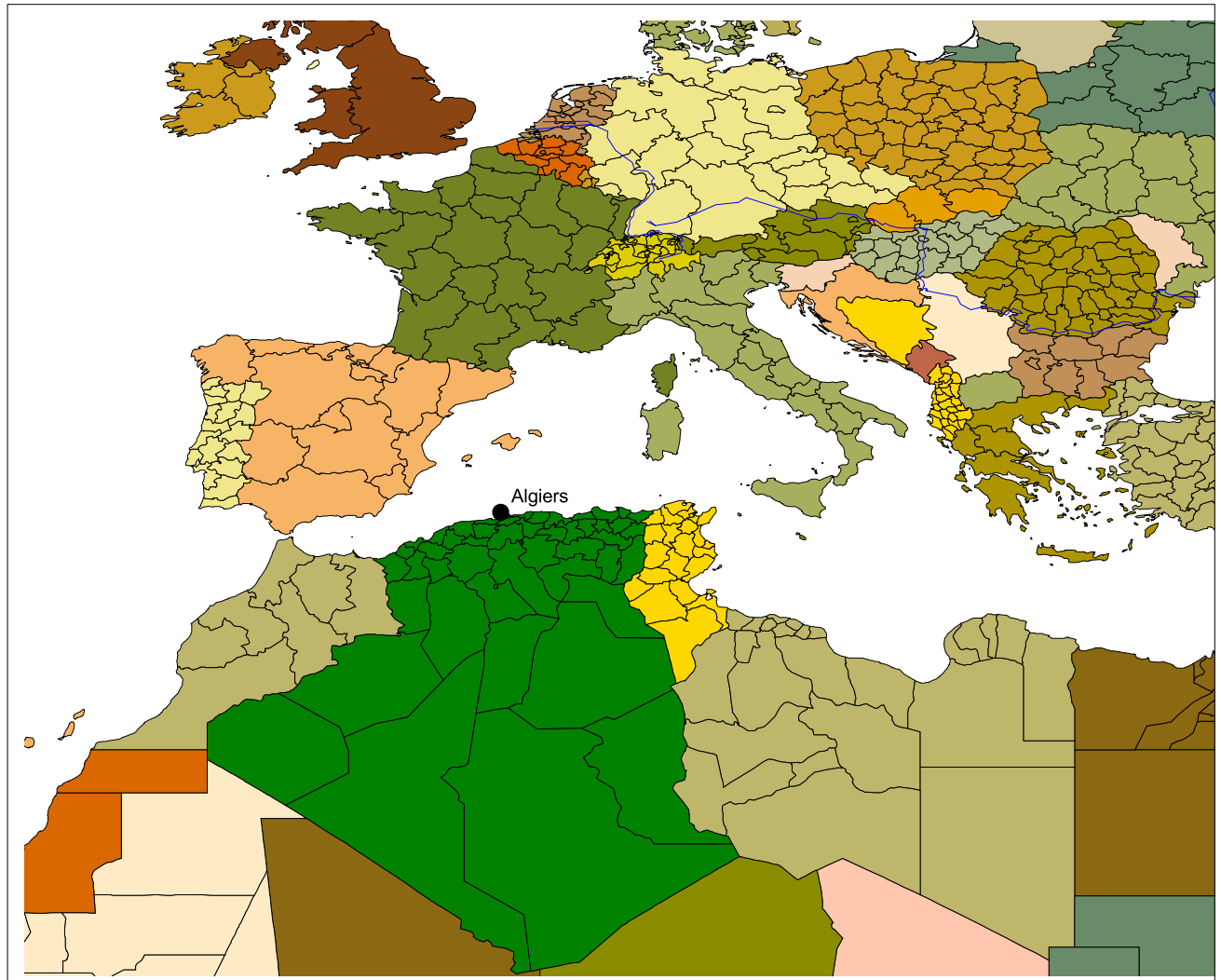
- Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- ▮ Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

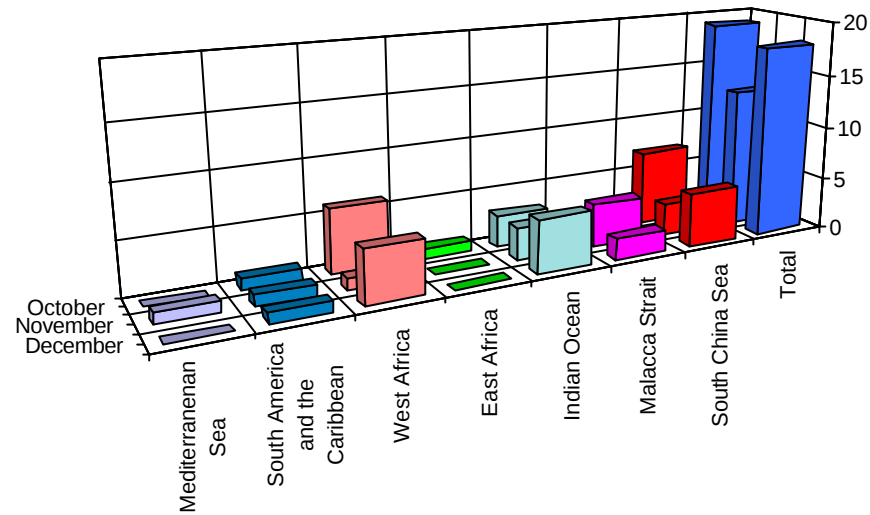


- # Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- C Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

MEDITERRANEAN SEA



- Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- ▮ Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS WHICH WERE REPORTED DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2001**ACTS ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED****ACTS ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTED**