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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

First quarterly report (January to, and including, March 2010)

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 and 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 was increasing or decreasing and advising on any new feature or pattern of significance. Further, and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 75/24, paragraph 18.41), the Secretariat has, since July 2002, started classifying separately any reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery **at sea** (international or territorial waters) *vis-à-vis* acts of armed robbery allegedly committed **in port areas**, as well as **attempted** acts of armed robbery.

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 Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (resolution A.1025(26), Annex, paragraph 2.2), as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships" means any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of piracy, committed for private ends and directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such a ship, within a State's internal waters, archipelagic waters and territorial sea;
- (b) any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described above".

2 Annexed hereto is a composite report covering all reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships which occurred between 1 January 2010 and the end of March 2010, and a regional analysis thereof, including a distinction between acts of piracy, acts of armed robbery against ships and attempted attacks.

3 The areas affected over the period under review were, East Africa (35 incidents, down from 47 reported last quarter), the South China Sea (23 incidents, down from 20 reported last quarter), West Africa (8 incidents, down from 14 reported last quarter), the Indian Ocean (6 incidents, as reported last quarter), South America (4 incidents in total, down from 8 reported last quarter, 1 incident in the Caribbean area, down from 2 reported last quarter, 2 incidents in the Pacific Ocean area, down from 3 reported last quarter and 1 incident in the Atlantic Ocean area, down from 3 reported last quarter) and 2 incidents in the Arabian Sea, up from 1 reported last quarter. Most of the attacks were reported in international waters while the ships were steaming.

4 During the period under review, about 110 crew members were held hostage, about 16 crew members were injured/assaulted and 1 crew member lost his life and 11 vessels were hijacked. In several of the incidents reported, the crew were violently assaulted/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 5,297, out of which 78 occurred during the first quarter of 2010. Of these 78 reported acts, 34 constituted alleged attempted attacks.

ANNEX 1
REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2010

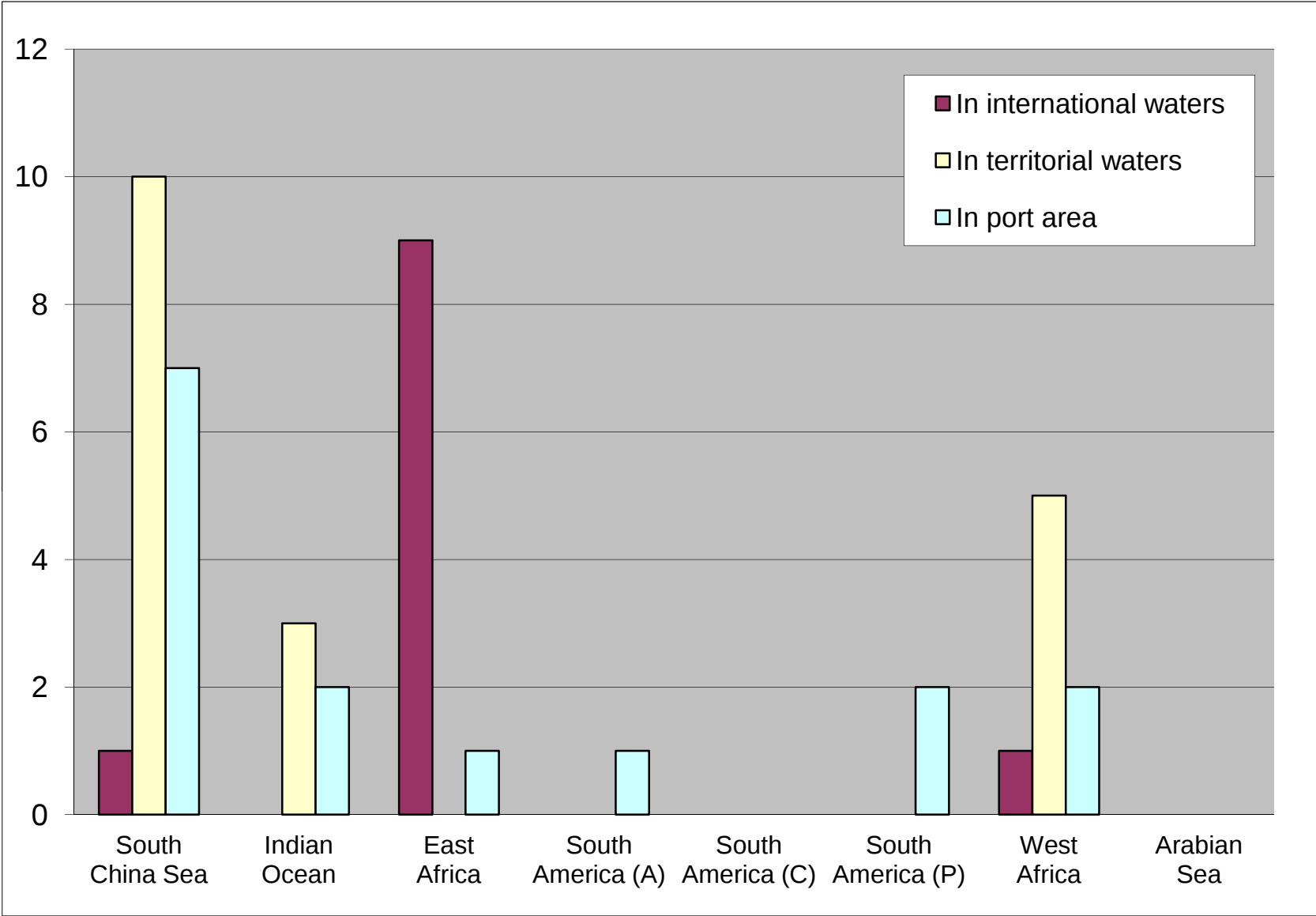
	South China Sea	Indian Ocean	East Africa	South America (A)	South America (C)	South America (P)	West Africa	Arabian Sea
Location of incident								
In international waters	1		9				1	
In territorial waters	10	3					5	
In port area	7	2	1	1		2	2	
Status of ship when attacked								
Steaming	5		5				2	
At anchor	7	2		1		1	4	
Not stated	6	3	5			1	2	
Number of persons involved in the attack								
1-4 persons	8	4				1	4	
5-10 persons	4	1		1			2	
More than 10 persons	6							
Not stated			10			1	2	
Consequences to the crew								
Actual violence against the crew			1				4	
Threat of violence against the crew	5	1		1			1	
Ship missing	1							
Ship hijacked	2		9					
None/not stated	10	4				2	3	
Weapons used by attackers								
Guns	2							
Knives	8	2		1				
Other								
None/not stated	8	3	10			2		
Parts of ship raided								
Master and crew accommodation							2	
Cargo area		1						
Store rooms	11	2				2	6	
Engine room	2							
Not boarded								
Not stated	5	2	10	1				
Other								
Lives lost (unit: people)			1					
Wounded crew (unit: people)			2				3	
Missing crew (unit: people)								
Crew hostage (unit: people)	18		87				5	
Assaulted (unit: people)			1					
Ransom								
Total number of incidents reported per area	18	5	10	1	0	2	8	0
Total number of incidents reported	44							

ANNEX 2
REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2010

	South China Sea	Indian Ocean	East Africa	South America (A)	South America (C)	South America (P)	West Africa	Arabian Sea
Location of incident								
In international waters	3	1	24					2
In territorial waters			1					
In port area	2				1			
Status of ship when attacked								
Steaming	3	1	20					2
At anchor	1		1		1			
Not stated	1		4					
Number of persons involved in the attack								
1-4 persons	1		5					
5-10 persons	1		6					1
More than 10 persons	1		1					1
Not stated	2	1	13		1			
Consequences to the crew								
Actual violence against the crew	2		12					
Threat of violence against the crew			3					
Ship missing								
Ship hijacked								
None/not stated	3	1	10		1			
Weapons used by attackers								
Guns			13					
Knives								
Other								
None/not stated	5		12		1			
Parts of ship raided								
Master and crew accomodation								
Cargo area								
Store rooms								
Engine room								
Not boarded								
Not stated								
Other								
Lives lost (unit: people)								
Wounded crew (unit: people)			10					
Missing crew (unit: people)								
Crew hostage (unit: people)								
Assaulted (unit: people)								
Ransom								
Total number of incidents reported per area	5	1	25	0	1	0	0	2
Total number of incidents reported	34							

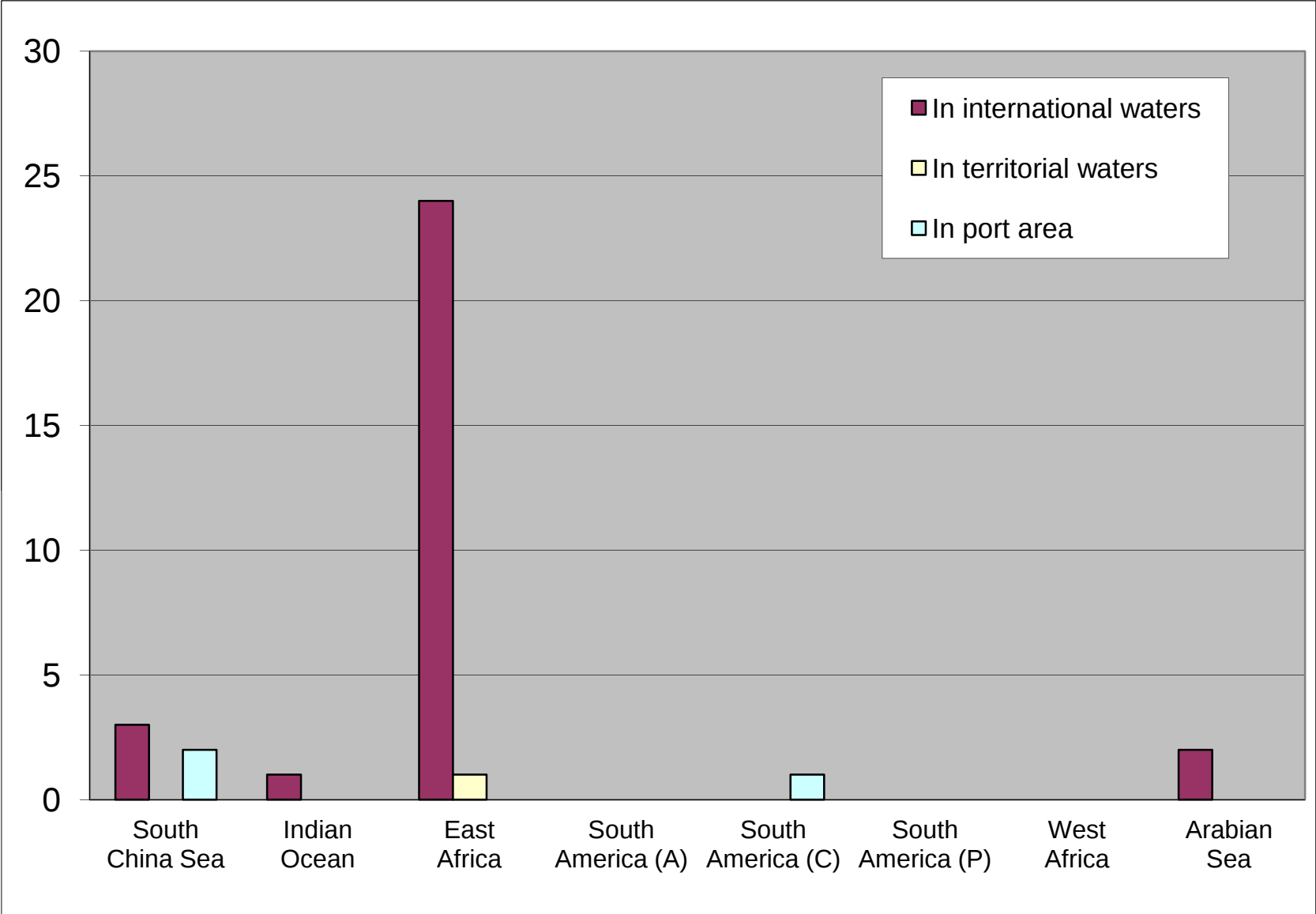
ANNEX 3

REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2010



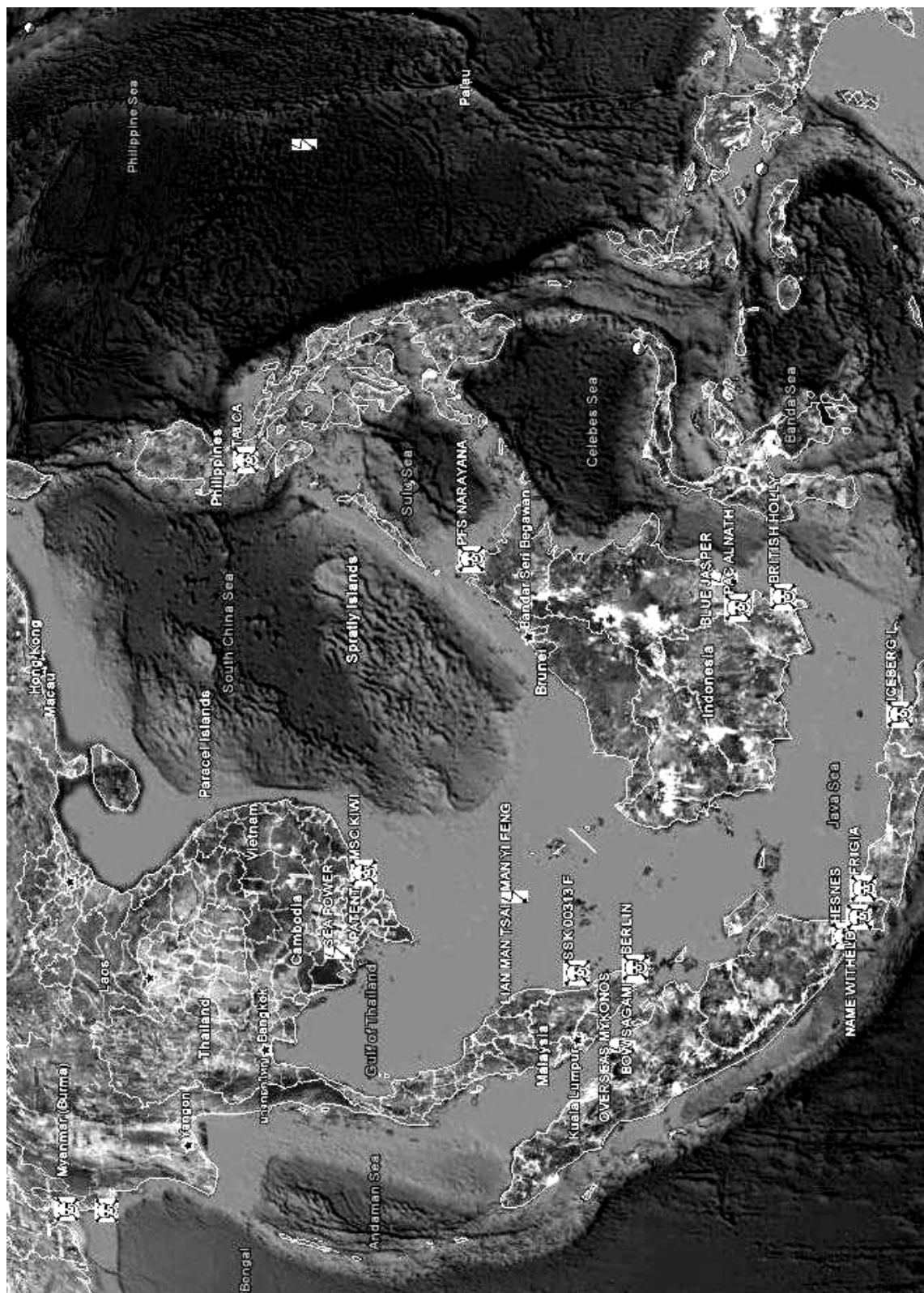
ANNEX 4

REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2010



ANNEX 5

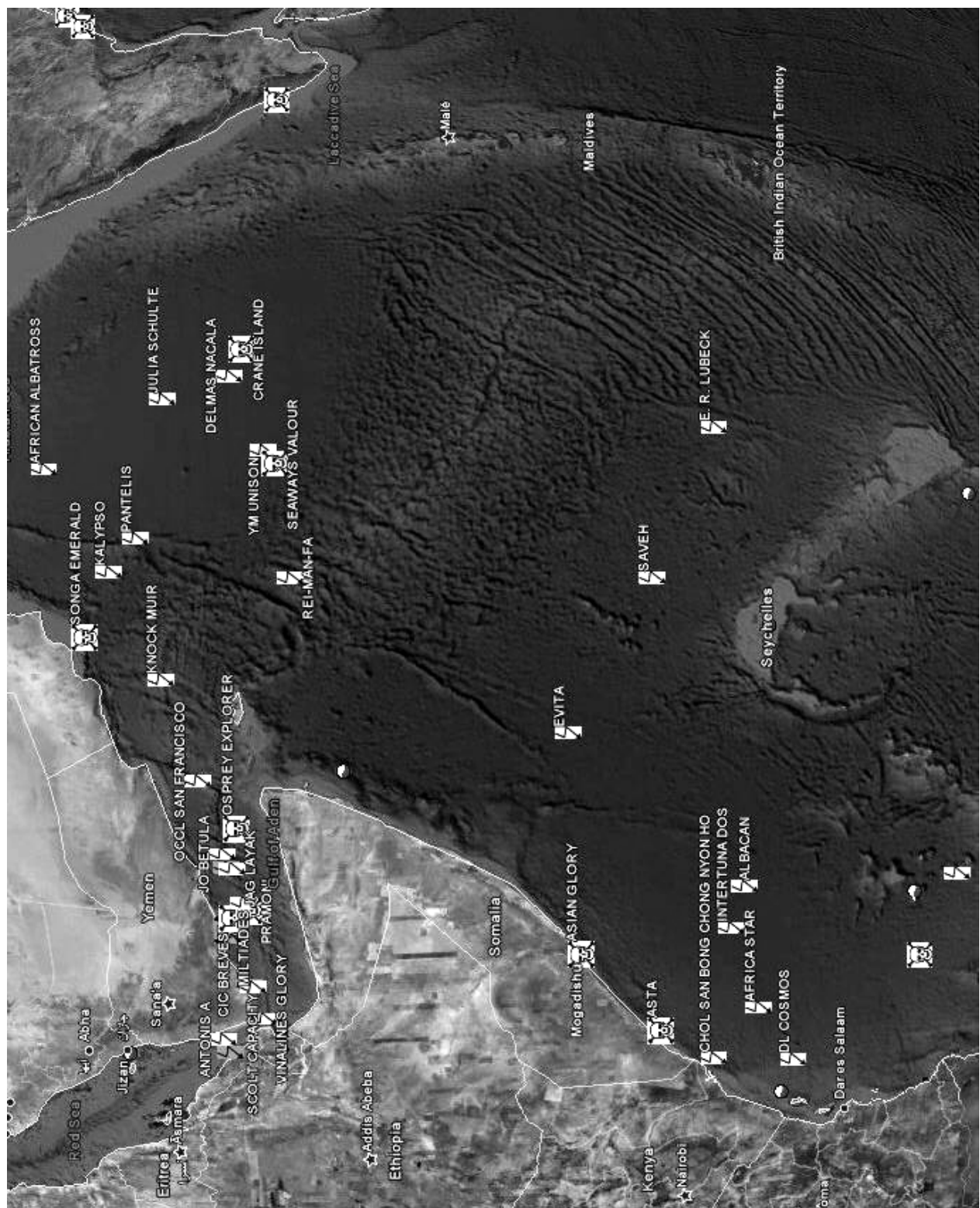
SOUTH CHINA SEA AND MALACCA STRAIT



Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

INDIAN OCEAN AND EAST AFRICA



⚡ Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

☠ Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

WEST AFRICA

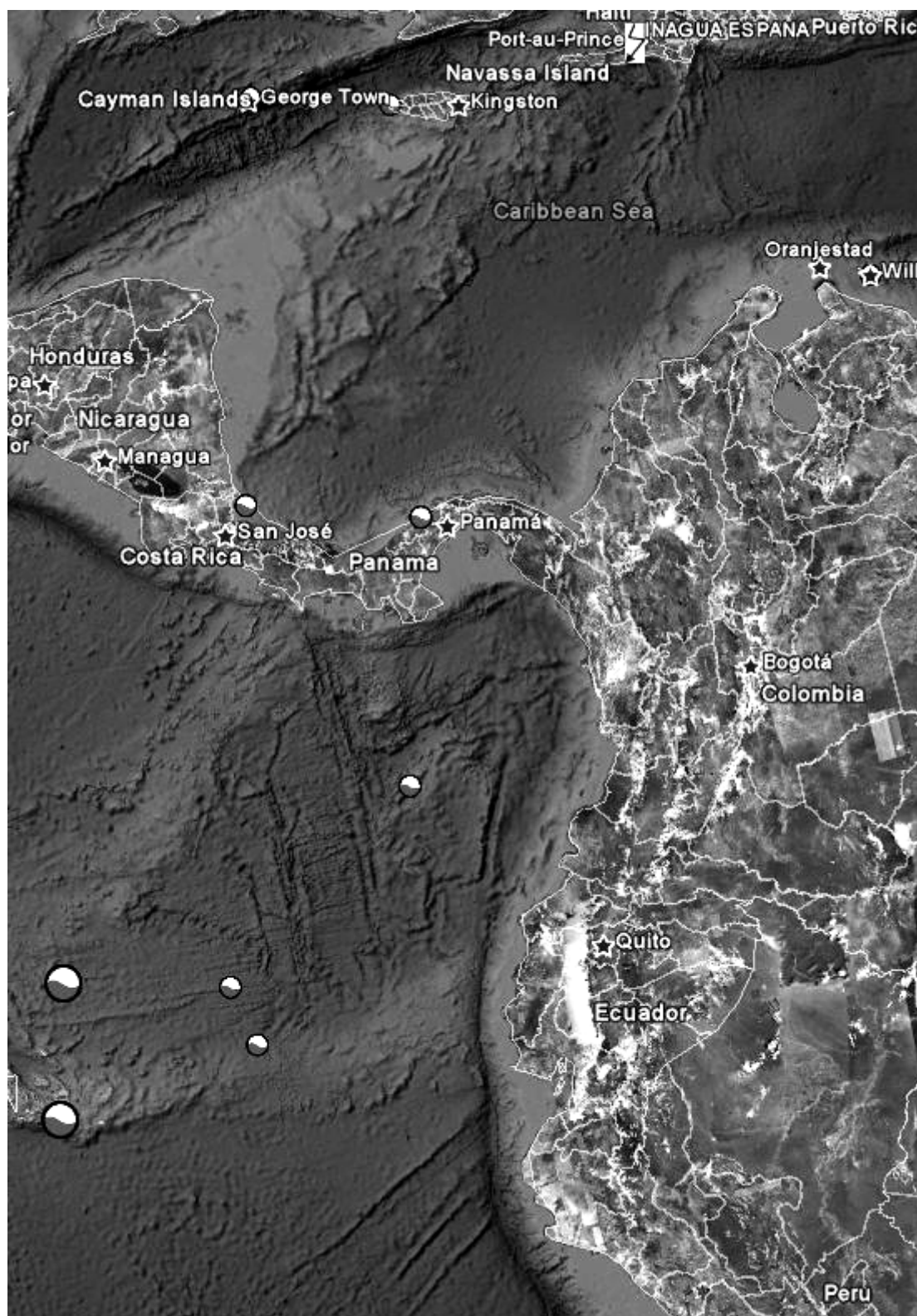


Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships



Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



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