



4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

Ref. T2-MSS/2.11.4.1

MSC.4/Circ.163
1 November 2010

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Third quarterly report (July to, and including, September 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 July 2010 and the end of September 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, South China Sea (42 incidents, up from 37 reported last quarter), East Africa (30 incidents, down from 49 reported last quarter) the Indian Ocean (11 incidents, down from 19 reported last quarter), West Africa (14 incidents, up from 11 reported last quarter), 2 incidents in the Arabian Sea, down from 8 reported last quarter, 2 incidents in the Persian Gulf, up from none reported last quarter, South America (12 incidents in total, up from 10 reported last quarter, 5 incidents in the Atlantic Ocean area, 4 incidents in the Pacific Ocean area and 3 incidents in the Caribbean). 57 attacks were reported in international waters, 38 in port areas and 18 in territorial waters. Out of the 113 reported incidents 61 occurred while the ships were steaming, 38 while the ship was at anchor and in the remaining 14 incidents the status was not reported.

4 During the period under review, about 145 crew members were held hostage, about 3 crew members were injured/assaulted and 10 ships were hijacked. In several of the incidents reported, the crew were violently assaulted/attacked by individuals or groups of one 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 5,544, out of which 113 occurred during the third quarter of 2010. Of these 113 reported acts, 33 constituted alleged attempted attacks.

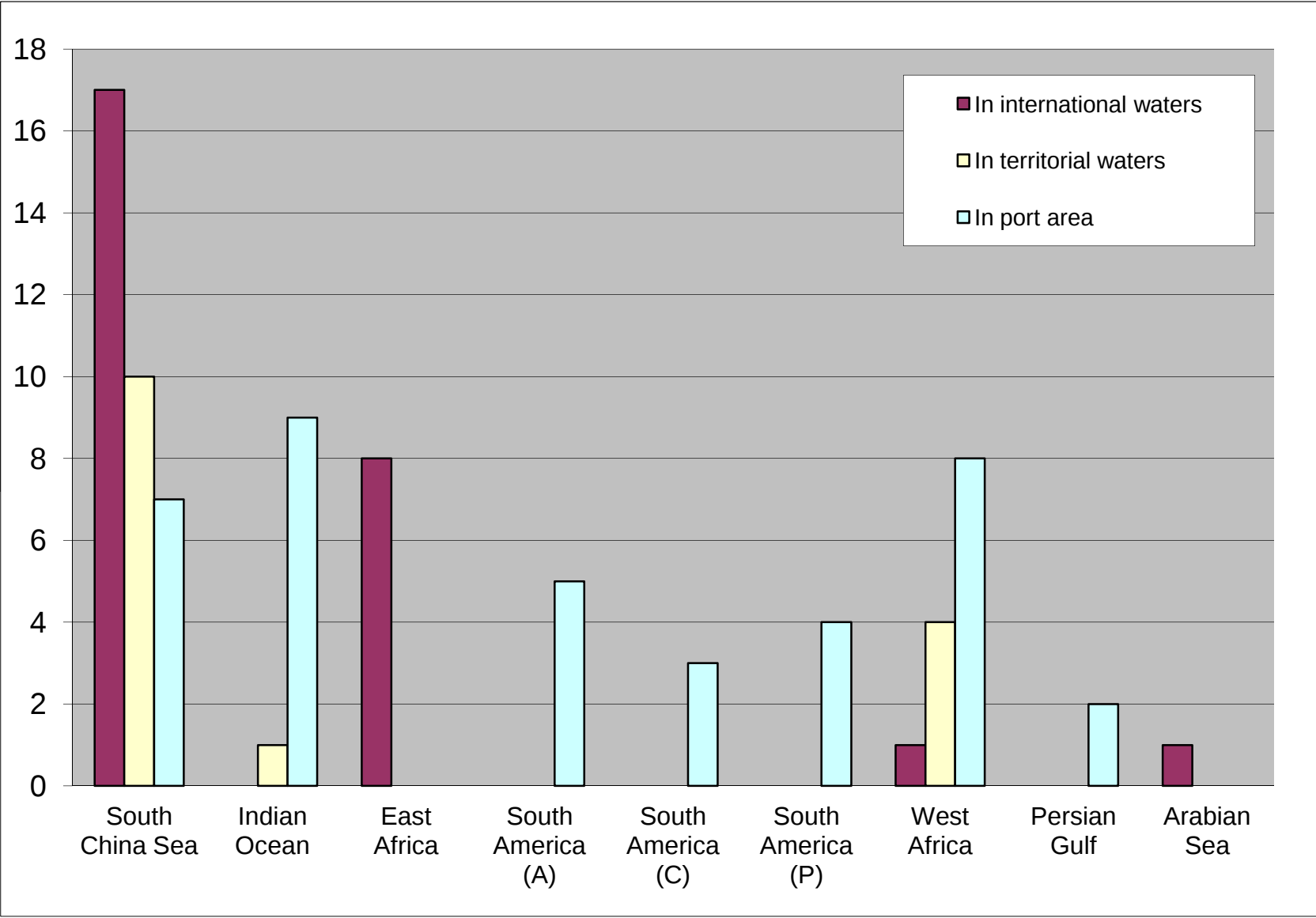
ANNEX 1
REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2010

	South China Sea	Indian Ocean	East Africa	South America (A)	South America (C)	South America (P)	West Africa	Persian Gulf	Arabian Sea
Location of incident									
In international waters	17	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	1
In territorial waters	10	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
In port area	7	9	0	5	3	4	8	2	0
Status of ship when attacked									
Steaming	14	1	8	0	0	0	4	0	1
At anchor	14	6	0	4	2	3	7	2	0
Not stated	6	3	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
Number of persons involved in the attack									
1-4 persons	8	4	0	1	1	3	6	2	1
5-10 persons	14	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
More than 10 persons	2	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0
Not stated	10	2	7	4	2	0	2	0	0
Consequences to the crew									
Actual violence against the crew	6	2	0	0	0	1	4	2	0
Threat of violence against the crew	8	4	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
Ship missing	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ship hijacked	1	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	0
None/not stated		4		5	3	2	6	0	1
Weapons used by attackers									
Guns	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Knives	19	9	0	0	1	4	6	0	0
Other	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0
None/not stated	12	1	0	5	2	0	4	0	0
Parts of ship raided									
Master and crew accommodation	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	
Cargo area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Store rooms	19	7	1	4	3	3	8	0	1
Engine room	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not boarded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not stated	10	3	7	1	0	1	4	0	0
Other									
Lives lost (unit: people)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wounded crew (unit: people)	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Missing crew (unit: people)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crew hostage (unit: people)	2	0	138	0	0	0	2	3	0
Assaulted (unit: people)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ransom									
Total number of incidents reported per area	34	10	8	5	3	4	13	2	1
Total number of incidents reported	80								

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 THIRD QUARTER OF 2010

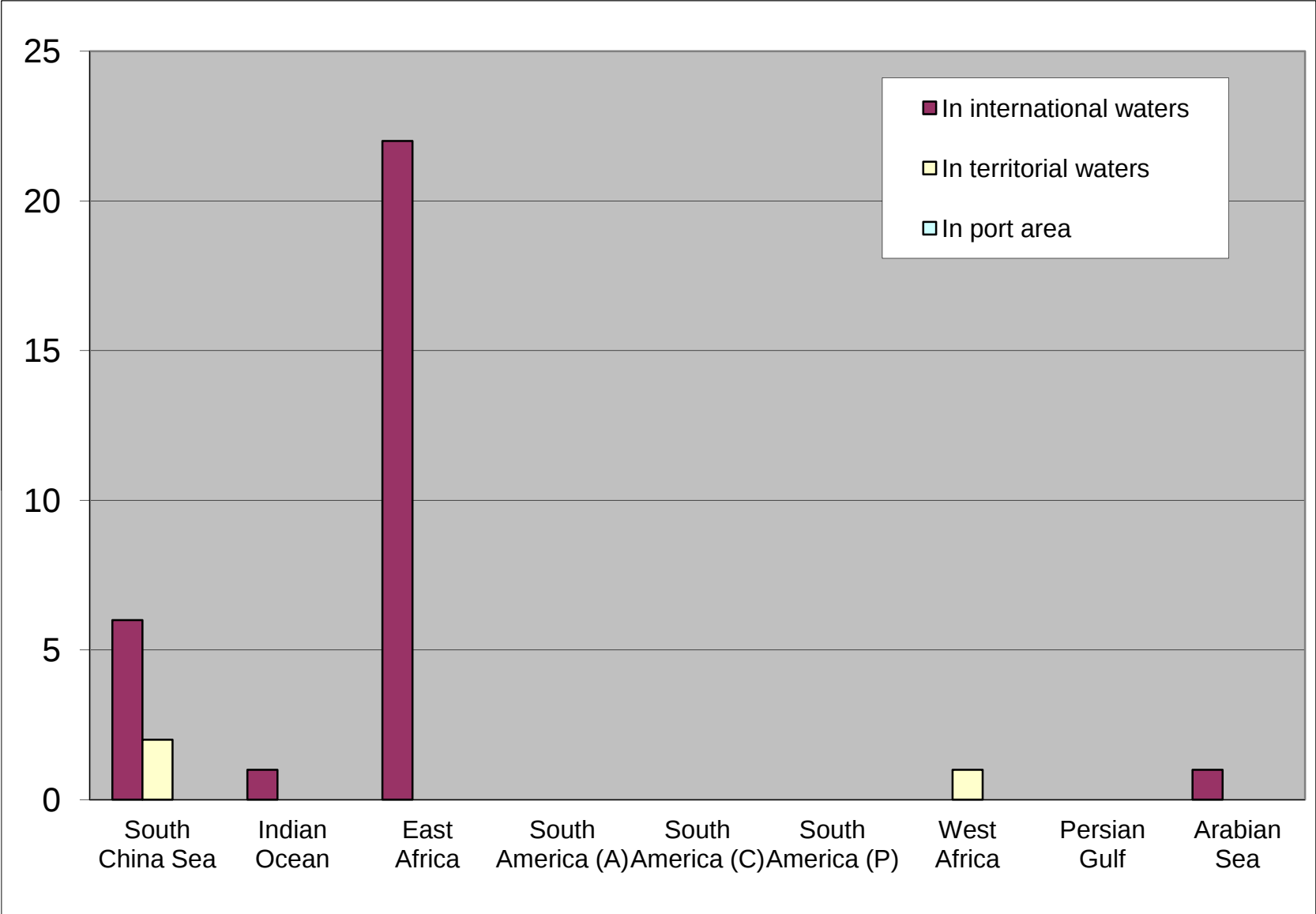
	South China Sea	Indian Ocean	East Africa	South America (A)	South America (C)	South America (P)	West Africa	Persian Gulf	Arabian Sea
Location of incident									
In international waters	6	1	22				0		1
In territorial waters	2	0	0				1		0
In port area	0	0	0				0		0
Status of ship when attacked									
Steaming	8	1	22				1		1
At anchor	0	0	0				0		0
Not stated	0	0	0				0		0
Number of persons involved in the attack									
1-4 persons	2	0	0				0		0
5-10 persons	1	1	7				0		0
More than 10 persons	0	0	3				1		0
Not stated	5	0	12				0		1
Consequences to the crew									
Actual violence against the crew	0	0	3				1		0
Threat of violence against the crew	4	1	14				0		0
Ship missing	0	0	0				0		0
Ship hijacked	0	0	0				0		0
None/not stated	4	0	5						1
Weapons used by attackers									
Guns	0	0	6				1		0
Knives	0	0	0				0		0
Other	0	1	4				0		0
None/not stated	8	0	12				0		1
Parts of ship raided									
Master and crew accomodation	0	0	0				0		0
Cargo area	0	0	0				0		0
Store rooms	0	0	0				0		0
Engine room	0	0	0				0		0
Not boarded	0	0	0				0		0
Not stated	0	0	0				0		0
Other									
Lives lost (unit: people)	0	0	0				0		0
Wounded crew (unit: people)	0	0	0				0		0
Missing crew (unit: people)	0	0	0				0		0
Crew hostage (unit: people)	0	0	0				0		0
Assaulted (unit: people)	0	0	0				0		
Ransom									
Total number of incidents reported per area	8	1	22	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total number of incidents reported	33								

ANNEX 3
REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2010



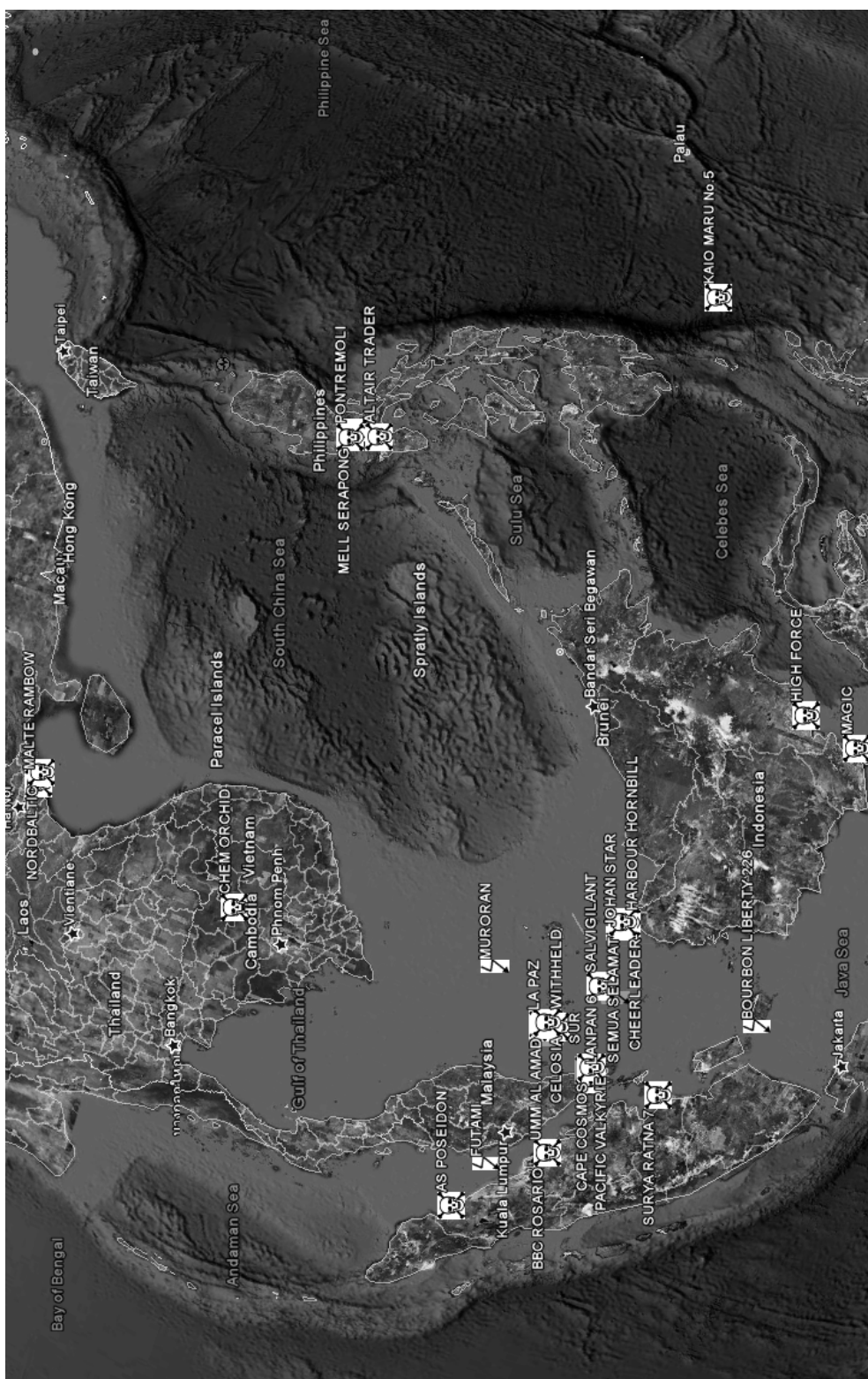
ANNEX 4

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



ANNEX 5

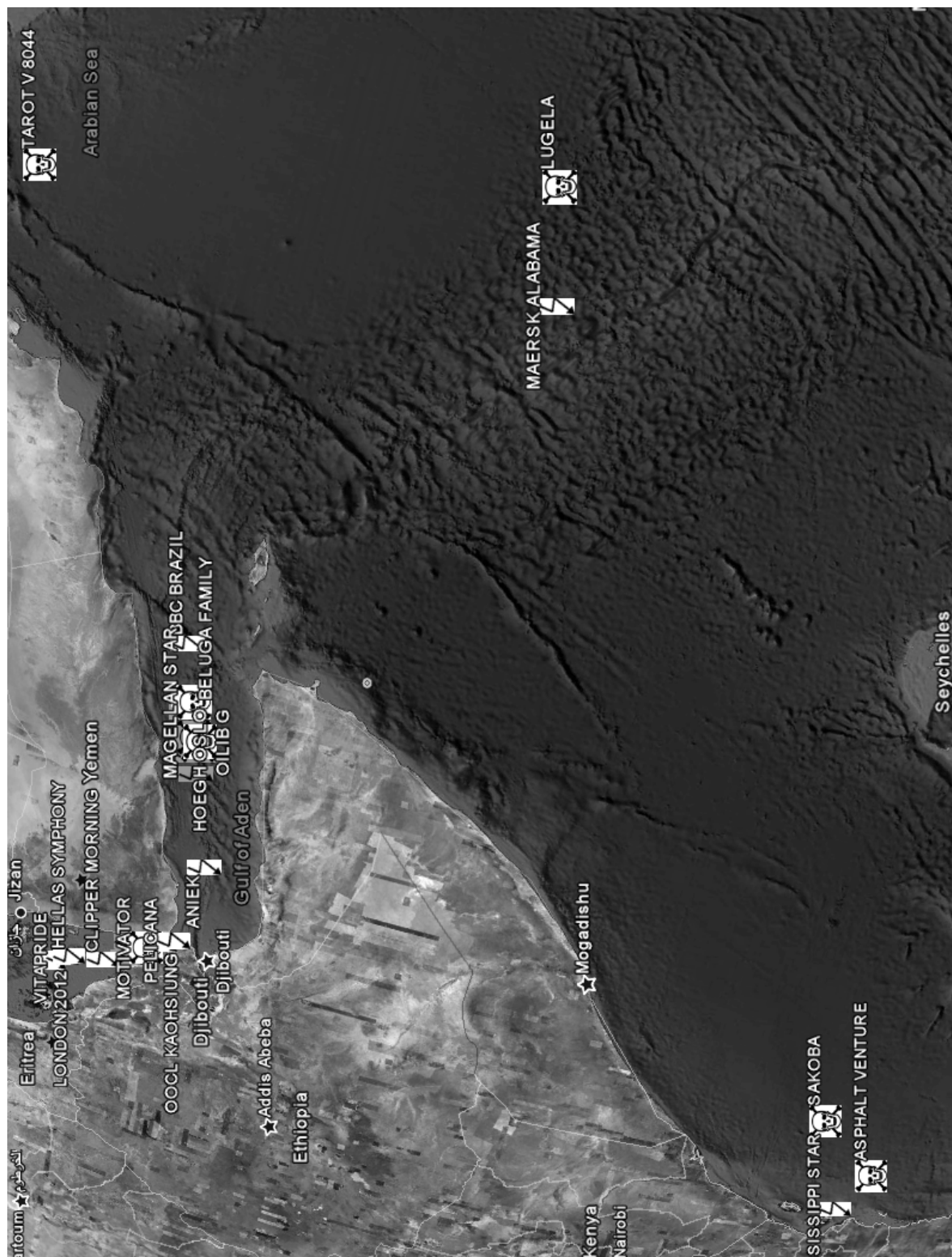
SOUTH CHINA SEA AND MALACCA STRAIT



Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

Reportedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

INDIAN OCEAN AND EAST AFRICA



Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships



Reportedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

WEST AFRICA

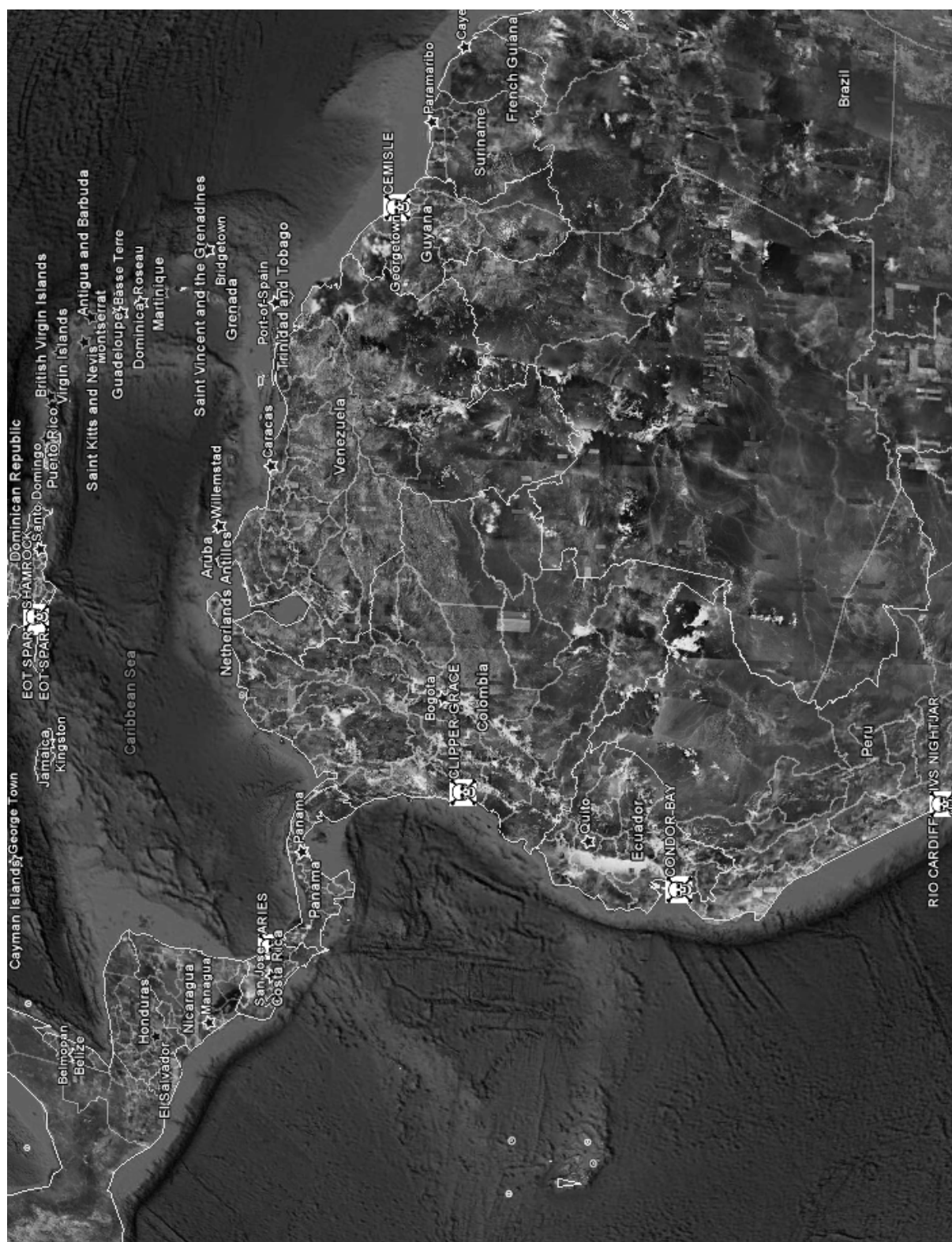


Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships



Reportedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships



Reportedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships