

MDAT – GOG Weekly Report 36-20

28th August – 04th September 2020
Number of Events reported:

3



BMP
West Africa



Global Counter
Piracy Guidance

OVERVIEW

Three events have been reported to MDAT-GOG this week.

Hijack: 1 Attack: 0 Boarding: 0 Suspicious Approach: 0 Robbery – Sea theft: 1 Sighting/Irregular Activity: 1



★ Hijack
 ★ Attack - Boarding
 ★ Robbery - Theft
 ★ Suspicious approach - Irregular activity
 ★ Miscellaneous

IMPORTANT

MDAT – GoG reports are primarily based upon information sent by vessels using the Voluntary Reporting Scheme. Masters and CSOs are encouraged to report as early as possible, events or sightings with as much detail as possible to allow MDAT-GOG to initiate the appropriate response.

Sometimes incomplete reports cause delay to the issue of Warnings or Advisories and our ability to contact Local Law Enforcement assets for assistance. Masters are requested to call MDAT-GoG (+33 298 228888) at the time of any incident occurring. This phone number is monitored permanently (24/7/365).

It is requested the Masters contact MDAT-GoG as soon as possible to facilitate quick actions by the MDAT-GoG and their regional contacts.

TYPE	AREA	POSITION	SUMMARY OF EVENT	Information reported to coastal authorities
HIJACK	F	04°34'15N – 001°31'07E	On the 28 th August 2020 at 0731UTC, local authorities reported a FV (NAME WITHHELD) hijacked in position 04°34'15N - 001°31'07E. The situation was updated at 1517 UTC by local authorities, they confirmed the end of the hijack and the hijackers had left the FV. The FV (NAME WITHHELD) has been reported safe and took a course to Tema escorted by a Ghana Navy patrol boat. MDAT-GOG Comment: This event refers to WARNING 001/AUG/001 and WARNING 001/AUG/2020 Update1.	MMCC AREA F
Theft	F	05°15N – 004°02W	During the night of 28 th August at Abidjan anchorage, a theft was reported on an MV (NAME WITHHELD). The incident was reported to the coastal authority. MDAT-GoG-Comment: This event was a Time Late Report.	Port Authority
Sighting / Irregular activity	E	06°01N – 001°20E	On the 28 th August 2020 at 0230UTC, whilst at Lome anchorage, an MV (NAME WITHHELD) spotted a suspicious craft closing on her position. Once informed by VHF, TOGO Navy immediately dispatched a patrol vessel to clear and investigate the area. The investigation led by Togolese authorities highlighted that this suspicious event was due to the activity of a small fishing craft working too close to the merchant vessel. MDAT-GoG Comment: The swift response of the Togolese Navy allowed a clear understanding of the situation in the anchorage area to be established.	MOC LOME

WARNINGS NOTICES RELEASE

Two WARNING Notices issued this week

WARNING 001/AUG/2020**TIME:** 28 AUG 2020 0735UTC.**DESCRIPTION:** MDAT GoG have received reports of a FV being attacked at approximately 0735 UTC on 28 August 2020. The vessel is suspected to have been hijacked and currently heading eastwards. Last reported position 04°29' N, 001°45'E the 28 AUG 20 at 1346 UTC, heading South-East.

Local authorities have been notified and are responding.

POSITION: 04°34'15"N 001°31'07"E (approximately 110 nautical miles Southeast of Tema, Ghana).

Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution

WARNING 001/AUG/2020 – UPDATE 1:**TIME:** 28 AUG 2020 at 0735UTC.**DESCRIPTION:** FV vessel suspected to have been hijacked and currently heading eastwards. Last reported position 04°40' N, 001°29'E on 28 AUG 20 at 1556 UTC, heading North West. Hijackers have left the vessel. Vessel is safe. Local authorities are responding.**POSITION:** 04°40' N, 001°29'E (approximately 110NM South East of Tema, Ghana).

Vessels transiting the area are advised to exercise extreme caution

ADVISORIES NOTICES RELEASE

Nil ADVISORY Notices issued this week

MDAT-GOG NOTICES RELEASE

One MDAT-GOG Notice issued this week

MDAT-GOG NOTICE 001/SEP/2020**Source: Reported to MDAT-GoG by local authorities****Description:** Information from military source indicate an armed group from Rivers State, NIGERIA are planning a piracy attack against vessels in area D (especially Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea) since the 1st of September. It is likely the attack will occur at low tide, when the monitoring units are missing. Therefore, you are requested to be on maximum alert, to increase vigilance and surveillance and intensify intelligence both on the water and in the port. Systematically identify and search all suspicious boats coming from or leaving Nigeria. Report any suspicions and take into account any diversion.*This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting***MARITIME CRIME REPORTED INSIDE PORT AREA OR ANCHORAGE AREA**

One Maritime Crime Activity reported this week

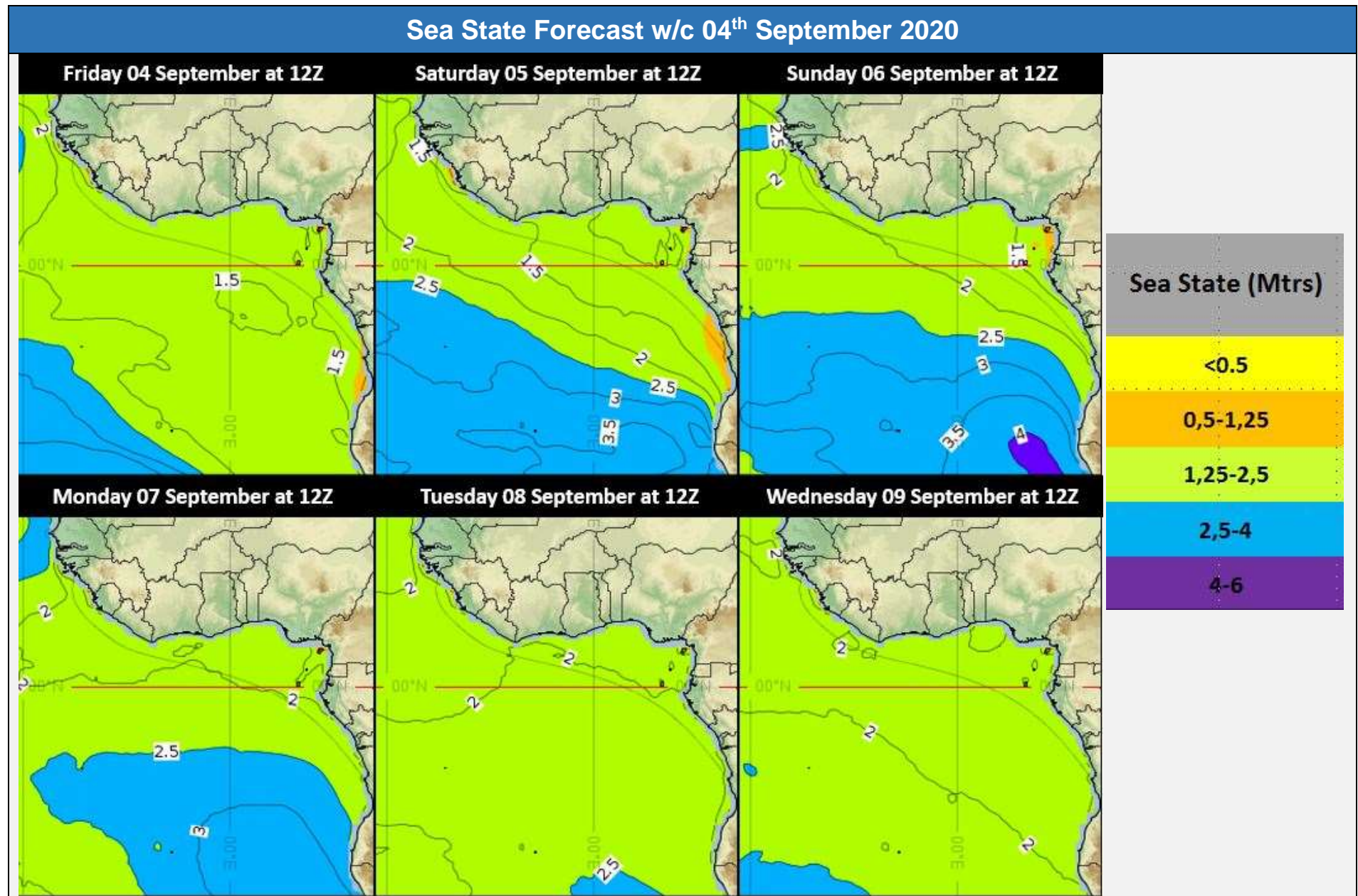
COTE D'IVOIRE, Abidjan: Theft**NOTES**

Any queries regarding Advisory Notices ring: 0033 298 22 88 88 only, for further information.

ADVISORIES are not classified as Maritime Security Events and have not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.

CONTACT

E-mail: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org
 Phone : +33 (0) 2 98 22 88 88 (emergency)
 Phone : +33 (0) 2 98 22 13 02 (exercise)
Phones and mail are monitored 24/7/365.
Website: <https://gog-mdat.org>
(Only with Google Chrome or Firefox)



GENERAL INFORMATION

The MDAT-GOG has been in operation since 20 June 16. It is a virtual reporting mechanism supporting the interregional architecture defined by the Yaounde Code of Conduct. The primary output from the MDAT-GoG is to contribute by maintaining coherent maritime situational awareness in the central and western African Maritime Space, with the ability to inform and support industry, contributing to the safety and security of the Mariner in the regional maritime domain. All vessels are encouraged to report to the MDAT-GoG using the existing reporting formats. The information supplied by vessels will be treated as commercially confidential.

All details can be found on [SHOM Chart 8801CSD](#) or [UKHO Chart Q6114](#), 30 June 2016, to allow vessels to report their vessels when transiting the revised Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA), also described on both security charts with the MDAT-GOG, using the email address watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org. Phone number is monitored permanently (+33 (0)298 22 88 88).

Masters are encouraged to comply with [Best Management Practices West Africa \(BMP WA\)](#) and [Global Counter Piracy Guidance](#) during their presence in Voluntary Reporting Area.

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Sometimes incomplete reports cause delay to the issue of warnings and our ability to contact Local Navy assets for assistance. Masters are requested to call MDAT-GoG (+33 298 228888) at the time of any incident occurring. This phone number is monitored permanently (24/7/365).

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Definitions

Hijack: Unauthorised persons have illegally boarded the ship and taken control of the vessel against the will of the Master and crew.

Boarding: An illegal boarding is where the attackers have boarded the ship but have not taken control of the vessel.

Attempted Boarding: Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat, but are thwarted by BMP measures, PAST, weather conditions, lack of appropriate equipment, etc.

Attack: The ship has been subjected to an aggressive approach by unidentified craft and weapons have been discharged.

Suspicious approach: Definite alteration towards the ship, rapid increase in speed which cannot be accounted for in the prevailing conditions. Sudden changes in course towards ship and aggressive behaviour.

Robbery: Theft realized in territorial waters with threat/violence to crew.

Theft: Theft realized in territorial waters with no violence.

Sightings and Irregular Activity: Suspicious activity not associated with the locality or prevailing conditions.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[Naval Oceanic and Hydrographic Service \(SHOM\)](#)
[United Kingdom Hydrographic Office \(UKHO\)](#)
[IMB Live Piracy Reports](#)
[Global Counter Maritime](#)

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