



WEEKLY REPORT



27/03/19

Maritime Security | Underwater Services | Operations Support | Agency Services

London | Lomé | Cotonou | Lagos



Contents

Maritime Security Incidents	Page
• Nigeria	2
• Recent History & Trends	3
Militancy, Community Conflict and Industrial Action	4
West Africa Shipping News	5

Africa Risk Compliance

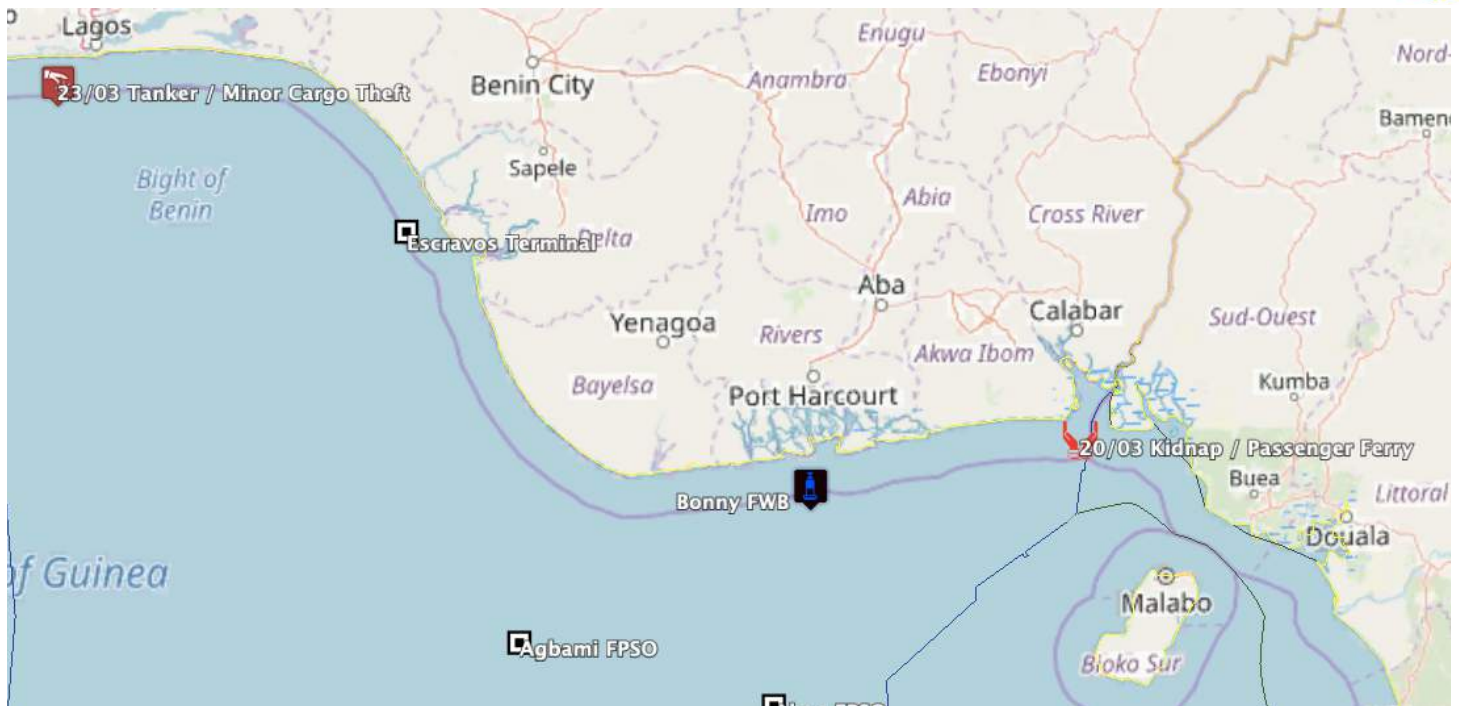
Headquartered in London, UK and with branch offices in Lomé, Togo, Cotonou, Benin and Lagos, Nigeria, Africa Risk Compliance Limited (ARC) was established to bring together a team of Africa experts to address challenges faced by those operating in Africa. With roots in the security sector, our key service offering is the management and arrangement of security in the complex jurisdictions of the nations around the Gulf of Guinea.

ARC's range of services in West Africa include Security, Underwater Services, Operational Support and Agency Services, acting on behalf of our clients to advise and guide on the options available, allowing improved and informed decision making. Our depth of knowledge and experience in West Africa has resulted in the development of our business offerings that go far beyond basic security, meaning that our clients can rest assured that their assets and people are safe when ARC are engaged. We take pride in the fact that on so many occasions and with any range of problems encountered, from immigration to marine equipment procurement, we have always been positioned to support our clients need.

Visit Us:



Maritime Security Incidents - Nigeria



Reports

- **20 March 2019, 0700hrs local. Kidnap for Ransom. Entrance to Calabar River Mouth, Nigeria.** Pirates in a speed boat attacked and boarded the passenger boat a short distance away from a Nigerian Navy platform. The pirates stole passenger valuables and cash and then kidnapped 2 crew members (including the Captain) and 3 passengers (2 Cameroonians and 1 Nigerian).
- **24 March 2019, 2335hrs local. Minor Cargo Theft (unsuccessful). Secure Anchorage Area, Lagos, Nigeria.** Watchkeeping personnel onboard the tanker noticed two persons onboard the vessel, who had inserted a sleeve into the vessel's tanks. The ship informed nearby patrol boats, which approached the vessel and resulted in the two persons to jump overboard. Some reports received after the incident stated that the thieves were later arrested.

Analysis

The area near Calabar river has seen several kidnap incidents since the start of the year, with the targets being local vessels or fishing vessels. The instability in Cameroon, the presence of established smuggling routes into Nigeria from Cameroon and lack of law enforcement in the area has allowed criminals to operate easily. Whilst there is a lower threat to large merchant vessels in this area, vessels calling at Calabar should still remain highly vigilant against any opportunistic attacks.

The attempt to steal refined fuel cargo from the tanker at the Secure Anchorage Area is the latest of a common criminality. There were numerous incidents in 2018 of a similar nature. Whilst there is rarely a threat to the lives of seafarers, as robbers will usually flee once discovered, some do carry weapons such as knives or tools, so a degree of caution is advised.

Current Threat Level: HIGH

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Port Security Statistics

Number of incidents in last 6 months

Lagos	10
Takoradi	5
Onne	3
Conakry	2
Pointe Noire	2
Lomé	2
Abidjan	1

Terminals and Anchorages with highest number of incidents in last 6 months

Secure Anchorage Area, Lagos	6
Takoradi Anchorage	5
STS and Main Anchorage, Lagos	3
Federal Lighter Terminal, Onne	2
Conakry Anchorage	2
Pointe Noire Anchorage	2

Stowaway Statistics

	Last 3 months	Last 6 months	Last 12 months
Lagos	1	3	5
Takoradi	1	1	1
Conakry	2	2	3
Abidjan	1	1	1
Dakar	0	0	1
Douala	0	0	1
Freetown	0	0	1

Piracy Statistics

Vessels Attacked

This month	7
Since start of 2019	33
Since start of 2018	193

Crew & Passengers Kidnapped

This month	18
Since start of 2019	35
Since start of 2018	230

Incidents involving security forces and merchant vessels since start of 2018

Embarked Navy Guards	21
Armed Escort Vessel	7

Success rate since start of 2018 (no crew kidnapped and vessel not hijacked)

Embarked Navy Guards	100%
Armed Escort Vessel	85%

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Militant Activity

Statements & Threats

No statements or threats to report

Attacks

No incidents to report

Community Conflict

22 March 2019. The Governor of Bayelsa State, Seriake Dickson, has accused international oil companies of "constituting the biggest threat to the security and stability of the state and the Niger Delta region under the guise of awarding crude oil pipeline surveillance contracts". The contracts are often awarded to local communities which can lead to conflict with those communities that failed to win contracts.

27 March 2019. The Nigerian Navy have stated that of the 33 security points in the Lagos area, only 9 are currently manned due to the lack of manpower, and the overstretching of the Nigerian Navy's capability. The Command Operation Officer of Western Naval Command, Capt M.M. Braimoh said that they have arrested 33 vessels in the last 6 months, but now do not have enough men to guard the arrested vessels, and called for other security agencies to support the work.

Industrial Action

26 March 2019. Clearing agents have raised concerns about multiple customs checks at Nigerian ports, which they claim are affecting cargo clearance processes. The agents released a 72-hour ultimatum and that they would shut down the port from Monday 1 April 2019 if the issue is not solved by the Nigerian Customs Service.

Current Militant Threat Level: MEDIUM

Current Community Threat Level: HIGH

Current Strike/Industrial Action Threat Level: MEDIUM

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Shipping News

Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has invited tenders for the 2019-2020 fuel supply programme from potential traders for Nigeria's crude and the importation of petroleum products. Whilst about 250 Nigerian and international companies were involved in the last bidding process in January 2018, 50 companies were eventually selected.

The Nigerian government has started the rehabilitation of the Port Harcourt refineries, in the first maintenance of the refineries since 2000. Nigeria aims to achieve 90% local refining capacity.

The CEO of the Nigerian Shipper's Council has criticised the increase in prices on Nigerian-bound cargo due to the threat of piracy, claiming that although there were some issues, incidents "are not too frequent in our shores and is of less magnitude but our detractors will always magnify it to portray us in bad light" and that "many countries in the world were also witnessing same". According to ARC's monitoring, there have been close to 200 attacks in West Africa since the start of 2018, with over 200 seafarers and passengers kidnapped.

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