

# WEEKLY REPORT



19/06/19

Maritime Security | Underwater Services | Operations Support | Agency Services

London | Lomé | Cotonou | Lagos



## Contents

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

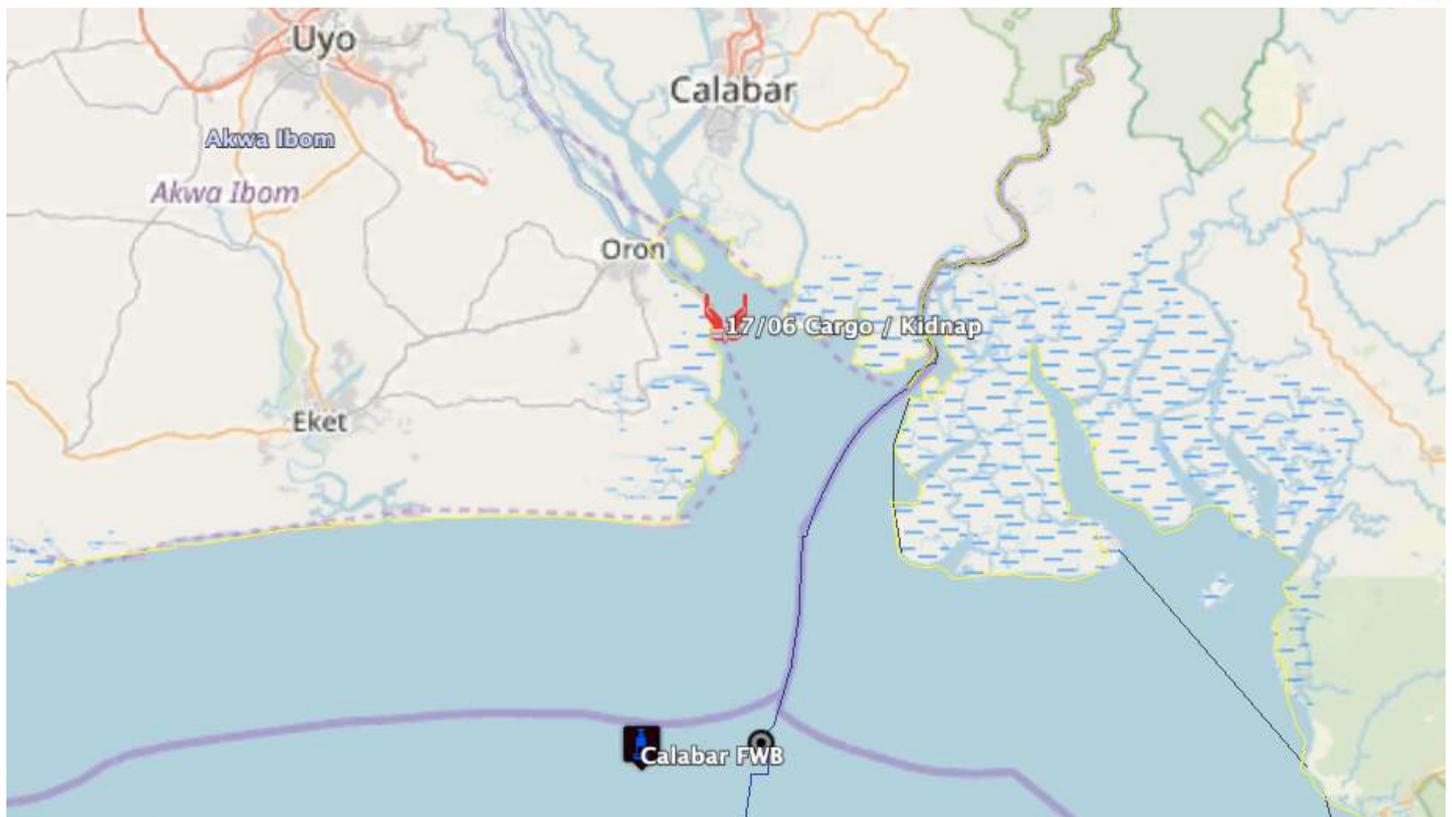
## Africa Risk Compliance

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 maritime security to immigration, from hull cleaning to marine equipment procurement, we have always been positioned to support our clients need.

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## Reports

- **17 June 2019. Kidnap for Ransom. Calabar River, Nigeria.** A report in Nigerian media stated that a cargo vessel “MV Esther” was attacked 2 hours after leaving Calabar port on Monday 17th June 2019. According to the report, the ship’s captain was kidnapped. So far there has been no official confirmation of the attack, and initial reports provide almost no detail on exact position or the vessel..

## Analysis

There are so far very few details on the incident on 17th June 2019. The waters on the Cameroon-Nigeria border, the Bakassi Peninsular and Calabar River have seen a number of incidents this year. This has been caused by 3 factors: unrest in the area caused by the internal conflict in Cameroon between the Anglophone-speaking region on the border with Nigeria and the Francophone majority; conflict between foreign and local fishing vessels; the presence of a major smuggling route between Nigeria and Cameroon. Whether this incident was directly caused by any of these factors will only be confirmed once more details are released, in particular the type of vessel and the nationality of the abducted Captain.

There is currently a high level of robbery and kidnapping in the creeks and waterways of the Niger Delta region. There has not been a major piracy incident offshore Nigeria since early May. This pattern fits the usual quiet time of May and June, with the last 4 years showing the same pattern. Whilst the threat may be lower offshore, there is still a significant threat of attacks on vessels near to shore and navigating inland waterways.

**Current Inland Waters Threat Level: HIGH**  
**Current Offshore Threat Level: MEDIUM**

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# Maritime Security - Recent History and Trends



## Port Security Statistics

### Number of incidents in last 6 months

Lagos	9
Onne	6
Takoradi	3
Lomé	2
Conakry	1
Douala	1
Abidjan	1

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

STS and Main Anchorage, Lagos	5
Secure Anchorage Area, Lagos	3
Takoradi Anchorage	3
Federal Lighter Terminal, Onne	3
Federal Ocean Terminal, Onne	3
Lomé Anchorage	2
Douala Anchorage	1

## Stowaway Statistics - Number of Incidents

	Last 3 months	Last 6 months	Last 12 months
Lagos	0	1	4
Takoradi	0	1	1
Conakry	0	2	2
Abidjan	0	1	1
Cotonou	1	2	3
Dakar	1	1	1
Lomé	1	1	1

## Piracy Statistics

### Vessels Attacked

This month (last 30 days)	13
Since start of 2019	78
Since start of 2018	239

### Crew & Passengers Kidnapped

This month (last 30 days)	4
Since start of 2019	54
Since start of 2018	249

### Incidents involving security forces and merchant vessels since start of 2018

Embarked Navy Guards	25
Armed Escort Vessel	8

### 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

Nothing to report

### Attacks

16 June 2019. Militants attacked military personnel from 29 Battalion of 6 Division Nigerian Army (NA) in conjunction with personnel of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) who were guarding Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) Trans National Pipelines at Gio community in Tai Local Government Area (LGA) of Rivers State. In the gunfight, 1 soldier and 2 personnel from the NSCDC were killed and had their weapons stolen. In subsequent actions, the military personnel tracked the attackers, immobilised their vehicle and killed the leader, a well known cultist and oil bunkerer, Korobe Menele Loveday.

## Community Conflict

Agge community in Ekeremor Local Government Area, Bayelsa State, have given Sterling Oil Exploration and Production Company, SEEPCo, Nigeria Limited, two weeks to settle its issue with host community or have the firm's operations shut down. The ultimatum by the community follows months of Agge leaders' disagreement with the indigenous oil firm over the parties' Global Memorandum of Understanding, development projects, employment slots, levies and royalties.

## Industrial Action

Nothing to report.

**Current Militant Threat Level: MEDIUM**

**Current Community Threat Level: MEDIUM**

**Current Strike/Industrial Action Threat Level: MEDIUM**

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A study by two NGOs has revealed that Ghana loses up to US\$81 million every year due to local illegal fishing practices known as "Saiko", where larger trawlers target the staple catch of Ghanaian canoe fishers and sell it back to fishing communities at a profit, bypassing local regulations, inspections and taxes.

The Commission of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has developed measures to intensify effort towards combating piracy and other maritime criminality with the support of development partners. A statement from the Commission said development partners such as the European Union (EU), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the governments of Germany, Denmark and the USA were helpful in that regard.

Rivers State governor Nyesom Wike has said the government will not tolerate the shutting down of oil production facilities of operating companies in the state. "I will not support any company not to carry out their corporate social responsibilities to their host communities. However, communities must not take laws into their hands. They must not stop production by the operating companies. Such actions will negatively affect the finances of the Federal Government, the state and the local government areas". He said in cases where companies fail to act within the expectations of the communities, the State Government will mediate through the Steering Committee on Cluster Development Boards.

Following recent attacks on rivers and waterways in the Niger Delta region, the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) says it will partner with military and para-military agencies to strengthen security on the waterways.



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