

# New wave of Somali pirate attacks

So far this year, pirates have attacked 78 ships, successfully hijacking 19. Seventeen ships – with at least 285 crew – are currently being held for ransom in the area, according to the International Maritime Bureau

**1 Apr 1:** British Royal Navy reports diving boat **Indian Ocean Explorer**, with crew of seven, hijacked near Seychelles. Vessel and crew taken to Somali pirate base at Harardhere

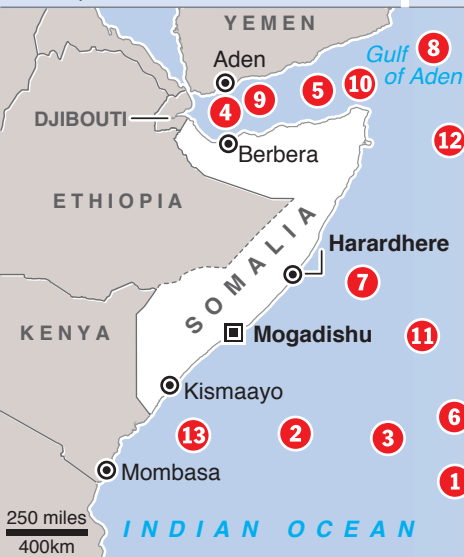
**2 Apr 4:** Pirates hijack German freighter **Hansa Stavanger**. 24 crew members seized: five Germans, three Russians, two Ukrainians, two Filipinos and 12 Tuvalus

**3 Apr 4:** Taiwanese ship **Win Far 161** seized. Crew of 30 reported safe

**4 Apr 5:** Yemeni fishing boat with 13 crew members hijacked

**5 Apr 6:** British-owned bulk carrier **Malaspina Castle** hijacked with crew of 24, 16 of them Bulgarians

**6 Apr 6:** Taiwanese tuna fishing boat with 30 crew seized



**7 Apr 8:** U.S.-flagged **Maersk Alabama** attacked. Captain Richard Philips rescued four days later after U.S. Navy SEALs kill three pirates



**8 Apr 10:** French special forces mount attack to free five hostages aboard yacht **Tanit**. One hostage, two pirates killed

**9 Apr 11:** Italian **Buccaneer**, with crew of 16, hijacked

**10 Apr 11-14:** Seizure of two Egyptian boats with 36 crew

**11 Apr 14:** Pirates seize Greek-managed bulk carrier **MV Irene EM**, with at least 21 crew, in rare overnight attack

**12 Apr 14:** Pirates in several speedboats capture Lebanese-owned cargo ship **MV Sea Horse**. Number of crew taken hostage not known

**13 Apr 14:** Pirates attack, but fail to hijack, second U.S. merchant ship, **MV Liberty Sun** (below). Twenty American crew members unharmed

