



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC/Circ.970  
1 July 2000

## REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

### Second quarterly report (April to June 2000)

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 piracy<sup>1</sup> and armed robbery against ships reported to the Organization and, in addition, 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 is increasing or decreasing and advising on any new feature or pattern of significance.

2 Annexed hereto is a composite report covering all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships received between 1 April and the end of June 2000, and a regional analysis thereof.

3 The areas most affected over the period under review were the South East Asian waters and South Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean, South America and the Malacca Strait. Most of the attacks were reported in port areas while the ships were at anchor or on berth. In several of the incidents reported, the crews were violently attacked by individuals or groups of two to ten persons carrying guns or knives. During the period under review, seven crew members were assaulted and injured and seventeen crew members were forced out of their ship, which has been reported missing. In one case, armed robbers are suspected to have jammed communications thus disrupting the provision of assistance.

4 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 1,803, an increase of 52 since 31 March 2000.

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<sup>1</sup> "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)."



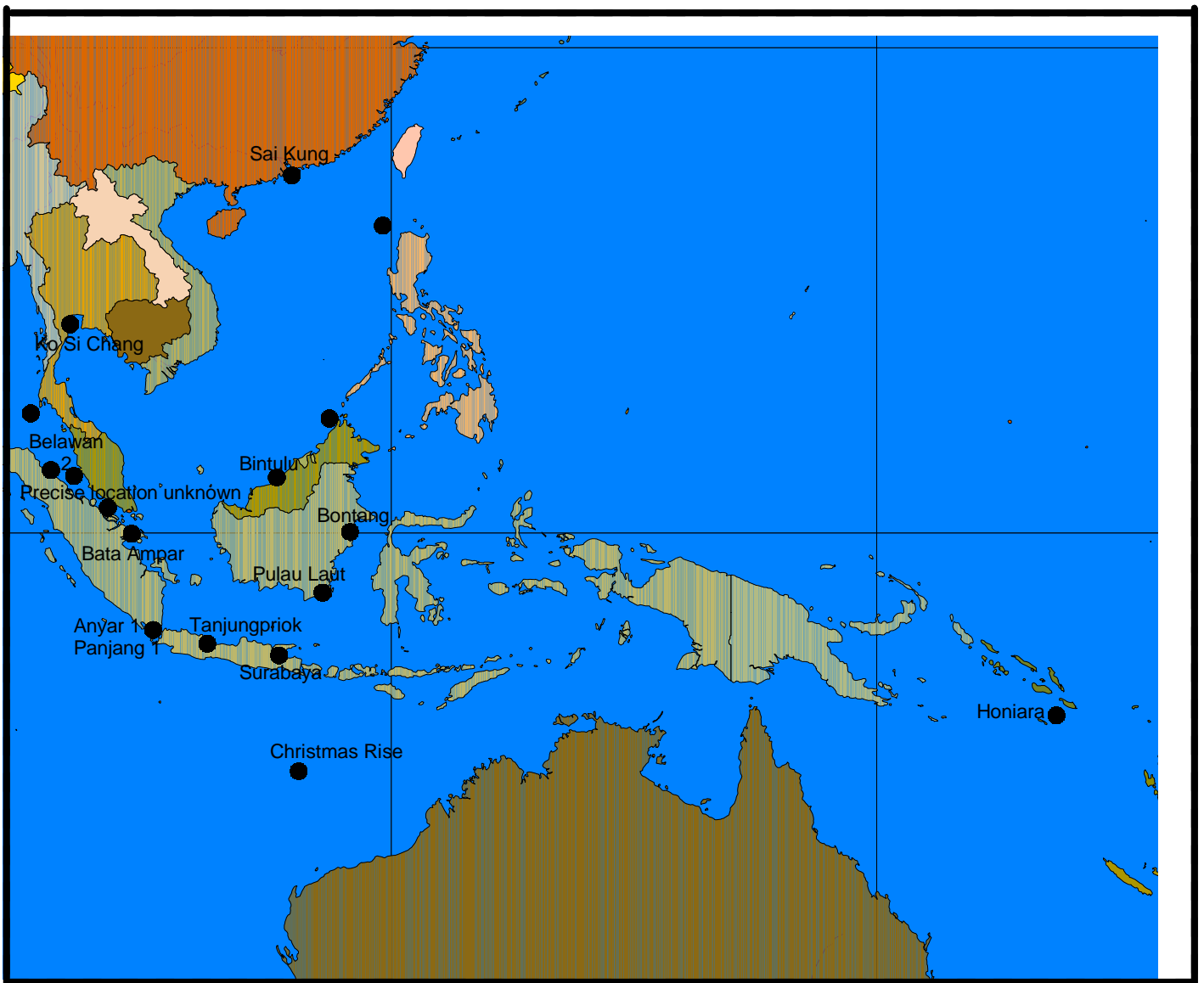
## ANNEX 1

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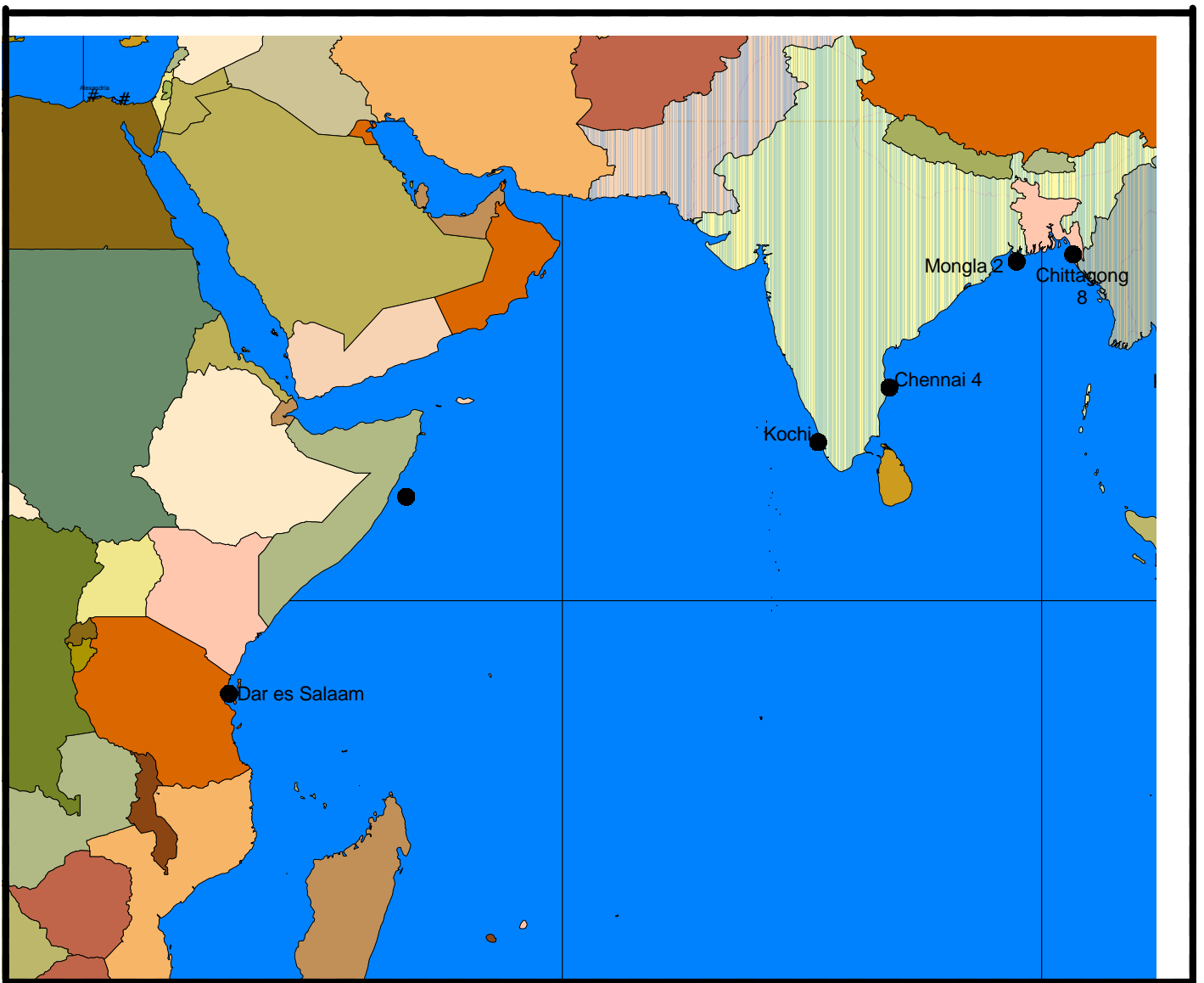
REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS OF INCIDENTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS  
WHICH WERE REPORTED DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2000

		FAR EAST			AFRICA		SOUTH AMERICA
		MALACCA STRAIT	SOUTH EAST ASIAN WATERS AND SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN	INDIAN OCEAN	EAST AFRICA	WEST AFRICA	
<b>Location of incident</b>							
	In international waters	5	2	2			
	In territorial waters	1	6	5		1	8
	In port areas	1	6	10	1	2	2
<b>Status of ship when attacked</b>							
	Steaming	5	4	2			3
	At anchor or on berth	2	9	14	1	3	6
	Not stated		1	1			1
<b>Number of persons involved in the attack</b>							
	1-4 persons		3	4	1	1	2
	5-10 persons	4	4	4		1	3
	More than 10 persons						1
	Not stated	3	7	9		1	4
<b>Consequences to the crew</b>							
	Actual violence used against crew	1	5	3		3	3
	Threat of violence (including crew being tied up but not physically attacked)	1	4	2			1
	Ship missing	1					
	Ship hijacked						
	None/not stated	4	5	12	1		6
<b>Weapons used by attackers</b>							
	Guns	1					2
	Knives	2	4	4		2	
	Other		1	1			
	None/Not stated	4	9	12	1	1	8
<b>Parts of the ship raided</b>							
	Master and crew accommodation	3	4	1		1	3
	Cargo area	1	2	1			3
	Store rooms	1	5	6		1	3
	Engine room		1				
	Not boarded	2	2	9	1	1	1
	Not stated						
<b>Total number of incidents reported per areas</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total number of incidents reported</b>				<b>52</b>			

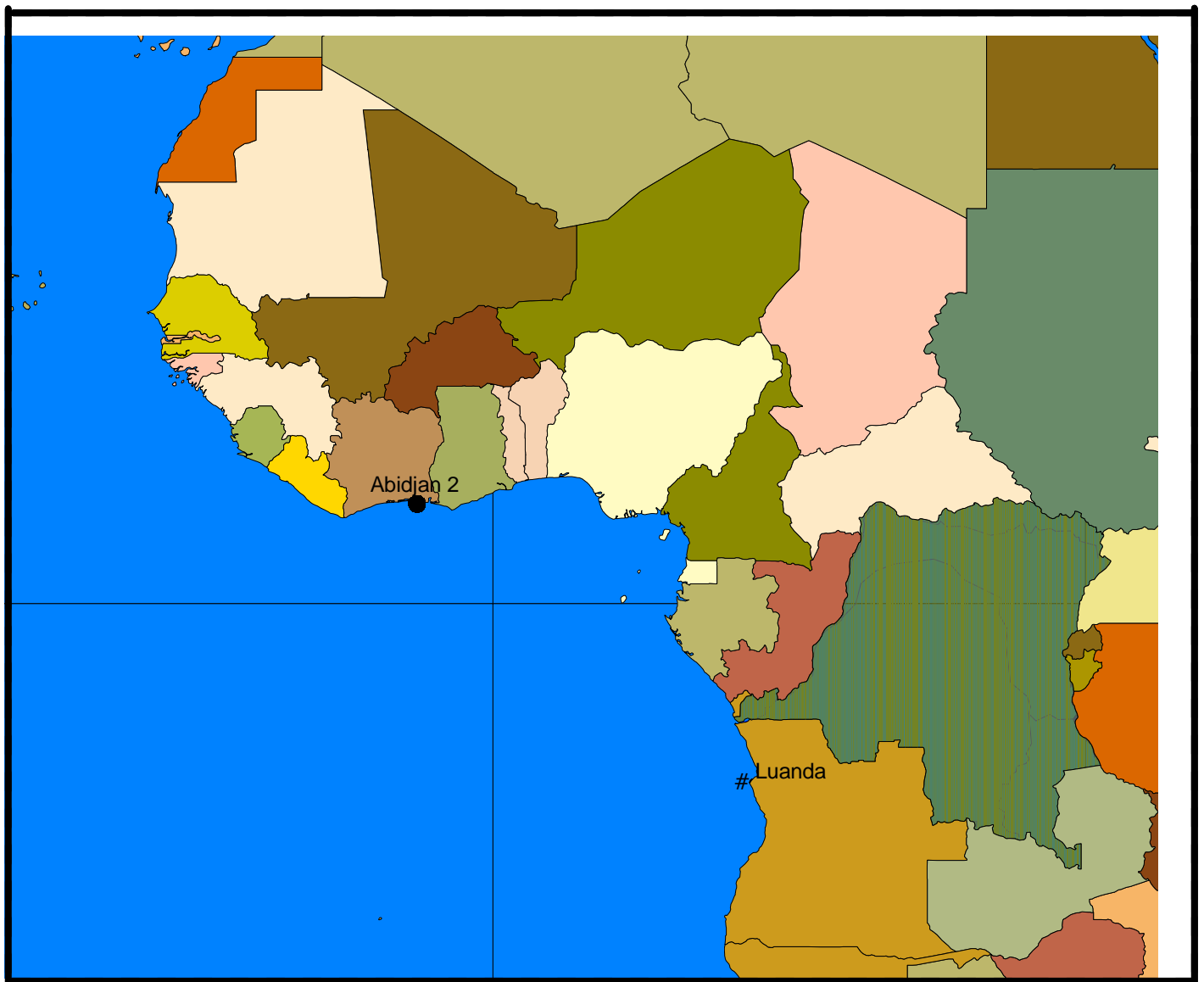
MALACCA STRAIT, SOUTH EAST ASIAN WATERS AND SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN



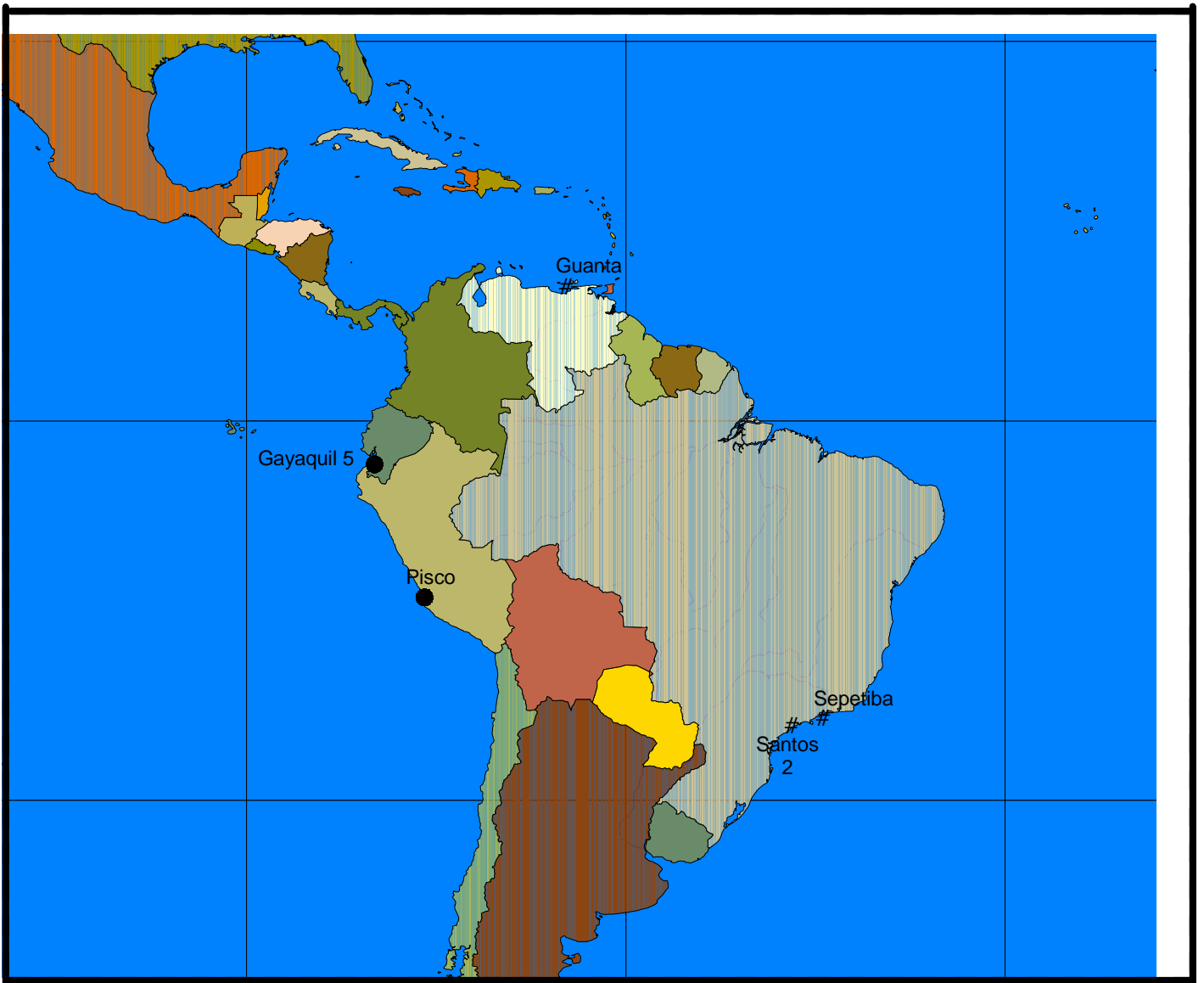
INDIAN OCEAN AND EAST AFRICA



WEST AFRICA



SOUTH AMERICA



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Piracy and armed robbery incidents reported during the period 1 April to 30 June 2000  
(Presentation based on the date of reporting)

