

Monday 19. Oct 2009

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International News

SEA-JACKED MV KOTA WAJAR ARRIVED AT SOMALI COAST

Written by ECOTERRA - SMCM



Last night MV KOTA WAJAR, the Singaporean-flagged container vessel, sea-jacked off Somalia has reached the Somali coast close to Hobyo in Central Somalia, our maritime observers and local elders reported. A naval vessel is shadowing the box-ship with its 360 containers.

Latest news from the vessel indicate that all 21 members of the crew, including two Singaporean and four Indian sailors - among them Chief Engineer Raghuvveer Singh - are said to be all right. No ransom demand has been made yet and due to the warship nearby the situation is said to be tense.

The captain of MV ARIANA, which is also held nearby, requested from the new arriver to receive some fuel, since the ship with 24 Ukrainians on board (incl. 2 ladies of whom one is seriously ill) is without any fuel and has been apparently completely abandoned by the Greek owner as well as the Ukrainian government.

Also MV CHARELLE, owned by a New Zealand company, sent a renewed MAYDAY to the naval vessel and a humanitarian organization, because the crew of 7 Sri Lanka sailors and 3 Pinoy has run out of water and food and the ship is very low on fuel. The 10 man crew so far is still healthy with the exception of cases of diarrhoea, since no clean drinking water is available for them. But talks for the release had obviously broken down and a renewed attempt to revive the negotiations has to be made.

The Somali piracy coast

With the latest arrival at least 5 vessels are held at Somalia's piracy coast, which has shrunk to a coastal stretch along the Indian Ocean between Garacad (FV WIN FAR 161) as the most northern lair, Hobyo (MV ARIANA, MV CHARELLE, MV KOTA WAJAR) and Harardheere (FV ALAKRANA) further south. (see attached map). WIN FAR 161 is thereby the most desperate case with the crew losing any hope to be rescued because the owner of the fishing vessel is not coming forward and FV ALAKRANA being the most complicated case due to specific circumstances and the arrest of two Somalis in Spain, who belong to the people involved in the capture.

The longest stretches of the coastlines along the Gulf of Aden (Somaliland, Warsangeliland-Makhir, Puntland) and along the Indian Ocean from north of Mogadishu all the way down to the Kenyan border are in the moment absolutely piracy free - a result,

which has not been achieved by the global armada but by the local Somalis along these piracy-free coastal regions, though they haven't received any help.

Interestingly also the widely condemned, strictly fundamentalist Islamic South had no piracy cases since a very long time.

Local aid- and development-projects for all those coastal communities, which keep their coast piracy-free is now of the utmost importance in order to hold this situation, but little is forthcoming from the international community, who seems to rather like to continue with the costly naval games than to assist in bringing lasting peace and the eradication of appalling poverty to the Somali coastal communities.

More - Piracy - ECOTERRA Intl. SMCM Somali Marine & Coastal Monitor. Issue No. 270

TOP STORY



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WORLD NEWS



SEA-JACKED MV KOTA WAJAR ARRIVED AT SOMALI COAST

AUSTRALIAN NEWS



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IN DEPTH REPORT




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REPORTS



Senator Steve Fielding - BARNABY'S WORDS JUST SMOKE AND MIRRORS

REPORTERS




USA - The Preemptive Strike Doctrine - Clear and Present Danger

BUSINESS NEWS



Monday business summary

PIRACY




Piracy - ECOTERRA Intl. SMCM Somali Marine & Coastal Monitor. Issue No. 270

NEWS MEDIA RELEASES




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REGIONAL NEWS

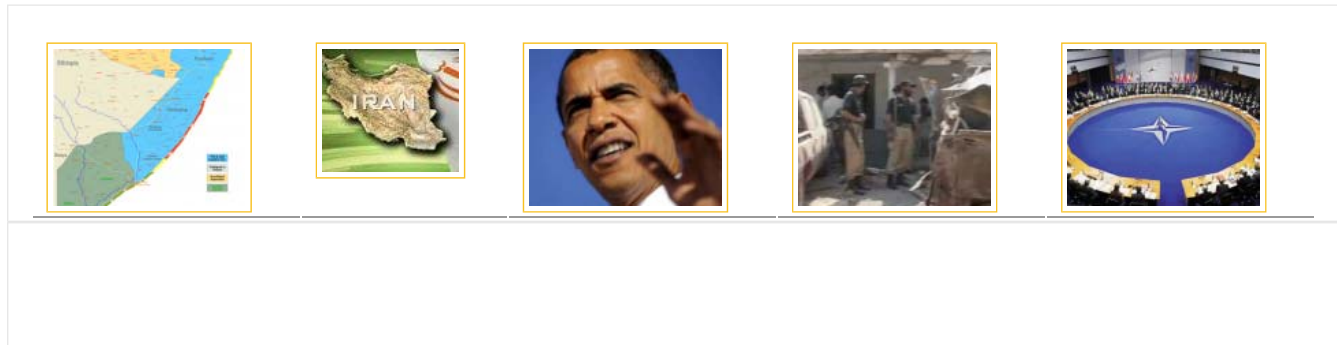


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