



**INSTITUTE FOR
SECURITY GOVERNANCE**

Advancing Knowledge, Building Capacity, Strengthening Partners

Emerging Maritime Security Threats

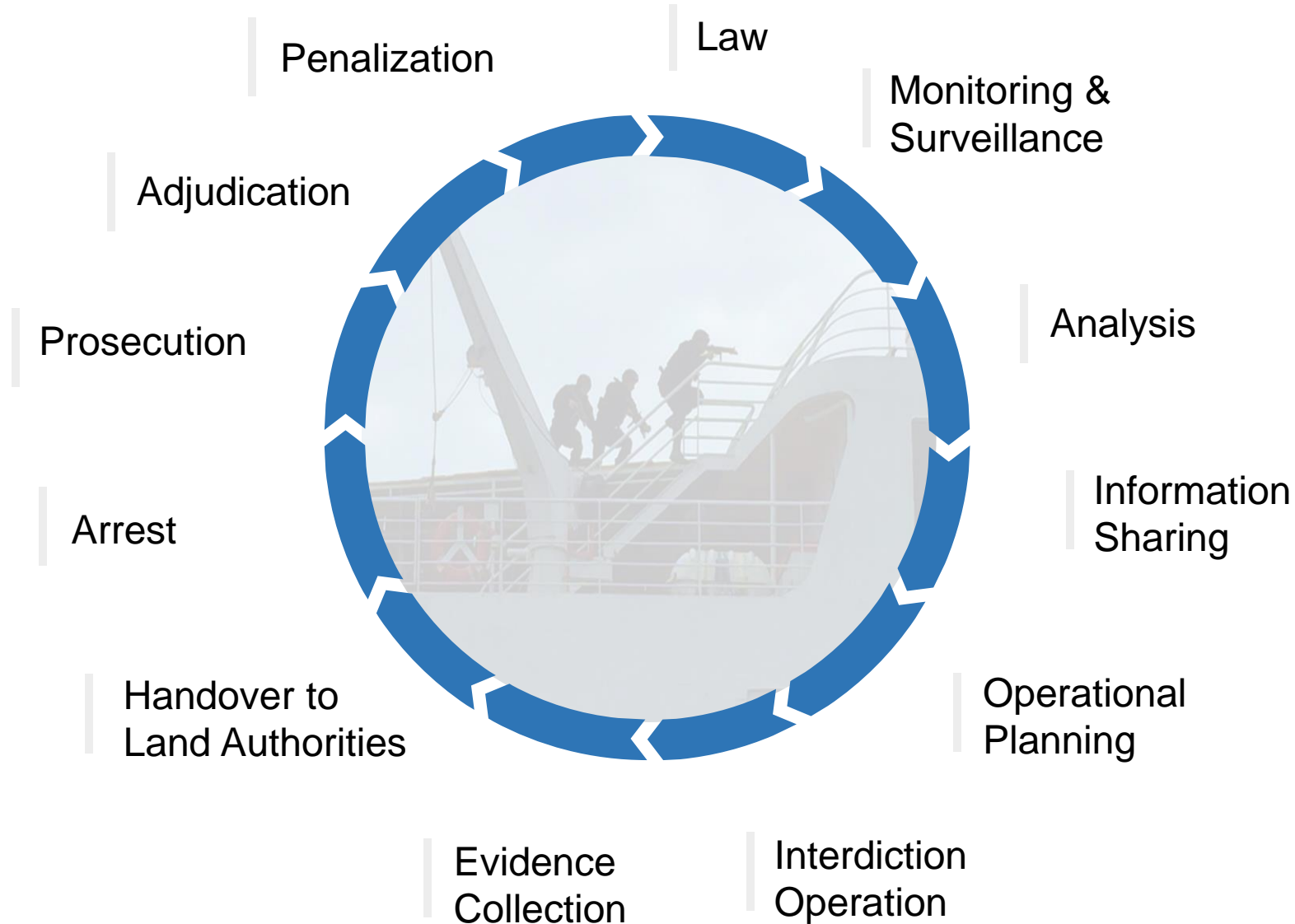
Concepts, Trends and Suggestions

Dr. Ian Ralby

July 2023



Concept: The Maritime Security Cycle





Concept: State Action at Sea

Maritime Security

= Capacity + Capability + Authority + Jurisdiction + Law + Will





Concept: State Action at Sea

Maritime Domain Awareness and Analysis

= Undesirable + Illegal + Actionable + Achievable + Wise
+ What else might be valuable, even if not immediately actionable?



MarineTraffic



GLOBAL
FISHING
WATCH



FleetMon
Tracking the Seven Seas



WINDWARD[®]

Geollect[™]
Geospatial Intelligence & Analysis



IHS Markit[®]



HawkEye³⁶⁰





Concept: Grey Zone Conflict

WPS Terms

“Competitive interactions among and within state and non-state actors that fall between the traditional war and peace duality” - US Special Operations Command

“Activities designed to coerce countries in ways that seek to avoid military conflict. Examples include using para-military forces, militarisation of disputed features, exploiting influence, interference operations and the coercive use of trade and economic levers.”

- Australia's 2020 Defence Strategic Update

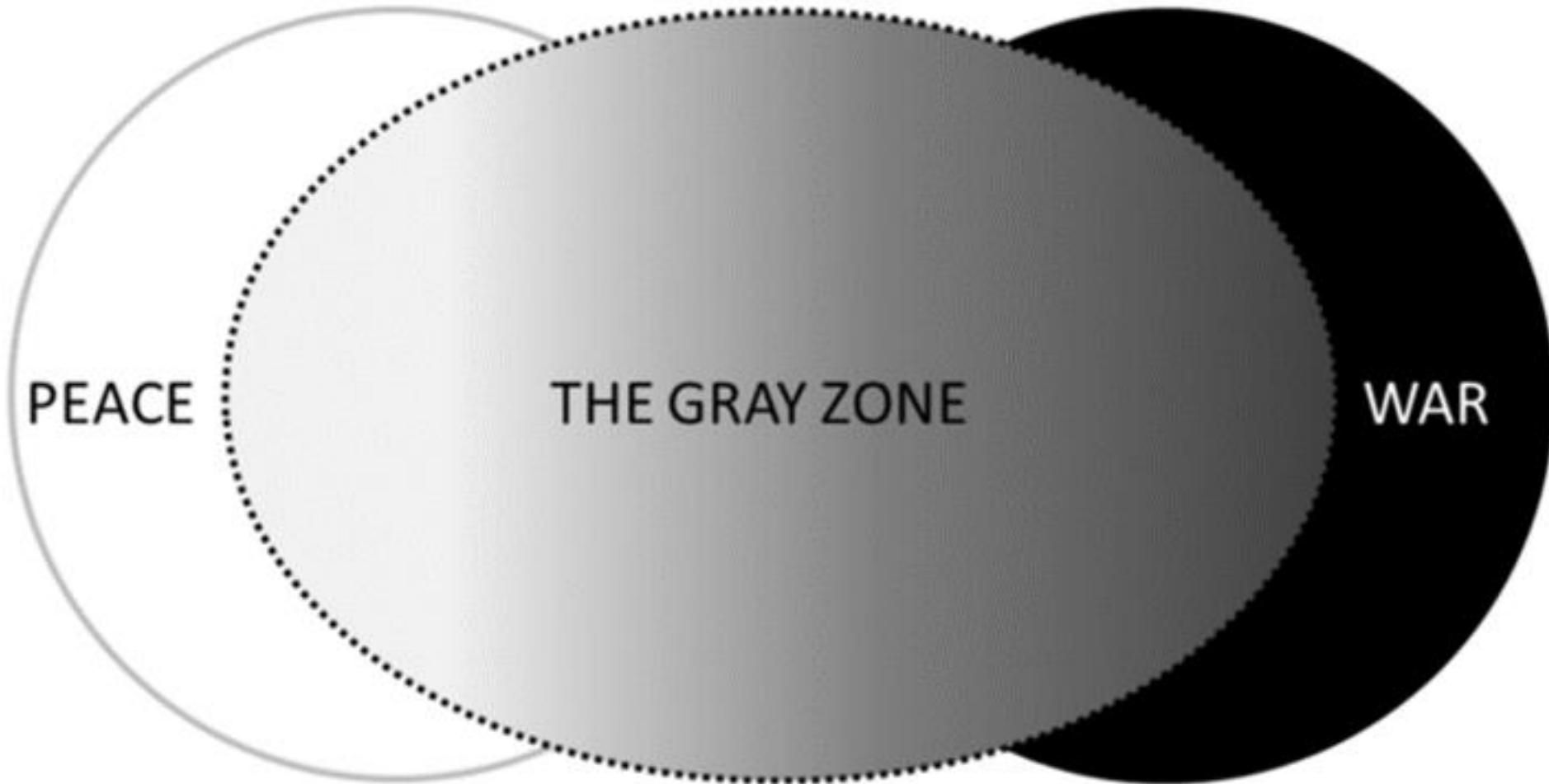
“That limbo land between peace and war.”

- Ben Wallace, UK Defence Secretary





Concept: Grey Zone

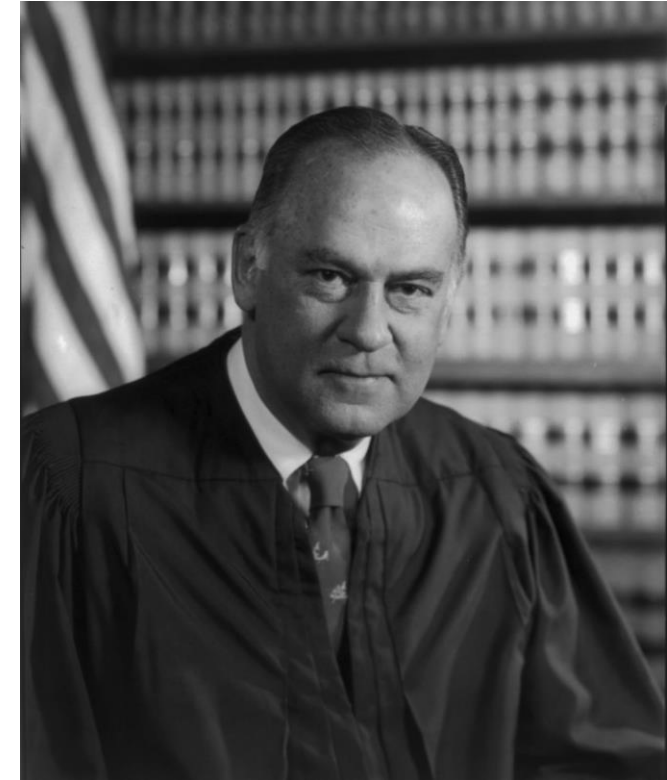


https://www.realcleardefense.com/articles/2020/12/07/between_peace_and_war_gray_zone_bright_line_or_dialectic_652193.html



Concept: Hybrid Maritime Aggression

1. “Diverse and dynamic combinations of conventional, irregular, terrorist and criminal capabilities.” (Chief of Staff of US Army, 2008)
2. “The diverse and dynamic combination of regular forces, irregular forces, criminal elements, or a combination of these forces and elements all unified to achieve mutually benefiting effects.” (US Army 2011)
3. “Adversaries with the ability to simultaneously employ conventional and non-conventional means adaptively in pursuit of their objectives.” (NATO)
4. “Hybrid threats are methods and activities that are targeted towards vulnerabilities of the opponent” where the “range of methods and activities is wide.” (Center of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats, 2017)
5. “Any adversary that simultaneously and adaptively employs a tailored mix of conventional, irregular, terrorism and criminal means or activities in the operational battle space. Rather than a single entity, a hybrid threat or challenger may be a combination of state and nonstate actors.” (US Joint Forces Command)



→ The Potter Stewart Test



Concept: Hybrid Maritime Aggression

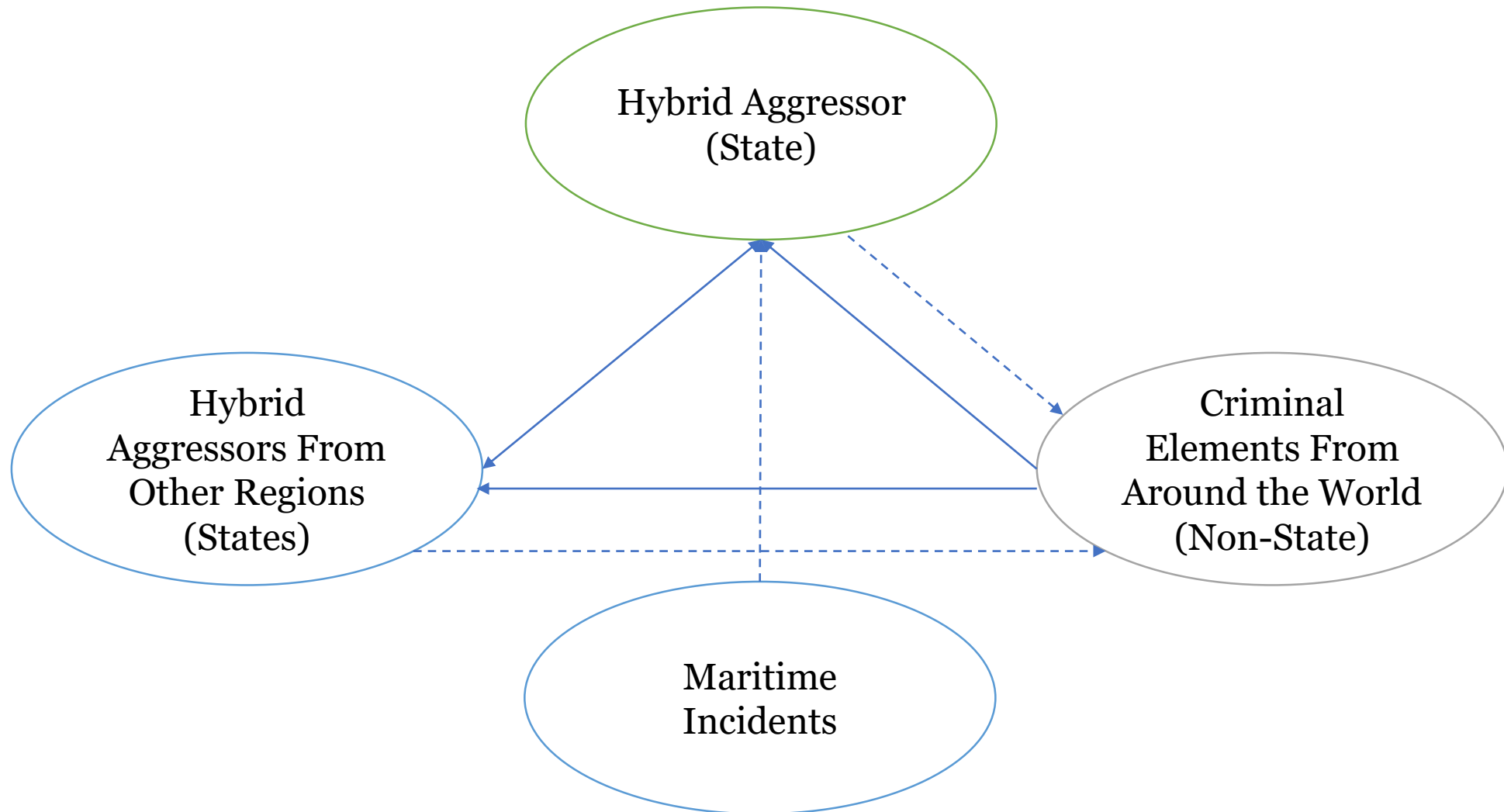
1. State with conventional force, choosing to use unconventional action.
2. Implausible deniability.
3. Illegal act.
4. Scalable action depending on response.
5. (Strategic Communications).





Concept: Hybrid Maritime Aggression

Sources of Inspiration:





Concept: Hybrid Maritime Aggression

- **Generally**: to Disrupt Thinking Process of the Enemy
- **Iran**: to Send Messages
 - Specific (to UAE, Saudi Arabia, Japan, United States, United Kingdom, Israel)
 - General: “You can sanction us, but we can sanction global maritime commerce”
- **Russia**: ???





Concept: Lawfare

Definition:

- “The use of law as a weapon of war.”
 - Maj. Gen. Charlie Dunlap
- The use of law and legal processes to accomplish traditional military objectives.





Quiz:

What was the largest territorial acquisition by a state in February 2014?



Concept: Lawfare





The M/T MAXIMUMS





The M/T MAXIMUMS





The M/T MAXIMUMS





Concept: Unlawfare

Definition:

- The use of fake, baseless, false and unfounded legal positions to accomplish traditional military objectives.
- Imitation of Lawfare, but the starting point is not actually the law.



RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

NEW HEIGHTS OF RUSSIAN HYPOCRISY AND “UNLAWFARE” IN THE BLACK SEA

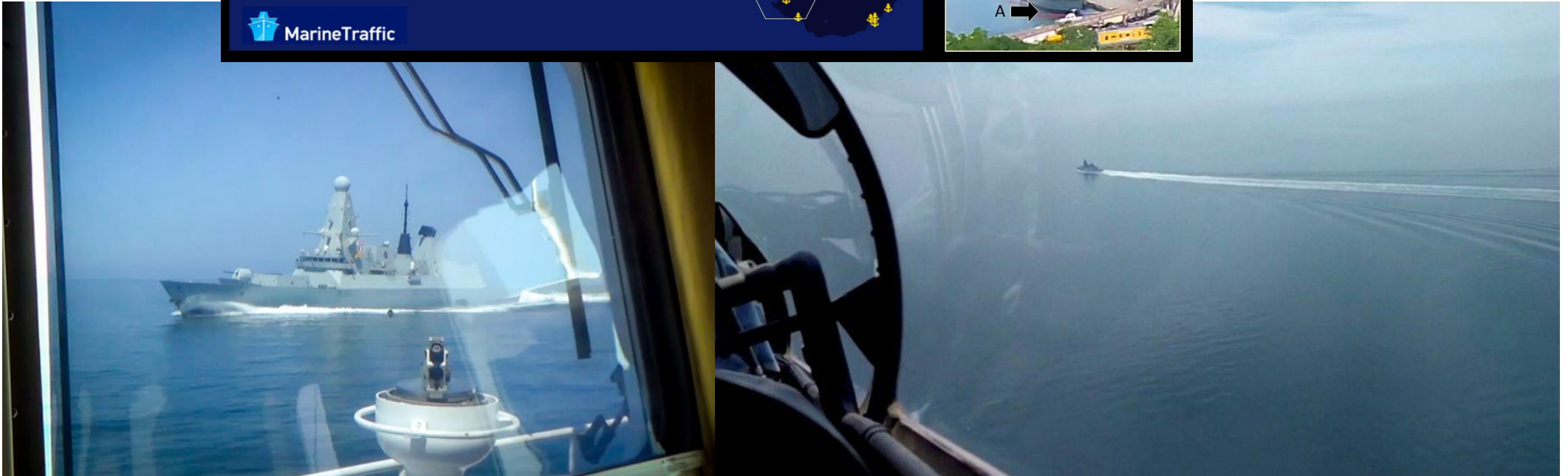
🕒 MARCH 25, 2022 👤 GUEST AUTHOR 💬 1 COMMENT

By Dr. Ian Ralby and Col. Leonid Zaliubovsky

<https://centerformaritimestrategy.org/publications/what-to-watch-2023-unlawfare/>



Concept: Unlawfare

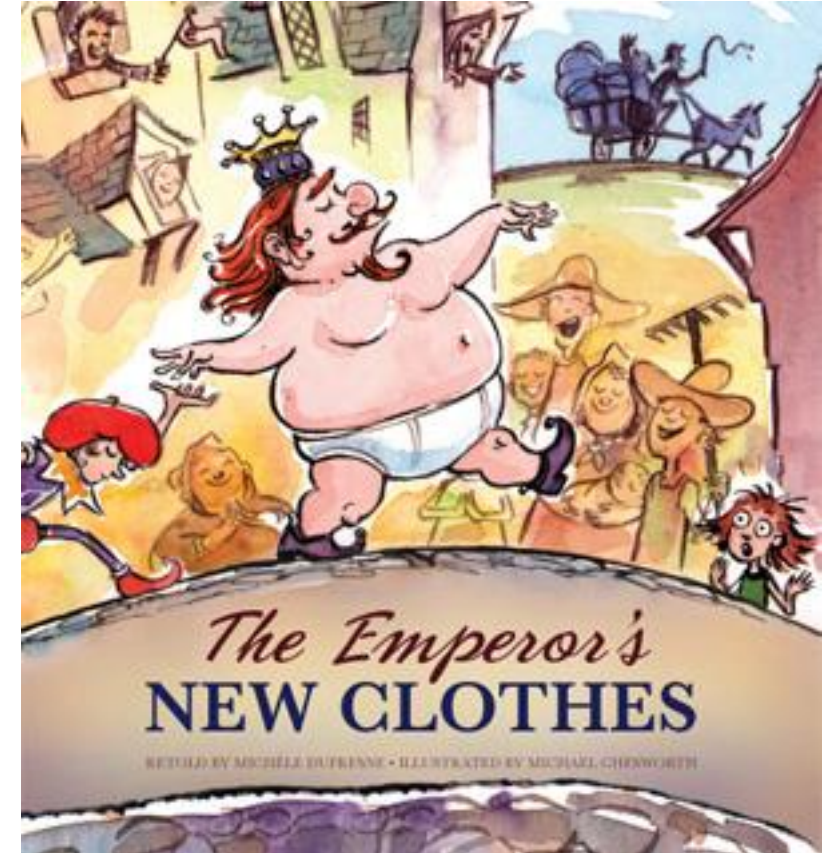




Concept: Unlawfare – Danger of Not Speaking Up

Too many are too afraid or too slow to point out that the Emperor has No Clothes!

Never fail to point out an instance of unlawfare, because someone watching might think it is the law.





Concept: Unlawfare – The Goal

DOUBT



Concept: Hybrid Maritime Aggression

- **Generally**: to Disrupt Thinking Process of the Enemy
- **Iran**: to Send Messages
 - Specific (to UAE, Saudi Arabia, Japan, United States, United Kingdom, Israel)
 - General: “You can sanction us, but we can sanction global maritime commerce”
- **Russia**: Doubt, Chaos, Uncertainty





Strategic Question:

Can we have a hybridized response to hybrid aggression without violating the law?



Operational Question:

What are these?

**Fishing Vessels?
Sovereign Vessels?
Something Else?**





Trend 1 A: Crossover Criminal Vessels - Physical

The MV NIKA



<https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/posts/crossover-criminal-vessels-a-growing-illicit-maritime-trend>



Trend 1 B: Crossover Criminal Vessels - Virtual

The MED SEA FALCON



IMO
9631149

MMSI
341520000

Flag
 Saint Kitts And Nevis

Call sign
V4ST4

Class
Cargo

Subclass
General Cargo

Length
92 m

Year of build
2011

DWT
5,277 tons

Max. draft
6.1 m

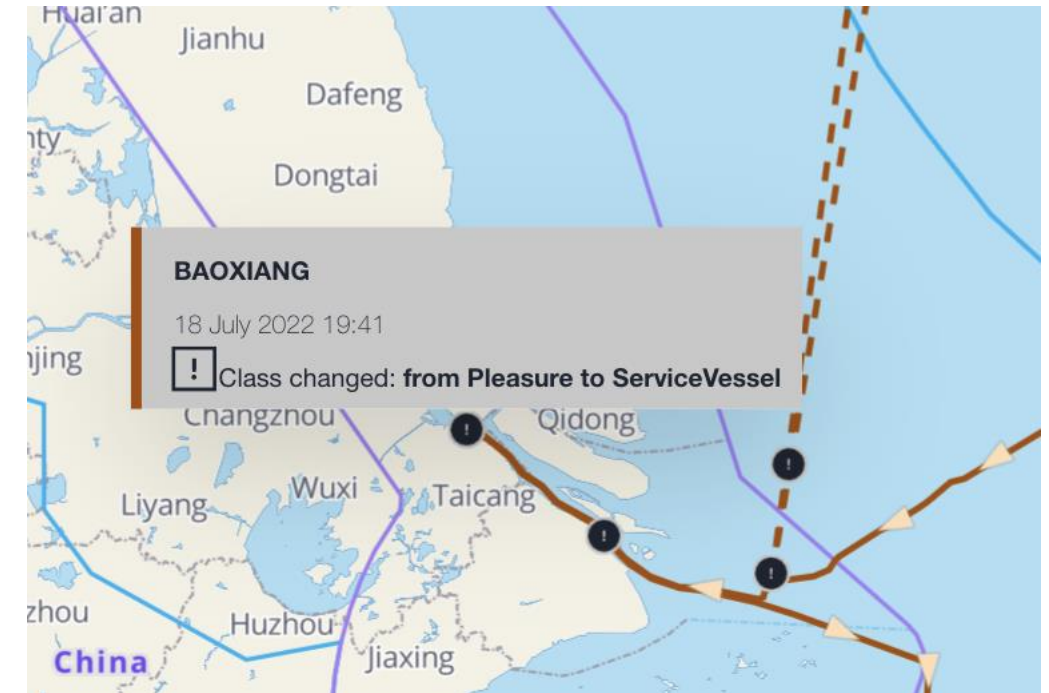
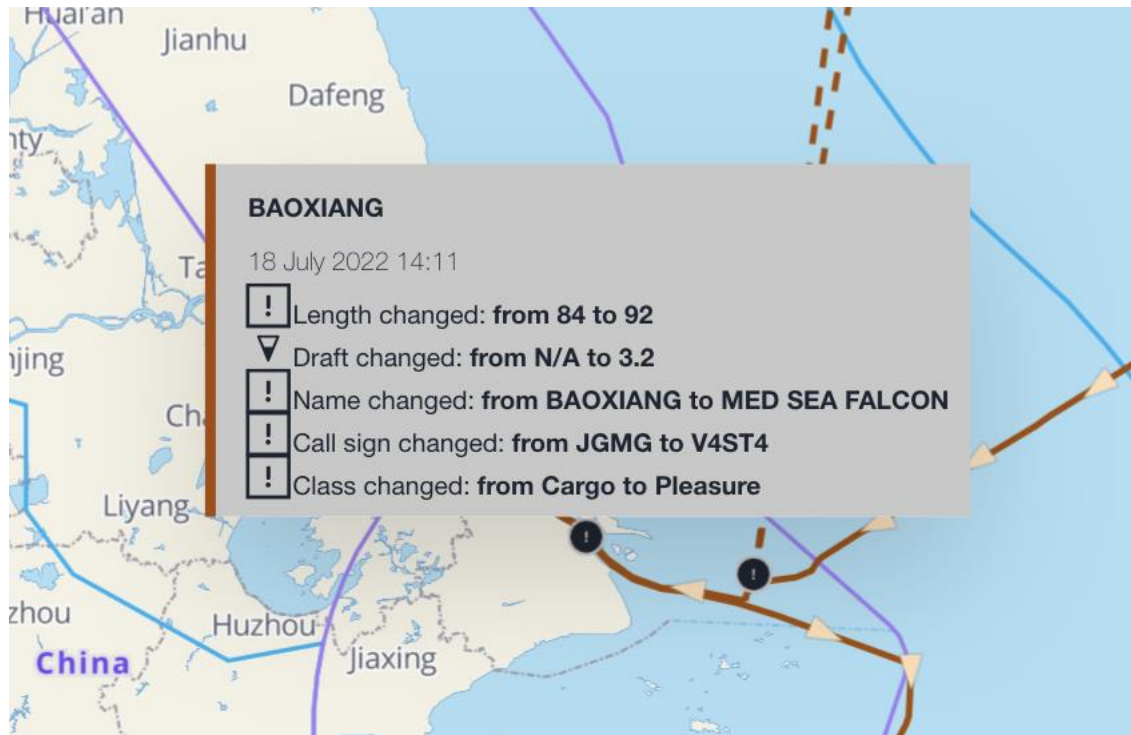
Beneficial owner
 Bao Sheng Shipping (20)

Registered owner
 Boreal Shipping Ltd (1)



Trend 1 B: Crossover Criminal Vessels - Virtual

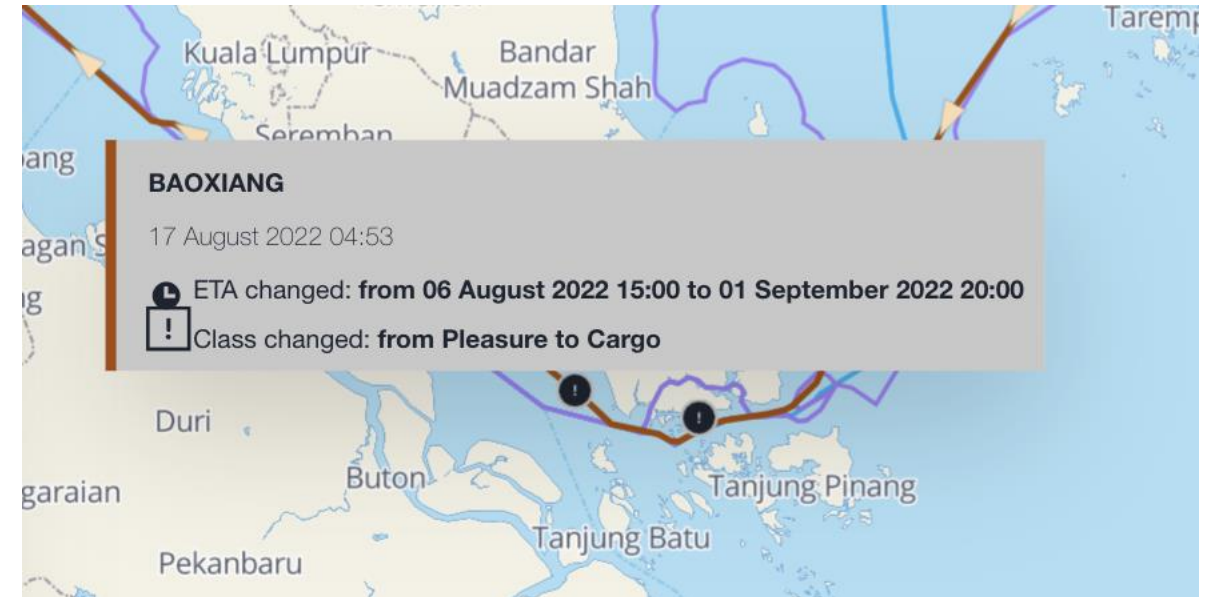
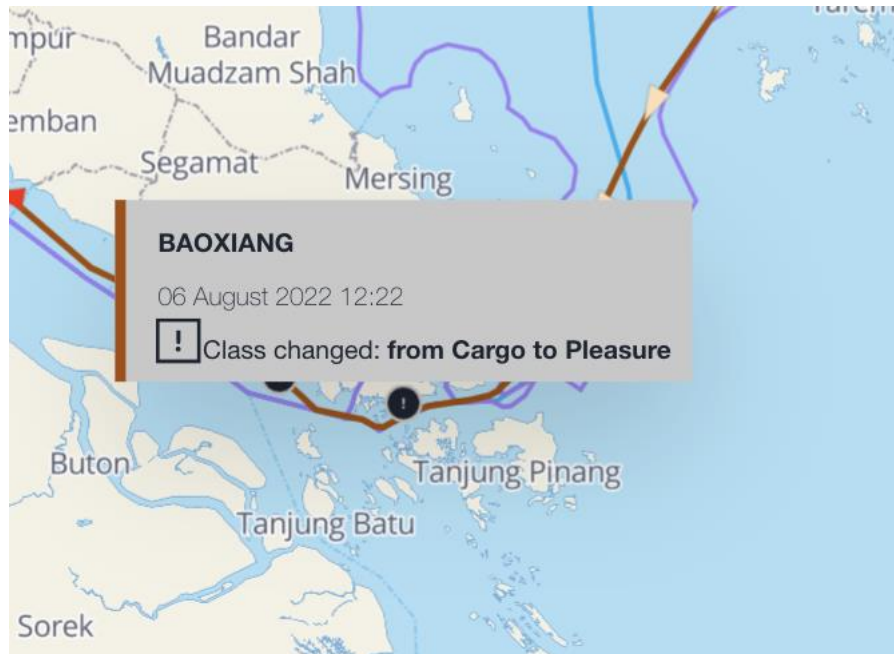
The MED SEA FALCON?





Trend 1 B: Crossover Criminal Vessels - Virtual

The MED SEA FALCON?

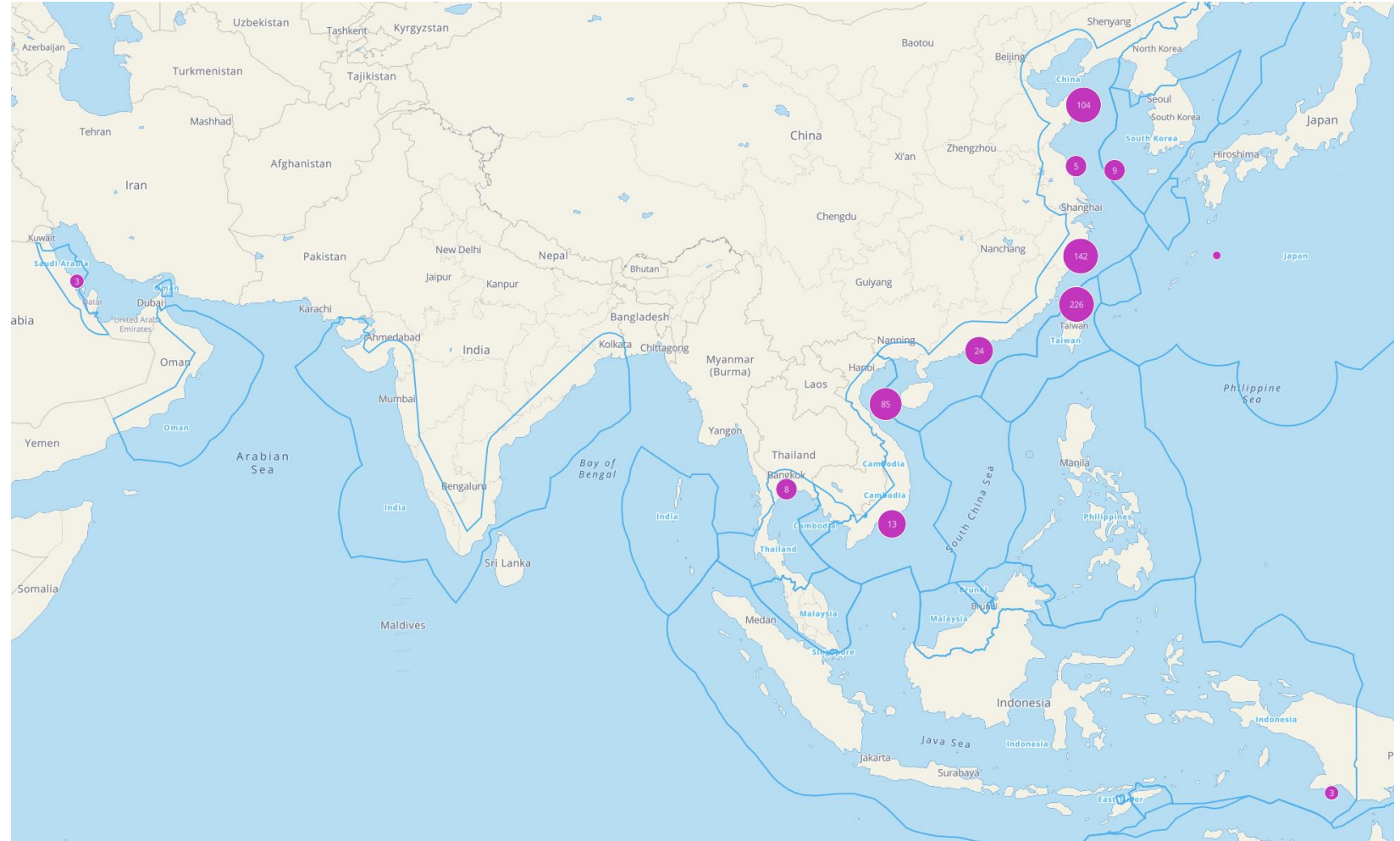




Crossover Criminal Vessels

Windward Image of Fishing Activity in States Present for 180 Days Leading up to 19 July 2023 Conducted by Non-Fishing Vessels:

48 Vessels
623 Fishing Activities



The UTHAIWAN / WISDOM SEE

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix - Travail - Patrie
MINISTRE DES TRANSPORTS
DELEGATION REGIONALE DU SUD
CIRCOSCRPTION MARITIME, FLUVIALE
ET LACUSTRE DU SUD ET DE L'EST

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace - Work - Fatherland
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
SOUTH REGIONAL DELEGATION
MARITIME AND INLAND WATERWAYS
DISTRICT OF THE SOUTH AND EAST

CERTIFICAT D'IMMATRICULATION
Des navires et engins flottants
(Décret n° 62-DF-325 du 06 septembre 1962) **N° Matr.: K-36/1P/2019**
N° of Regis.:

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
Of ships and floating Materials
(Decree n° 62-DF-325 dated September the 6th, 1962)

Conformément aux dispositions de l'article 18 du décret n°62-DF-325 du 06 septembre 1962
According to the provisions of Article 18 of decree n° 62-DF-325 dated September the 6th, 1962
(JORFC du 15 septembre 1962 page 1054) de l'Arrêté n° 140-MTMTPT du 22 octobre 1962
(Federal Gazette of Sept. The 15th, 1962 page 1054) and other n° 140-MTMTPT of October the 22nd, 1962
(JORFC du 1er novembre 1962 page 1279) le navire ci-après désigné
(Federal Gazette of november the 1st, 1962 page 1279) the under mentioned ship

Nom: **UTHAIWAN** Type: **REEFER CARRIER**
N°: **STEEL** Puissance: **2208 KW**
Hull: **Power**

Longueur: **93,10 m** Largeur: **14,00 m** Creux: **8,00m**
Length: **Width** **Depth**

Jauge Brute: **2989** Jauge Nette: **1555**
G.R.T (Gross Registered Tonnage) **N.R.T (Net Registered Tonnage)**

Appartenance à: **P.K. SHIPPING AND AGENCY CO., LTD 1836 SOI RAMKHAMHIENG 174, MINBURI BANGKOK 10510, THAILAND**
Owned by: **P.K. SHIPPING AND AGENCY CO., LTD 1836 SOI RAMKHAMHIENG 174, MINBURI BANGKOK 10510, THAILAND**
Operated by: **P.K. SHIPPING AND AGENCY CO., LTD 1836 SOI RAMKHAMHIENG 174, MINBURI BANGKOK 10510, THAILAND**

A été immatriculé sur le registre des bâtiments de la Circonscription Maritime de: **SUD et de L'EST à KRIBI**
Has been registered on the Ships register of Maritime District of

Sous le N°: **K-36/1P/2019** Valable jusqu'au: **21/08/2019**
Under N° **Valid until** **21/08/2019**

Fait à: **KRIBI** le **21/08/2019**
Issued at **on** **21/08/2019**

Le Chef de Circonscription Maritime
District Maritime du SUD et de l'EST
Chef de Circonscription Maritime
District Maritime du SUD et de l'EST



REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix-Travail-Patrie

ACTE DE CAMEROUNISATION
AU NOM DU PEUPLE CAMEROUNAIS
Et en application du Décret N°62-DF-325 du 06 septembre 1962

Je soussigné: **Monsieur KYA'ANE KYA'ANE François**, Chef de la Circonscription Maritime Fluviale et Lacustre du Sud et de l'Est à
Kribi
Déclare le navire: **MY UTHAIWAN** type: **REEFER CARRIER**
Contrat le: **1977** de: **THE NETHERLANDS**
Importé le: **2019** de: **ARGENTINA**
ou il était sous pavillon: **ARGENTINA**
premier flag

Ayant: **puissance** **tonnage** **mla**

Mesures:
Longueur hors tout (LOA): **93,10** mètres
Plus grande largeur extérieure (Breadth): **14,00** mètres
Hauteur au milieu du navire sous le pont supérieur (Depth): **8,00** mètres
Volume de la coque: **mètres cubes** **tonnes**
Construction superstructure: **N/A** **mètres cubes** **tonnes**
Jauge brute (GRT): **mètres cube** **tonnes**
Déductions: **mètres** **tonnes**
Jauge nette: **mètres cubes** **tonnes**

Appartenance à: **P.K. SHIPPING AND AGENCY CO., LTD 1836 SOI RAMKHAMHIENG 174, MINBURI BANGKOK 10510, THAILAND**
Owned by: **P.K. SHIPPING AND AGENCY CO., LTD 1836 SOI RAMKHAMHIENG 174, MINBURI BANGKOK 10510, THAILAND**
Exploité par: **P.K. SHIPPING AND AGENCY CO., LTD 1836 SOI RAMKHAMHIENG 174, MINBURI BANGKOK 10510, THAILAND**
Operated by: **P.K. SHIPPING AND AGENCY CO., LTD 1836 SOI RAMKHAMHIENG 174, MINBURI BANGKOK 10510, THAILAND**
Operating company: **KRIBI**
Et a reçu comme port d'attache

Où il est immatriculé sous le N°: **K-36/1P/2019**

En conséquence le présent acte a été délivré par nous aux fins de confirmer à l'importateur le droit de faire naviguer ledit navire sous pavillon camerounais.
Délivré à: **KRIBI** le **21 AOUT 2019**
Valable jusqu'au: **SINGLE VOYAGE IN BALLAST CONDITION FROM THE PORT OF PHNOM PENH CAMBODIA TO THE PORT OF CHITTAGONG BANGLADESH, BUT NOT LATER THAN 20/11/2019**
Valid until: **PHNOM PENH CAMBODIA TO THE PORT OF CHITTAGONG BANGLADESH, BUT NOT LATER THAN 20/11/2019**

Le Chef de Circonscription Maritime
District Maritime du SUD et de l'EST
Chef de Circonscription Maritime
District Maritime du SUD et de l'EST



The CAPE HAWK

CAPE HAWK Former: OCEAN CYGNUS [+3 more](#)



IMO
9300582

Flag
 Liberia

Vessel Class
Cargo

Length
289 meters

DWT
176996 tons

MMSI
636017315

Call sign
@P@N9

Subclass
Bulk Carrier

Year of Build
2006

Max. draft
17.95 m

Registered Owner
 Silvnac Marine Inc (1)

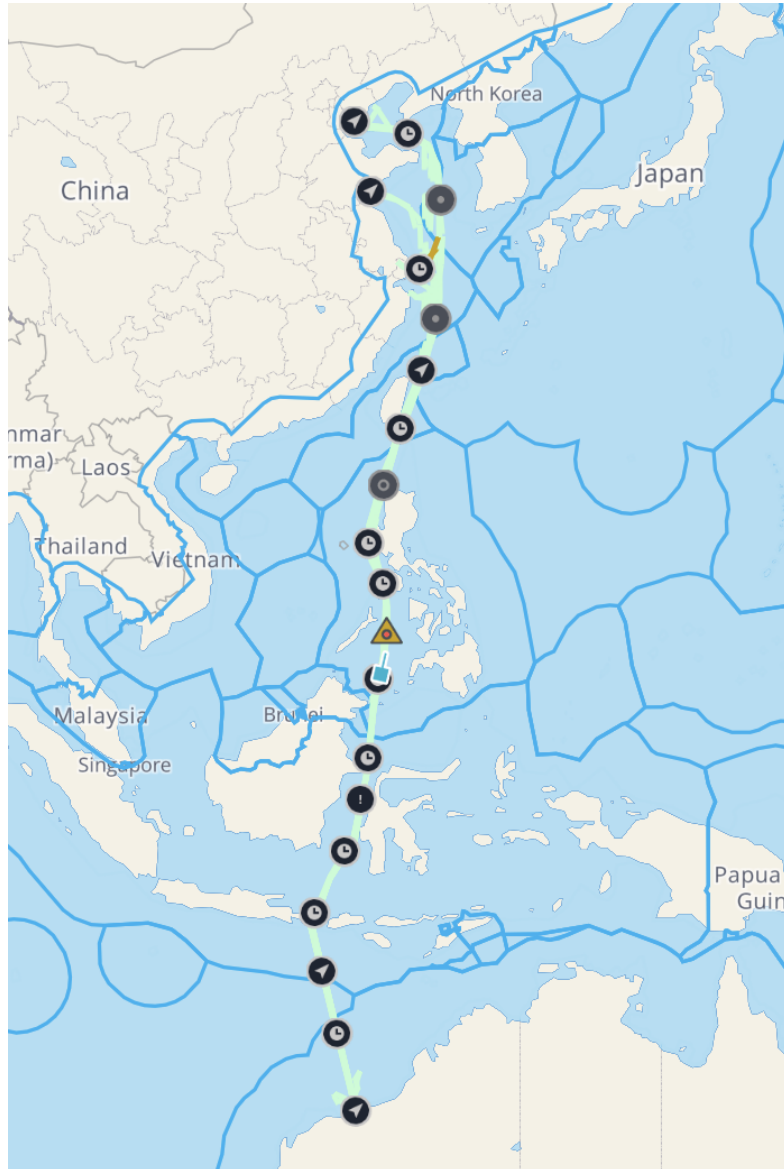
Commercial Manager
 Zodiac Maritime Limited (266)

[View additional ownership levels >](#)

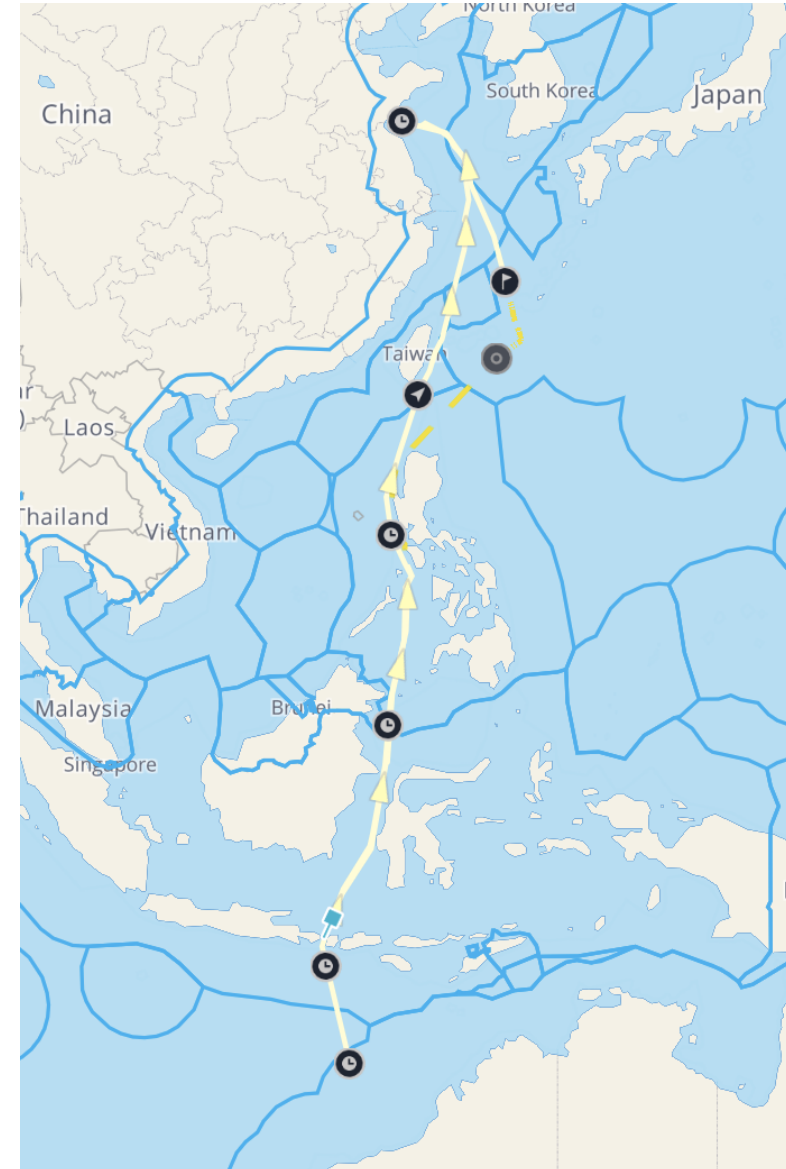




Trend 2 B: Flag Manipulation – Virtual – The CAPE HAWK



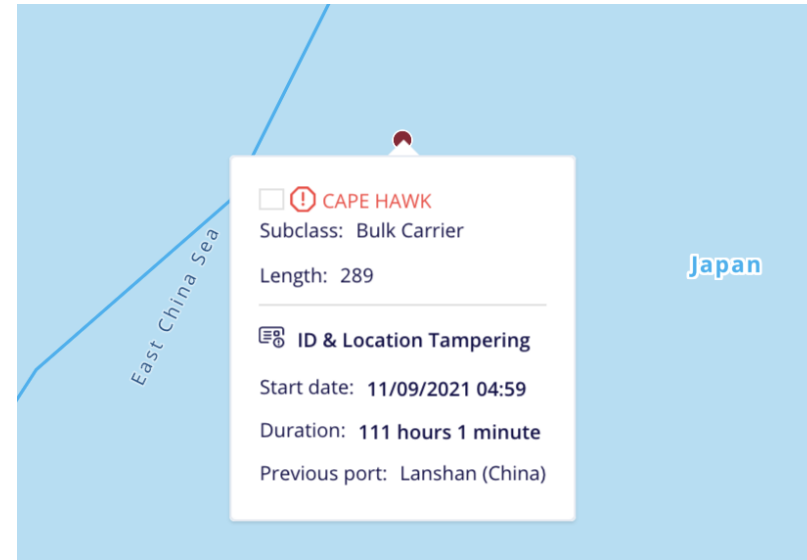
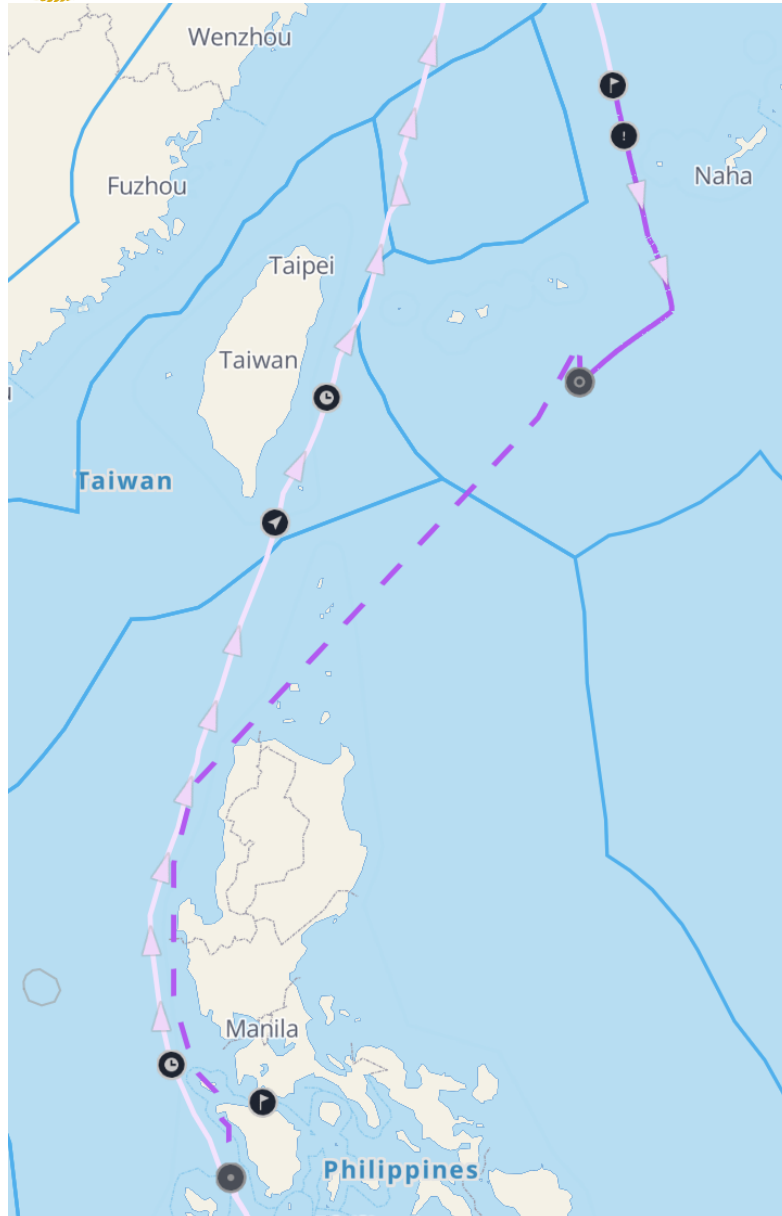
Vessel trails provided by Windward.



Advancing Knowledge, Building Capacity, Strengthening Partners



Trend 2 A: Flag Manipulation – Virtual – The CAPE HAWK



CAPE HAWK

11 September 2021 04:59

MMSI changed: **from 636017315 to 635961351**

CAPE HAWK

11 September 2021 09:36

! Name changed: **from CAPE HAWK to @L@E H@AK**

! Call sign changed: **from D5KH9 to @P@N9**

Destination changed: **from PHE to AU PHE**

ETA changed: **from 21 September 2021 08:00 to 22 September 2021 02:00**

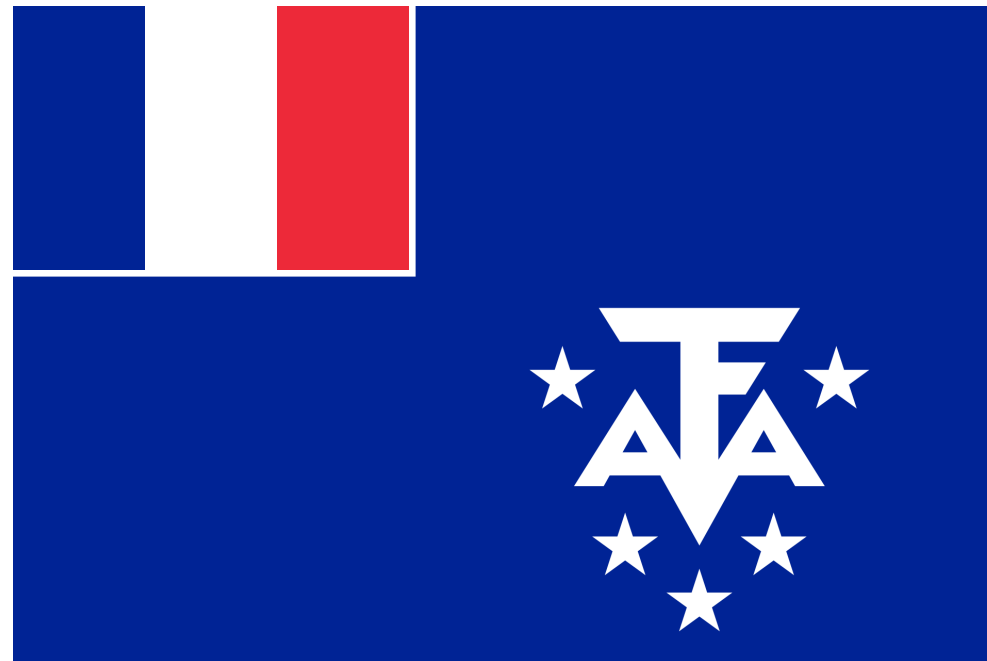
Draft changed: **from 8.9 to 10.7**

Vessel trails and details provided by Windward.



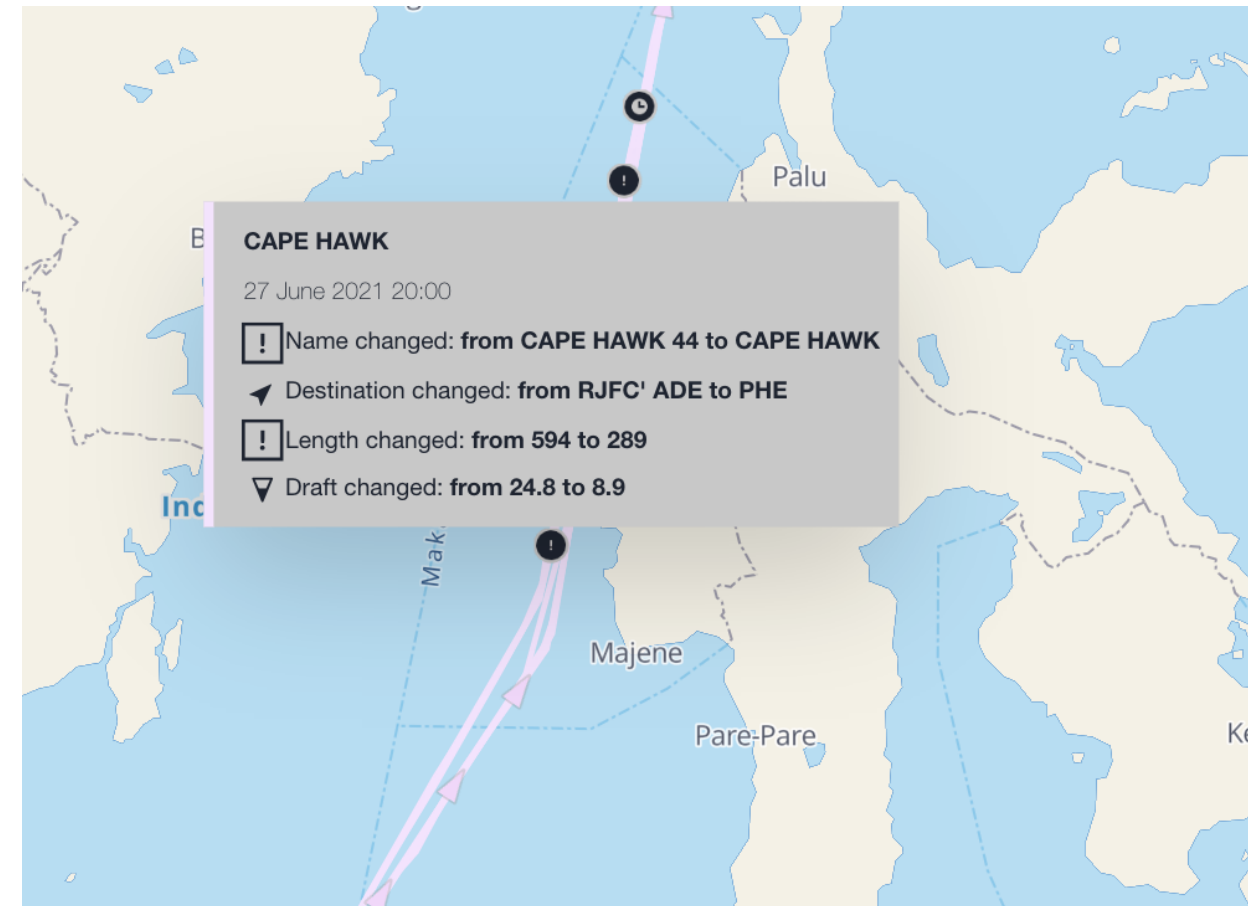
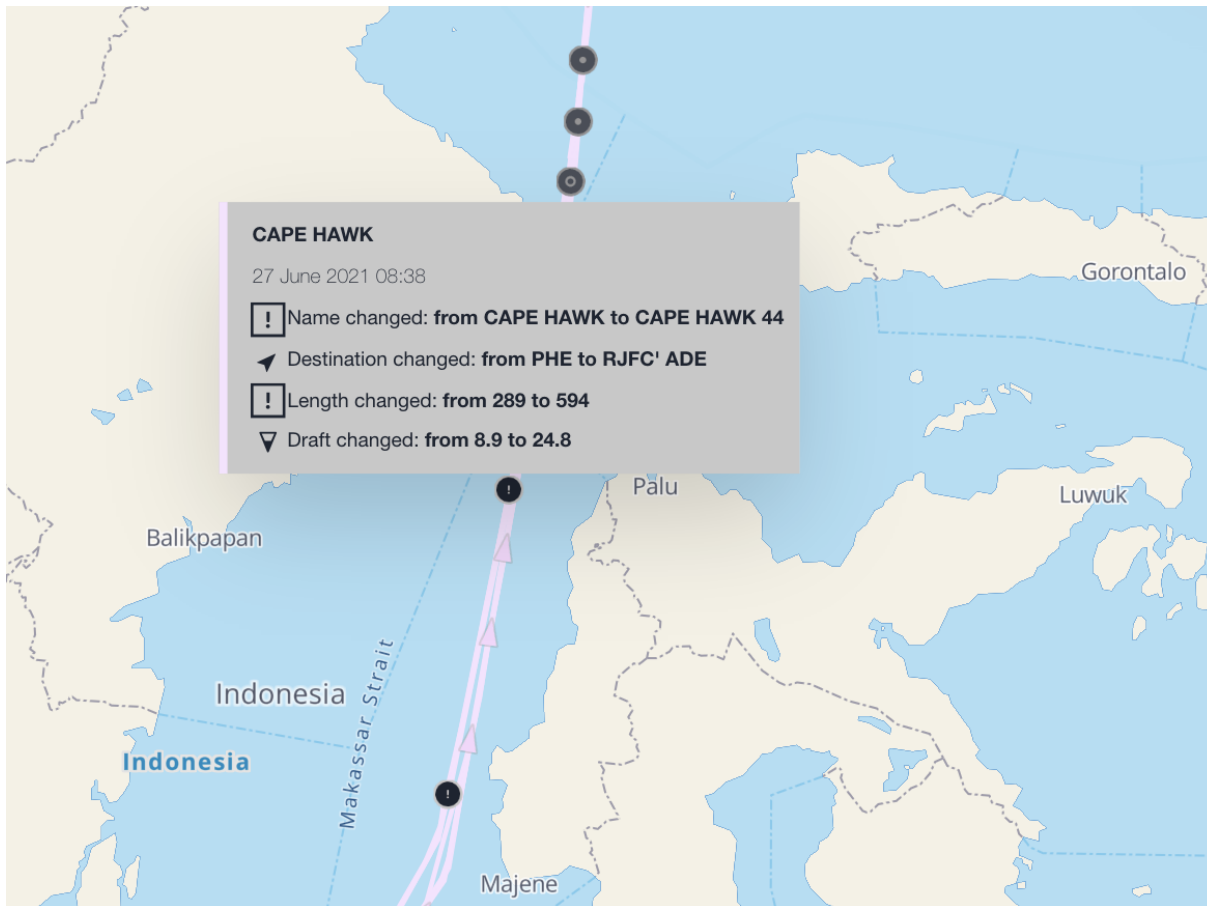
Trend 2 A: Flag Manipulation – Virtual – The CAPE HAWK

Name	IMO	MMSI	Flag	Call sign
CAPE HAWK	9300582	635961351	Kerguelen Islands	@P@N9
CAPE HAWK	9300582	636017315	Liberia	@P@N9





Trend 2 A: Flag Manipulation – Virtual – The CAPE HAWK



Vessel trails and details provided by Windward.



Trend 2 B: Flag Manipulation - Virtual

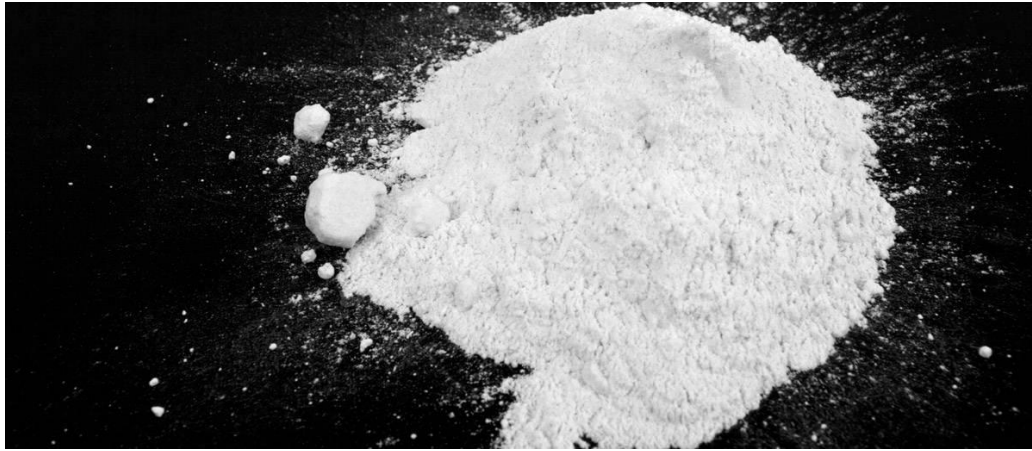
Windward Image of ID and
Location Tampering in the
States Present for the 180 days
Leading up to 19 July 2024:

69 Vessels
74 Tamperings





Trend 3 A: Drug Diversification – Substances



Fentanyl



Creepy



Kratom

Zesser



Tranq Dope





Trend 3B: Drug Diversification – Supply Chains



El Chapo



Ecuadorian Pangas



Cocaine



Mercury



Gold



Casinos



Trend 4: Masking Malignant with Benign

Quiz:

What commodity did Osama Bin Laden use to launder his money and send his messages?



Trend 4: Masking Malignant with Benign





Trend 4: Masking Malignant with Benign

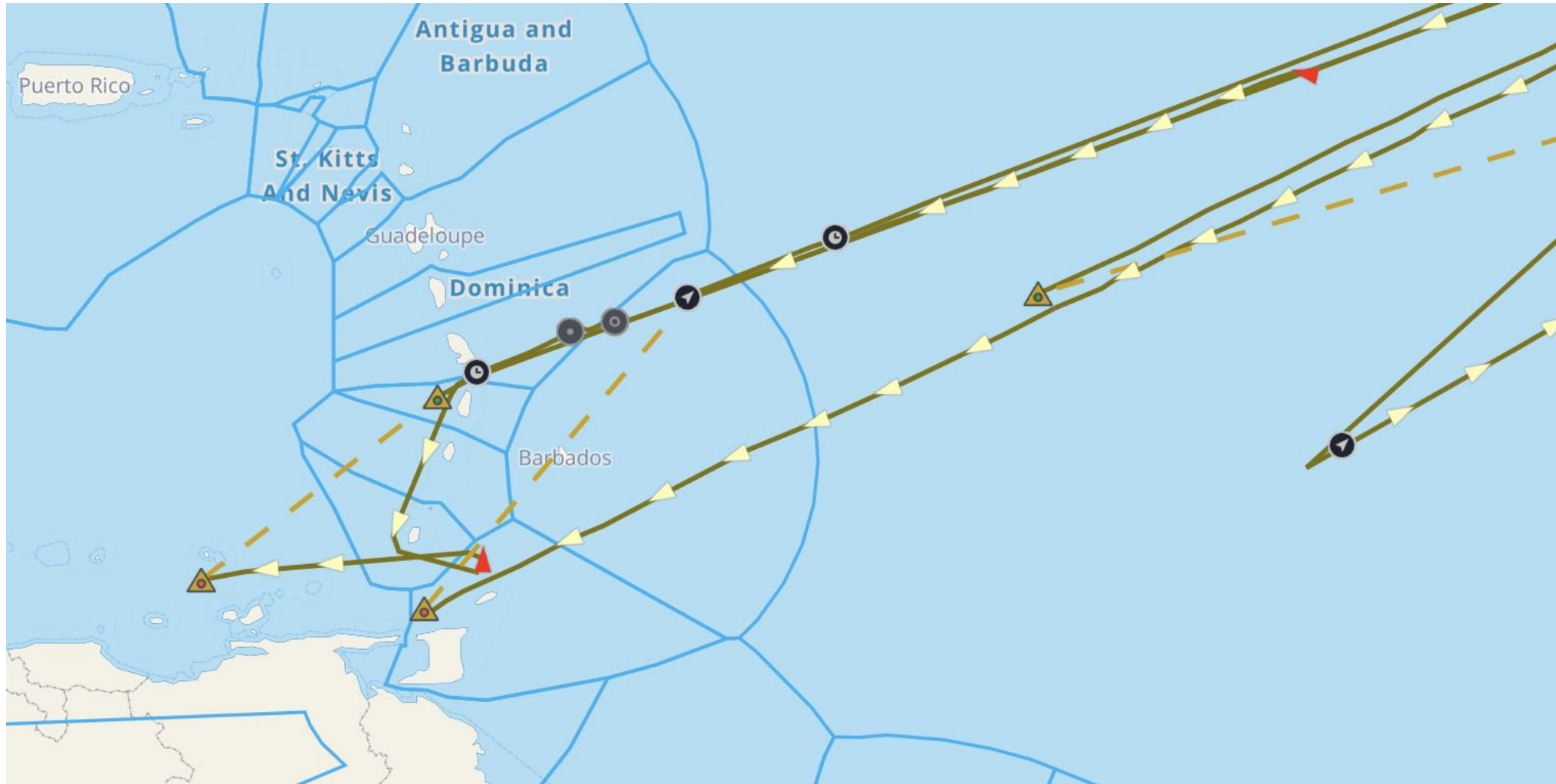


© Valery Cherezov
MarineTraffic.com





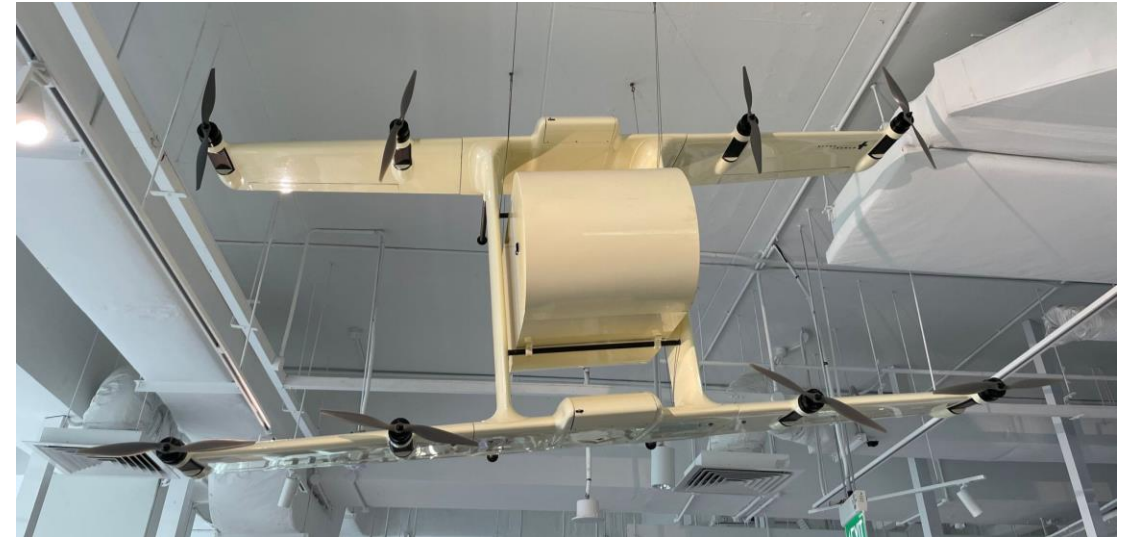
Trend 4: Masking Malignant with Benign



Windward depiction of the vessel trail of the FIDELITY from Sept 2020 to Sept 2021.



Trend 5: Making Benign Technology Malignant





Suggestions:

WPS Terms

1. See Law as an asset (that needs to be fit for purpose).
2. Share insights (globally and across all seams inc. pub/priv).
3. Call out the emperor for having no clothes (unlawfare).
4. Be rigorous in analyzing anomalies (don't overlook them).
5. Pursue inter-domain awareness (air, sea, space, submarine).
6. Establish ship rider agreements (bilaterally and regionally).
7. Offer Mutual Legal Assistance (all responsible for deterrence).
8. Engage in joint and combined operations (multinational).
9. Seek common positions (to close legal gaps).
10. Get creative (since the criminals are)!

It has to work!



One More Suggestion:

WPS Terms

We have a WhatsApp Group;



Let's do this together!!

Advancing Knowledge, Building Capacity, Strengthening Partners Slide 45



Thank You!

QUESTIONS?



**INSTITUTE FOR
SECURITY GOVERNANCE**

Advancing Knowledge, Building Capacity, Strengthening Partners



Dr. Ian Ralby

ian.ralby@thehoplitegroup.com



instituteforsecuritygovernance.org



isginfo@nps.edu



@Institute for Security Governance