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Asian Shipowners' Association



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GLOBAL MONTHLY UPDATE

JUNE 2026

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL



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INDIAN OCEAN / ARABIAN SEA / PERSIAN GULF

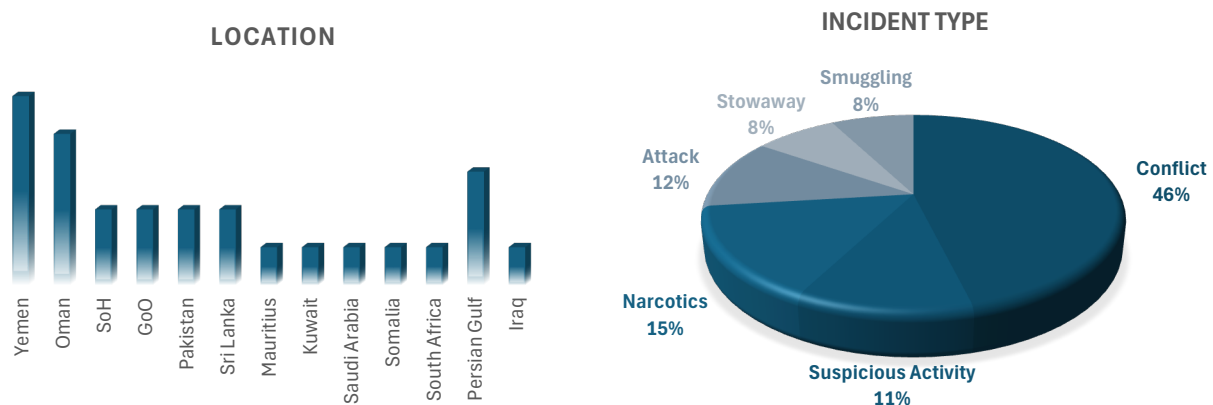
OVERVIEW, JUNE 2026

The maritime security environment across the Persian Gulf and western Indian Ocean remained highly volatile throughout June, with commercial shipping repeatedly affected by the US-Iran conflict. Reported incidents included projectiles striking merchant vessels, US strikes disabling tankers accused of breaching blockade measures, and Iranian enforcement actions against vessels allegedly violating Strait of Hormuz transit rules. The most notable incidents were the strikes on EVER LOVELY and KIKU, both of which triggered further US and Iranian military responses.

The wider political environment suggests that the mid-June ceasefire/MoU reduced some pressure but did not remove the core drivers of risk. Both sides continued to accuse the other of violating the arrangement, while Iran maintained that it had authority to regulate Strait of Hormuz traffic and the US continued to frame its actions as protection of commercial shipping and enforcement against Iran-linked maritime activity.

Beyond the Gulf confrontation, the western Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden saw a persistent cluster of suspicious approaches and attacks involving armed skiffs off Yemen and Somalia. Several incidents involved vessels being approached at close range, armed security teams exchanging fire, and small craft disengaging only after defensive action. Piracy and armed criminal activity likely remain active alongside state-level conflict, particularly around the IRTC, Yemen approaches and Somali waters.

Illicit activity also remained significant, with narcotics and smuggling incidents reported in Pakistan, Kuwait, South Africa and Sri Lanka. The large seizure off Gwadar, valued at around USD 215m, highlights the continued use of Arabian Sea routes for high-value narcotics movement.



MARITIME INCIDENTS, JUNE 2026

30-06-26	MAURITIUS	STOWAWAY	Two suspected stowaways were discovered onboard the Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier MV EAGLE off Port Louis, Mauritius. Mauritian authorities apprehended the two Ghanaian nationals, who were reportedly attempting to reach a foreign country illegally by sea. Further investigations are ongoing. [5] 27/28-06-26 [CONFLICT] GULF REGION US CENTCOM reported that US Navy and Air Force aircraft conducted strikes against 10 Iranian military targets at multiple locations in and around the SoH in response to the Iranian drone strike on the Panama-flagged tanker KIKU. Explosions were reported across parts of Hormozgan Province, including near Taherouyeh, Sirik, Masen village on Qeshm Island, Bandar Lengeh, and Bandar Kong. The IRGC later stated that its Navy and Aerospace Force conducted a joint missile and drone operation between 02:00-03:00 LT against eight US military installations, including Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait and the US Fifth Fleet headquarters at Salman Port in Bahrain, in response to the US strikes. The IRGC reiterated that Iran retains responsibility for regulating transit through the SoH under the Islamabad Agreement and warned that vessels violating Iranian transit regulations would face stronger enforcement measures. Kuwait subsequently confirmed that its air defences intercepted hostile missiles and drones, while Bahrain reported warning sirens and
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			explosion sounds. At current, there is no confirmation of successful strikes on the reported US military facilities or damage to commercial port infrastructure in either country.
27-06-26	STRAIT OF HORMUZ	CONFLICT	Panama-flagged tanker KIKU was struck by an unidentified projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz at 08:00 UTC. The Master reported that the projectile struck the vessel's bridge, causing damage. All crew safe and no environmental impact reported at current. [7] 26/27-06-26 [CONFLICT] IRAN & UNITED STATES US Central Command (CENTCOM) reported that US forces conducted strikes against Iranian missile and drone storage sites and coastal radar facilities in response to the attack on the Singapore-flagged containership EVER LOVELY in the Strait of Hormuz. CENTCOM described the operation as a response to what it said was Iran's violation of the ceasefire and stated that it would continue providing safe passage coordination and support to commercial vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz. Iranian state media, citing an unnamed military source, reported that a projectile struck the area around a pier in Sirik. The source stated that around five hours earlier, several warning shots were fired from Sirik toward vessels alleged to have violated Strait of Hormuz regulations, while two warning missiles were launched from the nearby Karpan area toward the waterway. The IRGC later stated that its navy had struck locations where US military forces are stationed in the region in retaliation, adding that the ceasefire grants Iran authority over ship traffic in the Strait of Hormuz and warning that any further US attacks would be met with a broader response.
26-06-26	KUWAIT	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Kuwaiti authorities seized 87 sheets of suspected narcotics believed to have been smuggled into the country by sea during an operation conducted off Jleeb Al Shuyoukh. One foreign national was apprehended in connection with the seizure. Authorities are continuing their investigation into the origin and intended destination of the suspected narcotics.
25-06-26	OMAN	CONFLICT	Singapore-flagged containership EVER LOVELY was struck on the starboard side by an unknown projectile approximately 7.5nm southeast of Dahit, Oman, at 14:10 UTC. The Master reported that the impact caused damage to the vessel's bridge.
22-06-26	PAKISTAN	NARCOTICS	Pakistani authorities seized 1,500kg of hashish and 500kg of methamphetamine off Pishukan, west of Gwadar. The consignment was being transported via the Arabian Sea and was valued at approximately USD \$215m.
22-06-26	PAKISTAN	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Pakistani authorities seized approximately 1,500 kg of hashish and 500 kg of crystal methamphetamine during a maritime counter-narcotics operation off Pishuka, Gwadar. The narcotics were reportedly intended to be smuggled to a foreign country by sea. Authorities estimated the total value of the seizure at approximately USD 215 million.
21-06-26	YEMEN	SUSPICIOUS APPROACH	A product tanker was approached by a skiff carrying five-armed individuals approximately 50nm southeast of Al Shihr, Yemen. The individuals reportedly appeared to be attempting to board the vessel. In response, the vessel conducted evasive manoeuvres and altered course away from the skiff. The skiff subsequently withdrew and the vessel continued towards its next port of call. The vessel and crew were reported safe.
17-06-26	YEMEN	ATTACK	Gambia-flagged tanker FAREEDA 5 (IMO: 1065863) was approached by two skiffs approximately 105nm northeast of Aden, Yemen, while transiting eastbound within the Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC). Armed persons onboard the skiffs reportedly closed to within four metres of the vessel and opened fire. The vessel's Armed Security Team (AST) was deployed and subsequently exchanged fire with the skiffs, after which the suspect craft disengaged and withdrew from the area. The crew were reported safe.
15-06-26	YEMEN	ATTACK	Panama-flagged tanker VST AMARA (IMO: 9742211) was approached by a single skiff at approximately 13:35 UTC on 15 June while transiting at position 12°24.13'N 046°46.55'E, approximately 111nm southeast of Aden, Yemen. The skiff reportedly closed to within approximately 0.2nm of the vessel before firing an RPG towards the tanker. The projectile failed to strike the vessel, and no damage or injuries have been reported.
15-06-26	SRI LANKA	SMUGGLING	Sri Lankan authorities reported the seizure of electronic cigarettes suspected of being smuggled into the country by sea. No further details regarding the quantity seized or arrests were available at the time of reporting.
15-06-26	SAUDI ARABIA	STOWAWAY	LATE REPORT Panama-flagged ro-ro-cargo ship JEHAN boarded by a Somali stowaway in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. No further information on the stowaway's disembarkation
14-06-26	SOMALIA	ATTACK	Palau-flagged container vessel LBC TUGCE was approached by two skiffs carrying approximately 12 armed individuals while underway approximately 32nm south of Hafun, Somalia. The perpetrators reportedly exchanged fire with the vessel's embarked armed security team before aborting the approach and withdrawing from the area. No injuries or damage were reported and the vessel subsequently continued its voyage.
12-06-26	STRAIT OF HORMUZ	CONFLICT	Iranian authorities stated that naval forces confronted and halted an oil tanker attempting to transit the Strait of Hormuz without authorisation after allegedly switching off its AIS. Iranian military sources stated that warning shots were fired and the vessel was compelled to comply with Iranian transit requirements. Explosions heard off the coast of Sirik, Hormozgan Province, were attributed to the interception of the vessel. Separately, US officials stated that US forces reportedly shot down two Iranian one-way attack drones allegedly launched towards commercial vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz.



12-06-26	YEMEN	SUSPICIOUS APPROACH	LATE REPORT A merchant vessel reported being pursued by a single skiff in position 13°40.6'N 049°24.3'E, approximately 52nm southeast of Mukalla, Yemen, at around 2245 LT. According to information received from a vessel operating in the area, the skiff was observed following the merchant vessel for an unspecified period. The Japanese Navy was reportedly responding to the incident. No boarding, weapons sightings, or hostile actions have been reported at this stage. Further details are awaited.
11-06-26	OMAN	CONFLICT	Guinea-Bissau-flagged tanker JALVEER (IMO: 9486283) reported a distress call in the Shinas OPL area, Oman, in position 24°52.0'N 056°46.0'E. A fire broke out onboard the vessel, reportedly affecting the engine room and funnel. CENTCOM later acknowledged responsibility, stating that US forces disabled the tanker in the Gulf of Oman after the vessel allegedly violated blockade measures by attempting to transport Iranian oil. CENTCOM stated that a US aircraft fired two Hellfire missiles into the vessel's engine room after the crew repeatedly failed to comply with directions from US forces.
11-06-26	OMAN	CONFLICT	Iranian authorities reported an Iranian cargo barge was struck by a US projectile approximately 5nm off Khasab, Oman. Sirik Governor Reza Shahidian stated that the 150-ton vessel was carrying essential goods from Khasab to Sirik, Iran, when it was hit at approximately 05:00 LT. The vessel reportedly had five crew members onboard, all of whom were rescued by passing vessels and transferred to Oman.
11-06-26	SRI LANKA	SMUGGLING	LATE REPORT Sri Lankan authorities seized a dinghy suspected of being used to smuggle approximately 177kg of kendu leaves and pharmaceutical products into the country by sea. The vessel was seized and investigations remain ongoing.
10-06-26	YEMEN	SUSPICIOUS APPROACH	Panama-flagged bulk carrier MARIA F (IMO: 9240811) reported a suspicious approach approximately 88nm southwest of Balhaf, Yemen, at 03:42 UTC. The Master stated that the vessel was approached by a small craft carrying six-armed persons onboard, resulting in an exchange of fire between the craft and the vessel's Armed Security Team. According to the Master, seven shots were fired from the small craft, and 11 shots were fired by the Armed Security Team before the craft turned away. A hand grenade was also reportedly observed in the water. No injuries or damage to the vessel were reported, and the vessel is continued its voyage to Port Klang, Malaysia.
09-06-26	GULF OF OMAN	CONFLICT	Palau-flagged tanker SETTEBELLO (IMO: 9162916) reportedly transmitted a distress call stating that its engine room had been struck while operating off Sohar, Oman, resulting in a fire onboard. CENTCOM later acknowledged responsibility, stating that US forces disabled the vessel after it allegedly failed to comply with directions while attempting to transport Iranian oil. India subsequently confirmed that all three previously missing Indian seafarers had been killed following the incident.
08-06-26	GULF OF OMAN	CONFLICT	US Central Command (CENTCOM) stated that US forces disabled the Palau-flagged tanker MARIVEX (IMO: 9464156) in the Gulf of Oman after the vessel allegedly failed to comply with US military instructions while sailing towards Iran. CENTCOM stated that a precision strike targeted the vessel's engineering and steering spaces, preventing it from continuing its voyage.
06-06-26	SOUTH AFRICA	NARCOTICS	South African authorities seized 90kg of cocaine concealed inside two excavators imported from Santos, Brazil aboard the Japan-flagged vehicle carrier NEPTUNE ACE at the Q and R Car Terminal in Durban Harbour. Authorities recovered 47 blocks from a panel leading to the engine compartment of the first excavator and an additional 43 blocks from a second excavator that had already been offloaded. The seizure was valued at approximately ZAR 36m (USD \$2m). No arrests were reported.
05-06-26	OMAN	CONFLICT	LATE REPORT Crude oil loading at Mina al Fahal terminal was reportedly temporarily suspended following an explosion near the offshore single-buoy mooring (SBM) berths between SBM 1 and SBM 2. The incident was suspected to have been caused by a drone attack. However, Omani authorities did not confirm an attack or attribute the incident to any perpetrator, while Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) stated that crude loading operations were continuing normally.
02-06-26	PERSIAN GULF	CONFLICT	US forces disabled the Botswana-flagged tanker LEXIE while the vessel was transiting toward Kharg Island, Iran. US CENTCOM stated that the unladen tanker failed to comply with repeated instructions from US forces over a 24-hour period, after which a US aircraft disabled the vessel by striking the engine room with a Hellfire missile. CENTCOM stated that the vessel was attempting to reach an Iranian port in violation of the US blockade measures.
01-06-26	IRAQ	CONFLICT	Panama-flagged container ship MSC SARISKA V (IMO: 8715857) was struck by two projectiles approximately 40nm southeast of Umm Qasr, Iraq, resulting in an explosion and subsequent fire that was later extinguished. The first projectile reportedly hit the vessel as it was departing port with a pilot onboard, while a second impacted the crew area shortly afterwards. No crew injuries or environmental impact were reported.



NORTH & WEST AFRICA

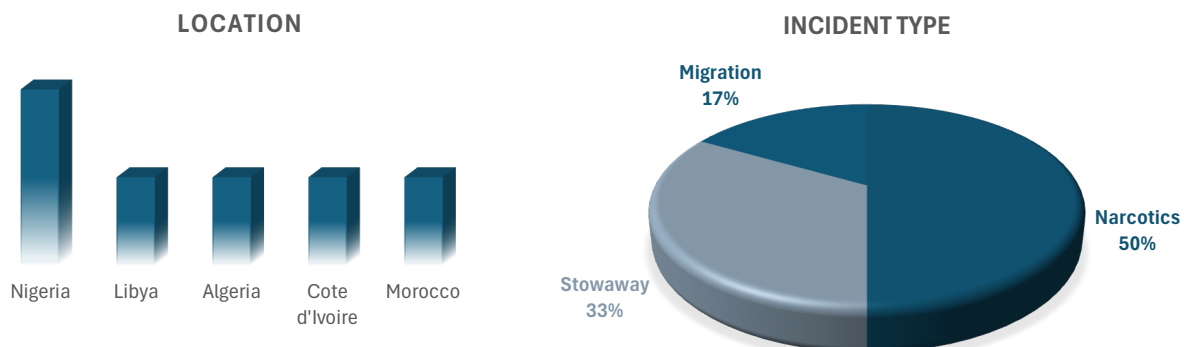
OVERVIEW, JUNE 2026

Maritime security activity across North and West Africa during June was relatively limited compared with other regions, with reporting concentrated around narcotics seizures, stowaway incidents and one migration-related event off Libya. The overall threat picture remained driven by port-based vulnerabilities rather than offshore piracy, with incidents involving concealed narcotics in commercial transport, stowaways boarding vessels at West African ports, and a merchant vessel responding to a migrant boat in distress.

Narcotics activity remained the most prominent issue. Significant seizures were reported in Nigeria, Algeria and Morocco, involving cannabis, synthetic drug tablets, and narcotic medical pills concealed within containers, passenger luggage and international transport trucks. The Nigerian seizure at Apapa Port was particularly notable due to the volume of Cannabis Sativa involved and the associated discovery of expired pharmaceutical products allegedly intended for relabelling and distribution.

Stowaway incidents continued to highlight persistent access-control challenges at regional ports, particularly in Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire. Multiple stowaways were discovered concealed in vessel compartments after boarding commercial ships, including rudder compartments and bulk carriers berthed or departing from regional ports. These incidents underline the ongoing risk of unauthorised access to vessels during port stays and the need for robust pre-departure security checks.

Separately, the migration incident off Libya demonstrated the continued humanitarian and operational risks facing commercial vessels in the central Mediterranean approaches. Although not a criminal incident, the involvement of a merchant vessel in responding to a migrant craft in distress highlights the potential for commercial shipping to be called upon to assist in rescue situations near North African migration routes.



MARITIME INCIDENTS, JUNE 2026

27-06-26	LIBYA	MIGRATION	The Liberia-flagged bulk carrier BULL responded to a migrant boat in distress approximately 46 nautical miles northeast of Tobruk, Libya, carrying around 50 migrants. The vessel remained on scene until the Libyan Coast Guard intercepted the craft and rescued 49 migrants. One migrant was reported deceased, while another remained missing following the incident.
17-06-26	NIGERIA	NARCOTICS	The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), in coordination with the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), reported the seizure of approximately 1.81 tonnes of Cannabis Sativa concealed within a 40ft shipping container at Apapa Port, Lagos. Authorities stated that the narcotics were hidden inside vehicles, bags, and drums loaded within the container. In a related operation, customs officials also intercepted two additional 40ft containers carrying expired pharmaceutical products allegedly intended for relabelling and distribution within the Nigerian market. The seized cargo had an estimated duty-paid value of NGN 12.8 billion (approximately USD 8.3 million).
17-06-26	NIGERIA	STOWAWAY	LATE REPORT Liberia-flagged bulk carrier CHINAFRIE HAPPINESS (IMO: 9329447) boarded by five Nigerian stowaways while berthed at Tin Can Island Port, Lagos, Nigeria. The five stowaways were discovered concealed in the vessel's rudder compartment and were



			evacuated to NNS BEECROFT for profiling and investigation. The stowaways were reportedly attempting to travel to India.
11-06-26	ALGERIA	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Algerian authorities seized 18,969 synthetic drug tablets from a passenger who arrived at Bejaia Port aboard a ferry from Sète, France. The narcotics included 18,850 ecstasy tablets and 119 Cipitax tablets concealed inside foreign-origin biscuit boxes in the passenger's luggage. Two individuals were arrested.
05-06-26	COTE D'IVOIRE	STOWAWAY	Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier MATILDA GS boarded by four Ivorian stowaways in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The stowaways were later disembarked in Abidjan itself on 7 June.
02-06-26	MOROCCO	NARCOTICS	Moroccan National Security and Customs officers seized 17,790 narcotic medical pills at Tanger Med Port, Morocco. The pills were concealed onboard an international goods transport truck that arrived by ferry from a European port and were discovered during border inspection procedures. A Moroccan national was arrested.

EUROPE/BLACK SEA

OVERVIEW, JUNE 2026

The European maritime environment during June was dominated by the continued expansion of the Russia-Ukraine conflict into the maritime domain, with repeated attacks targeting ports, merchant vessels, oil terminals and critical energy infrastructure throughout the Black Sea and southern Russia. Ukrainian long-range UAV operations increasingly focused on degrading Russia's maritime logistics and energy export capability, with reported strikes against Novorossiysk, Kerch, Temryuk, Talman Port, St Petersburg, Kronstadt and Mariupol, as well as multiple oil terminals, fuel storage facilities and naval infrastructure. Several merchant vessels were also struck or damaged while operating in the Black Sea or Sea of Azov, resulting in crew fatalities, vessel losses and disruption to commercial shipping.

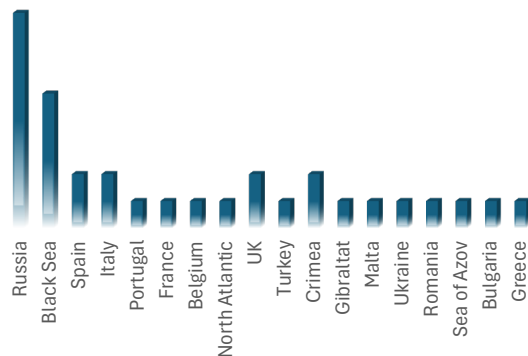
The reporting also highlights the growing overlap between commercial shipping and sanctions enforcement. Several vessels linked to Russia's "shadow fleet" were boarded, seized or targeted during June, including operations by British and French authorities against tankers suspected of sanctions evasion or operating under false flags. Meanwhile, Ukrainian strikes continued to target tankers assessed to be transporting Russian oil, reinforcing the increasing exposure of merchant shipping supporting Russian energy exports to direct military action. The continued targeting of ports, export terminals and commercial vessels reflects an effort by both sides to disrupt maritime logistics and economic activity rather than purely military objectives.

Counter-narcotics operations remained the second most significant theme across Europe. Authorities in Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, Malta and Russia conducted numerous large-scale interdictions involving cocaine and hashish concealed within containers, merchant vessels and high-speed craft. Several operations were multinational and intelligence-led, highlighting continued cooperation between European law enforcement agencies to disrupt trafficking routes linking Latin America, North Africa and Europe. The volume of seizures indicates that organised criminal groups continue to exploit major European ports and Atlantic maritime routes despite increased enforcement activity.

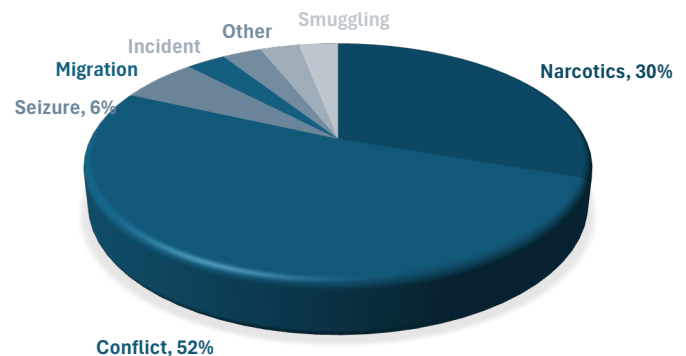
Elsewhere, isolated but notable maritime security incidents illustrated the broadening range of threats facing regional shipping. These included the discovery and controlled destruction of an armed UAV on the Turkish coastline, a Russian frigate reportedly firing warning shots near a UK-registered yacht in the English Channel, a Ukrainian unmanned surface vessel detonating inside Romania's Port of Constanța after losing control, and continued smuggling activity through Black Sea and Mediterranean ports. While these incidents were isolated, they demonstrate how the wider geopolitical environment is increasingly creating secondary risks beyond the immediate conflict zone.



LOCATION



INCIDENT TYPE



MARITIME INCIDENTS, JUNE 2026

31-06-26	RUSSIA	NARCOTICS	Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) seized approximately 500 kg of cocaine concealed within a shipping container of frozen tuna imported from Ecuador at the Petrolport container terminal, Port of Saint Petersburg. Authorities reported that the narcotics were being transported by sea from Latin America as part of an international trafficking network. A Russian national accused of organising the smuggling operation was arrested, and investigators seized cryptocurrency assets, luxury watches, and vehicles during subsequent searches.
30-06-26	RUSSIA	CONFLICT	Ukrainian forces reportedly conducted a drone strike targeting Novorossiysk Port, Russia, overnight between 29–30 June. Explosions and Russian air defence activity were reported in the vicinity of the port. The exact impact location and extent of any damage have not been confirmed. Novorossiysk is a major Black Sea export hub and hosts the Sheshkharis oil-loading complex, one of southern Russia's principal oil export facilities.
27-06-26	PORTUGAL	NARCOTICS	Portuguese authorities seized approximately four tonnes of hashish and arrested four suspects during a maritime counter-narcotics operation conducted off the coast of Setúbal. The operation commenced after the Integrated Surveillance, Command and Control System (SIVICC) detected a high-speed vessel approaching the Port of Setúbal, where authorities observed a suspected transshipment to two smaller craft. Maritime, land, and aerial units subsequently intercepted both vessels, seizing 101 bales of hashish, two boats, and fuel containers. The investigation into the wider trafficking network remains ongoing.
24-06-26	FRANCE	NARCOTICS	French authorities seized 253kg of cocaine concealed inside a container carrying rum from Martinique at Le Havre Port. The cocaine was hidden among bottles of rum.
23-06-26	ITALY	SEIZURE	French Navy forces boarded and intercepted the Cameroon-flagged tanker DELIVER (IMO: 9194983) while it was transiting off Sicily, Italy. French President Emmanuel Macron stated that the vessel was in breach of the law of the sea and linked to Russia's sanctions-evasion shadow fleet. French authorities stated that the operation was conducted to verify the nationality of a vessel suspected of operating under a false flag. According to AIS data, the vessel was en route to Singapore after departing Primorsk Anchorage, Russia, on 5 June. The vessel is sanctioned by the EU, UK, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, Ukraine and New Zealand for its alleged role in transporting Russian-origin crude oil and oil products as part of Russia's shadow fleet.
23-06-26	BLACK SEA	CONFLICT	Ukrainian UAVs reportedly targeted oil-terminal infrastructure at Kerch, Crimea, and Port Kavkaz, Krasnodar Krai, Russia, around the Kerch Strait. Fires were reported at the Kerch oil terminal, including the TES-Terminal oil- products transshipment and storage complex, and at the Port Kavkaz oil terminal. Russian Defence Ministry separately stated that 143 Ukrainian UAVs were intercepted overnight over several regions, including Krasnodar Krai, Crimea, and the Black and Azov Seas.
22-06-26	BLACK SEA	CONFLICT	Panama-flagged dry cargo vessel VICTRESS (IMO: 9030498) was struck by a Russian UAV during an overnight attack in the Black Sea while heading towards Odesa Oblast, Ukraine. Ukrainian Navy officials stated that the strike triggered a large-scale fire onboard, after which Ukrainian Navy boats evacuated the crew. One Egyptian crew member was killed, while eight other crew members, reportedly nationals of Egypt, Turkey, and India, were evacuated. The vessel sustained damage and remained at anchor following the attack. Odesa Regional Military Administration head Oleh Kiper stated that two additional merchant vessels under the flags of Palau and Belize were also struck during the same overnight attack, with no casualties reported onboard either vessel.



20-06-26	CRIMEA	CONFLICT	Ukrainian UAVs struck the Kerch Sea Port in Russian-controlled Crimea overnight between 20 and 21 June. Satellite data indicated active fires at the port, including at the AEGAZ-Terminal, a facility specialising in the handling and transfer of liquefied gas. The attack reportedly ignited a blaze at the facility, with Russian authorities stating that air defence systems were engaged and emergency services deployed to the scene. No casualties were reported.
19-06-26	ITALY	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Italian authorities seized over 300kg of cocaine from a speedboat intercepted off Cecina, Tuscany, following a high-speed pursuit. The two individuals on board reportedly attempted to evade authorities before running aground at Tombolo beach and fleeing into a nearby pine forest. The cocaine was concealed under sheets on board the vessel and divided into 288 packages.
18-06-26	BELGIUM	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Belgian authorities seized an unspecified quantity of hashish concealed inside a container loaded with calcium sulfate at quay 188 in Antwerp Port. The container originated from Morocco and was discovered during a routine customs inspection. No arrests were reported.
17-06-26	NORTH ATLANTIC	NARCOTICS	Spanish authorities intercepted a sailing vessel carrying approximately 500kg of cocaine more than 400 nautical miles south of the Canary Islands. The operation was conducted by the Spanish Customs Surveillance Service aboard the special operations vessel Petrel I, in coordination with the Guardia Civil and National Police. Three crew members, comprising two Brazilian nationals and one Moroccan national, were detained. The vessel was identified through a multinational intelligence-led operation involving Spanish, French, Portuguese, UK, US, and EU agencies. The seizure highlights the continued use of the North Atlantic and Macaronesia region as a transit route for cocaine shipments destined for Europe.
17-06-26	RUSSIA	CONFLICT	LATE REPORT Ukrainian forces reportedly targeted Equatorial Guinea-flagged crude oil tanker FINA A (IMO: 9283306) in the Black Sea, between Anapa and Novorossiysk, Russia. The vessel was reportedly due for Novorossiysk and was later listed as “not under command” on AIS. The tanker is sanctioned by the EU, Switzerland, UK, Canada, and Ukraine for transporting Russian oil/oil products in circumvention of sanctions.
17-06-26	SPAIN	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Spanish authorities seized approximately 500 kg of cocaine from a vessel intercepted approximately 400 nautical miles south of the Canary Islands during a multinational counter-narcotics operation in the Atlantic. The operation, coordinated through the Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics (MAOC-N), involved Spanish Customs, the National Police, the Guardia Civil, and international partners. Three crew members, reportedly two Brazilian nationals and one Moroccan national, were arrested. The vessel, escorted by the customs patrol vessel PETREL I, was taken to the Port of Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, where the investigation is continuing.
16-06-26	UNITED KINGDOM	OTHER	The Russian frigate Admiral Grigorovich reportedly fired warning shots in the vicinity of a UK-registered yacht approximately 20nm south of the Isle of Wight. The circumstances surrounding the incident remain unclear; however, the vessel was operating within the English Channel at the time. The UK Ministry of Defence has confirmed it is investigating the incident. No injuries or damage to the yacht have been reported.
14-06-26	ENGLISH CHANNEL	SEIZURE	Cameroon-flagged tanker SMYRTOS, assessed to be part of the Russian shadow fleet, was seized by British authorities during an operation conducted in the English Channel. The operation involved Royal Marine commandos, National Crime Agency (NCA) officers, and support from Royal Navy and Royal Air Force assets, including HMS SUTHERLAND, HMS LEDBURY, and a RAF P-8 maritime patrol aircraft. Following the boarding, the vessel was directed to an anchorage off the south coast of England, where it will remain under monitoring by UK authorities. No resistance, injuries, or environmental incidents were reported during the operation.
14-06-26	TURKEY	CONFLICT	Turkish authorities responded to the discovery of an armed unmanned aerial vehicle on the shoreline at Kapisuyu Beach in Bartın Province. Security forces established a cordon around the area and evacuated nearby civilians while specialist explosive ordnance disposal teams conducted a controlled detonation of the drone's onboard munitions. No injuries were reported. The origin of the UAV remains unknown and Turkish authorities have not publicly attributed the incident to any state or non-state actor.
14-06-26	RUSSIA	CONFLICT	Ukrainian Special Operations Forces reportedly conducted a UAV strike against Talman Port in Russia's Krasnodar region during the night of 13–14 June. The attack reportedly resulted in one fatality and caused multiple fires across the facility. Reporting indicates that several fuel storage tanks and oil loading infrastructure were damaged, with fires spreading to storage areas and the terminal's freight transport depot. Talman Port is a major liquefied hydrocarbon and petroleum products transshipment facility in southern Russia.
13-06-26	STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR	NARCOTICS	Spanish and Moroccan authorities seized approximately 4,777kg of hashish following the pursuit of a semi-rigid vessel in the Strait of Gibraltar. The vessel was initially



			detected by the Spanish Guardia Civil and subsequently pursued by maritime and aerial assets after exhibiting behaviour consistent with narcotics trafficking. During the pursuit, the occupants reportedly jettisoned multiple bales of hashish into the sea in an attempt to increase speed and evade interception. Spanish authorities recovered approximately 1,200kg of hashish, while Moroccan authorities recovered a further 3,577kg after the vessel entered waters near Morocco. The suspects ultimately evaded arrest.
12-06-26	RUSSIA	CONFLICT	LATE REPORT Russian authorities reported that a Ukrainian drone attack struck the Port of Temryuk in Russia's Krasnodar Krai, causing a fire at a sea terminal within the port area overnight. Regional officials stated that one person was killed as a result of the incident. The extent of the damage to port infrastructure and terminal operations remains unclear. Ukrainian authorities have not commented on the reported strike. [8] 09-06-2026 [MIGRATION] 84NM SE KALI LIMENES, CRETE LATE REPORT Panama-flagged bulk carrier SOUNION was called to assist a migrant vessel in distress about 84nm south of Kali Limenes, Crete, Greece. At least 32 migrants were rescued and transferred to Port Said, Egypt. About eight migrants went missing during the rescue operation.
11-06-26	SPAIN	NARCOTICS	Spanish authorities, including the Guardia Civil, seized approximately 1,120kg of hashish during a nighttime interdiction near the estuary of Punta Umbría, Huelva, after tracking a semi-rigid speedboat approximately 8nm off the coast. The narcotics were packed in 56 bales and were being transferred using a van and a sedan when officers moved to intercept the suspects. The traffickers opened fire on Guardia Civil officers with long guns, prompting return fire from security forces. No officers were injured. One individual was arrested while the remaining suspects fled on foot, abandoning the vehicles, narcotics, and a handgun.
10-06-26	EASTERN BLACK SEA	CONFLICT	Guinea-Bissau-flagged tanker WEST HORIZON was struck while operating in the eastern Black Sea area, according to the Ukrainian General Staff. The strike reportedly damaged the vessel's propulsion and steering system, including the propeller and rudder assembly. Ukrainian officials stated that the tanker had been involved in transporting Russian oil and petroleum products in contravention of international sanctions. The Ukrainian military did not disclose the exact location, timing, or means of attack.
10-06-26	BLACK SEA	CONFLICT	Two merchant vessels sailing under the flags of Panama and Barbados sustained damage during drone attacks while transiting the Ukrainian maritime corridor in the Black Sea. According to the Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority, one vessel was inbound to Odesa carrying a cargo of metal products, while the second had departed the port loaded with grain. A fire reportedly broke out onboard one of the vessels but was extinguished by the crew. No injuries were reported, and both vessels were able to continue their voyages. Ukrainian officials attributed the attacks to Russian UAVs operating in the Odesa region.
10-06-26	RUSSIAN-OCCUPIED TERRITORY	CONFLICT	Ukrainian forces struck facilities at Mariupol Commercial Sea Port, damaging the port's energy, repair, management, and logistics infrastructure. Electrical substations, radar equipment, repair facilities, the control tower, and fuel and lubricant storage tanks were hit. Dry cargo vessel LADY AUGUSTA (IMO: 9163568), sailing under an unknown flag, was also reportedly struck at the port.
09-06-26	MALTA	NARCOTICS	Maltese authorities seized 113kg of cocaine concealed within declared cargo inside a container at Malta Freeport Terminal after it arrived from Moín, Costa Rica, en route to Libya. The container was flagged through risk-based profiling before being subjected to scanning and physical inspection. No arrests were reported.
08-06-26	RUSSIA	CONFLICT	Ukrainian UAVs struck the Grushovaya oil transfer depot at the Sheskhariis oil transshipment complex in Novorossiysk Port, triggering a large fire. Satellite imagery indicated at least four oil storage tanks were destroyed or damaged. Wider damage across the facility was reported to include up to 15 tanks.
06-06-26	UKRAINE	CONFLICT	Russian forces reportedly struck two civilian boats operated by Ukraine's Maritime Search and Rescue Service within the Ukrainian maritime corridor in the Odesa maritime area. Ukrainian authorities stated that the vessels were conducting a humanitarian mission at the time of the attack and that Ukrainian Navy vessels subsequently conducted evacuation operations. The Ukrainian Navy stated that both vessels carried the required Search and Rescue (SAR) markings and colour scheme identifying them as rescue craft. Personnel were reportedly wounded in the attack.
06-06-26	RUSSIA	CONFLICT	Ukrainian UAVs reportedly struck Russian naval arsenals and a base in Kronstadt, in the St Petersburg region. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy stated that the drones travelled approximately 1,000km to reach the targets. No damage to vessels was reported.
05-06-26	SEA OF AZOV	CONFLICT	Belize-flagged general cargo ship NATRA (IMO: 8729975) and St Kitts and Nevis-flagged general cargo ship ALAA M, formerly named ZIRCON (IMO: 9237175), were reportedly struck by Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles in Taganrog Bay, Sea of Azov, shortly after midnight on 5 June. Both vessels were reportedly sailing in ballast from



			Türkiye to Rostov-on-Don, Russia, to load grain at the time of the incident. NATRA reportedly sustained four UAV hits at around 00:45 LT, after which two Azerbaijani crew members were killed, the vessel caught fire, and the crew later extinguished the blaze. ALAA M was reportedly struck approximately one hour later, sustaining four UAV hits on or near the superstructure, after which three Azerbaijani crew members were killed, and the remaining crew abandoned the vessel in lifeboats while the vessel remained on fire. Survivors were rescued by passing vessels and taken to Yeysk port, while NATRA reportedly lost propulsion and required towage. Ukraine's Unmanned Systems Forces later stated that five cargo ships had been targeted near Berdyansk, Yalta and Mariupol, accusing the vessels of operating with names obscured and AIS disabled while allegedly transporting stolen grain, military cargo and fuel. No further details were confirmed on the other three vessels.
05-06-26	BLACK SEA	CONFLICT	Turkey-flagged fishing boat DURU 67 was attacked off Sevastopol, west of Crimea, in the Black Sea, sustaining damage before subsequently sinking. Nearby fishing boat BURAK KAYA evacuated five fishermen injured by shrapnel fragments from the vessel and proceeded toward İnebolu, Türkiye. One seriously injured fisherman died during the transfer, while the remaining four were later brought ashore for medical treatment. No further details were immediately released on who carried out the attack.
05-06-26	ROMANIA	INCIDENT	LATE REPORT A Ukrainian maritime unmanned surface vehicle (USV) self-detonated near Berth 78 at the Port of Constanta after becoming entangled in an anti-pollution barrier near the Oil Terminal area. Romanian authorities stated that Ukraine had lost control of four USVs during a Black Sea operation, with one detonating inside the port and three others self-detonating offshore. Romanian President attributed the loss of control to Russian electronic warfare. Authorities issued RO-Alert messages, evacuated nearby areas, and activated emergency response measures. No casualties were reported, though an industrial hall near Berth 78 was damaged in the blast.
03-06-26	RUSSIA	CONFLICT	Ukrainian drones struck port and naval infrastructure in St Petersburg and Kronstadt, Russia. Ukrainian sources stated that multiple fires occurred at the Petersburg Oil Terminal, located within the Greater Port of St Petersburg. Separately, drones reportedly struck the Russian Navy Project 20380 corvette BOIKIY while the vessel was in dry dock at Kronstadt.
01-06-26	BULGARIA	SMUGGLING	Bulgarian customs authorities seized 3,320 undeclared children's toys and accessories concealed within a container at Burgas Port. The shipment arrived from China and was declared as containing 20 empty prize-claw vending machines.

AMERICAS

OVERVIEW, JUNE 2026

Maritime security activity across Southeast Asia and Oceania throughout June remained overwhelmingly dominated by large-scale counter-narcotics operations, with authorities conducting significant maritime interdictions across the Pacific, Caribbean and Atlantic. Major seizures were reported in Mexico, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador, Chile and Guatemala, involving cocaine, cannabis and other illicit narcotics concealed within merchant vessels, shipping containers, semi-submersibles and go-fast craft. Several operations resulted in multi-tonne seizures and demonstrated continued intelligence-led cooperation between regional authorities and international partners, reinforcing the region's position as the world's principal maritime narcotics trafficking corridor.

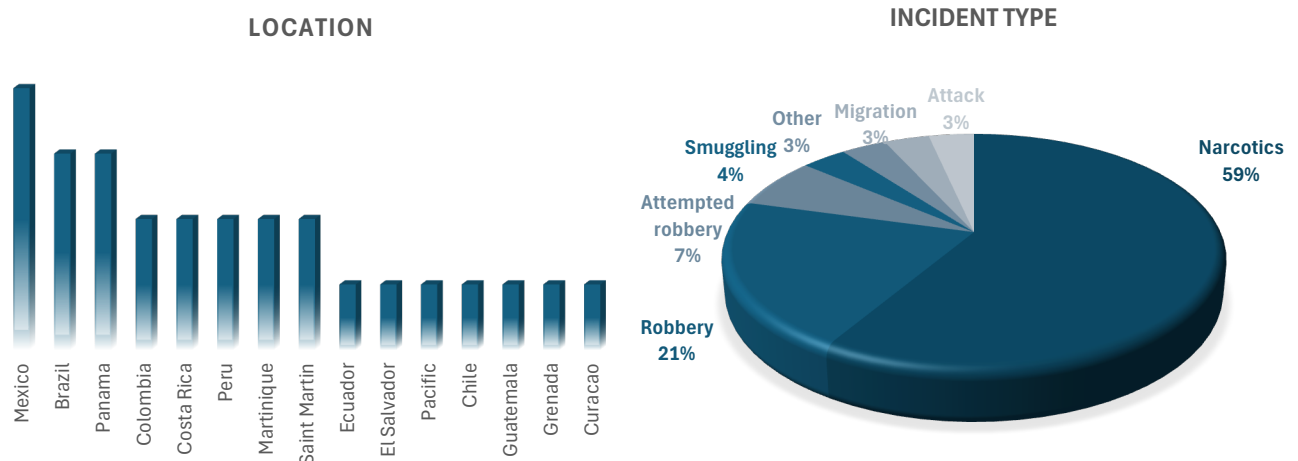
A notable trend was the increasing sophistication of trafficking methods. Authorities uncovered cocaine concealed within coffee-based biofuel pellets, banana shipments, scrap metal, merchant vessels and containers using "blind hook" techniques, while traffickers continued to employ semi-submersible vessels, low-profile craft and offshore transfer methods to evade detection. Chile's seizure of chemically impregnated narcotics concealed within timber cargo destined for multiple international markets, together with numerous large-scale interdictions in Mexico, Colombia and Costa Rica, highlights the adaptability of organised criminal networks and the continued exploitation of legitimate maritime trade routes.

The reporting also reflected broader regional security dynamics. US Southern Command continued to expand its role in maritime counter-narcotics operations, including direct action against vessels assessed to be supporting trafficking networks, while multinational cooperation between Latin American, Caribbean and North American agencies remained central to successful interdictions.



Alongside narcotics trafficking, opportunistic maritime crime remained prevalent across the Caribbean cruising community. Numerous thefts targeted yachts, dinghies and outboard engines in Saint Martin, Martinique, Curaçao, Grenada and Panama, with most incidents occurring overnight while vessels were at anchor or secured alongside. Although generally non-violent, the frequency and geographical spread of these robberies demonstrate the continued vulnerability of recreational craft operating throughout the eastern Caribbean and the importance of maintaining robust onboard security measures.

Elsewhere, migration and humanitarian activity continued to affect commercial shipping, with merchant vessels responding to migrant incidents and authorities maintaining increased maritime patrols across key transit routes.



MARITIME INCIDENTS, JUNE 2026

02-07-26	SAINT MARTIN	ROBBERY	Poland-flagged sailing yacht ABRACADABRA was reportedly stolen overnight from Marigot Bay, Saint Martin (France). The stolen vessel is described as a Beneteau First 47.7 with a dark blue hull, white decks, and a dark backpack. The theft was reported to the Police, Port Captain, and Coast Guard, and the vessel remains outstanding.
01-07-26	MEXICO	NARCOTICS	Mexican Navy (SEMAR) units seized approximately 1.2 tonnes of cocaine during two maritime interdiction operations conducted off the coast of Chiapas. Authorities arrested eight suspects, reportedly from Ecuador and Guatemala, during the operations. In the first interdiction, authorities seized 860 kg of cocaine concealed in 29 bundles and detained four suspects. A second operation intercepted a speedboat carrying 384 kg of cocaine in 13 bundles, resulting in the arrest of four additional suspects. During the pursuit, one of the suspect vessels reportedly capsized, scattering packages into the Pacific Ocean, where some were later recovered by fishermen and local residents near Mazatán.
31-06-26	PERU	NARCOTICS	Peruvian and Colombian authorities seized approximately 9.2 tonnes of suspected cannabis during a binational counter-narcotics operation conducted in the Bellavista sector of Callarú, Loreto Region, near the Peru–Colombia border. The operation targeted drug trafficking activities along the Amazon river network, a key inland waterway used to transport illicit narcotics towards regional ports and international maritime routes. The seized narcotics were transferred to the competent authorities for forensic analysis and further investigation.
31-06-26	ECUADOR	NARCOTICS	Ecuadorian authorities seized approximately 524.9 kg of cocaine concealed within a shipping container carrying bananas at the Posorja Maritime Port following technical profiling by the Integrated Analysis Center for Ports and Airports (CIAPA). The inspection, supported by a specialist narcotics detection dog, uncovered 526 rectangular packages of cocaine hidden among the cargo. The container was reportedly destined for Libya.
30-06-26	PANAMA	ROBBERY	An unoccupied yacht anchored at the South Anchorage, Bocas del Toro, was burgled overnight after perpetrators forced entry through a locked hatch before locating a hidden key and accessing the vessel. Multiple items were reported stolen, including a GPS, GoPro camera, jewellery, clothing, a paddleboard and paddle, and a JBL speaker. No persons were onboard at the time of the incident.
29-06-26	SINT MAARTEN	ROBBERY	A dinghy fitted with an 18HP Tohatsu outboard engine was reportedly stolen overnight from a yacht anchored in Simpson Bay, Sint Maarten, while the owner was asleep onboard. The dinghy was left in the water and was not secured at the time of the incident. No confrontation or injuries were reported.



23-06-26	BRAZIL	NARCOTICS	Brazilian authorities seized 43 kg of cocaine at Mucuripe port, Brazil. The narcotics were reportedly attached onboard a French-flagged containership using magnets to affix the cocaine bricks to the vessel. The boxship arrived in Mucuripe on 19 June having previously called Vila do Conde, Brazil.
21-06-26	COSTA RICA	NARCOTICS	Costa Rican authorities seized 70 sacks of marijuana from a go-fast vessel intercepted approximately 120nm off Playa Matapalo, Puntarenas. The vessel was initially detected 92nm offshore by a US surveillance aircraft, before Costa Rican, Panamanian and Colombian authorities coordinated the tracking and interdiction. The sacks reportedly contained approximately 1,400 marijuana packages. Two Nicaraguan nationals were arrested.
20-06-26	MEXICO	NARCOTICS	Mexican authorities seized 270kg of cocaine concealed in 268 rectangular packages inside a shipping container during unloading operations aboard a containership at Manzanillo Port, Colima. Authorities also discovered two foreign nationals in irregular migratory status on board the vessel, who were reported in good health and handed over to the competent authorities.
19-06-26	FRANCE	ROBBERY	LATE REPORT A locked aluminum dinghy with a Yamaha outboard motor was stolen overnight from the dock at Time Out Boat Yard (TOBY), Saint Martin, at 01:00 LT. The dinghy was recovered the following day without the outboard motor.
18-06-26	COLOMBIA	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Colombian authorities seized 1,300kg of cocaine hydrochloride concealed inside a contaminated container on board a merchant vessel anchored off Turbo, Antioquia. The narcotics were found in 52 packages containing 1,299 rectangular packages and were reportedly destined for the Netherlands and England. Authorities also seized Garmin GPS equipment allegedly used to coordinate the shipment. The cocaine was reportedly linked to the Gulf Clan and valued at over USD \$72m.
18-06-26	OFF EL SALVADOR	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT El Salvadoran authorities seized 6,680kg of cocaine from two low-profile vessels intercepted in the Pacific Ocean. The first vessel was intercepted 582nm southwest of Bocana El Cordoncillo, carrying 3,425kg of cocaine, while the second vessel was located six hours later 633nm southwest of Bocana El Cordoncillo, carrying 3,255kg of cocaine. Six individuals were arrested, including four Colombians and two Ecuadorians. The narcotics were valued at approximately USD \$167m.
18-06-26	140NM OFF ECUADOR	SMUGGLING	LATE REPORT Ecuadorian authorities intercepted an unregistered 20-metre semisubmersible vessel approximately 140nm off the Pacific coast of Ecuador. The vessel was carrying approximately 34,000 litres of fuel and was reportedly capable of transporting up to five tonnes of cargo. Two Ecuadorian and two Colombian nationals were arrested.
17-06-26	EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN	NARCOTICS	US forces conducted a strike against a vessel assessed to be involved in narcotics trafficking in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. According to US Southern Command, one individual was killed and two survivors were recovered following the incident. The vessel was reportedly operating along a known narcotics smuggling route. US authorities stated that the operation formed part of ongoing efforts targeting groups designated as 'narcoterrorists' by the Trump administration. The US Coast Guard was reportedly notified to conduct search and rescue operations for the survivors.
16-06-26	GRENADA	ROBBERY	A locked in-the-water Zodiac dinghy with a 5HP Mercury outboard motor was stolen overnight from a yacht in Prickly Bay, Grenada while the owner slept onboard at 01:00 LT. The incident was reported to the Coast Guard.
15-06-26	COLOMBIA	NARCOTICS	Colombian Anti-Narcotics Police reported the seizure of approximately 2,400kg of cocaine concealed within 1,660 sacks of coffee-based biofuel pellets at Cartagena Port. The shipment was reportedly destined for Valencia, Spain, where authorities assessed the narcotics were intended for processing at a drug extraction laboratory. The cocaine was identified during profiling and inspection activities. The seizure highlights the continued use of direct Colombia–Spain trafficking routes and increasingly sophisticated concealment methods.
14-06-26	COSTA RICA	NARCOTICS	Costa Rican authorities, supported by the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), intercepted a semi-submersible vessel carrying approximately 2.6 tonnes of cocaine off the Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica. Three individuals, comprising two Colombian nationals and one Ecuadorian national, were arrested during the operation. Authorities seized 2,601 packages of cocaine and reported that the vessel had likely completed a transit from South America and was preparing to offload the narcotics in Central America. Two additional vessels suspected of involvement in the operation were identified in the vicinity; however, insufficient evidence was available to support further arrests.
12-06-26	BRAZIL	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Brazilian authorities reported the seizure of approximately 150kg of cocaine concealed within a shipment of scrap metal at Navegantes Port, Santa Catarina. The container was destined for Malaga, Spain, and authorities identified 136 packages of cocaine embedded within metal components in an apparent attempt to evade port screening procedures. The shipment was identified through surveillance and intelligence activities before being transferred to judicial police for further investigation. International enquiries remain ongoing to identify the intended recipients in Spain.



09-06-26	PANAMA	NARCOTICS	Panamanian authorities, in coordination with the National Aeronaval Service (SENAN), the US Coast Guard, and the Veraguas Drug Prosecutor's Office, seized 1,790 packages of suspected narcotics from a speedboat intercepted southwest of Isla Jicarón, Veraguas Province. SENAN personnel detected the unusual movement of the speedboat during maritime trafficking control operations and proceeded to intercept the vessel. The intercepted speedboat reportedly sank during transfer due to adverse weather conditions. Three Nicaraguan nationals onboard the speedboat were arrested and transferred with the seized packages to the Quebrada de Piedra naval air station.
09-06-26	GUATEMALA	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Guatemalan authorities intercepted a vessel carrying approximately 937kg of cocaine approximately 41nm off Puerto Quetzal. Two suspected traffickers were arrested during the operation. The vessel had reportedly departed from Colombia and was identified through intelligence and surveillance efforts coordinated by US Southern Command.
09-06-26	PERU	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Peruvian authorities seized approximately 906.95kg of cocaine concealed within a shipping container at Paita Port. The narcotics were reportedly hidden amongst a legitimate fruit shipment using the "blind hook" concealment method. The container was located aboard the container vessel DEL MONTE HARVESTER following intelligence-led operations conducted in coordination with international partners.
08-06-26	CHILE	NARCOTICS	Chilean authorities, including the Maritime Police, National Customs Service, and the Arica Prosecutor's Office, seized approximately 108 tonnes of cocaine, cocaine base, ketamine, and drug-processing adulterants concealed through chemical impregnation in 45 shipping containers of sawn lumber and decking originating from Bolivia at the ports of Arica, San Antonio, and Valparaíso. The cargo was reportedly destined for at least 15 countries across Europe, North America, Oceania, and Africa, including Germany, Belgium, the United States, and New Zealand. The seizure followed a six-month intelligence-led investigation supported by laboratory analysis, canine teams, and specialised scanning technology.
08-06-26	MEXICO	NARCOTICS	Mexican authorities seized approximately 829kg of cocaine from a narco-boat equipped with three outboard motors approximately 195nm south of the coast of Guerrero. The narcotics were concealed in 13 rectangular packages and were located during maritime patrol and surveillance operations in the Pacific Ocean. The narcotics and five arrested crew members were transferred to the port of Acapulco aboard a Mexican Navy surface unit. The seizure was valued at approximately MXN 180m (USD \$9.7m).
07-06-26	MEXICO	NARCOTICS	Mexican authorities seized approximately 1,360kg of cocaine in 29 bales found floating at sea during maritime patrols off Boca Chica, Tecpan de Galeana, Guerrero. Mexican Navy personnel acting as the Coast Guard located the packages floating at sea and secured the cargo. The seizure was valued at approximately MXN 283m (USD \$15.2m). No arrests were reported.
07-06-26	NETHERLANDS	ROBBERY	LATE REPORT A locked folding dinghy with a Tohatsu M3.5B2S outboard motor was stolen after being secured to a tree at Cabrita Bay, Spanish Water, Curaçao at 09:00 LT. The owners discovered the theft when they returned at 17:00 LT. The incident was reported to police and the Coast Guard.
05-06-26	PANAMA	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Panamanian authorities, including the National Aeronaval Service [SENAN], seized 1,425 packages of cocaine during a maritime operation in the waters of the Guna Yala region. The narcotics were recovered from two artisanal boats after agents detected irregular movements at sea and deployed naval and air resources. The first boat was intercepted with the packages onboard, while the occupants of the second boat attempted to flee and dumped cargo into the sea, which was later recovered by enforcement units. Five Panamanian nationals were arrested and both boats were secured.
05-06-26	MARTINIQUE (FRANCE)	ROBBERY	LATE REPORT A locked Walker Bay dinghy with white hull and blue seats was stolen from the Indigo Restaurant dinghy dock in Le Marin, Martinique at 16:00 LT. It is unclear whether a police report was made.
05-06-26	FRANCE	ROBBERY	LATE REPORT Fuel and a fuel tank cap were stolen from a dinghy at the St. Anne dinghy dock, Martinique after the owner left the fuel tank locked to the dinghy at 16:00 LT. No further details were reported.
02-06-26	BRAZIL	NARCOTICS	The Brazilian Federal Police seized 80kg of cocaine concealed within the internal structure of a merchant vessel approximately 8.6nm off Fortaleza, Ceará. The narcotics were divided into 18 packages and were discovered following intelligence indicating drugs had been hidden on board the vessel. The vessel had previously called at ports in other South American countries and was scheduled to continue to Europe. No arrests were reported.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

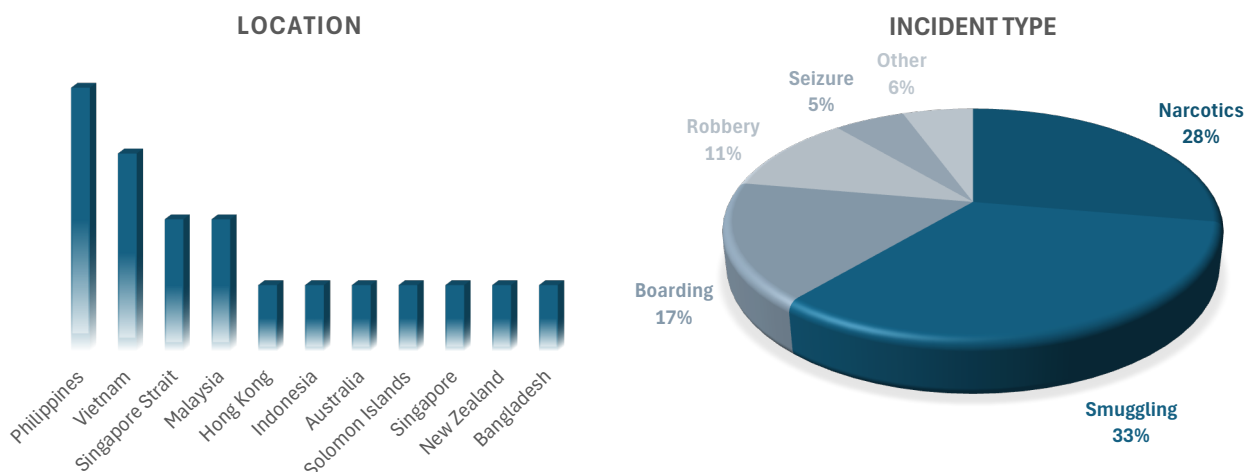
OVERVIEW, JUNE 2026

Maritime security activity across Southeast Asia and Oceania throughout during June was dominated by smuggling, narcotics trafficking and unauthorised vessel boardings, with continued enforcement operations reported across Malaysia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Australia, Bangladesh and New Zealand. Fuel, cigarettes and other contraband remained the primary commodities moved through regional maritime smuggling networks, while law enforcement agencies continued to target increasingly sophisticated narcotics trafficking operations exploiting commercial shipping and containerised cargo. Overall, organised criminal activity remained the principal maritime security challenge across the region.

Counter-narcotics operations remained a significant focus throughout the month. Authorities in Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Bangladesh and the Solomon Islands reported substantial cocaine and cannabis seizures involving pleasure craft, merchant vessels and refrigerated shipping containers. Several shipments originated in South America before transiting multiple international ports, reflecting the increasingly global nature of trafficking routes into the Asia-Pacific region. Particularly notable were the linked cocaine seizures in Hong Kong, the intelligence-led interception of cocaine concealed within refrigerated containers at Port Botany and Tauranga Port, and the continued investigation into the MV WEALTH, which authorities linked to wider transnational organised crime and Pacific cocaine trafficking networks.

The Singapore Strait continued to experience a sustained pattern of unauthorised boardings against merchant vessels. Multiple bulk carriers were boarded while transiting the Phillip Channel, with perpetrators in several cases reportedly carrying knives and gun-like objects. Although most incidents resulted in limited or no thefts and no crew injuries, the frequency of boardings demonstrates that opportunistic criminal groups remain active within one of the world's busiest shipping lanes. Similar incidents were also reported at Bahodopi Anchorage in Indonesia and at Manila anchorage in the Philippines, reinforcing the need for heightened vigilance during both transit and anchorage operations.

Smuggling activity also remained widespread across the region, particularly involving fuel and illicit cigarettes. Vietnamese, Malaysian and Philippine authorities conducted numerous maritime interdictions targeting vessels transporting diesel, petroleum products, LPG cylinders and contraband tobacco without documentation. Several operations resulted in the seizure of vessels, arrests of crew members and recovery of firearms, highlighting the increasingly organised nature of maritime smuggling networks operating across coastal and border waters.



MARITIME INCIDENTS, JUNE 2026

29-06-26	HONG KONG	NARCOTICS	Hong Kong Police seized approximately 120 kg of suspected cocaine from a pleasure boat moored at Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter, days after a related seizure of 241 kg of cocaine from another yacht in the same area. Authorities assessed that the narcotics were likely
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			part of the same batch, bringing the total seizure in the area to approximately 361 kg of cocaine. A 45-year-old local woman listed as the registered owner of the vessel was arrested, while several other suspects had reportedly been detained following the earlier raid.
29-06-26	INDONESIA	BOARDING	An anchored bulk carrier was reportedly boarded by unauthorised individuals at Bahodopi Anchorage, Indonesia. The perpetrators escaped with ship's items before being detected. No further information has been released.
26-06-26	SINGAPORE STRAIT	BOARDING	Liberia-flagged bulk carrier MARIA D boarded by three unauthorised individuals while transiting the Phillip Channel, Singapore Strait, in position 01°08'25.8"N 103°30'18.0"E at approximately 0040 LT (UTC+8). The perpetrators, reportedly armed with a gun-like object, were sighted by the crew at the aft of the vessel. The Master subsequently confirmed that all crew members were safe and accounted for.
25-06-26	PHILIPPINES	SMUGGLING	LATE REPORT Philippine authorities intercepted a shipment of approximately 400 litres of diesel at Cawayan, Masbate, after it was found being transported without valid documentation. One suspect was apprehended, and the fuel was seized pending further investigation into its origin and intended use.
24-06-26	AUSTRALIA	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Australian Border Force (ABF) officers seized approximately 110 kg of cocaine concealed within a refrigerated shipping container carrying frozen berries from Chile at Port Botany, Sydney. The narcotics, comprising 110 one-kilogram packages, were discovered hidden among the cargo following intelligence-led targeting and inspection. The shipment, reportedly destined for northwest Sydney, was referred to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) for further investigation. Authorities estimated the seized cocaine to have a street value of approximately AUD 36 million.
24-06-26	PHILIPPINES	SEIZURE	LATE REPORT Philippine authorities seized the cargo vessel J&P LORETO during a maritime enforcement operation off Claver after it was found transporting approximately 2,200 litres of diesel without valid documentation. The vessel was detained, and two suspects were apprehended pending further investigation.
19-06-26	PHILIPPINES	ROBBERY	LATE REPORT Marshall Islands-flagged containership boarded by four perpetrators armed with a knife while anchored off MICT Anchorage, Manila, Philippines, at 00:35 LT. The bosun sighted the perpetrators on the forecastle deck and raised the alarm, prompting them to escape with stolen ship's properties. No injuries were reported.
19-06-26	SOLOMON ISLANDS	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT Solomon Islands authorities detained the Belize-flagged general cargo ship MV WEALTH in Renbel Province over suspected involvement in transnational organised criminal activity. The vessel was escorted to Honiara for further investigation after intelligence linked it to illicit tobacco smuggling, drug trafficking and suspected support vessels allegedly used to transfer illicit cargo across the Pacific region. Australian authorities later linked MV WEALTH to a failed cocaine importation near Midge Point, Queensland, after 2.7 tonnes of cocaine were seized from underground bunkers concealed beneath shipping containers at Londonderry, near western Sydney
13-06-26	SINGAPORE	ROBBERY	Bangladesh-flagged bulk carrier GUL BANA was boarded while transiting the Phillip Channel, Singapore. Crew members observed four unidentified perpetrators onboard carrying knives and a gun-like object. No injuries, theft, or damage were reported, and the perpetrators' actions remain unclear at the time of writing.
13-06-26	MALAYSIA	SMUGGLING	Authorities seized a boat carrying approximately 150 cartons of cigarettes and two LPG cylinders suspected of being smuggled from a neighbouring country. The suspects reportedly escaped prior to interception. The vessel was seized.
12-06-26	NEW ZEALAND	NARCOTICS	LATE REPORT New Zealand Customs reported the seizure of approximately 100kg of cocaine concealed within a refrigerated shipping container at Tauranga Port. The container, carrying legitimate cargo, was loaded in Chile and transited through Peru, Colombia, and Panama before arriving in New Zealand. Authorities identified ten boxes containing a total of 100 cocaine packages concealed alongside legitimate goods using the 'blind hook' method. The narcotics had an estimated street value of USD 35 million.
12-06-26	MALAYSIA	SMUGGLING	LATE REPORT Malaysian authorities intercepted and seized a pump boat carrying assorted domestic goods suspected of being smuggled by sea.
07-06-26	BANGLADESH	NARCOTICS	Bangladeshi authorities seized 27kg of cannabis from an unknown vessel during a Coast Guard operation in the sea area adjacent to Teknaf Zero Point, Cox's Bazar. The vessel attempted to flee after ignoring orders to stop and its occupants dumped a sack into the sea, which was later recovered by the search team. Authorities seized another sack of cannabis during a search of the vessel. The narcotics were valued at approximately BDT 810k (USD \$6.6k). Three individuals were arrested.
06-06-26	VIETNAM	SMUGGLING	Vietnamese authorities seized more than 150k litres of diesel from the fishing vessel DT-93734 TS approximately 150nm southeast of Hon Khoai, Ca Mau Province. Authorities found three crew members onboard and the captain failed to provide invoices for the cargo. The vessel and seized fuel were escorted to Nam Can commune for further investigation.
05-06-26	SINGAPORE STRAIT	BOARDING	Two vessels were boarded by perpetrators while transiting the Phillip Channel, Singapore Strait. In the first incident, two perpetrators boarded a bulk carrier in position 01°04'09.6"N 103°41'54.6"E at 02:28 LT (UTC+8). Subsequently, at 03:52 LT (UTC+8), six



			perpetrators, armed with knives and a gun-like object, boarded another bulk carrier in position 01°03'43.8"N 103°40'46.8"E and were reported in the vessel's engine room.
05-06-26	VIETNAM	SMUGGLING	LATE REPORT Vietnamese authorities seized 1,962 litres of fuel from an unregistered composite-hulled motorboat in the creek area between To Chim Mountain and Pig's Nest, Hai Hoa 1 neighborhood, Mong Cai 1 ward, Quang Ninh Province. The boat was travelling toward the Bac Luan estuary when it was intercepted by personnel from Dong Van Border Guard Station. Authorities found 100 plastic cans of fuel onboard and the operator failed to provide documents proving the origin of the cargo. The seized fuel was valued at approximately VND 45.57m (USD \$1.8k).
04-06-26	PHILIPPINES	SMUGGLING	LATE REPORT Philippine authorities seized approximately 900 master cases of smuggled cigarettes from the cargo vessel M/V NUR AIRA in coastal waters off Lapas, Carmen, Davao del Norte. The cargo was valued at approximately PHP 22.5m (USD \$384k). Five crew members were arrested aboard the vessel, while three suspected recipients were arrested near the landing site with two pickup trucks, one van, and two container vans. Authorities also seized firearms, including a 5.56mm CMMG Banshee AK57, a 9mm Glock pistol, magazines, and ammunition.
02-06-26	VIETNAM	SMUGGLING	Vietnamese Border Guard authorities seized approximately 7,000 litres of DO oil of unknown origin on board the vessel SG-3581 in the waters off Ho Chi Minh City. The cargo was being transported without valid invoices or supporting documentation. The vessel was detained and escorted to port for further investigation.



Vanguard Technology

The Vanguard Tech team brings together over 30 years of experience within commercial shipping and the maritime domain. We share a passion for providing a new digital approach – the 'Digital Ocean' to how the commercial shipping industry understands and then deals with maritime risk in its many guises.

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