

Introduction

Off the coast of the Greater Horn of Africa lies a dangerous shipping lane - what some have called the most dangerous waters on the planet. Piracy on the seas off Somalia and other Greater Horn countries threatens the economic development of the area because trade is hampered by the threat of seizure of goods and death to the crew. American Naval Commander John Nowell, quoted in the Agence France Press in 2007, said that efforts against piracy “help[] to provide peace and stability for economic prosperity that is very important to African nations and to the international community and also is good for the US”

[| Agence France Press *US navy launches campaign to boost security in African waters*, p.online | 11/08/2007 | Accessed 03-11-08 ~ http://www.terradaily.com/reports/US_navy_launches_campaign_to_boost_security_in_African_waters_999.html !DJC]

Therefore, I stand RESOLVED: That the United States Federal Government should substantially increase assistance to the Greater Horn of Africa in economic development.

INHERENCY

1. US policy is to abide by international standards on the high seas

Andrew Scutro, a staff writer for the Navy times, in 2007

[Andrew - staff writer, *In chasing pirates, Navy comes full circle*, Navy Times p.online | Nov 4, 2007 | Accessed 03-11-08 ~ http://www.navytimes.com/news/2007/11/navy_pirates_071103w/ !DJC]

As recently as June, the Danish ship Danica White was captured by Somali pirates and then pursued by the dock landing ship Carter Hall.

The Little Creek, Va.-based ship was in the area at the time and tried to prevent the capture by shooting flares and firing over the bow of the cargo ship, but the hijackers managed to drive the captured ship and crew into territorial waters. Gunfire from the Carter Hall did ignite the pirate skiffs in tow behind the Danica White.

Asked why the ship pulled back from a hot pursuit to respect the territorial waters of what's described as a "transitional" government, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters June 8 that "we abide by, on the high seas, the international standards that are applied to territorial waters."

2. Countries in the Greater Horn failing to act against pirates

Sean Kane, an analyst for Lloyds list, a leading shipping newspaper for more than 250 years, in 2008

[Sean Kane is an analyst at The Merchant International Group, Lloyds List, *Call to arms to tackle Somalia piracy threat;International shipping community must act to end violent attacks*, p.online | January 16, 2008 | Accessed 03-11-08 ~ lexis-nexis academic Lloyd's List was founded in 1734, and has been the world's leading shipping newspaper for more than 250 years. Lloyd's List has readers in more than 120 countries, and correspondents and agents around the world **!DJC**]

A year ago, several east African governments, including Somalia's transitional government, made preliminary plans to form a joint taskforce to combat piracy.

But their failure to act spurred the international community to take a more assertive role. An International Maritime Organization resolution passed last November calls for Somalia to consent to warships and military aircraft to enter its national waters.

HARM

1. Numerous pirate attacks in 2007 off coast of greater horn

AFP 2007

[| Agence France Press *Somali pirates release Comoran freighter: US Navy*, p.online | Dec 2, 2007 | Accessed 03-11-08 ~

http://www.terraily.com/reports/Somali_pirates_release_Comoran_freighter_US_Navy_999.html !DJC]

Rampant piracy off Somalia stopped briefly during the strict rule of an Islamist movement in the second half of 2006, but resumed after Ethiopian and Somali government troops ousted the Islamists at the end of last year. Numerous attacks have occurred this year off Somalia's 3,700 kilometres (2,300 miles) of unpatrolled coastline, prompting the International Maritime Bureau to advise sailors to steer clear of the coast. Somalia lies at the mouth of the Red Sea -- on a major trade route between Asia and Europe via the Suez canal -- and has lacked a functional government since the 1991 ouster of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre.

2. Attacks rising off the Horn of Africa

Rankin, a staff writer for the BBC, in 2008

[Nick | BBC *No vessel is safe from modern pirates*, p.online | Tuesday, 11 March 2008 |
Accessed 03-11-08 ~ <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/7280042.stm> !DJC]

Although attacks have decreased from the early 1990s, Rupert Herbert-Burns, a maritime security expert at Lloyd's Intelligence Unit, says piracy is still a worrying problem. "Attacks rose by 14% towards the end of last year, largely due to attacks off the Horn of Africa, specifically in Somali waters or in the territorial waters off Somalia," he said.

3. Piracy attacks hurting economy in Horn of Africa

Africa News 2007

[, *Somalia; Maritime Body Wants UN to Move On Piracy Off the Horn of Africa*, **Africa News** p.online | July 31, 2007| Accessed 03-11-08 ~ lexis-nexis academic !DJC]

Mr Mwangura [the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization] said of the recent increase in pirate attacks off the Horn of Africa: "The increasing piracy and armed attacks on shipping are creating a rising reluctance among ship owners and crews to make voyages to Somali ports." A Kenyan company, Motaku Shipping Agencies, has suffered on several occasions at the hands of the pirates in Somalia in the recent past

4. Piracy hurts entire Greater Horn

AFP 2007

[| Agence France Press *UN Warns Piracy Threatens Somalia Lifeline*, p.online | July 10, 2007 | Accessed 03-11-08 ~

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/UN_Warns_Piracy_Threatens_Somalia_Lifeline_999.html !DJC]

A wave of pirate attacks off the coast of Somalia is threatening to cut off aid supplies to more than one million people, two UN agencies warned on Tuesday. The heads of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and World Food Programme (WFP) said they want the UN Security Council to ask Somalia to allow foreign warships to move against pirates in its waters.

PLAN

Therefore, I stand Resolved: That the United States Federal Government should substantially increase assistance to the Greater Horn of Africa in economic development by ordering all Naval warships when pursuing or locating pirates off the coast of the Greater Horn of Africa to ignore the right of territorial waters. This means that warships can follow and intercept pirates within 12 nautical miles of the coast of Greater Horn countries.

SOLVENCY

1. Efforts against pirates help economic conditions in Western Africa

AFP 2007 continues

[| Agence France Press *US navy launches campaign to boost security in African waters*,
p.online | 11/08/2007 | Accessed 03-11-08 ~
http://www.terraily.com/reports/US_navy_launches_campaign_to_boost_security_in_African_waters_999.html !DJC]

The US navy launched a campaign this week to boost security off the dangerous coasts of central and western Africa, an American naval commander said Thursday "What we are trying to do is to help Africa build the capacity to combat threats to maritime security and safety, to know what is going on in your domain and to do something about it," operation commander John Nowell told AFP. "It helps to provide peace and stability for economic prosperity that is very important to African nations and to the international community and also is good for the US," said Nowell.

2. Entering territorial waters gives warships greater flexibility when dealing with pirate threat off the Horn of Africa

Lloyd's List 2007

[*IMO forces Somalia piracy action; Foreign warships to enter territorial waters*, p.online | November 30, 2007 | Accessed 03-11-08 ~ lexis-nexis academic Lloyd's List was founded in 1734, and has been the world's leading shipping newspaper for more than 250 years. Lloyd's List has readers in more than 120 countries, and correspondents and agents around the world. **!DJC]**

Once enacted, it [Agreement to allow entrance into territorial waters] will give coalition naval vessels greater flexibility in dealing with the increasing pirate threat off the Horn of Africa, and allow provision of armed escorts for World Food Programme vessels, several of which have been hijacked.