

APPRI - THE AFRICAN PUBLIC POLICY AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE



Program for Aardvark Roost AOC Conference

“The Evolution of EW & Impact on the African Battlefield”

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Africa: Political



Definition

The Presence of EW (Challenges) in defined African conflict theatres and the Responses (Prospects) that allow the effective use of *counter* EW in Joint and Combined operations in the Land, Air and Maritime environments.

EW Predominant use in forged IDs, networking; communications-- intercepts and security; timed explosions and resource mobilisation, money laundering, human trafficking (banking)

Scope:

Topic “ The Evolution of EW and its Implications on the Africa Battlefield?”

1. Defining *Components* of the African Battlefield
2. Evolution and employment of EW in land and sea contexts (Conventional warfare, War On Terror and Ethnic conflicts)
3. The responses
4. Recommendations & Conclusions
5. Q & A

What is the (typical) African Battlefield?

- African more
- a) The majority of Peacekeeping Operations on the continent: from **Traditional, Complex, Enforcement** and recently, **Hybrid** type Missions.
 - b) Conventional Wars under UN Security Council Resolutions **1973 (Libya) and 1975 (Ivory Coast)**
 - c) ‘War on Terror’ and Fundamentalist contexts – Somalia and **Boko Haram – “Western Education is Sinful”** (Nigeria)
 - d) **Maritime Insecurity** (Somalia and Gulf of Benin-12 Countries—fm Ghana to Angola)
 - e) **Sahel—[as-Sahil, “shore of SAHARA “sea”** Salafist Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AIQM) and fragile regimes: Niger, Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Mali

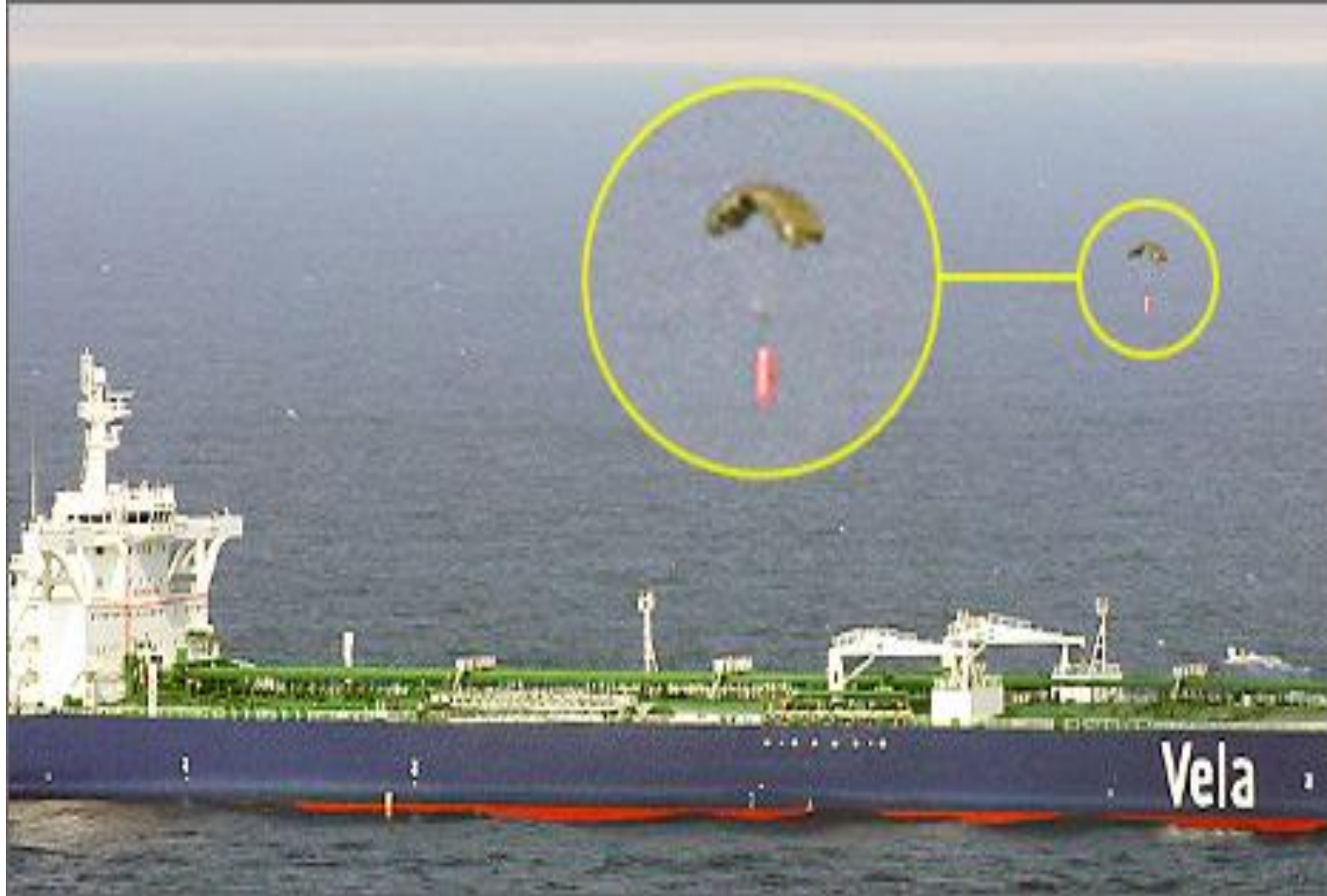
UN Security Council (International Security System) and disconnect with local ethnic and regional grievances

Case Study Ivory Coast; Kenya and Sudan

- a) Enforcement of Electoral Result on a pseudo nation state
- b) Endemic divisions and polarisation between regions, ethnic groups and religious beliefs
- c) Environment fertile for discontent, deep sense of injustice and ready for uprising—spurred by EW

African Battlefield and links with grievances

- a) Uganda, Kampala World Cup 2010 and PKO vs Al-Shabbab after Islamic Union Courts defeat in Mogadishu by Ethiopia—**exact timings from Mobile phones, laptops and explosives**
- b) Boko Haram estab Jan 2004 Yobe State: militant group, no leaders, Justice seeking and religious zealotry, secessionists and cultural gangs. Mass release of Prisoners and attack Police Stations: **bladeless ceiling fans; mobile phones, laptops and explosives**
- c) Successor to MEND anti-oil pollution and wealth sharing group in the South.



Sophisticated Maritime Operations off the Coast of Somalia—ranges from targeting international shipping; banking; resource (oil) money laundering and counter-measures to evade post-event capture

Al-Sahil (Sahel) SAHARA

1. An Overlay of Micro-politics, Regional & International dynamics:
Kidnappings and Reintegration of “Returning from Libya war veterans”
2. Fragile regimes from North Africa and Sahelian region: revival of SAHELIAN trade: drugs, human trafficking and minerals.
3. Intersecting regional conflicts: North Africa, (West) Ivory Coast, Guinea, Uganda, Kenya, Sudan and (Central) Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo

Recommendations & Conclusions

- a) Evidence of EW in Somalia, Uganda and Nigeria—however, effectiveness of *response* not clear?
- b) Recent feature of Arab Uprisings common to Sub-Saharan Africa—block mobile communications—limited effect
- c) Expanding *maritime and al-Sahil* (insecurity) area of intervention
- d) Contexts of UNSC Post-conflict—pregnant with potential for EW

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