



smuggling of migrants — global news February 2013

This monthly newsletter summarises news items and media commentary from some of the world's leading media outlets. The Migrant Smuggling Working Group takes no responsibility for the content and accuracy of the information provided in these news items.

ASIA-PACIFIC

INDONESIA

Afghan people smuggler jailed in Indonesia – 20 February 2013

<http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1154718/afghan-people-smuggler-jailed-indonesia>

An Afghan man who helped organise an Australia-bound boat trip on which 90 asylum seekers drowned was sentenced on Wednesday to six years' jail in Indonesia for people-smuggling.

MYANMAR

Pushed from Burma, Stateless Rohingya Flee by Boat – 17 February 2013

<http://world.time.com/2013/02/17/pushed-from-burma-stateless-rohingya-flee-by-boat/>

In the wake of bloody sectarian violence last year that left hundreds dead and forced tens of thousands of minority Muslim Rohingya into camps outside the coastal city of Sittwe, the people are being “strangled” by a Burmese government that does not want them. While foreign donors have supplied basic food rations, checkpoints manned by armed guards prevent the displaced from returning to the paddies and markets their livelihoods depend on

EUROPE

GENERAL

Raids in Britain, France and Belgium Focus on People-Smuggling – 6 February 2013

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/07/world/europe/raids-in-britain-france-and-belgium-focus-on-smugglers-of-people.html>

The immigration authorities in Britain, Belgium and France carried out coordinated raids at scores of addresses on Wednesday to round up people suspected of being members of gangs that smuggle people across or under the English Channel as stowaways in long-haul trucks.

UNITED KINGDOM

Raids to tackle people smuggling – 6 February 2013

<http://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-england-hampshire-21361753/europe-wide-raids-to-tackle-people-smuggling>

Authorities believe they have disrupted a major people-smuggling network after carrying out dozens of co-ordinated raids in England, France and Belgium.

Over 30 arrested in UK Border Agency smuggling raids – 6 February 2013

<http://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-england-london-21359589/over-30-arrested-in-uk-border-agency-smuggling-raids>

More than 30 people have been arrested in a UK Border Agency operation aimed at tackling people smuggling.