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MSC.4/Circ.198
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during May 2013

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy¹ and armed robbery against ships² reported to the Organization, the annex hereto provides, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, the summary of reports on incidents received between 1 and 31 May 2013 including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (annex 1) and attempted attacks (annex 2). The Secretariat has, since July 2002, classified separately any reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery **at sea** (international or territorial waters) vis-à-vis acts of armed robbery allegedly **committed in port areas**, as well as **attempted** acts of armed robbery.

¹ "Piracy" is defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (article 101) as follows:

"Piracy consists of any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed:
 - (i) on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;
 - (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;
- (b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;
- (c) any act inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in subparagraph (a) or (b)."

² "Armed robbery against ships" is defined in the *Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships* (resolution A.1025(26), annex, paragraph 2.2), as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of piracy, committed for private ends and directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such a ship, within a State's internal waters, archipelagic waters and territorial sea;
- (b) any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described above."

2 Further, and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 89/25, paragraphs 18.9 and 18.10), the Secretariat has opened a "piracy and armed robbery" module on the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) (<http://gisis.imo.org>) in order to improve the timeliness of reporting of incidents and to enable users to generate their own search criteria and produce customizable reports. This database is now configured for public, read-only access and is searchable. Reports can be compiled in GISIS directly by Member States and registered public users. These reports can now include follow-up information, for example, dates of release of hijacked ships.

3 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 6,704, an increase of 28 since 30 April 2013.

4 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by various MSC circulars, those issued during the previous 12 months and up to 30 April 2013 being MSC.4/Circ.185, MSC.4/Circ.186, MSC.4/Circ.187, MSC.4/Circ.188, MSC.4/Circ.189, MSC.4/Circ.190, MSC.4/Circ.191, MSC.4/Circ.192, MSC.4/Circ.194, MSC.4/Circ.195, MSC.4/Circ.196 and MSC.4/Circ.197.

ANNEX 1
Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly committed against ships reported by
Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship Name	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.198 ANNEX 1
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	MADONNA I Tanker Panama 11438 9407031	05/05/2013 22:48 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 27nm SSE of Lome, Togo Togo 05° 41.70' N 001° 20.20' E	Nine armed pirates in a speed boat approached the tanker during STS operations. Three pirates boarded the tanker and opened fire. The Togo navy guards on board another tanker alongside, exchanged fire with the pirates resulting in the pirates aborting the attempted attack.	There was some damage caused due to the gun firings	Alarm raised and all crew members retreated into the accommodation and locked the doors. Master contacted Togo Navy for assistance	Yes Togolese Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	CREST JADE 1 Tug Singapore 472 9528251	12/05/2013 21:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Singapore Straits Singapore 01° 15.60' N 104° 07.62' E	Four robbers in a small boat followed the barge under tow. One robber boarded the barge, stole stores and escaped when the Master raised the alarm. All crew safe.	Robbers boarded the barge and stole ship's stores	Master raised the alarm	Yes Maritime and Port Authority (MPA), Singapore	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	TCL 4401 Tug Singapore 472 9559121	15/05/2013 00:01 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 31nm NW of Pulau Tioman, Malaysia Malaysia 03° 17.00' N 103° 48.00' E	A tug towing a barge enroute from Singapore to Kuantan noticed stores and ship's property stolen from the barge on arrival at Kuantan Pilot station.	Stores and ship's property stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	MATRIX I Product tanker Nigeria 3338 9041136	24/05/2013 20:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 50nm WSW of Brass, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 52.50' N 005° 28.00' E	Around seven to eight pirates armed with guns, in a boat, fired at and boarded the tanker underway. They stole ship's and crew's belongings, kidnapped five crew members and escaped. The kidnapped crew were later safely released on 07.06.2013.	Pirates fired upon and boarded the tanker, stole ship's and crew property and kidnapped 5 crew members	Raised the alarm, sent distress signal and mustered all crew in the engine control room	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	PKFB (U2) 1532 Fishing vessel Malaysia	07/05/2013 23:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Malacca Straits Malaysia	A fishing vessel while carrying out fishing activities was attacked and hijacked by pirates and sailed to Indonesian territorial waters. On 25.05.2013 the Indonesian Marine Police detained the fishing vessel. Full report awaited.	Vessel hijacked	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	NORD MUMBAI Bulk carrier Singapore 22746 9612313	12/05/2013 02:03 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Buenaventura Inner Anchorage, Colombia Colombia 03° 48.00' N 077° 11.00' W	While at anchor, Deck Officer on board the ship noticed robbers from a small boat boarding the ship at the forecastle. Crew on the bridge noticed five robbers disembarking from the forecastle deck into a small boat.	All crew safe, nothing stolen	Deck Officer immediately alerted the deck watch keepers to retreat to the bridge	Yes Port Control, Buenaventura	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Coast guard boat arrived at location and investigated

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NOTE: SOUTH AMERICA: (A) - Atlantic; (C) - Caribbean; (P) - Pacific

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

3	SAM HAWK Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 31760 9637416	12/05/2013 04:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Taboneo Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 03° 41.00' S 114° 27.00' E	Five robbers in a boat approached and boarded the anchored bulk carrier via the anchor chain and broke into the forward store. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped in their boat with the stolen stores.	Stolen stores	The alert crew noticed the robbers, raised the alarm and proceeded towards the forecastle	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
4	CREST 2825 Barge carrier Singapore 3344	12/05/2013 21:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Straits of Malacca and Singapore Malaysia 01° 15.60' N 104° 07.62' E	While tug boat Crest Jade 1 was towing barge Crest 2825 proceeding from Singapore to Labuan, Malaysia, the Master and crew spotted two robbers aboard Crest 2825. The Master activated the emergency alarm immediately to alert the crew and manoeuvred the tugboat alongside Crest 2825. The robbers fled in a small boat and stole the emergency towing gear. The crew was not injured.	No crew reported injured. The emergency towing gear was stolen	The Master activated the emergency alarm immediately to alert the crew and manoeuvred the tugboat alongside the barge	No	ReCAAP ISC via Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	CREST 289 Barge carrier Singapore 2620	15/05/2013 00:01	SOUTH CHINA SEA Northwest of Tioman Island, Malaysia Malaysia 03° 17.11' N 103° 48.83' E	While tug boat TCL4401 towing the barge Crest 289 was passing Tioman Island, while enroute to Kuantan Port, Malaysia from Singapore, some robbers boarded the barge unnoticed and stole 12 pieces of manhole covers and stern light solar cell. The Master only discovered the items missing upon arrival at Kuantan Port. The crew was not injured.	No crew reported injured. Twelve pieces of manhole cover and stern light solar cell were stolen	-	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
6	ARDMORE CAPELLA Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 11290 9512111	24/05/2013	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Talara, Peru Peru 34° 21.00' S 018° 24.00' W	Three to four robbers boarded the vessel, attacked the watchman and attempted to tie him up. He fought back and the robbers jumped ship onto a boat.	-	General alarm sounded, 2nd deckhand proceeded forward and all crew mustered	Yes Peru Navy, Port Facility Security Officer	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Immediately boarded ship for investigation
7	RIO EIDER Container ship Liberia 27059 9304746	27/05/2013 05:10 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Estero Salado, Guayaquil, Ecuador Ecuador 02° 22.00' S 081° 00.00' W	Around six persons armed with shotguns in a speed boat boarded the container ship underway with pilot and unarmed security guards on board. On investigation it was discovered container seals broken but nothing stolen.	Container seals broken	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	GANDHI Chemical tanker Liberia 25400 9323560	18/05/2013 01:55 UTC	MEDITERRANEAN SEA Alexandria Waiting Anchorage, Egypt Egypt	OOW on board the anchored tanker noticed a robber lowering ship's stores into a waiting boat. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Upon seeing crew's alertness the robber escaped with his accomplices. Port control informed.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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NOTE: SOUTH AMERICA: (A) - Atlantic; (C) - Caribbean; (P) - Pacific

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

2	KOHINOOR General cargo ship Panama 20236 9400954	20/05/2013 20:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Indonesia 03° 47.00' N 098° 42.00' E	While at berth, an unknown number of robbers armed with knives boarded the ship. The duty crew noticed them stealing ship's property from the poop deck store. The robbers escaped after the crew were alerted and the alarm sounded.	No crew reported injured. Ship's equipment stolen	-	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan)	-
3	APL LE HAVRE Container ship Singapore 113735 9461881	21/05/2013 02:15 LT	MEDITERRANEAN SEA Suez E16 Anchorage, Egypt 29° 50.00' N 032° 33.00' E	Duty officer on board the anchored container ship noticed on CCTV, three robbers in boiler suits near the forecastle. Alarm raised and fog horn sounded. Seeing crew alertness the robbers escaped. On inspection it was noticed that five container seals had been broken and contents of one container pilfered. Port control informed.	-	Robbers stole goods from container	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
4	GOLDEN ADVENTURE Chemical tanker Liberia 6153 9510577	23/05/2013 01:00 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Port, Bangladesh 22° 16.00' N 091° 48.00' E	During discharge operations at berth the tanker was boarded by robbers armed with knives. They were noticed by the local watchman who immediately raised the alarm. The crew and watchman proceeded to the location armed with long sticks and metal pipes. Seeing the approaching crew the robbers jumped overboard and tried to escape with a mooring line which the crew successfully recovered. Port authorities informed.	Robbers boarded the tanker and attempted to steal the ship's stores	Alarm raised and crew proceeded to the location	Yes Port Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	B ELEPHANT Tanker Marshall Islands 161969 9421415	23/05/2013 05:45 LT	MEDITERRANEAN SEA Alexandria Waiting Area Anchorage, Egypt Egypt 31° 12.00' N 029° 42.00' E	Crew on board the anchored ship noticed the open forecastle door and rope hatch and discovered that ship's equipment and stores were stolen. It was suspected the theft occurred during the night. Robbers likely boarded via anchor chain	Stole ship's equipment and stores	-	Yes Port control and agents	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	ANNA-BARBARA Bulk carrier Liberia 30811 9407500	24/05/2013 18:50 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Cigading Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 05° 59.00' S 105° 57.00' E	Three robbers armed with machetes in a speed boat boarded the anchored bulk carrier. Alert duty crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping. On investigation, it was found that engine spares were stolen. Port control informed.	Engine spares stolen	Raised alarm	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	GLOBAL F Bulk carrier Liberia 38364 9178226	27/05/2013 01:40 UTC	MEDITERRANEAN SEA El Dekheila Anchorage, Alexandria Port, Egypt Egypt 31° 12.70' N 029° 46.60' E	Alert duty crew on board the vessel noticed three robbers near the forecastle and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen ship stores.	Ship's stores stolen	Raised the alarm and the crew mustered	Yes Alexandria Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Port control acknowledged the report

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ANNEX 2
Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly attempted against ships reported by
Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship Name	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.198 ANNEX 2
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	CMA CGM AFRICA FOUR Container ship Bahamas 40827 9451965	04/05/2013 09:40 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 28nm SW of Bonny, Nigeria Nigeria 04° 02.30' N 006° 54.90' E	Seven armed pirates in a speed boat approached the ship underway. Master raised the alarm, increased the ship's speed, sent distress message, activated SSAS and non-essential crew members mustered in the citadel. The pirates closed in to a distance of 60-70 metres and fired at the ship using automatic guns. At 0953 UTC, the pirates aborted the attack and moved away as the distance between the ship and the boat increased. No injuries to crew.	Pirates fired at the ship causing some damages	Master raised the alarm, increased the ship's speed, sent distress message, activated SSAS and non-essential crew members mustered in the citadel	Yes Bonny Signal Station, JRCC Stavanger and Netherlands Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	FRIO ATHENS Refrigerated cargo carrier Vanuatu 8519 8710340	04/05/2013 11:35 UTC	WEST AFRICA 33nm SW of Bonny River, Fairway Buoy, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 49.50' N 006° 41.20' E	Six to eight pirates in a speed boat chased and fired at the ship underway. Master enforced anti-piracy measures and managed to steer clear from the pirates. All crew were safe but the ship sustained minor damage due to the firing.	Pirates fired at the ship causing some minor damages	Master enforced anti-piracy measures	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	CAP PORTLAND Container ship Liberia 22914 9344631	05/05/2013 02:54 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Around 18nm SSW of Guayaquil, Ecuador Ecuador 02° 28.60' S 080° 04.10' W	Pirates attempted to board the container ship underway. Alarm raised, crew mustered and secured the ship. Incident reported to the coast guard which sent a patrol boat for assistance. Seeing the crew alertness the pirates moved away. All crew safe.	Pirates attempted to board	Raised the alarm and crew mustered	Yes Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Ecuador Coast Guard dispatched patrol boats for assistance
4	SEAPRIDE Product tanker Malta 29925 9629562	05/05/2013 22:45 LT	WEST AFRICA Around 27nm SSE off Lome, Togo Togo 05° 41.70' N 001° 20.20' E	During STS operations armed pirates were spotted on deck of the adjacent ship. Alarm was raised, SSAS activated and all crew mustered. The on board Togo Navy guards exchanged fire with the pirates. Later a large skiff with eight to ten armed pirates was spotted leaving the adjacent ship and proceeding to the tanker. Seeing this, the Master instructed all crew members to retreat into the citadel and informed the Togo Navy. The on board naval guards took the necessary action to prevent the pirates from boarding the ship and in the meantime the Togo Navy despatched two patrol boats to provide assistance which then escorted the tanker back to the anchorage. All crew reported safe.	Armed pirates boarded and exchanged fire with onboard Togo Navy guards	All crew retreated into the citadel	Yes Togo Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Togo Navy dispatched two patrol boats

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N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

5	CENTENARIO BLU Bulk carrier Panama 31244 9478884	07/05/2013 14:58 UTC	WEST AFRICA Calabar River, Nigeria Nigeria 04° 43.30' N 008° 20.70' E	Seven armed pirates in a speed boat approached and fired at the bulk carrier underway with pilot on board. Master raised the alarm, increased the ship's speed, sent distress message, activated SSAS and non-essential crew members mustered in the citadel. The pirates aborted the attack and moved away when they heard the ship's alarm. No injuries to crew.	Pirates in a speed boat approached and fired at the bulk carrier	Master raised alarm, No increased speed and activated SSAS	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	SE PELAGICA General cargo ship Singapore 9627 9453781	19/05/2013 05:25 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden Somalia 12° 12.00' N 044° 20.00' E	Five pirates armed with AK47 rifles and a RPG approached the ship underway. Master enforced anti-piracy measures and the on board armed guards fired warning shots, when the skiff closed in to appr. 400m from the ship, resulting in the skiff aborting the attack and moving away. Crew and ship safe.	-	Master enforced anti-piracy measures and the on board armed guards fired warning shots	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	CAP LARA Tanker Greece 81324 9330874	09/05/2013 22:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lome Anchorage, Togo 06° 04.00' N 001° 15.00' E	Eight persons in a boat came alongside and attempted to board the anchored tanker. It was observed that the boat attempted to come along side from various directions but the water from the ship's fire hoses flooding the boat, resulting in the attempts being aborted.	All crew safe	Alert duty crew spotted the approach and sounded alarm, informed Togo Navy, illuminated the boat with the ship's search light and commenced use of fire hoses	Yes Togolese Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The Togo Navy immediately responded and a navy boat arrived at the location in 20 mins.
2	NADESHIKO GAS LPG tanker Panama 45812	19/05/2013 14:45 LT	PERSIAN GULF Iran Iran (Islamic Republic of) 25° 32.40' N 057° 27.10' E	While enroute to the Strait of Hormuz passing the coast of Iran, a skiff approached the stern of the ship. Suddenly the skiff changed course, and chased the ship. Other skiffs joined in, with a total of four skiffs chasing the ship. Each skiff had about three men on board, armed with rifles and long knives. They chased the ship at a distance of appr. 200-300 metres. The Master raised the alarm, increased speed, activated ship protection measures and commenced small alterations of course. After 30 mins, the skiffs stopped pursuing the ship, and left.	No crew reported injured and no damage to ship	The Master raised the alarm, increased speed, activated ship protection measures and commenced small alterations of helm	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point	-

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N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

1	MARIELLA BOTTIGLIERI Chemical tanker Italy 25063 9232022	17/05/2013 02:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Lome Anchorage, Togo Togo 06° 03.10' N 001° 17.70' E	Eleven persons in an unlit boat approached the anchored tanker. The duty A/B noticed the boat and informed OOW who raised the alarm, contacted Togo Navy and activated the fire pumps. Two persons jumped into the water and attempted to board the tanker via the anchor chain but failed and returned to their boat. At 0300 LT, the boat approached again from the port quarter with additional persons who were seen holding hooks attached with ropes. The duty crew directed search lights towards the boat and noticed that the boat was flooded with water from the ship's fire hose. The boat remained alongside and robbers made several attempts to board the tanker. At 0420 LT, the persons aborted the attempted boarding and moved away. At 0500 LT, a Togo Navy boat arrived at the location and patrolled the area.	-	OOW raised the alarm and activated the fire pumps	Yes Togo Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Togo Navy sent a patrol boat to the location and patrolled the area
2	FIESTA General cargo ship Liberia 19354 9168154	21/05/2013 02:10 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Buenaventura Anchorage, Colombia Colombia 03° 50.00' N 077° 07.00' W	Three robbers in a boat approached the anchored general cargo ship, and attempted to board via the anchor chain. Alert duty crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing crew alertness, the robbers aborted the boarding attempt and moved away. Coast guard and port control informed.	-	Raised the alarm, crew alerted	Yes Port Control and Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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