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MSC.4/Circ.218 21 January 2015

## REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

## Issued monthly – Acts reported during December 2014

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy<sup>1</sup> and armed robbery against ships<sup>2</sup> 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 December 2014 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.

"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)."
- <sup>2</sup> "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."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Piracy" is defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (article 101) as follows:

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 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 twelve months and up to 30 November 2014 being MSC.4/Circ.205, MSC.4/Circ.206, MSC.4/Circ.207, MSC.4/Circ.209, MSC.4/Circ.210, MSC.4/Circ.211, MSC.4/Circ.212, MSC.4/Circ.213, MSC.4/Circ.214, MSC.4/Circ.215, MSC.4/Circ.216 and MSC.4/Circ.217.

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

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	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag						Was the incident	Reporting State or	MSC.4/Circ.218 ANNEX I
N	Gross Tonnage	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo		reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	international organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
IN	I INTERNATIONAL WATERS								
	1 OLYMPIC GEMINI Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 42887 9331397	04/12/2014 04:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Appr. 13nm NNE of Tg. Berakit, Bintan Islands, Indonesia 01° 26.00' N 104° 39.00' E	Duty A/B spotted an armed pirate on board and informed the bridge. Upon hearing the alarm, the pirate left.		Duty A/B informed the bridge. Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	Marshall Islands ICC- IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
	2 GASCHEM PACIFIC LPG tanker Liberia 13879 9402574	04/12/2014 05:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Appr. 16nm NNE of Tg. Berakit, Bintan Islands, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 29.00' N 104° 40.00' E	Four pirates in a small boat approached and boarded the anchored ship from the stern. Duty A/B spotted the pirates and informed the bridge. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. Upon seeing the alertness of the crew, the pirates escaped empty handed.	-	Duty A/B informed the bridge. Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes PRC relayed the information to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ and Indonesian Marine Police HQ	Liberia and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
	3 SEMUA BERJAYA Product tanker Malaysia 5182 9396878	07/12/2014 03:15 LT	Appr. 17nm ENE of Tanjung Punggai, Johor, Malaysia Malaysia 01° 31.00' N 104° 35.00' E	Around 20 suspected pirates in a boat approached the ship underway. Five pirates managed to board the ship using ladders and by cutting through the razor wire. Upon spotting the pirates armed with small arms, the 2/O raised the alarm, activated SSAS and broadcast an alert message to all ships in the vicinity. Crew members locked the access doors to the bridge and accommodation and the non-essential crew mustered in the citadel. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the pirates escaped empty handed.	-	2/O raised the alarm, activated SSAS and broadcast an alert message to all ships in the vicinity. Crew members locked access doors to the bridge and accommodation and the non-essential crew mustered in the citadel	Yes PRC relayed message to MMEA Putrajaya, FOC RMN (Ops) & Malaysia Marine Police HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
	4 VP ASPHALT 2 Tanker Viet Nam 3072 9616395	07/12/2014 05:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Appr. 20nm SE of Pulau Aur, Johor, Malaysia Malaysia 02° 15.15' N 104° 49.30' E	While underway seven pirates armed with guns boarded the tanker and took control of the ship. The pirates searched the ship, stole the crew's personal belongings and escaped. Once the pirates had left the crew found the third engineer injured in his cabin. The Master reported the incident to POCC Singapore and requested medical assistance. A medical evacuation was carried out and subsequently the third engineer was admitted to a hospital, where he was eventually pronounced dead. Remaining crew safe	Crew's personal belongings stolen. 3rd engineer deceased	and requested	Yes PRC relayed message to MMEA Putrajaya, FOC RMN (Ops) & Malaysia Marine Police HQ	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Points (Singapore and Vietnam), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Tanker boarded by authorities for investigation

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 6		reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	Coastal State Action Taken
	2 INTERNATIONAL	3	4	5	6	1	8	9	10
5	NAME WITHHELD Product tanker Malaysia	07/12/2014 07:03 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 17.5nm NE of Tanjung Berakit, Bintan Island, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 31.10' N 104° 35.94' E	Upon spotting some unknown persons who had boarded the ship, the crew raised the alarm. The unknown persons fled once the alarm was raised. No injury to the crew and nothing reported stolen.	-	Crew raised the alarm	No	Information Fusion Centre (IFC) Singapore	-
6	STEINTOR Container ship Marshall Islands 16850 9216731	10/12/2014 05:46 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Myanmar 14° 36.80' N 093° 24.32' E	10 pirates armed with knives boarded the ship. They eventually left as the Coast Guard approached. Two mooring ropes stolen.	Two mooring ropes stolen	Attempted to notify the Bangladesh Coast Guard	No	Marshall Islands -	-
IN	TERRITORIAL WA	ATERS							
1	SAN ANDRES Container ship Liberia 22914 9347255	05/12/2014	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Port Cartagena, Colombia Colombia	Deck watch noticed that the cover for the hawse pipe was open, the padlock from the bosun's store was broken and lighting equipment missing from the forecastle. Footprints from two people were spotted around the forecastle deck. Crew mustered and the entire ship was searched but no one was found.	Padlock from bosun store broken and equipment missing from the forecastle	Crew mustered and the entire ship searched	Yes Cartagena Port Control	Liberia -	-
2	ODIN FINDER Research ship Italy 601 7031761	13/12/2014 00:20 LT	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Anchorage, Republic of the Congo Congo 04° 46.00' S 011° 50.00' E	Four suspected robbers in a small rowing boat approached the anchored ship. Two of the robbers boarded the ship, entered the engine room and stole ship's property. The duty A/B on routine rounds spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the alert crew the robbers escaped with the stolen property.	Ship's property stolen		Yes PRC relayed message to Direction Generale de la Marine Marchande, Republic of the Congo	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	BARRY TRADER Container ship Singapore 25145 9658446	14/12/2014 23:24 LT	INDIAN OCEAN BGCGP Roads, Anchorage Alpha Chittagong, Bangladesh Bangladesh 22° 15.00' N 091° 44.00' E	While at anchor, one of the duty watchmen spotted six robbers armed with knives removing two mooring hawsers from the ship's poop deck. The watchman reported to the bridge and the robbers escaped from the ship. Subsequently, a search of the ship was carried out and two mooring ropes were missing. No reported injury to crew.	200 metre mooring ropes stolen.	Ship search carried out	Yes Bangladesh Coast Guard	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), Information Fusion Centre (IFC)	-

- H-	Ty FI G N° I№	/IO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	Coastal State Action Taken
L		2 ERRITORIAL WA	3 TERS	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
-	4 T( Cl M 30	ORM VITA hemical tanker larshall Islands 0128 246803	16/12/2014 02:45 LT	EAST AFRICA Biera Port, Mozambique Mozambique 19° 48.00' S 034° 49.00' E	Port security watchman noticed a robber armed with a knife lowering mooring ropes from the berthed tanker. He alerted the OOW who raised the alarm. Upon seeing the alerted crew the robber escaped with an accomplice after threatening the Port security watchman. Incident reported to the Port Facility Security Officer who boarded the ship for investigation.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Facility Security Officer	Marshall Islands ICC- IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Port Facility Security Officer boarded the ship for investigation
	Pi Pa 76		17/12/2014 21:10 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage, Bangladesh Bangladesh	Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship during anchoring operations. Duty crew on routine rounds noticed the robbers stealing ship's stores from the poop deck. He immediately informed the bridge and the alarm was raised. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the alertness of the crew, the robbers escaped on their boat with the stolen stores.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control and Chittagong Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard dispatched a patrol boat
	Pi D	AME WITHHELD roduct tanker IS (Denmark) 9283	19/12/2014 00:50 UTC	WEST AFRICA Capital Oil Jetty, Lagos, Nigeria 06° 26.00' N 003° 19.00' E	Two robbers boarded the berthed tanker using hooks attached to ropes. The alarm was raised and crew members alerted, resulting in the robbers escaping. On investigation it was found that the robbers had cut through the razor wire to gain access on board the vessel. Nothing was stolen.	Ship's razor wire cut	Alarm raised and crew members alerted	Yes NIMASA and Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Nigerian Navy dispatched a patrol boat and a guard was posted on board the ship
	Ви М 43	ENDULUM ulk carrier larshall Islands 3143 344095	19/12/2014 04:27 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 2.9mm NE of Pulau Karimun Kecil Indonesia 01° 10.29' N 103° 26.45' E	While sailing, four robbers boarded the ship. Master sounded the alarm, took all necessary measures and a search of the ship was eventually carried out, but no intruders were found on board. No injury to crew and nothing stolen.		Master sounded the alarm and a search of the ship was carried out	Yes Singapore Port Operations Control Centre (POCC)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore POCC informed Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG), Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and RCC Jakarta. Also, navigational warnings were broadcast to alert other ships of the incident

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		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 W	ATERS							
٤	8 KOMATI Container ship Panama 21018 9362700	20/12/2014 01:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Manila South Harbour Quarantine Anchorage, Philippines Philippines 14° 34.00' N 120° 54.00' E	Robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored ship by cutting off the razor wire lashing protecting the hawse pipe cover. They broke open the forecastle store and paint room padlocks, stole paint, ship's stores and escaped unnoticed. Duty O/S on routine rounds noticed bare foot-prints on the forecastle deck and raised the alarm.	Forecastle store and paint room padlocks broken. Paint and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and ship search was carried out	Yes Manila VTMS, Philippines Coast Guard and Port State Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Coast guard boarded the ship for investigation
S	<ul> <li>LOS ANDES BRIDGE Container ship Panama 27213 9451472</li> </ul>	20/12/2014 01:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Appr. 11nm NNE of Tg. Berakit, Bintan Island, Indonesia 01° 23.40' N 104° 40.00' E	Four robbers wearing face masks armed with knives boarded the anchored ship. They took hostage the duty oiler, tied his hands and took him down to the engine room workshop. One of the robbers stood guard while the others stole engine spares from the engine store. After a few minutes, the robbers escaped with the stolen spares. The oiler managed to call the bridge and informed the duty officer about of incident.	Duty oiler taken hostage by robbers and ship's spares stolen.	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search of the ship was carried out	Yes PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ and Indonesian Marine Police HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
1(	) UMT 6 Tug Singapore 165 9188104	20/12/2014 03:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 2.93nm SE of Pulau Takong, Indonesia (Eastbound lane of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) SOMS) Indonesia 01° 05.00' N 103° 44.00' E	Eight robbers in two speed boats, wearing hoods and armed with guns and knives approached the tug underway, towing a barge. They boarded the tug, took all crew members hostage, stole ship's and crew's property before escaping.	Crew's personal belongings and ship's property stolen.	-	Yes Singapore POCC, Indonesian Navy and Singapore Navy	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Singapore POCC informed PCG, RSN, RCC Jakarta and MRCC Malaysia. Also, navigational warnings were broadcast to olort other

alert other ships about the incident.

N° 1	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number 2	Date Time 3	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident 5	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo 6		Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one? 8	Reporting State or international organization 9	Coastal State Action Taken 10
IN		TERS							]]
	MADEIRA Bulk carrier Malta 91373 9355161	21/12/2014 02:40 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 4.3nm East of Pulau Karimun Kecil (Eastbound lane of TSS SOMS) Indonesia 01° 08.25' N 103° 28.96' E	While underway, four robbers were sighted by the duty crew (3rd Engineer) in the engine room of the ship. One of the robbers threatened the 3rd Engineer with a knife. The 3rd Engineer was able to escape, locked himself inside the engine control room and informed the bridge. The robbers escaped upon hearing the alarm. No injuries to the crew and nothing reported stolen.	-	Master raised the alarm and alerted the crew	Yes Singapore POCC	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), Information Fusion Centre (IFC)	Singapore POCC informed PCG, RSN, RCC Jakarta and Bakorkamla Piracy Centre. Also, navigational warnings were broadcast to alert other ships about the incident.
12	MAERSK MEDITERRANEAN Product tanker Singapore 29348 9314911	21/12/2014 02:40 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 1.5nm South of Tanjung Setapa, Johor, Malaysia 01° 19.00' N 104° 08.50' E	While at anchor, robbers boarded the ship and entered the engine room. They broke open the security padlock to the engine room, stole engine spares and ship's property and escaped unnoticed. The theft was noticed by the duty crew during routine rounds	Engine room padlock broken, engine spares and ship's property stolen	Broken security padlock replaced and anti-piracy watch established around accommodation during dark hours	Yes PRC relayed message to MMEA Putrajaya, FOC RMN (Ops) & Malaysia Marine Police HQ	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
13	EPHESUS Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 19846 9412622	25/12/2014 00:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Campha pilot boarding area Viet Nam 20° 41.10' N 107° 12.60' E	While at anchor, robbers boarded the ship undetected and stole ship's stores from the boatswain storage at the forecastle of the ship. No injury to crew.	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes Cam Pha Port Authority Viet Nam	Marshall Islands ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
14	ALABRA Product tanker Singapore 25669 9032654	25/12/2014 03:45 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 6.59 nm South of Pulau Nipa (Eastbound lane of TSS) Indonesia 01° 02.00' N 103° 38.00' E	While underway, eight robbers carrying gunny bags and armed with knives approached from astern of the ship in a high speed craft. They boarded the ship and entered the engine room, tied up the duty oiler, stole engine spares and escaped. Oiler managed to free himself and informed the bridge.	Engine spares stolen and duty oiler tied up	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search carried out	Yes Singapore VIIS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-

N <sup>c</sup>	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number 2	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo 6		reported to the coastal	Reporting State or international organization 9	Coastal State Action Taken
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	5 BILLION TRADER II Bulk carrier Philippines 43151 9323053	25/12/2014 05:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 6.38 nm South of Pulau Nipa (Eastbound lane of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS)) Indonesia 01° 03.30' N 103° 36.70' E	While underway, an intruder was sighted on board the ship. The Master raised the alarm immediately. Subsequently, the intruder was seen escaping in a small boat. No injury to crew and nothing stolen.		Master raised alarm, sounded fog horn and mustered the crew. Subsequently, a search of the ship was conducted	Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System	(Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting	Singapore VTIS informed Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG), Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and RCC Jakarta. Navigational warning broadcast. Authorities boarded the ship for investigation
10	BULK INDIA Bulk carrier Panama 88490 9284271	25/12/2014 05:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 5.84 nm South of Pulau Nipa (Eastbound lane of TSS) Indonesia 01° 03.40' N 103° 38.20' E	While underway, 3 intruders were sighted on board. Master raised the alarm and the intruders escaped empty-handed. No injury to crew.		Master raised the alarm	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), Information Fusion Centre (IFC) Singapore	Singapore POCC informed PCG, RSN, RCC Jakarta and MRCC Malaysia. Navigational warning broadcast
1	7 SVENJA General cargo ship Antigua and Barbuda 15026 9458901	28/12/2014 00:01 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Batu Ampar Anchorage, Batam Island, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 11.00' N 103° 58.00' E	Robbers boarded the anchored ship. They stole engine spares and escaped unnoticed.	Engine spares stolen	Additional watchman deployed	Yes Local Police PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ & Indonesian Marine Police HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Police boarded the ship for investigation

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

	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	reported to the coastal	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.218 ANNEX II Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
IN	TERRITORIAL WA	TERS							
1	CAPTAIN NIKOLAS I Tanker Malta 4126	30/12/2014 16:00 LT	INDIAN OCEAN 7nm SW of Zubayr Island, Red Sea Yemen 15° 06.00' N 042° 00.00' E	While underway two skiffs with three and six suspected robbers respectively, approached the tanker. Alarm was raised and all crew proceeded to the citadel. Armed guards on board the ship	-	room, armed guards	PRC relayed message to Coalition Forces, UKMTO, Yemen Coast	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

fired warning shots Guard, MSCHOA

IN PORT AREA						
1 FRONT CLYDE14/12/2014Chemical tanker01:00 UTCMarshall Islands2999396545799654579	WEST AFRICA In port Nigeria 06° 18.50' N 003° 23.60' E	One robber tried to climb on board the tanker, but did not succeed. Ship's security personnel warned the intruder to surrender, warning shots were fired into the water and boat was instructed to move away from the ship.	Alarm raised and crew Mustered	Yes NIMASA, Nigerian Coast Guard	Marshall Islands -	-

fired hand flares as a warning, but the skiffs

continued their approach, weapons and a long ladder were sighted. As a result the armed guards fired warning shots which were initially ignored. After a second round of warning shots the skiffs aborted their approach. All crew safe.

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