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MSC.4/Circ.228
5 November 2015

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during September 2015

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 30 September 2015 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 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 31 August 2015 being, MSC.4/Circ.215, MSC.4/Circ.216, MSC.4/Circ.217, MSC.4/Circ.218, MSC.4/Circ.219 (Annual Report), MSC.4/Circ.220, MSC.4/Circ.221, MSC.4/Circ.222, MSC.4/Circ.223, MSC.4/Circ.224, MSC.4/Circ.225, MSC.4/Circ.226 and MSC.4/Circ.227.

ANNEX I
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.228 ANNEX I
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	PERMATA 1 Tug Malaysia 128 5331309	01/09/2015 09:07 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 3.3nm NW of Horsburgh Lighthouse - Straits of Malacca and Singapore 01° 20.88' N 104° 21.36' E	While towing the Malaysian registered barge Permata 2 loaded with scrap metal, the crew spotted three unauthorized persons on board the barge. The master reported the incident to Singapore's Port Operations Control Centre (POCC) which in turn informed the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN). The RSN's MSTF deployed a vessel, RSS Resilience, to the location of the incident. Upon seeing the vessel, the robbers fled in a red hull wooden boat heading in a southerly direction. RSS Resilience escorted Permata 1 and 2 safely to Singaporean waters. All crew safe. Information about the robbers was shared with the Indonesian authorities who deployed their assets to search for them. With the information and description of the robbers provided by the RSN, the Indonesian Navy Western Fleet Sea Security Group managed to arrest the robbers and recover the stolen cargo of scrap metal.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered. Master reported the incident to Singapore VTIS via VHF	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) notified and crafts deployed to location of incident. Indonesian and Malaysian authorities also informed. Robbers eventually arrested by Indonesian Navy Western Fleet Sea Security Group
2	NAESS ENDURANCE Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 36415 9721334	04/09/2015 23:06 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 3.4nm NE of Pulau Karimun Kecil - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 10.99' N 103° 26.87' E	While underway, five robbers armed with knives were spotted in the engine room. The master raised the alarm, mustered the crew and a search for the robbers was conducted on board. Eventually it was determined that the robbers had fled and some engine spare parts were missing. All crew safe.	Engine spare parts missing	Alarm raised by Master, crew mustered and search conducted on board. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS by the Master	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and Singapore PCG were notified. Indonesian authorities also informed

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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	AQUAJJOY Bulk carrier Liberia 87590 9278521	05/09/2015 00:45 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 3.4nm NE of Pulau Karimun Kecil - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 10.68' N 103° 26.87' E	While underway, six robbers were spotted and one of them was seen fleeing from starboard quarter of the ship. The alarm was raised and deck lights were switched on. Eventually, acting on the request of the Master, the Singapore PCG boarded and conducted a search throughout the ship. No robbers were found on board. All crew safe and nothing was stolen.	Two padlocks damaged	Alarm raised, deck lights switched on and crew mustered. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS by Master. Singapore PCG conducted a search on board at Master's request	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	RSN and Singapore PCG notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. Search conducted on board by Singapore PCG
4	PRINCIMAR PRIDE Tanker Marshall Islands 81326 9594781	06/09/2015 10:30 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Straits of Malacca and Singapore Singapore 01° 16.50' N 103° 59.40' E	Four robbers boarded the anchored tanker unnoticed. They broke into the engine room, stole engine spares and fled. The Master informed the CSO about the security breach.	Engine room broken into and engine spares stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered. CSO informed of incident by the Master	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	YORKGATE Bulk carrier Liberia 34570 9689172	08/09/2015 02:30 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 1.8nm NE of Pulau Karimun Kecil - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 11.00' N 103° 25.00' E	While transiting the Singapore Straits, two robbers boarded the bulk carrier and were spotted by the Master who raised the alarm, switched on all deck lights and mustered the crew. A search was eventually conducted, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. VTIS Singapore informed. Once the ship entered Singapore anchorage, the Coast Guard boarded it for investigation. All crew safe.	-	Alarm raised, crew alerted, all deck lights switched on and search conducted on board	Yes Singapore VTIS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	RSN and Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) were notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. Ship eventually boarded by Singapore Coast Guard for investigation
6	RATNA PUJA Oil tanker India 58446 9308845	08/09/2015 04:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 6nm SE of Pulau Nipa - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 05.92' N 103° 34.32' E	While underway, four robbers were spotted in the engine room. The alarm was raised in response and a search was eventually conducted on board. The robbers had already fled. All crew safe and nothing stolen.	-	Alarm raised and search conducted on board. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS by Master	Yes Singapore VTIS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	RSN and Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) notified. Indonesian authorities also informed

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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 TERRITORIAL WATERS

7	MOL BRIGHTNESS Container ship Hong Kong, China 113042 9685346	09/09/2015 05:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 6.4nm SE of Pulau Karimun Kecil - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 07.00' N 103° 31.00' E	While underway, five robbers were spotted boarding the ship from the stern and the alarm was raised in response. Subsequently, the chief officer found the third engineer, who had been assaulted, laying on the floor bound and gagged with visible injuries to the mouth. A search was eventually conducted following which it was determined that some engine spares were missing. Singapore PCG was requested to board the ship for investigation.	Third engineer tied up and gagged with visible injuries to the mouth. Engine spares stolen	Alarm raised, crew alerted, search conducted on board and incident reported to Singapore VTIS by Master	Yes Singapore VTIS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	RSN and Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) notified. Indonesian authorities also informed
8	PANASIATIC Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 42898 9310276	11/09/2015 16:00 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 12.00' N 103° 23.00' E	A/B on board the bulk carrier spotted two suspected robbers in diving suites in the engine room. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered at the bridge. Eventually, a search was conducted, following which it was determined that the suspected robbers were no longer on board.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered at the bridge	Yes Local Port Authority in Indonesia	Marshall Islands -	-
9	CHAMCHURI NAREE Bulk carrier Thailand 21093 9296274	16/09/2015 06:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 7.9nm SW of Pulau Nipa - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 06.55' N 103° 31.96' E	While underway, five robbers were spotted fleeing from the steering gear room to a small speed boat. The duty officer raised the alarm, made an announcement on the PA system and the SSAS was activated. A security search was subsequently conducted, during which the duty oiler, who had been threatened with a knife, was found tied up. Some engine spares were also stolen. All crew safe.	Duty oiler tied up and threatened with a knife. Engine spares stolen	Duty officer raised the alarm, made announcement on the PA system and activated the SSAS. Crew conducted security check. Master reported incident to Port Operation Control center via email	Yes Singapore POCC and Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	RSN and Singapore PCG notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. Ship boarded by PCG officers for investigation
10	PAROS SEAS Bulk carrier Liberia 33044 9491238	20/09/2015 04:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 1.92nm NE of Pulau Karimun Kecil Indonesia 01° 11.10' N 103° 25.00' E	Three robbers armed with a knives boarded the ship underway. They entered the engine room, tied up the oiler, stole ship's property and fled. The oiler was able to untie himself, raise the alarm and the crew mustered. A security search was eventually conducted on board, following which it was determined that ship's property had been stolen. Singapore VTIS informed. All crew safe.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search conducted on board. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS by the Master	Yes Singapore POCC, Singapore VTIS and Warships in the vicinity	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	RSN and Singapore PCG notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. A warship patrolled the location of the incident
11	MARLIN AMETHYST Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 29534 9697222	22/09/2015 10:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Gulf of Guinea Nigeria 06° 16.00' N 003° 13.00' E	A small boat approached the ship and provided a fraudulent letter of authorization for boarding. A security patrol boat confirmed that the persons on the small boat were not authorized to board the ship.	-	Alarm raised and security patrol boat notified	Yes Local security patrol boat	Marshall Islands -	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

1	STAR LYSEFJORD LPG tanker Norway 52290 9008108	12/09/2015 03:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 15.10' N 107° 03.51' E	While at anchor, an unknown number of robbers boarded the ship and stole 440 litres of paint from the paint room. The duty officer found the room door damaged and the robbers had already fled. All crew safe.	Paint room door damaged and 440 litres of paint stolen	-	Yes Viet Nam MRCC	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	-
2	CREST JADE 1 Tug Singapore 472 9528251	12/09/2015 05:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT PT Dharma Sentosa Marindo Yard, Batam - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 04.14' N 103° 54.23' E	While at berth, three robbers, one armed with knives, were discovered by the cook on board the ship. Two of the robbers were inside the paint storeroom while the other waited outside. One of the robbers saw the cook, threatened him and then instructed him to get inside the accommodation room. They eventually left the ship with 40 cans of paint and some cash. All crew safe.	40 cans of paint and some cash stolen	Cook reported incident to the master	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
3	KEY MISSION Bulk carrier Panama 43013 9518177	16/09/2015 08:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 14.00' N 107° 02.00' E	An unknown number of robbers boarded the anchored ship unnoticed, stole ship's property and fled. Evidence of the incident was discovered later in the day.	Ship's property stolen	-	Yes Reported to local Authorities through local agents	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	-
4	EXCELSIOR BAY Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 29735 9697612	18/09/2015 01:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA In Port area South Africa 33° 54.00' S 018° 26.00' E	Two unidentified persons were discovered on board. In response a security alert was raised through internal radios, following which the unidentified persons fled through the ship's gangway.	-	Additional personnel placed on roving patrol, dummies posted on seaward side, frequency of patrols increased and security level 2 measures implemented	Yes Local port agents in Cape Town	Marshall Islands -	-
5	CHALLENGE POLARIS Product tanker Singapore 28051 9426295	18/09/2015 06:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA JG Summit Petrochemical Group Jetty No. 1, Batangas Philippines 13° 40.46' N 121° 03.10' E	Robbers reportedly boarded the berthed tanker unnoticed by cutting one of the forward head lines from the shore end and using the dangling line to climb onto the ship. They stole ship's property and fled. The theft was reported by the A/B on routine rounds, having found the forward mooring rope cut and ship's property missing.	Forward mooring rope cut and ship's property stolen	Crew mustered and search conducted on board	Yes Port Security	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Ship boarded by Port Security for investigation

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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

6	HOJO Oil tanker Belgium 156990 9457543	19/09/2015 04:45 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 6.3nm SW of Nipa Island, Nipa Anchorage - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 07.26' N 103° 33.43' E	While at anchor, five robbers dressed in black clothes and armed with knives boarded the ship. They proceeded to the engine room where one engine crewmember was assaulted and tied up. The robbers stole some engine spares and fled.	Engine crew member assaulted and tied up. Engine spares stolen	Alarm raised and security search conducted on board. Master reported incident to Singapore VTIS	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) informed. Indonesian authorities also notified
7	MAERSK ADRIATIC Product tanker Singapore 23297 9636632	25/09/2015	MALACCA STRAIT Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 56.10' N 098° 45.60' E	Robbers boarded the anchored tanker unnoticed. Once evidence of the incident had been discovered all crew mustered and a search was conducted on board, following which it was determined that ship's stores and engine spares had been stolen. Incident reported to local agents who in turn informed local authorities.	Ship's stores and engine spares stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search conducted on board	Yes Reported to local Authorities through local agents	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
8	OVERSEAS ATALMAR Product tanker Marshall Islands 30018 9273636	29/09/2015 02:20 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.10' N 101° 30.53' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the tanker at anchor. Upon hearing the intrusion alarm the OOW contacted the duty crew to check. When the aft crew failed to reply the A/B keeping watch on the forecastle was instructed to investigate. The aft duty crew member was eventually found gagged and tied up. The alarm was raised and the crew alerted. On seeing the alerted crew, the robbers jumped overboard into a small wooden boat and fled without stealing anything. Attempts were made to contact port control, unsuccessfully.	Duty crew member gagged and tied up	Alarm raised and crew alerted	Yes Local Port Authority in Dumai	Marshall Islands ICC- IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	HANJIN SAO PAULO Container ship Panama 16472 9350147	30/09/2015 04:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA V.I.C.T. Port, Ho Chi Minh City Viet Nam 10° 46.10' N 106° 44.10' E	A stevedore informed the duty A/B that there were suspected robbers at the forward starboard side of the anchored ship, as it discharged its container cargo. The duty A/B informed the duty officer and proceeded to the forward part of the ship, where he found one of the suspected robbers with a bladed weapon and warned the crew accordingly. Upon seeing the alertness of crew, the two perpetrators jumped into the water and fled. The crew eventually conducted a search on board and discovered that the padlock to the forward boatswain store was forced open and ship's property was missing.	Padlock to boatswain store broken and ship's property missing	Duty A/B informed the duty officer and crew	Yes Port Authority	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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

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.228 ANNEX II
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	HAMGAM Bulk carrier Iran (Islamic Republic of) 39424 9226956	20/09/2015 23:20 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 3.09nm SW of Pulau Takong Kecil - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 04.00' N 103° 41.00' E	Crew on board the ship underway spotted a speed boat with eight persons approaching. The alarm was raised, the crew mustered in the accommodation, VTIS informed and anti-piracy measures initiated. As the boat came alongside the bulk carrier, the Master implemented evasive manoeuvres resulting in the robbers aborting and moving away. Subsequently, a security search was conducted on board. Naval vessels in the vicinity were dispatched to assist the ship. All crew safe.	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered, VTIS informed by the Master, anti-piracy measures initiated and evasive manoeuvres implemented	Yes Singapore VTIS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore PCG and Singapore RSN notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. Naval vessels in the vicinity dispatched to assist the ship. RSN escorted the ship to approximately 2 nautical miles ESE of Raffles Lighthouse
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