

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT  
LONDON SE1 7SR  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611      Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

MSC.4/Circ.251  
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## REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

**Issued monthly – Acts reported during June 2017**

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 30 June 2017 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.

<sup>1</sup> "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)."

<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."

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 May 2017 being MSC.4/Circ.239, MSC.4/Circ.240, MSC.4/Circ.241, MSC.4/Circ.242, MSC.4/Circ.243, MSC.4/Circ.244, MSC.4/Circ.245 (annual 2016), MSC.4/Circ.246, MSC.4/Circ.247, MSC.4/Circ.248, MSC.4/Circ.249 and MSC.4/Circ.250.

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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**

Nº	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**

1 C. P. 41 Chemical tanker Thailand 2752 9186455	23/06/2017 21:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 33nm NNE of Kuantan, Pahang Malaysia 03° 55.27' N 103° 52.80' E	While sailing, six pirates armed with guns and knives boarded and took control the ship. They locked all crew members in the engine room. The pirates instructed the ship's engineer to operate the pump and siphon the cargo of diesel to their ship. An estimated of 1.5 million litres of diesel was siphoned from the ship and transferred to another ship. Thereafter the pirates released all the crew members at 0420 hours on 24/06/2017. Before leaving the ship, the pirates damaged the ship's communication and navigation equipment. The crew members sailed to a safe port. The ship arrived at Songkhla port on 26/06/2017, and a team boarded the ship for investigation.	The crew members was threatened and locked in the engine room. Ship's communication and navigation equipment damaged. 1.5 million litres of diesel had been siphoned and transferred to another ship	Reported incident to the company who reported to Thailand Maritime Enforcement Coordinating Centre (MECC) who informed the Malaysian authorities.	Yes Flag state	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Thailand), Information Fusion Centre (IFC)	Thailand MECC reported incident to the ReCAAP ISC who informed the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA)	An investigation team boarded the ship when she arrived at Songkhla port on 26/06/2017.
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**IN TERRITORIAL WATERS**

1 M/TUG 308 & SSL BARGE 08 Tug Philippines	05/06/2017 12:23 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vicinity of Sarangani Strait, Jose Abad Santos, Davao Occidental Philippines 05° 48.36' N 125° 44.55' E	While underway, 20 robbers carrying short firearms on board five motor bancas approached and boarded the tug boat. The robbers took away several gallons of fuel, paint and half a sack of rice. The crew member of the tug boat reported the incident to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) who immediately launched its assets and conducted maritime patrol in the area. The PCG located the tug boat and the barge; and rendered assistance to the tug boat.  While the PCG team was conducting verification on board the tug boat, one motor banca with two robbers on board came alongside on the other side of the tug boat. The robbers who were not armed boarded the tug boat and were immediately apprehended by the PCG team. They were handed over to the Philippine National Police (PNP) for investigation and filing of appropriate	Several gallons of fuel, paints and half a sack of rice stolen.	Reported incident to the PCG	Yes Philippine Coast Guard	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	The PCG immediately launched its assets, boarded the tug boat to conduct investigation and apprehended two robbers.
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\* The position given should be as accurate as possible including latitude and longitude co-ordinates or as a bearing and distance from a conspicuous landmark

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

charges in court.

2 AKROTIRI Oil product tanker Singapore 25190 9007752	08/06/2017 03:55 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 8nm North of Tg Berakit, Bintan Islands Indonesia 01° 21.00' N 104° 36.00' E	While at anchor, two robbers armed with knives boarded the ship from a boat and caught the AB on watch in the engine room. They took his walkie talkie and held him hostage on board. The duty officer suspected that something happened when the duty AB failed to reply when call. While searching for the AB, the duty officer spotted a boat alongside the starboard quarter from the bridge wing of the ship. He then raised the alarm and the robbers fled with stolen ship's engine spares.	Ship's engine spares stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered. Reported incident to the flag state.	Yes Flag state	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Information Fusion Centre (IFC), ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
<b>IN PORT AREA</b>								
1 HARVESTER Bulk carrier Liberia 23651 9777711	02/06/2017 20:20 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 55.70' N 098° 45.50' E	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored bulk carrier. They held a knife to the duty watchman's neck and took him hostage. At the same time, the OOW called the watchman, who was forced to reply and indicate all clear. The robbers then tied up the watchman, removed the hawse pipe cover and let another robber on board the ship. They broke into the paint locker and boatswain stores and stole ship's stores. The OOW noticed some abnormal movements on the forecastle and raised the alarm. The robbers stole the personal belongings of the watchman before fled. Crew mustered and a search was carried out.	Robbers took hostage and tied up the duty watchmans. Ship's stores and crew personal belonging stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search conducted.	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The Authority boarded the ship for investigation
2 ANNOU MAX Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 91374 9423073	06/06/2017 03:25 UTC	WEST AFRICA Freetown Anchorage, Pepel Sierra Leone 08° 28.30' N 013° 22.90' W	Security watchman spotted one person trying to board the ship through the lines attached to the fenders on the starboard quarter. The security watchman reported the incident to the bridge and the duty officer raised the alarm/whistle. The suspected robber jump overboard and fled empty handed.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3 DUKE Research ship Bahamas 2031 8200838	12/06/2017 18:49 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Galang Layup Anchorage Indonesia 00° 45.40' N 104° 08.70' E	Six robbers boarded the anchored ship, stole ship's property and fled. The theft was discovered in the morning during routine rounds. Incident reported to the local agents and port authority.	Ship's property stolen	A search was carried out throughout the ship	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The authority boarded the ship for investigation
4 LOCH SEAFORTH Supply ship Singapore 10835 9594949	14/06/2017 04:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Off Pulau Bintan Anchorage Indonesia 01° 09.00' N 104° 14.58' E	Duty AB onboard the anchored ship spotted four robbers near the stern of the ship. He immediately informed the duty officer, switched on the search lights, sounded ship's whistle and shouted at the robbers. Upon seeing the crew alertness, the robbers fled. A search was carried out. Nothing reported stolen.	-	Sounded ship's whistle and shouted on the robbers. Reported incident to the flag state.	Yes Flag State, MPA Singapore	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5 MS SOPHIE Chemical tanker	15/06/2017 10:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 2.63 nm southwest of Batangas	While at anchor, the Boatswain was approaching the forecastle when he noticed that the additional	The forecastle bell, fire nozzles and fire hydrant	A search was carried out	Yes Philippine Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre	The Port State Control

Liberia 25400 9241798	Inner Anchorage Philippines 13° 44.01' N 121° 01.09' E	wooden cover of the anchor pipe had been removed and the rope had been cut. The padlock of boatswain store was also broken. It was believed that the robbers were either of small size or very thin to be able to remove the wooden cover which is approximately 30x20 cm. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that the forecastle bell, fire nozzles and fire hydrant covers had been stolen.	covers stolen. The padlock of boatswain store broken.	throughout the ship. (PCG) Report the incident to the local authority.	Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	officers of the PCG proceeded to the anchorage area where the ship was located. But upon arrival, the ship was about to depart the port. As a result, the authority were not able to conduct further investigation on board the ship.		
6 ARDMORE CHIPPEWA Oil tanker Marshall Islands 15591 9707871	21/06/2017 20:30 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Jetty No. 3, CPO Kabil Port, Batam, Indonesia 01° 04.00' N 104° 08.00' E	While carrying out pre-departure checks the duty AB spotted wet foot prints on the poop deck. On carrying out further checks he noticed the padlocks to the steering gear and engine room had been removed and engine spares were missing. The alarm was raised, crew mustered and a search was carried out on the ship. The incident was reported to Port VTS and local agents. No robbers was found on board.	Ship's engine spares stolen	Alarm sounded, crew mustered, search conducted.	Yes Port VTS	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Information Fusion Centre (IFC)	
7 SELETAR SPIRIT Tanker Bahamas 60193 9484077	24/06/2017 04:24 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Jose Terminal Anchorage Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 10° 12.00' N 064° 46.00' W	Eight robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored tanker during the pre-departure inspection. They assaulted the duty AB on security rounds. Another crew spotted the robbers, raised the alarm and injured himself as he fled from the robbers. The duty officer sounded the general alarm and ship's whistle and the robbers fled. No loss of property was reported. The injured crew was sent ashore for medical attention. Coast Guard informed.	Duty AB was assaulted and another crew was injured	General alarm raised and ship's whistle sounded	Yes Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard boat came and searched around the ship
8 MAERSK MALAGA Chemical tanker Singapore 29669 9447768	30/06/2017 03:30 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Puerto La Cruz Anchorage Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 10° 16.00' N 064° 42.00' W	Around four to five robbers boarded the anchored tanker and entered the forepeak store. The alert crew spotted the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers fled without stealing anything.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard boarded the ship for investigation

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ANNEX I

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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**

Nº	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**

1 NAVIG8 PROVIDENCE Product tanker Marshall Islands 43142 9737759	01/06/2017 11:45 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Around 103 NM East of Muscat Oman 23° 32.40' N 060° 26.30' E	Six persons armed with guns in a skiff approached and fired upon a tanker underway. The alarm was raised, non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. Master increased speed, conducted evasive manoeuvres and onboard armed security team fired warning shots resulting in the skiffs moving away. A mother vessel was seen in the vicinity. Ship is safe.	Fired upon the tanker.	Alarm raised, crew retreated into the citadel, increased speed, made evasive manoeuvres and onboard security team fired warning shots.	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Regional Maritime Information Sharing Centre (ReMISC), UKMTO	-
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**IN PORT AREA**

1 EAGLE EXPRESS Product tanker Panama 28051 9414280	19/06/2017 23:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Mbaraki Terminal, Mombasa Kenya 04° 04.00' S 039° 39.00' E	Duty crew on anti-piracy watch onboard a berthed tanker spotted a robber attempting to board via the poop deck using a hook attached with rope and informed the OOW in the cargo control room. As the robber approached the ship's railing the duty crew shouted at him and the robber fled. A search was made throughout the tanker it was reported that nothing had been stolen.	-	Alarm raised and duty crew shouted at robbers	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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ANNEX II