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

## Issued monthly – Acts reported during February 2018

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 28 February 2018 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 12 months and up to 28 February 2018 being MSC.4/Circ.247, MSC.4/Circ.248, MSC.4/Circ.249, MSC.4/Circ.250, MSC.4/Circ.251, MSC.4/Circ.252, MSC.4/Circ.253, MSC.4/Circ.254, MSC.4/Circ.255, MSC.4/Circ.256, MSC.4/Circ.257, MSC.4/Circ.258 (annual 2017) and MSC.4/Circ.259.

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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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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	INTERNATIONAL	WATERS	1						
1	NAME WITHHELD General cargo ship Bahamas	09/02/2018 06:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 48nm SSW of Bonny Island, Nigeria 03° 40.00' N 006° 45.00' E	Armed pirates attacked, fired upon and boarded a vessel while underway. A crew member was injured during the gunfire. The pirates kidnapped four crew members, stole the ship's property and cash and escaped. The remaining crew sailed the ship to open seas.	kidnapped, cash and ship's equipment stolen. Material damage to the	Altered course, hand flares fired in the direction of the boat, crew hid in the engine room.	Yes PRC relayed message to Nigerian Navy HQ.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
IN	TERRITORIAL WA	ATERS							
1	ASL SCORPIO Tug Singapore 1730 9422952	07/01/2018 08:08 UTC	ARABIAN SEA 11nm south of Alang, Gujarat, India India 21° 12.60' N 072° 12.79' E	Three robbers boarded a tanker under tow by a tug. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Realizing the crew had been alerted, the robbers escaped with the ship's stores and engine spares. The incident was reported to Indian Coast Guard. The three robbers were later arrested by the marine police and the stolen items recovered.		crew mustered.	Yes Indian Coast Guard. PRC received information from MRCC India	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Marine police arrested the three robbers and recovered the stolen items.
2	MARINE EXPRESS Product tanker Panama 28054 9403322	01/02/2018 07:48 UTC	WEST AFRICA Cotonou Anchorage Benin 06° 16.00' N 002° 31.00' E	The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (IMB PRC) received a missing vessel report from the owners of an anchored tanker awaiting berthing instruction. The owners reported that they had lost contact with the tanker laden with gasoline. The last communication received was on 01 Feb 2018 at 0748 UTC.	with 22 crew members	None/not stated.	Yes PRC relayed	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authorities sent patrol boats to lookout for the missing tanker.
				The IMB PRC immediately notified all the Regional Authorities and the International warships in the Gulf of Guinea, and a search was carried out.					
				The IMB PRC broadcast a message to all ships in the region to look out for the missing tanker. On 06 Feb 2018, the owners confirmed that the tanker was released. The crew and cargo safe.					
3	NAME WITHHELD Tug Singapore 4566	02/02/2018 02:45	WEST AFRICA Takoradi Anchorage Ghana 04° 54.40' N 001° 43.10' E	While at anchor, two robbers boarded the ship from a boat with three other robbers on board. The duty officer raised the alarm and reported incident to the local navy. The robbers escaped back to their boat. Upon investigation, the crew discovered that five heavy duty batteries had been stolen.	injured. Five heavy duty	Reported the incident to the Navy.	Yes Local Navy and flag State (Singapore)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The Navy patrolled the anchorage area after receiving report of the incident.
4	<b>EMERALD SPIRIT</b> Tanker Bahamas	06/02/2018 02:12	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Puerto Jose	Four robbers boarded an anchored tanker. Duty AB on routine rounds noticed the robbers and immediately notified the OOW, who raised the	Ship's property stolen.	Alarm raised, crew mustered.	Yes PRC relayed message	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

60185 9422005		Anchorage Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 10° 10.60' N 064° 47.70' W	alarm and crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped in a small boat with stolen ship's property. Incident reported to Port Authorities.			to Venezuela Coast Guard.		
5 <b>BBC AMBER</b> General cargo ship Antigua and Barbuda 12838	06/02/2018 17:15 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage C Bangladesh 22° 08.60' N 091° 44.00' E	Four robbers armed with guns boarded an anchored ship and threatened the duty watchman who managed to escape. Alarm raised, PA announcement made and crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to the Bangladesh Coast Guard.	Ship's stores stolen.	Alarm raised.PA announcement made and crew mustered.	Yes Bangladesh Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard carried out a search.
6 LUWEN-YU 2 Fishing vessel China	09/02/2018 12:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 10nm SW of Idenao Cameroon 04° 06.00' N 008° 51.00' E	Persons armed with AK47 assault rifles boarded the fishing vessel, kidnapped three crew members and escaped. The Cameroonian Authorities notified and are currently investigating the incident.	the vessel and	-	Yes Cameroon Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authorities made a search at the location.
7 <b>RIO APURE</b> Tanker Marshall Islands 81384 9589748	15/02/2018 01:12 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Puerto La Cruz Anchorage Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 10° 14.20' N 064° 44.20' W	Three robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored tanker. Duty AB on routine rounds saw the robbers and notified the OOW. The AB was threatened by one of the robbers. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to the Puerto La Cruz VTS. A Coast Guard patrol boat was dispatched to investigate.	threatened. Ship's	Alarm raised, crew mustered.	Yes Puerto La Cruz VTS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard patrol boat was dispatched to investigate.
8 <b>NAME WITHHELD</b> Bulk carrier Liberia 44200	15/02/2018 05:25 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Macapa Anchorage Brazil	The OOW onboard an anchored ship noticed the forecastle door open and unauthorized persons on the forward deck. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped. On searching the vessel, ship's stores were reported stolen. Port Authority notified via local agent.	Ship's stores stolen.	Alarm raised, crew mustered.	Yes PRC relayed message to MRCC Brazil.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9 <b>KUDOS 1</b> Container ship Philippines 499 9133044	16/02/2018	SOUTH CHINA SEA In the vicinity of waters 4.4 nm SE off Sibago Island, province of Basilan Philippines 06° 42.10' N 122° 23.50' E	on board, performed tactical manoeuvre to the portside amidship of ship. Armed with high powered firearms, the attackers attempted to board	suffered minor injuries due to glass debris from the porthole, caused by gunfire. Broken porthole glass and damage from gunfire on the portside	The master and the crew poured hot water onto the attackers. The master also activated two flares.	Yes PCG and Philippine Navy (PN)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The PCG monitored the distress signal, immediately deploying the multi-role vessel (MRRV-4402) to the location of the incident. PCG medical officers provided medical assistance to the injured crew. Maritime

			(PCG) medical officers provided medical assistance to the injured crew members. The PCG and Philippine Navy (PN) escorted the ship safely towards the port of Zamboanga City.				patrol was also conducted in the area.
							The PCG and the PN ships escorted the ship safely towards the port of Zamboanga City.
10 <b>SEA EMPEROR</b> Tanker Marshall Islands 8503 9383601	17/02/2018 22:50 UTC	WEST AFRICA Cotonou Anchorage Benin 06° 17.90' N 002° 30.30' E	Duty OOW on board an anchored tanker noticed Ship's office port hole three armed persons on deck and immediately was damaged and other raised the alarm. SSAS activated and all crew ship's property found retreated to the citadel. The IMB Piracy Reporting damaged. Centre received the distress from the CSO and immediately informed the Benin Authorities.	Raised alarm, SSAS activated and crew retreated to the citadel.	Yes PRC relayed message to Benin Navy Ops Centre.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Benin Navy dispatched three patrol boats to the location and searched the
			Three patrol boats were dispatched to the location. They searched the waters around the tanker. A navy team boarded the tanker. On confirmation from the navy team that the tanker was clear of pirates, the Master and crew emerged from the citadel. Further investigation revealed that the ship's office port hole was damaged by gunfire and other ship's property found damaged.				waters around the tanker. The navy team boarded the tanker and made a search throughout the tanker.
11 <b>NAME WITHHELD</b> Tug Norway 7473	18/02/2018 19:00 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 3nm west of Batu Ampar Port, Batam, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 09.70' N 103° 56.40' E	During routine rounds on board an anchored Vessel's spare parts offshore tug, the bosun reported that the lock to the stolen. engine room hatch was broken. Further investigation revealed several footprints on the aft deck and a large number of spare parts missing.	A search was carried out.	Yes PRC relayed message to Bakamla, Indonesian Marine Police HQ and Indoniesian Navy HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
12 <b>GREEN SKY</b> Product tanker Liberia 30263 9676515	20/02/2018 01:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lagos Achorage, Nigeria 06° 17.00' N 003° 13.00' E	Duty AB on board an anchored tanker noticed six robbers boarding and notified the OOW. Master informed, ship's horn sounded, alarm raised and crew mustered in the citadel. The onboard Safety Advisor established communication with the Nigerian Navy patrol boat in the secure anchorage area and requested immediate assistance. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped in their small black skiff. The Navy patrol boat proceeded towards the tanker and tried to chase the speed boat. The crew emerged from the citadel. Upon investigation, the ullage caps of some oil tanks were found opened. Nothing reported stolen.	Alarm raised and crew mustered.	Yes PRC relayed message to Nigerian Navy HQ.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A Nigerian Navy patrol boat proceeded to the location.
13 MAERSK MAYA Tanker Singapore 26900 9367750	22/02/2018 05:25 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Port Au Prince "H" Anchorage Haiti	Duty AB on routine rounds on board an anchored Nil tanker noticed robbers armed with guns on the forecastle deck and immediately raised the alarm. Crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, one of the robbers fired a warning shot and escaped.	Alarm raised and crew mustered.	Yes Port Authorities. PRC relayed message to National Police of Haiti.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

		08° 34.15' N 072° 24.29' W	Crew and the tanker reported safe. Incident reported to Port Authorities.				
IN PORT AREA							
1 <b>CELINA STAR</b> Container ship Liberia 37113 9210086	25/02/2018 08:42 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Guayaquil Inner Anchorage, Ecuador Ecuador 02° 21.30' S 079° 59.70' W	Duty AB on routine rounds on board an anchored ship was confronted by five robbers on the aft deck. One robber, with a gun was seen near the entrance to the steering gear room. The AB immediately retreated and informed the Duty Officer. Alarm raised and port control notified. A coastguard boat was sent to the ship. All crew safe. Nothing reported stolen.	Alarm raised and port control notified.	Yes PRC relayed message to Ecuador Coast Guard and Ecuadorian Navy.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A Coast Guard boat was sent to the ship.
2 <b>ST MARSEILLE</b> Tanker Luxembourg 5218 9367358	26/02/2018 23:20 UTC	WEST AFRICA Cotonou Anchorage, Benin Benin 06° 16.30' N 002° 29.24' E	Five armed persons approached an anchored Stole the crew's tanker in a speed boat. As they boarded the tanker, property, kidnapped t they commenced firing and injured one of the Benin Master and one Navy guards on board. All crew except the OOW engineer. on the bridge retreated into the citadel.	All crew except the OOW retreated into the citadel.	Yes PRC relayed message to Benin Navy Ops Centre	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur.	Benin Navy evacuated the injured guards and conducted a search.
			As the armed persons made their way to the bridge, where they fired upon and injured another Navy Guard. They took the OOW hostage and demanded that the Master, Chief Officer and Chief Engineer come to the bridge.				
			The armed persons then instructed the Master to heave up anchor, but when they were told that the tanker was in ballast, they stole the crew's property, kidnapped the Master and one engineer and escaped in the tanker's rescue boat.				
			The Benin Navy was notified to evacuate the injured guards. Once the armed persons were ashore they released the Master and engineer, who were able to contact the local police, later returning				

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to the tanker.

MSC.4/Circ. ANNEX

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

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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		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	1 <b>EBUNOLA</b> Product tanker Nigeria 5245 9014511	24/01/2018 09:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 48nm South of Brass Nigeria 03° 30.00' N 006° 20.00' E	Armed pirates chased and attacked the tanker underway. The presence of armed naval personnel onboard the tanker resulted in the pirates aborting the attack. The tanker and crew members are safe.	Nil	Raised alarm and the onboard armed naval personnel repelled the attack.	Yes PRC received information from the Nigerian Navy.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The onboard armed naval personnel repelled the attack.
2	2 <b>BISKRA</b> Product tanker Panama 8744 9030709	03/02/2018 16:39 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 60nm SW of Bonny Island, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 29.40' N 006° 36.42' E	Approximately 10 to 12 armed pirates in a high-speed boat, chased and fired upon a tanker while underway. Alarm raised and non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. Due to the Master's evasive manoeuvres and the presence of the on board naval armed team, the pirates aborted the attack and moved away. Incident was reported to Nigerian navy. All crew was safe.	-	Alarm raised, crew retreated into citadel and Master carried out evasive manoeuvres.	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur.	-
3	3 <b>LUTETIA</b> Liberia 35881 9246695	15/02/2018 18:50 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 40.62nm SSW of Bonny Nigeria	Four pirates in a speed boat chased and fired upon a ship underway. The master increased speed and commenced evasive manoeuvres. Due to the presence of a Nigerian Naval escort boat the pirates aborted and moved away. Crew and ship reported safe.	Nil	The master increased speed and commenced evasive manoeuvres.	Yes PRC relayed message to Nigeria Navy HQ.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Naval boat escorting the vessel.
2	4 <b>BELEMA LIGHT</b> CRUDE Tanker Panama 156809 9079066	18/02/2018 18:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 42nm SE of Brass, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 41.50' N 006° 37.50' E	A speed boat with six or seven armed pirates chased and fired upon the tanker while underway. Alarm raised, crew mustered, evasive manoeuvres commenced and Nigerian authorities contacted. Due to the tanker's hardening measures the pirates were unable to board the tanker and moved away. The tanker was escorted to Bonny anchorage by two navy vessels. All crew safe. The tanker sustained minor damage from gunfire.	ship. The tanker sustained minor damage	Alarm raised, fire hoses activated, crew mustered, engaged manual steering and conducted evasive manoeuvres.	Yes PRC relayed message to Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur.	Two Navy vessels escorted the tanker.
Ę	5 INTERIM Tanker Panama 25060 9039121	19/02/2018 08:24 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 25nm SE of Brass, Nigeria Nigeria 04° 02.66' N 006° 34.33' E	Six pirates armed with AK-47 rifles in a black hull speed boat approached and attempted to board a tanker while underway. The Master raised the alarm, activated SSAS, transmitted distress message, increased speed and commenced evasive manoeuvres whilst the crew secured all access doors. The pirates made seven attempts to hook an aluminium ladder on the tanker's railings, but were unsuccessful due to the evasive manoeuvres taken by the Master. The pirates then fired upon the tanker and moved away. A Nigerian Navy boat was in contact with the tanker and arrived at the location. The tanker and crew are safe.	-	Alarm raised, activated SSAS, transmitted distress message, increased speed and performed evasive manoeuvres whilst crew secured all access doors.	Yes PRC relayed message to Nigerian Navy HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A navy boat attended the scene of the incident.

6 <b>LEOPARD SUN</b> Product tanker Singapore 29939 9635781	22/02/2018 20:30 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Around 315nm ENE of Mogadishu, Somalia Somalia 03° 28.10' N 050° 27.80' E	Two skiffs chased and fired upon the tanker while Pirates fired upon the underway. The alarm was raised and the crew tanker. mustered. The tanker increased speed and armed guards returned fire resulting in the pirates aborting the attack.	Alarm raised, crew mustered and the armed guards returned fire.	Yes Flag State and UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7 <b>KOTA SAHABAT</b> Container ship Singapore 41567 9645463	24/02/2018 10:16 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 50nm SSW of Bonny Island, Nigeria 03° 33.80' N 007° 02.70' E	Around eight armed pirates in a speed boat chased the ship while underway. Alarm raised, SSAS activated, speed increased and all non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. Nigerian navy contacted; they suggested rendezvous with their naval vessel in the vicinity. As the pirates' boat closed in, the Master commenced evasive manoeuvres. Due to the hardening measures, the pirates were unable to hook their ladder onto the ship and moved away.	Alarm raised, non-essential crew mustered in the citadel, SSAS activated, speed increased and conducted evasive manoeuvres.	Yes PRC relayed message to Nigerian Navy.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Nigerian navy vessel escorted the ship to the pilot boarding point.
8 <b>CHINA FROST</b> Refrigerated cargo carrier Cook Islands 4999 8410914	24/02/2018 15:20 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 40nm SSW of Bonny Fairway Buoy, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 38.10' N 006° 42.00' E	Approximately 10 pirates in a speed boat, armed Pirates fired upon the with automatic weapons, chased and fired upon the ship. The ship ship while underway. The armed guards on board sustained minor damage the ship returned fire, resulting in the pirates from gunfire. aborting the attack and moving away. All crew safe. The ship sustained minor damage from gunfire.	Alarm raised and armed guard returned fire.	Yes PRC relayed message to Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Armed guard on board returned fire.
IN TERRITORIAL W	ATERS						
1 <b>TEAM CHALLENGE</b> Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 17679 9282780	09/02/2018 19:30 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Diamond Harbour Anchorage, Kolkata India 22° 11.56' N 088° 09.59' E	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard an anchored Nil ship heard an unusual sound coming from the anchor chain. Upon checking, he noticed one robber climbing the anchor chain. He also saw two more persons waiting in a small boat. The duty AB shouted at the robber resulting in the robber aborting the climb and escaping.	Raised alarm, crew mustered and directed search lights at the robbers.	Yes Incident reported to the Authorities via local agents.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authorities investigated the incident with the Managers of the vessel.
2 <b>TIBERIUS</b> Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 21163 9665841	11/02/2018 21:20 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage Bangladesh 22° 07.70' N 091° 43.41' E	Five robbers armed with knives in a small boat Nil attempted to board an anchored ship using ropes attached with hooks. The crew noticed the robbers and informed the Master and prepared the fire hoses to stop the robbers. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped empty handed.	Alarm raised, crew mustered, proceed to port side and drop all hooks.	Yes Bangladesh Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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