

Incident Report: 03/2009

Date/Time of Incident: 23 April 2009 at 0405 hrs (local time)

Location of incident: 03° 13' N, 105° 29' E

Area Description: Approximately 13 nm north-west of Mangkai Light, South China Sea

Name and Type of Ship: *Sider Lion* / bulk carrier

Details of Incident

On 23 April 2009, a Malta-registered bulk carrier, the *Sider Lion* was underway from Durban, South Africa to Nanjing, China. At about 0405 hrs (local time) on 23 April 2009, the bulk carrier was at approximately 03° 13' N, 105° 29' E (about 13 nm north-west of Mangkai Light) when six pirates armed with knives boarded the vessel.

The pirates entered the Second Officer's cabin and held him hostage before proceeding to the ship master's cabin to demand money from him. The pirates took cash from the ship's safe, the ship master's camera, mobile phone and his personal belongings. They released the Second Officer before leaving the vessel. Upon the release, the Second Officer raised the alarm. The SSAS was activated and the crew was mustered. All the 21 crew were accounted for and there were no reports of injury or damage to the vessel.

The ship master reported the incident to the Singapore's Port Operations Control Centre (POCC) which is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore). The Singapore's POCC initiated a navigational broadcast on the VHF & Navtex to warn mariners operating in the region. The MRCC Putra Jaya and RCC Jakarta were informed.

Reported by

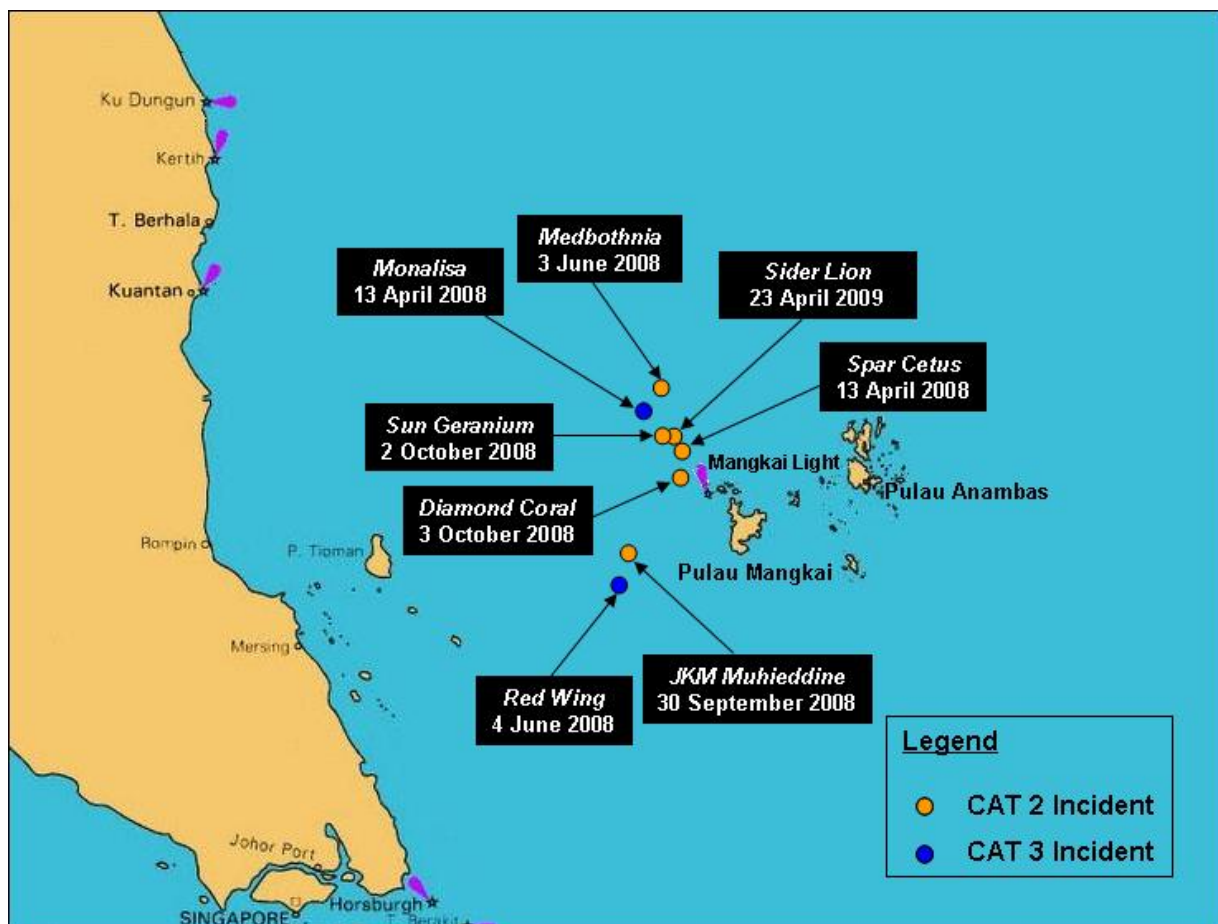
ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)



Comments by ISC

Between April 2008 and April 2009, a total of eight incidents were reported in the vicinity off Mangkai light. Of these, six were Category 2 (moderately significant) incidents and two were Category 3 (less significant) incidents. Please see map below. In all the incidents, the robbers escaped after taking with them cash, property and the crew's personal belongings. The crew was not injured in all the incidents.

Ship masters and crew are advised to maintain vigilance at all times and take necessary precautionary measures when operating in the vicinity especially during hours of darkness. The ReCAAP ISC encourages ship masters to report all incidents of piracy and armed robbery to the nearest coastal state immediately.



Approximate location of incidents

