

Incident Alert

Incident Report:	04/2011
Name and Type of Ship:	<i>LCH 425</i> / Tug boat
Date/Time of Incident:	14 Feb 11 at 0415hrs (local time)
Location of incident:	01° 04.98'N, 103° 35.10' E
Area Description:	Approximately 6 nm southwest of Pulau Nipa (TSS east bound lane)

Details of Incident

On 14 Feb 11 at or about 0415 hrs, a Singapore-registered tug boat, *LCH 425* was underway, towing barge *LCH 4255* at approximately 6 nm southwest of Pulau Nipa (01°04.98'N, 103° 35.10' E) when about eight to ten robbers boarded the tug boat. Armed with parangs (long knives), the robbers boarded the tug boat from a motorized sampan (small wooden boat). They robbed the crew of their belongings and escaped in their sampan. The crew was not injured.

The master reported the incident to Singapore's Port Operations Control Centre (POCC) which is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore). The POCC initiated navigational broadcast on NAVTEX and VHF channel 09 to alert mariners operating the vicinity and informed the ReCAAP ISC, MRCC (Putra Jaya) and MRCC (Jakarta) about the incident.

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

This is the second incident reported in the vicinity within an interval of four days. On 11 Feb 11, two robbers boarded a Netherlands-registered barge, *Barbeel* towed by a

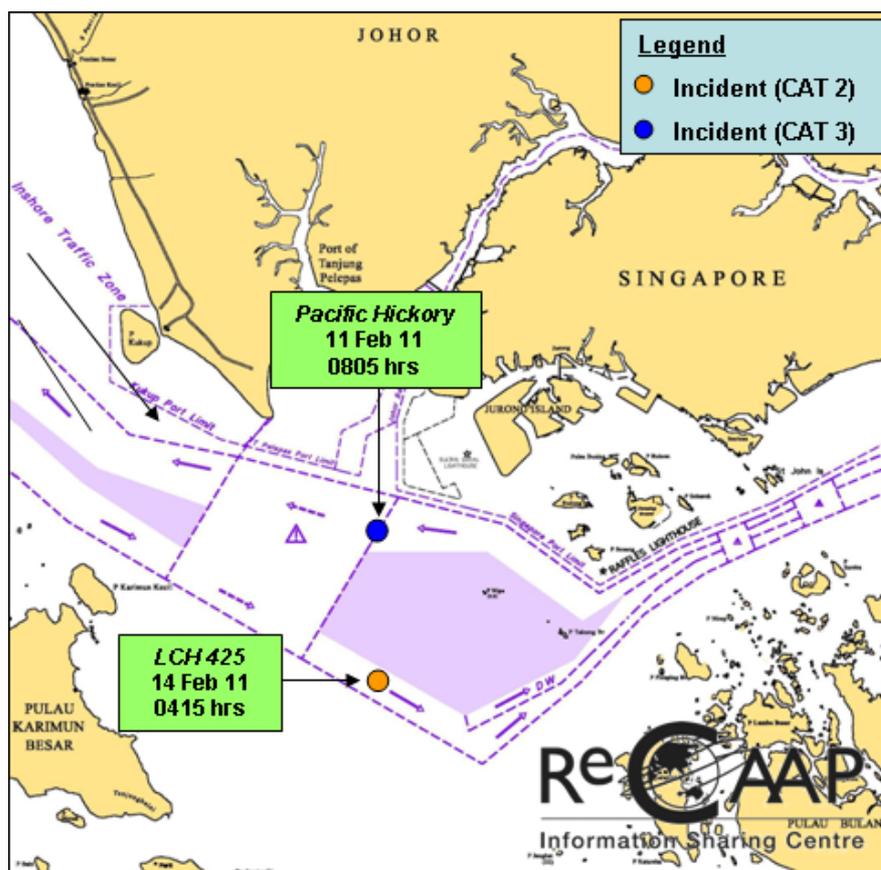


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Dominica-registered tug boat, *Pacific Hickory* at approximately 4.5 nm northwest of Pulau Nipa (01°11.25'N, 103° 35.33' E). Nothing was reported stolen and the robbers escaped in a small boat. Please refer to map on the approximate location of the two incidents.

Ship masters and crew are advised to maintain vigilance with all around look-out as per established norms, and take necessary precautionary measures when operating in the area especially during hours of darkness.

The ReCAAP ISC encourages ship masters to report all actual and attempted incidents to the coastal State and flag State immediately. Immediate reporting enables the authorities to initiate broadcast to warn other mariners operating in the area, and provide timely assistance to the ship master.



Approximate Location of the incident

