

Incident Alert

Incident Report:	19/2011
Name and Type of Ship:	<i>Britoil 71</i> / Tug boat
Date/Time of Incident:	10 Oct 11 at or about 0335 hrs (local time)
Location of incident:	01° 02.80' N, 103° 38.30' E
Area Description:	Approximately 3 nm southwest of Racon D, Phillip Channel, Straits of Malacca and Singapore

Detail of Incidents

On 10 Oct 11 at or about 0335 hrs (local time), a Singapore-registered tug boat, *Britoil 71* towing a Singapore-registered chemical tanker, *Titan Vision* was underway at approximately 3 nm southwest of Racon D in the Phillip Channel (01° 02.80' N, 103° 38.30' E) when five masked robbers boarded the tug boat. Armed with parangs and a handgun, the robbers took away a laptop, mobile phones and cash from the crew before they escaped. The whole episode lasted about 10 min and the 15 crew onboard the tug boat was not injured.

The master reported the incident to Singapore's Port Operations Control Centre (POCC). Singapore's POCC, which is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), promulgated a broadcast to warn all ships to maintain anti-piracy watch when transiting the area.

Reported by

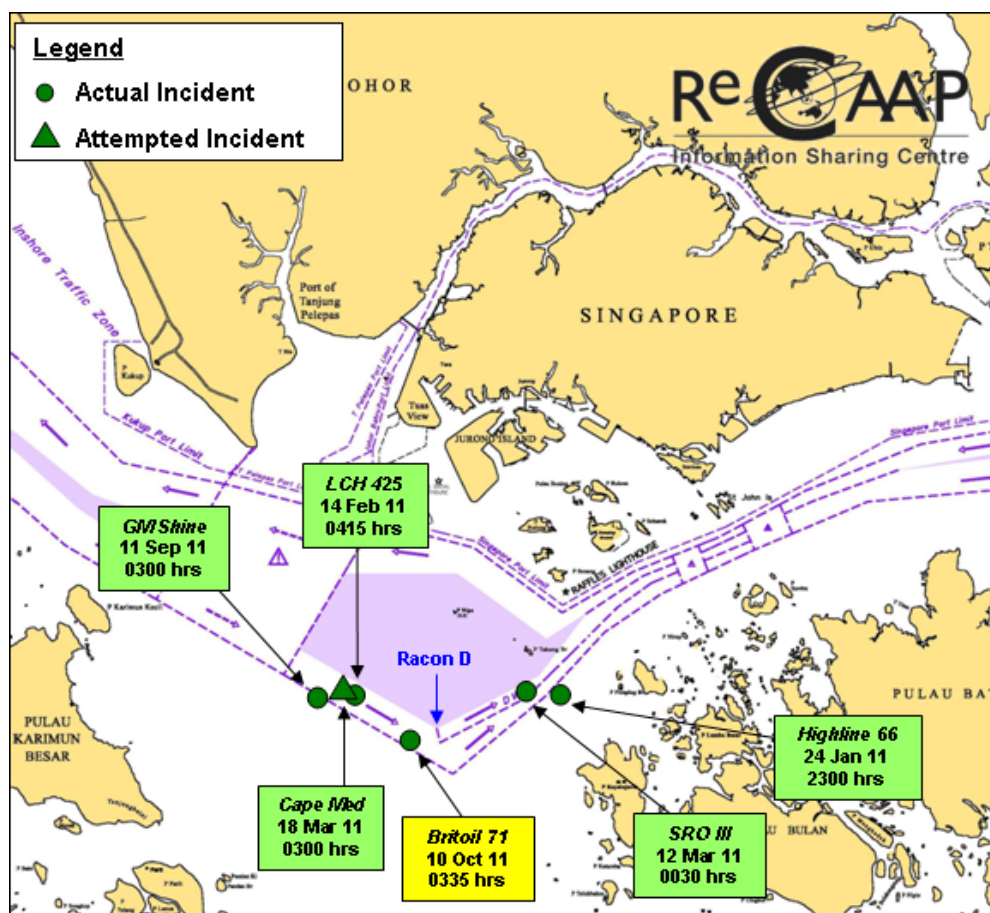
ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

A total of six incidents involving vessels while underway were reported in the vicinity of Racon D in the Phillip Channel in 2011. See map on next page on location of the incidents. The ReCAAP ISC notes that the robbers were usually armed with parangs or machetes and in two of the incidents, the robbers were also armed with guns. The robbers usually do not harm the crew and steal cash and crew's personal belongings such as mobile phones and laptops. The ReCAAP ISC also observes that all incidents occurred during hours of darkness and majority of the incidents involved tug boats operating in the vicinity.



Ship masters and crew are advised to exercise enhanced vigilance with all around look-out, and take necessary precautionary measures when in the vicinity especially during hours of darkness and heighten vigilance when transiting the area. The ReCAAP ISC encourages ship masters to report all actual and attempted incidents to the coastal State and flag State immediately.



Approximate location of Incidents

