

Incident Alert

Incident Report: 1 /2011

Date/Time of Incident: 13 Jan 11 0430 hrs (local time)

Location of incident: 1° 18.7' N, 104° 11.46' E

Area Description: Approximately 2.1 nm south of Tanjung Ayam, Malaysia

Name and Type of Ship: *Torm Clara/Tanker*

Details of Incident

On 13 Jan 11 at or about 0430 hrs, three robbers boarded a Denmark-registered tanker *Torm Clara* from a boat while anchored at approximately 2.1. nm south of Tanjung Ayam, Johor, Malaysia (1° 18.7' N, 104° 11.46' E). The robbers, one of them armed with a pistol and the rest armed with knives, were spotted in the engine room by the duty engineer. The crew mustered and locked themselves in the accommodation room. At 0535 hrs, the crew conducted a search of the tanker but could not find any of the robbers. The crew found the steering gear room lock was damaged but nothing was taken from the ship. The master reported the incident to the Singapore's Port Operations Control Centre (POCC). The crew was not harmed.

The POCC which is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) initiated navigational broadcast on VHF and NAVTEX to alert mariners operating in the vicinity and informed the Singapore Police Coast Guard and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) who relayed the information to the Maritime Security Task Force-Information Fusion Centre (IFC) and the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Authority (MMEA).

The MMEA had sent personnel to the tanker to conduct investigation following the incident reported to them.

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

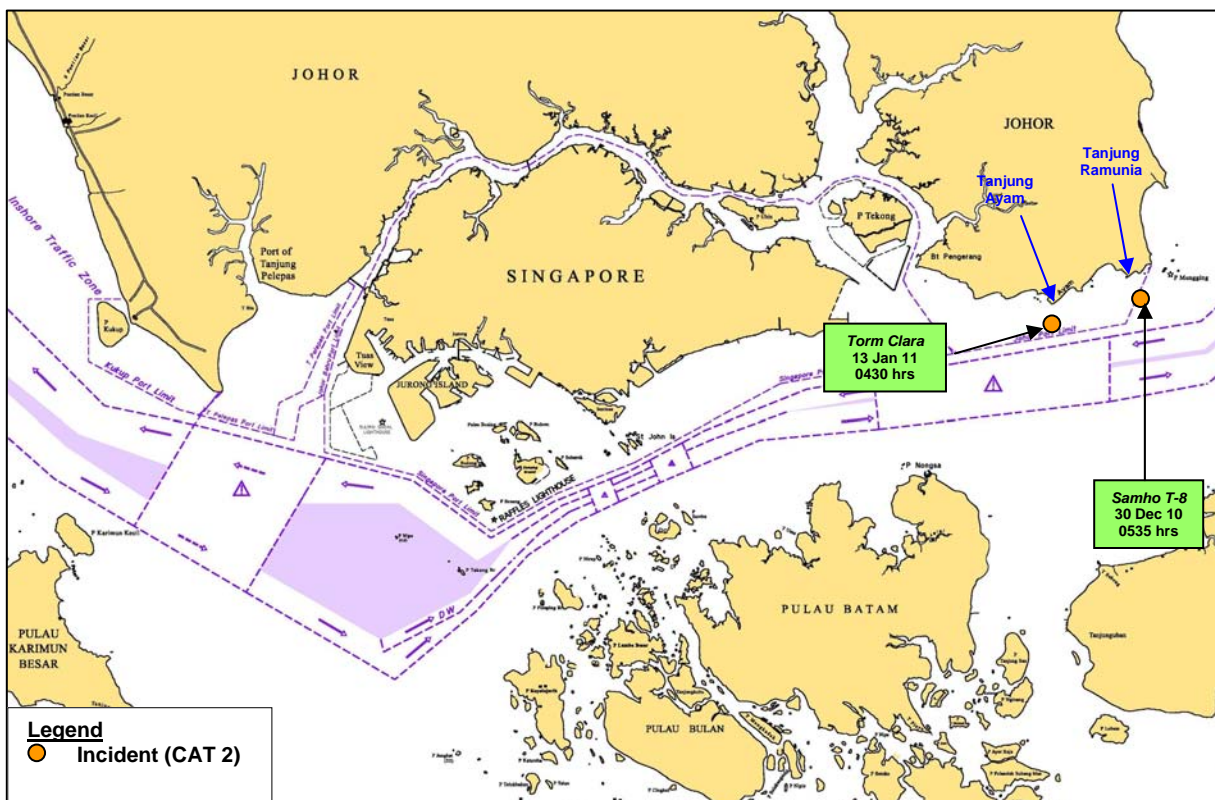
This is the first incident reported in the vicinity off Tanjung Ayam and Tanjung Ramunia, Malaysia for 2011. Just two weeks ago, an incident was reported in the vicinity involving a Belize-registered tug boat, *Samho T8* which occurred southeast of Tanjung Ramunia on 30 Dec 10. Six robbers boarded the tug boat from a speed boat at approximately 3.5 nm southeast of Tanjung Ramunia, Malaysia (1° 19.97' N, 104°

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17.62' E). They held the crew hostage in a cabin, took away cash and the crew's personal belongings, and damaged some of the ship equipment before escaping. The crew was not injured. (See map below on location of the incidents.)

In 2010, a total of 11 incidents of robbery onboard vessels anchored off Tanjung Ayam and Tanjung Ramunia had been reported.

The ReCAAP ISC advises ship masters and crew whose vessels anchored in the vicinity to maintain vigilance and take necessary precautionary measures especially during hours of darkness. Should the robbers board the vessels, they are advised to report all incidents to the coastal State and flag State immediately.



Approximate location of incidents