

Incident Report:	08/2012
Name and Type of Ship:	(1) <i>Bina Marine 61</i> / Pusher tug (2) <i>Marcopolo 17</i> / Tug boat
Date/Time of Incident:	(1) 17 Aug 12 at or about 0230 hrs (local time) (2) 19 Aug 12 at or about 0216 hrs (local time)
Location of incident:	(1) 01° 04.32' N, 103° 42.78' E (2) 01° 00.42' N, 103° 39.96' E
Area Description:	(1) Approximately 1.3 nm south of Pulau Tekong Kecil Lt, Indonesia (2) Approximately 6.6 nm south-southeast of Pulau Tekong Kecil Lt, Indonesia

Detail of Incidents

On 17 Aug 12 at or about 0230 hrs (local time), a Singapore-registered pusher tug, *Bina Marine 61* was underway at approximately 1.3 nm south of Pulau Tekong Kecil Lt, Indonesia (01° 04.32' N, 103° 42.78' E) when two robbers armed with sharp weapons boarded the pusher tug. The robbers tied the master and the crew, and escaped with their personal belongings including cash, mobile phones and laptop. 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).

In a separate incident on the 19 Aug 12 at or about 0216 hrs (local time), an Indonesia-registered tug boat, *Marcopolo 17* towing barge *Marcopolo 268* was underway at approximately 6.6 nm south-southeast of Pulau Tekong Kecil Lt, Indonesia (01° 00.42' N, 103° 39.96' E) when four robbers armed with knives boarded the vessel from a speedboat. They escaped with the crew's personal belongings, and took with them rice and ration from the tug boat. The crew was also not injured. The master reported the incident to the Singapore's POCC.

In both incidents, the Singapore's POCC initiated broadcast to alert mariners in the vicinity, and informed the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), Singapore's Police Coast Guard (PCG), MRCC (KL) and MRCC (Jakarta).

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

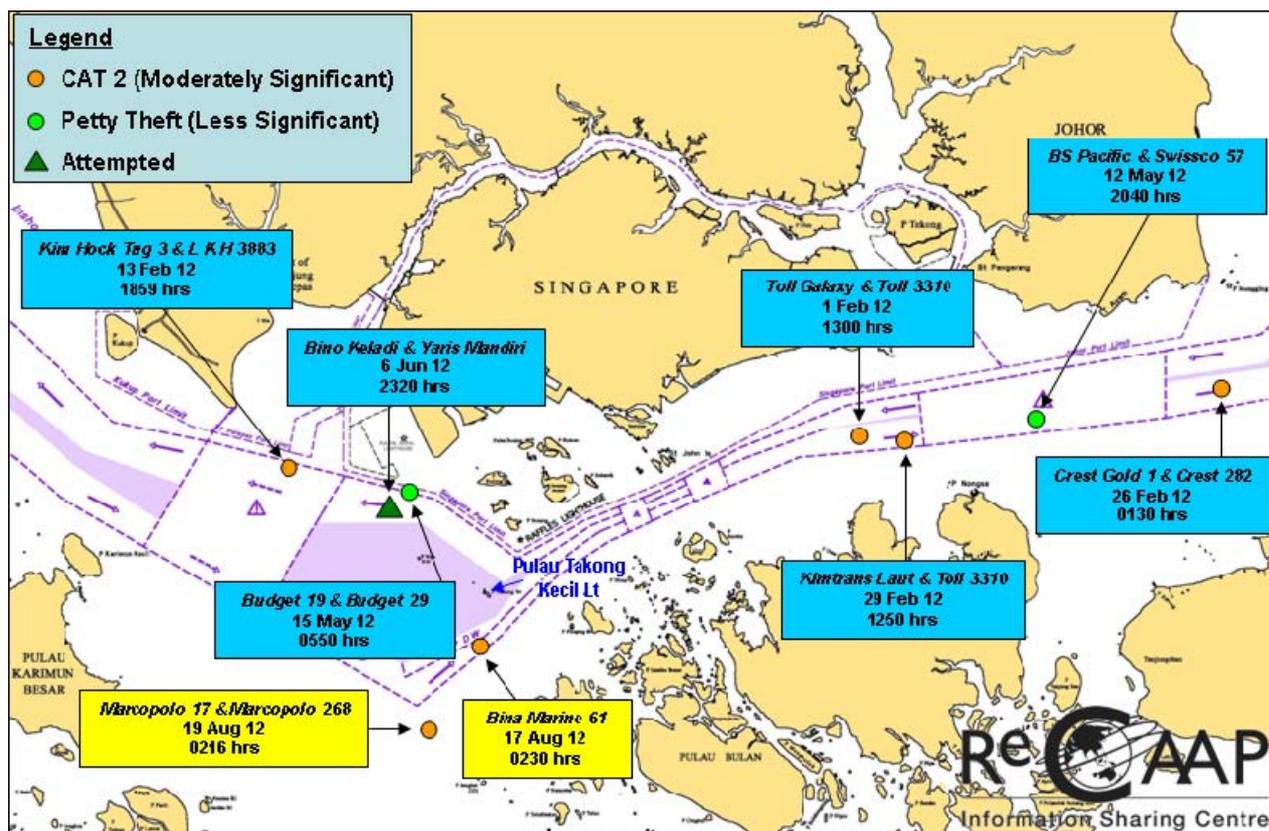


Comments by ReCAAP ISC

The two incidents occurred in close proximity to each other within an interval of three days. In both incidents, the robbers were armed with knives, appeared to target robbery onboard tug boats and escaped after robbing the crew of their personal belongings. The crew was not harmed in both incidents.

Since beginning of 2012, a total of nine incidents, all involving tug boats were reported in the vicinity. See map below. Tug boats are generally vulnerable owing to their low freeboard and slow speed whilst engaging in towing operations.

Tug 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. 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

