



REPORT FOR **FEBRUARY 2014**

1 February 2014 - 28 February 2014

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Executive Summary

A total of 13 incidents were reported in February 2014, of which 11 were robberies against ships¹ and two were incidents of piracy.

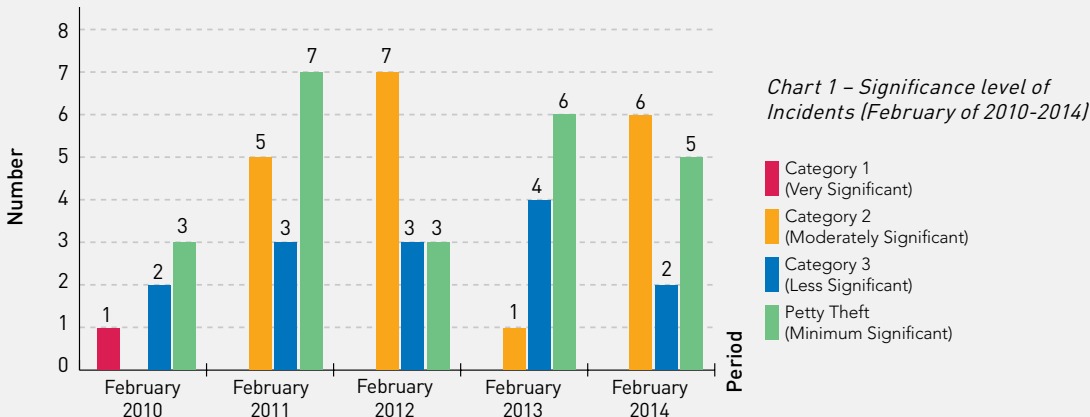
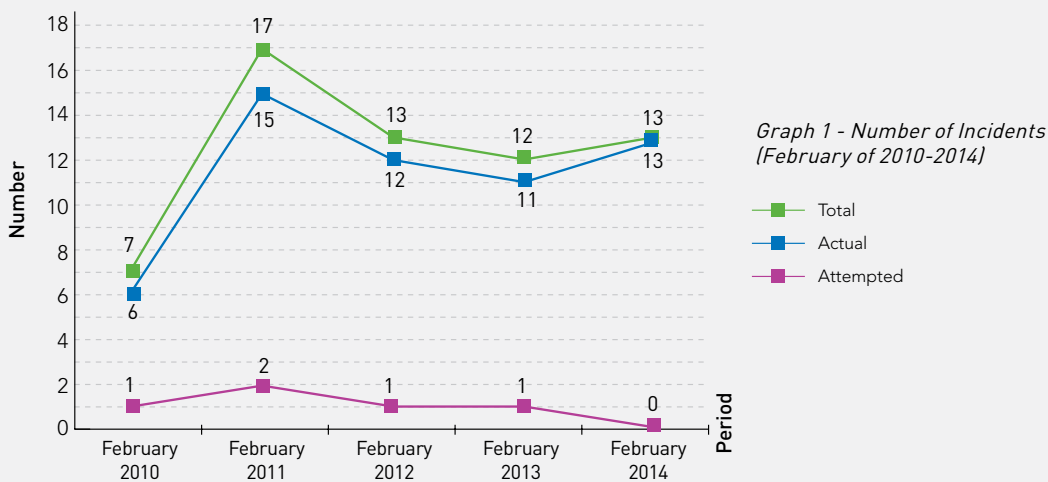
Of the 13 incidents, six were Category 2 (moderately significant) incidents, two were Category 3 (less significant) incidents and five were petty theft (minimum significant) incidents. Compared to the same period in 2012, there has been an increase in Category 2 incidents.

Incidents at Ports and Anchorages

Eight out of the 13 incidents were reported at ports and anchorages. Of these, four were Category 2 incidents, one was a Category 3 incident and three were petty theft cases. The Category 2 incidents reported at ports and anchorages involved robbers armed with knives, and in one incident armed with guns. Operating in groups of at least five men, the robbers threatened the crew at knife-point in two of the four incidents. In the incident onboard bulk carrier, *Prosperity* at the

anchorage northeast of Pulau Bintan, Indonesia on 10 Feb 14, the robbers were armed with guns and knives. The guns were not discharged and the robbers escaped when the alarm was raised. The crew of chemical tanker, *Alpine Mia* also raised the alarm when 10 robbers armed with knives boarded the tanker on 24 Feb 14 while anchored at the Chittagong anchorage. The treatment of the crew was also relatively more violent as reported in the incident onboard *Phoenix Nereid* at Chittagong anchorage, Bangladesh on 5 Feb 14 when the robbers threatened the crew with knives. In the incident onboard *BSS Pride* at Dumai inner anchorage, Indonesia on 1 Feb 14, the robbers held the crew in captivity and tied them. However, the crew was not injured in all the incidents.

The other four Category 3 and petty theft incidents occurred at the ports and anchorages in Pulau Bintan, Tanjung Priok and Belawan, Indonesia and Visakhapatnam anchorage, India.



¹ Refer to ReCAAP ISC website at http://www.recaap.org/AlertsReports/IncidentReports.aspx?Command=Core_Download&EntryId=290 for the definitions of piracy and armed robbery against ships as adopted by the ReCAAP ISC.



Incidents onboard ships while underway

Five incidents were reported onboard ships while underway. Of these, two incidents of piracy were reported in the Bay of Bengal involving tug boat, *SG Victory* towing a scrap vessel, *MV Chan* at approximately 26.45 nm southwest of Elephant Point, Bangladesh. On 20 Feb 14, five fishing boats approached the scrap vessel and unloaded items including paints and cables from the scrap vessel onto their boats. On the next day, several fishing boats again came alongside *MV Chan*. The master reported the incident to the Bangladesh Coast Guard who deployed a speed boat to the location and arrested nine robbers and recovered the stolen items.

The situation in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore has remained relatively quiet throughout January 2014, until February 2014 when three incidents were reported on 6 Feb 14 (with two incidents occurred within an interval of an hour on the same day) and 23 Feb 14. On 6 Feb 14 at or about 0620 hrs, five robbers armed with machetes boarded general cargo ship, *Kota Berkat*. The duty greaser spotted five robbers in the engine room workshop and reported to the bridge. The master raised the alarm and mustered all crew immediately. The robbers escaped empty-handed. At or about 0700 hrs on the same day, two robbers boarded another general cargo ship, *Kota Intan* at approximately 7.83 nm southwest of the earlier incident

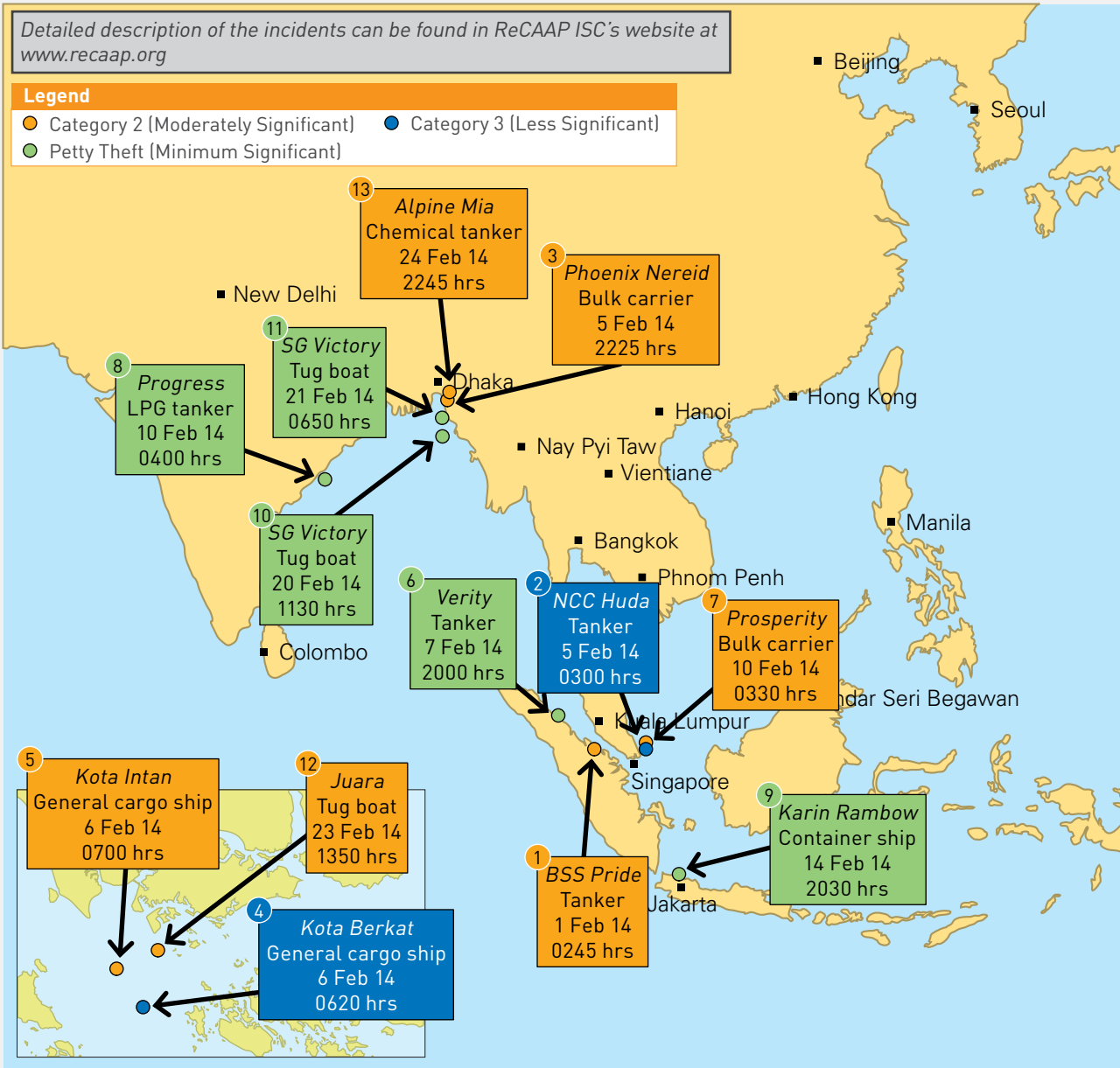
occurred onboard *Kota Berkat*. The robbers boarded *Kota Intan* via the stern, held the crew in captivity, stole some engine spare parts and the crew's mobile phone. The third incident occurred on 23 Feb 14 onboard barge, *Smooth 1* towed by tug boat, *Juara* when 20 men boarded the barge from four boats and escaped with some scrap metal. The crew was not injured in all incidents.

In 2013, tug boats towing barges accounted for 75% of the incidents reported in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore. In February 2014, two of the three incidents involved general cargo ships. The ReCAAP ISC will monitor closely the situation in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore and encourages enhanced cooperation and coordinated patrols and surveillance among littoral States in the region.

Conclusion

Overall, the number of incidents has remained fairly consistent compared to the same period in 2012. As the situation at some ports and anchorages remains a key concern, the coastal State authorities are advised to enforce port security, implement the ISPS code, and render immediate assistance to victim vessels when incidents are reported to them. Timely reporting to the coastal authorities is strongly encouraged as demonstrated in the incident involving *SG Victory* which resulted in the arrest of the pirates and recovery of stolen items.

→ Location of Incidents →



Map 1 – Location of Incidents in Feb 2014



Contact Details of ReCAAP Focal Points / Contact Point

Country & Agency In Charge	Point of Contact	
	Phone No	Fax Number
Australia		
Border Protection Command Australian Maritime Security Operations Centre (AMSOC) E-mail: AMIFC@customs.gov.au	+61-2-6275-6000	+61-2-6275-6275
Bangladesh		
Department of Shipping E-mail: dosdgbdbd@bttb.net.bd	+88-02-9554206	+88-02-7168363
Brunei		
National Maritime Coordination Centre (NMCC) Email: P2MK@jpm.gov.bn	+67-3223-3751 +67-3717-6322	+67-3223-3753
Cambodia		
Merchant Marine Department E-mail: mmd@online.com.kh	+85-5-2386-4110	+85-5-2386-4110
China		
China Maritime Search and Rescue Centre (Beijing) Email: cnmrcc@mot.gov.cn	+86-10-6529-2218 +86-10-6529-2219 +86-10-6529-2221	+86-10-6529-2245
Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (Hong Kong) Email: hkmrcc@mardep.gov.hk	+85-2-2233-7999 +85-2-2233-7998	+85-2-2541-7714
Denmark		
Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) Email: ReCAAP-FP-DK@dma.dk	+45-9137-6000	+45-9137-6001
India		
MRCC (Mumbai) Coast Guard Region (West) Mumbai – India Email: icgmrcc_mumbai@mtnl.net.in mrcc-west@indiancoastguard.nic.in	+91-22-2431-6558 +91-22-2438-8065	+91-22-2433-3727 +91-22-2431-6558
Japan		
Japan Coast Guard (JCG) Ops Centre Email: op@kaiho.mlit.go.jp	+81-3-3591-9812 +81-3-3591-6361	+81-3-3581-2853
Republic of Korea		
Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries Operations Centre Email: piracy@gicom.s.go.kr	+82-44-200-5895 to 98	+82-44-200-5886 to 88
Laos		
Department of Foreign Relations Ministry of Public Security Email: keomps@yahoo.com	+85-6-2121-2505	+85-6-2121-2505 +85-6-2121-2547



Contact Details of ReCAAP Focal Points / Contact Point

Country & Agency In Charge	Point of Contact	
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Dutch Coastguard Maritime Information Centre (MIK-NL) Email: mik-nl@kustwacht.nl	+31-223-658-101	+31-223-658-358
Norway		
Norwegian Maritime Authority Email: morten.alsaker.lossius@sjofartsdir.no	+47-5274-5130 +47-5274-5000	+47-5274-5001
Philippines		
Philippine Coast Guard PCG Action Centre-MRCC (Manila) PCG Hot Text Email: pcg_cg2@yahoo.com cg2@coastguard.gov.ph isc.cg2@coastguard.gov.ph	+63-2-527-3877 +63-2-527-8481 to 89 (ext: 6136/6137) +63-917-724-3682 (Text Hotline)	+63-2-527-3877
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Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Port Operations Control Centre (POCC) Email: pocc@mpa.gov.sg	+65-6226-5539 +65-6325-2493	+65-6227-9971 +65-6224-5776
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Royal Thai Navy Maritime Information Sharing Centre (MISC) Email: miscdutyofficer@misc.go.th	+66-2475-5432	+66-2475-4577
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Correct as at 1 February 2014