



Website : www.recaap.org
Tel : +65 6376 3063
Fax : +65 6376 3066
Email : info@recaap.org

ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 21 – 27 February 2017

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

For the period of 21-27 Feb 17, one attempted incident of abduction of crew from a bulk carrier while underway in the Sulu-Celebes Sea was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The location of the incident is shown in the map below; and detailed description tabulated in attachment.



Location of incident (21 – 27 Feb 17)

RECOMMENDATIONS

The ReCAAP ISC urges ship master and crew to report all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships to the nearest coastal State and flag State, exercise vigilance and adopt relevant preventive measures taking reference from the *Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia*.

The ReCAAP ISC reiterates its advisory issued via the *ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert* dated 21 November 2016 to all ships to re-route from the area, where possible. Otherwise, ship masters and crew are strongly urged to exercise extra vigilance while transiting the Sulu-Celebes Sea and eastern Sabah region, and report immediately to the following Centres:



Contact details of the centres

**Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships
21 to 27 February 2017**

NO	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Local time of Incident (LT)	Position of the Incident	Details of the Incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A. ACTUAL INCIDENT									
1.	<i>Donghae Star</i> Bulk carrier Panama 45026 9592604	22/02/17 1345 hrs	5° 38.09' N 119° 36.63' E About 10.4nm southwest of Pearl Bank and 37.8 nm northwest of LMS Bongao, Tawi- Tawi, Philippines	While underway, the ship spotted three fast boats painted in black with five perpetrators on board wearing black. The boats were heading towards the ship's direction at a speed of about 20.5 knots chasing after the ship. Immediately, the crew contacted the Philippine Navy-Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS), Bongao in the area through radio. After which, the fast boats slowed down their speed. The ship proceeded to its next port of call with no untoward incident. The Philippine Navy (PN) informed the Joint Task Force Tawi-Tawi (JTFTT) and deployed PN vessels to continue patrols in the vicinity of Pearl Bank and approaches.	The crew was not injured. No items were stolen.	Reported the incident to Philippine authorities	Yes Philippine Navy (PN)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	Philippine Navy informed the Joint Task Force Tawi-Tawi and deployed PN vessel PS 35 to conduct maritime patrol and verify the report.