



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

ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 4-10 Jul 2017

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 4-10 Jul 17, no incident of piracy and armed robbery against ship was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. However, there was an update from the ReCAAP Focal Point for Philippines on Royal 16.

Update of *ROYAL 16*

The ReCAAP ISC Focal Point (Philippines)-the Philippines Coast Guard (PCG), reported to the ReCAAP ISC that, around 0500 hrs 5 Jul 17, the Philippine Military found the beheaded bodies of two abducted Vietnamese crew of a Vietnam flag bulk carrier, *Royal 16* at Sitio Limbutulan, Brgy Tumahubong, Sumisip Basilan, Province. The bulk carrier, *Royal 16*, was boarded by 10 armed men on 11 Nov 16 who abducted its six crew. On 16 Jun 17, while the government troops were conducting military operations, they successfully rescued and recovered one of the crew in Sumipsip, Basilan, Philippines. To date, the remaining **three** crew of *Royal 6* are still being held in captivity. The incident was reported and updated in previous ReCAAP ISC Weekly Reports covering the period of 8-14 Nov 16 and 13-19 Jun 17 respectively.

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