



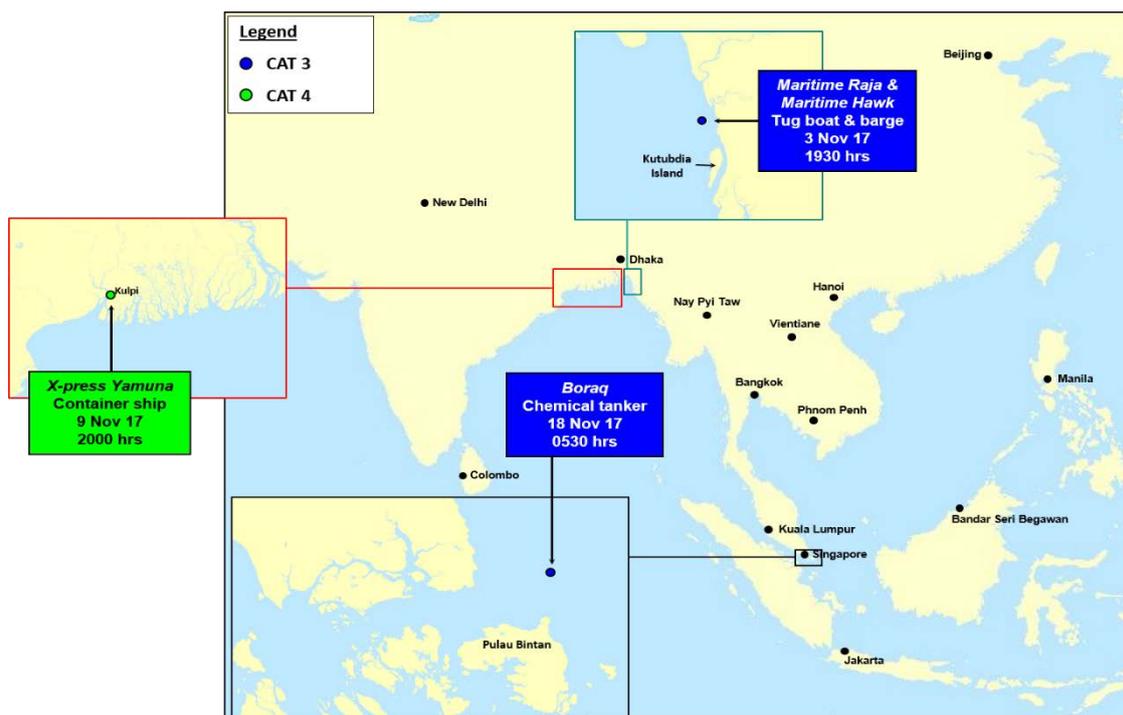
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## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 14-20 November 2017

### Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

#### OVERVIEW

During the period of 14-20 Nov 17, three incidents of armed robbery against ships were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The location of the incidents is shown in the map below; and detailed description tabulated in attachment.



Location of incidents

#### Update on *MT Tosa*

The ReCAAP ISC in its Weekly Report covering the period of 7-13 Nov 17 reported an attempted boarding of VLCC *Tosa* on 13 Nov 17 in the Arabian Sea. On 20 Nov 17, the ReCAAP Focal Point (India) submitted an Amplified Report (AR) to the ReCAAP ISC stating that after a thorough investigation by the Indian authorities, the incident was not attempted piracy. The investigation outcome is described in the attachment.

## 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 reporting centres

**Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships  
14-20 November 2017**

	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 Internationa l Organizatio n	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENTS</b>									
1	<p><b>Maritime Raja</b> Tug boat Singapore 476 9348132</p> <p><b>Maritime Hawk</b> Barge Singapore 2225</p>	3/11/17 1930 hrs	22°10' N, 91°48.44' E  Kutubdia Anchorage, Bangladesh	<p>While underway, the master of the tug boat sighted two small boats with unknown number of perpetrators on board at port side of the barge under their tow. The perpetrators attempted to climb into the barge port quarter using a ladder. The master manoeuvred his tug boat to warn the perpetrators to move away. He then flashed the search light at one of the perpetrators who managed to climb onto the barge. However, he fled when his presence was discovered. When the barge was cleared of perpetrators, the crew of the tug boat boarded the barge and found weapons like knife and metal hacksaw on board. While checking on the barge, the tug boat crew observed that the small boats are still in the vicinity at about 200 metres away from the barge.</p> <p>About an hour later, due to bad weather and upon instruction from the Control Centre, the tug boat master casted off his boat from the barge, so he could bring his tug boat closer to port limit. Noting that the tug boat was moving closer to the port limit, the suspected boats appeared again and approached faster towards the barge. The master immediately manoeuvred the tug boat and flashed the search light to warn the perpetrators to move</p>	<p>The crew was not injured.</p> <p>The locked pallet of the barge was broken.</p> <p>Items stored in one pallet and towing rope with Norwegian buoy were stolen.</p>	<p>The master manoeuvred his tug boat and flashed the search light in two occasions to warn the perpetrators/ suspected boats to move away.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Bangladesh Coast Guard (BCG)</p>	<p>ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)</p>	<p>The BCG went to the location of the incident that prompted the perpetrators to fled.</p>

				<p>away. The boats disappeared only when officers from the Bangladesh Coast Guard arrived in the vicinity.</p> <p>It was found out later that the locked pallet was broken, and items stored in the pallet were found missing. The towing rope with Norwegian buoy was also found missing.</p>					
2	<b>X-press Yamuna</b> Container ship Singapore 10752 9152909	9/11/17 2000 hrs	22°4.86' N, 88°13.44' E  Kulpi anchorage, Kolkata port, India	<p>While at anchor, the crew before proceeding to the next port of call secured the deck and discovered that three mooring ropes were missing from the aft deck. The master and crew conducted a detailed search and no perpetrators were found. The crew was not injured and there was no damage to ship.</p> <p>The incident was reported to the ship's agent, Company Security Officer (CSO) and the local police.</p>	<p>The crew was not injured.</p> <p>Three mooring ropes from poop deck were missing.</p>	The master reported the incident to the ship's agent, CSO and to the local police.	Yes  Local police	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available.
3	<b>Boraq</b> Chemical tanker Saudi Arabia 29576 9247065	18/11/17 0530 hrs	1° 25.63' N, 104° 35.24' E  Approximately 12 nm north of Tanjung Berakit, Bintan Island, Indonesia	<p>While at anchor, the crew sighted three perpetrators armed with knives at the stern part of the ship making an attempt to escape.</p>	<p>The crew was not injured.</p> <p>One breathing apparatus compressor was stolen.</p>	The master reported the incident to the local agent in Singapore and to the Singapore's Port Operation Control Centre (POCC).	Yes  POCC Singapore	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	The POCC initiated the navigational broadcasting of the incident and notified the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), Singapore Police Coast Guard and the Indonesian authority.
<b>INCIDENT NOT CONSIDERED ATTEMPTED PIRACY</b>									
4.	<b>MT Tosa</b> VLCC Japan 15993 9343388	13/11/17 1500 hrs	13.0; 38.0' N 70.0; 55.0' E  194 nm southwest of Panjim (Goa) LT, India	<p>In the previous report, the master of VLCC <b>MT Tosa</b> reported to the coastal authorities about a suspicious approach by a mother boat with two skiffs on 13 Nov 17 at about 194 nm southwest of Panjim (Goa) LT, India.</p> <p>Upon receipt of the information, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG)</p>			Yes  MRSC New Mangalore and MRCC Mumbai	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	<p>Investigation was carried out by the Indian authorities.</p> <p>The incident of suspicious approach and attempted boarding was false.</p>

			<p>who is also the ReCAAP Focal Point conducted further investigation and established contact with <i>MSC Genova</i>, another merchant ship in the vicinity. <i>MT Tosa</i> has reportedly alerted <i>MSC Genova</i> about the mother boat and skiffs. <i>MSC Genova</i> was on a parallel course with <i>MT Tosa</i> on 13 Nov; and <i>MSC Genova</i> upon receipt of the alert from <i>Tosa</i>, closely monitored the mother ship and skiffs, but did not find anything suspicious and observed that they were adrift fishing trawlers.</p> <p>The ICG and the Indian Navy (IN) commenced air surveillance sorties in the area. The IN boarded the boats and verified their documents. It was confirmed that they are legitimate Indian fishing trawlers and nothing suspicious was found.</p> <p>The Indian authorities supported the observations of <i>MSC Genova</i>. The incident of suspicious approach and attempted boarding of <i>Tosa</i> was false.</p>					
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