Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During the period of 2 to 8 Jan 18, one incident which occurred on 31 Dec 17 was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The location of the incident is shown in the map below; and detailed description tabulated in 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

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Philippine Coast Guard District Southwestern Mindanao Operation Centre  
+63 929686 4129  
+63 916626 0689  
VHF: Channel 16 with call sign “ENVI”  
Email: hegdswn@yahoo.com

Navy - Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS)  
Bongao, Tawi-Tawi  
+63 917774 2293  
VHF: Channel 16  
Email: jointtaskgrouptt@gmail.com

Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)  
Tel: +60 89863181/016  
Fax: +60 89863182  
VHF: Channel 16 with call sign “ESSCOM”  
Email: biliikgerakanesscom@jpm.gov.my
## Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships
### 2 – 8 January 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCIDENT IN ASIA</th>
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| **1.** **Crest Spartan 8**  
Tug boat  
Singapore  
595  
9596894  
**Crest 252**  
Barge |
| 31/12/17  
0400 hrs | 21° 49.96’ N,  
91° 34.60’ E  
Approximately 13 nm west of Kutubdia Island, Bangladesh |
| While the tug boat towing barge was underway to Maishakali, the Second Officer spotted a small boat approaching the barge. The master instructed the crew to continue their watch and to attempt to make contact with the local naval force and coast guard. The communication was without success. The small boat continued its voyage behind the barge until at about 0430 hrs, it eventually moved away from barge. The master then instructed the crew to move alongside the barge and the crew went on board to conduct a search. They found some items missing from the barge, including an emergency pennant wire, emergency chaffing chain and manhole covers. The crew continued their voyage towards Maishakali. | The crew was not injured.  
An emergency pennant wire, emergency chaffing chain and manhole covers were stolen. | The master instructed the crew to continue their watch.  
A search on board the barge was conducted thereafter. | The crew attempted to contact the local naval force and coast guard. The comms was without success. | ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) | - |