Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 12-18 Jun 18, one incident of armed robbery against ships was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The location of the incident is shown in the map below; and detailed description of the incident is tabulated in attachment.
Incident occurred outside Asia

Included in this report was an incident of armed robbery against ships occurred at Takoradi anchorage in Ghana on 13 Jun 18. The incident was reported to the ReCAAP ISC by ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore).

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*.

Situation of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas

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 Seas and eastern Sabah region, and report immediately to the following 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 “ENVY”

Email: hgdswm@yahoo.com

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**Navy – Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS)**

Bongao, Tawi-Tawi

+63 917774 2293

VHF: Channel 16

Email: jointtaskgrouptt@gmail.com

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**Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)**

Tel: +60 89863181/016

Fax: +60 89863182

VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign “ESSCOM”

Email: bilikgerakanesscom@sjpn.gov.my

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Contact details of the reporting centres
### Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships 12-18 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ship Name</th>
<th>Type of Ship</th>
<th>Flag</th>
<th>Gross Tonnage</th>
<th>IMO Number</th>
<th>Date Local time of Incident (LT)</th>
<th>Position of Incident</th>
<th>Details of the Incident</th>
<th>Consequences for crew, ship, cargo</th>
<th>Action taken by the master and crew</th>
<th>Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?</th>
<th>Reporting State or International Organization</th>
<th>Coastal State Action Taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Lee Bo</td>
<td>Tanker</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>01/06/18 0300 hrs</td>
<td>2° 18.61' N, 104° 14.85' E</td>
<td>Approximately 6.5 nm east of Pulau Tinggi, Malaysia</td>
<td>While underway, the Chief Officer on duty detected a small boat alongside the ship. Shortly thereafter, 14 perpetrators armed with knives and machetes boarded the ship.</td>
<td>Two crew was slightly injured.</td>
<td>The personal belongings of the crew were taken.</td>
<td>Reported the incident to Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA).</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MMEA</td>
<td>ReCAAP ISC via MMEA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ACTUAL INCIDENTS IN ASIA**

1. **Lee Bo**
   - **Type of Ship**: Tanker
   - **Flag**: Mongolia
   - **Gross Tonnage**: 01/06/18 0300 hrs
   - **Position of Incident**: 2° 18.61' N, 104° 14.85' E
   - **Details of the Incident**: While underway, the Chief Officer on duty detected a small boat alongside the ship. Shortly thereafter, 14 perpetrators armed with knives and machetes boarded the ship. 

   Upon realizing that the ship did not carry any oil cargo, the perpetrators robbed all the 12 crew (Indonesians and Sri Lankans) of their personal belongings. Two crew were slightly injured in the process.

   The MMEA upon receipt information of the incident, immediately deployed its ship KM Sebatik, Agusta Westland AW139 helicopter and the Special Task and Rescue (STAR) Team to the location of the incident. The team boarded the ship, arrested the 14 perpetrators, and brought them to Mersing Maritime Zone for further investigation.

   With the cooperation of the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI), two suspects believed to be masterminds (aged between 40 to 50) were arrested in Batam, Indonesia on the same day.
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong> Name Withheld</td>
<td>Tug/supply ship</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>13/06/18 0245 hrs</td>
<td>Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana</td>
<td>4° 53.6' N, 1° 42.3' W</td>
<td>While at anchor, the officer-on-watch observed a fishing boat with two men on board proceeding close to the ship; and one perpetrator on board the ship attempting to pass the enclosed alleyway that runs the length of the cargo deck. The alarm was raised, and upon hearing the alarm, the perpetrator ran along the enclosed passageway on the port side and jumped from the side of the ship at the rescue zone. The crew was not injured, and no items were stolen.</td>
<td>The crew was not injured. No items were stolen.</td>
<td>The alarm was raised.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)</td>
<td>No information available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA**