



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

ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 22-28 October 2019

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 22-28 Oct 19, three incidents of armed robbery against ship in Asia were reported to ReCAAP ISC by ReCAAP Focal Points. One was a CAT 2¹ incident in the Singapore Strait, one was a CAT 4² at Cigading Anchorage, Indonesia and the third was an attempted³ incident also occurred in the Singapore Strait. The location of the incidents is shown in the map below; and detailed description is tabulated in attachment.



Location of the incidents

¹ The ReCAAP ISC classifies CAT (Category) 2 incident as moderately significant. Under this category, the perpetrators are likely to be armed with knives/machetes and in some incidents armed with guns. The crew is threatened or held hostage temporarily and, in some cases, the crew suffered injury and physical violence.

² CAT (Category) 4 incident is classified as “least significant” in nature. Under this category, the perpetrators were not armed and the crew not harmed.


³ Attempted incident is incident where perpetrators tried but failed to board the ship.

SITUATION IN THE SINGAPORE STRAIT

Concerning the incidents occurred in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait, ReCAAP ISC recommends to refer to its Incident Alert issued on 23 Oct 19.

SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULU-CELEBES SEAS AND WATERS OFF EASTERN SABAH

As the risk of the abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Sabah is high, ReCAAP ISC reiterates its advisory issued via ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert dated 21 Nov 16 to all ships to reroute from the area, where possible. Otherwise, ship masters and crew are strongly urged to exercise extra vigilance while transiting the area, and report immediately to the Operation Centres of Philippines and Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) of Malaysia. The contact details of the Operation Centres of the Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia (updated by ReCAAP ISC on 3 Jan 19) are as follows:



The map shows the Sulu Sea to the north and the Celebes Sea to the south. Key locations marked include Lahad Datu, Bongao, and Zamboanga. Contact points are indicated by numbered circles: 1 (Philippine Coast Guard District Southwestern Mindanao), 2a (Philippine Coast Guard Station, Bongao), 2b (Philippine Navy - Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS), Bongao), and 3 (Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)).

- 1 Philippine Coast Guard District Southwestern Mindanao**
Tel: +63 998 585 7972
+63 917 842 8446
VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign "NEPTUNE"
Email: hcgdswm@yahoo.com
- 2a Philippine Coast Guard Station, Bongao (Central Tawi-Tawi)**
Tel: +63 998 585 7941
+63 917 842 8402
VHF: Channel 16
Email: cgd_tawi2@yahoo.com
- 2b Philippine Navy - Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS), Bongao, Tawi-Tawi**
Tel: +63 955 714 0153
VHF: Channel 16
Email: jointtaskgroup@gmail.com
- 3 Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)**
Tel: +60 89863181/016
Fax: +60 89863182
VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign "ESSCOM"
Email: bilikgerakan_esscom@jpm.gov.my

Contact details

In the event that the ship master is not able to establish contact with the Operation Centres of the Philippines as listed in the ReCAAP ISC Advisory, he can contact the **Philippine Coast Guard Command Centre** at the following contact details:

Tel: +63-2-5273877 (direct)
+63-2-527-8481 to 89 (ext: 6136/37)
+63-917-724-3682 (mobile)
+63-929-825-3207 (mobile)

Email: pcgcomcen@coastguard.gov.ph

The ReCAAP ISC advises the shipping industry and ships to enhance their situation awareness by referring to the *Guidance on Abduction of Crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and Waters off Eastern Sabah* produced by ReCAAP ISC in July 2019. The Guidance is available at www.recaap.org.

RECOMMENDATION

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*.

**Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships
22-28 October 19**

1	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	2 Date Local Time of Incident (LT)	3 Position of the Incident	4 Details of the Incident	5 Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	6 Action taken by the master and crew	7 Was the incident reported to coastal authority? Which one?	8 Reporting State or International Organization	9 Coastal State Taken	10 Action
INCIDENTS IN ASIA										
ACTUAL INCIDENTS										
1.	Nord Steel Bulk carrier Singapore 90086 9406518 Check IMO number	19/10/19 0100 hrs	1° 3.45' N, 103° 38.69' E South of Nipa Transit Anchorage, in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme of the Singapore Strait. (SOMS)	While underway, the duty oiler sighted five perpetrators armed with gun and jungle knife on deck. They threatened the duty oiler and tied his hands. They stole engine spares (piston rings, oil rings, valve seats, valve spindles, crankpin bearing shell, delivery valves, repair kits, oil rings, etc) and escaped through the steering room. The duty oiler informed the master who raised the general alarm and reported the incident to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS), and the ship manager. (Category 2)	The crew was not injured. Engine spares were stolen.	The master raised the general alarm and contacted Singapore VTIS and informed the ship manager.	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)		
2.	CSK Enterprise Bulk carrier Singapore 107449 9816555	22/10/19 0047 hrs	6° 1.3' S 105° 53.8' E Cigading Anchorage, Indonesia	While anchored, the duty officer sighted four perpetrators at the engine room. The ship whistle was sounded, an announcement was made through the PA system. The perpetrators escaped from the port quarter using a speed boat. The master organized a security team to patrol the ship and conduct further check to confirm that the situation is safe with no signs of unauthorized persons on board the ship. (Category 4)	The crew was not injured. The padlocks were damaged.	The master organized a ship security team to patrol the ship and conduct further check to confirm that there is no unauthorised person on board.	Yes	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information.	

	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 coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
ATTEMPTED INCIDENT									
1	NCC Amal Chemical tanker Saudi Arabia 29,168 9411317	25/10/19 0515 hrs	1° 2.96' N 103° 38.0' E Approximately, 4.9 nm west of Pulau Cula, Indonesia, in the east bound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme of the Singapore Strait. (SOMS)	While underway, four perpetrators from a small boat attempted to board the ship from starboard quarter. The alarm was raised and the attempt to board the ship was aborted. The small boat sped away. The master reported the incident to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS). The ship assumed her voyage with all crew safe.	The crew is safe	The master raised the alarm and reported the incident to Singapore VTIS	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	The Singapore Navy and Singapore Police Coast Guard were notified. Indonesian Authority was also notified. Safe navigational broadcast was initiated.