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## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 23-29 Apr 19

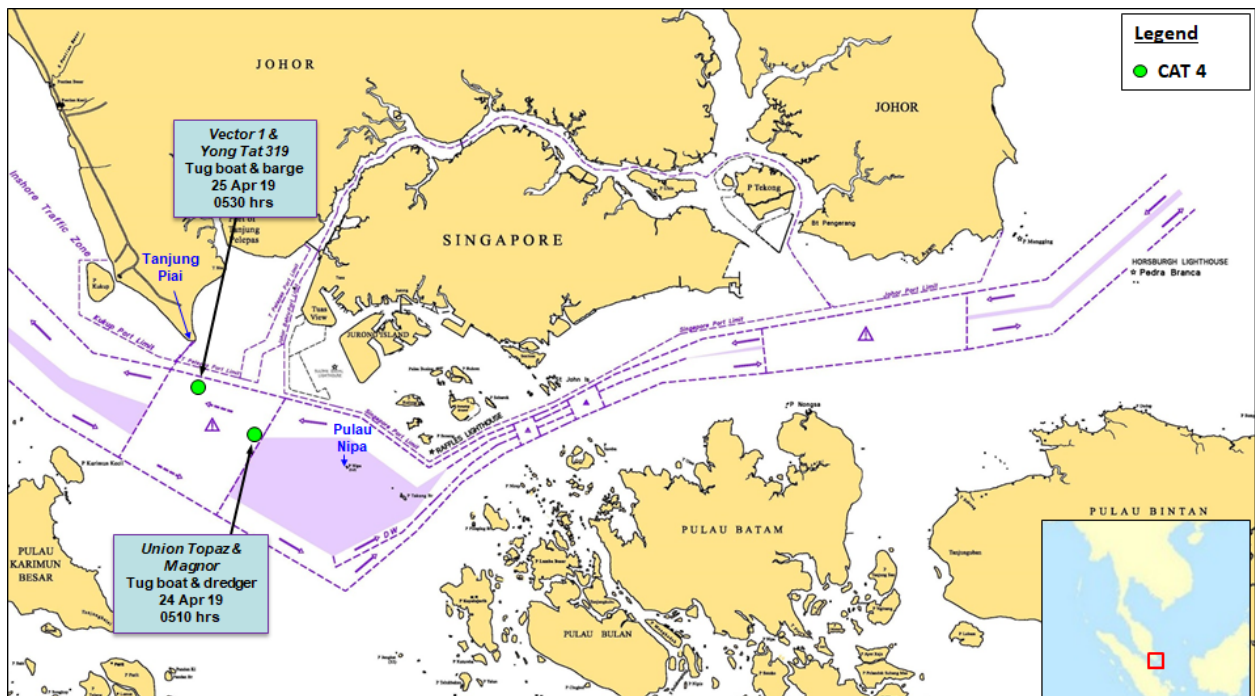
### Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

#### OVERVIEW

#### Incidents in Asia

During 23-29 Apr 19, two actual incidents of armed robbery against ships in Asia were reported to ReCAAP ISC. Both incidents occurred in the westbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in the Singapore Strait on 24 and 25 Apr 19.

The location of the incidents is shown in the map below; and detailed description of the incidents is tabulated in attachment.




Location of incidents

## Incident outside Asia

The Focal Point (Singapore) reported to ReCAAP ISC an incident of armed robbery against ship that occurred outside Asia. The incident occurred on board a crude oil tanker on 25 Apr 19 while anchored at Jose Terminal Anchorage in Venezuela. The detailed description of the incident is tabulated in attachment.

## SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULU-CELEBES SEAS

As the threat of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off eastern Sabah remains, ReCAAP ISC maintains its advisory issued via the *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 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 near Zamboanga, 2a and 2b near Bongao, and 3 near Lahad Datu.

- 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bilikgerakan_esscom@jpm.gov.my)

## 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  
23-29 April 2019**

	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 International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>INCIDENTS IN ASIA</b>									
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENTS</b>									
1.	<b>Union Topaz</b> Tug boat Cyprus 2312 9406427  <b>Magnor</b> Backhoe dredger Cyprus	24/04/19 0510 hrs	1° 10.63' N, 103° 34.3' E  Approximately 5 nm west- north-west of Nipa island, Indonesia (westbound lane of TSS in Singapore Strait)	While the tug boat towing a backhoe dredger was underway, two perpetrators boarded the dredger. Two wooden boats were sighted alongside the backhoe dredger. The master shone light at the backhoe dredger, and the two perpetrators escaped via the wooden boats. The crew was safe and no items were stolen.	The crew was not injured.  No items were stolen.	The master shone light at the backhoe dredger.  The pilot on board the tug boat reported the incident to Singapore VTIS.	Yes  Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore VTIS initiated the safety navigational broadcast and notified the Singapore Police Coast Guard, the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and the Indonesian authority.
2.	<b>Vector 1</b> Tug boat Malaysia 106 5330005  <b>Yong Tat 319</b> Barge	25/04/19 0530 hrs	1° 13.33' N, 103° 31.02' E  Off Tanjung Piai, Malaysia (westbound lane of TSS in Singapore Strait)	While the tug boat towing barge was underway, three to four perpetrators boarded the barge. The master reported the incident to Singapore VTIS who informed the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA). The crew was safe and no items were stolen.	The crew was not injured.  No items were stolen.	The master reported the incident to Singapore VTIS.	Yes  Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore VTIS informed MMEA.
<b>INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA</b>									
3.	<b>Torm Hilde</b> Crude oil tanker Singapore 64459 9798014	25/04/19 2200 hrs	10° 12.3' N, 64° 45.9' W  Jose Terminal Anchorage, Venezuela	While at anchor, the duty AB spotted six perpetrators on board the ship during his round on bridge wing. The alarm was raised and the perpetrators escaped. A search on board the ship was later conducted. All seals and doors were found secured. The crew was not injured and nothing was stolen.	The crew was not injured.  No items were stolen.	The alarm was raised and a search on board the ship was later conducted.  The master reported the incident to CSO and local agents, who informed the local authorities.	Yes  Local authorities	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available