Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

Incidents in Asia

During 26 Mar-1 Apr 19, one actual incident and one attempted incident of armed robbery against ships in Asia were reported to ReCAAP ISC. The incidents occurred on 26 Mar 19 and 25 Feb 19 respectively. The attempted incident on 25 Feb 19 was reported to ReCAAP ISC by Focal Point (Singapore) after verification with the relevant agencies.

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

The Focal Point (Singapore) reported to ReCAAP ISC two incidents of armed robbery against ships that occurred outside Asia. The incidents occurred on board the same ship on 24 Mar 19 and 30 Mar 19 while anchored at Secured Anchorage Area and STS Area respectively; both in Lagos, Nigeria. The detailed description of the incidents 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:

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

2. Philippine Coast Guard Station, Bongao (Central Tawi-Tawi)
   - Tel: +63 998 585 7941
   - +63 917 842 8402
   - VHF: Channel 16
   - Email: cgds_tawi2@yahoo.com

3. Philippine Navy – Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS), Bongao, Tawi-Tawi
   - Tel: +63 955 714 0153
   - VHF: Channel 16
   - Email: jointtaskgroup@gmail.com

4. Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)
   - Tel: +60 89863181/016
   - Fax: +60 89863182
   - VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign “ESSCOM”
   - Email: bilikgerakan_esscom@pm.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

26 March - 1 Apr 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ship Name</th>
<th>Type of Ship</th>
<th>Flag</th>
<th>Gross Tonnage IMO</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Local time of Incident (LT)</th>
<th>Position of the 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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCIDENTS IN ASIA</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>1. <strong>Nakhal Silver</strong>&lt;br&gt;Product tanker Marshall Islands 29354 9718765</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)</td>
<td>No information available.</td>
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<td>26/03/19 2030 hrs 13°44' N, 121°2.01' E Batangas Anchorage Alpha, Philippines</td>
<td>While at anchor, a perpetrator boarded the ship through the anchor chain by breaking the padlock of the anchor chain pipe securing arrangement. The duty A/B sighted the perpetrator and informed the OOW. The general alarm was raised, and crew mustered. The crew went to the forecastle to investigate and the perpetrator jumped overboard.</td>
<td>The crew was not injured. The ship’s bell was stolen.</td>
<td>The master reported the incident to the local port authority</td>
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<td><strong>ATTEMPTED INCIDENT</strong></td>
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<td>2. <strong>Name withheld</strong> Bulk carrier Liberia 36322 25/02/19 1806 hrs 3°43.1S, 114°26.3E Taboneo Anchorage, South Kalimantan, Indonesia</td>
<td>While at anchor, the duty watchman on routine rounds noticed two perpetrators attempting to board the ship via the anchor chain. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. The perpetrators escaped in a waiting skiff.</td>
<td>The crew was not injured. No items were stolen.</td>
<td>The master reported the incident to the local port authority</td>
<td>Yes Coastal State (Taboneo Port Control)</td>
<td>ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)</td>
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<td><strong>INCIDENTS OUTSIDE ASIA</strong></td>
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<td>3. <strong>Nord Steady</strong> Product tanker Singapore 29983 9629706 24/03/19 2335 hrs 6°15.2'N, 3°12.3'E Secured Anchorage Area, Lagos, Nigeria</td>
<td>While at anchor, the duty watchman discovered two perpetrators hiding behind the bollards. The crew reported the incident to the Nigerian Navy, and the Navy despatched a patrol boat. Gun shots were heard. The Navy apprehended the perpetrators. About 70 MT of cargo was stolen from one port and one starboard tank. The crew was not injured.</td>
<td>The crew was not injured. Around 70 MT of cargo was stolen from one port and one starboard tank.</td>
<td>Reported the incident to the Nigerian Navy.</td>
<td>Yes Nigerian Navy and Flag State (Singapore)</td>
<td>ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)</td>
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<td>4. <strong>Nord Steady</strong> Product tanker Singapore 29983 9629706</td>
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<td>30/03/19 0410 hrs</td>
<td>6° 18.9'N, 3° 17.4'E STS Area, Lagos, Nigeria</td>
<td>While the ship was at anchor carrying out a ship-to-ship operation, the duty watch keeper saw two perpetrators near the vessel cargo tank. The perpetrators escaped into a waiting boat when their presence was discovered.</td>
<td>The crew was not injured. No items were stolen.</td>
<td>No information available.</td>
<td>No information available.</td>
<td>ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)</td>
<td>No information available.</td>
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