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ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 28 May- 3 June 2019

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 28 May- 3 Jun 19, two Category 4¹ incidents of armed robbery against ship in Asia and one attempted² piracy incident were reported to ReCAAP ISC.

The first Category 4 incident occurred on 29 May 19 in Cigading port in Indonesia involving a bulk carrier *CSK Enterprise*. The duty oiler discovered two unauthorised persons in the steering room during his safety patrol. The alarm was raised and the persons fled with some spare engine parts.

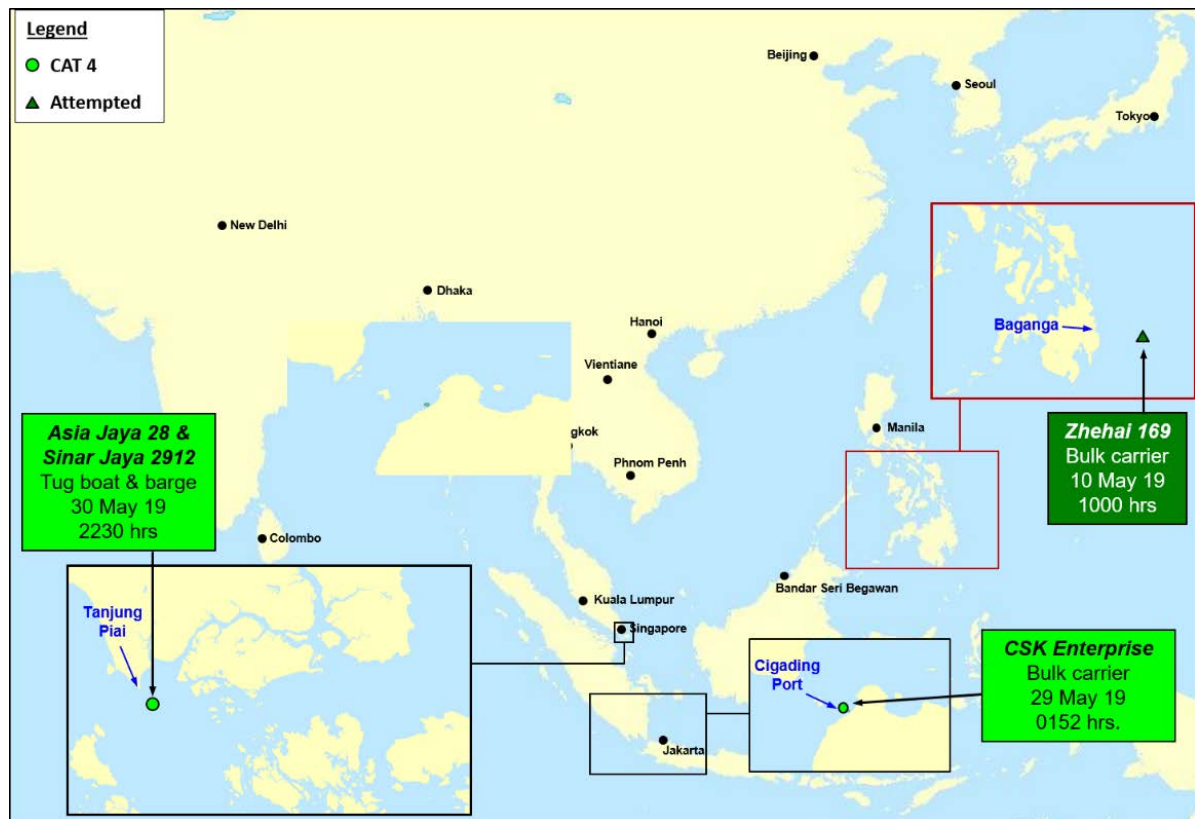
The second Category 4 incident occurred on 30 May 19 in the Singapore Strait involving tug boat, *Asia Jaya 28* towing barge, *Sinar Jaya 2912*. The ships were underway at approximately 3.4 nm southeast off Tanjung Piai, Malaysia in the westbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) of the Singapore Strait when an unknown number of perpetrators boarded the barge. The perpetrators stole some tools from the barge and escaped in a small craft. This is the 6th incident that occurred in close proximity to each other in the western sector of the Singapore Strait during the period of February to May 2019. All six incidents occurred to tug boats towing barges while underway in the westbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS).

The attempted incident occurred on 10 May 19 at approximately 120 nm east of Banganga, Philippines. This is the first time an incident in that area was reported to ReCAAP ISC. The incident involved 10 perpetrators who attempted to board a bulk carrier but failed due to the piracy countermeasures adopted by the crew.

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

¹ ReCAAP ISC classifies Category 4 as the least significant incident. Under this category, the perpetrators are not armed, and the crew not harmed.


² Attempted incidents are incidents where pirates/robbers tried but failed to board the ship.



Location of incidents

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. Contact point 1 is located near Zamboanga. Contact points 2a and 2b are located near Bongao. Contact point 3 is located 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
- 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

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
29 May- 3 June 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
INCIDENTS IN ASIA									
ACTUAL INCIDENT									
1.	CSK Enterprise Bulk carrier Singapore 107449 9816555	29/5/19 0152 hrs	5° 59.8' N, 105° 57.8' E Berth D6, Cigading Port, Indonesia	While at berth, duty oiler found two perpetrators in the steering room during his safety patrol. He raised the alarm and the perpetrators escaped. The steering room lock was broken and some spare engine parts were stolen. (Category 4)	The crew was not injured. The lock to the steering room was broken and some spare engine parts were stolen.	The master raised the alarm and the crew conducted the searched. The master informed the CSO and local agents who later reported incident to the local authorities.	Yes Local port authorities	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available.
2.	Asia Jaya 28 Tug boat Malaysia 145 9517501 Sinar Jaya 2912 Barge Malaysia	30/5/19 2230 hrs	1° 13.25' N, 103° 32.75' E Approximately 3.4 nm southeast of Tanjung Piai, Malaysia (westbound lane of TSS in Singapore Strait) (SOMS)	While the tug boat towing barge was en route from Tawau, Malaysia to Penang, Malaysia, the master of the tug boat reported to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS) via VHF that an unknown number of perpetrators had boarded the barge on tow. The perpetrators escaped in a small craft, with some small tools stolen from the barge. (Category 4)	The crew was not injured. Some small tools were stolen from the barge.	The master of the tug boat reported the incident to Singapore VTIS via VHF and raised the alarm.	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore VTIS initiated the safety navigational broadcast and notified the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), Singapore Police Coast Guard and the Malaysian authority.
ATTEMPTED INCIDENT									
3.	Zhehai 169 Bulk carrier China 56635 9622784	10/5/19 1000 hrs	7°40.8' N, 128° 29.3' E Approximately 120 nm east of Banganga, Philippines (Pacific Ocean)	While underway, 10 perpetrators in five high-speed wooden boats approached the bulk carrier at a speed of 15 knots and attempted to board the ship. The perpetrators were observed to be carrying iron hooks, and were shouting at the scene.	The crew was not injured. No items were stolen.	The ship mustered the crew and used fire hoses on the perpetrators who later aborted the attempt to board the ship.	Yes Zhejiang MRCC	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (China)	No information available.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				The ship adopted emergency response by mustering the crew and using fire hoses on the perpetrators to force them to retreat. After an hour, the perpetrators aborted the attempt to board the ship.					