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ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 3-9 September 2019

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW


During 3-9 Sep 19, one attempted incident of armed robbery against ship was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The incident occurred to a tanker while anchored at Tanjung Uban anchorage, Pulau Bintan, Indonesia on 7 Aug 19. Refer to map below for the location of the incident. The detailed description of the incident is tabulated in the attachment.



Approximate location of incident

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 as demonstrated by the abduction of nine crew¹ on 18 Jun 19, the ReCAAP ISC reiterates 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 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 (point 3), Bongao (points 2a and 2b), and Zamboanga (point 1).

- 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

¹ The nine abducted crew were released on 21 Jun 19.

Guidance on the Abduction of Crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and Waters off Eastern Sabah

The ReCAAP ISC has produced the “*Guidance on the Abduction of Crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and Waters off Eastern Sabah*” to assist the shipping industry and ships to enhance their situation awareness and avoid such incidents. The Guidance consists of advisory on the measures to be taken by the ships transiting the area, including contact details and the Notice to Mariners (NOTAM) issued by the Philippines and Malaysia. It also shares the analysis of incidents based on information collected from past incidents. The Guidance can be found 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
3-9 Sep 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
INCIDENT IN ASIA									
ATTEMPTED INCIDENT									
1.	SG Pegasus Chemical tanker Panama 8195 9494876	07/08/19 0300 hrs	1° 6.2' N, 104° 10.7' E Tanjung Uban anchorage, Pulau Bintan, Indonesia	While at anchor, three perpetrators using grappling hooks attempted to board the chemical tanker from a small craft with outboard engine. Upon sighting of the perpetrators, the crew sounded the ship's horn and general alarm. The perpetrators subsequently aborted the attempt. The crew was safe and nothing was stolen. The incident was reported to the local port authority.	The crew was safe. Nothing was stolen.	Sounded the ship's horn and general alarm.	Yes Local port authority	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available