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## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report

### 25 February-2 March 2020

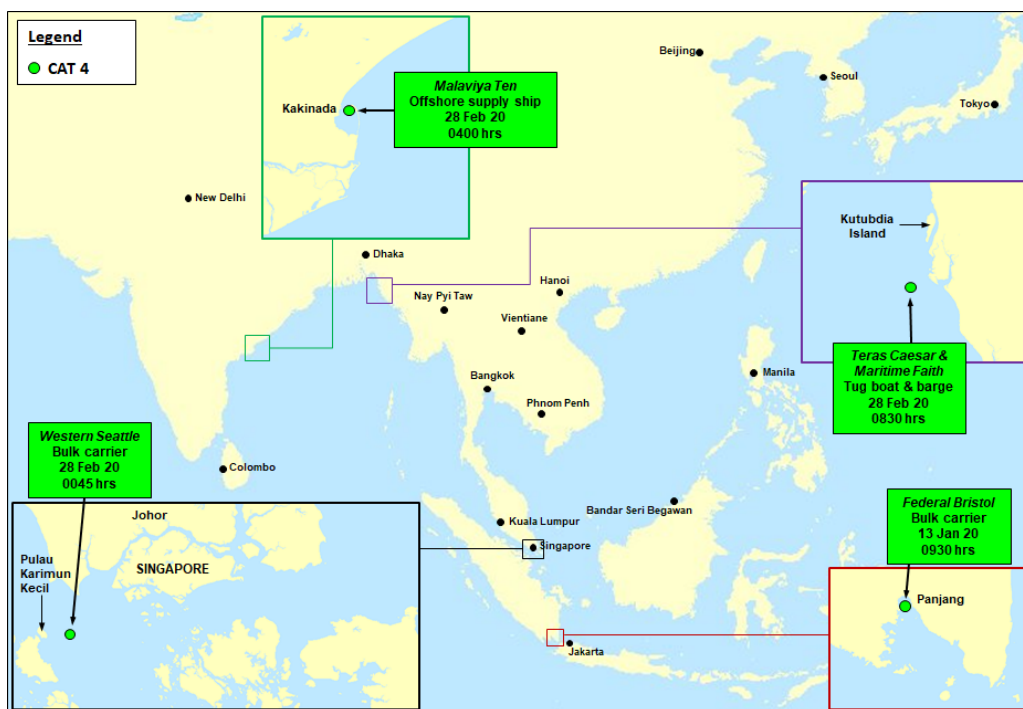
## Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

### OVERVIEW

During 25 Feb-2 Mar 20, four incidents of armed robbery against ships were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. All four were CAT 4<sup>1</sup> incidents.

Of the four incidents, one incident occurred on board a barge towed by a tug boat while underway in the Kutubdia Channel, Bangladesh; one incident occurred on board an offshore supply ship anchored at North Anchorage, Kakinada, India; one incident occurred on board a bulk carrier anchored at Panjang Anchorage, Indonesia; and one incident occurred on board a bulk carrier while underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in the Singapore Strait. With this incident in the Singapore Strait, a total of eight incidents have been reported in the Singapore Strait since January 2020, all in the eastbound lane of the TSS.

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



Location of the incidents


<sup>1</sup> CAT (Category) 4 incident is classified as “least significant” in nature. Under this category, the perpetrators were not armed, and the crew not harmed.

## INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA

The ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) reported to the ReCAAP ISC an incident occurred to an offshore supply ship outside Asia on 26 Feb 20. The ship was anchored at Luanda Inner Anchorage, Angola when four perpetrators boarded the ship, broke the padlock to the paint locker room, stole paint and escaped. The detailed description of the incident as tabulated in the attachment.

## 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 recurrence of the abduction incident on 17 Jan 20, the 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 Zamboanga, Lahad Datu, and Bongao. 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)

### 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: +632-8-527-8481 (ext: 6136/37)  
+632-998-585-5327 (mobile)  
+632-917-842-8249 (mobile)  
+632-8-527-3877 (fax)

Email: [pcgcomcen@coastguard.gov.ph](mailto: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](http://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  
25 February-2 March 2020**

	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 Taken	Action
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<b>INCIDENTS IN ASIA</b>										
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENTS</b>										
1.	<b>Teras Caesar</b> Tug boat Singapore 883 9625982  <b>Maritime Faith</b> Barge Singapore 3292	28/02/20 0830 hrs	21° 27.5' N, 91° 44' E  Kutubdia Channel, Bangladesh	While tug boat <i>Teras Caesar</i> towing barge <i>Maritime Faith</i> was underway, about 20 perpetrators boarded the barge from three fishing boats. The master of the tug boat sounded the alarm and all crew were on standby for possible boarding of the tug boat by the perpetrators. The perpetrators eventually escaped with stolen items including lashing equipment, rope, manhole cover and steel stopper from the barge. The incident was reported to the Bangladesh Navy and Singapore Port Operations Control Centre.  (Category 4)	Lashing equipment, rope, manhole cover and steel stopper were stolen from the barge.	The master of the tug boat sounded the alarm and all crew were on standby for possible boarding of the tug boat by the perpetrators.  The master also reported the incident to Singapore Port Operations Control Centre.	Yes  Bangladesh Navy	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available	
2.	<b>Malaviya Ten</b> Offshore supply ship India 2180 9202596	28/02/20 0400 hrs	16° 58.08' N, 82° 18.91' E  North Anchorage Kakinada, India	While at anchor, seven perpetrators in a dinghy boat approached and boarded the offshore supply ship from the stern. They stole lube oil drums and escaped. The crew was not injured. Two Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ships were deployed to investigate all the fishing boats entering Kakinada fisheries harbour. Further, ICG Station Kakinada informed to Coastal Security Police Station Vakalapudi for investigation.  (Category 4)	The crew was not injured.  Lube oil drums were stolen.	No information available	Yes  Kakinada Sea Port Limited (KSPL) and Indian Coast Guard Station Kakinada	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	Two Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ships were deployed to investigate all the fishing boats entering Kakinada fisheries harbour. Further, ICG Station Kakinada informed to Coastal Security Police Station Vakalapudi for investigation.	

	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
3.	<b>Western Seattle</b> Bulk carrier Philippines 32350 9660619	28/02/20 0045 hrs	1° 8.6' N, 103° 28.68' E  Approximately 3.5 nm east of Pulau Karimun Kecil, Indonesia in the eastbound lane of the TSS in the Singapore Strait  (SOMS)	While en route to Singapore, four perpetrators boarded the bulk carrier. The crew informed the master who raised the alarm and mustered all crew in the wheelhouse. The master reported the incident to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System. There was no confrontation between the crew and perpetrators and nothing was stolen.  The Republic of Singapore Navy escorted the ship into Singapore and upon arrival, the Singapore Police Coast Guard boarded the ship to conduct a search. No perpetrator was found.  (Category 4)	There was no confrontation between the crew and perpetrators.  Nothing was stolen.	The master raised the alarm and mustered all crew in the wheelhouse.	Yes  Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	The Republic of Singapore Navy escorted the ship into Singapore and upon arrival, the Singapore Police Coast Guard boarded the ship to conduct a search.
4.	<b>Federal Bristol</b> Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 20789 9697844	13/01/20 0930 hrs	5° 30' S, 105° 17' E  Panjang Anchorage, Indonesia	While at anchor, the duty watchman on board noticed the steering room lock was opened and ship's engine spares were missing. The master reported the incident to the local agent.  (Category 4)	Engine spares were stolen.	The master reported the incident to the local agent.	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available
<b>INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA</b>									
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENT</b>									
1.	<b>Pacific Gosling</b> Offshore supply ship Singapore 3585 9666900	26/02/20 0056 hrs	8° 45' S, 13° 16' E  Luanda Inner Anchorage, Angola	While at anchor, four perpetrators boarded the ship, broke the padlock to the paint locker room, stole paint and escaped.	The crew was not injured.  Paint was stolen.	No information available	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available