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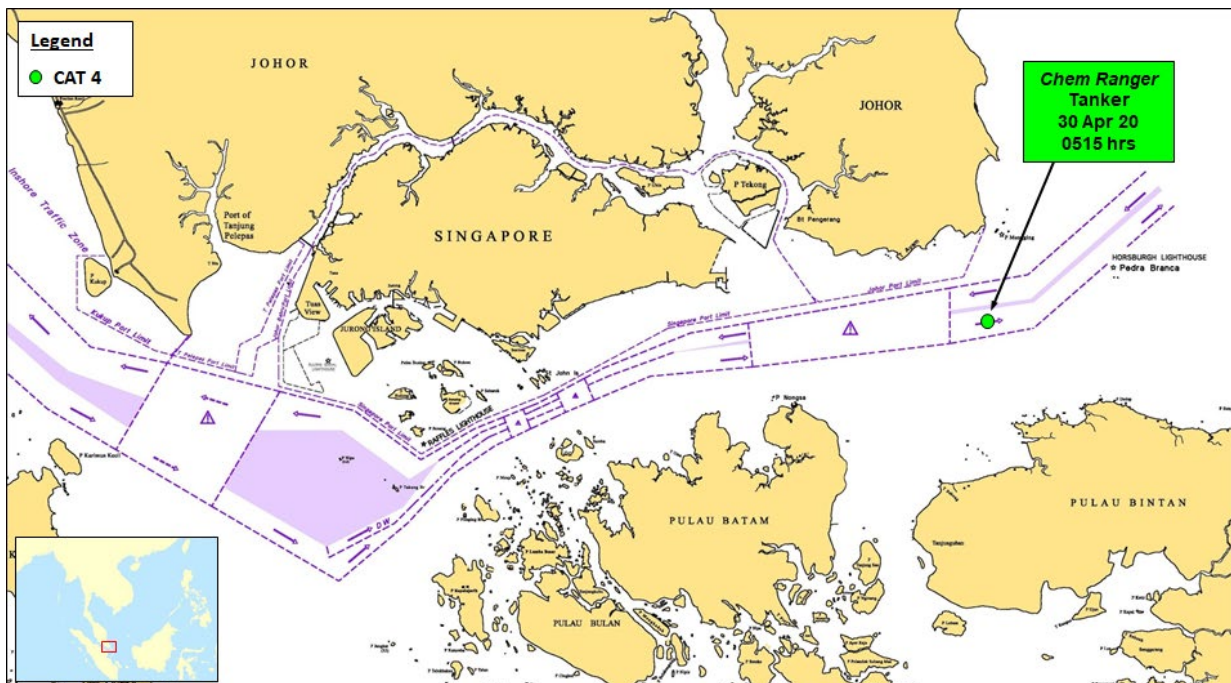
ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 28 April-4 May 2020

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 28 Apr-4 May 20, one incident of armed robbery against ship in Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The CAT 4¹ incident occurred on board a tanker 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 12 incidents have been reported in the Singapore Strait since January 2020, comprising 11 incidents in the eastbound lane of the TSS and one incident in the precautionary area in the Singapore Strait. The ReCAAP ISC issued an Incident Alert (IA 04/2020) on these incidents on 30 April.

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



Location of the incident


¹ 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

During 28 Apr-4 May 20, one incident outside Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) reported an incident occurred to a supply vessel while anchored at Outer Anchorage Port Luanda, Angola on 1 May 20. The detailed description of the incident is 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 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: +632-8-527-8481 (ext: 6136/37)
+632-998-585-5327 (mobile)
+632-917-842-8249 (mobile)
+632-8-527-3877 (fax)

Email: pcqcomcen@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.

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
28 April-4 May 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	State Action
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
INCIDENT IN ASIA										
ACTUAL INCIDENT										
1.	Chem Ranger Tanker Marshall Islands 16411 9490296	30/04/20 0515 hrs	1° 16.7' N 104° 16.9' E Approximately 6.2 nm northwest of Tanjung Tondong, Pulau Bintan, Indonesia in the eastbound lane of the TSS in the Singapore Strait (Straits of Malacca & Singapore)	While the tanker was en route from Singapore to Ulsan, Republic of Korea, three perpetrators were sighted in the engine room. The general alarm was raised and crew mustered. The master reported the incident to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS). A safety navigational broadcast was initiated. The Republic of Singapore Navy's (RSN) Maritime Security Task Force (MSTF), Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and the Indonesian authorities were notified. The master deviated the ship back to the port of Singapore and requested assistance from the authorities to conduct search on board for the perpetrators. Upon her arrival in Singapore, the Singapore PCG officers boarded the ship and conducted a search. There was no sighting of the perpetrators on board. The crew was not injured and nothing was stolen. (Category 4)	The crew was not injured. Nothing was stolen.	The general alarm was raised and crew mustered. The master deviated the ship back to the port of Singapore and requested assistance from the authorities to conduct search on board for the perpetrators.	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	A safety navigational broadcast was initiated. The RSN's MSTF, Singapore PCG and the Indonesian authorities were notified. Upon the ship's arrival in Singapore, the Singapore PCG officers boarded the ship and conducted a search. There was no sighting of the perpetrators on board.	

	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
INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA									
ACTUAL INCIDENT									
2.	<i>Name withheld</i> Supply vessel Singapore 4059	01/05/20 0015 hrs	8° 44.09' S 13° 17.71' E Outer Anchorage Port Luanda, Angola	While at anchor, the watch duty officer reported a suspicious noise near the main deck. Upon checking, he saw a perpetrator holding a sharp object rushing towards him. The duty officer alerted other crew and the alarm was raised. The perpetrator escaped in a small motorboat with three other perpetrators. A search of the ship was conducted. The crew was not injured and nothing was stolen.	The crew was not injured. Nothing was stolen.	The alarm was raised and a search of the ship was conducted.	Yes	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available