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ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 11-17 January 2022

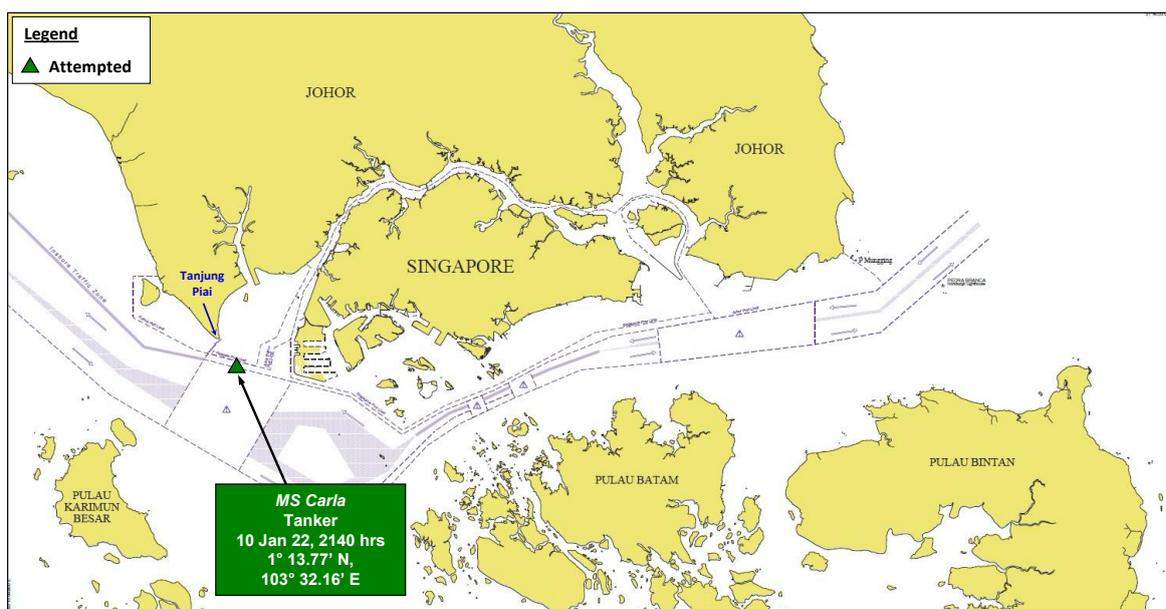
Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 11-17 Jan 22, one attempted incident of armed robbery against ship in Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The incident occurred on 10 Jan to a tanker while underway at approximately 2.65 nm from Tanjung Piai [Malaysia] outside of the Traffic Separation Scheme in the Singapore Strait. In the incident, the deck officer sighted five perpetrators on board a wooden boat attempted to place a ladder at the port side of the ship. The deck officer raised the alarm; and the perpetrators abandoned the boarding and sped away. The crew was safe and nothing was stolen.

With the incident on 10 Jan, a total of four incidents have been reported in the Singapore Strait in January 2022 so far.

The location of the incident on 10 Jan is shown in the map below, and detailed description of the incident is tabulated in the attachment.



Location of incident

SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULU-CELEBES SEAS AND WATERS OFF EASTERN SABAH

There is no incident of abduction of crew reported since the last incident in January 2020 up to today, and no crew is currently being held in captivity by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG).

On 23 Apr 21, the Philippine Armed Forces conducted a military operation against members of the ASG during which one of the ASG leaders responsible for the abduction of crew in the area of Sulu and Tawi-Tawi had managed to escape. The threat of the abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Sabah remains high particularly in the areas of Sulu and nearby waters off Tawi-Tawi.

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 all incidents immediately to the Operation Centres of the Philippines and Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) of Malaysia. The contact details of the Operation Centres of the Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia are as shown on next page:



The map shows the Sulu Sea to the north and the Celebes Sea to the south. Key locations marked include Lahad Datu, Zamboanga, 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
- 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: 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.

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
11-17 January 2022**

	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
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
INCIDENT IN ASIA									
ATTEMPTED INCIDENT									
1.	MS Carla Tanker Malaysia 2920 9111022	10/1/22 2140 hrs	1° 13.77' N, 103° 32.16' E Approximately 2.65 nm from Tanjung Piai, [Malaysia], outside of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in the Singapore Strait. (SOMS)	While underway, the duty deck officer sighted five perpetrators on board a wooden boat placing a ladder at the port side of the ship. The ship's alarm was raised, and the perpetrators abandoned the boarding and sped away. The master reported the incident to the Port Operation Control Centre (VTIS West). Safety broadcast on anti-piracy watch was carried out and it increased to every half hour interval to warn all ships to maintain vigilant watch at all times.	The crew was safe. Nothing was stolen.	The ship's alarm was raised. The master reported the incident to the Port Operation Control Centre (VTIS West).	Yes. The Master reported the incident to the Port Operation Control Centre (VTIS West).	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Safety broadcast on anti-piracy watch was carried out and it increased to every half hour interval to warn all ships to maintain a vigilant watch at all times.