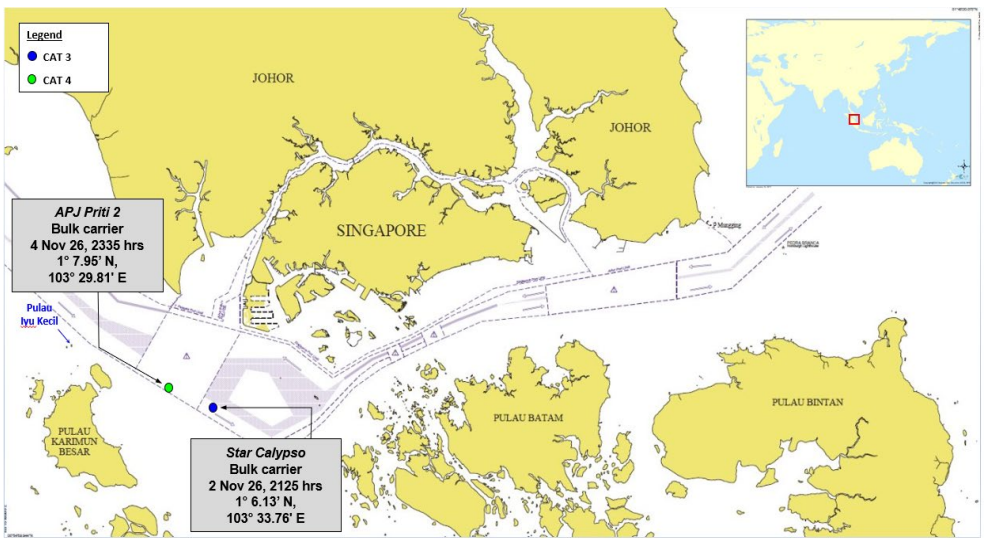
Infinite Studios, 21 Media Circle, 05-04, (S)138562

Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia

Weekly Report (3-9 November 2026)

OVERVIEW

Two incidents of armed robbery against ships[1] in Asia (one CAT 3[2] and one CAT 4[3]) were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. Both incidents occurred onboard bulk carriers while underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in Singapore Strait (SS) on 2 Nov and 4 Nov 2026. Some engine spares were stolen and one crew member sustained a minor hand injury in the CAT 3 incident. Nothing was stolen and the crew were not injured in the CAT 4 incident. Details of the incidents are shown in table (*).



Location	Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS)	
	9.7 nm off Pulau Cula, Indonesia	9.4 nm off Pulau Iyu Kecil, Indonesia
Date/Time	2 Nov 2026 at 2125 hrs	4 Nov 2026 at 2335 hrs
Type of ship	Bulk carrier	Bulk carrier
Number of perpetrators	3	8
Weapons	Gun-like object	Not armed
Treatment of crew	One crew member was tied up sustained a minor hand injury.	Not injured
Significance level	CAT 3	CAT 4
Items stolen	Engine spares	Nil

AREA OF CONCERN

With the two incidents reported in SS, a total of 27 incidents were reported in SOMS since January 2026. The ReCAAP ISC advises ships to continue to intensify vigilance, maintain a sharp look-out while transiting areas of concern and report all incidents to the law enforcement agencies immediately. The Centre also urges the littoral States to increase patrols and enforcement in their respective waters, respond promptly to incidents, strengthen coordination and promote information sharing on incidents and the criminal groups involved to arrest the perpetrators.

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

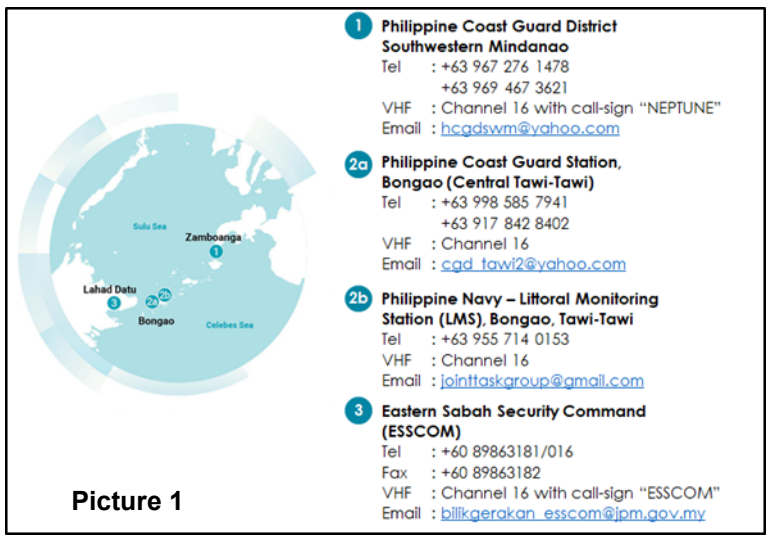
Situation Update

For a 6th consecutive year, there has been no report of incident of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Sabah. The last incident occurred on 17 Jan 2020. In January 2025, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), coordinated with other stakeholders and counterparts further downgraded the threat level of 'Abduction of crew for ransom in the Sulu-Celebes Seas' to '**LOW**', meaning **'No information or monitored activities suggest an impending attack; hence incidents are not expected to occur**'.

ReCAAP ISC Advisory

The ReCAAP ISC, in its Advisory on 14 Feb 2025 advised ships to **"exercise vigilance when transiting the Sulu-Celebes Seas and report incidents to the Operation Centres of the Philippines and Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)"**.

Also, to maintain communication with the relevant authorities when transiting the area. The **Contact Details** of the Operation Centres of the Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia are as shown in **Picture 1.**



Picture 1

In the event that the ship master or crew is unable to establish contact with the Operation Centres of the Philippines as listed, the **Philippine Coast Guard Command Centre** can be contacted at the following link for reporting of incident.

Tel: +632-8-527-8481 (ext: 6136/37)
+632-8-527-3877 (fax)
+63-966-217-9610 (mobile)
+63-977-792-8382 (mobile)
+63-909-929-1340 (mobile)
Email: pcgcomcen@coastguard.gov.ph
pcgcommandcenter22@gmail.com

RECOMMENDATIONS

Ship master and crew are to report all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships to the nearest coastal State and flag State, referring to the Poster on the *Contact Details for Reporting of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia*, exercise vigilance and adopt appropriate preventive measures taking reference from the *Regional Guide 2 to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia*; both produced by the ReCAAP ISC.

Follow us on:	W: www.recaap.org	Twitter: https://twitter.com/recaapisc	LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/recaap-information-sharing-centre
Contact us at:	E: info@recaap.org	T: +65 6376 3063	F: +65 6376 3066

* Table at https://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/Number of Incidents/2026/List of Incidents for 2026.pdf for details of the incidents.

[1] ***Armed Robbery Against Ships*** is defined in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Investigation of Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Assembly Resolution A.1025(26).

[2] **CAT (Category) 3** incident is classified as "less significant" in nature. Under this category, the perpetrators are armed with knives/machetes or other items such as sticks or rods. Although the crew can be subjected to duress or threat during the incident, they are not harmed physically. In most CAT 3 cases, nothing is stolen. In cases where losses are reported, stores and engine spares are commonly stolen items.

[3] **CAT (Category) 4** incident is classified as "least significant" in nature. Under this category, the perpetrators are not armed, and the crew not injured.

Enhancing Regional Cooperation…