

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

MSC.4/Circ.186
31 July 2012

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during June 2012

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy¹ and armed robbery against ships² reported to the Organization, the annex hereto provides, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, the summary of reports on incidents received between 1 and 30 June 2012 including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (annex 1) and attempted attacks (annex 2). The Secretariat has, since July 2002, classified separately any reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery **at sea** (international or territorial waters) vis-à-vis acts of armed robbery allegedly committed **in port areas**, as well as **attempted** acts of armed robbery.

¹ "Piracy" is defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (article 101) as follows:

"Piracy consists of any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed:
 - (i) on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;
 - (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;
- (b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;
- (c) any act inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in subparagraph (a) or (b)."

² "Armed robbery against ships" is defined in the Code of Practice for the Investigation of Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (resolution A.1025(26), annex, paragraph 2.2), as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of piracy, committed for private ends and directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such a ship, within a State's internal waters, archipelagic waters and territorial sea;
- (b) any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described above."

2 Further, and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 89/25 paragraphs 18.9 and 18.10), the Secretariat has opened a "piracy and armed robbery" module on the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) (<http://gisis.imo.org>) in order to improve the timeliness of reporting of incidents and to enable users to generate their own search criteria and produce customizable reports. This database is now configured for public, read-only access and is searchable. Reports can be compiled in GISIS directly by Member States and registered public users. These reports can now include follow-up information, for example, dates of release of hijacked ships. Given that the new functionality in GISIS allows for user-defined piracy reports, the Committee agreed that the practice of publishing quarterly summaries was no longer warranted and would be discontinued with effect from May 2011.

3 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 6,446, an increase of 21 since 31 May 2012.

4 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by various MSC circulars, those issued during the previous twelve months and up to 30 June 2012 being MSC.4/Circ.173, MSC.4/Circ.174, MSC.4/Circ.175, MSC.4/Circ.176, MSC.4/Circ.177, MSC.4/Circ.178, MSC.4/Circ.179, MSC.4/Circ.181, MSC.4/Circ.182, MSC.4/Circ.183, MSC.4/Circ.184 and MSC.4/Circ.185.

ANNEX 1
Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly committed against ships reported by
Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.186 ANNEX 1 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	MAGELLAN 2 Special purpose ship Singapore 1496 9633886	05/06/2012 19:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA East of Bintan Island Indonesia 01° 07.27' N 104° 49.50' E	While sailing, the ship was boarded by approximately seven robbers armed with long knives from a wooden boat. On spotting the robbers, the general alarm was sounded and all doors were locked. The robbers gained access to the accommodation after taking the cook hostage, who was on the main deck. Thereafter, the robbers accessed the accommodation space and bridge. All crew were tied up. The robbers escaped with crew's personal belongings and food allowances.	The crew were hit by the robbers but did not sustain serious injuries. The cabin doors were damaged	The master sounded the general alarm and closed all doors from inside	Yes POCC Singapore	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
2	SHAMSI Dhow Oman	20/06/2012 12:00 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Approx. 13 NM east of Masirah Oman 20° 29.00' N 059° 03.00' E	Pirates hijacked the dhow and took her seven crew members hostage. Authorities were informed.	Pirates took hostage seven crew members and hijacked the dhow	-	Yes Oman Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, Yemen Coast Guard & Oman Coast Guard	Oman military aircraft and warship were sent to the area but were unable to locate the dhow

IN PORT AREA

1	ERMAR Tanker Liberia 22838 8711095	01/06/2012 01:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage Nigeria 06° 19.34' N 003° 29.41' E	Three armed robbers boarded the tanker from a wooden boat. Alarm raised and all crew retreated into the citadel. After four hours the crew emerged from the citadel and found that the robbers had left. No damage to the tanker and all crew were reported safe.	Three armed robbers boarded the tanker	The master raised the alarm and all crew proceeded to citadel	Yes MRCC Lagos & Lagos Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to MRCC Nigeria & Nigerian Navy	-
2	DD VANGUARD Bulk carrier Panama 17136 9357420	04/06/2012 02:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Outer Anchorage Indonesia 03° 57.44' N 098° 46.57' E	Seven robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored ship at forecastle. Duty A/B and D/O noticed the robbers and raised alarm. On seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers threatened them with long knives and escaped empty-handed in their waiting boat. Port control and vessels in the vicinity informed.	Robbers boarded the ship and threatened the crew with long knives	The master raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ & Indonesian Marine Police HQ	-

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NOTE: SOUTH AMERICA: (A) - Atlantic; (C) - Caribbean; (P) - Pacific

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.186 ANNEX 1
	Coastal State Action Taken								
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IN PORT AREA

3	BILLION TRADER II Bulk carrier Philippines 43151 9323053	10/06/2012 17:45 UTC	EAST AFRICA El Dekheila Anchorage Egypt 31° 13.70' N 029° 42.40' E	An anchored bulk carrier was boarded by robbers via the hawse pipe by forcibly removing the secured anchor chain cover. The port side water tight door padlock was forced open and contents from the port side life raft were stolen. Alarm was raised when D/O noticed that the port side watertight door was partly opened while duty A/B and boatswain investigated. On hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped in a small boat with the stolen stores.	Ship's stores were stolen	Duty Officer raised the alarm	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to JRCC Cairo	-
4	CS MANATEEE Bulk carrier Bahamas 17944 9255189	17/06/2012 00:30 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Kakinada Anchorage India 17° 00.00' N 082° 18.00' E	Robbers boarded the anchored ship. Duty A/B on rounds heard two robbers talking to each other on the forecastle. He immediately informed the 2/O on bridge who raised the alarm and sounded ship's whistle continuously, but the robbers managed to escape. The duty A/B heard a motor boat moving away from the vicinity of the forecastle. On inspection, a new mooring rope was found on the deck partially hacked into small pieces. Kakinada port control was called on VHF but no response was received. Ship's agent was informed and security message transmitted via VHF to warn other ships in the anchorage.	On inspection, a new mooring rope was found on the deck partially hacked into small pieces	Duty A/B informed the 2/O on bridge who raised the alarm and sounded ship's whistle continuously	Yes Kakinada port control, but no response was received	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to Coast Guard Mumbai, Coast Guard Chennai & Coast Guard New Delhi	Indian Coast Guard team boarded the ship for investigation and determined that although the ship was maintaining security level I, the duty staff was not alerted to detect an approaching boat. No roving sentries were placed during the silent hour
5	HIGHLINE 26 Tug Malaysia 271 8996580	17/06/2012 13:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Kuching Anchorage Malaysia 01° 38.24' N 110° 28.43' E	Robbers boarded the anchored tug and barge (Highline 22). They broke open containers, stole the cargo and escaped unnoticed. Master reported incident to local law enforcement authorities.	Cargo in the containers was stolen	-	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to MRCC Putra Jaya, FOC RMN, Marine Police Malaysian, FOC Armada	-

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IN PORT AREA

6	CAPE FRIO Container ship Marshall Islands 14308 9248930	26/06/2012 22:15 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage 'B' Bangladesh 22° 10.50' N 091° 42.60' E	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. One of the robbers attacked the deck watch-keeper at the aft station, who immediately reported to the bridge and managed to run inside into the accommodation area. Alarm raised. By the time the crew mustered, it was noticed that around 15 robbers in the boat were moving away with stolen ship stores. Master informed the coast guard who responded immediately.	Robbers boarded the ship, attacked the crew and stole ship's stores	Alarm raised and all crew mustered	Yes Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed the message to Coast Guard Bangladesh and Chittagong Port Authority	The Coast Guard contacted the ship via VHF
7	OVERSEAS KIMOLOS Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 30109 9384019	27/06/2012 04:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Nha Be Terminal, Ho Chi Minh City Port Viet Nam 10° 41.60' N 106° 45.00' E	Robbers boarded the berthed tanker during cargo operations, stole the fire wire and escaped. Duty A/B on rounds noticed traces of foot prints and noticed the missing fire wire. Alarm raised, authorities were informed and crew did a search, but could not find the robbers.	Robbers boarded the tanker unnoticed and stole the fire wire	Raised alarm	Yes Loading Master and Port Immigration Officer	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to Vietnam Maritime Security Centre	-

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ANNEX 2
Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly attempted against ships reported by
Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.186 ANNEX 2 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	HOJIN Vehicle carrier Vanuatu 57871 8916267	09/06/2012 08:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden Yemen 12° 22.90' N 043° 49.70' E	A fishing trawler and four skiffs chased the ship. Master raised alarm, increased speed, altered course, activated fire pump and crew mustered in bridge. The skiffs followed the ship and later aborted the attempted attack and moved away. Incident was reported to UKMTO. Before and after the attack on the vehicle carrier, the fishing boat and one skiff were reported to have attacked a container ship and a tanker in the vicinity respectively.	Ship chased by fishing trawler and four skiffs	Raised alarm, altered course, increased speed and mustered all crew in the bridge	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CTF 151, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Coast Guard, Oman Coast Guard	-
2	MARSI Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 25935 8126630	18/06/2012 11:05 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden Yemen 12° 19.00' N 043° 57.00' E	Six skiffs with 4-6 pirates in each skiff approached the bulk carrier underway at 25 knots from the stbd bow. Master raised the alarm, increased speed, altered course and sent a distress message. The skiffs attempted to close onto the ship from the stbd beam and stbd quarter and one skiff tried to approach from the port bow. The onboard armed security team fired eight warning flares but the pirates continued their attempts. Weapons and ladders were identified in the skiff. After nearly 40 minutes the security team fired six warning shots and the pirates aborted and moved away. A naval ship came to assist.	Ship approached by six skiffs	Security team fired warning shots. Master contacted UKMTO. All crew except master, OOW and Helmsman proceeded to citadel. Master increased ship's speed and altered course	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CTF 151, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Coast Guard, Oman Coast Guard & MRCC Tehran, Iran	Nearby warship proceeded towards the ship to investigate

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IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

3	LNG ARIES Tanker Marshall Islands 95084 7390193	20/06/2012 05:05 UTC	ARABIAN SEA 35 NM NE of Masirah Island Oman 20° 50.80' N 059° 30.20' E	Six pirates in a dhow armed with guns and RPGs fired on the ship underway. The dhow closed in to 50 metres from the ship and shots were fired, of which three hit the ship. Master enforced anti-piracy measures and managed to evade boarding.	Pirates fired on the tanker, but it was not damaged	Enforced anti-piracy measures and the ship outpaced the dhow. The master reported the incident to the UKMTO and naval ships in the vicinity	Yes UKMTO and Coalition warship	Marshall Islands ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CTF 151, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Coast Guard, Oman Coast Guard	-
4	ETAGAS LPG tanker Curaçao (Netherlands) 7314 8712570	25/06/2012 19:16 UTC	ARABIAN SEA 48 NM east of Fujairah United Arab Emirates 25° 15.00' N 057° 16.40' E	Pirates in two skiffs armed with guns, approached the LPG tanker underway and closed in to 0.6 NM from the ship. Master fired warning flares and pyrotechnics, increased speed and manoeuvred the tanker to keep the skiffs right astern. UKMTO and navies in vicinity were informed. An Iranian naval warship responded and escorted the tanker until the skiffs were clear. All crew were safe.	-	Master fired flares, raised alarm and made evasive manoeuvres	Yes UKMTO and Iran Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CTF 151, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Coast Guard, Oman Coast Guard	The Iran Navy escorted the tanker until the area was clear

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IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

5	NAMRUN Bulk carrier Malta 30936 9389930	27/06/2012 10:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA 110 NM north of Socotra Island Yemen 14° 22.50' N 054° 38.20' E	Pirates in a dhow approached the bulk carrier underway. Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. As the dhow closed in towards the ship, the onboard armed security team fired warning shots. The dhow continued to ignore the warning shots and continued to approach. Two pirates hiding under a blanket appeared with guns and fired on the ship. There was an exchange of fire between the onboard security team and the pirates until the pirates aborted the attack and moved away. No injuries to crew. At the time of the incident, the master reported wind direction and force as SSW x 7.	Armed pirates in a dhow approached and fired on the ship	Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. Security team exchanged fire with the pirates	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CTF 151, CIFC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Coast Guard	UKMTO contacted the ship for details of the incident
6	FAIR ERMIS Product tanker Liberia 6085 9408815	30/06/2012 02:10 LT	WEST AFRICA Approx 70 NM SW of Port Harcourt Nigeria 04° 01.70' N 006° 06.10' E	Armed pirates in a boat chased and fired on the tanker underway from Bonny River. The armed Nigerian navy personnel onboard the tanker exchanged fire with the pirates, resulting in the pirates aborting the attempted attack after 15 minutes of firing. All crew were reported safe and the tanker sustained some damage due to gun fire.	Armed pirates in a boat chased and fired on the tanker. The tanker sustained some damage due to the firing	The armed Nigerian navy personnel exchanged fire with the pirates	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to MRCC Lagos & Nigerian Navy	-
7	CAP GUILLAUME Tanker Greece 81324 9321691	30/06/2012 06:15 LT	WEST AFRICA Approx. 136 NM SW of Port Harcourt Nigeria 02° 40.00' N 006° 08.30' E	Six pirates armed with guns chased and fired on the tanker underway. Master enforced anti-piracy measures and managed to evade the boarding. All crew were reported safe and the tanker sustained some damage due to gun fire.	Pirates armed with guns in a boat chased and fired on the tanker. The tanker sustained some damage due to the firing	Master enforced anti -piracy measures	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to MRCC Lagos & Nigerian Navy	-
8	ANGLIA Container ship Liberia 26047 9178276	30/06/2012 06:20 LT	WEST AFRICA Approx. 120 NM SW of Bonny Island Nigeria 02° 38.90' N 006° 09.50' E	The container ship adrift awaiting berthing instructions was approached by five armed pirates in a wooden speed boat with two outboard engines. As the pirates approached, they fired at the ship, damaging some bridge windows and equipment. The master raised the alarm, activated SSAS, started the main engines and manoeuvred away from the approaching boat. Non-essential crew retreated into the citadel. All crew were safe.	Pirates fired on the ship, causing some damage to the bridge windows and equipment	Master raised the alarm, activated SSAS, started main engines and manoeuvred away from the approaching boat. Non-essential crew retreated into the citadel	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to MRCC Nigeria & Nigerian Navy	-

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	MAERSK PENGUIN Tanker Singapore 61724 9319674	04/06/2012 17:35 LT	EAST AFRICA Bab El-Mandeb TSS, Red Sea Djibouti 12° 59.13' N 043° 11.28' E	While sailing, the tanker was approached by two skiffs with approximately five to six pirates in each skiff. The security team onboard fired two warning flares as the skiff closed in. Subsequently, the skiffs abandoned the pursuit and the tanker resumed normal passage.	The crew did not sustain any injuries and no damage to the vessel was reported	The security team onboard fired two warning flares	Yes UKMTO	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
2	BINO KELADI Tug Indonesia 130	06/06/2012 23:20 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Approximately 6.1 NM west of Raffles Lighthouse, Straits of Malacca and Singapore Singapore 01° 10.86' N 103° 38.46' E	While the tug boat was towing barge Yaris Mandiri, the Singapore Police Coast Guard reported sighting two small boats astern of the barge. The master of the tug boat was asked to verify whether there was a boarding by the robbers or the loss of any items. A post investigation carried out by the Indonesian Navy in early July 2012 revealed that the perpetrators did not manage to board the barge or take any items.	The crew did not sustain any injuries and nothing was stolen	The master reported the incident to the port authorities	Yes POCC Singapore	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	An investigation by the Indonesian Navy revealed that this was an attempted incident
3	PACIFIC GALAXY Tanker Panama 59671 9397793	12/06/2012 03:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Red Sea Eritrea 13° 20.20' N 042° 56.90' E	The tanker underway noticed a white skiff with two outboard motors approaching at more than 25 knots. Initially, two robbers were observed in the skiff and as the skiff closed, five more were observed to surface from the skiff floor. As the skiff continued to approach aggressively and at a distance of around 200 metres from the tanker, the master authorised the armed team to fire warning shots. After approx. 1 hour 25 minutes another two white skiffs with twin outboard motors and doing more than 25 knots were observed approaching the tanker. The armed team again showed their weapons, fired rocket flares and at a distance of 200 metres, fired warning shots. In both incidents the non-essential crew retreated into the citadel, a distress was sent for assistance. A surveillance aircraft was dispatched and arrived at the location.	Skiffs approached the tanker aggressively	Master took anti-piracy measures, non-essential crew retreated into the citadel, distress message sent and the armed team fired rocket flares and warning shots	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CTF 151, CIFC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer & Yemen Coast Guard	A surveillance aircraft was dispatched and arrived at the location

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	NEO ENERGY Tanker Liberia 100253 9324277	12/06/2012 05:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA Off Mayyun Island, Red Sea Yemen 12° 49.60' N 043° 15.90' E	Six skiffs with 3 to 8 robbers in each approached the LNG tanker underway at speeds between 14 to 20 knots. Weapons were sighted in three skiffs. The skiffs approached and started tailing the ship's stern at a distance of around 200-300 metres. The onboard security team were deployed and they showed their weapons to the approaching skiffs, resulting in the skiffs backing off. Over the next 2.5 hours the skiffs approached the tanker five times from port and stbd sides before moving away.	-	Security team showed their weapons	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, EUNAVFOR Atalanta, UKMTO, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CTF 151, CIFC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Coast Guard	-
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