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MSC.4/Circ.145
10 November 2009

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during October 2009

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 and, in addition, to issue, on a quarterly basis, composite reports accompanied by an analysis, on a regional basis, of the situation and an indication whether the frequency of incidents is increasing or decreasing and advising of any new feature or pattern of significance, the annex hereto provides, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, the summary of reports on incidents received between 30 September and 31 October 2009 including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (annex 1) and attempted attacks (annex 2). Further and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 75/24, paragraph 18.41), the Secretariat has, since July 2002, started classifying 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.

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 5,163 an increase of 34 since 30 September 2009.

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 sub-paragraph (a) or (b)."

² "Armed robbery against ships" is defined in the Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (resolution A.922(22), Annex, paragraph 2.2), as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any unlawful act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of "piracy", directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such ship, within a State's jurisdiction over such offences."

3 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by various MSC circulars, those issued (on an annual, quarterly and monthly basis) during the previous twelve months and up to 30 September 2009 being MSC.4/Circ.128, MSC.4/Circ.129, MSC.4/Circ.130, MSC.4/Circ.131, MSC.4/Circ.132, MSC.4/Circ.133, MSC.4/Circ.134, MSC.4/Circ.135, MSC.4/Circ.136, MSC.4/Circ.137, MSC.4/Circ.138, MSC.4/Circ.139, MSC.4/Circ.140, MSC.4/Circ.141 and MSC.4/Circ.142, MSC.4/Circ.143 and MSC.4/Circ.144.

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.145 ANNEX 1 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	ALAKRANA Fishing vessel Spain 3719 9335745	02/10/2009 03:45 UTC	EAST AFRICA 335 NM SE of Mogadishu, Somalia	Armed pirates attacked and hijacked the ship underway taking all crew hostage. The pirates sailed the ship towards the Somali coast	Ship was hijacked and crew members were taken hostage	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	ISOLA VERDE Oil tanker Italy 20200 9033969	06/10/2009 23:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA 50 NM off Conakry, Guinea 09° 09.00' N 014° 06.00' W	Pirates armed with machine guns and pistols boarded the ship. They stole ship's cash, crew's money and personal belongings and escaped. No injury to crew	Pirates stole ship's cash, crew money and personal belongings	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	KOTA WAJAR Container ship Singapore 16772 9157399	15/10/2009 02:37 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, Somalia 01° 33.00' S 054° 52.00' E	Armed pirates in a skiff boarded and hijacked the ship underway. They took 21 crew hostage and sailed the ship towards the Somali coast	Pirates hijacked the ship and took 21 crew members hostages	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	DE XIN HAI Bulk carrier China 40892 9364758	19/10/2009 08:15 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, Somalia 01° 53.00' S 060° 05.00' E	Pirates attacked and hijacked the ship underway and took 25 crew members hostage. They sailed the ship to the Somali coast	-	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	AL KHALIQ Bulk carrier Panama 22361 8307155	22/10/2009 05:55 UTC	EAST AFRICA Off Somalia, 04° 09.00' S 052° 35.00' E	Pirates armed with automatic weapons and rocket- propelled grenades in skiffs opened fire on the ship underway. The pirates hijacked the ship and took 26 crew members hostage. The pirates sailed the ship to the Somali coast	Pirates hijacked the ship and took 26 crew members hostage	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	LYNN RIVAL Yacht United Kingdom	23/10/2009 23:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Enroute to Tanzania from Seychelles,	Pirates boarded and hijacked the yacht underway with two British hostages on it. The yacht was abandoned and two crew members transferred to another hijacked vessel held along the coast of Somalia	Pirates hijacked the yacht and two crew members taken hostage	Sent SSAS alert	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	THAI UNION 3 Fishing vessel Thailand 1948 8919415	29/10/2009 02:47 UTC	EAST AFRICA Off Somalia, 01° 55.00' S 055° 53.00' E	Armed pirates in two skiffs approached the fishing vessel underway from both sides. The Master took evasive manoeuvres and sent a distress message. A warship was dispatched to the location. The pirates managed to board and hijacked the ship taking 25 crew members hostage	Pirates hijacked the ship taking 25 crew hostage	Sent SSAS alert took evasive manoeuvres	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

* The position given should be as accurate as possible including latitude and longitude co-ordinates or as a bearing and distance from a conspicuous landmark
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.145 ANNEX 1
	Coastal State Action Taken								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

8	MYKINES Chemical tanker Malta 11261 9421269	30/10/2009 20:15 LT	WEST AFRICA 15 NM off Lagos, Nigeria 06° 10.00' N 003° 33.00' E	Six pirates armed with guns and knives in a speedboat boarded the drifting tanker. Master raised alarm, activated SSAS, contacted Lagos port control and crew activated fire hoses. Pirates started firing at the bridge windows and accommodation doors. They were unable to get entry into the accommodation. The pirates managed to enter the bridge and took hostage crewmembers. They threatened the crew with guns, assaulted some of the crewmembers and damaged the communication equipment. They stole ship's cash, crew's cash and personal belongings. Pirates locked all the crew in a cabin and escaped	Stole ship's cash, crew cash and personal belongings	Master raised alarm, activated SSAS and crew activated fire hoses	Yes Port control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	SILVRETTA Bulk carrier Switzerland 17951 9276779	30/10/2009 21:25 UTC	WEST AFRICA 20 NM Off Lagos, Nigeria	Nine armed pirates in a speedboat boarded the ship drifting and opened fire at it. They took hostage all crewmembers, assaulted some of the crew and damaged the ship's communication equipment. They stole ship's cash, crew's cash and ship's property and crew personal belongings and escaped	Stole ship's cash, crew's cash and ship's property and crew's personal belongings. Nine crew were injured	Sent SSAS and raised alarm	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	TAJ ISLAND III Fishing vessel Saudi Arabia	27/09/2009 14:00 LT	North Field Coral (2) Eastern Region, Caspian Sea 45° 31.49' N 050° 37.28' E	Pirates armed with guns opened fire on and boarded the fishing vessel. They stole crew property and ship's equipment and escaped. One crew member was killed	Pirates stole crew property and ship's equipment. One crew member was killed	-	Yes PRC relayed message to MRCC Iran	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	INTAN T3501 Tug Singapore 441 9424338	12/10/2009	SOUTH CHINA SEA Enroute from Singapore to Kuantan, Malaysia	While the tug towing the barge KREUZ 331 (Singapore Flag, GT 4953) was underway, robbers stole ship's stores and property and escaped	Ship's stores and property stolen	-	Yes Port authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	LANTANA Product tanker Singapore 4629 9110444	13/10/2009 03:55 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Singapore Street, 01° 17.00' N 104° 10.50' E	Six robbers in a small boat came alongside the ship at anchor from stbd side aft. Two robbers boarded the vessel and stole ship's property. They were spotted by ship's crew who raised alarm and crew mustered. Robbers escaped in their boat	Stole ship's property	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	SERASIH Bulk carrier Panama 25980 8324397	13/10/2009 21:05 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong 'C' Anchorage, Bangladesh 22° 10.20' N 091° 47.40' E	About ten robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship from stern, held hostage one crew member at knife point and gained access into steering gear room. They stole ship's stores and equipment and escaped	Ship's stores and equipment were stolen and one crewmember was taken hostage	-	Yes Local authorities and Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	HANSA STRALSUND Container ship Liberia 9603 9063990	19/10/2009 14:06 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage 'B', Bangladesh 22° 10.70' N 091° 43.30' E	Twenty five robbers, in three wooden boats, armed with long knives approached the ship from astern. All the robbers boarded the ship via the poop deck. They stole ship's stores and escaped	The robbers stole three coils of rope	Raised alarm	Yes Local authorities	ReCAAP ISC	-
6	ELLEN S Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 9957 9374117	24/10/2009 20:00 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Haiphong Anchorage, Viet Nam 20° 38.50' N 106° 52.80' E	Robbers boarded an anchored ship from the forecastle and stole ship's stores before escaping	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	VEGA STAR Bulk carrier Viet Nam 13713 9061588	26/10/2009 15:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Ile Blanche Anchorage, Guinea 09° 25.40' N 013° 43.30' W	Five robbers armed with guns boarded the ship at anchor and stole some cargo, crew's cash and personal belongings and escaped	Cargo, crew's cash and personal belonging were stolen	Sent SSAS alert	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	KOOMBANA BAY Bulk carrier Panama 17018 9515735	18/08/2008 04:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Port Merak, Indonesia	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at berth. They broke into the steering gear room, entered the engine room and stole ship's spare parts. While trying to escape, the robbers attacked a duty crew member and escaped in a boat. The crew member was slightly injured	Ship's spare parts were stolen. One crew member was injured	-	Yes Port authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	BALTIC COMMANDER I Tanker Cyprus 23235 9208112	10/10/2009 12:30 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Puerto La Cruz Anchorage No.10, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 10° 15.48' N 064° 41.50' W	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor and escaped with ship's stores. Bosun discovered the theft at 0810 LT, when he noticed the padlock of the forward store was damaged	Robbers stole ship's stores	Increased deck watch	Yes Port authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	UNION GRACE Oil tanker Panama 4509 8323575	16/10/2009 03:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage, Nigeria	Six robbers armed with guns boarded the ship at anchor. They stole gas oil transferring it into their boat and escaped	Gas oil was stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

4	MADELEINE Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 4454 9196943	26/10/2009 22:22 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Guayaquil Anchorage, Ecuador 02° 30.00' S 080° 04.00' W	Five robbers armed with guns and knives in two fibreglass motorboats boarded the ship underway. They broke open containers and stole goods and escaped in two boats	Containers were broken and some contents of cargo were stolen	Raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	One of the two boats of the robbers was intercepted
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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.145 ANNEX 2
	Coastal State Action Taken								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	HOEGH PUSAN Vehicle carrier Singapore 44219 9153783	04/10/2009 19:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA 620 NM East of Somali Coast, Somalia 01° 47.20' S 056° 07.10' E	Pirates in two unlit boats chased the ship from astern and fired at the ship underway. Master increased speed, carried out evasive manoeuvres, started fire pump and switched on all deck lights. Master reported to coalition forces, increased speed, headed into the wind and sea and activated the SSAS alarm. After about 10 minutes the pirate boats fell behind and the ship moved away	Pirates fired upon the ship causing some damage	Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and activated SSAS	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	SEAGREEN Bulk carrier Panama 25865 8313350	05/10/2009 17:55 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden 13° 38.20' N 050° 50.50' E	Five pirates armed with guns in two high speed boats attempted to board the ship underway. Alarm raised and evasive manoeuvres carried out, parachute signals fired, SSAS activated and coalition warship was contacted. Pirates fired a rocket-propelled grenade, which damaged the starboard bridge wing and the captain's office. Pirates aborted the attempt	Pirates fired upon the ship with a rocket-propelled grenade, which damaged the starboard bridge wing and the captain's office	Alarm raised and evasive manoeuvres carried out, parachute signals fired and SSAS activated	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A coalition warship and a helicopter arrived at the location and chased the pirate boats away
3	ZHONG CHI Product tanker Hong Kong, China 26992 9342097	07/10/2009 08:30 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Gulf of Oman, Oman 25° 01.90' N 058° 05.30' E	Pirates in three speed boats approached the ship whilst underway. Duty officer informed Master, crew alerted and fire hoses rigged. Ten minutes later, ten speed boats chased the ship. Due to anti-piracy measures, pirates aborted attempt	-	Duty officer raised alarm, increased speed and crew activated fire hoses and took anti-piracy preventive measures	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	DELTA IOS Oil tanker Greece 81360 9406685	07/10/2009 10:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 12° 07.00' N 045° 27.60' E	Three skiffs approached the ship underway. Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, enforced preventive anti-piracy measures and contacted coalition warship. Pirates aborted attempt	-	Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, enforced preventive anti-piracy measures	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A coalition warship arrived at the location

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

5	IVER PROSPERITY Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 23421 9351921	11/10/2009 00:12 UTC	WEST AFRICA 27 NM off Conakry, Guinea 09° 15.00' N 014° 01.00' W	Nine pirates armed with machine guns in a 15 metre length speed boat attempted to board the ship underway using hooks and ladders. Master raised alarm, activated distress alert, increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres. Crew mustered and activated fire hoses. The pirates fired upon the ship for 30 minutes and aborted attempt	Pirates fired upon the ship	Master raised alarm, activated DSC alert, increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres. Crew mustered and activated fire hoses	Yes Port authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	MCP SALZBURG General cargo ship Cyprus 5272 9383481	12/10/2009 03:45 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden 12° 15.83' N 044° 04.74' E	A fishing vessel approached the ship underway. Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, raised alarm and contacted coalition warship. At a distance of around 0.5 nm a white and blue hull skiff with 5 armed pirates was launched from the fishing vessel. The skiff approached the ship with a speed of approximately 20 knots. Attack was aborted	-	Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, raised general alarm and contacted coalition warship	Yes Contacted coalition warship	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	WIN LAI FAR Fishing vessel	14/10/2009 10:25 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 06° 29.00' N 107° 43.00' E	Pirates armed with machine guns in a boat chased the ship underway and opened fire at it. Master increased speed and enforced anti piracy preventive measures. Pirates aborted attempt	-	Master increased speed and enforced anti piracy preventive measures	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	THOR SPRING General cargo ship Malta 2815 9015670	16/10/2009 14:05 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 13° 43.50' N 050° 55.50' E	One skiff with 5-6 armed pirates chased and fired upon the ship underway. Master increased speed, carried out evasive manoeuvres and proceeded towards a coalition warship. The vessel had rigged barbed wire along the railing and activated fire hoses. The pirates chased the ship for 40 minutes and aborted the attempt. Bullet holes were seen along the funnel, stern area and accommodation	Pirates fired upon the ship. Bullet holes seen along the funnel. Stern area and accommodation damaged	Increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and proceeded towards a coalition warship	Yes UKMTO Dubai and MSCHOA	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	MSC ISABELLE General cargo ship Panama 5974 8414740	21/10/2009 16:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA 35 NM off Conakry Pilot Station, Guinea 09° 13.00' N 014° 12.00' W	Eight pirates in a small black hull boat approached the ship underway. D/O raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed. As the boat approached at a distance of 150 meters, crew noticed one pirate was holding a rope, two pirates were armed with guns and the others were signalling the ship to stop. D/O increased speed to maximum and continued with evasive manoeuvres. Pirates stopped chasing the ship and aborted attempted boarding	-	D/O raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed	Yes Port control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

10	JOLLY ROSSO Ro-ro-cargo ship Italy 30969 7931777	22/10/2009 04:15 UTC	EAST AFRICA Off Somalia, 03° 45.28' S 046° 43.24' E	Pirates armed with automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades in two skiffs fired upon the ship underway. Master increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres	Pirates fired upon the ship	Master increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
11	CMA CGM MAASAI Container ship Gibraltar (United Kingdom) 14981 9101522	25/10/2009 08:45 UTC	EAST AFRICA Off Somalia, 06° 07.70' S 045° 10.00' E	Six pirates armed with machine guns in a white plastic hull speed boat, chased the ship underway. Master raised alarm, adopted anti-piracy preventive measures and increased to maximum speed. At a distance of about three cables, pirates started firing at the ship. The pirates aborted the attack	Pirates fired upon the ship	Master raised alarm and increased speed to maximum. Crew took anti-piracy preventive measures and sent MAYDAY message	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
12	CAP SAINT VINCENT Fishing vessel France 1169 9225536	27/10/2009 10:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA Off Somalia, 01° 25.00' N 050° 41.00' E	Seven pirates in two skiffs chased and fired upon the fishing vessel underway. Master raised alarm and informed the coalition forces. A helicopter arrived and fired warning shots to stop both skiffs. The skiffs stopped and were seen throwing items overboard. A warship arrived and boarded the skiffs	Pirates fired upon the fishing vessel	Raised alarm	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
13	ALCYON Bulk carrier Bahamas 40570 9225029	31/10/2009 15:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 13° 26.00' N 049° 42.00' E	Two skiffs chased and fired upon the ship underway. The pirates attempted to board the ship. Due to effective anti piracy measures, the pirates aborted attempt	Pirates fired upon the ship	Master raised alarm, sent distress message, took evasive manoeuvres and activated fire pump	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	LIVANITA Bulk carrier Norway 26044 9146558	03/10/2009 15:30 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage 'A', Bangladesh 22° 00.00' N 091° 40.00' E	About ten robbers in a wooden boat approached the ship preparing to anchor and attempted to board it. Alert crew and barbed wire fitted on the ship's side prevented them from boarding	-	Raised alarm and crew threw wooden pieces	Yes Port control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Port control advised the ship to be vigilant
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