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MSC.4/Circ.197
17 June 2013

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during April 2013

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 April 2013 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.

3 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 6,676, an increase of 31 since 31 March 2013.

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 31 March 2013 being MSC.4/Circ.184, MSC.4/Circ.185, MSC.4/Circ.186, MSC.4/Circ.187, MSC.4/Circ.188, MSC.4/Circ.189, MSC.4/Circ.190, MSC.4/Circ.191, MSC.4/Circ.192, MSC.4/Circ.194, MSC.4/Circ.195 and MSC.4/Circ.196.

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.197 ANNEX 1 Coastal State Action Taken
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	HANSA MARBURG Container ship Liberia 18327 9334818	22/04/2013 22:40 LT	WEST AFRICA Around 133nm South of Port Harcourt, Nigeria Nigeria 02° 31.00' N 006° 50.00' E	Armed pirates boarded the ship underway and kidnapped four crew members and escaped. No injuries were reported to the remaining crew members who sailed the ship to Senegal.	Pirates kidnapped four crew members. They were eventually released on 25.05.2013	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	AD PHOENIX Tanker Singapore 1523 9276298	23/04/2013 04:07 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 15nm NE of Bintan Island, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 19.00' N 104° 47.00' E	Five pirates armed with a pistol and long knives in a high speed wooden craft approached and boarded the asphalt tanker underway. They stole crew's cash and personal effects and escaped. Master raised the alarm and attempted to contact the coastal authority but was unsuccessful. No injuries to crew.	Stole crew's cash and personal effects	Raised the alarm	Yes Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
3	HUB 21 Tug Malaysia 296 9616333	24/04/2013 03:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA South China Sea Malaysia 01° 36.00' N 105° 23.00' E	Fifteen pirates armed with guns and long knives in three high speed boats boarded the tug underway. They took hostage nine crew members, assaulted some of the crew and tied them up. They ransacked all cabins, stole ship's property, crew members' cash and personal belongings and escaped.	Nine crew were taken hostage and tied up, some crew were assaulted. The pirates ransacked the cabins, stole ship's property, crew members' cash and personal belongings	-	Yes Kuching Police Station, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	NADIYA MELISENDE Product tanker Kiribati 1584 9118745	24/04/2013 04:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 16nm NE of Bintan Island, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 17.00' N 104° 50.00' E	Pirates boarded the tanker underway and stole crew's personal belongings and cash and escaped. No injuries to crew and the tanker continued its passage.	Crew's cash and personal effects were stolen	Raised the alarm	Yes Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
5	CITY OF XIAMEN Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 26936 9374442	25/04/2013 20:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 45nm WSW of Bass, Nigeria Nigeria 04° 10.00' N 005° 30.00' E	Fourteen heavily armed pirates in two boats (one supply boat with the name "UTAY 8 / UTAI 8" and a speed boat with orange hull and blue wheelhouse) approached and boarded the ship underway. The ship raised the alarm and the crew took shelter in the citadel. The pirates were able to breach the citadel and kidnapped the Master, C/O, C/E, 2/E, 3/E, took crew's cash and escaped. The remaining crew were reported safe.	Pirates breached the citadel and kidnapped the Master, C/O, C/E, 2/E, 3/E, took the crew's cash and escaped	Raised the alarm and the crew took shelter in the citadel	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	CREST 2821 Barge carrier Singapore 59179	29/04/2013 02:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 3.2nm NW of Pulau Batam, Indonesia (Straits of Malacca and Singapore) Indonesia 01° 13.46' N 103° 58.17' E	While the barge carrier was underway from Port Klang to Bintulu, Sarawak, Malaysia, some property on board the barge was reported missing. The theft was only discovered on the same day at about 1600 LT when the Master carried out checks on the barge.	No crew were reported to have been injured. The robbers escaped with offshore installation parts, spare towing wire bridles, towing shackles and delta plates	-	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
2	CREST GOLD1 Tug Singapore 472 9468267	29/04/2013 02:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Singapore Straits Singapore 01° 14.00' N 104° 02.00' E	The tug was towing a barge transiting Singapore Straits towards Bintulu when the Master noticed that ship's property was missing from the barge.	Ship's property stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	CRANE Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 33045 9441283	01/04/2013 00:15 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong anchorage A Bangladesh 22° 16.49' N 091° 44.04' E	During a routine patrol of the ship by staff, approximately six robbers armed with long knives were found on the forecastle. They were gone by the time crew arrived.	-	Sounded the alarm	Yes Chittagong Coast Guard and Port control	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	WEHR BLANKENESE Container ship Marshall Islands 16177 9149902	02/04/2013	SOUTH CHINA SEA Ho Chi Minh City Port Viet Nam	Robbers boarded the ship, broke paint store padlock and took 14 drums of paint.	Ship's stores stolen	-	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	SHER-E PUNJAB Bulk carrier Liberia 43753 9523495	03/04/2013 03:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Adang Bay Anchorage Indonesia	Two robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the bulk carrier from the forecastle and took hostage the duty crew at knife point. OOW called the duty crew on walkie-talkie but did not receive response. Another crew was sent immediately from the stern to check the forward part. When he arrived, the duty crew was found to have been tied-up. The OOW was alerted and he raised the alarm. Two speed boats were seen departing from the ship. All crew mustered and went forward to investigate. Ship's stores had been stolen from the forward store.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	GARDEN CITY RIVER Oil tanker Singapore 56146 9302970	04/04/2013 22:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Inner Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.00' N 101° 29.00' E	Robbers boarded the anchored tanker. They stole engine spares and escaped unnoticed. The theft was noticed the next day when foot prints were noticed near the store. Incident was reported to the local authorities through the agents.	Engine spares stolen	Raised the alarm and the crew searched the ship	Yes Not stated	Indonesia ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

5	MAERSK BERING Chemical tanker Singapore 19758 9299422	06/04/2013 13:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 56.90' N 098° 44.10' E	Robbers boarded the anchored tanker unnoticed, stole ship's property and escaped unnoticed. The robbery was reported to the authorities and local agent. Local agent informed the Master that the robbers' representative was willing to sell back the stolen property to the Master.	Ship's property stolen	Raised the alarm and ship search carried out for stowaways	Yes Port authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	WESTGATE Bulk carrier Liberia 17025 9493224	09/04/2013 05:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Ho Chi Minh Port Viet Nam 10° 34.00' N 107° 01.00' E	Robbers boarded the bulk carrier at berth, stole ship's property and escaped unnoticed.	Ship's property stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	RMS BAERL General cargo ship Antigua and Barbuda 2136 9194311	11/04/2013 23:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Freetown Inner Roads, Sierra Leone Sierra Leone 08° 30.00' N 013° 11.00' W	Master on board the anchored cargo ship noticed a boat approaching them and sent an A/B to investigate. Master noticed that the robbers were already on board and they caught the A/B and laid him on the deck at knife point. Alarm was raised, Master and C/O went forward to assist the A/B but the robbers threatened them and they had to retreat into the accommodation and called the security vessel and the company's local supervisor. The security vessel arrived and investigated but the robbers had escaped with ship's stores and property.	Robbers caught the A/B and laid him on the deck at knife point and they stole ship's stores and property	Raised the alarm and called the security ship	Yes Sierra Leone Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A patrol boat was dispatched to the location
8	DENSA JAGUAR Bulk carrier Malta 33331 9586837	13/04/2013 02:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Surabaya Port, Indonesia Indonesia 07° 05.60' S 112° 39.50' E	Three robbers in a small boat armed with long knives approached the berthed ship. Duty A/B noticed the robbers, informed the OOW and retreated into the accommodation. Alarm was raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped without stealing anything. Incident was reported to port control. Deck patrols were increased.	Robbers broke the lock of bosun's store door	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	UNIQUE GUARDIAN Tanker Hong Kong, China 29411 9540821	13/04/2013 09:30 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Talara Anchorage Peru 04° 34.40' S 081° 19.10' W	OOW on board the anchored tanker sighted two robbers armed with long knives and notified C/O who raised the alarm. On hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores. All crew were safe.	Ship's stores stolen	Raised the alarm and the crew mustered	Yes Coast Guard through local agents	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

10	MAERSK NIENBURG Container ship Hong Kong, China 26836 9446104	15/04/2013 10:40 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Guayaquil, Ecuador Ecuador	A group of armed robbers in a boat approached and boarded the ship departing from the berth. Alarm was raised and all crew members mustered in the accommodation and locked all the doors. The CSO contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre and requested assistance. The Centre contacted the Ecuador Maritime Authorities and a coast guard patrol boat was sent to the location. On arrival it was noticed that the robbers had already left the ship. All crew were safe. The ship continued her passage under pilotage with the patrol boat.	-	Raised the alarm and all crew members mustered in the accommodation and locked all the doors	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A coast guard patrol boat came to the location and provided necessary assistance
11	SHAMROCK Ro-ro-cargo ship Barbados 4654 9208435	16/04/2013 05:00	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Cartagena Inner Anchorage, Colombia Colombia 10° 22.00' N 075° 33.00' W	OOW observed a boat with several persons maneuvering in the vicinity of the ship. Two watchmen were sent to check and they observed the ship for some time and then while returning they heard noises from the aft part of the ship. When they went closer to investigate they saw a few robbers near the paint locker. They informed OOW who raised the alarm and all the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in their boat. On investigation it was found that the paint locker, CO2 station, oxygen locker and engine compartment doors were opened and stores stolen. Port control and agent contacted.	Robbers stole ship's stores	Raised the alarm and the crew mustered	Yes Port Control and Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
12	IVS MAGPIE Bulk carrier Singapore 17019 9604732	17/04/2013 02:10 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Canpha Outer Anchorage, Viet Nam Viet Nam	Three robbers boarded the ship via her forward bow and hawse pipe unnoticed. Duty A/B noticed them lowering ropes into a waiting boat and informed the Master who raised the alarm and alerted the crew. The crew tried to recover the ropes by using the winch but the robbers cut off the ropes and escaped.	Ship's property stolen	Raised the alarm and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
13	CORINTH General cargo ship Marshall Islands 19795 9261011	18/04/2013 00:10 UTC	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Anchorage Congo 04° 44.80' S 011° 48.70' E	Three robbers in a small boat approached and attempted to board the anchored ship. Alert duty crew spotted the robbers climbing the anchor chain and raised the alarm. On hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped into the water and escaped empty-handed. Incident was reported to the port control.	-	Raised the alarm and crew mustered	Yes Port control	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

14	SINGAPORE RIVER Oil tanker Singapore 59258 9402263	19/04/2013 02:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Inner Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 41.45' N 101° 30.74' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored tanker from the poop deck and caught and tied up the duty A/B at knife-point. They tried but failed to enter the engine room. They also failed to open the hatch on the poop deck. They eventually escaped with stolen personal items and ship's property.	Duty A/B was tied up and held at knife-point. The stolen items included a silver chain with pendant, a torch light and a messenger line	All crew mustered and all stores and engine room were checked	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
15	ENG TOU 266 Barge carrier Singapore 624 9615195	22/04/2013 22:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Off Tanjung Ayajm, Malaysia Malaysia 01° 19.42' N 104° 10.10' E	A crew from a neighbouring barge noticed an unknown tug boat pulling the cargo barge.	No injuries to crew reported. Barge was stolen	-	Yes Malaysian Marine Police	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Statement taken by Pengerang Police
16	FAIRCHEM MAVERICK Chemical tanker Panama 12042 9558402	27/04/2013 15:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Berth Ocean Quay 106, Belawan Port, Indonesia Indonesia	Two robbers in a boat approached and boarded the berthed tanker and broke into the tank cleaning gear locker and stole ship's property. Duty crew noticed the robbers, raised the alarm and ran towards the robbers. On hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with the stolen items. Incident was reported to the local agents.	Ship's property stolen	Duty crew raised the alarm and ran towards the robbers	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
17	KOHINOOR General cargo ship Panama 20236 9400954	30/04/2013 20:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Port, Indonesia Indonesia 03° 47.00' N 098° 42.00' E	Robbers boarded the berthed general cargo ship while the crew were involved with customs and immigration matters and getting the ship ready to discharge. Duty A/B noticed the robbers at the poop deck and immediately reported to the OOW who raised the alarm. On seeing alerted crew, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores.	Robbers stole ship's stores	Raised the alarm, the crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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.197 ANNEX 2 Coastal State Action Taken
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	CONDOR Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 8090 9224659	01/04/2013 09:00	ARABIAN SEA At sea Oman 22° 34.50' N 060° 14.40' E	The ship was chased by eight speed boats.	-	Security team took “shooting” position. Crew were in the citadel. Ship increased RPM to maximum and took evasive manoeuvres	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	ALPHA KIRAWIRA General cargo ship Sierra Leone 1200 9563897	02/04/2013 07:00 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Around 13nm South of Baraawe Somalia 00° 52.00' N 044° 01.00' E	Around seven to eight armed pirates in a skiff approached and fired at the ship underway. The on board armed security team fired warning shots, resulting in the pirates moving away.	Pirates fired at the ship	Raised the alarm, increased speed, crew mustered in the citadel and the on board armed security team fired warning shots	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	CAP THEODORA Tanker Greece 81324 9380740	16/04/2013 00:12 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 174nm South of Port Harcourt, Nigeria Nigeria 01° 48.00' N 006° 46.00' E	Armed pirates in a skiff approached and fired at the tanker underway. Alarm was raised, SSAS alert and distress signals activated, fire pump was started, crew proceeded to their emergency stations and citadel, speed was increased and evasive manoeuvres were made. After around 20 minutes the skiff aborted the attack and moved away. Crew were safe.	Armed pirates in a skiff fired at the tanker and attempted to board	Raised the alarm activated SSAS alert and distress signals	Yes Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) Stavanger	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	BOSUN Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 30024 9228540	24/04/2013 23:45 LT	WEST AFRICA 32nm SSW of coast, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 51.00' N 005° 40.00' E	Pirates in a speed boat chased and fired at the container ship underway. The ship increased speed and evaded the boarding.	Pirates fired at the ship	Increased the ship's speed	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	CITY OF GUANGZHOU Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 26936 9374454	26/04/2013 18:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 83nm WSW of Brass, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 48.00' N 004° 57.00' E	Pirates in a boat attempted to attack the container ship underway. The Master raised the alarm, switched off all the ship's lights, altered course and increased the ship's speed. The boat chased the ship for an hour and aborted the attempted attack.	-	Raised the alarm, switched off ship's lights, altered course and increased the ship's speed	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

1	IVER EXACT Chemical tanker Gibraltar (United Kingdom) 29456 9307982	03/04/2013 03:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.00' N 101° 25.00' E	Four robbers in a boat came close to boarding the anchored tanker. The duty officer detected the boat, shouted using a loudhailer and flashed light. The watchman blew the ship's horn. The robbers noticed the crew's alertness and moved away. All crew were safe.	-	The duty officer shouted using a loudhailer and flashed light and the watchman blew the ship's horn	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (The Netherlands)	-
2	NEW CENTURY Oil tanker Marshall Islands 41994 9298272	05/04/2013 06:40 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Visakhapatnam Anchorage India 17° 39.00' N 083° 24.00' E	Seven robbers in three fishing boats approached the anchored tanker. Two robbers managed to reach the ship rails using hooks attached to heaving lines but were noticed by the alert duty crew who raised the alarm and prevented the robbers from gaining access to the ship's decks. The robbers moved away from the boat and waited a short distance away. Incident was reported to port control and a patrol boat came and searched the waters around the tanker.	-	Raised the alarm	Yes Port Control	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	A patrol boat came and searched the waters around the tanker

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