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MSC.4/Circ.11
31 December 2001

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during December 2001

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 November 2001 and 31 December 2001, including a distinction between acts of piracy, acts of armed robbery against ships (Annex 1) and attempted attacks (Annex 2).

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 2,511, an increase of 26 since 30 November 2001.

3 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 current year being MSC/Circ.989, MSC/Circ.990, MSC/Circ.992, MSC.4/Circ.1, MSC.4/Circ.2, MSC.4/Circ.3, MSC.4/Circ.5, MSC.4/Circ.6, MSC.4/Circ.7, MSC.4/Circ.9 and MSC.4/Circ.10.

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 draft Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (MSC/Circ.984) (article 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."

ANNEX 1

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

Nº	Ship's name Type of ship Flag Gross tonnage IMO No.	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. 11 ANNEX 1 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	COURAGEVENTURE Chemical tanker Liberia 18812 7913804	25/09/2001 03:00 LT	Deer Draft, Southern Pier Kakinada Port (India)	Two armed robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor. AB spotted them lowering mooring rope on poop deck stbd side and they jumped overboard and escaped in a motorboat	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Local agents, security at the port and Port Control informed	Liberia	-
2	STOLT HELLULAND Chemical tanker Liberia 18994 8906925	12/11/2001	Dakar (Senegal)	Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while underway. When spotted on the aft poop deck throwing mooring lines over the side, they threatened crew and later escaped	Two mooring lines stolen	Alarm raised and search conducted	Yes. Dakar Port Control informed	Liberia	-
3	SIAM BHAVAS Tanker Thailand 3374 7706524	20/11/2001 01:00 LT	Belawan anchorage (Indonesia)	Six robbers armed with an axe boarded the ship from a small boat, while at anchor. They threatened the watchman and escaped when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes. SAR, PUSKODAL, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	SCARLET TRADER Tanker Norway 17635 7359527	05/12/2001 12:10 LT	Sandakan Port, Sabah (Malaysia)	Robbers armed with rifles boarded the ship, while at anchor. They held hostage a crew member, broke into the paint store and later escaped in a speedboat.	400 litres of paint stolen	-	Yes. Marine Police Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	BETEIGEUZE Bulk carrier Malta 13705 8909135	05/12/2001 02:30 LT	Jakarta anchorage (Indonesia)	About ten robbers armed with gun and long knives boarded the ship, while at anchor. They broke into the engine room and then escaped	Ship's spares and equipment stolen	-	Yes. SAR/PUSKODAL, Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	YALIE ISLAND Tanker Belize 1145 6823313	05/12/2001	South China Sea	Pirates hijacked the ship, while underway. The ship was later found near Tg. Setapak, Johor, (Malaysia)	Captain and crew missing; cargo of diesel oil stolen	-	Yes. All the authorities in the region informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Royal Malaysian Marine Police located vessel on 12.12.01. Captain and crew missing
7	HELENA Chemical tanker Malaysia 4509 8417912	05/12/2001 18:15 LT	21°52'.70N 088°04'.30E Hooghly river (India)	Seven robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship from a boat and escaped when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, New Delhi, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8	CAP TRIUNFO Refrigerated cargo carrier Liberia 8487 8801802	06/12/2001 01:00 LT	05°11'60N 004°01'.80W (Côte d'Ivoire)	Robbers armed with knives and long bolos boarded the ship, while underway	Watchman held hostage and wounded. Four mooring lines, one portable VHF and one personal wrist watch stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Abidjan Port Control and the Agency informed	United Kingdom	-
9	UNI-OBTAIN Container ship Panama 19698 8113865	06/12/2001 04:45 LT	Djakarta anchorage (Indonesia)	An armed robber boarded the ship, while at anchor. AB spotted the armed robber's boat escaping from the ship's port side	One inflatable life raft stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. PUSKODAL, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
10	KOTA MEWAH Container ship Singapore 15689 7909516	06/12/2001 03:00 LT	Chennai anchorage (India)	Robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship from a small boat, while at anchor and escaped when spotted by the duty A/B	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Chennai Port Control and Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Port Police investigated
11	MERCOSUL URUGUAY Container ship Netherlands 6114 9163556	06/12/2001 04:50 LT	Pilot station, Guayaquil (Ecuador)	Seven robbers armed with guns boarded the ship from a speedboat, while underway. They broke into six containers and later escaped when spotted by the crew	Commodities from six containers stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Pilot station and Ecuadorian authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Pilot board with armed guards assisted
12	FIONA R General cargo ship Panama 15893 8314639	06/12/2001 02:20 LT	Douala port (Cameroon)	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor. They later jumped overboard and escaped in a small boat when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. PRC informed authorities	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
13	FIONA R General cargo ship Panama 15893 8314639	08/12/2001 03:15 LT	Libreville road (Gabon)	Four robbers armed with guns boarded the ship and fired upon the bridge, while underway, and later escaped when spotted	Cargo from containers stolen	Raised alarm, fired signal rockets and sent a distress signal	Yes. Port Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Port control could not send help
14	ANDROMEDA Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 35783 8207800	10/12/2001 21:30 LT	01°15'.10N 104°03'.60E Singapore Straits	Pirates boarded the ship, while underway and escaped when spotted	-	Alarm raised and switched on deck lights	Yes. Singapore port control and PUSKODAL, Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
15	HESIOD Chemical tanker Bahamas 20684 7224100	10/12/2001 05:15 LT	Kakinada anchorage (India)	Armed robbers boarded the ship from the forecastle, while at anchor and escaped when spotted. In another incident, robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and in an attempt to steal the fire hose set off the fire alarm and escaped	Two mooring ropes stolen	-	Yes. Kakinada Port Authority and Coast Guard, Chennai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16	MONALISA Chemical tanker Singapore 3802 8113748	14/12/2001 03:15 LT	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	Armed robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Three mooring ropes stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port control and Coast Guard, Chittagong, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
17	WISE KING Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 12283 8515037	15/12/2001 03:00 LT	Abidjan anchorage (Côte d'Ivoire)	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor. They gagged and tied the watchkeeper to the flag post with a piece of his overall and escaped when spotted	Ship's stores and one radio stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Naval Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
18	JUTHA MALEE General cargo ship Thailand 9975 7716397	17/12/2001 03:00 LT	Sandakan anchorage (Malaysia)	One armed robber boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped by boat when spotted by the ship's anti- piracy watch	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Marine Police Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC 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

Nº	Ship's name Type of ship Flag Gross tonnage IMO No.	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. 11 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	HANS OLDEFDORFF Bulk carrier Liberia 17630 9052733	02/12/2001 04:10 LT	00°09'.50N 017°10'.00W Conakry (Guinea)	Armed robbers in two unlit boats approached the ship, while underway and abandoned boarding when spotted	-	Duty officer altered course, fired rockets and directed searchlights which prevented boarding	Yes. Authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	HESIOD Chemical tanker Bahamas 20684 7224100	09/12/2001 18:30 LT	Kakinada anchorage (India)	Armed robbers attempted to board the ship, while at anchor, using ropes and hooks. They abandoned the boarding when spotted by the crew	-	-	Yes. Kakinada Port Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	FAARABI General cargo ship Iran (Islamic Republic of) 13164 7631482	14/12/2001 03:00 LT	Lagos anchorage (Nigeria)	Six armed robbers in an unlit small-motorised boat attempted to board the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Naval Communication Centre informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	RIBUAN JAYA General cargo ship Malaysia 1504 6812687	15/12/2001 02:35 LT	01°03'.00N 103°39'.10E Philip Channel	Fourteen pirates armed with rifles and long knives in a dark yellow coloured boat attempted to board the ship, while underway and escaped when spotted by the officer on duty	-	Raised alarm and directed an Aldis light at the pirate boat	Yes. MPA, Singapore, and SAR, Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	BANGA BARTA Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 5505	16/12/2001 01:40 LT	19°47'.50N 092°00'.00E Chittagong port (Bangladesh)	A grey speedboat with number 421 at bow and resembling a Naval gunboat followed the ship very closely, while underway. Master was ordered on VHF to stop the ship under threat of gunfire but did not comply. The speedboat banged the ship's side and fired one shot and later abandoned chase when crew took evasive measures	-	Raised alarm, switched on deck lights, activated fire hoses and took evasive manoeuvres	Coast Guard, Chittagong and MRCC, Yangon, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	WAL ULANGA Container ship Germany 16801 9144160	20/12/2001 03:45 LT	Lagos roads (Nigeria)	Six armed robbers in a boat attempted to board the ship and escaped when spotted by the duty A/B	-	Raised alarm and activated fire hoses	Yes. Ports Authority and Nigerian Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	COROMANDEL Tanker Hong Kong, China 24248 8601848	24/12/2001 07:21 LT	04°33'.00S 113°12'.00E Kalimantan coast	Pirates in a speedboat with a bamboo ladder attempted to board the ship, while underway and escaped when spotted	-	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, PUSKODAL, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
8	UNITED OCEAN Bulk carrier Panama 26028 9163477	24/12/2001 10:35 LT	12°30'.00N 044°49'.00E Little Aden (Gulf of Aden)	Six robbers in wooden boats attempted to board the ship, while underway and escaped when spotted	-	Alarm raised. Crew mustered on deck and altered course	Yes. French Defence Forces, Djibouti, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	French Navy contacted vessel and offered assistance

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