



Ref. T2-MSS/2.11.4.1

MSC.4/Circ.113
18 January 2008

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during December 2007

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 2007 and 31 December 2007, 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 4,515, an increase of 16 since 30 November 2007.

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 November 2007 being MSC.4/Circ.96, MSC.4/Circ.97, MSC.4/Circ.98, MSC.4/Circ.99, MSC.4/Circ.100, MSC.4/Circ.101, MSC.4/Circ.102, MSC.4/Circ.103, MSC.4/Circ.104, MSC.4/Circ.105, MSC.4/Circ.106, MSC.4/Circ.107, MSC.4/Circ.108, MSC.4/Circ.109, MSC.4/Circ.110 MSC.4/Circ.111 and MSC.4/Circ.112.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	NA Fishing vessel Guyana	09/12/2007 18:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (A) 16NM offshore Suriname	Five masked pirates armed with guns approached and boarded the fishing vessel underway. They fired several shots and ordered the crew to lie on the ice box. They then locked the crew in the fish pen. The pirates held two crew members hostage at gunpoint and ordered them to discharge the fish into their boat. Before leaving the vessel, the pirates stole a drum of gasoline, one propeller, vessel's property and two cell phones. They destroyed the vessel's engine coil and escaped. The vessel was drifting until the next day afternoon, when another fishing vessel towed it to Mahaica bridge area. Incident was reported to Mahaica police station	Crew members assaulted and held hostage; vessel's engine coil damaged, vessel's property and crew's belongings stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Mahaica police station and MRCC Georgetown, Guyana	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	JAMAL MASSRY Tanker Gambia 3976 7361465	16/12/2007 21:15 UTC	WEST AFRICA Off Sierra Leone Sierra Leone 08° 48.50' N 013° 57.00' W	Eight pirates armed with AK47 guns and dressed in military fatigues boarded the ship underway. They fired warning shots into the air and held the master and crew hostage. Pirates stole cash, crew's personal belongings, ship's property and escaped at 0001 UTC. No injuries to crew	Master and crew members assaulted; cash, crew's personal belongings and ship's property stolen	Raised alarm and activated SSAS	Yes Embassy of Sierra Leone, United Kingdom	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	ASARI Tanker Liberia 18526 8228270	17/08/2007 02:10 UTC	WEST AFRICA Off Lagos, 6NM SW from Fairway Buoy Nigeria 06° 19.00' N 003° 19.00' E	During security patrol on ship's aft station, one AB received a blow to his head. When he tried to defend himself, two more robbers armed with knives came on board and tied him up. An OS on a second patrol raised the alarm causing the robbers to flee in a big boat from ship's stern, taking with them mooring ropes from winches and synthetic emergency towing pennant. The injured AB was freed. Attempts to contact the Nigerian Navy were unsuccessful	One crew member injured and and ship's equipment stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	No -	Liberia/ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Attempts to contact the Nigerian Navy were unsuccessful
2	BOREAL Bulk carrier Liberia 38938 9262936	31/08/2007 19:10 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Tanjung Bara anchorage Indonesia 00° 32.00' N 117° 42.00' E	While the deck watchmen were distracted by close passage of a fishing boat and the forecastle post was unmanned for approx. 20 minutes, about six robbers armed with knives boarded the ship using a rope with hook from an unlit boat. The robbers escaped after the returning duty OS raised the general alarm	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port authorities	Liberia/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.113 ANNEX
									Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

3	FREDRIKE OLDENDORFF Bulk carrier Liberia 26586 9146003	07/12/2007 02:06 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lagos anchorage Nigeria 06° 14.00' N 003° 22.00' E	Two robbers, armed with guns and knives, boarded the drifting ship. The robbers tied up the aft watchmen. The forward watchman sighted the robbers, ran into accommodation and locked all entrance doors. Duty officer informed, alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers immediately jumped overboard and fled in a waiting wooden motorboat. The two watchmen had slight injuries. Port control was informed	Crew members assaulted and injured	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port Control and the Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	JASPER S Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 9957 9390472	09/12/2007 04:30 LT	EAST AFRICA Port of Dar-es-Salaam United Republic of Tanzania 06° 44.00' S 039° 32.00' E	While drifting, the ship was boarded by robbers unnoticed. They broke padlocks, removed container lashings bars and stole ship's stores and cargo. On carrying out a search, only footprints were noticed. Port control was informed	Ship's stores and cargo stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port Control and the Tanzania High Commission, United Kingdom	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	CONSTANTI- NOUPOLIS Bulk carrier Philippines 68418 7930656	25/12/2007 07:15 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Samarinda anchorage Indonesia 01° 09.10' S 117° 13.70' E	Duty crew on board the ship noticed robbers on the poop deck. As he alerted other crew, the robbers who had hidden behind the winches attacked him with iron pipes. Realising that all crew had been alerted, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped empty handed	Crew member sustained bruises on his back and abrasions on his shoulder	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Indonesian Navy HQ, Indonesian Marine Police HQ, SAR Jakarta and Bakorkamla	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	JAG PAYAL Chemical tanker India 23304 9352195	28/12/2007 01:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos anchorage Nigeria 06° 20.00' N 003° 20.00' E	Armed robbers boarded the ship during ship-to-ship operations. As crew were involved in cargo operations, anti-piracy watch was maintained with one crew forward and one aft. The robbers held the aft watch keeper at knifepoint and beat him severely. His hands and legs were tied up. Robbers stole ship's stores and equipment and escaped in a waiting boat. Injured crew received first aid treatment on board. Attempts to contact port control and local agents for help were unsuccessful	Crew member assaulted and injured; ship's stores and equipment stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Attempts to contact Port Control and local agents were unsuccessful

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

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

7	KRITON Tanker Bahamas 28933 8904264	31/12/2007 01:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lagos anchorage Nigeria 06° 16.10' N 003° 18.30' E	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the ship from the port quarter while the duty watch keeper was on the starboard side. The robbers held the watch keeper at knifepoint, threatened him and stole his personal belongings. The second watch keeper noticed the robbers and informed the duty officer. Alarm was raised and crew alerted. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped in a small wooden boat	Crew member threatened and personal belongings stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
---	---	-------------------------	--	--	---	--------------------------------	---	--	---

IN PORT AREA

1	DELMAS CAMEROUN Container ship Liberia 19131 9182631	26/09/2007 05:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Outer Luanda anchorage Angola	During security rounds, the deck watch duty officer reported forecastle store's two padlocks broken, one coil of mooring rope and three drums of paint were stolen	Forecastle store's padlocks broken and ship's equipment and stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Port authorities	Liberia	-
2	CLAN TANGUN Container ship Liberia 21531 9126481	16/10/2007 20:12 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao anchorage No. 1, 3.3NM off the breakwater Peru	After dropping anchor and as two crew members were preparing the pilot ladder, eight armed robbers came on board from forecastle and put a knife to one of the crew's throat, wrestled him down and tied him up. The other crew member spotted one of the armed robbers and another ship, CORDILLERA, which was anchored four cables away confirmed on VHF that several robbers had boarded the ship. The robbers escaped in a small piroque-like craft. Peruvian Coast Guard was alerted via VHF. Two search teams led by officers armed with crowbars were established	One crew member assaulted, deck store's padlock broken and ship's equipment stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Coast Guard, Peru and local port authorities	Liberia/ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Patrol boats initiated a search of the area. Port authorities and the ship's agent boarded the ship. Four additional security guards were brought on board.
3	GRAND MIRSIDINI Bulk carrier Liberia 91188 9031272	22/10/2007 05:30 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) San Nicolas anchorage Peru 15° 13.10' S 075° 15.10' W	Four robbers in a small flat white-hulled boat, boarded via the anchor chain and attempted to steal one coil of mooring rope. When noticed and security alerts were put in place, they fled from the ship	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	No -	Liberia/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.113 ANNEX
									Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

4	CAP FINISTERRE Container ship Liberia 29841 8710986	26/10/2007 08:15 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Santos anchorage Brazil	The ship was approached by robbers in a boat. Two robbers remained inside the boat and one robber, armed with a gun, boarded the ship at forecastle by anchor chain. The general alarm was raised and all the crew mustered on the bridge, accommodation was sealed from inside, red signal flares were activated from the bridge and the robbers fled. Santos authorities and other ships in the vicinity were informed by VHF. Seventeen containers were partly open with broken seals	Seventeen containers were partly open, with broken seals	Raised alarm, mustered crew and informed other ships in the vicinity	Yes Santos port authorities and the Federal Police	Liberia/ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Federal Police boat arrived at the scene
5	HYUNDAI CONCORD Container ship Panama 13267 9278985	17/12/2007 04:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Manila North anchorage Philippines 14° 35.20' N 120° 52.50' E	Eight armed robbers boarded the ship at anchor, awaiting berthing instructions. They were spotted by the anti-piracy watch and reported to the D/O. Alarm was raised and crew alerted. The robbers jumped overboard and escaped in a waiting boat. Nothing was stolen	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Manila port authorities and the Philippines Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	ALTHEA Bulk carrier Malta 17697 9224855	24/12/2007 03:10 UTC	WEST AFRICA Apapa berth No. 20, Lagos Nigeria	Four robbers boarded the ship at berth from a boat. They held one crew at knife-point while they tried to open the bosun store. The duty 2nd officer on routine security rounds noticed the robbers. On seeing the alert crew, the robbers escaped. It was observed that there were 20 robbers in two boats. Nothing was stolen	Crew member assaulted	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	ALTHEA Bulk carrier Malta 17697 9224855	31/12/2007 03:40 UTC	WEST AFRICA Berth No. 20, Apapa, Lagos Nigeria	Two armed robbers boarded the berthed ship, during cargo operations using a long stick with hook. Two more robbers remained in the speedboat. Watchmen spotted them and raised alarm. Armed policemen arrived on scene and tried to stop the robbers but the robbers resisted. Police opened fire and one robber was injured. The robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Nothing was stolen	One crew member injured	Alarm raised	Yes Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Armed policemen arrived on scene and tried to stop the robbers but the robbers resisted. Police opened fire and one robber was injured

* 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