



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC.4/Circ.15
2 April 2002

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during March 2002

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 28 February 2002 and 31 March 2002, including a distinction between acts of piracy and 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 2,626, an increase of 21 since 28 February 2002.

3 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by various MSC circulars, the previous one issued during the current year being MSC.4/Circ.14.

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."

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. 15 ANNEX 1 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	BLADE RUNNER Bulk carrier Malta 16498 7530468	09/03/2002 20:30 LT	Burgas port (Bulgaria)	Eight robbers boarded the ship and broke into crew's cabins. They were later arrested by the authorities	US\$700 and personal belongings stolen	Raised alarm and caught the robbers	Yes. Port Authority and RCSC Burgas, Bulgaria, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Police arrested the robbers
2	RAINIER Bulk carrier Panama 17806 7525475	11/03/2002 03:00 LT	Belawan anchorage (Indonesia)	An armed robber boarded the ship, while at anchor and opened the hawse pipe cover. Five more robbers climbed in through an anchor chain and attacked the duty A/B. When spotted, they jumped overboard and escaped in a wooden motorboat	One crew injured	Raised alarm and chased the robbers	Yes. SAR Basarnas, Indonesia, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	KOTA SABAS Container ship Singapore 12549 7427697	13/03/2002 02:40 LT	Berth No. 11, Container Terminal, Dar-Es-Salam (Tanzania)	Robbers armed with knives and daggers boarded the ship and threatened to kill five duty watchmen. When spotted they jumped overboard and escaped	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port Control and Tanzanian High Commission, London, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Security patrol boat searched the area
4	BELLATRIX Livestock carrier Panama 4481 7510858	14/03/2002 22:40 LT	01°51'.69N 102°27'.54E Malacca Strait	Four pirates boarded the ship, while underway, then fired two shots towards bridge and ordered crew to retreat into accommodation. They then lowered mooring ropes and escaped in a waiting speedboat which had another six to eight pirates onboard	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm, mustered crew and sounded ship's horn continuously	Yes. Port Klang VTS and Marine Police, Malaysia, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Police boat arrived within one hour and investigated
5	GOLDEN ALOE Bulk carrier Philippines 25982 9154610	14/03/2002 07:15 UTC	Manta port (Ecuador)	Three robbers were noticed on board the ship, while at anchor, near the paint locker and three more were seen at forecastle. When spotted by the duty A/B, jumped overboard and escaped. Two armed local watchmen, required by authorities, were not helpful	Ten 20-litre tins of paints, three life jackets and three pieces of chain lever stolen	Duty A/B raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coast Guard, Ecuador, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	EMA OLDENDORFF Bulk carrier Liberia 11264 9084255	15/03/2002 02:30 LT	Lagos Anchorage (Nigeria)	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and held one A/B hostage. When confronted by the 2nd officer who was assisted by two deck watchmen the robbers jumped overboard and escaped	Ship stores stolen and crew held hostage	Raised alarm and confronted robbers	Yes. Port Control and Nigerian Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC 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

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. 15 ANNEX 1 Page 2
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	SUISEN Bulk carrier Cambodia 16537 7342471	15/03/2002 07:55 LT	Pussur River, Inner Anchorage, Mongla (Bangladesh)	Armed robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Wire rope stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
8	SUISEN Bulk carrier Cambodia 16537 7342471	15/03/2002 09:00 LT	Pussur River, Inner Anchorage, Mongla (Bangladesh)	Three armed robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor, via anchor chain, from a small boat. Ch. Officer was attacked with a long knife and when crew came to his rescue, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped.	Mooring ropes stolen and Ch. Officer attacked	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard came at 1000LT and investigated
9	BHARATIDASAN Bulk carrier India 15044 8810920	18/03/2002	22°05'.50N 088°12'.60E Kalpi anchorage, Hugli river (India)	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Two mooring ropes stolen	Maintained anti- piracy watch	Yes. MRCC, Mumbai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
10	LOK PRAKASH Bulk carrier India 16835 8126769	18/03/2002 04:00 LT	01°00'.00S 117°18'.30E Samarinda outer anchorage (Indonesia)	Three boats approached from starboard side and some robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor. Duty officer directed searchlight on the boats and they later escaped	Two life rafts stolen	Maintained anti- piracy watch	Yes. MRCC, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
11	ASTRO LYRA Oil tanker Greece 153429 9042063	19/03/2002 04:45 LT	Balikpapan anchorage (Indonesia)	Three armed robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and entered the steering gear room. When spotted, they jumped overboard and escaped	Engine spares stolen	Maintained anti- piracy watch	Yes. MRCC, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
12	BALTIC TRADER	20/03/2002	06°17'.40N 003°23'.10E Lagos anchorage (Nigeria)	Two robbers armed with guns boarded the ship, while at anchor and held A/B hostage. They lowered one mooring rope into a waiting boat, released the A/B and escaped in their boat	One mooring rope stolen	Raised alarm and manned anti- piracy watch	Yes. Communication Centre, Nigerian Navy, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
13	HERMION Gas carrier-LPG Norway 15399 8216007	22/03/2002 03:15 LT	Jetty No. 1, Haldia (India)	Robbers boarded the ship from the forecastle, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Hawsers stolen	-	Yes. MRCC, Mumbai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
14	SWEET LADY II Bulk carrier Malta 35350 7917111	22/03/2002 02:35 LT	Vung Tau outer anchorage (Viet Nam)	Three to four robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor	-	-	-	-	-

*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

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. 15 ANNEX 1 Page 3
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	VOSTOCHNYY Tanker Ukraine 1896 8711772	27/03/2002 05:20 UTC	10°04'.00N 016°20'.35W 120 NM off Conakry, Guinea	About ten pirates with machine guns boarded the ship, while underway and robbed Master and crew	US\$14,000 and ship's properties stolen	-	Yes. Authorities and the Malaysian Embassy, Conakry, Guinea, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
16	DIAMOND HALO Bulk carrier Panama 25074 9132868	28/03/2002 02:12 LT	01°54'.00S 116°37'.90E Apar Bay (Indonesia)	Seven robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the ship, while at anchor	One crew held hostage, mooring rope and wrist watch stolen	-	Yes. MRCC, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC 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

ANNEX 2

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

N°	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. 15 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	JOLLY Container ship Cyprus 27103 8907943	24/02/2002 04:15 LT	Penang Anchorage (Malaysia)	Five robbers attempted to board the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor. They abandoned attempt when spotted by anti-piracy watch	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Local Security Forces and Marine Police, Malaysia, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	AL-NOOF Container ship Qatar 48154 9149770	10/03/2002 22:00 LT	04°09'.80N 099°25'.60E Malacca Strait	Persons in a speedboat doing 21.5 knots attempted to board the ship from port side, while underway. When spotted by the duty officer, they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and took evasive measures	Yes. Marine Police, Malaysia, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	MOGAMIGAWA Tanker Japan 160229 9229439	11/03/2002 05:40 LT	02°35'.00N 101°30'.00W Malacca Strait	Three robbers in a high-speed boat, six metres long with white hull, attempted to board the tanker from starboard quarter, while underway. They abandoned attempt when spotted	-	Raised alarm and directed searchlights at the boat	Yes. Marine Police, Malaysia, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	TORM ANNE Tanker Singapore 28932 9180982	21/03/2002 04:20 LT	Jetty 5C, Pertamina Terminal, Balikpapan (Indonesia)	A small unlit boat approached the ship from aft, while berthed. Anti-piracy watchman alerted the watchmen and police and they abandoned attempt	-	Maintained anti-piracy watch	Yes. MRCC, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	WADI ALKARNAK Bulk carrier Egypt 37550 9127136	26/03/2002	Balikpapan coal terminal (Indonesia)	Three robbers armed with knives attempted to board the ship from forward, while berthed and abandoned attempt when spotted by the crew	-	-	Yes. MRCC, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC 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