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MSC.4/Circ.18
10 June 2002

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during May 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 30 April 2002 and 31 May 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 2,678, an increase of 28 since 30 April 2002.

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.4/Circ.13, MSC.4/Circ.14, MSC.4/Circ.15, MSC.4/Circ.16 and MSC 4/Circ.17.

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. 18 ANNEX 1 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	SEA BRILLIANCE Bulk carrier Liberia 22361 8307167	25/03/2002 00:45	Owendo anchorage (Gabon)	About twelve robbers armed with guns, knives and dynamites boarded the ship through the hawse, while at anchor. They attacked and held two crew members hostage demanding ransom from the Master. When their request was not met they beat and seriously injured the Master, ransacked the ship while firing guns and then escaped	Master and four crew members injured; cash VHF radio, radio telephones and telescopes stolen	Crew members attempted to fight back	Yes. Port Authority informed	China	Four armed surveillance personnel sent on board for safeguard
2	MAERSK LA GUAIRA Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 11987 9117650	24/04/2002 02:00 LT	Guayaquil anchorage (Ecuador)	Two robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor. They assaulted a crew member, opened up containers and escaped when spotted	2nd officer assaulted; his personal radio and ship's stores stolen	-	-	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	MOL SAO PAULO (90397) Container ship Liberia 25294 9203526	28/04/2002 02:15 LT	32°14'.10S 051°54'.40W Rio Grande Outer anchorage (Brazil)	Duty officer and watchman heard noises later and discovered a boat at vessel's stern and a second boat with four persons near forward of the vessel, while at anchor. When spotted the robbers jumped overboard and escaped	Eight containers were opened and 682 pairs of tennis shoes stolen from at least one of the containers	Duty officer raised alarm	Yes, Unknown	Liberia	-
4	STAR BIRD General dry cargo ship Denmark 3351 9041423	02/05/2002 23:00 LT	Jorong (Indonesia)	About 15-20 robbers, assisted by stevedores, boarded the ship just before midnight, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Paint and ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Police and SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Local police came onboard
5	ISOLA ROSSA Chemical tanker Italy 21897 9127667	02/05/2002 02:00 LT	05°08'.00N 000°22'.00E Accra anchorage (Ghana)	Robbers boarded the ship while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port control and local authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Sent a patrol boat which subsequently detained a suspect boat

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									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6	BARONESS Oil tanker Singapore 50108 7913294	05/05/2002	Tg. Priok anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship while at anchor. They entered the engine room, assaulted one crew member and escaped when spotted	4th Engineer assaulted; his portable radio and engine spares stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
7	GLOBAL MYTH Container ship Cyprus 31356 8202111	06/05/2002 02:45 LT	Tg. Priok anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor. They entered the engine room and held hostage a crew member, who they tied up. When the robbers left the engine room, the crew member untied himself and raised an alarm and the robbers escaped via a rope on the ship side	Duty oiler assaulted	Raised alarm and alerted crew	Yes. Coast Guard and SAR/Indonesian Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard came on board
8	GLOBAL MYTH Container ship Cyprus 31356 8202111	06/05/2002 03:45 LT	Jakarta anchorage (Indonesia)	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor. They assaulted a crew member and later escaped	Crew member's jewellery stolen	-	-	ICS	-
9	S.G.C. SEAWIND Bulk carrier Malta 73039 7402362	06/05/2002 20:30 LT	Chennai Channel	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while underway and escaped when spotted	One mooring rope and ship's stores stolen	-	Yes. Local authorities and Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
10	ALIANA PRINCESS General dry cargo ship Malta 12654 7387172	09/05/2002 23:15 LT	Mui Vung Tau anchorage (Viet Nam)	Robbers from two boats boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Paint and mooring lines stolen	Raised alarm and maintained anti-piracy patrol	Yes. Local agents, police and MRCC/Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Under investigation
11	FOYLEBANK General dry cargo ship United Kingdom (Isle of Man) 18663 8013015	10/05/2002	PT ISAB Wharf, Panjang (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and entered the forecastle store. They jumped overboard and escaped when spotted	One mooring line and large quantity of paint stolen	Raised alarm and maintained anti-piracy patrol	Yes. SAR/Indonesian Navy (TNI-AL) 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
12	KOTA BINTANG Bulk carrier Singapore 8441 8021311	12/05/2002 15:55 UTC	00°50'.00N 105°10'.90E (Indonesia)	Seven robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while underway. They broke open accommodation door, held hostage a crew member and forced the Master to open his cabin door. They then tied up the Master and crew member, forced them back onto poop deck from where the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in an unlit boat	Master and cadet assaulted; Cash, crew belongings and ship's cash stolen	-	Yes. SAR, Djakarta and Indonesian Naval Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
13	CORAL ACTINIA Gas carrier-LPG Netherlands Antilles 3096 9031985	15/05/2002 04:10 LT	Rome jetty, Georgetown (Guyana)	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes. Authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
14	CORAL ACTINIA Gas carrier-LPG Netherlands Antilles 3096 9031985	15/05/2002 04:35 LT	Rome jetty, Georgetown (Guyana)	Robbers boarded the ship, while underway and escaped when spotted	Life raft and fire hoses stolen	-	Yes. Authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
15	EAGLE EXCELLENCE Container ship Liberia 17285 9112894	16/05/2002 01:15 LT	14°35'.80N 120°52'.00E Manila anchorage (Philippines)	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship from forecastle deck, while at anchor. When spotted by the duty AB, they jumped overboard and escaped in a speedboat towards the north of the harbour	A six-person liferaft stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Manila Port Control and Coast Guard informed	Liberia	Local authorities promised assistance but never turned up
16	GUARIONEX Refrigerated cargo carrier Cuba 1367 7420778	20/05/2002 05:50 UTC	Douala (Cameroon)	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while berthed. When spotted, they jumped overboard and escaped	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
17	WADDENS General dry cargo ship Antigua and Barbuda 3784 8317978	24/05/2002	Diego Suarez Port (Madagascar)	Robbers boarded the ship during cargo operations, while berthed and later escaped when spotted	Plastic glass window broken and lifeboat equipment stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Diego Suarez Port Authority 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
18	MARIA General dry cargo ship Malta 29660 8310803	24/05/2002 02:50 LT	ISAB Wharf, Panjang Port (Indonesia)	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while berthed. They entered the engine room, assaulted a crew member and escaped through the emergency door of the funnel	Duty oiler assaulted; large quantity of engine spares stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Panjang Port Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
19	WADDENS General dry cargo ship Antigua and Barbuda 3784 8317978	29/05/2002 01:40 LT	Diego Suarez (Madagascar)	Four robbers boarded the ship from a small boat, while berthed during cargo operations. The anti-piracy watchman who spotted them was threatened with an iron bar. They later jumped overboard and escaped	Paint tins stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Local police and Law enforcement agencies in Madagascar 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

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. 18 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	CARANTEC Oil tanker Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 3214 8111257	02/05/2002	Demerara River, Golden Grove, Georgetown (Guyana)	Three robbers attempted to board the ship, while at anchor and abandoned attempt when spotted	-	Alarm raised	Yes. MRCC, Georgetown, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	ALIANA PRINCESS General dry cargo ship Malta 12654 7387172	09/05/2002 06:15 LT	Mui Vung Tau anchorage (Viet Nam)	Six robbers in two boats attempted to board the ship, while at anchor and abandoned attempt when spotted	-	Raised alarm and maintained anti- piracy watch	Yes. MRCC/Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	GREAT OCEAN Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 25905 8913552	11/05/2002 21:00 LT	12°30'.00N 046°23'.00E Gulf of Aden (Yemen)	An unlit boat approached the ship from port bow, attempting to board, while underway. The boat crossed ahead and tried again to approach the ship from starboard side. The boat later abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm, took evasive measures and activated fire hoses	Yes. French Djibouti informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	OGRADY Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 6002 8129321	11/05/2002 21:40 LT	01°19'.00S 127°45'.00E Molucca Sea (Indonesia)	Robbers in a small boat fired three warning shots at the ship, attempting to board, while at anchor. The ship weighed anchor, started steaming and the robbers fired at the bridge and chased the ship until 2305 LT when it abandoned attempt. Another unidentified boat also reportedly chased the ship till 0155 LT	-	Raised alarm, weighed anchor and started steaming	Yes. SAR, Basarnas informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Authorites contacted the ship and reported she is safe
5	MARION GREEN General dry cargo ship Netherlands 11894 9164029	13/05/2002 02:20 UTC	00°51'.90S 081°16'.40W Isle Del Plata (Ecuador)	A fast speedboat with four robbers on board came alongside the ship and attempted to board, while underway. They abandoned attempt when spotted	-	Raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and directed search lights	Yes. Authorities 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
6	ASIAN EMPEROR Oil tanker Maldives 1673 7124128	20/05/2002 03:00 LT	03°59'.44N 098°46'.21E Belawan outer anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers armed with long knives attempted to board the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor. When spotted they abandoned attempt	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Indonesian Navy and SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
7	QUEEN OF PENTA-OCEAN Dredger Panama 22049 9174115	21/05/2002 21:40 LT	01°07'.70N 103°45'.70E (Indonesia)	A small craft with yellow flashing light followed the ship, while underway. Another craft soon joined and both crafts tried to stop the ship by crossing the bow and made no attempt to contact the ship. At 22:00LT, the crafts fired at the ship using light ammunition, around 50 and 40 rounds respectively, from large bore weapons. They abandoned attempt when the ship altered course	-	Raised alarm and took evasive measures	Yes. Indonesian Navy/SAR/Marine Police, Malaysia, Singapore Police and Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
8	VOLVOX HANSA Dredger Netherlands 6814 7015444	21/05/2002 22:50 LT	01°08'13N 103°45'.40E Indonesia (Indonesia)	A small craft with yellow flashing light followed the ship, while underway. The ship altered course and the craft abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and took evasive measures	Yes. VTIS, Singapore, Indonesian Navy/SAR/Marine Police, Malaysia and Singapore Police and Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
9	OYO STAR Passenger ship Indonesia	25/05/2002	Off Ambon Moluccus Islands (Indonesia)	Robbers in two speedboats fired at the ship, while underway	Four passengers killed and twelve injured	-	Yes. SAR, Djakarta/Navy Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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