



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC.4/Circ.23
16 September 2002

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during August 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 June 2002 and 31 July 2002, 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** vis-a-vis acts of armed robbery allegedly committed **in ports**, 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 2,793, an increase of 22 since 31 July 2002.

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 during the current year being MSC.4/Circ.13, MSC.4/Circ.14, MSC.4/Circ.15, MSC.4/Circ.16, MSC 4/Circ.17, MSC.4/Circ.18, MSC.4/Circ.19 and MSC.4/Circ.20, MSC.4/Circ.21 and MSC.4/Circ.22.

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. 23 ANNEX 1 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	NA Fishing vessel	26/08/2002 11:00 LT	Batu Pahat coast, Johor	Three robbers armed with guns and long knives boarded the ship, while underway and forced the two fishermen overboard	Ship hijacked and crew forced overboard	-	Yes. Port Control and SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN PORT AREA

1	COMMO JC JIMENEZ Oil tanker Cyprus 54577 7821805	03/08/2002 18:00 UTC	01°27'.50S 116°45'.60E Lawi-Lawi (Indonesia)	A group of armed robbers boarded the ship during cargo operations, while berthed. They broke open the paint locker in spite of tight security on deck and later escaped	Paint and mooring ropes stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Local authorities and police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No response received
2	GIORGIS CARRAS Bulk carrier Cyprus 24682 8217520	06/08/2002 04:40 LT	Rio Haina port (Dominican Republic)	Three robbers armed with axes and knives boarded the ship, while berthed. They entered the bridge and moved on to accommodation where they tied up and took hostage three crewmembers and later escaped by jumping overboard	2nd officer, oiler and watchman taken hostage; ship's stores and crew personal belongings stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Local police and Coast Guard/Authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	CEC MIRAGE General cargo ship Bahamas 6285 9141730	14/08/2002 06:15 LT	Pier No. 6, Douala port (Cameroon)	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while berthed and another twenty remained on quay. They attacked the Chief mate and 3rd mate before escaping with their loot. Shore watchman onboard was asleep during attack	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Douala port/police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	LOK PRATIMA Bulk carrier India 15952 7503867	20/08/2002 01:45 LT	Ho Chi Minh port (Viet Nam)	Two robbers boarded the ship, while berthed. They broke open the forecastle lockers and when spotted by duty officer, they escaped in their boat via a cargo barge alongside	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. MRCC, Viet Nam informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	JALADOOT Oil tanker India 22968 8307985	22/08/2002 02:45 LT	06°01'.26S 106°53'.49E Tanjung Priok anchorage (Indonesia)	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and took hostage the watchman, threatening him with a knife. They entered the engine room, assaulted and tied-up the engineer and broke open the store room before escaping with their loot	Watchman and engineer taken hostage and assaulted respectively; large quantity of engine spares stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

6	ALKYON Bulk carrier Greece 39758 9233179	22/08/2002 03:55 LT	05°31'.40S 105°18'.70E Tarahan anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship from stern, while at anchor. They took hostage and tied-up two watchmen threatening them with guns and relieved them of their walkie-talkies. When spotted by the duty officer, they jumped overboard and escaped	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
7	SONGO General dry cargo ship Portugal 2726 8421987	26/08/2002 03:15 LT	17°54'.70S 036°54'.50E Quelimane inner anchorage (Mozambique)	Armed robbers boarded the ship from the stern, while at anchor. When spotted by the duty officer, they jumped overboard and escaped	One mooring rope stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Mozambique, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
8	GAS FORTUNE Gas carrier - non-specified Panama 3529 9137595	29/08/2002 01:30 LT	Balikpapan port (Indonesia)	Six robbers in a wooden boat, armed with long knives and hook boarded the ship, while berthed and escaped when spotted	Ship's stores/property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	VOSTOCHNIY Tanker Ukraine 3605 8711772	27/03/2002 04:05 GMT	09°28'.00N 014°01'.00W 20 NM from the port of Conakry	Seven armed pirates fired at the ship and boarded from a motorboat, despite evasive measures to prevent boarding and proceeded to stop the main engine	USD17,500; TV and radio sets; mooring ropes stolen	Master took evasive measures to prevent boarding	Yes	Ukraine - Ministry of Agricultural Policy, State Department for Fisheries	Attempts to contact Conakry's Port Authorities were unsuccessful
2	SV JOANTHAN Yacht Austria	01/08/2002	10°14'.00N 064°32'.00W Playa Conoma, 8 NM from Puerto La Cruz (Venezuela)	Five robbers armed with knives, machetes and guns boarded the yacht, while at anchor. Skipper and wife received serious injuries and robbers escaped with crew's cash and valuables. They left behind a bag containing ship's equipment	Crew injured and USD1,400 and valuables stolen	Raised alarm by calling VHF on Ch.16 and Ch.72	Yes. Authorities. RCCs, Guracao and Maiqueta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No response from Coast Guard or Guardia National

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									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

3	PANDORA P Bulk carrier Panama 22076 8100870	09/08/2002 05:05 LT	SBA Tepik Refik, Samarinda Anchorage (Indonesia)	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the ship from a cargo barge secured alongside, while at anchor. One of the robbers approached the forecastle area and greeted the A/B in a friendly manner and the A/B thought he was one of the stevedores. He moved closer, pulled out a knife and threatened the A/B and the other robbers soon joined and tied up the A/B. They later escaped in a speedboat with their loot	A/B threatened and taken hostage; ship's stores and one life raft stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port control informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No response received
4	STAR 2000 Bulk carrier Malta 21886 8124797	13/08/2002 05:45 LT	Chittagong anchorage (Bangladesh)	Robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor; broke open the forecastle store and escaped with their loot	Two mooring ropes stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	HONOUR I Bulk carrier Panama 13661 7602845	13/08/2002 01:32 LT	Tema anchorage (Ghana)	Eight robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor. They broke the seal of manhole No. 1 and later escaped with their loot	Bags of cargo and a mooring rope stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port control and Harbour police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Patrol boat commenced searching
6	SAD SAMUDRA Oil tanker Panama 23188 9044413	14/08/2002 03:48 LT	Balikpapan anchorage (Indonesia)	Three robbers boarded the ship from STBD qtr., while at anchor. When spotted by duty A/B, they jumped overboard with 50% of lowered rope	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Pertamina operations and the managers informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
7	PACIFIC SPIRIT General dry cargo ship Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 12214 9036997	19/08/2002	Chittagong anchorage (Bangladesh)	Robbers boarded the ship, while underway and later escaped when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
8	SEA CROWN General dry cargo ship Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 6242 7394292	20/08/2002	Mongla anchorage (Bangladesh)	Robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	Zinc anodes from stern post stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard came on board on 21/8/02

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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. 23 ANNEX 1 Page 4
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

9	SPIRIT OF WYCHWOOD Yacht	27/08/2002 16:15 UTC	05°28'.00S 154°41'.00E 2NM South of Buka passage Papua New Guinea	Five robbers armed with machine guns boarded the yacht, while at anchor and later escaped with their loot	Yacht's stores and provisions stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port Control and MRCC, Mumbai, 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. 23 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

1	STENA CONVOY Oil tanker United Kingdom (Bermuda) 127535 7226885	14/08/2002 00:50 UTC	Dakar anchorage (Sénégal)	Three robbers in two speed boats attempted to board the ship, via anchor chain, while at anchor. When spotted by the duty watchman they escaped in their boats	-	Alarm raised	Yes. MRCC, Dakar, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	GAZ MILLENNIUM Gas carrier - non-specified Panama 16685 9229233	20/08/2002 21:00 LT	Chittagong port (Bangladesh)	Ten robbers attempted to board the ship via forecastle, using a hook attached to a line, while berthed. When spotted by alert crew, they escaped in their boat	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard came on board on 21/8/02

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	EGELANTIERSGRACHT General dry cargo ship Netherlands 8448 9081318	20/08/2002	Attaka Oilfied, Off the Rivermouths to Samarinda, SE Coast, Kalimantan (Indonesia)	Two robbers attempted to board the ship, via anchor chair, while at anchor and abandoned attempt when spotted by the duty crew	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. SAR informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	GAZ MILLENNIUM Gas carrier - non-specified Panama 16685 9229233	21/08/2002 11:30 LT	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	Robbers attempted to board the ship from stern by throwing a hook attached to a line, while underway. When spotted by crew, they jumped overboard and escaped	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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