



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC.4/Circ.24
8 October 2002

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during September 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 31 August 2002 and 30 September 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 2,826, an increase of 33 since 31 August 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, MSC.4/Circ.22 and MSC.4/Circ.23.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	NAUTICA KLUANG Oil tanker Malaysia 1539 9048926	28/09/2002 03:00 LT	Pulau Ayu Kecil, Off Karimun Islands	Pirates armed with guns and knives boarded the ship, while underway and held hostage 14 crew members who they locked in a cabin. They hijacked the ship and transferred her cargo of 3,000mt of diesel to another tanker and damaged all communication equipment before escaping. The crew managed to free themselves and reported the incident to the owners and the tanker arrived at Pasir Gudang port on 29.09.02	Ship hijacked and cargo of 3,000mt of diesel stolen	Raised alarm and reported to owners	Yes. Authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN PORT AREA

1	NA Tanker Liberia	27/08/2002	Puerto La Cruz, PdVSA terminal (Venezuela)	Robbers in a small boat boarded the ship from the sea side, while berthed. They broke into the Captain's cabin and forced him to hand over money before escaping	USD10,000 stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Local police and RCC, Venezuela, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	TAI PING Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 16041 9086784	29/08/2002	Belawan (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship, while berthed, during discharge operations. They colluded with the stevedores and broke into a masthouse where they loaded their loot along with the cargo. Crew members who tried to stop them were assaulted	Crew members assaulted and ship's equipment stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ULLA General dry cargo ship Bahamas 2704 8008515	02/09/2002 03:30 LT	Chittagong anchorage (Bangladesh)	About fourteen robbers armed with long knives and steel bars in two unlit wooden boats boarded the ship from port bow, while at anchor. They took hostage and tied up two watchmen and broke forecandle store lock. When spotted by the duty A/B, they jumped overboard with their loot	Two watchmen taken hostage and assaulted; ship's property and stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coast Guard, Chittagong, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

4	MANDAT BERSAMA Chemical tanker Unknown 4242 8113736	03/09/2002 20:50 UTC	05°53'.80S 106°49'.00E Merak anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship, while berthed and escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Ship owners and SAR, Indonesia, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	WIJMERS General dry cargo ship Cyprus 3259 8315528	04/09/2002 04:10 LT	Rio Haina port (Dominican Republic)	Three robbers armed with machetes and guns boarded the ship, while at berth and broke open the bridge door. They threatened 2nd officer and when spotted by the duty A/B, they jumped overboard with their loot	A bag of pyrotechnics stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Police and harbour master and the Dominican Republic Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	ESSCO HOPE General dry cargo ship Panama 3511 8123937	06/09/2002 04:30 LT	Inner anchorage, Port of Buena Ventura (Colombia)	Three robbers armed with machetes boarded the ship using long poles with hooks, while at anchor and later escaped when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and maintained anti-piracy measures	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard arrived during daytime to check boats in vicinity and advised to place shore watchmen on board
7	KIM General dry cargo ship Denmark 1213 7615464	07/09/2002 05:15	Port of St. Laurent (Guyana)	Three robbers armed with pistols and iron bars boarded the ship, while at anchor. The Captain, three crew members and a guest were severely beaten on the head with iron bars and pistols. The Chief Mate escaped and raised an alarm and the robbers escaped	All five required hospital treatment; Captain had a fractured skull; personal belongings, a passport, telephone and ship's cash stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Local police informed	Danish Maritime Authority	-
8	FATMA ANA Bulk carrier Turkey 24943 8309232	09/09/2002 18:30 UTC	01°20'.60S 116°56'.90E Balikpapan anchorage (Indonesia)	Four robbers boarded the ship from the forecastle starboard side, while at anchor. When spotted by alert duty officers they escaped	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port control and SAR, Basarnas, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

9	VINCITA Chemical tanker Norway (NIS) 15380 7329273	11/09/2002 03:45 LT	Chittagong roads (Bangladesh)	Five robbers boarded the ship from stern, while at anchor and attempted to steal ship's stores. When spotted by the duty officer, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped empty handed	-	Raised alarm and sounded whistle	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
10	DANIELLA General dry cargo ship Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 11996 8507298	12/09/2002 01:30 LT	Guanta port (Venezuela)	Five robbers in a small boat armed with knives boarded the ship from seaside, using long metal pole with hook, while berthed. Two patrolling watchmen ran into accommodation, locked access door and informed bridge 2nd officer who alerted crew and the robbers jumped overboard and escaped	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coast Guard, Venezuela, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
11	CEM COASTER General dry cargo ship Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 1406 7518836	12/09/2002 03:00 LT	Tanjung Priok anchorage, Djakarta (Indonesia)	Robbers armed with knives and crowbars boarded the ship from stern, while at anchor and escaped in their boat with their loot	Large quantity of engine spares stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Basarnas, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
12	FOTIY KRYLOV Salvage tug Cyprus 5250 8613346	13/09/2002 03:05 LT	Abidjan anchorage Côte d'Ivoire	Eight robbers in two boats and armed with long knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped with ship's stores	Mooring ropes stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
13	VENUS V Oil tanker Marshall Islands 50588 7902570	14/09/2002 02:15 LT	Balikpapan anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers armed with guns boarded the ship, while at anchor and held the duty A/B hostage. When spotted they jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores	Duty A/B taken hostage; three life rafts and mooring rope stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. SAR informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
14	SOUTHERN ODYSSEY General dry cargo ship Panama 4438 9232307	17/09/2002	03°10'.00N 112°52'.50E Kuala Smanok, Bintulu, Sarawak	Two robbers armed with knives in a speed boat boarded the ship from forecastle, while at anchor and broke into forecastle locker. When spotted by alert duty officer, they jumped overboard and escaped in their waiting boat	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and sounded ship's whistle	Yes. Bukit Aman informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

15	DANIELLA General dry cargo ship Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 11996 8507298	18/09/2002 02:35 LT	Rio Haina port (Dominican Republic)	Five robbers armed with log knives boarded the ship, during cargo operations, while berthed and tried to break bridge door. They chased duty A/B and 2nd mate who retreated into accommodation. When alarm was raised they jumped overboard and escaped	-	Master raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Local authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
16	TATE J Bulk carrier United Kingdom (Cayman Islands) 25891 8901822	21/09/2002 02:15 LT	Inner loading anchorage, off Sandakan (Malaysia)	One robber boarded the ship during rain, while at anchor and when spotted, jumped overboard and escaped	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Marine Police Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
17	TORM MARINA Bulk carrier Denmark 36573 8901107	24/09/2002 23:45 LT	Balikpapan coal terminal (Indonesia)	Six armed robbers boarded the ship while at berth, during loading operations. They entered the paint store and when spotted by the duty watchman, they took him hostage and later escaped with their loot	Duty watchman taken hostage and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Local agent and SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
18	ORAS Bulk carrier Turkey 15941 7526534	24/09/2002 01:30 LT	Alpha inner anchorage area, Chittagong Port (Bangladesh)	Three boats approached the ship from aft, forward and starboard side and four robbers boarded the ship from aft and one climbed at forecastle, while berthed and escaped when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port authorities and Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
19	TORM MARINA Bulk carrier Denmark 36573 8901107	25/09/2002 04:00 LT	Balikpapan anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship from aft, while at anchor. When spotted by the watchman, other robbers boarded the ship at forward, entered bosun's store and later escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Djakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
20	CEC FAITH General dry cargo ship Bahamas 4980 9076337	27/09/2002 01:30 LT	10°16'.53N 107°03'.91E Outer anchorage, Vung Tau (Viet Nam)	Robbers boarded the ship from forecastle, while at anchor and broke open bosuns store. Duty A/B spotted them and mustered crew and the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in their motor boat	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. MRCC, Viet Nam, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

21	TARPON SANTIAGO General dry cargo ship Cyprus 11846 7705441	29/09/2002 03:05 LT	24°05'.42S 046°21'.23W No. 3 Santos outer anchorage (Brazil)	Six robbers in a small speed boat, four armed with guns and long knives, boarded the ship, while at anchor. When spotted by the duty watchman, they threatened the officers and crew, entered the captain's cabin and later escaped in their boat	Crew's cash and property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port control and police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Port police arrived later and left without any investigation
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	PANTARHEI Yacht Austria	24/08/2002	Puntaldia, Sardinia (Italy)	Yacht went missing, while at anchor	Yacht missing	Alarm raised	Yes. Relevant authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	INDEPENDENT SPIRIT Container ship Cyprus 12997 8908703	30/08/2002	10NM from pilot station, Vung Tau anchorage (Viet Nam)	Robbers boarded the ship during heavy rain, while underway. They broke into the forecastle store and escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. MRCC, Viet Nam, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ELSA General dry cargo ship The Netherlands 3986 8322040	03/09/2002 09:30 LT	Georgetown roads (Guyana)	Pirates in a small motor boat approached the ship, while underway. Crew were busy with anchoring and were unaware of the pirates. One of the pirates boarded at stern, using a hook and threw their loot into their boat before escaping	Lashing material and gangway electric motor stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. RCC, Guyana, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	SANDIA II and INDO OCEAN MARINE VII Tug/Barge carrier Indonesia 115	06/09/2002 19:30 LT	01°35'.40N 101°54'.40E Bengkalis Straits	Pirates attacked and hijacked the tug/barge, while underway. Eighteen crew members were taken hostage and moved in a speed boat and abandoned at a nearby port. The tug/barge was later recovered at Port Klang, Malaysia and eleven crew members were detained for questioning	Eighteen crew members taken hostage; tug/barge and cargo of 3,755mt of palm oil stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Malaysian police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Malaysian police recovered tug/barge and arrested eleven crew members for questioning
5	SEA ELEGANCE Container ship Singapore 17789 7817103	13/09/2002 01:36 LT	Mombasa (Kenya)	Four robbers in a canoe boarded the ship, while underway. When spotted by the crew they jumped overboard and escaped	-	Raised alarm and alerted crew	Yes. Port control and the authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

6	USDA JAYA and BES-04 Tug/Barge carrier Indonesia 94	17/09/2002 02:00 LT	Kuala Gaung (Indonesia)	Armed pirates boarded and hijacked the tug and barge, while underway. Crew of seventeen were thrown overboard, off Pulau Busung, but were later rescued by fishing boats	Tug/barge hijacked; crew of seventeen thrown overboard and cargo of 1500 palm oil stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Local police 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. 24 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BOW CARDINAL Chemical tanker Norway (NIS) 15829 9114244	08/09/2002 12:00 LT	13°48'.00N 042°42'.00E Off Yemen	Six men in military uniform, armed with machine guns in a small unmarked boat approached the vessel from stern attempting to board, while underway. Master continued and several shots were fired in the air from the boat and there was no physical harm to crew or ship	-	Crew kept under deck; speed and course kept steady	Yes	ICS and Norwegian Maritime Directorate	-
2	GISENG General dry cargo ship Malaysia 2344 7713199	10/09/2002 01:30 LT	Vicinity of Horsburgh Light, Tanjung Priok, Singapore Straits	About ten pirates in a high-speed boat attempted to board the ship, while underway. When spotted by alert duty watch, they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and flashed searchlights at pirates' boat	Yes. SAR, Basarnas, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	INDUSTRIAL CENTURY General dry cargo ship Antigua and Barbuda 7252 9253260	01/09/2002 03:00 LT	Guanta port Venezuela	About 15 robbers from several boats attempted to board the ship, while berthed. Crew contacted shore Coast Guard who fired warning shots which averted attempt and one of the robbers was handed over to the authorities	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Venezuela, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	OCEAN WIND Refrigerated cargo carrier Cyprus 4878 8216722	14/09/2002 04:00 LT	Sasa wharf, Davao city (Philippines)	Three robbers in a banca motor boat attempted to board the ship via anchor chain, while berthed. Alert crew spotted and they abandoned attempt	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ESSCO HOPE General dry cargo ship Panama 3511 8123937	20/09/2002 04:15 LT	Inner anchorage, Port of Buena Ventura (Colombia)	Three robbers attempted to board the ship using long poles, while at anchor and when spotted by alert crew, they abandoned attempt and escaped in a small wooden boat	-	Raised alarm and maintained anti-piracy measures	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard advised to place shore watchmen on board

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