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MSC.4/Circ.30
7 February 2003

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during January 2003

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 September 2002 and 31 October 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** (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 2,974, an increase of 41 since 31 December 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 (on an annual, quarterly and monthly basis) during the year 2002 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, MSC.4/Circ.20, MSC.4/Circ.21, MSC.4/Circ.22, MSC.4/Circ.23, MSC.4/Circ.24, MSC.4/Circ.25, MSC.4/Circ.26, MSC.4/Circ.27, MSC.4/Circ.28 and MSC.4/Circ.29.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	NA Bangladesh	13/09/2002	Kutubia Island, 40KM from Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh)	Two rival gangs comprising about thirty pirates boarded the ship simultaneously, while underway and fought to take control. Ten pirates were killed in the fight and the crew of seven jumped overboard and swam ashore. Police recovered their boat without making any arrests	Crew of seven jumped overboard and swam ashore	Alarm raised	Yes. Police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Police recovered boat but made no arrests
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IN PORT AREA

1	NA		Owendo Mooring Station (Gabon)	Robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor. No further report was received on the incident	-	Alarm raised	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	CSAV ATLANTA Container ship Liberia 26131 9160401	08/01/2002 22:58 LT	Guayaquil Anchorage (Ecuador)	Two small boats were observed at port side after dropping the pilot, while underway. The crew were alerted and on searching the ship, noticed two robbers jumping overboard on the starboard side. One of the robbers had a knife and a walkie talkie and was seen wearing a jacket of the security guard. Six containers were opened	Six containers opened and no information on loss of contents	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	TIM BUCK Bulk carrier Cyprus 14009 8319861	31/03/2002	Owendo Mooring Station (Gabon)	Robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and attacked Master who sustained serious injuries	Master seriously injured	Alarm raised	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	SEA TIGER Container ship Germany 25705 9226413	09/04/2002 01:00 LT	14M Data Buoy, Guayaquil (Ecuador)	Robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and broke open eleven containers and escaped with the contents	Eleven containers opened and contents stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard responded 30 minutes later

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

IN PORT AREA

5	PACIFIC RIDER General dry cargo ship Chile 24381 7524110	07/07/2002 01:15 LT	Callao Port (Peru)	Robbers armed with guns boarded the ship, while berthed; pointed a gun at Master through the office porthole and escaped with money	\$20,000 stolen	Alarm raised	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	NA	15/10/2002 03:35 LT	Inner Roads, Banjul Port (Gambia)	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped in their boat with their loot when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
7	NA	20/10/2002 03:55 LT	Port Au Prince (Haiti)	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped when spotted	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
8	MAERSK CONSTELLATION General dry cargo ship United States 22626 7717171	18/11/2002 21:30 LT	Dar Es Salaam Anchorage No. 2 (Tanzania)	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor and took one crew member hostage and escaped with their loot	One crew member held hostage and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	A boat was despatched some 20 minutes later
9	ASIAPRIDE 2308D Barge Malaysia 1344	17/12/2002	Batu Licin Anchorage (Indonesia)	Barge went missing while at anchor and is believed to be stolen	Barge stolen	Alarm raised	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
10	VIVEKANANDA Oil tanker India 47690 7334503	01/01/2003 20:55 UTC	20°59'.30N 088°14'.70E Sandheads Anchorage, Hoogly River (India)	About ten robbers boarded the ship at stern from an unlit motorized boat, while at anchor and assaulted the duty A/B before escaping with their loot. They were later apprehended and the stolen goods recovered	Crew assaulted and ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port Control and Coast Guard, India, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
11	CIC HORIZON Bulk carrier Panama 38267 9055620	02/01/2003 04:00 LT	Cigading Anchorage (Indonesia)	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor. The duty oiler was taken hostage, bound and blindfolded but managed to escape and alerted crew and the robbers escaped with their loot	Crew held hostage and engine spares stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port Control and SAR, Jakarta, 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

IN PORT AREA

12	A SHE KYAE Ro-ro passenger vessel Panama 9994 9135171	04/01/2003 05:20 LT	00°59'.79S 117°17.61E Samarinda Anchorage (Indonesia)	Eight robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at forecastle, while at anchor. They took duty A/B and 2nd officer hostage who were bound and ordered them to lie on the deck. They broke open the bosun store and escaped with their loot in a waiting boat	Crew members held hostage, ship's stores and a life raft stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port authorities and police informed through agents and SAR, Basarnas, Indonesia	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
13	SETIF II Bulk carrier Algeria 20253 8106020	06/01/2003 02:00 LT	Samarinda Anchorage (Indonesia)	Five robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship via hawse pipe, while at anchor. They threatened the duty A/B and when spotted, they jumped overboard and escaped in their boat	Life raft stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
14	HEBEI FRIENDSHIP General dry cargo ship Hong Kong, China 10512 7827691	08/01/2003 06:25 LT	01°03'.00S 117°16'.00E Samarinda Anchorage (Indonesia)	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at stern, while at anchor and when spotted they escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port Authority and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
15	MARILEE Chemical tanker Liberia 22620 8301199	09/01/2003 02:25 LT	Kingston Anchorage (Jamaica)	Several robbers from two boats boarded the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor and when spotted, they escaped with their loot in a long outboard engine boat	Ship's stores and equipment stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Kingston Port Control and JDF Coast Guard, Jamaica, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
16	AGATE Oil tanker Singapore 50063 8413461	10/01/2003 21:35 LT	Lawi Lawi Anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor and escaped with their loot when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port Control, Security and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
17	BINA OCEAN 2 Tug Singapore 142 9276858	11/01/2003 05:00 LT	Sg. Buntong Tg. Uban Bintan Island (Indonesia)	About ten robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the tug and barge (BINA 82), while at anchor and attacked crew who jumped overboard and they hijacked the tug	One crew drowned; tug and barge stolen	-	Yes. Indonesian Navy, Singapore Coast Guard, MPA and SAR, Jakarta, 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

IN PORT AREA

18	CEC MEADOW General dry cargo ship Bahamas 6285 9103374	13/01/2003 03:00 LT	Berth No. 4, Warri Port (Nigeria)	About twenty robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the ship, while berthed and attacked the stevedore who escaped ashore. The robbers threatened crew members who locked themselves up in accommodation and the robbers attempted to break the doors but failed. Thereafter, they opened the containers on deck and left with their loot after about 40 minutes	Two crew members assaulted and contents of containers stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Attempts were made to contact Police and Port Control; Nigerian Navy Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
19	MAERSK ALASKA Container ship United States 40594 7361233	13/01/2003 20:45 UTC	Nacala Anchorage (Mozambique)	A robber was spotted by the duty A/B lowering a mooring line through the hawse pipe, while at anchor and when crew mustered, he jumped overboard and escaped	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. SAR, Maputo, Mozambique, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
20	LEYTE SPIRIT Oil tanker Bahamas 57448 9017094	15/01/2003 07:00 LT	10°15'.40N 107°04'.00E Vung Tau Anchorage (Viet Nam)	Robbers boarded the ship at poop deck, using a hook attached to a rope, while at anchor and escaped when spotted by alert duty A/B	-	Alarm raised	Yes. MRCC, Viet Nam, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
21	UBC SACRAMENTO Bulk carrier Cyprus 19746 9236080	17/01/2003 01:20 LT	1.3NM West of Pigeon Island (Jamaica)	Four robbers in an unlit boat boarded the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor and broke open the forecabin store. When spotted by 2nd Mate, they escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
22	CASTLE PEAK Bulk carrier Panama 77182 8903284	19/01/2003 01:00 LT	03°43'.00S 114°25'.00E Taboneo Anchorage, Off Banjarmasin (Indonesia)	Five robbers in a boat approached the ship and one robber armed with a long knife boarded via the hawse pipe, while at anchor and was stopped by alert duty crew who splashed sand in his eyes	-	Raised alarm and maintained anti-piracy watch	Yes. Local agents and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
23	LAILA QUEEN Bulk carrier Cambodia 13015 7525865	22/01/2003 06:00 LT	Havana Port (Cuba)	Robbers boarded the ship during cargo operations, while berthed; broke into the ship locker and escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Attempts to contact the local authority was futile; MRCC, Cuba, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No response from the local authority

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

IN PORT AREA

24	AWERO Gas carrier-LPG Liberia 1709 7522112	23/01/2003 04:05 LT	Bonny Town Anchorage, Port Harcourt (Nigeria)	Three robbers in a boat approached the ship and one of them boarded at forecastle, while at anchor. Shore watchman did not see/report robber's presence but when spotted by an alert crew, he jumped overboard and escaped	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Nigerian Police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
25	NA	25/01/2003 18:00	Mormugao (India)	Two robbers in a canoe boarded the ship at STBD side, while at anchor and when spotted by Master, they escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coast Guard, Mumbai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
26	TIARA General dry cargo ship Panama 5601 9088653	25/01/2003 23:05 UTC	01°00'.00S 117°17'.00E Samarinda Anchorage (Indonesia)	Six robbers boarded the ship while heaving anchor, while at anchor and when spotted by alert crew, they escaped with their loot	Life raft stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew; onboard pilot attempted to contact shore police	Yes. Port Control and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No response from shore police
27	ELECTA Yacht United Kingdom	26/01/2003	Canal of Nueva Gerona, Isle de la Juventud (Cuba)	Robbers boarded the yacht, while at anchor and escaped with their loot. Local authority was informed	Ship's stores and crew belongings stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Local authority and MRCC, Cuba, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No action was taken by the local authority
28	KUDOS Oil tanker Malta 49827 7912862	27/01/2003 21:00 UTC	01°28'.00S 116°48'.00E Lawi-Lawi Anchorage (Indonesia)	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at poop deck during heavy rain, while at anchor. When spotted by alert crew, they jumped overboard and were plucked out of water by three other accomplices waiting in a blue and red boat which sped away	Two life rafts, mooring rope and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port Control and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur; Malta Maritime Authority	-

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

IN PORT AREA

29	BW WISDOM Tug Singapore 142 9245093	28/01/2003 18:30 LT	Batu Ampar, Batam (Indonesia)	Ten robbers armed with long knives and steel pipes boarded and hijacked the tug, while at anchor and sailed away abandoning the barge that was tied alongside. Three crew members jumped overboard and swam ashore; one was injured and hospitalised. Three remaining crew members onboard were believed to have been taken hostage by the robbers	Tug hijacked; one crew member injured and hospitalised and three crew members taken hostage	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Basarnas, MRCC, Port Klang, Coast Guard, Philippines and MRCC, Bangkok, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
30	ALBERTO TOPIC Bulk carrier Liberia 25778 8913538	29/01/2003 22:30 LT	Panjang Port (Indonesia)	About eight robbers mingled with stevedores and boarded the ship, while berthed. They broke the padlocks of store rooms and attempted to remove engine spares. When spotted by alert crew, they jumped overboard; one robber was seriously injured and hospitalised	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Police Authority and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	NA Fishing vessel Malaysia		Off Beluran, near Sandakan (Malaysia)	Four robbers dressed in military fatigues boarded the ship while, underway. They killed the Captain and injured one crew member before escaping with their loot	Captain killed and one crew member injured; ship's property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Police arrested two suspects and recovered spent M-16 shells and military clothing from their boat
2	NA	19/11/2002 04:08 LT	Lagos Fairway Buoy (Nigeria)	Robbers armed with long knives and a gun boarded the ship, while at anchor and escaped with their loot when spotted	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	NA Fishing vessel Nigeria	28/11/2002	Fairway Buoy, East Mole, Lagos (Nigeria)	About twenty masked robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and assaulted and injured some crew members and escaped with their loot	Part of fish stock stolen	Alarm raised	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	HD CHALLENGER Supply ship Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 1210 7517715	01/01/2003 12:05 LT	04°35'.00N 005°26'.00E Off Warri (Nigeria)	Armed robbers boarded the ship, while underway and attacked crew members, taking some crew members hostage, while three crew members jumped overboard. The hostages were taken ashore and were released after five days of negotiations with the Nigerian authorities. Those injured were transferred to a barge for medical treatment and the ship refloated after being grounded in the position	Ship grounded; Crew members taken hostage, but released and three crew members injured	Alarm aised	Yes. Naval Headquarters, Nigeria, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	MAERSK DAKAR Container ship Germany 23897 9143245	05/01/2003 00:10 LT	Dakar Port (Sénégal)	Small unlit boats were noticed ahead of the ship soon after leaving port, while underway. One boat came very close and flashed a strong light to attract attention and the ship presuming it was a fishing boat altered course to prevent damage to fishing nets. One mooring rope was discovered missing the next morning and Master suspects they boarded and lowered mooring rope when crew's attention was distracted	Mooring rope stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Senegal Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	MARITIME SONGKHLA Bulk carrier Singapore 14307 7916117	29/01/2003 23:45 LT	Chittagong Anchorage (Bangladesh)	Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while underway and when spotted by crew, they jumped overboard and escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and reported to the bridge	Yes. Port control and Coast Guard, Bangladesh, 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. 30 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	HORNESTRAND General dry cargo ship Denmark 808 8023931	28/02/2002 06:30 UTC	09°11'.00N 14°33'.00W 55NM WSW off Conakry (Guinea)	Eight robbers armed with guns attempted to board, firing at the ship and ordering her to stop, while underway. Crew took evasive measures and after a chase of one hour, they abandoned attempt. There was no injury to crew and ship was hit by several bullets	Ship hit by bullets	Raised alarm and took evasive measures	Yes	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN PORT AREA

1	DELMAS KERGUELEN Container ship Liberia 15000 9236224	24/01/2003 05:25 LT	Tema Roads Anchorage (Ghana)	Twelve robbers in a wooden boat attempted twice to board the ship, while at anchor and when spotted by alert duty crew, they abandoned attempt. The robbers' attempt to board a nearby ship nearby also failed	-	Raised alarm and used pressurized fire hoses	Yes. Tema Port Control and Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ghana, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	UBC SAVANNAH Bulk carrier Cyprus 19743 9220976	27/12/2002 01:30 LT	7 NM Off Island Ko Chuang Thailand	Seven robbers in an unlit boat attempted to board the ship, using hooks attached to bamboo sticks, while underway and abandoned attempt when spotted	-	Raised alarm and switched on deck lights	Yes. MRCC, Bangkok, Thailand, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	BRITISH EXPLORER Chemical tanker United Kingdom 25000 9251561	31/01/2003 03:00 LT	Nha Be Terminal, Ho Chi Minh City (Viet Nam)	Three robbers attempted to board the ship, using a grappling hook attached to a knotted rope, while berthed and when spotted by alert crew, they abandoned attempt. Crew recovered hooks and knotted rope	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew; two local policemen stationed onboard were informed	Yes. MRCC, Viet Nam, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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