



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC.4/Circ.7
30 September 2001

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during September 2001

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 2001 and 30 September 2001, including a distinction between acts of piracy, 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 2,438, an increase of 11 since 31 August 2001.

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/Circ.989, MSC/Circ.990, MSC/Circ.992, MSC.4/Circ.1, MSC.4/Circ.2, MSC.4/Circ.3, MSC.4/Circ.5 and MSC.4/Circ.6.

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 draft Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (MSC/Circ.984) (article 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. 7 ANNEX 1 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	ATLANTIC PRIDE General cargo ship Cyprus 12993 9190107	13/08/01 01:58 LT	02°03'.60S 080°30'.90W Guayaquil Bay (Ecuador)	Four armed robbers boarded the ship while underway	Electrician shot in the back and the Master shot 3 times in the chest and once in the leg. Paint and a walkie-talkie stolen	Duty watchman spotted the armed robbers and raised the alarm. Crew mustered on deck with fire hoses	Yes. Embassy of Ecuador informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	STEEL TRADER General cargo ship Malta 10155 7349120	05/09/01 04:00 LT	Lagos roads (Nigeria)	Armed robbers boarded the ship while at anchor	Crew property and ship's stores stolen	-	Yes. Port control and Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	SURABAYA STAR General cargo ship Cyprus 14539 7713711	08/09/01	Jakarta anchorage (Indonesia)	Four armed robbers boarded the ship while at anchor. They later jumped into the water and escaped in their boat	Crew member assaulted. Ship's equipment stolen	Crew challenged armed robbers	Yes. Pilot station and PUSKODAL/SAR Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	TURKUS General cargo ship Cyprus 9696 7712157	09/09/01 05:10 LT	Douala port (Cameroon)	After stevedores went ashore, about eight to ten robbers armed with knives boarded the ship	Duty Officer and two crew members threatened and robbed of their wrist watches	Alarm raised and crew alerted	Yes. Harbour Master called on VHF and MRCC Douala informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No response to call on VHF
5	NORELLA Tanker Malaysia 1249 8011603	10/09/01	Banjarmasin anchorage (Indonesia)	Armed robbers boarded the ship unnoticed while at anchor	Ropes stolen	-	Yes. PUSKODAL, Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	SAFMARINE MEROULA General cargo ship Cyprus 8975 7433244	11/09/01 01:15 LT	Douala pilot station (Cameroon)	While at anchor, duty AB noticed three robbers armed with long knives lowering mooring ropes into the water. They later jumped overboard and escaped	Duty AB threatened and ropes stolen	Duty AB challenged armed robbers. Duty Officer raised alarm and crew mustered on deck	Yes. Port control and port police/authority 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

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. 7 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	BATANGAS Gas carrier-LPG Panama 2926 9128685	01/09/01 20:00 LT	03°00'.00S 107°03'.00E Off Bangka (Indonesia)	Two speedboats approached the ship from the port quarter while underway. The boats eventually abandoned the chase due to rough seas	-	Altered course (zigzag movement)	Yes. SAR/PUSKODAL Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	NCC HIJAZ Chemical tanker Panama 8198 8418277	02/09/01 03:40 LT	2 miles NW of Kochi port fairway buoy (India)	Armed robbers attempted to climb on board the ship from two unlit fishing boats while at anchor	-	Crew spotted armed robbers and raised alarm which prevented them from boarding	Yes. Port Control and Coast Guard HQ informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	LEEDS CASTLE General cargo ship Bahamas 26962 8010697	08/09/01 07:20 LT	12°48'.00N 043°15'.00E Gulf of Aden	Several speedboats with five to eight pirates in each attempted to board the ship while underway. Some of the boats approached very close	-	Crew alerted and mustered on deck preventing boarding	Yes. South Yemen authorities and French Maritime, Djibouti informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	KASSOS Log carrier Cyprus 11582 7705881	18/09/01	09°11'.00N 014°32'.00W West Africa	Two fishing boats with 12 pirates in each attempted to board the ship while underway	-	Alert crew prevented boarding	Yes. Authorities at Conakry informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	DARYA RADHE Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 38364 9180803	18/09/01 11:40 UTC	Bontang anchorage, Kalimantan (Indonesia)	Three armed robbers attempted to board the ship while at anchor	-	Alert crew spotted armed robbers and raised the alarm	Yes. PUSKODAL 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