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MSC.4/Circ.229
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during October 2015

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, the annex hereto provides, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, the summary of reports on incidents received between 1 and 31 October 2015 including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (annex 1) and attempted attacks (annex 2). The Secretariat has, since July 2002, classified 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.

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 subparagraph (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.1025(26), annex, paragraph 2.2), as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of piracy, committed for private ends and directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such a ship, within a State's internal waters, archipelagic waters and territorial sea;
- (b) any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described above."

2 Further, and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 89/25, paragraphs 18.9 and 18.10), the Secretariat has opened a "piracy and armed robbery" module on the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) (<http://gisis.imo.org>) in order to improve the timeliness of reporting of incidents and to enable users to generate their own search criteria and produce customizable reports. This database is now configured for public, read-only access and is searchable. Reports can be compiled in GISIS directly by Member States and registered public users. These reports can now include follow-up information, for example dates of release of hijacked ships.

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 previous 12 months and up to 30 September 2015 being MSC.4/Circ.216, MSC.4/Circ.217, MSC.4/Circ.218, MSC.4/Circ.219 (Annual Report), MSC.4/Circ.220, MSC.4/Circ.221, MSC.4/Circ.222, MSC.4/Circ.223, MSC.4/Circ.224, MSC.4/Circ.225, MSC.4/Circ.226, MSC.4/Circ.227 and MSC.4/Circ.228.

ANNEX I
Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly committed against ships reported by
Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	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.229 ANNEX I
									Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	SOLARTE Refrigerated cargo carrier Comoros 3261 8210285	19/10/2015 19:54 UTC	WEST AFRICA Appr. 36nm SW of Bayelsa Coast Nigeria 03° 58.00' N 005° 25.00' E	Pirates armed with guns boarded the ship underway. They opened fire, damaged some equipment, stole ship's cash, kidnapped four crew members and fled. The remaining crew were able to retreat to the engine room. Nigerian authorities notified.	Pirates opened fire on board, damaged some equipment on the bridge, stole ship's cash and kidnapped four crew members	Remaining crew members retreated to the engine room	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	ATSUTA No. 1 General cargo ship Philippines 491 9159610	10/10/2015 09:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Appr. 4.5nm SE off Olanivan Island, General Santos Port Philippines 05° 35.20' N 125° 28.40' E	While en route to Tambler, General Santos City, personnel on board the general cargo ship spotted two speed boats with seven persons armed with guns approaching. Suspecting a boarding attempt the Master instructed the crew to close and lock all access to the ship's accommodation. The armed robbers boarded the ship but fled as they were unable to enter the accommodation. The Master raised the alarm, informed the local authorities and notified the owners. A Coast Guard vessel was dispatched to investigate.	-	Closed all access to ship's accommodation and informed owners and local authorities	Yes Local authorities and Coast Guard District South Western Mindanao	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	Coast Guard Station Sarangani through Coast Guard Sub-Station Malabinuang verified the report and patrolled the area. Ship boarded by Coast Guard for investigation
2	LUCINA PROVIDENCE LPG tanker Panama 46025 9349784	15/10/2015 03:20 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 6.3nm NE of Pulau Karimun Kecil - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 07.00' N 103° 31.00' E	While underway, 3/E spotted four robbers armed with knives opening the aft door to the engine room workshop. 3/E and Junior Engineer were both held and tied up as the robbers stole their personal belongings and spare parts before fleeing. Junior Engineer managed to free himself and alerted the other crew members. A search was eventually conducted.	3/E and Junior Engineer held, tied up and their personal belongings stolen. Ship's spare parts also stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Singapore VTIS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) notified. Indonesian authorities also informed.

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

3	ALMI SPIRIT Oil tanker Liberia 57325 9312872	15/10/2015 05:40 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 2.85nm NE of Pulau Karimun Kecil - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 10.90' N 103° 26.40' E	Six robbers in a small boat boarded the tanker underway using hooks attached to ropes. Two of the robbers entered the engine room and were spotted by the 2/E. One of the robbers threatened the 2/E with a knife and ordered him to be quiet. The 2/E managed to escape and raise the alarm, following which the ship went on lock down, the crew mustered and a headcount was conducted. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers fled. Nothing reported stolen. VTIS Singapore informed. Authorities boarded the tanker for investigation.	2/E threatened with a knife	Alarm raised, crew mustered and headcount conducted	Yes Singapore VTIS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. Tanker boarded by authorities for investigation
4	DIAMOND STAR General cargo ship Panama 9980 9561655	16/10/2015 03:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 1nm West of Racon Delta and South of Nipa Anchorage - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 03.00' N 103° 37.80' E	While underway, five robbers armed with knives boarded the ship. Crew maintained anti-piracy watch, raised the alarm and a security search was eventually conducted, following which it was determined that no robbers remained on board but some ship's spares had been stolen. All crew safe.	Ship's spares stolen	Alarm raised, Anti-piracy watch implemented and search conducted on board	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. Tanker boarded by authorities for investigation
5	AL KHAZNAH Gas carrier - LNG Liberia 110895 9038440	16/10/2015 05:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 6nm South of Nipa Island - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 02.37' N 103° 39.15' E	While underway, a robber boarded the ship and the alarm was raised in response. Nothing was stolen and all crew safe.	-	Anti-piracy watch implemented and alarm raised	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) notified. Indonesian authorities also informed

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

6	FAIRCHEM CHARGER Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 11640 9367401	22/10/2015 05:16 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 8nm NE of Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 53.00' N 098° 47.00' E	Robbers boarded the anchored chemical tanker unnoticed using a rope attached to a hook. Duty crew on routine rounds noticed the forecastle door open and the alarm was raised. A search was conducted on board following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Incident reported to port control.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	MERLIN Marshall Islands 27980 9223552	22/10/2015 05:30 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Appr. 7.57nm ENE of Pulau Karimun Besar - Straits of Malacca and Singapore Indonesia 01° 06.80' N 103° 32.00' E	Five robbers armed with knives boarded the bulk carrier underway using a rope ladder. Duty oiler spotted the robbers in the engine room store and informed the bridge. The Master raised the alarm, followed by a PA announcement. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the alerted crew, the robbers fled. Subsequently, following a search on board it was determined that ship's stores had been stolen. VTIS Singapore informed. An Indonesian naval vessel later approached the bulk carrier to provide assistance. When the ship arrived Singapore, the Coast Guard boarded for investigation.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised, PA announcement made, crew mustered and search conducted on board	Yes Singapore VTIS and Indonesian warship	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) notified. Indonesian authorities also informed. Ship boarded by Indonesia warship for investigation and also boarded by Singapore Coast Guard for investigation upon arrival in Singapore

IN PORT AREA

1	NAVE PYXIS Chemical tanker Panama 30310 9697430	01/10/2015 19:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Sandakan Anchorage Malaysia 05° 49.10' N 118° 06.54' E	Two robbers boarded the anchored tanker via the anchor chain. The crew spotted the robbers and raised the alarm, resulting in the robbers abandoning stolen items they had collected and fleeing.	-	Alarm raised and crew alerted	Yes Local Authorities through local agents	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	INDIAN DAWN General cargo ship Netherlands 5460 9671474	05/10/2015 05:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Tanjung Priok Anchorage Indonesia 06° 01.28' S 106° 53.52' E	Robbers boarded the anchored general cargo ship unnoticed, in the early morning. They entered the engine room workshop, stole ship's property and fled. Evidence of the incident was discovered by the duty crew on routine rounds.	Ship's property stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Netherlands)	-

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IN PORT AREA

3	NORD SUPREME Product tanker DIS (Denmark) 30108 9692131	05/10/2015 07:05 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 56.00' N 098° 49.05' E	Personnel on board a fishing boat spotted five intruders boarding the anchored tanker and notified the ship. The alarm was raised, fog horn sounded and the crew mustered. The robbers threatened the approaching crew with knives before fleeing empty handed.	Crew threatened with knives	Alarm raised, fog horn sounded and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	NORD SWIFT Chemical tanker DIS (Denmark) 30108 9692155	06/10/2015 03:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Sandakan Anchorage, Sabah Malaysia 05° 49.30' N 118° 09.10' E	Robbers boarded the anchored product tanker unnoticed, under cover of darkness and forced their way into the boatswain store. They stole ship's spares and fled. Evidence of the incident was discovered by the duty crew on routine rounds. Incident reported to Port Authorities.	Ship's property stolen	-	Yes Port Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	ERIK SPIRIT Tanker Bahamas 62929 9292515	18/10/2015 09:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Mui Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 06.70' N 107° 06.90' E	Duty A/B on routine rounds on board the anchored tanker spotted two robbers on the poop deck. He verbally confronted them, retreated to a safe location and raised the alarm. The crew mustered and proceeded towards the robbers. Upon seeing the alert crew the robbers fled. A search was subsequently conducted, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Vung Tau port control informed.	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search conducted on board	Yes Vung Tau Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	Port authority relayed warning notification to relevant agencies. Patrol boat dispatched to location of incident
6	ENERGY PROGRESS Product tanker Isle of Man (United Kingdom) 29605 9387279	20/10/2015 07:30 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Mamonal Anchorage Colombia 10° 19.20' N 075° 31.20' W	Duty watchman on board the anchored tanker spotted two suspected robbers on the forecastle and informed the OOW. The alarm was raised, search light directed towards the forecastle area and the forward fog horn was sounded. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers fled. Nothing reported stolen. Port Authorities informed via VHF.	-	Alarm raised, search light directed towards the forecastle area and forward fog horn sounded	Yes Port Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	CSK LONGEVITY Bulk carrier Singapore 40963 9679799	22/10/2015 23:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Cai Lan Outer Anchorage Viet Nam 20° 41.00' N 107° 13.00' E	A/B on anti-piracy watch on board the anchored bulk carrier spotted six robbers armed with iron pipes, climbing onto the forecastle using a rope attached to a hook. He notified the OOW who raised the alarm and mustered the crew. Upon seeing the alerted crew the robbers fled. Subsequently, a search was conducted following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Port Authority and local agent informed.		Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Quang Ninh Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	Port Authority informed relevant agencies
8	MIA-S Bulk carrier Antigua and Barbuda 32987 9456147	24/10/2015 08:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Monrovia Anchorage Liberia 06° 20.00' N 010° 51.00' W	Robbers boarded the anchored ship unnoticed, stole ship's property and fled. Evidence of the incident was discovered when the crew noticed the padlock to the safety locker broken. Incident reported to local agents.	Padlock to the safety locker damaged and ship's property stolen	Alarm raised and search conducted on board	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

9	NAME WITHHELD Tanker Bahamas 160782	29/10/2015	ARABIAN SEA Reliance Crude Anchorage India 22° 40.00' N 069° 56.00' E	Robbers boarded the anchored tanker unnoticed, via the anchor chain. They stole ship's property from the forecandle and fled. Evidence of the incident was discovered by the duty crew on routine rounds. PFSO informed.	Ship's property stolen	-	Yes PFSO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
10	DORRA Tanker Bahamas 160782 9386964	29/10/2015 06:00 LT	ARABIAN SEA Reliance Crude Anchorage, Sikka India 22° 40.00' N 069° 56.00' E	While at anchor, an unknown number of robbers boarded the ship via the anchor cable and hawse pipe. They stole shackles, two crude oil washing machines and the ship's bell. All the crew safe.	Shackles, two crude oil washing machines and ship's bell stolen	Hawse pipe and accommodation stores secured by the crew, and fire hose prepared. Crew doubled their anti-pilferage watch	Yes PFSO	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	-
11	NAME WITHHELD Bulk carrier Singapore 24785	31/10/2015 00:17 LT	ARABIAN SEA Kandla Anchorage India 22° 46.43' N 070° 02.23' E	Robbers boarded the anchored ship unnoticed. Duty crew on routine rounds discovered the padlocks to the boatswain stores damaged and ship's stores had been stolen. Incident reported to port control.	Padlocks to the boatswain damaged and ship's stores stolen	-	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
12	FOOCHOW Bulk carrier Singapore 24785 9690901	31/10/2015 02:00 LT	ARABIAN SEA Kadla Anchorage India 22° 46.43' N 070° 02.23' E	While at anchor, a boat was seen on CCTV footage approaching the ship's bow. Upon investigation, the crew discovered that the padlocks to the boatswain and deck stores were damaged. Footprints were also found at the port side of the main deck. Upon further investigation, the crew determined that shackles, turnbuckles, spare chains and log lashing chains were missing. All crew was safe.	Padlocks to boatswain and deck stores damaged and ship parts stolen	Search conducted on board	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-

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