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MSC/Circ.873
31 July 1998

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships 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, summaries of reports on incidents received between 30 June 1998 (MSC/Circ.870) and 31 July 1998.

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 1,272, an increase of 36 since 30 June 1998. From the information contained in four of the summarized reports reproduced in the annex, it emerges that more than fifteen crew members of the ships involved were killed and five crew members were wounded during the reported incidents.

3 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by MSC/Circ.577 and addenda 1 to 13, MSC/Circ.679, MSC/Circ.698, MSC/Circ.701, MSC/Circ.703, MSC/Circ.708, MSC/Circ.711, MSC/Circ.712, MSC/Circ.713, MSC/Circ.716, MSC/Circ.717, MSC/Circ.719, MSC/Circ.722, MSC/Circ.724, MSC/Circ.757, MSC/Circ.764, MSC/Circ.766, MSC/Circ.767, MSC/Circ.769, MSC/Circ.770, MSC/Circ.779, MSC/Circ.782, MSC/Circ.784, MSC/Circ.786, MSC/Circ.791, MSC/Circ.793, MSC/Circ.817, MSC/Circ.820, MSC/Circ.821, MSC/Circ.823, MSC/Circ.826, MSC/Circ.830, MSC/Circ.831, MSC/Circ.835, MSC/Circ.839, MSC/Circ.841, MSC/Circ.844, MSC/Circ.869 and MSC/Circ.870.

ANNEX

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

MSC/Circ.873

No.	Name of ship 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 incident reported to the coastal authority? If so, to whom	Reporting State or international organization	Action taken by the Coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Pirates boarded the ship and stole some equipment and money

\$500,000.00 and spare parts stolen

-

-

ICC

-

10

2
MAERSK SHETLAND
General cargo ship
United Kingdom

19/01/98

Tuticorin
(India)

Four pirates in a blue and white noisy wooden fishing boat attempted to board the ship

-

Crew foiled the attack

-

ICC

-

3
PETROBULK RACER
Tanker
Liberia
18033

21/01/98

Tg. Geram
(Indonesia)

Pirates boarded the ship from a launch and stole some equipment

Two sets of turbochargers stolen

-

-

ICC

-

4
NOT REPORTED
Fishing vessel

16/02/98

Moro Gulf
(Philippines)

Pirates attacked the ship and killed fifteen people

Fifteen people shot dead

-

-

ICC

-

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5	JIAN SHE 51 General cargo ship China 16464 9085950	12/03/98 00:30 hrs	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	Pirates approached the ship from different boats and from different directions. They prized zincograph for antiseptics on the sides of the ship. Crew repelled the pirates	-	Crew used fire control hose and search lights to repel pirates	-	China	-
6	ZHEN FEN 14 General cargo ship China 13003 9008366	26/03/98 05:15 hrs	Jakarta (Indonesia)	Three pirates armed with daggers and tools boarded the ship. They slipped into the engine room and were discovered by the duty engineer who sounded the alarm	Six trunks of spares were prized open, with great numbers of spares stolen	The duty engineer sounded the alarm	-	China	-
7	NOT REPORTED Tanker	01/04/98	Mombasa (Kenya)	Pirates attacked the ship	-	Guard repulsed the attack	-	ICC	-
8	SANMAR SYMPHONY Tanker India 28017	02/04/98	Kandla port (India)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship and held seaman at knife-point. Pirates escaped by boat	Seven fire hose nozzles stolen	-	-	ICC	-
9	OCEANIC CHALLENGER General cargo ship Hong Kong 18468	02/04/98	Libreville (Gabon)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship. They emptied the contents of containers and collected them it into an awaiting boat	Containers emptied	-	-	ICC	-

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10	VIRGIN PEARL	04/04/98	Near Sasa port Sarangani Bay (Philippines)	From messages received, it is suspected that the ship was hijacked. Some of the crew members' bodies were recovered near Malaysian waters	Some of the crew members killed and thrown overboard	Messages sent for help	Yes, local authority	ICC	-
11	NORTHWEST SANDERLING Gas carrier Australia 105010	16/04/98	02° 00' N 104° 50' E (Indonesia)	Ship was chased by a high speed boat	-	Captain manoeuvred to avoid pirates boarding	-	ICC	-
12	SWIFT TIGER Tanker Panama 4228	20/04/98	Anyer anchorage (Indonesia)	While at anchorage, pirates boarded the ship	One crew member tied up by pirates and two liferafts stolen	-	-	ICC	-
13	TIGER WAVE Container ship Singapore 13315	24/04/98	06° 26' N 094° 35' E Off Rondo island (India)	While underway, a speed boat chased the ship for about ten minutes. She followed the ship's stern and later disappeared	-	-	-	ICC	-
14	WALD AL AGOUZ General cargo ship United Arab Emirates 9465	24/04/98	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	While at anchor, eight pirates boarded the ship and, when confronted by ship's crew, threatened them with knives	Two mooring ropes stolen	Crew confronted the pirates	-	ICC	-

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15	AQUA STOLI Tanker Panama	28/04/98	06° 43' N 122° 34' E Near Sibago island (Philippines)	While underway, a high speed launch fired at the ship	No injury or damage	-	-	ICC	-
16	KWANGTUNG General cargo ship Hong Kong 12527	28/04/98	Jakarta Anchorage (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship unnoticed	Two mooring ropes stolen	-	-	ICC	-
17	YIN CHUAN General cargo ship China 10734	30/04/98	Mombasa (Kenya)	Seven pirates boarded the ship and attacked four crew members	Two crew members seriously injured	-	-	ICC	-
18	NOT REPORTED Fishing vessel Malaysia	01/05/98	10nm off Muar (Malacca Strait)	Pirates hijacked the ship. They held the three crew members hostages and demanded a ransom of RM20,000. The crew agreed to give RM14,000 to the pirates who released the hostages	Crew taken hostages	Crew negotiated the ransom	-	ICC	-
19	YI CHUAN General cargo ship China 10894 7336795	05/05/98 01:43 hrs	04° 04' S 039° 40' E Mombasa (Kenya)	Six pirates armed with knives boarded the ship. Crew fought back pirates, who finally jumped into the water and were picked up by two boats	Two crew members seriously injured and three suffered minor injuries	Crew fought back the pirates	Yes, Local police and port authority	China	Boat sent to take injured crew members to hospital

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20	AUK ARROW General cargo ship Bahamas 27963	05/05/98	Fazendinha (Brazil)	While at anchor, three pirates armed with knives boarded the ship	One liferaft stolen	-	-	ICC	-
21	ORCHID RIVER	07/05/98	04° 19' S 125° 35' E (Indonesia)	Two boats attempted to board the ship	-	Master increased speed to prevent pirates boarding	-	ICC	-
22	BRIGITTE	08/05/98	Jakarta (Indonesia)	While at anchor, two pirates armed with knives boarded the ship	One liferaft stolen	-	-	ICC	-
23	MARIBEL Chemical tanker The Netherlands 22620	09/05/98	Kandla (India)	While alongside, pirates boarded the ship	One mooring rope stolen	-	-	ICC	-
24	STAR TRONDANGER Bulk carrier The Netherlands 11585	11/05/98	07° 10' 4" N 112° 04' E Surabaya (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship	-	Alert crew foiled the attempt	-	ICC	-

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25	SHAFINAZ RIA Tanker Malaysia 3368	11/05/98	49° 4' N 118° 6' E Sandakan (Malaysia)	While at anchor, ship was boarded by robbers	Ship equipment stolen	-	-	ICC	-
26	RENATE SCHULTE	16/05/98	Barranquilla (Colombia)	While berthed, pirates armed with machetes boarded the ship and threatened crew members	Ship's ropes and two life buoys stolen	-	-	ICC	-
27	NICKOLAS Bulk carrier Malta 19683	19/05/98	12° 48' N 100° 44' E (Thailand)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship. They jumped into the water when they saw the alert crew and Master armed with iron bar. Pirates escaped on a speed boat	-	-	-	ICC	-
28	EAGLE VENUS	23/05/98	Davao (Philippines)	Pirates boarded the ship and stole one liferaft	Liferaft stolen	-	-	ICC	-
29	CHESAPEAKE CITY Tanker United States 52155	31/05/98	Teluk Semangka (Indonesia)	While anchored, four pirates boarded the ship and stole some equipment. They threatened crew members before being chased away	Safety equipment and engine spares stolen	They chased the pirates away	-	ICC	-

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30	REJANE DELMAS Container ship Germany 16.282	02/06/98 06:30 hrs	Off Somali Coast (Somalia)	Two boats manned with about seven pirates each fired at the ship with rifles and pistols	The ship escaped without any damages	-	-	Germany	-
31	BRITOL 4 Towing tug Singapore 259	05/06/98	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	While anchored, about thirty to forty pirates boarded the ship	One crew member wounded by a gunshot . Ropes, Acetylene/Oxygene hose with cutting torch stolen	-	-	ICC	-
32	MSC SARAH Multipurpose cargo ship Cyprus 16872 7617412	08/06/98 01:00 hrs	06° 45' S 039° 28' E Outer anchorage Dar es salaam (Tanzania)	While awaiting berthing instructions, pirates boarded the ship and stole some equipment	Forecastle locks broken, polypropylene and mooring ropes stolen	-	Yes, Port control and Port authority informed	BIMCO	-
33	NOT REPORTED	08/06/98	On the river passage Barranquilla (Colombia)	Two pirates armed with machetes boarded the ship and threatened the crew	One rope and two life buoys stolen	-	Yes, Pilot station informed	BIMCO	-
34	JAN ZIZKA Bulk carrier Malta 26500	19/06/98	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	While underway, ship was boarded by pirates armed with knives and guns	Mooring ropes stolen	-	-	ICC	-

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35		SEA LEGEND Container ship Singapore 11314	29/06/98 21:35 hrs	02° 53' S 107° 16' E Gelasa Straits (Indonesia)	Pirates armed with long knives boarded the ship. They forced the Master to open the safe and escaped by a speed boat	Watchkeeping personnel tied up with ropes. US\$201.54, watch, jewelry and sunglasses stolen	-	-	IOC	-
36		EXPRESS Container ship Greece 14050	18/07/98 03:00 hrs	06° 02' S 105° 54' E Jakarta anchorage (Indonesia)	Three pirates armed with long knives boarded the ship and tied up the Watchkeeping personnel. When the crew noticed them, they sounded the alarm. Pirates used ropes to get on board and escaped by a fishing boat	Watchkeeping personnel tied up. Padlocks broken and spare part stolen	Anti-piracy measures adopted	Yes, local authority informed	IOC	-

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