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MSC/Circ.874
31 August 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 31 July 1998 (MSC/Circ.873) and 31 August 1998.

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 1,278, an increase of 6 since 31 July 1998.

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, MSC/Circ.870 and MSC/Circ.873 .

ANNEX

MSC/Circ.874

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

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
1	SILVER STAR Correction to MSC/Circ. 869(17) Bulk carrier Singapore Bahamas	15/04/98	12° 05' N 51° 09' E	A blue-coloured fishing vessel attacked the ship by firing grenades	Bridge wing damaged	-	-	The Netherlands	-
2	PEARL LUCK Bulk carrier India 20421 7426239	12/07/98 01:00 hrs	Tuticorin port anchorage (India)	Pirates boarded the ship. They forced open the store lock. Crew confronted pirates who counterattacked with iron bars. They eventually escaped	Store locks broken, three mooring ropes and eighteen drums of paint stolen	Crew sounded the alarm	Yes, port control and local agent informed	BIMCO	Police apprehended suspects and recovered part of the stolen goods. Court enquiry conducted
3	ISLAND SEAWAY Ro-Ro passenger ship Malta 3536 8600739	16/07/98 18:05 hrs	Catania (Italy)	One pirate boarded the ship and was caught in the Chief Engineer's cabin	-	Master and Chief Engineer caught the pirate	Yes, Police informed	BIMCO	Police took the pirate into custody
4	ARKTIS CRYSTAL	17/07/98	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	Pirates attacked the ship. They jumped into the water from four boats in order to remove the ship's zinc anodes and disappeared	-	Crew fired expired distress rocket against pirates	Yes, Police informed	BIMCO	-
5	ARKTIS CRYSTAL	17/07/98	Chittagong (Bangladesh)	Pirates attacked the ship from six boats. They tried to remove the ship's zinc anodes. Pirates then rowed away	-	-	Yes, Police informed	BIMCO	A tug chased the pirates and the Police recovered two of the boats empty

*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.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6	AACHEN Container ship 9962	21/07/98 00:01 hrs	Tema anchorage (Ghana)	Pirates boarded the ship and held the Watchman hostage. He was threatened at gun point to report that all was in good order	Watchman was found in a state of shock. Paint and one rope stolen	-	-	BIMCO	-
7	BRITISH ADMIRAL Tug Singapore 259 1105357	13/08/98 18:18 hrs	00° 05' S 117° 35' E Santan (Indonesia)	One pirate armed with a long knife attempted to board the ship via the anchor cable. He left the ship when spotted by the crew. Three other pirates were waiting in a small boat	-	Crew sounded the alarm	Yes, local authority informed	ICC (IMB)	-

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