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MSC/Circ.899
31 January 1999

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 December 1998 (MSC/Circ.897) and 31 January 1999.

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 1,386, an increase of 48 since 31 December 1998.

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.835, MSC/Circ.839, MSC/Circ.841, MSC/Circ.844, MSC/Circ.869, MSC/Circ.870, MSC/Circ.873, MSC/Circ.874, MSC/Circ.875, MSC/Circ.877, MSC/Circ.880 and MSC/Circ.897.

ANNEX

MSC/Circ. 899

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	FU YANG SHAN General cargo ship China 13890 8601331	28/1/98	Conakry (Guinea)	While at anchor, 17 pirates armed with machine guns boarded the ship	Master wounded and crew robbed	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
2	Name not reported General cargo ship China	22/2/98	Fujian coast (China)	Ship hijacked	-	-	Yes, Chinese Police contacted	IMB-ICC	Chinese Police recovered the ship after a six-hour chase
3	NATASHA I Container ship Malta 4317 7047394	1/3/98	Off Somalian coast (Somalia)	While underway, pirates hijacked the ship and held crew hostage for several weeks demanding ransom	400 tonnes of steel stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
4	XIN HUA 8 General cargo ship China 2686 8222965	3/3/98	Jakarta (Indonesia)	While at anchor, four pirates boarded the ship and tied up one crew member	Engine spare parts stolen	Crew chased away the pirates	-	IMB-ICC	-
5	JAN NO.35 General cargo ship China	12/3/98	Dar Es Salaam (Tanzania)	While at anchor, four pirates boarded the ship	-	Crew foiled the attack	-	IMB-ICC	-

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6	BA DA LING Bulk carrier China 8601305	8/5/98	Waiting area for convoy, Suez Canal (Egypt)	While at anchor, one pirate attempted to steal a mooring rope	-	Crew chased away the pirate	-	IMB-ICC	-
7	PING SHAN Tanker China 177 7641607	1/6/98	Jakarta (Indonesia)	While at anchor, five armed pirates boarded the ship	Engine spare parts stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
8	ZADAR Tanker Liberia 26874 8419178	17/6/98	Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)	While at berth, pirates boarded the ship	US\$1,800 stolen from the ship's safe	-	Yes, Port Authorities informed	IMB-ICC	-
9	ASCHEN	21/7/98	Tema roads (Ghana)	During routine patrol, crew encountered a pirate armed with a gun who threatened and held hostage the watchman until he escaped	Paint stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
10	ONG THONG Fishing vessel Thailand	11/10/98	95 km. off Tg. Gelang (Malaysia)	While sailing from Indonesia to Thailand, seven pirates armed with M16 rifles boarded the ship which they ransacked for valuables. As they could not find anything, they fired at three crew members injuring them in the head, abdomen and leg	Three crew members injured	-	Yes, Royal Malaysian Navy informed	IMB-ICC	The Royal Malaysian Navy took the injured men for medical treatment

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11	ASTA SAMUDRA Oil tanker Panama 12873 9083718	13/10/98	Tg. Priok (Indonesia)	While at anchor, four pirates armed with knives boarded the ship but alert crew foiled the attack	-	Crew foiled the attack	-	IMB-ICC	-
12	KARIMUN Oil tanker Singapore 13377 7372555	13/10/98	Teluk Semangka (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship	Engine spare parts stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
13	OCEANIC EXPLORER Bulk carrier Panama 36741 8916152	15/10/98	Paranagua (Brazil)	While at berth and discharging, vigilant crew caught a pirate stealing signal flares	-	Crew caught the pirate	Yes, local Police contacted	IMB-ICC	The pirate was handed over to the Police
14	BUNGA MAS EMPAT Container ship Malaysia 7998 9113173	20/10/98	Madras (India)	While at anchor, three pirates in a small wooden boat boarded the ship, but alert crew raised the alarm. The pirates escaped	-	Crew raised the alarm	-	IMB-ICC	-

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15	VANDA NAREE Bulk carrier Thailand 14031 8309115	22/10/98 08:24 hrs	Nana Creek (Nigeria)	Five pirates boarded the ship and entered the wheelhouse. The pilot was manhandled and pulled out of the wheelhouse endangering the safety of the ship. Pirates ordered the ship to stop and to turn back which was impossible. They demanded N50,000.00 to allow the ship to proceed. Master offered presents as he did not have cash to pay them. Pilot suggested that he could write a letter to the Agents, requesting them to pay. The pirates agreed, demanded more presents and left	A video camera and few items stolen	Pilot made agreement with pirates	Yes, Harbour Master informed	BIMCO	-
16	CHANG NI General cargo ship China 6030 8035960	5/11/98	Luzon (Philippines)	While underway, pirates on two launches fired at the ship and attempted to board her but gave up due to daylight	-	Ship did not stop	-	IMB-ICC	-
17	LOUISA Chemical tanker Singapore 1993 8021256	10/11/98	04° 44' .0 N 098° 11' .0 E (Indonesia)	While underway, pirates in a boat fired at the ship	No casualties or damage suffered	Master refused to stop and sailed away	-	IMB-ICC	-
18	CAPE AMERICA Bulk carrier 77096 8920517	11/11/98	01° 36' .0 S 143° 00' .0 E (Papua New Guinea)	Two speed boats approached the ship and fired at her with automatic weapons. They attempted to board the ship but left 25 minutes later	No injury to crew	Ship did not stop	-	IMB-ICC	-

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19	CHELUNG SON Bulk carrier Panama 10373 7706378	16/11/98	22° 20' .0 N 118° 49' .0 E South China Sea	The ship sailed from Shanghai Port for Port Keland on 13 November 1998 with a cargo of furnace slag. The ship last reported her position to the owners on 16 November 1998. Ship missing	Crew of 23 supposed to be dead, six bodies recovered by Chinese fishermen	-	-	IMB-ICC	Chinese Police arrested 7 pirates who were believed to have been involved in the hijacking. The pirates have confessed to the authorities that they gathered all the 23 crew on the deck, shot them with machine guns and threw the bodies into the sea
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20	HIGHLANDER I General cargo ship Panama 13731 7392139	18/11/98 04:10 hrs	Tema anchorage (Ghana)	Eight to twelve pirates boarded the ship from four boats	-	Crew raised the alarm, switched the lights on and effectively used fire hoses	Yes, Port control notified	BIMCO	-
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21	Name not reported Fishing vessel Malaysia	25/11/98 03:00 hrs	Tepu Island, Langkawi Island (Malaysia)	While the five fishermen were resting near the island, a pirate boat approached the ship and two pirates boarded. One of them whipped out a gun and fired a shot at the skipper. Then they ordered the crew to sail closer to another island and ordered them to jump into the sea. The pirates sailed away with both ships to international waters with one dead fisherman onboard. The four remaining fishermen swam towards the island and only three of them managed to reach ashore	Ship stolen. One fisherman killed and another one missing	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
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22	STAR POLARIS Bulk carrier Greece 26897 9125566	26/11/98	Tg. Bara, Kalimantan (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship	Ship's stores stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
23	KYUSHU SPIRIT Tanker Bahamas 53988 8913148	27/11/98	Dar Es Salaam (Tanzania)	Pirates boarded the ship	Ship's stores stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
24	PULAU MAS General cargo ship Cambodia 6416586	1/12/98	Pulau Batam (Indonesia)	Ship hijacked	-	-	Yes, Indonesian Authorities informed	IMB-ICC	Ship arrested by the Authorities in Batam. Syndicates involved in the hijacking have been exposed
25	TIEN SHAN Bulk carrier 66623 9056533	2/12/98	Tg. Bara, Kalimantan (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship	Ship's stores stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
26	PERNAS BUTANE LNG carrier Malaysia 706 9047283	6/12/98	01° 19' 0 N 116° 5' 13 E (Malaysia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship unnoticed	Ship's stores stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-

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27	ATLAS Bulk carrier St. Vincent and the Grenadines 23525 7927740	10/12/98	00° 32'.0 N 117° 45'.0 E (Indonesia)	While at anchor, two pirates boarded the ship but alert crew foiled the attack	-	Crew foiled the attack	-	IMB-ICC	-
28	CAPTAIN HELEN Tanker France 25060 9039121	12/12/98 02:45 hrs	Port of Kingston (Jamaica)	Pirates armed with knives boarded the ship. They were discovered in the crew mess. Pirates escaped	High water pressure machine with twenty meters hoses, sand blasting equipment from the above machine, jet chisel model JEX 28 with twenty meters air hose, TV monitor Sony and compact disk deck receiver Sony stolen	Crew chased away the pirate	-	France	-
29	DOCERIO Bulk carrier Brazil 90633 8510910	19/12/98	Tg. Bara, Kalimantan (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship	One liferaft stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
30	LEONA Bulk carrier Republic of Korea 9125 7603473	21/12/98	Jakarta (Indonesia)	While at anchor, four pirates armed with long knives boarded the ship and held the quartermaster hostage	Engine spare parts stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
31	HANDY SILVER Log/Bulk carrier Philippines 15289 8221480	23/12/98 05:00 hrs	Surabaya port (Indonesia)	Pirates boarded the ship and held duty officer and duty AB hostage at knife point. Six other pirates went to the engine room and held the duty officer hostage	Duty officers and AB held hostage. Engine spare parts stolen	-	Yes, Surabaya Harbour Police informed	BIMCO	-

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32	ZEBU EXPRESS Livestock carrier Philippines 2374 8124436	24/12/98	Tg. Priok (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship	One onboard motor stolen from a lifeboat	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
33	Name not reported Fishing vessel Malaysia	24/12/98	Kuala Trusan, Lawas (Malaysia)	Pirates attacked the ship	The shipowner was killed and his son injured. The son held onto a piece of wood and was rescued by a passing fishing vessel	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
34	CSAV PERU Container ship Croatia 29912 9005429	26/12/98 20:18 hrs	Guayaquil roads (Ecuador)	Ten pirates boarded the ship. They were forced to jump into the water by five Policemen previously onboard	-	-	Yes, US Coast Guard notified	BIMCO	More policemen came onboard for the rest of the night
35	Name not reported	26/12/98	Guayaquil (Ecuador)	Ten pirates boarded the ship	No injuries to crew nor Police	Police hired to protect the ship	-	IMB-ICC	The Police hired to protect the ship arrived and a gunfire ensued. The pirates jumped into the water and escaped
36	CGM CEZANNE Container ship Germany 25900 9152765	27/12/98	03° 00' .0 S 107° 18' .0 E Selat Baur (Indonesia)	While underway, a lookout spotted a craft coming from stern. Crew unsure as to whether the pirates managed to board the ship	No containers were broken into	Crew raised the alarm	-	IMB-ICC	-

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37	GINA Chemical tanker	28/12/98 02:40 hrs	Rio Haina (Dominican Republic)	Three pirates armed with long knives boarded the ship. They were discovered while trying to break one door. Watchman raised the alarm. Pirates eventually jumped into the water	-	Watchman raised the alarm	Yes, Agent and Port authorities notified	BIMCO	-
38	PATROCLUS Bulk carrier Malta 12910 8123078	28/12/98 20:15 hrs	003° 00' S 107° 19' E Sunda Strait (Indonesia)	Ten pirates approached the ship in a speed boat. Three of them tried to board the ship but were repelled by the crew and disappeared	-	Crew foiled the attack	-	BIMCO	-
39	RUBIN STELLA Bulk carrier Panama 16769 9115080	28/12/98	03° 02' 0 S 106° 58' 5 E (Indonesia)	While underway, pirates boarded the ship and entered the bridge. They tied up the duty officer and the third officer	Two crew members' watches and ship's stores stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
40	STRIDE Tanker Singapore 22572 8800511	28/12/98	Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)	While at berth, pirates armed with guns and knives boarded the ship	Crew's personal belongings, cash and ship's stores stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
41	Name not reported Chemical tanker	28/12/98	Rio Haina (Dominican Republic)	Pirates boarded the ship from a boat and attempted to break a door	-	Crew members spotted the pirates and forced them back into their boat	-	IMB-ICC	-

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42	ABDOUN DISCOVERY Tanker Cyprus 45587 7375117	29/12/98	01° 05' .8 N 103° 43' .0 E Singapore Straits	While underway, pirates boarded the ship	US\$20,000 stolen from the ship's safe	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
43	KHAIRPUR AQOR General cargo ship Pakistan 13402 7905857	30/12/98	00° 43' 18 S 103° 43' .0 E (Indonesia)	While at anchor, pirates boarded the ship but were chased away by the crew	-	Crew chased away the pirates and apprehended one of them who was handed over to the authorities	Yes, authorities informed	IMB-ICC	-
44	PACIFIC STAR Tanker Singapore 3795 8317071	30/12/98	03° 03' .0 S 106° 58' .0 E (Indonesia)	While underway, pirates boarded the ship	Crew robbed and US\$5,000 in cash stolen from the ship's safe	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
45	SANTA BAHARI General cargo ship Belize 4682 7310715	30/12/98	Cigading (Indonesia)	Pirates boarded the ship	Rice stolen	-	-	IMB-ICC	-
46	SEA JOHANA	30/12/98	(Somalia)	A group of pirates boarded and hijacked the ship . They are demanding US\$200,000 to release her	Crew held hostage	-	-	IMB-ICC	-

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47	WISIDA NORDIC Refrigerated cargo ship Bahamas 5084 8819299	01/01/99 01:05 hrs	Guayaquil roads (Ecuador)	Six pirates armed with rifles boarded the ship. Duty officer raised the alarm and crew was ordered not to approach the pirates, who cut the padlock while one of them was on standby with a rifle to prevent any approach. Pirates stole some items and left the ship	Paint and fire equipment stolen	Duty officer raised the alarm and Master called Data pilot station who never came	Yes, Pilot station notified	BIMCO	-
48	JOHANNA Dubai	03/01/99	Somalian waters (Somalia)	Pirates hijacked the ship demanding a ransom	-	-	Yes, Local authorities notified	BIMCO	Pakistan Foreign Office has asked its ambassador in Somalia to seek the help of the Somalian Government to free the Pakistani crew

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