



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC/Circ.934  
30 September 1999  
Original: ENGLISH

## REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

### Issued monthly - Acts reported during September 1999

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy<sup>1</sup> 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, the summary of a report on incidents received between 31 August 1999 (MSC/Circ.933) and 30 September 1999.

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 1,543, an increase of 9 since 31 August 1999.

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.899, MSC/Circ.902, MSC/Circ.904, MSC/Circ.906, MSC/Circ.923, MSC/Circ.925, MSC/Circ.928 and MSC/Circ.933.

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<sup>1</sup> "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)."



## ANNEX

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

| N° | Ship's name<br>Type of ship<br>Flag<br>Gross tonnage<br>IMO No. | Date<br><br>Time      | Position of the incident*   | Details of the incident   | Consequences for crew,<br>ship, cargo   | Action taken by<br>the master and<br>the crew | Was the incident<br>reported to the<br>coastal authority?<br>Which one? | Reporting<br>State or<br>international<br>organization | MSC/Circ. 934<br>ANNEX<br>Page 1 |
|----|---|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--|----------------------------------|
|    |   |                       |   |   |   |   |   |  | Action by the<br>coastal State   |
| 1  | 2   | 3                     | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9  | 10                               |
| 1  | MAGNUS STOVE<br>Bulk carrier<br>Norway<br>36097<br>9111577      | 18/07/99<br>03:00 hrs | 01°44'.00S<br>116°39'.50E<br>Adang Bay, outer<br>anchorage, East<br>Kalimantan<br>(Indonesia) | The crew discovered that armed robbers had boarded the ship while at anchor   | Two new coils of mooring ropes and a fire extinguisher from the forecandle stolen   | -   | -   | BIMCO  | -                                |
| 2  | KILCHEM OCEANIA<br>Tanker<br>Bahamas<br>4497<br>8401846         | 20/07/99<br>06:32 hrs | 04°41'.00N<br>005°17'.00E<br>Pennington Oil Field<br>(Nigeria)                                | Eight armed robbers boarded the ship while underway. The armed robbers broke down the locked bridge doors, attacked the Master and the officers and then beat up crew members in the mess. They then ordered the Master to move the ship near the mouth of the Pennington River. Two other boats came alongside | The Master sustained cuts to his arm and head and the crew were beaten up. Initially, three hostages were taken and then one returned and after 38 days captivity the other two returned as well. Safety equipment, stores, provisions, navigational equipment, crew's personal possessions and mattresses stolen | -   | -   | BIMCO  | -                                |
| 3  | SEA LION<br>General cargo ship<br>Denmark<br>2815<br>9050101    | 23/07/99<br>00:20 hrs | Douala<br>(Cameroon)  | Eight to ten armed robbers boarded the ship while at anchor and held one member of the crew at knifepoint   | Personal items and some paint stolen  | -   | -   | BIMCO  | -                                |

\*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

| Nº | Ship's name<br>Type of ship<br>Flag<br>Gross tonnage<br>IMO No.                      | Date<br>Time          | Position of the incident*   | Details of the incident   | Consequences for crew,<br>ship, cargo   | Action taken by<br>the master and<br>the crew | Was the incident<br>reported to the<br>coastal authority?<br>Which one?  | Reporting<br>State or<br>international<br>organization | MSC/Circ. 934<br>ANNEX<br>Page 2   |
|----|--|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
|    |  |                       |   |   |   |   |  |  | Action by the<br>coastal State   |
| 1  | 2  | 3                     | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8  | 9  | 10   |
| 4  | AYIA MARKELLA<br>Bulk carrier<br><br>22009<br>8316261                                | 06/08/99<br>02:30 LT  | 03°47'.00N<br>098°41'.00E<br>Belawan anchorage,<br>Sumatra<br>(Indonesia) | Robbers, armed with knives and pistols, boarded the ship while at anchor from three boats using ropes. They threatened the A/B who was on watch and asked for keys to the fore-castle. As the watchman did not have them they tried to force open hatchways and doors | Personal items of the watchman stolen   | More crew placed on alert                     | -  | BIMCO  | -  |
| 5  | NORDANA ADVISOR<br>General cargo ship<br>Liberia<br>13382<br>8908090                 | 08/08/99<br>02:00 hrs | Guanta<br>(Venezuela)   | Five robbers armed with knives boarded the ship while at berth and threatened the crew. When leaving the ship, they headed towards the opposite side of the bay, where a small village of fishermen is situated   | Thirty sheets of plywood stolen and one container seal broken   | -   | During the incident, unsuccessful attempts were made to notify the Coast Guard by VHF  | BIMCO  | An officer of the National Guard boarded to take a statement from the Master |
| 6  | EMILIA THERESA<br>Chemical tanker<br>United Kingdom (Isle of Man)<br>3356<br>9165451 | 09/08/99<br>03:45 LT  | Rio Grande<br>(Brazil)  | While at anchor, the ship was boarded by six armed robbers, who were described as well dressed and wearing gloves and masks. They ransacked several cabins and held the chief engineer and his wife at gunpoint   | Money stolen from the Master's safe and from the chief engineer and his wife, as well as their personal possessions. Mobile phones, walkie talkies, binoculars and sextant stolen | -   | Yes, Pilot Station informed and requested to call the Police. Attempts were made in vain to contact other ships on VHF channels 16 and 9 | United Kingdom   | Police boarded and investigated  |
| 7  | CAP ORTEGAL<br>Container ship<br>Germany<br>25500<br>9166649                         | 19/08/99<br>06:42 LT  | Kingston<br>(Jamaica)   | While at anchor, armed robbers boarded the ship unnoticed   | One liferaft, some paint, one mooring rope and cartons of vegetables stolen   | -   | Police and Coast Guard contacted via the agents  | BIMCO  | Statements taken from the crew   |

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| Nº | Ship's name<br>Type of ship<br>Flag<br>Gross tonnage<br>IMO No. | Date<br>Time         | Position of the incident*  | Details of the incident   | Consequences for crew,<br>ship, cargo   | Action taken by<br>the master and<br>the crew | Was the incident<br>reported to the<br>coastal authority?<br>Which one? | Reporting<br>State or<br>international<br>organization | MSC/Circ. 934<br>ANNEX<br>Page 3 |
|----|---|----------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|----------------------------------|
|    |   |                      |  |   |   |   |   |  | Action by the<br>coastal State   |
| 1  | 2   | 3                    | 4  | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9  | 10                               |
| 8  | LUCKY<br>Log/Bulk carrier<br>Liberia<br>14931<br>8303680        | 23/08/99<br>05:00 LT | 00°15'.00S<br>117°34'.00E<br>M. Berau anchorage,<br>Samarinda<br>(Indonesia) | Armed robbers boarded the ship while at berth and broke into the forecastle   | One liferaft, ropes, rubber hose, one fire extinguisher, snatch blocks and two lengths of rubber hatch packing stolen | -   | Yes, Local Police Authority informed through the Agent                  | BIMCO  | -                                |
| 9  | PINK SANDS<br>Bulk carrier<br>Malta<br>22009<br>8307064         | 08/09/99<br>02:20 LT | Conakry anchorage<br>(Guinea)  | Whilst at anchor, the ship was attacked by six robbers armed with a rifle and knives, despite five crew members keeping watch on deck and on the bridge. The robbers forced the watchmen under threat to be their guide through the accommodation | Money from the ship's safe locker, ship's property, crew's money and personal belongings stolen                       | -   | Yes, Local Port Authority informed                                      | BIMCO  | -                                |

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