



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC/Circ.992
31 March 2001

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during March 2001

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 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 reports on incidents received between 28 February 2001 and 31 March 2001.

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 2,226, an increase of 15 since 28 February 2001.

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.989 and MSC/Circ.990.

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 sub-paragraph (a) or (b)."

² "Armed robbery against ships" is defined in the draft Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (MSC/Circ.984) (article 2.2) as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any unlawful act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of "piracy", directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such ship, within a State's jurisdiction over such offences."

ANNEX

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

N ^o	Ship's name Type of ship Flag Gross tonnage IMO No.	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/Circ. 992 ANNEX Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	ACTUARIA Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 9923 8115605	04/03/01 23:00 LT	Chittagong anchorage (Bangladesh)	A boat with four armed robbers came alongside the ship while at anchor. Two armed robbers attempted to board the ship but were chased off	-	Alert crew chased the armed robbers off the ship	Yes. Coast Guard and Port Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	ACTUARIA Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 9923 8115605	05/03/01 00:00 LT	Chittagong anchorage (Bangladesh)	A second attempt was made to board the ship an hour later and failed. One of the armed robbers showed a pistol to the crew	-	Alert crew chased the armed robbers off the ship	Yes. Coast Guard and Port Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ACTUARIA Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 9923 8115605	06/03/01 03:00 LT	Chittagong anchorage (Bangladesh)	A boat with eight armed robbers went alongside the ship while at anchor. They attempted to board but failed	-	Alert crew foiled attempt to board	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	FRANCONIA Container ship Liberia 16198 7816836	07/03/01 05:30 LT	14°41'.00N 120°05'.00E Manila harbour (Philippines)	A speed boat approached very close to the ship with the intention of boarding while underway. The boat retreated	-	Crew alerted and alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	FRANCONIA Container ship Liberia 16198 7816836	07/03/01	Manila harbour (Philippines)	A second attempt to board the ship failed	-	Crew alerted and alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	LINGFIELD Gas carrier-LPG Panama 3901 8619405	08/03/01 04:45 LT	01°50'.00N 105°13'.00E East of Bintan (Indonesia)	Eight armed robbers in a speed boat boarded the ship while underway. They broke open the door at the Captain's deck. They went to the bridge, took the Chief Officer and AB on duty hostage and went to the Captain's cabin. When the Captain opened the door they blindfolded him, the Chief Officer and the AB. The armed robbers later jumped overboard and escaped in their boat which was trailing the ship for the duration of the attack	Crew blindfolded but no injuries. Crew's cash and valuables stolen and cash from ship's safe stolen. Total cash stolen US\$11,000	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR Basarnas and Marine Police HQ informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	OSCAR VIKING Gas carrier-LPG Norway 18158 8131104	10/03/01 11:30 Hrs	Chittagong harbour (Bangladesh)	The vessel left Ammonia berth and the crew secured the ropes at forward and aft but the poop deck was left unattended while they were busy changing the pilot ladder. At about 11:40 hrs the crew returned to the poop deck and found three new ropes missing. The crew saw nobody about nor any boats in the vicinity. The armed robbers might have climbed onboard while the poop deck was unattended, lowered the ropes down and jumped over the side.	Three new ropes stolen	Watchman stationed on aft deck until on the open sea	Yes. Coast Guard and Port Authority informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
8	MATSUMI MARU NO.7 Tanker Singapore 2814 7371616	19/03/01 03:00 LT	01°23'.00N 103°15'.50E Malacca Strait	5-10 pirates armed with long knives boarded the ship while underway. They entered the bridge and took the Duty Officer and AB hostage. They also tried to attack the Captain but he resisted and went into hiding. The hostages were taken to the Captain's cabin. The pirates asked the Captain to open the door and when he refused they broke it open.	3 crew members taken hostage, the Captain was assaulted when he resisted. Cash, crew's belongings and ship's properties stolen	-	Yes. MRCC Port Klang, Marine Police, SAR Djakarta and other ships in the vicinity informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Malaysian Marine Police dispatched patrol boats to assist the ship
9	SEA HORSE General cargo Singapore 6619 7601231	20/03/01 03:50 LT	00°55'.00N 105°51'.00E South China Sea	A speed boat approached the ship on its starboard bow while underway. The duty AB noticed it and informed the Duty Officer who raised the alarm. The pirates aborted their attempt to board	-	Alarm raised and Aldis light directed on boat	Yes. SAR Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
10	RENGGANIS Tanker Singapore 2543 9064217	21/03/01 03:48 LT	00°43'.00N 103°37'.90E Selat Durian (Indonesia)	The Duty AB was on rounds and saw one armed robber outside the Captain's deck. When the alarm was raised the armed robber jumped overboard and escaped	-	Duty AB raised the alarm and alerted all crew	Yes. SAR Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
11	TARQUIN LOCH Tanker Panama 4693 9181900	22/03/01 00:50 LT	Batangas (Philippines)	The Duty AB was on patrol while at anchor and noticed armed robbers onboard. He informed the bridge and the armed robbers fled immediately	Life buoys stolen	Alarm raised. Crew alert	Yes. Philippines Coast Guard informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
12	TOPAZ Bulk carrier Panama 26922 912554	26/03/01 22:40 LT	00°14'.00N 108°10'.00E South China Sea	Pirates in a fishing boat attempted to board the ship while underway. They were spotted and so abandoned attempt to board	-	Duty Officer spotted the pirates and raised alarm	Yes. SAR Djakarta and police Djakarta informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	JAYA MARS Container ship Singapore 76830 7910852	27/03/01 03:50 LT	Chittagong anchorage B (Bangladesh)	Two armed robbers boarded the ship while at anchor but were spotted. They jumped overboard and escaped in their small boat with two other accomplices	-	Duty crew spotted armed robbers and raised alarm	Yes. Port Control informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
14	RED GOLD Supply ship Singapore 1161 8101496	29/03/01 03:00 LT	Labuan anchorage (Malaysia)	Armed robbers boarded the ship while at anchor	Outboard motor engine stolen	-	Yes. Marine Police HQ informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
15	ORIENTAL QUEEN Bulk carrier Malta 15653 7386300	30/03/01 23:39 LT	Malacca Strait	Two pirate boats attempted to board the ship but were not successful	-	-	Yes. Marine Police HQ informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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