

Incident Report: 19/2008

Date/Time of Incident: 22 November 2008 at 0230 hrs (Local Time)

Location of incident: 01° 18.26' N 104° 12.34' E

Area Description: South of Tanjong Ayam, Johor, Malaysia

Name and Type of Ship: *MT Kirana Dwitya* / Petroleum Product Tanker

Details of Incident

On 22 November 2008, a Singapore-registered tanker, the *MT Kirana Dwitya* was anchored at 01° 18.26' N 104° 12.34' E (about 2nm south of Tanjong Ayam, Johor) to perform tank cleaning. At about 0230 hrs, five suspected robbers armed with one pistol and four knives boarded the tanker from a speed boat. They entered the engine room and tied up two crew members.

One of the engineers spotted the robbers and immediately informed the Duty Officer who then reported the incident to the Master. The Master activated the alarm and made announcement to alert remaining crew. All crew members were mustered and subsequently conducted a search for the armed robbers but the robbers had fled the vessel upon hearing the alarm, taking with them some engine spare parts. There was no injury to the crew.

The ship master reported the incident to the local Marine Police in Johor as well as the Port Operations Control Centre (POCC), Singapore. The Singapore POCC transmitted a navigational broadcast on VHF & Navtex and informed the MRCC Putra Jaya and RCC Jakarta.

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments by ISC

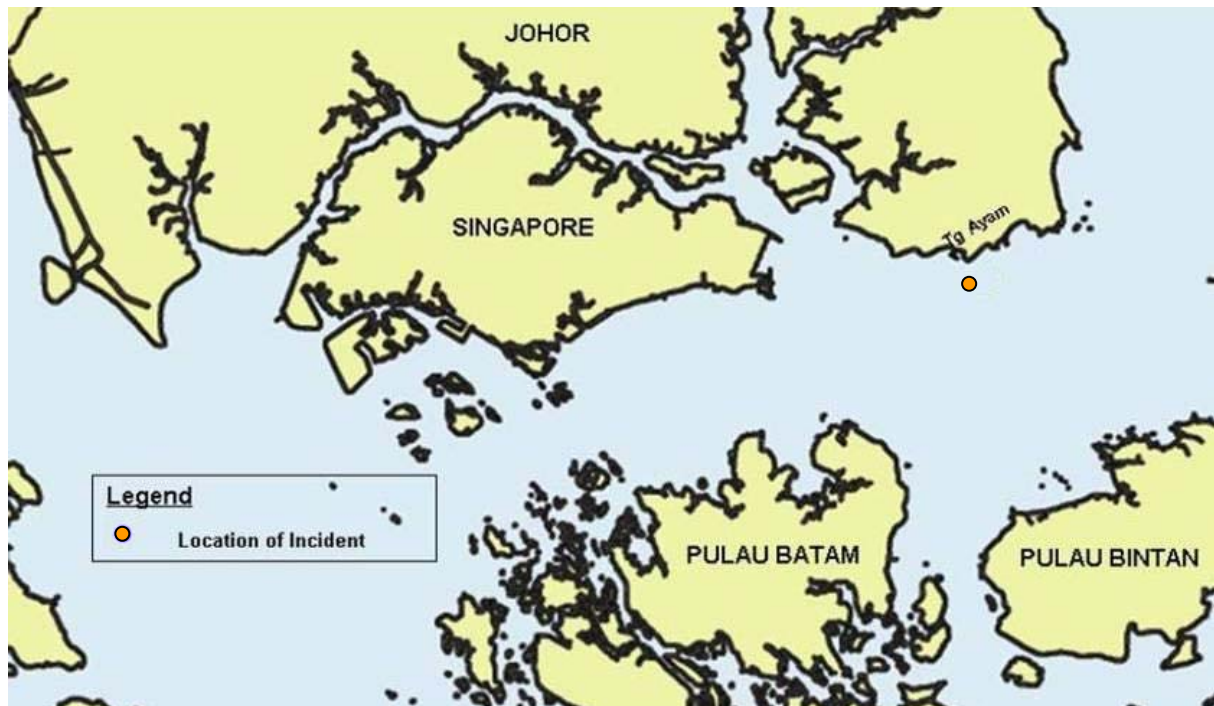
The prompt actions taken by the master and crew were commendable.

Ship masters and crew are advised to maintain vigilance at all times and take necessary precautionary measures when operating in the vicinity.



Observations by ISC

The modus operandi of the incident was that of a hit-and-run opportunist operation; in which robbers would normally board the target ship from a speed boat in the hours of darkness.



Approximate location of incident

