Incident Alert



Incident Report: 02/2011

Name and Type of Ship: Healthy/tanker

Date/Time of Incident: 26 Jan 11 at 0325 hrs (local time)

Location of incident: 1° 11.8′ N, 103° 33.6′ E

Area Description: Approximately 5 nm southeast of Tg Piai, Malaysia

Name and Type of Ship: Crest Atlas /tugboat

Date/Time of Incident: 26 Jan 11 at 0445 (local time)

Location of incident: 1° 12.57′ N, 103° 33.7′ E

Area Description: Approximately 3.2 nm southeast of Tg Piai, Malaysia

Details of Incidents

The ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) reported to the ReCAAP ISC two incidents of robbery onboard ships while they were underway off Tg Piai, Malaysia on 26 Jan 11. Notably, the incidents occurred in close proximity to each other and within an interval of two hours. The details of the incidents are described below.

Incident Involving Healthy on 26 Jan 11 at 0325 hrs

On 26 Jan 11 at or about 0325 hrs, a Saint Kitts and Nevis-registered tanker, *Healthy* was transiting from south of Tanjung Piai to Tanjung Setapa, Malaysia when the crew spotted two robbers onboard the tanker, and another 10 robbers waiting in a small boat. The robbers wore masks and carried weapons which were not known. Upon sighting of the robbers, the crew raised the general alarm and reported the incident to Singapore's Port Operation Control Centre (POCC) immediately. On hearing the alarm, the robbers immediately disembarked from the tanker and escaped in a small boat. The crew was not injured and nothing was stolen from the ship.

Incident Involving Crest Atlas on 26 Jan 11 at 0445 hrs

On the same day, at or about 0445 hrs, another incident occurred at approximately 1.5 nm north of the location where *Healthy* was boarded. Seven robbers wearing masks and armed with knives boarded a Singapore-registered tug boat, *Crest Atlas* at position 1° 12.57' N, 103° 33.7' E (approximately 3.2 nm southeast of Tanjung Piai, Malaysia). The robbers took away the crew's personal belongings including cash, mobile phones, laptops and other valuables; and some bridge equipment before escaping in a small boat. The crew was not injured.

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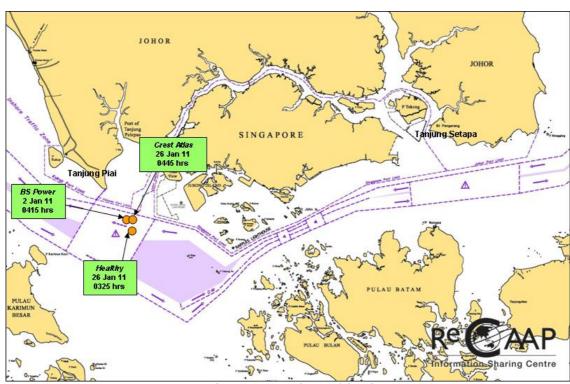
The Singapore's POCC who is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) initiated NAVTEX broadcasts to warn mariners about the incidents, and reported the incidents to the ReCAAP ISC, MRCC Putra Jaya (Malaysia), BASARNAS (Indonesia), the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and the Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG).

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments by the ReCAAP ISC

With the reporting of the incidents involving *Healthy* and *Crest Atlas* on 26 Jan 11, a total of three incidents of robbery onboard ships had been reported in the vicinity off Tanjung Piai since January 2011. The first incident involved a Singapore-registered tug boat, *BS Power* southeast of Tanjung Piai on 2 Jan 11 at about 0415 hrs. While at anchor, about seven robbers armed with guns boarded *BS Power* from a speed boat at approximately 3.2 nm southeast of Tanjung Piai (1° 12.79' N, 103° 33.67' E). The robbers took away the crew's belongings and ship's binoculars before escaping. The crew was not injured. (See map below on location of the incidents.)



Approximate location of incidents

The ReCAAP ISC advises ship masters and crew operating in the vicinity to maintain vigilance at all times, and adopt the necessary precautionary measures. They are to report all actual and attempted incidents to the coastal State and flag State immediately.

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