

Incident Alert

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| Incident Report: | 11/2011 |
| Name and Type of Ship: | <i>Stanford Alpha / Kreuz 331</i> Tug boat / Barge |
| Date/Time of Incident: | 15 May 11 at or about 0105 hrs (local time) |
| Location of incident: | 01° 14.97' N, 104° 06.81' E |
| Area Description: | Eastbound Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) |

Details of Incident

On 15 May 11 at or about 0105 hrs, a Singapore-registered barge *Kreuz 331* towed by a Singapore-registered tug boat *Stanford Alpha* was underway along the eastbound TSS (01° 14.97' N, 104° 06.81' E) when eight robbers in a sampan (small wooden boat) approached and boarded the stern of *Kreuz 331*.

The master of *Stanford Alpha* turned on the lights onboard the tug boat and proceeded at full operating speed of 7 knots. The robbers left the barge after 40 mins. The master reported that ropes were stolen from *Kreuz 331*, which was carrying tools and equipment. Containers onboard the barge were also broken into. All 15 crew onboard the tug boat were reported to be safe.

The Singapore's Port Operations Control Centre (POCC), which is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), informed the Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG), the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), the Indonesian Navy and Malaysian Marine Police. The Singapore POCC also promulgated broadcast to warn all vessels to maintain a good anti-piracy watch when passing the area.

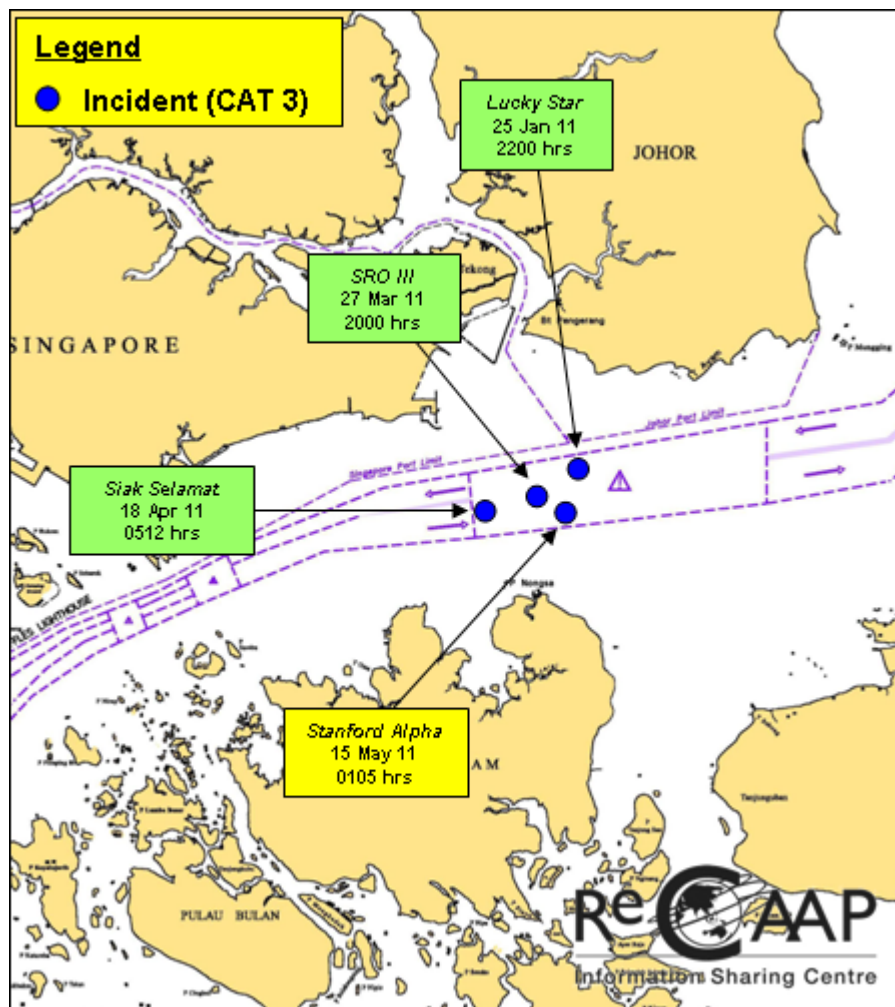
Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

This is the fourth incident reported in the area since January 2011. Please refer to map on the approximate location of the incidents. Notably, three of the four incidents involved tug boats towing barges when the incidents occurred – *SRO III* towing barge *Pac Rupert*; *Siak Selamat* towing barge *Pac Kalimantan*; and *Stanford Alpha* towing barge *Kreuz 331*. In all three incidents, the robbers approached and boarded the barge during hours of darkness.





Approximate Location of Incidents

Ship masters and crew are advised to exercise enhanced vigilance with all around look-out, and take necessary precautionary measures when operating in the area especially during hours of darkness. Masters of vessels towing unmanned barges are to exercise extra lookout for any suspicious approach to the barges. Ship masters are encouraged to report all actual and attempted incidents to the coastal State and flag State immediately.

