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ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report

3 – 9 January 2017

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

For the period of 3 – 9 Jan 17, three attempted incidents of armed robbery against ships were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. One of the incidents occurred on 23 November 2016, and was further verified by ReCAAP Focal Points.

The location of the three incidents are shown in the map below; and the detailed description of the incidents are tabulated in attachment.



Locations of incident reported to the ReCAAP ISC (3 – 9 Jan 17)

RECOMMENDATIONS

The ReCAAP ISC urges ship master and crew to report all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships to the nearest coastal State and flag State, exercise vigilance and adopt relevant preventive measures taking reference from the *Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia*, particularly when operating in areas of concern.

The ReCAAP ISC reiterates its advisory to all ships as highlighted in the Incident Alert dated 21 November 2016 on the abduction incidents in the Sulu-Celebes Sea and waters off eastern Sabah.

**Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships
3 to 9 January 2017**

NO	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Local time of Incident (LT)	Position of the Incident	Details of the Incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A. ATTEMPTED INCIDENT									
1.	Ken Toku Bulk carrier Panama 17979 9316945	23/11/16 0920 hrs	6° 20.4' N 119° 58.68' E Vicinity waters of Laparan Island, Pangutaran Municipality, Sulu Sea, Philippines	While underway, approx. nine perpetrators wearing bonnets in a speed boat painted grey with blue stripes chased after the bulk carrier and attempted to board the ship from the starboard. They fired at the starboard side of the ship with high powered firearms. The master raised the alarm, sprayed water using a fire hose and increased its speed. Seeing that the master and crew had been alerted and conducted evasive manoeuvres, the perpetrators aborted the attempt to board and fled towards the direction of Pangutaran island, Jolo, Sulu.	There were 13 bullet holes on the starboard side of the ship. The crew was not injured.	Sprayed water using fire hose.	Yes, Philippine Coast Guard and Philippine Navy.	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan) and ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	Philippine Navy ships were deployed immediately to the area.
2.	Ocean Kingdom Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 7541 9202091	3/1/17 1500 hrs	6° 37.7' N 122° 44.4' E About 25 nm east of Matanal Point Sibago Island Basilan, Philippines	While underway, two white and yellow speed boats with two and three perpetrators in each of them respectively, approached the container ship from Sibago Island, Basilan Province. While approaching, one of the armed perpetrators in one of the boats made a hand signal to stop and abruptly increased its speed to 14 kns while the other speed boat proceeded towards the stern of the ship with one armed perpetrator attempted to climb onto the freeboard of the container ship. The master conducted a zig-zag manoeuvring which resulted in swaying of the rudder and propeller that eventually created intermittent waves which prompted the perpetrators to abort their intention to board the ship. The perpetrators armed with guns and assorted long rifles continuously fired	Multiple bullet holes on the ship and cracked portholes at the ship officers' cabins. The crew was not injured.	Performed zig-zag manoeuvring. Informed the Operation Center of Coast Guard Station at Zamboanga	Yes, Operation Center of Coast Guard Station, Zamboanga, Philippines	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) immediately dispatched two Aluminium boats and coordinated with the Naval Forces Western Mindanao (NAVFORWEM). The DA-BFAR Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) vessel --3009, which is under the operational control (OPCON) of the PCG that was operating in the vicinity was directed to proceed in the area. In addition, the Search and Rescue Vessel (SARV)-3503, Tug Boat (TB)-271 and

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				at the ship resulted in multiple bullet shots at the bridge area and the different parts of the ship.					DA-BFAR MCS-3006 were also directed to proceed in the area.
3.	Great Sailor Chemical tanker Vietnam 9419 0918347	6/1/17 0123 hrs	1° 14.83' N 104° 6.02' E Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), Eastbound lane of Singapore Straits (SS) at approx. 2.8 nm north off Nongsa Point, Batam Island, Indonesia	While underway in the eastbound lane of the SS, an unknown number of perpetrators in a small fast moving craft attempted to board the tanker. The master took evasive action, raised alarm and shone the spot light at the small craft. Upon realising that they had been detected, the unknown craft aborted the boarding attempt.	The crew was not injured.	Raised the alarm and shone the spot light on the craft.	Yes, VTIS, Singapore	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	The Singapore VTIS initiated safety broadcast to passing vessels in vicinity and notified Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG), Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), Malaysian and Indonesian authorities.