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## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 25-31 July 2017

### Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

#### Overview

During 25-31 Jul 17, one incident of armed robbery against ship that occurred on 15 Jun 17 was reported to the ReCAAP ISC by ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines) after further verification with the port state control officers based in Batangas who received report of the incident from the ship master. The location of the incident is as shown in map below; and detailed description tabulated in attachment.



Location of Incident

#### 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*. Furthermore, while in port and in anchorage, ship master and crew are advised to exercise vigilance especially during hours of darkness, increase number of crew on night watch and secure ship's stores.

The ReCAAP ISC reiterates its advisory issued via the *ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert* dated 21 November 2016 to all ships to re-route from the area, where possible. Otherwise, ship masters and crew are strongly urged to exercise extra vigilance while transiting the Sulu-Celebes Sea and eastern Sabah region, and report immediately to the following Centres:



**Contact details of the centres**

**Description of Incident of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia  
25-31 July 2017**

<b>NO</b>	<b>Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number</b>	<b>Date Local time of Incident (LT)</b>	<b>Position of the Incident</b>	<b>Details of the Incident</b>	<b>Consequences for crew, ship, cargo</b>	<b>Action taken by the master and crew</b>	<b>Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?</b>	<b>Reporting State or International Organization</b>	<b>Coastal State Action Taken</b>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENT</b>									
1	<b>MS Sophie</b> Tanker Liberia 25400 9241798	15/6/17 1000 hrs	13°44'N, 121°0'E  s Approximately 2.63 nm southwest of Batangas, Philippines	While at anchor, the Bosun Watch was approaching the forecastle when he noticed that the additional wooden cover of the anchor pipe was removed and the rope was cut. The padlock of Bosun store was also broken. It was believed that the perpetrators were either of small size or very thin to be able to remove the wooden cover which is approximately 30x20 cm. The ship items that found missing included the forecastle bell, fire nozzles and fire hydrant covers.	The crew was not injured.  The items found missing included the forecastle bell, three fire nozzles (one each from bosun store, forecastle deck and forward part of main deck); and two fire hydrant covers.	Report the incident to the local authorities.	Yes  Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	The Port State Control officers of the PCG proceeded to the anchorage area where the vessel was located. But upon arrival, the ship was about to depart the port. As a result, the authorities were not able to conduct further investigation on board the ship.