

	0				
Website	: www.recaap.or				
Tel	: +65 6376 3063				
Fax	: +65 6376 3066				
Email	: <u>info@recaap.org</u>				



## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 14-20 Jul 2020

## **Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia**

### OVERVIEW

During 14-20 Jul 20, two incidents of armed robbery against ships in Asia were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. Of the two incidents, one was a CAT 3<sup>1</sup> incident occurred on 16 Jul on board an offshore supply vessel while anchored at Kakinada, India. The other was a CAT 4<sup>2</sup> incident occurred on 26 Jun and was reported to ReCAAP ISC after verification by the Focal Point. The incident occurred on board a tanker while anchored at Manila Anchorage, Philippines.

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



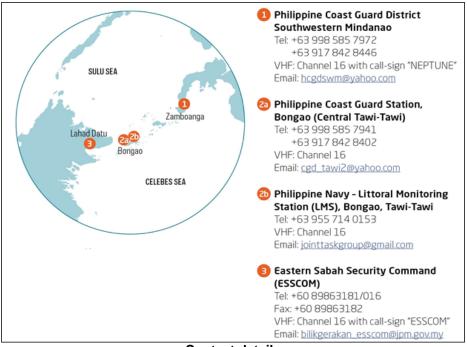
#### Location of incidents

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CAT (Category) 3 incident is 'less significant' in nature. Under this category, the perpetrators could be armed with knives/machetes or other items such as sticks or rods. The crew was not harmed although there remains a small possibility that the crew could be subjected to duress or threat during the incident but not harmed physically. In most CAT 3 cases, the perpetrators were unable to steal anything from the vessel, but in cases where losses were reported, stores and engine spares were commonly targeted items.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CAT (Category) 4 incident is classified as "least significant" in nature. Under this category, the perpetrators were not armed, and the crew not harmed.

# SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULU-CELEBES SEAS AND WATERS OFF EASTERN SABAH

As the risk of the abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Sabah is high as demonstrated by the abduction incident on 17 Jan 20 and information of planned kidnapping in Sabah and Semporna, Malaysia, the ReCAAP ISC reiterates its advisory issued via ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert dated 21 Nov 16 to all ships to reroute from the area, where possible. Otherwise, ship masters and crew are strongly urged to exercise extra vigilance while transiting the area, and report immediately to the Operation Centres of Philippines and Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) of Malaysia. The contact details of the Operation Centres of the Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia (updated by ReCAAP ISC on 3 Jan 19) are as follows:



Contact details

In the event that the ship master is not able to establish contact with the Operation Centres of the Philippines as listed in the ReCAAP ISC Advisory, he can contact the **Philippine Coast Guard Command Centre** at the following contact details:

Tel: +632-8-527-8481 (ext: 6136/37) +632-998-585-5327 (mobile) +632-917-842-8249 (mobile) +632-8-527-3877 (fax)

Email: pcgcomcen@coastguard.gov.ph

The ReCAAP ISC advises the shipping industry and ships to enhance their situation awareness by referring to the *Guidance on Abduction of Crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and Waters off Eastern Sabah* produced by ReCAAP ISC in July 2019. The Guidance is available at <u>www.recaap.org</u>.

### RECOMMENDATION

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.* 

## Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships 14-20 July 2020

	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 coastal authority? Which one?	or International	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
INCI	DENTS IN ASIA				·	·			
ACT	UAL INCIDENTS				1	1	1	1	
1.	<i>MWV Falcon</i> Offshore supply vessel Singapore 5312 9779290	16/07/20 2015 hrs	16° 58.7' N, 82° 16.75' E Jetty No NRW-3, Kakinada, India	While at anchor, the duty Abled Bodied (AB) sighted one perpetrator was opening the generator door and trying to steal generator equipment using a spanner. The perpetrator was also armed with a knife. The AB immediately reported the incident to the bridge. The perpetrator fled by jumping into the water after his presence was discovered. A search on board the ship was carried out and the crew found one fire hose box was opened. Nothing was stolen. The crew was not injured. It was assessed the perpetrator had climbed on the jetty fender from under the quay side bridge to enter the ship which was a blind spot on the main deck of ship. The Kakinada Port control was informed. (Category 3)	injured. Nothing was stolen.	A search on board the ship was carried out.	Yes Kakinada Port control	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available
2.	<i>Asia Energy</i> Tanker Bahamas 101427 9606950	26/06/20 2217 hrs	14° 33.35' N, 120° 48.7' E Manila Anchorage, Philippines	While at anchor, the crew noticed four perpetrators on the forecastle of the tanker. The perpetrators jumped overboard when they were sighted by the crew. The master immediately reported the incident to VTMS Manila. Three immersion suits and two fire hoses were stolen. The crew was not injured. (Category 4)	injured. Three immersion suits and two fire	The master immediately reported the incident to VTMS Manila.	Yes VTMS Manila and Philippine Coast Guard	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	The Philippine Coast Guard's ship, <i>BRP</i> <i>Tubbataha</i> conducted patrol and inquiry into the incident.