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## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 16-22 February 2021

### Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

#### OVERVIEW

During 16-22 Feb 21, two incidents of armed robbery against ships in Asia were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. Both were CAT 4<sup>1</sup> incident (where the perpetrators were not armed and the crew not harmed).

One of the incidents occurred to a container ship while berthed at the Port of Jakarta, Indonesia.

The other incident occurred onboard a barge towed by a tug boat while underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in the Singapore Strait. The Indonesian Navy while on patrol in the area, spotted the perpetrators' boats alongside the barge. They boarded the barge, conducted a search and arrested the perpetrators.

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



**Location of the incidents**

<sup>1</sup> CAT (Category) 4 incident is classified as “least significant” in nature.

## INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA

During 16-22 Feb 21, one attempted incident outside Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC by ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore). The incident occurred on 19 Feb to a bulk carrier while underway off Harnish Islands in the Red Sea. The detailed description of the incident is tabulated in the attachment.

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

The risk of the abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Sabah remains high as demonstrated by the abduction incident on 17 Jan 20, information of planned kidnapping in Sabah and Semporna, Malaysia (as reported in ReCAAP ISC's Warning issued on 2 Jul 20), and the operation on 3 Nov by the Philippine authorities in preventing a kidnap-for-ransom incident. 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 enhanced vigilance while transiting the area, and report all incidents 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 shown below:



**1 Philippine Coast Guard District Southwestern Mindanao**  
Tel: +63 998 585 7972  
+63 917 842 8446  
VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign "NEPTUNE"  
Email: [hcgdswm@yahoo.com](mailto:hcgdswm@yahoo.com)

**2a Philippine Coast Guard Station, Bongao (Central Tawi-Tawi)**  
Tel: +63 998 585 7941  
+63 917 842 8402  
VHF: Channel 16  
Email: [cgd\\_tawi2@yahoo.com](mailto:cgd_tawi2@yahoo.com)

**2b Philippine Navy - Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS), Bongao, Tawi-Tawi**  
Tel: +63 955 714 0153  
VHF: Channel 16  
Email: [jointtaskgroup@gmail.com](mailto:jointtaskgroup@gmail.com)

**3 Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)**  
Tel: +60 89863181/016  
Fax: +60 89863182  
VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign "ESSCOM"  
Email: [bilikgerakan\\_esscom@jpm.gov.my](mailto:bilikgerakan_esscom@jpm.gov.my)

### 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](mailto: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 [www.recaap.org](http://www.recaap.org).

## **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  
16-22 Feb 2021**

	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?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>INCIDENTS IN ASIA</b>									
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENTS</b>									
1.	<b>ALS Juventus</b> Container ship Singapore 40541 9431757	13/02/21 0530 hrs	6.0° 5.84' N, 106.0° 53.65' E  Port of Jakarta, Indonesia.	While at berth, the third officer reported that the padlock hinge for the passageway door leading to the engine room was broken. There was no sign of any perpetrators onboard or nearby. Spare parts for auxiliary engine were reported missing.  [Category 4]	The crew was not injured.  Spare parts for auxiliary engine were missing.	The vessel's company security officer (CSO) was informed.	No information	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information
2.	<b>TB Danum 50</b> Tug boat Malaysia 165 9404261  <b>TK Linau 133</b> Barge Malaysia	21/02/21 1220 hrs	1° 9.82' N, 103° 49.0' E  In the eastbound lane of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) around Karang Banteng waters, Riau Islands, Indonesia  (SOMS)	While barge <i>TK Linau 133</i> towed by tug boat, <i>TB Danum 50</i> were underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in Singapore Strait when two small boats came alongside the barge. The Indonesian Navy Marine Security Patrol <i>Kri Siwar-646</i> was conducting routine patrol in the area when they spotted three perpetrators onboard the barge and two others were in the boat loading some items from the barge into the boat. A search was carried out and the five perpetrators were arrested. The two small boats were seized and about 150 kg of the stolen steel wires were recovered.  [Category 4]	The crew was not injured.  The two small boats were seized and about 150 kg of steel wires were recovered.	No information	No information	ReCAAP ISC via the regional authorities	The Indonesian Navy Marine Security Patrol <i>Kri Siwar-646</i> boarded the barge and arrested the five perpetrators, seized their two small boats and recovered the stolen steel wires

	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?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA</b>									
<b>ATTEMPTED INCIDENT</b>									
1.	<b>Nord Summit</b> Bulk carrier Singapore 34060 9529504	19/02/21 1905 hrs	13.0° 19.0' N, 42.0° 53.0' E  Off Hanish Islands in the Red Sea	While underway, the shipboard duty officer spotted a skiff approaching the ship. The ship took evasive measures, switched on its lights and sounded its horn. The skiff then stopped its pursuit. The crew was not injured, and the ship not damaged.	The crew was not injured, and the ship not damaged	The vessel's company security officer was informed.	The incident was reported to the Flag State and UKMTO.	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information