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ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 31 January – 7 February 2022

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 31 Jan - 7 Feb 22, no incident of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. However, the ReCAAP ISC advises ships to continue to exercise enhanced vigilance; and littoral States to increase patrols and enforcement in areas of concern, including the Singapore Strait and the Sulu-Celebes Seas.

INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA

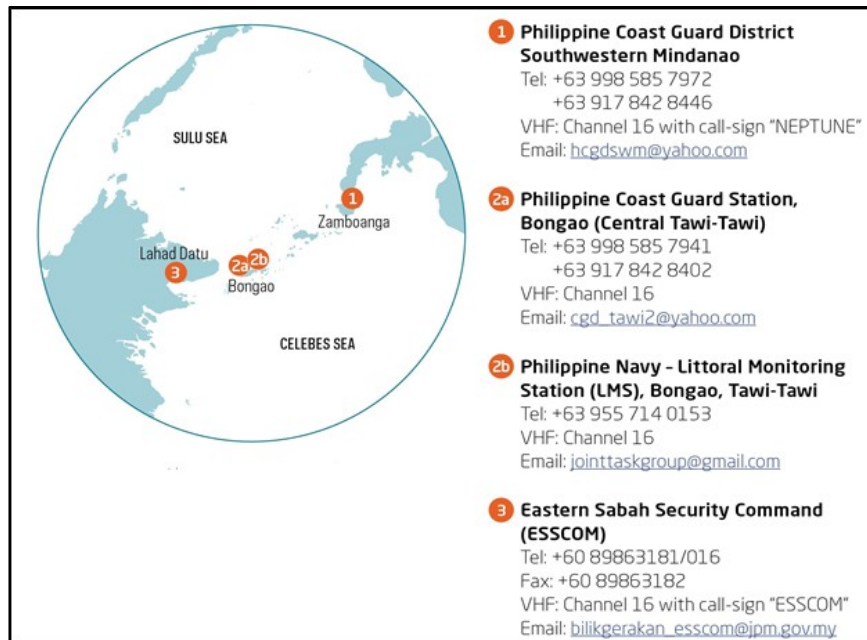
During 31 Jan - 7 Feb 22, one incident outside Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The incident occurred to a ship while anchored at Callao Anchorage, Peru. The detailed description of the incident is tabulated in the attachment.

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

There is no incident of abduction of crew reported since the last incident in January 2020 up to today, and no crew is currently being held in captivity by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG).

In 2021, the Philippine Armed Forces conducted military operations against members of the ASG. As the ASG leaders responsible for the abduction of crew in the area of Sulu and Tawi-Tawi are still at large, the threat of abduction of crew from ships remains high, particularly in the areas of Sulu and nearby waters off Tawi-Tawi.

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 all incidents immediately to the Operation Centres of the Philippines and Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) of Malaysia. The contact details of the Operation Centres of the Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia are as shown next page.



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 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
31 January – 7 February 2022**

	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
INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA									
ACTUAL INCIDENT									
1.	Atlantic Elm Bulk carrier Malta 32376 9558244	4/2/22 0200 hrs	12° 1.5' S, 77° 13.2' W Callao Anchorage, Peru	While at anchor, the duty officer sighted one small boat alongside the ship, and three perpetrators stole 100 meters of rope. The duty officer raised ship alarm and rushed to the deck. The perpetrators escaped by the small boat. The duty officer found one ship security guard (unarmed security guard) was tied up, and the padlock to the store was broken. The crew was safe and accounted for. The ship was not damaged.	The security guard was tied, but not injured. Rope was stolen. The padlock to the store was broken.	The alarm was raised, crew was accounted for. The master reported the incident to the ship company.	Yes. The master reported the incident to the ship company.	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan)	No information available