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ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 9 - 15 July 2019

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 9 – 15 Jul 19, one CAT 4¹ incident of armed robbery against ships was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The incident involved the theft of scrap metal from barge *Sung Fatt 36* towed by tug boat, *Sung Fatt 31* on 16 Jul 19 in the westbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) of the Singapore Strait. The location of the incident is shown in map below, and description tabulated in the attachment. This is the second time in 2019 that *Sung Fatt 36* was boarded by perpetrators while underway in the westbound lane of the TSS of the Singapore Strait. The first incident occurred on 5 Mar 19 when 11 perpetrators boarded *Sung Fatt 36* also towed by *Sung Fatt 31* and stole some scrap metal from the barge.

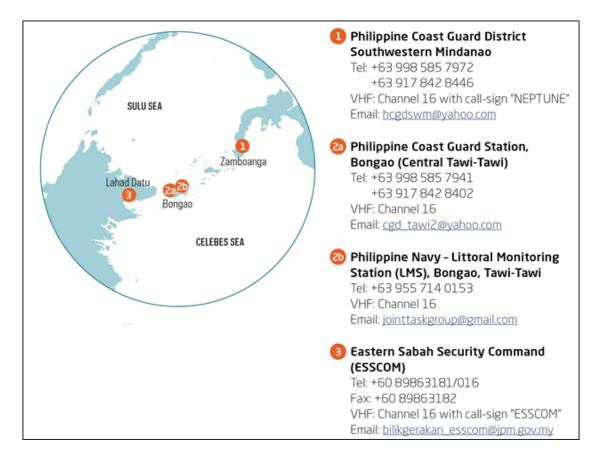


Location of the incident on 16 Jul 19

¹ The ReCAAP ISC classifies CAT (Category) 4 incident as 'least significant' incident. Under this category, the perpetrators are 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, Malaysia is high as demonstrated by the abduction of nine crew from two fishing boats on 18 Jun 19, the ReCAAP ISC reiterates its advisory issued via the *ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert* dated 21 Nov 16 to all ships to reroute from the area, where possible. 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 Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia (updated by ReCAAP ISC on 3 Jan 19) are as follows:



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 9 – 15 July 2019

	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
INC	DENT IN ASIA								
ACT	UAL INCIDENT								
	Sung Fatt 31	16/7/19	1.0; 10.23'N	The tug boat and barge	All crew members	The master of the tug	Yes	ReCAAP ISC via	The Singapore VTIS notified
1.	Tug boat	0430 hrs	103.0; 39.09'E	were carrying scrap	were safe.	boat reported the		ReCAAP Focal	the Singapore Police Coast
	Malaysia			metal bound for Penang,		incident to the	Singapore VTIS	Point	Guard and Republic of
	133		Westbound	Malaysia. While		Singapore Vessel	via VHF	(Singapore)	Singapore Navy. The
	8984446			underway in the		Traffic Information			Malaysian counterparts and
			Traffic	westbound lane of the		System (VTIS). The			Indonesian authorities were
	Sung Fatt 36		Separation	TSS of the Singapore		vessel alarm was			also notified, and the safety
	Barge		Scheme (TSS)	Strait, the master of tug		raised.			navigational broadcast was
	Malaysia			boat, Sung Fatt 31					initiated.
			Singapore	reported to the					
			Strait at about	Singapore Vessel Traffic					
			0.6 nm west						
				(VTIS) that his crew					
			Beacon,	spotted some					
			Indonesia	perpetrators boarding					
				the barge, Sung Fatt 36					
			Straits of	from an unknown					
				number of sampans.					
			Singapore (SOMS)	The perpetrators stolen some scrap metal and escaped via the					
				sampans. There was no confrontation between the perpetrators and the crew.					
				(Category 4)					