

Summary of Boarding and Attempted Boarding Incidents in the Singapore Strait (caa 5 Jul 22)

Number of Incidents & Vessel Types



Key Observations and Assessments

- The IFC recorded **three** new incidents since last update on 30 May; all incidents occurred in the Eastbound Lane of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) within the Singapore Strait in hours of darkness
- Of note, in **one** incident, perpetrators reportedly carried a gun-like object
- In most cases, there was (a) no confrontation, and perpetrators fled upon being sighted, and (b) no items reported stolen

Modus Operandi: Remains Largely Consistent With Petty Crime

- Based on the incident reports, in most cases, perpetrators (a) used small boats, and approached targeted vessels from the stern, (b) were usually in a group 4-6 pax, but avoided confrontation, opting to flee immediately upon being sighted by crew, and (c) targeted slow-moving vessels (7-12 knots) with low freeboard

Cargo Ships, Bulk Carriers & Tankers

- May be armed and confrontational e.g., small arms, knives, and steel bars (Out of 28 incidents since Jan 2022, 10 reported armed and 3 reported with confrontation)
- Usually target ship's engine parts and stores
- Same group of perpetrators may target few vessels in succession, in same night

Tugs & Barges

- Usually unarmed
- Usually target scrap metal

Recommended Actions for All Transiting Vessels

- Remain vigilant, particularly when transiting the areas of concern in the Phillip Channel, and off Bintan and Batam
- Adopt Ship Protection Measures recommended in the Regional Guide 2 to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia, e.g., (1) turn on weather deck lighting around the accommodation block and rear facing lighting on the poop deck, (2) maintain an all-round lookout at an elevated position with focus on suspicious small craft(s) approaching or in proximity to the ship's aft, and (3) sound ship's alarm when suspicious small craft(s) sighted
- Participate in Voluntary Community Reporting as depicted in 4th Edition MARSEC Charts Q6112 and Q6113; upon sighting of suspicious activities, immediately report to local authorities and inform the IFC

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