Summary of Boarding and Attempted Boarding Incidents in the Singapore Strait (caa 8 Mar 22)

Number of Incidents & Vessel Types





Key Observations

- The IFC recorded <u>seven</u> new incidents since last update on 19 Feb. All seven incidents occurred between 0025H 0540H, in the Eastbound Lane of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in the Singapore Strait, off North Batam and in the Phillip Channel
- <u>Five</u> of these incidents (between 26 Feb to 2 Mar) involved armed perpetrators; of note, in one incident, perpetrators reportedly carried a gun-like object. Nonetheless, (a) modus operandi remains unchanged (perpetrators fled upon being sighted), and (b) there is no increase in violence (no casualties reported)

Modus Operandi: Remains Largely Consistent With Petty Crime

- Based on the incident reports, in most cases, <u>perpetrators avoided confrontation</u>, and <u>fled immediately upon</u> being sighted by crew
- Perpetrators usually (a) are in group of average 4-6 pax, and (b) use small boats, targeting 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 17 incidents since Jan 2022, 7 reported armed and 2 reported with confrontation) Usually target scrap metal Usually target scrap metal Same group of perpetrators may target few vessels in succession, in same night

Recommended Actions for All Transiting Vessels

- Remain vigilant, particularly when transiting the known hotspots 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., illuminating the accommodation block and poop deck, and deploying sentries etc
- 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