



Office of
Deputy Commissioner
of Maritime Affairs

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
BUREAU OF MARITIME AFFAIRS

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MARITIME ADVISORY – 02/2007 SECURITY

SUBJECT: SIGNIFICANT THREATS TO WORLDWIDE MERCHANT SHIPPING: 2007

The Administration would like to advise and warn all ships to exercise extra security measures when operating in the following areas with reported significant threats:

Somalia – The number of armed attacks has significantly increased in the area with a total of 33 incidents of piracy reported from 2006 to 2007 which mostly involved attacks with high powered firearms. Attacks have been reported to occur up to 300 nautical miles from the Somali coast.

Nigeria and Tanzania – A total of 31 piracy/robbery incidents were reported from 2006 to 2007 for vessels while at the anchorage or during cargo operations, particularly when calling at the ports of Lagos, Nigeria, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Indonesia and Malacca Strait– Indonesian and Malacca strait waters have the highest reported piracy and robbery attacks with a total of 74 incidents occurring from 2006 to 2007. Most of the attacks were simple snatch and grab robberies. However, the recent reported piracy incident involves pirates who boarded and robbed the vessel, and kidnapped both the Master and the Chief Engineer for ransom.

Bangladesh – Although the total number of reported piracy attacks has significantly fallen from 47 in 2006 to 5 in June 2007. We recommend exercise caution. Most of the attacks occur to ships at anchorage.

The Administration recommends the following measures considered when operating in these areas:

- Emphasize extra security measures by adding more security personnel and roving watches as necessary.
- Refresh the crew regarding all the anti piracy measures as recommended by the ship security plan.
- Employ as much lighting as possible when at port or at anchorage; and necessary lighting that does not impede the safe conduct of navigation when underway.
- Rig all the available equipments necessary to deter pirates from coming on board such as charging fire hoses.
- Keep a constant radar watch and closely monitor all targets.
- Navigate as far as possible from the coastlines of threat areas.
- Complete a Declaration of Security and implement highest security measures necessary.
- Master's are advised to keep in close coordination with the CSO, Authorities, and Administration.
- Ensure that ship's crew understands their part in all anti piracy measures, and have all the necessary security training required.

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