

Crewmember attacked during armed robbery in Singapore Strait

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ReCAAP piracy reporting centre has issued a new warning about the risk of boardings and armed robberies in the eastbound lane of the Singapore Strait traffic separation scheme. On April 17th two ships were boarded and robbed within a span of four hours. In one of the incidents a crewmember was injured in a confrontation with the criminals.

In the more serious incident a bulker was in the eastbound lane of the strait when crewmembers spotted four suspects in the engine room. One of the robbers attacked a crewmember with an adjustable wrench. The attackers made off with some engine spares and escaped.

“ReCAAP ISC is concerned with the continued occurrence of incidents in the Singapore Strait, particularly off Tanjung Pergam, Bintan Island, Indonesia,” the centre warned. “Of the 12 incidents reported in the Singapore Strait [this year], nine incidents occurred off Tanjung Pergam.”

The individuals responsible for the attacks have not been caught, and ReCAAP warned that the possibility for further robberies in the area still existed.