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REPORT ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued quarterly

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-fifth session in May 1995, instructed the Secretariat to issue, as from 31 July 1995, monthly reports of all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships reported to the Organization and, in addition, on a quarterly basis, composite reports accompanied by an analysis, on a regional basis, of the situation and an indication whether the frequency of incidents is increasing or decreasing and advising on any new feature or pattern of significance.

2 Annexed hereto is a composite report covering all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships received between 1 January and the end of March 1996 and a regional analysis thereof.

3 The areas most affected over the period under review are the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean and South America. Two incidents have been reported to have taken place in the Mediterranean Sea. Attacks are generally reported in territorial waters. In most of the attacks, the crews were threatened with knives.

4 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 680, an increase of 23 since 31 December 1995.
