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REPORT ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Second quarterly report

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 April and the end of June 1996 and a regional analysis thereof.

3 The areas most affected over the period under review are the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean, the west coast of Africa and South America. Most of the attacks were reported in territorial waters while the ships were at anchor or on berth. In many of the attacks, the crews were threatened by groups of five to ten people carrying guns.

4 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 699, an increase of 19 since 31 March 1996.
