

Asian Studies – Fall 2006
Dr. Christy Story

Summer Reading and Research Assignment: Contemporary Maritime Piracy in Asia
Worksheet DUE: September 8, 2006

Workday in library: Friday, Sept 1 (computers reserved for class)

In addition to the summer reading, Dana Stabenow's *Blindfold Game*, you will find and read at least one additional source on modern day maritime piracy in Asia.

You will complete a worksheet on the summer reading and a short response sheet based upon your additional source.

The library will have some resources available for you, and there will be at least one copy of the book available for 2 day check-outs. Some good articles to start with are:

The Asian Pacific Area Network maintains a website about local issues and has great resources on piracy:

http://www.apan-info.net/maritime/key_piracy_view.asp

The Heritage Foundation's website devoted to maritime piracy in Asia:

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/AsiaandthePacific/BG1379.cfm>

If these sources do not get you started, check out the Asian Pacific Center for Strategic Studies website. They have an entire bibliography on the issue of maritime piracy:

<http://www.apcss.org/core/Library/piracy.htm>

For a bit of history and an independent scholar's take on piracy check out Ms. Vallar's website on Pirates and Privateers (the link to modern piracy seemed valid):

<http://www.cindyvallar.com/piratearticles.html>

Summer Reading Worksheet:

- I. Identify the major players with a short paragraph on who they are and the role they played in the book:

Hugh Rincon:

Sara Rincon:

Kyle Chase:

Jaap Nortmann

Fang

Pyotr Volk

Smith

Jones

II. What are your impressions of piracy in Asia from reading this book (give short quotations and page numbers to support your ideas)?

III. What types of goods get smuggled, stolen, moved, and/or delivered?

IV. How do you assess the level of threat posed by piracy in Asia today?

- V. Now, given the images presented in the book, utilize an outside, expert source on modern maritime piracy to discuss the “facts” behind the book. (Do not forget to identify and cite your sources.)
- a. How accurate is the depiction of piracy and its extent?
 - b. How realistic is the book’s portrayal of the threat presented by piracy?